



The Lion's Roar

Millennium Charter Academy Events Worth Roaring About

July 2011

The Switch of the Switches

As MCA continues to grow, our Information Technology needs grow as well. Recently, because of a generous donation from Avoca, Inc., MCA's network has expanded.

Computer networks, such as the one in use at MCA, employ the use of a network switch or switches to connect parts of the network together. One capability provided by network switches allows data ports throughout the building to be connected to the network, so that desktop computers, network printers, or other non-wireless devices can be connected and become part of the network. MCA's existing switches, which were installed when the school was originally built in 2000, were full. To connect new data ports, another data port had to be unplugged. A new switch was needed, but costs were high. **Rick Haynes**, MCA parent and Technology Consultant for Hewlett-Packard, knew that Avoca, a premier botanical extraction company located in Eastern North Carolina, was upgrading their network and had a switch of their own that was being replaced. He talked with them about MCA's need. Avoca generously donated their old Cisco Catalyst 4500 switch to MCA. The switch is estimated at a value of approximately \$15,000! The switch was installed at MCA by Mr. Haynes and MCA parent **Mark Spencer**, owner of CyberGear in Mount Airy, on July 7. MCA now has the capability to connect all our data ports to our network, which allows flexibility in moving and installing desktop computers and printers throughout the facility. MCA wishes to offer a heartfelt thanks to Avoca, Inc., and to Mr. Rick Haynes, for making this growth possible. If you'd like to learn more about Avoca, visit their website at www.AvocaInc.com.



Rick Haynes stands beside the new data switch he helped secure and install for MCA.

Special Achievement: 9 Years of Perfect Attendance



Carol Gause finished MCA this past spring with perfect attendance, not just for the year, but for all nine years! She will be attending Surry Early College of Design this fall. Congratulations, Carol!

Hooray for Housekeeping!

MCA would like to roar about **Ricky Chandler**, **Marcie Gwyn**, and **Edith King**. Ricky, Marcie, and Edith are MCA's housekeeping staff, and they take great pride in their work. During the summer, they diligently work to keep our school in top notch condition and sparkling clean. Be sure to take note of how great our facility looks when you come back in August!



Ricky Chandler applies wax to the floor in the elementary office. Mr. Chandler waxes every inch of uncarpeted floor space during the summer.

The Lion's Roar IS A PUBLICATION OF

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