Good evening John Poole Middle School families,

This is Mr. Green with your weekly updates for November 13 - November 17, 2023.

It was great seeing everyone at our open house on Friday!  I hope everyone who was able to attend had a great visit and enjoyed our pep rally to end the day.

This is our last full week of school before the Thanksgiving holiday break.  With the new marking period underway, students should continue to monitor their grades and their assignments.  Please speak with your teachers if you have any questions or need some extra support.

Next Monday, November 20 and Tuesday, November 21 are early release days.  All students will be dismissed at 12:10 pm.  There is NO SCHOOL on Wednesday, November 22 through Friday, November 24.   All MCPS Schools and Offices are closed.

Our Parent - Teacher Conferences will take place on Monday, November 20 from 4:15 pm - 7:15 pm in our main gym.  More information is included below.

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**John Poole MS Athletics - 7th and 8th Graders:**  JPMS Girls and Boys Basketball Registration opened up on Monday, Oct. 30.  Before you register you must have completed the doctor's [Pre-participation physical (MCPS Form SR-8)](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org%2Fdepartments%2Fforms%2Fpdf%2Fsr-8.pdf&data=05%7C01%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C67ec86f412f84d777abf08dbc9ad7787%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638325519098858774%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IQg%2F6jevcKqHPB6EG1n0Uz2U%2Bf6r3HOcybAPoTzg74I%3D&reserved=0) (within two years) and also have this form ready to upload when you register.  [Click here](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fpresentation%2Fd%2F1oytMIZIE_pKxkAXr_8RRUjfPMN9aObFCLG-1osNKHIA%2Fedit%3Fusp%3Dsharing&data=05%7C01%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C67ec86f412f84d777abf08dbc9ad7787%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638325519098858774%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=l1RfHO7ffvKVThhpSCUxp3i9f1NDe6G%2Fry3FGNCrov8%3D&reserved=0) to learn more about the JPMS Basketball Season

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PTSA Meeting - Tuesday, 14 November at 7:00 p.m.

JPMS PTSA hosts its General Member meeting, with guest speaker, member updates, and sign up to serve on the Winter Social Committee. All are welcome to attend, either in-person (JPMS Media Center) or [virtually](https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/6585266573?pwd=SjF1WUgrVXU2M1VRRU8vWFJncXdRdz09). The agenda will be emailed PTSA members and posted on our [facebook page](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2Fjpmsptsa&data=05%7C01%7Cjon_green%40mcpsmd.org%7C25be6f4869d34bf72b2808dbe207aa5f%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638352294778443300%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=T3gT7wZcckLd4gPG44v3hKMacz4gUd2WjEn5NP6NjRI%3D&reserved=0) ahead of the event. See you there!

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**DONATIONS NEEDED!**  John Poole Middle School's 8th Grade Timberwolf Ambassadors, in collaboration with WUMCO, are again organizing a food drive to provide 10 local families with complete Thanksgiving meals including all the fixings!  Please sign up at the [Sign Up Genius found here](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.signupgenius.com%2Fgo%2F4090D44ABAA28A3F85-45787486-john&data=05%7C01%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7Cc92fdd7460994cc4ab8a08dbe3d78c79%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638354287166707247%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=B7Y5xsesbe9oJHA%2BKAwvFuauAe9VqWkyj3nQb2MJUWA%3D&reserved=0) to contribute a food item(s) to this effort.   All food can be dropped off at John Poole Middle School between November 6th and November 16th.  Perishable items should be dropped off in the Main Office and canned goods should be brought to students’ TAP classes for collection.  Thank you in advance for supporting the Timberwolf Ambassadors and WUMCO!

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**Drama Production Update**

We have had to move the Saturday, December 16, 2023, afternoon show to Friday, December 8, 2023.  The show will begin at 6:30 p.m.  The second show will continue as originally scheduled for Friday, December 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.  We hope to see you at the shows!

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Parent Teacher Conferences

John Poole Middle School is preparing for our November 2023 Parent-Teacher conferences.  For families who are new to the middle school format, please understand that our teachers will not be able to meet with all parents about all of their students.  While some conferences will be scheduled by our school staff, we will also offer an open house format.  If you are unable to meet with a specific teacher or if you are not available to attend our conference night, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate you at another time.  Thank you!

Our parent-teacher conferences will be held on Monday, November 20, 2023.  Parents are encouraged to meet with as many teachers as they choose. Unlike elementary school conferences, middle school conferences are completely voluntary.  Teachers have been encouraged to keep each conference to 5-10 minutes to ensure that as many parents as possible have the opportunity to meet with their student’s teachers.

Teachers will be stationed alphabetically in the main gym from 4:15-7:15 p.m.  If there is a long line for a teacher or if a teacher is not currently available, parents are encouraged to visit another teacher until that teacher is available.  Below is the break schedule for departments so that you can plan your visit.  There will be several other staff members to assist if needed.

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| **Time** | **Department(s)** |
| 4:15 - 4:45 p.m. | Math |
| 4:45 - 5:15 p.m. | English, Reading, & ELD |
| 5:15 - 5:45 p.m. | Autism Program & Social Studies |
| 5:45 - 6:15 p.m. | Science |
| 6:15 - 6:45 p.m. | PE / Health & Electives |
| 6:45 - 7:15 p.m. | Building Services |

When we get closer to the date, we will update you on which teachers may be unable to stay for conferences on the evening of Monday, November 20th. These teachers will be available from 1:00-4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 21st, or at another convenient time to meet with you if needed.  Please contact teachers directly for more information on their availability.

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Holiday Giving Project of Montgomery County

The Holiday Giving Project of Montgomery County has provided Thanksgiving meals and December holiday assistance to households for over 30 years.  If your family would like to be referred to possibly receive assistance this holiday season, please contact the Counseling Office at John Poole Middle School at 240-740-4210 or send an email to: Tammy\_P\_Lightcap@mcpsmd.org.  While a referral is not a guarantee of assistance, the Project helps as many families as donations allow.

Deadline to apply for Holidays:

November 20, 2023 – December Holiday

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**YEARBOOK NEWS:**

The 2023-2024 John Poole Yearbook is currently available for purchase at Jostens.com. Personalization is available through January 26, 2024.

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Please continue to check the [myMCPS Classroom](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclassroom.mcpsmd.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7Cc92fdd7460994cc4ab8a08dbe3d78c79%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638354287166707247%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3yFG0eJjbWuVeWaFn9CDh1Ke02EYXLLKiFvZhQ3fRyw%3D&reserved=0) calendar or our [JPMS school webpage](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org%2Fschools%2Fpoolems%2F&data=05%7C01%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7Cc92fdd7460994cc4ab8a08dbe3d78c79%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638354287166707247%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IHuxK%2Bm6fDxWsR7TbXeTLJrK8ecCqR3CGcCdlhfAJKM%3D&reserved=0) for the most updated information, including upcoming events, bus routes, and other happenings occurring at school.

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Please mark your calendars for these important upcoming events:

Monday, November 20:  Early Release Day.   Students will be dismissed at 12:10 p.m.

Monday, November 20: Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held from 4:15 - 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, November 21: Early Release Day.   Students will be dismissed at 12:10 p.m.

Wednesday, November 22 - Friday, November 24:  Holiday.  NO SCHOOL.  All schools and officers are closed.

Monday, November 27 - Wednesday, November 29:  Outdoor Ed for all 6th-grade students.

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Have a great night and a wonderful week!

Mr. Green