

Poolesville High School
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August 2009

Dear Colleagues,

This year promises to be outstanding with our new staff joining our fabulous veteran staff and the opening of the new addition which is absolutely stunning. The science teachers are giving “celebrity tours.”

We will continue our commitment to the Seven Keys to College Readiness. The Instructional Leadership Team as well as the counselors and the career/college coordinator attended the SAT/ACT/ Accuplacer Summit at Churchill High School. Dr. Weast, Superintendent of Schools, shared with us his vision for all MCPS students to be college and work force ready. We developed an action plan as an outcome of this conference and will be sharing it with all staff members. During our Instructional Leadership Team week, we focused on developing processes to make all our jobs more efficient in order to better serve students’ needs. We will also be focusing on differentiated curriculum and strategies for delivering rigorous instruction in all classes. Many of our teachers were involved in Advanced Placement training this summer and the strategies used in AP classes can be easily integrated in all grades 9-12. Through our staff development training throughout the year, we will study and implement these critical thinking strategies.

Speaking of Advanced Placement, the test results have arrived. I am so thrilled to share with you that the scores are off the charts-- 4’s and 5’s seemed to be the norm at PHS! Thanks to all of our staff for developing these strong student learners.

Enclosed is a list of all our most recent staff changes. I wish all departing staff members the very best in their future endeavors and I remain appreciative of their commitment to our students.

New Staff to Poolesville High School

- Douglas Bucci, Physical Education. Mr. Bucci joins us from Takoma Park Middle School.
- Fabiola Clark, Security Assistant. Ms. Clark joins us from Gaithersburg High School.
- Brian Clouse, Building Service Worker. Mr. Clouse joins us from ICB.
- Maria Dotson, Building Service Worker. Ms. Dotson joins us from Rocky Hill Middle School.
- James Gifford, English Department. Mr. Gifford joins us from Col Zodik Magruder High School.
- Kenneth Goldsborough, Music Department. Mr. Goldsborough joins us from Sligo Middle School.
- Christopher Hanson, Science Department. Mr. Hanson joins us from Seneca Valley High School.
- Shannon Heaton, Fine Arts Department. Ms. Heaton is new to MCPS.
- Kevin Jackson, Paraeducator, Special Education Department. Mr. Jackson joins us from Glen Haven Elementary School.
- Travis Jackson, Building Service Assistant Manager. Mr. Travis joins us from Pyle Middle School.
- Kristina Vita, Social Studies Department and Special Education Department. Ms. Vita is new to MCPS.
- Melissa Nagy, Counseling Services. Ms. Nagy joins us from Roberto W. Clemente Middle School.
- Katherine Pomeroy, Mathematics Department. Ms. Pomeroy joins us from Seneca Valley High School.
- Edward Ross, Athletic Director. Mr. Ross joins us from Watkins Mill High School.
- Noor Sheriff, Financial Assistant. Ms. Sheriff joins us from Central Office.
- Tony Sohn, Social Studies Department. Mr. Sohn is new to MCPS.
- Michael Tomlinson, Science Department. Mr. Tomlinson is new to MCPS.
- Kristina Vida, Special Education Department. Ms. Vita is new to MCPS
- Harold Willis, Building Service Worker. Mr. Willis joins us from Seneca Valley High School.

Transfers to Other Schools

- Daryl Clark, Music/Chorus Teacher to Blair High School
- Debra Dresser, Main Office Secretary to Watkins Mill High School
- Megan Etwiler, Science Teacher to Seneca Valley High School
- John Leach, Photography Teacher to Argyle Middle School
- Lynn Taylor, RTSE to Rosa Parks Middle School

Promotions

- Laura Friedman, Special Education Teacher to Resource Teacher for Special Education
- Nori Thorne, Art Teacher to Resource Teacher for Fine Arts/Foreign Language

Retired

- Ming Wan Chan, Building Service Worker, 15 Years of Service
- Richard Helms, Assistant Manager, 35 Years of Service
- Grafton Layer, Building Service Worker, 33 Years of Service
- Pamela Steffen, Paraeducator, 15 Years of Service
- Fred Swick, Athletic Director, 35 Years of Service

Moved Out of Area

- Michelle Howard, London, England

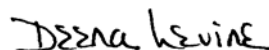
As committed as we are to the teaching and learning that occurs in this building, we are committed to providing an environment for all our students and staff to flourish as well. Poolesville High School continues to undergo facility changes this summer including: new windows in classrooms and offices, new outside doors, two new science labs, new lighting in the auditorium, new auditorium stage flooring, additional lockers, two new computer labs, removal of learning cottages and the opening of our beautiful addition.

Additional upgrades and replacement of the heating, ventilation, air-conditioning (HVAC) system which includes replacing numerous unit ventilators in addition to branch piping and pipe insulation is in progress. All coils are being cleaned in units not replaced. Additional upgrades and replacements will continue next summer as well.

Enjoy the remaining days of the summer with your family and friends. You give so much to our students and parents. I am looking forward to seeing you, learning about your exciting summer, and working with you this year. Enclosed is our pre-service schedule for August 24-28. Dr. Kimball, our Community Superintendent, will be visiting the entire cluster to share the "Big Picture" message during that week. The Instructional Leadership Team has made every effort to provide you with plenty of time to plan and prepare.

We are going to have a great year at Poolesville High School...with the greatest staff ever!

Sincerely yours,



Deena Levine
Principal

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Enclosure