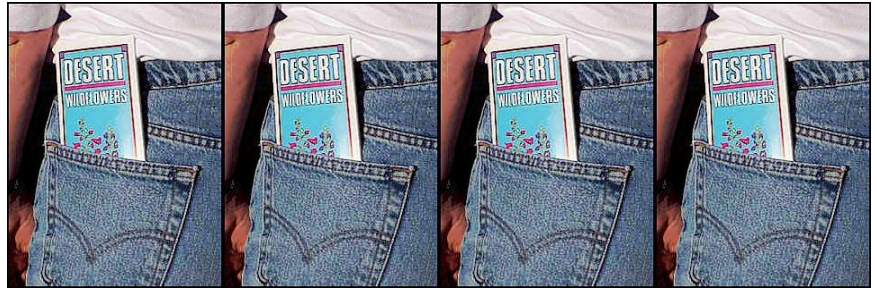


JOHN POOLE'S BACK POCKET



January 21, 2011

A Thought for Today:

“Man must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love.”

– Martin Luther King, Jr.

Farewell, Mr. Stevens!

It is with a great deal of sadness that we say goodbye to Mr. Stevens this week as he heads off to an assignment with the Army National Guard.

Many of us know Mr. Stevens as a neighbor and friend as well as a valued teacher in Poolesville schools. He came to us from Poolesville Elementary School and has done a wonderful job teaching Grade 7 science at JPMS, so his investment in our families' educations has been a long one.

This year, Mr. Stevens created a special elective for seventh graders in which students have opportunities to do hands-on work in environmental science. It has been a great success, both because Mr. Stevens has put his personal love of the subject into its planning and because our families have been very supportive. It is great to see the kids with their rubber boots piling into cars to head out for a stream study, and even better to watch them return all smiles and carrying the various critters and samples they collected in the field. Thanks to all the advance work Mr. Stevens has put into organizing and preparing materials for this curriculum, we are able to continue to offer the class when he is serving our country – a real boon to the community since this kind of environmental studies experience is great preparation for transition to our high school where the Global Ecology House attracts a large number of our students.



Mr. Stevens has also created a different kind of exciting experience for our students by agreeing each year to arrange for permission to fly his helicopter in to the JPMS field as part of the Grade 8 Career Day activities. Our students have always been energized by this event and excited to learn about the opportunities available to them through the military.

During this tour of duty, Mr. Stevens will be using his teaching skills to train helicopter pilots. His last day is Friday, January 28, and we welcome his substitute, Ms. Kuhn, whose first day is January 31. Best wishes to them both, and a special prayer for Mr. Stevens' safe and swift return to family and friends.



Hallway Heroes

Hallway Heroes are students we honor for demonstrating exemplary **PRIDE** behaviors as they move from class to class, helping to keep our hallways safe and comfortable for everyone.

The students recognized below consistently demonstrate **Purpose**, **Respect**, **Integrity**, **Dedication** and **Effort** everywhere they go at JPMS. They are **Hallway Heroes**, and we are proud to celebrate their high expectations and their **Timberwolf PRIDE**.

Morgan Brashear
Carissa Caruso-Dipaolo
Lexi Dorsey
Delaney Gregg
Michael Kuhn

Rachel McIntire
Abby Nalesnik
Reid Patton
Vince Posey
Chaney Taggert

Don't miss this year's fabulous

Science Expo

January 27

6:00 - 7:30 PM

Exhibits, demonstrations, hands-on adventures for the whole family!

Come join the fun!

Bullying: A Hidden Problem

Despite the widespread and serious nature of bullying, schools are not always able to give this problem the attention it deserves. There are a number of reasons why school staff does not respond consistently to incidents of bullying.

First, adults may not always view these incidents as serious problems worthy of a response. They may take the view that these incidents are a normal part of growing up and that students have to learn to stand up for themselves. This is just one of many myths that may keep adults from responding seriously to bullying. When parents do not help their children alert the school about bullying problems, they may go unaddressed.

Second, school staff may be unaware that bullying has occurred. Bullies are often very adept at harassing their classmates outside the presence of adults. In addition, victims often fail to report bullying to adults because they are not confident that their concerns will be taken seriously or that steps will be taken to curb the problem. In addition, they may be ashamed about what happened or fear retaliation. Similarly, classmates who witness bullying also often fail to report it. They may be reluctant to break the “code of silence” and tell on a student, perhaps fearing that the bully will target them next.

Because of the combination of these factors, bullying incidents often go undetected by adults. The failure of adults to become aware of many bullying incidents, or consistently respond when they do become aware, sends the message to bullies that they can get away with what they are doing. When adults ignore bullying incidents, bullies come to believe that their behavior is acceptable. At JPMS, we believe that schools must send a very different message, namely that we will be vigilant in looking out for bullying and respond seriously when we detect it. Students need assurance that adults are in charge, have firm rules against bullying, and are willing and able to enforce them.

Recognizing the Signs of Bullying

As noted above, bullying is a problem that often goes unrecognized by school staff. Because of these obstacles to the detection of bullying, it is critical that school staff be on the lookout for signs that a student has been bullied. While teachers and parents may not see the actual incident, you may see the results of the bullying in the behavior of the victim. The following warning signs may suggest that a student has been the target of bullying:

- many school absences
- clingy behavior
- anxiety during class
- loss of interest in schoolwork
- a decline in academic performance
- unusual sadness
- avoidance of certain school area
- unexplained cuts or bruises
- isolation from peers
- frequent visits to the school nurse
- fear of walking home or riding the school bus

Adapted from An Educator's Guide to Bullying Prevention, National Professional Resources, Inc.

**John Poole
Middle School**

PTSA NEWS

**Every Child
One Voice**

A message from your PTSA president

Dear JPMS families:

It is never too late to join John Poole Middle School's PTSA. Please contact Lori Kocur for membership information or to register as a JPMS Parent Volunteer. It's as easy as that!

Show your kids how much you care and how important their school experience is to you – register to volunteer today!

*Sincerely,
Sharon Armstrong*

- Sharon Armstrong – President, awakejake1@aol.com
- Marilyn Soltis - Vice President, marilynsoltis@hotmail.com
- Suzanna Zapata – Secretary, Susana.m.zapata@lmco.com
- Sue Van Meter – Treasurer, Van17119@verizon.net



Announcing —

PAA Offers Lacrosse

PAA is now offering lacrosse for the youth of Poolesville and surrounding areas! This is a great opportunity to play locally and play with friends! This is open to beginners and experienced players ages 5-15, boys and girls! If you play any other spring sports, you can also come out to play lacrosse!

Since this is a new program, players must provide their own equipment, which includes: helmet (for boys), goggles (girls), stick, and pads. PAA will provide jerseys.

The Outdoor Spring League has the following team age groupings for both boys and girls:

- Under 15 (U15): Open to players under 15 years that are also in the 8th grade in school.
- Under 13 (U13): Open to players under 13 years that are also in 6th and 7th grades in school.
- Under 11 (U11): Open to players under 11 years that are also in 4th and 5th grades in school.
- Under 9 (U9): Open to players under 9 years that are also in K, 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades in school.
- Under 7 (U7)/Pockets Program: Open to players that are under 7 years, that are 4, 5 and 6 years.

*The age cutoff for players is 9/1/2010.

For registration information please go to the PAA Sports website. It will soon be updated with more information on lacrosse. www.poolesvillesports.org

We are looking for volunteers for coaches and team parents. If interested, please email paa.sports@gmail.com and note on your registration form.

If you have any questions, call Butch Barry at (202)744-8524 Craig Gaddis at (301)676-5176.

Support the Good Work of the PHS National Honor Society!

Are you looking for a fun way to spend your Tuesday evenings in February? Look no further than the National Honor Society's Arts with a Heart, a philanthropic array of artistic activities with the sole purpose of bringing people together for fun artistic endeavors to raise money for a good cause!

There will be an arts and crafts night on February 1st, a visual arts performance night on February 8th, a music night on February 15th, and a movie night on February 22nd. Each event will run from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. These events will take place at Poolesville High School in the main auditorium. All community members are more than welcome! There is no entrance fee, but donations will be accepted and concessions will be sold. All proceeds will go to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to assist cancer patients and to raise money for much needed cancer research. So what are you waiting for? Come on down to PHS for good food, good times, and a good cause!

Homework Hotline

TV's Homework Hotline Live is back after being closed for winter break. Watch Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 6 o'clock when you need help with homework. You can find Homework Hotline Live on the Web at AskHHL.org and on the MCPS cable TV channel. Or just call the Hotline, at 301-279-3234; that's 301-279-3234, from 4 to 6 o'clock.



Race to Nowhere Film Screening

Clarksburg High School invites you to a screening of a remarkable film, *Race to Nowhere*, created by a mother turned filmmaker examining the high-pressure culture of our schools and our children's lives today. *Come to Clarksburg High School on January 26 at 7:00-9:00 pm and be a part of an extraordinary evening with an open, honest, and informative discussion session after the film.*

This thought provoking film has swept the nation and has been shown at other area schools with great acclaim. The screening is open to all in our community; parents, grandparents, guardians, students, educators, neighbors, etc. Please note that the film is rated PG-13 and is not appropriate for small children.

Tickets are available either by going to the Clarksburg High School website <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/clarksburghs> and selecting the Special Film Screening link in the News section of the home page, or directly at <http://rtnclarksburghighschool700.eventbrite.com>. Adult tickets are \$10 and student tickets are \$5.

Once purchased, you will receive an e-mail confirmation with your ticket attached. You will need to print that ticket(s) and present it at the door on the evening of the film screening. All students with a ticket will be required to show their ID at the door. You can also visit www.RaceToNowhere.com to view a trailer of the film.

Remember this event is open to all members of the Germantown, Damascus, Poolesville, Boyds communities and surrounding areas - feel free to invite anyone who may be interested.

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, January 26, 7:00 PM for a fascinating film and important discussion to follow.

Montgomery College Youth Programs

Register NOW for *KIDS COLLEGE* enrichment courses for students in grades K – 12. These courses, held on the Rockville and Germantown campuses, provide enrichment and advancement in a wide range of topics including Art, math, sciences, writing, Chinese, film studies, keyboarding, personal finances, music (both private and group instruction), study skills, and sports.

And join us for our adult/youth celebration of Earth Day at the Montgomery County Recycle Center. You and your parent(s), grandparent(s), or other adult can enjoy a day of exploration and discovery with loads of exciting activities. You don't want to miss it!!

Courses fill quickly, so register right away!

For brochures or registration forms, access our website at www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth. For additional information, contact the Youth Programs office at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917.

Public Forums

All Montgomery County citizens are invited to attend a series of public forums that have been scheduled to gather community comment on the educational priorities and desired leadership qualities of the next superintendent of the Montgomery County Public Schools.

The forums will be held throughout the county on three consecutive evenings at two locations each evening. Representatives of the executive search firm Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA), employed by the Board to assist in the superintendent search, will facilitate the forums and receive community comment.

Schedule of Public Forums

Monday, January 31, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Northwest High School, 13501 Richter Farm Road, Germantown
(Translation/interpretation available in: Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese)

Location: White Oak Middle School, 12201 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring
(Translation/interpretation available in: Spanish)

Tuesday, February 1, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Bethesda Elementary School, 7600 Arlington Road, Bethesda (Accessible from Bethesda Metro)
Translation/interpretation available in: Spanish, Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese

Location: Montgomery Village Middle School, 19300 Watkins Mill Road, Montgomery Village
Translation/interpretation available in: Spanish

Wednesday, February 2, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Wheaton High School, 12601 Dalewood Drive, Silver Spring
Translation/interpretation available in: Spanish

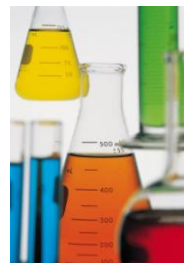
Location: Carver Educational Services Center, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville
Translation/interpretation available in: Spanish, French, Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese

If child care or translation/interpretation services will be required, please contact the Board of Education office at 301-279-3617 by January 24, 2011. For sign language interpretation, please call 301-517-5539 by January 24, 2011.

Science Expo at JPMS!

Make sure to come out with the whole family this Thursday, January 27 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM for the annual Science Expo!

You'll see great student work, cool experiments and lots of happy folks having fun while they learn. Don't miss it!



Save the Date!

Important events you won't want to miss!



January 24	Professional Day (No School for Students)
January 25	3 rd Marking Period Begins
January 25-31	MAP-R Testing
January 27	Science Expo (6:00 – 7:30 PM)
January 27	Basketball – Boys vs. Kingsview at JPMS
	Basketball – Girls vs. Kingsview at Kingsview
January 31	Town Hall Meetings (by grade levels)
February 1	Arts and Crafts Night at PHS (6:30 – 8:30 PM)
February 2	Report Card Distribution
February 3	Science Expo (Snowdate)
February 8	Visual Arts Performance Night at PHS (6:30 – 8:30 PM)
February 15	Music Night at PHS (6:30 – 8:30 PM)
February 22	Movie Night at PHS (6:30 – 8:30 PM)

PHS NEWS

Go Falcons!



Three PHS Students Named Intel Talent Search Finalists!

Fifteen Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) students have been selected as semifinalists for the 2011 Intel Science Talent Search, the most semifinalists to come from any school district in the nation this year. The semifinalists are students at five MCPS high schools: Montgomery Blair, **Poolesville**, Richard Montgomery, Walter Johnson and Winston Churchill.

The Intel Science Talent Search is one of the most prestigious pre-collegiate science competitions in the nation. The 15 students from MCPS represent most of Maryland's 22 semifinalists in the competition, which is administered by the Society for Science & the Public, a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to public engagement in scientific research and education.

Each semifinalist will receive \$1,000 for his or her original scientific research, and each high school will receive \$1,000 for each semifinalist named. Those awards will be used to further excellence in science, math and engineering education at the recipient schools.

The 300 semifinalists nationwide were selected from a pool of 1,744 entrants representing 499 high schools in 42 states. Forty finalists will be chosen on January 26 to compete this spring in Washington, D.C., for the top prize of \$100,000. The competition's top winners will be announced on March 15.

"We are very proud of these semifinalists who are continuing the long history of outstanding performance by MCPS students in this elite, rigorous competition," said Dr. Jerry D. Weast,

superintendent of schools. “They have also demonstrated exceptional academic promise in the original research they have produced for this competition.”

This year, the 15 MCPS semifinalists are:

- **Raja Ratna Murthy Ayyagari, Poolesville High School**
- Wendy Wenyu Cai, Richard Montgomery High School
- Fang Y Cao, Montgomery Blair High School
- Kuo-Kai Chin, Walter Johnson High School
- Andrew Christopher Das Sarma, Montgomery Blair High School
- **Pranav Gokhale, Poolesville High School**
- **Parakh Jain, Poolesville High School**
- Ajay Kannan, Montgomery Blair High School
- Nilay Kumar, Montgomery Blair High School
- Annie Lin, Walter Johnson High School
- Winston W. Liu, Montgomery Blair High School
- Sharon Ren-Wei Ong, Winston Churchill High School
- Yinglun Wu, Richard Montgomery High School
- Sandra Chun-Shan Yan, Montgomery Blair High School
- Raina Zheng, Montgomery Blair High School

PHS Fundraiser for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society

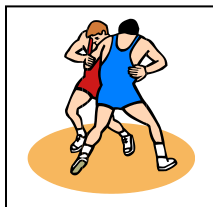
Are you looking for a fun way to spend your Tuesday evenings in February? Look no further than the National Honor Society’s Arts with a Heart, a philanthropic array of artistic activities with the sole purpose of bringing people together for fun artistic endeavors to raise money for a good cause! There will be an arts and crafts night on February 1st, a visual arts performance night on February 8th, a music night on February 15th, and a movie night on February 22nd. Each event will run from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. These events will take place at Poolesville High School in the main auditorium. All community members are more than welcome! There is no entrance fee, but donations will be accepted and concessions will be sold. All proceeds will go to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to assist cancer patients and to raise money for much needed cancer research. So what are you waiting for? Come on down to PHS for good food, good times, and a good cause!

Boys Varsity Basketball

Friday, January 21	7:00 p.m.	Wheaton vs. PHS at Wheaton
Monday, January 24	7:00 p.m.	Clarksburg vs. PHS at PHS
Friday, January 28	7:00 p.m.	Quince Orchard vs. PHS at PHS
Saturday, January 29	5:15 p.m.	New Oxford PA vs. PHS at Gettysburg H.S
Tuesday, February 1	7:00 p.m.	Watkins Mill vs. PHS at PHS

Girls Varsity Basketball

Friday, January 21	7:00 p.m.	Wheaton vs. PHS at PHS
Monday, January 24	5:15 p.m.	Clarksburg vs. PHS at PHS
Friday, January 28	5:15 p.m.	Quince Orchard vs. PHS at PHS
Tuesday, February 1	5:15 p.m.	Watkins Mill vs. PHS at PHS



Boys Varsity Wrestling

Saturday, January 22	2:30 p.m.	Churchill vs. Blair vs. PHS at Blair
Tuesday, January 25	6:00 p.m.	B-CC vs. PHS at PHS
Saturday, January 29	1:00 p.m.	Gaithersburg vs. Northwest vs. PHS at PHS
Saturday, February 5	1:00 p.m.	Blake vs. PHS at Blake

Call John Poole!

Main Office 301-972-7979
Counseling 301-972-7980
Cafeteria 301-407-1037
Health Room 301-407-1029



And Ask for...

Principal - Mrs. Boucher	Assistant Principal - Ms. Lemon
Technology & Arts IRT & Grade 6 Team Leader	- Mr. Grotenhuis
English IRT	- Mrs. Lindsay
Social Studies IRT & Co-coordinator of Testing	- Mr. Whalen
Math IRT & Grade 7 Team Leader	- Mr. McKay
Science IRT & Grade 8 Team Leader	- Mrs. Callaghan
Counseling - (Ms. Kitts, Secretary)	Mrs. Arnold - Mrs. Hardy

Our Vision:

The Timberwolf community experiences joy in learning, celebrates excellence, and values positive relationships.

Our Mission:

At John Poole Middle School, our mission is to:

- **promote joy in learning through motivation and engagement**
- **celebrate excellence by acknowledging achievement**
- **foster a shared responsibility for academic and social success**
- **value positive relationships, thereby promoting a respectful and supportive learning environment**



JPMS
Timberwolves
live with
Purpose
Respect
Integrity
Dedication
Effort