

Dr. Worthington's Message

✉ (Twitter): DrLouiseWorthington@BAKERprincipal

Asynchronous Instruction on April 22

There have been three inclement weather school closures in the 2023-2024 school year thus far. **Monday, April 22** is now an **asynchronous learning day** and will be used as a make-up instructional day for students. Students will be sent home with assignments to complete independently.

Asynchronous learning describes educational activities and assignments that engage students in learning without live instruction or use of technology. Students must complete assignments to count towards their attendance for the day. Additional time for students to complete assignments will be granted for any challenges or unforeseen circumstances.

7th Grade Field Trip

The 7th grade Terrapins Team will attend **Medieval Times** on **Friday, June 7, 2024**. Each student received a permission slip in World Studies classes. Here is a [link](#) (also on our Baker website) for anyone who lost theirs. **All permission slips must be turned to their Science teacher NO LATER THAN May 3, 2024**. This is a firm date, since all tickets must be pre-ordered.

Special Education Parent Involvement Survey

Make your voice heard! Your Opinion Matters!

Parents or guardians of children receiving special education and related services were mailed the *Maryland Special Education Parent Involvement Survey* from the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services during the week of February 12, 2024. Parents are asked to complete the survey and return it in the postage paid envelope by May 24, 2024. **The survey may also be completed online.** Please look for details in your survey packet. Your feedback will help guide efforts to improve special education and related services in your local school system. Your voice can make a real difference for your child and many other children across the state of Maryland. To learn more, please visit <https://www.mdparentsurvey.com>



SGA Creating Comfort Case Backpacks

SGA, with the help of the Baker MS community, is creating comfort case backpacks for teens in the foster care system in MCPS. Please donate any of these items: backpacks, duffel bags, blankets, pjs, journals, pens and pencils, stuffed animals, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, soap, bodywash, and books. Travel sizes are preferred. **All students are invited to earn 2 SSL hours by staying after school this Tuesday, April 23, to help pack backpacks for foster care students in MCPS. Come to room 233.**

SEE Something → SAY Something
Maryland Safe School Hotline Number
1-833-MD-B-SAFE / 1-833-632-7233



MCPS COVID-19 Updates

[MCPS COVID-19 School Dashboard - MCPS | Montgomery County Public Schools | Rockville, MD \(montgomeryschoolsmd.org\)](#)



Looking Ahead

April — Arab American Heritage Month, Autism Awareness Month, and School Library Media Month

Monday, April 22

Asynchronous Virtual Instruction for Students

Tuesday, April 23 – Activity Buses

Soccer vs. Clemente, Boys Home/Girls Away Art Club, Room 210, Ms. Alvarado
 Chess Club, Room 115, Mr. Ciccarello
 eSports Club, Room 134, Mr. Conner and Mr. Maddox
 Flag Football, Field, Mr. Cummings
 Homework Club, Room 227, Ms. Laraia
 SGA, Room 233, Ms. Blankenship
 Street Hockey, Mr. Sprankle

Wednesday, April 24 — Activity Buses

Administrative Professionals Day
 Flag Football, Field, Mr. Cummings
 Kickball Club, Blacktop, Mr. Ruocco
 NJHS, Room 209, Mr. Conner
 Rubik's Cube Club, Room 225, Mr. Fisher
 Street Hockey, Mr. Sprankle

Thursday, April 25 — Activity Buses

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day
 Lifetouch Spring Picture Day (see page 4)
 MCJC Field Trip for SGA
 Flag Football, Field, Mr. Cummings
 Jazz Band, Room 107, Mrs. Fell
 K-Club, Room 210, Ms. Alvarado
 Kickball Club, Blacktop, Mr. Ruocco
 Soccer vs. Hallie Wells, Boys Away/
 Girls Home

Friday, April 26

Choral Adjudication

Parents/Guardians: please restock your child's supplies — especially pencils.

PTA Celebrates Teacher Appreciation Week
 Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6-10, 2024! Let's show our teachers how much we appreciate all they do for our students. The Baker PTA is planning many fun surprises for our teachers all week. On Wednesday, May 8, we will be having lunch for all teachers and staff and need help to make it a success.

Sandwiches will be provided by Weis Damascus, but we are in need of chips, dessert, and drinks. We are also in need of gift card donations that we'd like to raffle off to teachers and staff. Please review the available items on our SignUp Genius and sign up to donate an item. Drop off your donations at the front office with a label for PTA by the morning of Wednesday, May 8. Please reach out to racheldreager@hotmail.com with any questions. Thank you! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B4DACA62CAAF58-49177223-baker>

StudentVUE Update Glitch Solution

With the new StudentVUE update, students may need to clear their browser data to remove previously cached versions of the site. They can clear browser data following these steps: <https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/32050?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop>

SSL News

The hard deadline to turn in any SSL hours done in the 2023/2024 school year is May 31, 2024. If you have done any SSL hours this school year, please make sure to get those forms turned in to Mrs. Paredes as soon as possible. **If you do not turn in forms by May 31, the SSL hours will not count towards your record.** Any SSL hours completed between June and August should be turned in at the beginning of next school year. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Paredes at [Patricia T Paredes@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Patricia_T_Paredes@mcpsmd.org).

MCCPTA Cluster Coordinators for Damascus

We are in desperate need for 1-2 MCCPTA Cluster Coordinators to represent the Damascus community schools. This is a position that ensures that the Damascus perspective is taken into account when Montgomery County decisions are being made. You would participate in cluster and other Montgomery County level meetings (most are now virtual), representing the Damascus Cluster of schools and bringing back to our cluster information provided and decisions made. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Leander at lawdog9428@verizon.net or Aimee at aimee1000@yahoo.com. Leander cannot continue next year as her student is graduating, so please consider joining Aimee in this very important position! Average time per month: 3 hours

Students will be photographed only if they have pre-ordered or have order forms with payments in hand. Order forms will be distributed to students on Thursday, April 18.

Lifetouch

SPRING PICTURE DAY IS COMING!

¡YA LLEGA EL DÍA DE LA FOTO DE PRIMAVERA!

Thursday, April 25, 2024
¡ Jueves, 25 de abril, 2024

John T. Baker Middle School



Scan to order!
 ¡Echa un vistazo para encargar!



Pre-order on mylifetouch.com using your Student ID or Picture Day ID: **EVT7KBHHF**



Students are photographed on Picture Day



Orders will be sent home with your student after Picture Day

How it Works:

Cómo funciona: Encarga de manera anticipada en mylifetouch.com usando tu ID de estudiante o la ID del Día de la Foto. Los estudiantes son fotografiados el Día de la Foto. Los pedidos serán enviados a tu casa con tu estudiante después del Día de la Foto.

Questions? Contact our Help Center at lifetouch.com/support-us. Select K-12 School Photography for assistance.
¿Preguntas? Comunícate con nuestro Centro de Ayuda en lifetouch.com/support-us. Selecciona Fotografía Escolar K-12 para recibir asistencia.

A Message from Mr. Moyler Regarding Testing

On April 5, 2024, MSDE notified our Office of Shared Accountability (OSA) that headphones may be needed for the MCAP ELA test in grades 5, 7, and 8. OSA encourages school staff to allow the students to use their own hard-wired earbuds/headphones for testing. **Parents are being asked to support students by providing them with hard-wired earbuds/headphones for testing.**

Baker Students in 6th Grade, 7th Grade, and 8th Grade will participate in the **ELA/MATH MCAP** Testing that will occur on the following dates:

Wednesday, May 1

ELA: Sections 1 - 2
8:15 - 11:15

Monday, May 6

Math: Sections 1 - 2
8:15 - 11:15

Thursday, May 2

ELA: Sections 3 - 4
8:15 - 11:15

Tuesday, May 7

Math: Sections 3 - 4
8:15 - 11:15

Only 8TH GRADE Baker Students will participate in the **SOCIAL STUDIES** Testing that will occur on the following dates:

Wednesday, May 15

Social Studies: Sections 1- 2
8:15 - 10:43

Thursday, May 16

Social Studies: Sections 3 - 4
8:15 - 10:43

Baker Students in 6th Grade, 7th Grade, and 8th Grade will participate in the **MAP-M and MAP R** Testing that will occur on the following dates:

Tuesday, May 28

MAP M: All Sections
8:15 - 10:11

Wednesday, May 29

MAP R: All Sections
8:15 - 10:11

Your child needs to be present for all scheduled testing. Please avoid making appointments on these days and help us prevent unnecessary absences.

You can also do some things to help your child do better on tests. Before a test, a student needs a full night's sleep, a good breakfast, comfortable school clothing, a little understanding if they're anxious or upset, and a reminder to charge their Chromebooks.

We know that John T. Baker Middle School's students will show what they know and can do. Let's work together to make your child's experience a positive and successful one. Thank you for your help and support.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact David Moyler at 240-207-2440 or david_h_moyler@mcpsmd.org



SY2024 Spring MCAP Testing Bell Schedule

ELA: Wednesday, May 1 - Thursday, May 2

Math: Monday, May 6 - Tuesday, May 7

Bells	GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
8:15 - 11:15	MCAP Test Block		
11:19 - 11:49 30 Mins	Period 4	Period 4	Lunch 8
11:53 - 12:23 30 Mins	Period 5	Lunch 7	Period 5
12:27 - 12:57 30 Mins	Lunch 6	Period 6	Period 6
1:01 - 1:31 30 Mins	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3
1:35 - 1:52 17 Mins	Period 7	Period 7	Period 7
1:56 - 2:13 17 Mins	Period 8	Period 8	Period 8
2:17 - 2:34 17 Mins	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1
2:38 - 3:00 22 Mins	Period 2 Announcements	Period 2 Announcements	Period 2 Announcements

****Students will report directly to their Testing Location.**

CONVERTING FROM HEAT TO AC

KNOWING YOUR SCHOOL'S MECHANICAL SYSTEM

It is springtime and schools will have their heating systems converted to air conditioning **starting in mid-April**. The majority of our mechanical systems provide both heating and cooling to MCPS school buildings. Therefore, twice a year, that system must be shut down for the seasonal changeover. This flyer provides information regarding that process.

A Common Question:

At my house, we just flip a switch and we have heat one day and cooling the next. Why can't you do that at our school building?

Response:

School mechanical systems are very different from residential systems. Boilers and chillers, known as central plant equipment, heat or cool water that is then pumped to the equipment that conditions air for your room. However, only one set of pipes connects the central plant to the room equipment in most schools.

When the chiller operates, the boiler must be physically disconnected by valves from the pipe loop. Similarly, when the boiler operates, the chiller must be isolated from the pipe loop.

Prior to switching the valves, the water in the loop must first be allowed to return back to room temperature. The boiler cannot be started with chilled water in the loop. The loop temperature takes approximately 24 hours to equalize.

Altogether, the complete changeover process may take up to two days at each school, during which time the building has neither heating nor cooling available. Please be prepared and **dress appropriately for the weather** each day; sweaters or jackets work well for chilly mornings. Maintenance crews will perform the changeover with as little inconvenience as possible.

**CHECK YOUR
SCHOOL'S
CHANGEOVER
STATUS ONLINE!**

[Click here to view the status.](#)

GOT QUESTIONS?

If you have questions or concerns about the changeover process, contact your school's assigned Division of Maintenance and Operations Service Center.

[Click here to find your center.](#)



John T Baker Middle School PTA

8th Grade Promotion and End of Year Activities

Hello 8th grade families. This is your child's last year at Baker Middle School and there will be a lot to celebrate in June of 2024! We are planning now and need your help to make 8th grade events a success for our children.

End of year events and activities include a DHS Class of 2028 t-shirt for each student, the 8th grade celebration/dance, a class gift to the school, and the 8th grade promotion ceremony on the last day of school.

We ask that families contribute \$25 or more for each child. The money will be applied toward the items mentioned above and to make sure that *all students* are included, so if you would like to contribute more than \$25 it will be well utilized. We also ask that families consider signing up to help with various events and activities. We appreciate both your financial contributions and your time and efforts to help create wonderful memories for our children.

Please complete the form and send it in, along with your \$25 contribution, to the main office. Please make checks payable to "Baker PTA," and note in the memo AND on the envelope: "8th Grade Promotion." Return to Baker Middle School PTA, 25400 Oak Drive, Damascus, MD 20872.

If you prefer digital payment options, you can pay through PayPal by using [@BakerMSPTA](#) or by scanning the following QR code:



8th grade committee meetings are from 6-7 PM before PTA meetings. Please stay connected so you know what the plan is and to see how you can help. Email questions to the PTA at BakerPTA@yahoo.com. We greatly appreciate your support!

Your 8th grader's full name: _____

Let us know how you can help! Circle one or more.

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Dance/Celebration | Promotion ceremony | T-shirt distribution |
| Fundraising | Class gift | Committee Chair |

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Enclose your \$25 check payable to Baker PTA, and mark in the memo "8th Grade Promotion."



PTA de la escuela secundaria John T. Baker

Promoción de 8vo grado y actividades de fin de año

Hola familias de octavo grado. ¡Este es el último año de su hijo/a en Baker Middle School y habrá mucho que celebrar en junio 2024! Estamos planeado ahora y necesitamos su ayuda para que los eventos de octavo grado sean un éxito para nuestros niños.

Los eventos y actividades de fin de año incluyen una camiseta de DHS Clase 2028 para cada estudiante, la celebración/baile del 8.º grado, un obsequio de la clase para la escuela y la ceremonia de promoción de 8.º

Pedimos que las familias contribuyan con \$25 o mas por cada niño. El dinero se aplicará a los artículos mencionados anteriormente y para garantizar que todos los estudiantes están incluidos, por lo que si desea contribuir con más de \$25, será bien utilizado. También pedimos que las familias consideren inscribirse para ayudar con diversos eventos y actividades. Apreciamos tanto sus contribuciones financieras como su tiempo y esfuerzos para ayudar a crear recuerdos maravillosos para nuestros niños.

Complete el formulario y envíelo, junto con su contribución de \$25, a la oficina principal. Por favor haga los cheques a nombre de “Baker PTA” y nota en el memorando Y en el sobre: “Promoción de 8.º grado”. Volver a PTA de la escuela secundaria Baker, 25400 Oak Drive, Damascus, MD 20872.

Si prefiere las opciones de pago digital, puede pagar a través de PayPal usando @BakerMSPTA o escaneando el siguiente código QR:



Las reuniones del comité de octavo grado son de 6 a 7 p. m. antes de las reuniones de la PTA. Manténgase conectado para saber cuál es el plan y ver cómo puede ayudar. Envíe sus preguntas por correo electrónico a la PTA a BakerPTA@yahoo.com. ¡Estamos muy agradecidos por su apoyo!

El nombre completo de su hijo/a de octavo grado _____

¡Háganos saber cómo puede ayudar! Encierra en un círculo uno o más.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Promoción de baile/celebración | Ceremonia | Distribución de camisetas |
| Recaudación de fondos | Obsequio de clase | Presidente del comité |

Nombre: _____

Correo electrónico: _____ Número de teléfono: _____

Adjunte su cheque de \$25 a nombre de Baker PTA y marque en el memorando “Promoción de 8º grado”.