



# Falcon Free Press

Poolesville High School PTSA Newsletter

Issue No. 2  
October 1, 2011

## IMPORTANT DATES

### OCTOBER

- 3 Interims Mailed
- 4 NHS, Spanish ,Mu Alpha Theta Inductions
- 10 Magnet Information Night
- 12 PSAT given to gr. 9, 10, 11 ([pg. 2](#))
- 18 Underclass Portraits--Make-Ups
- 18 PTSA Meeting 7:00pm
- 20 Magnet Breakfast/Middle School 8:30am
- 20 No 8<sup>th</sup> Period**
- 21 No School** - MSEA Convention
- 27 Principal's Breakfast 7:30am ([pg. 3](#))
- 27 Fall Concert 7:00pm
- 28 1st marking period ends
- 31 **No School** - Professional Day

### NOVEMBER

- 5 SAT
- 10 Report Card Distribution
- 15 PTSA Meeting 7:00pm
- 17-19 Fall Play ([pg. 5](#))
- 18 Club Pictures
- 23 Early Release Day /No 8<sup>th</sup> Period**
- 25-26 No School**—Thanksgiving Holiday

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## President's Message

Dear Poolesville Community,

The 2011-2012 PTSA Board of Directors kicked off the school year with some exciting news. First, Poolesville High School was ranked #1 on the list of public high schools in the state of Maryland based on its ranking in the Newsweek Challenge Index (June 27, 2011 issue). The 2011-2012 school year also happens to be PHS's 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary!

To commemorate PHS success, the Board presented a banner to the school. Thank you to Suzanne Tallia, PTSA Secretary, and Beth Poss, Cultural Arts Chairperson, who made this happen. Suzanne designed the banner with input from the Board members and Beth worked with a vendor to produce the banner just in time for Back to School Night! The banner is currently hanging in the Falcon foyer, and has been showcased around town by PHS students who carried it in the Poolesville Day parade.



On the topic of Poolesville Day, thanks to everyone who made our first Poolesville Day a huge success! Kim Gerdes, our Promotions Chairperson, and all of the other volunteers did an extraordinary job selling the 100-year anniversary ornaments. We were able to make almost \$600 in ornament sales (50% more than we earned at Back to School Night and through mail-in orders)!

Back to School Night was successful as well! The Board hosted a Staff Dinner and a 9<sup>th</sup> grade Parents' Reception. It was great to see so many enthusiastic parents!

Thank you to everyone who has joined the PTSA so far. If you haven't joined, however, it's not too late! Inside this newsletter, you will find a membership form. Please complete it and mail it in. For becoming a member, you will receive a copy of our Student Directory.

I hope to see you at our next PTSA meeting on October 18 at 7 pm in the Media Center.

Mai Le  
President, PHS PTSA  
maihle@yahoo.com



**Poolesville High School**

17501 Willard Road  
Poolesville, Maryland 20837-2006

301-972-7900



**October 2011**

Dear Poolesville Families,

I am absolutely thrilled with the outstanding opening of the 2011–2012 school year at Poolesville High School. I can't believe that we are saying good bye to a warm summer and entering a cool fall which is my most favorite time of year. With fall upon us we began many exciting activities including football, field hockey, soccer, tennis, golf, volleyball, and cross-country. We also enjoyed Poolesville Day, class elections, beginning of new clubs, spirit week, hall decorating, the homecoming game and, of course, the homecoming dance. We also are excited about welcoming the class of 2015! Most importantly our students have immediately become engaged in rigorous learning and our halls are vibrant with enthusiasm. Our staff is bursting with energy and looking forward to another exceptional year.

We had an outstanding Back-to-School Night with a significant crowd of 800 on Thursday, September 1. I was pleased to see that parents were able to get a true sense of the high quality of education our students receive every day at Poolesville High School. Our media center was standing room only as ninth grade parents listened to Mr. Richard La Rocca and Ms. Billie Bradshaw, assistant principals, eloquently present an overview of freshman year. In the auditorium, senior parents were informed about the college application process by Ms. Sarah Pavlik, resource counselor, and Mr. David Gysberts, counselor. The evening was successful and a positive beginning to a magnificent school year.

Congratulations to the Semifinalists in the 2012 Merit Scholarship Competition: **Nadia Abutaleb**, daughter of Osama and Nagwa Abutaleb; **Pei-Nan Chen**, son of Chen Xiaojia and Ren Xiaojia; **Eric Harrison**, son of John and Linda Harrison; **Kevin Harrison**, son of John and Linda Harrison; **Brian Kang**, son of Jonathan and Hesun Kang; **Catherine Lozier**, daughter of Jay and Mary Lozier; **Gabriel Lu**, son of Hsiao-Zen Lu and Jing Lu; **Beidi Luo**, daughter of Wen Luo and Ling Hu; **Melissa Parker**, daughter of Jim and Loide Parker, **Cameron Rhode**, son of Tammy Rhode; **Yuting Wu**, daughter of Zhengzi Wu and Sujuan Zhao; and **Jack Zhu**, son of WenjuZhu and Jingli Zhang.

Congratulations to our Semifinalists in the 2012 National Achievement Scholarship Competition: **Nadia Abutaleb**, daughter of Osama and Nagwa Abutaleb; **Shane Nicholls**, son of Terry and Anneette Nicholls; **Mariyam Sheidu**, daughter of Onimissi and Elena Sheidu; **Sandow Sinai**, son of Peter and Irit Sinai; **Tishina Tittley**, daughter of William and Ding Qi Tittley.

Forty-two students were named as National Merit Commended students. Their names appear at the end of this letter.

On Wednesday, October 12, 2011, at 7:25 a.m., the College Board's 2011 version of the Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) will be administered at Poolesville High School for students in grades 9, 10, and 11.

Students in **grade 9** have **two options** that day: (1) take a practice PSAT, offered free of charge, or (2) take the official PSAT, if the student has already completed Geometry. If interested in option two, please have your child pick up and submit a registration form, along with a \$14.00 check payable to PHS, to Ms. Deoto in the Career Center, no later than October 3, 2011.

**All students in grade 10 are required to take the PSAT which is offered free of charge. This is part of a countywide initiative and 100% participation is expected that day.** Students in **grade 11** are **strongly encouraged** to take the PSAT/NMSQT. They must pick up and submit a registration form, along with a \$14.00 check payable to PHS, to Ms. Deoto in the Career Center, no later than October 3, 2011. These test results are extremely important because they may qualify your child for valuable National Merit Scholarships, potentially worth thousands of dollars.

This administration of the PSAT is a part of the school system's commitment to hold high expectations for all of our students. The PSAT serves as an early measure of a student's readiness for college level work. Results can be used to identify students needing to be moved into more rigorous classes. The test administration also provides a way for your child to become familiar with this important test earlier in their high school career. Additionally, test results offer supplemental data for instructional planning and academic support.

Please, remind your child to use the services of our College and Career Center. We have over 20 colleges visiting us this month including: Rice University, University of Baltimore, Coastal Carolina University, Elon University, High Point University, Columbia University, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Christopher Newport University, George Washington University, Montana State University, Randolph-Macon College, Mount Saint Mary's University, Ohio State University, Junita College, Montgomery College,

*(Continued)*

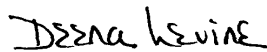
(Principal's Letter, continued)

Rockville, Hood College, Susquehanna University, Vanderbilt University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, James Madison University, York College of Pennsylvania, University of Illinois, Colorado State University, University of Southern California, West Virginia Wesleyan College and Washington University in St. Louis. We offer excellent support and guidance for our students and our teachers and counselors provide outstanding letters of recommendation for colleges since they know our students so well.

Homecoming 2011 began with Spirit Week on Monday, September 19. The halls were decorated, "chic" attire was worn and the entire school was involved with our famous Falcon Fever! We celebrated "Alumni Day" in honor of our 100 Year Anniversary on Saturday, September 24. The Homecoming Dance was Saturday, September 24, from 7:30-11:00 p.m. We enjoyed the 600 students who attended. Congratulations to our Homecoming Queen, Jonique Lyles, daughter of Richard and Phymeon and Homecoming King, Michael Hatchett, son of Paul and Diana Hatchett.

Please, join me on Thursday, October 27, 2011, for my Principal's Breakfast from 7:30-8:30 a.m. PHS has limited parking available this year on our property so please park in the Baptist Church across the street. These gatherings give me an opportunity to listen to your ideas, share PHS information, and respond to any questions you may have. We are having a wonderful school year because we have the most exceptional students in Montgomery County Public Schools.

Sincerely,



Deena Levine

Principal

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### National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Students in the 2012 National Merit Program

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<b>Yi An</b> , son of David Wenge An and Lisa Lin	<b>Charles Koenig</b> , son of Peter and Lisa Koenig
<b>Yosmin Badie</b> , daughter of Mehrdad and Shirin Badie	<b>Damini Kuwar</b> , daughter of Satyendr and Baharati Kunwar
<b>Anuradha Banerjee</b> , daughter of Amit and Rima Banerjee	<b>Tiffany Le</b> , daughter of Tan and Mai Le
<b>Gisele Barbeau</b> , daughter of Andre Barbeau and Melissa Wilson	<b>David Lee</b> , son of Sang Han and Jennifer Lee
<b>Allison Beltran</b> , daughter of Farid and Juana Beltran	<b>Keena Li</b> , daughter of Jeff and Jing Li
<b>Kai-Wen Chang</b> , son of Ching-Jey George Chang and Wendy Shaiu	<b>Weilong Li</b> , son of John and Ying Ford
<b>Grace Chen</b> , daughter of Xingfu Chen and Yang Zhao	<b>Matthew Liu</b> , son of Sichen Liu and Lan Wang
<b>Kevin Chu</b> , son of Yangfang Chu and Ludy Chi	<b>Robert Luo</b> , son of Robert Luo Sr, and Amy Hu
<b>Quan Dao</b> , son of Minh Dao and Kimberly Nguyen	<b>Melissa McElroy</b> , daughter of Tom Powell and Meg McElroy-Powell
<b>Joseph Denicola</b> , son of Lawrence and Lynne Denicola	<b>Shane Nicholls</b> , son of Terry and Annette Nicholls
<b>Niti Dharwadkar</b> , daughter of Parmanand and Leena Dharwadkar	<b>Joseph O'Reilly</b> , son of Daniel and Kathy O'Reilly
<b>Vy Do</b> , daughter of Viet and Huong Do	<b>Noah Schwartz</b> , son of Frank and Jane Schwartz
<b>Zachary Greenwald</b> , son of Jeffrey Greenwald and Sherry Marlowe	<b>Sandow Sinai</b> , son of Peter Alhassau and Irit Sanai
<b>Kunying He</b> , daughter of Jingxain He and Yitao Zhen	<b>Daniel Sun</b> , son of Dajun and Judy Sun
<b>Jonah Hessels</b> , son of Mark and Julie Hessels	<b>Alex Tabatabai</b> , son of Hamid Tabatabai and Parisa Payder
<b>Jeremy Hollis</b> , son of Dana Hollis	<b>Pavleen Thurkal</b> , son of Satbir and Harvinder Thurkal
<b>Julia Howard</b> , daughter of Joseph and Ann Howard	<b>Tishina Tittley</b> , daughter of William and Ding Qi Tittley
<b>Philip Johnson</b> , son of William Johnson and Zirong Zhao	<b>Ekaterina Tolstaya</b> , daughter of Igor and Lada Tolstaya
<b>Katherine Kasunic</b> , daughter of Rob and Carol Kasunic	<b>Jessica Wang</b> , daughter of Guang-Laing Wang and Rose Xu
<b>Barbara Kim</b> , daughter of Seok Ho Kim and Gyung AE Kim	<b>Felix Zhou</b> , son of Jain Rong Zhao and Li Chen
<b>Mia Kim</b> , daughter of Mari Kim	

*The Falcon Free Press is published nearly monthly by the Poolesville Parent-Teacher-Student Association (PTSA), and distributed electronically via the PHS website and a notice to our Yahoo group. Visit the school website frequently, and read every issue of the Falcon Free Press for important information for parents and students!*

*Subscribe to our free PTSA Yahoo Group by sending an email request to [PHS\\_PTSA-subscribe@yahoogroups](mailto:PHS_PTSA-subscribe@yahoogroups). You will receive an email notice with a link whenever a new issue of this newsletter is posted to the school's website.*

**Deadline for November 2011 issue is October 18**  
**Email submissions to Editor: [cnorcross@comcast.net](mailto:cnorcross@comcast.net)**

## POOLESVILLE DAY THANKS AND 2012 DATE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Poolesville Day Committee would like to thank everyone for coming out to the festival this year. Thank you to our sponsors: Town of Poolesville, Huron Consulting, PACC, Covanta Energy, M&T Bank, BB&T Bank, Sen. Rob Garagiola, Kettler Forlines Homes, Monocacy Monocle, Corporate Network Systems, Townsend & Halbrook Mortgage, Inc., Subway, Am Kolel and Winchester Homes. **Special thanks** to our volunteers, exhibitors, vendors, amazing bands and other entertainment, parade participants, Jim and Gabi for putting together the Car/Motorcycle Show, Dave McKenzie and Rinnie Magaha for putting together the Agricultural/Livestock Display, Eddie Kulhman for organizing the tractor display and The Bob Lauder Band for their tent/sound set-up on Stage #1. Although Stage #3 was rained out, we want to thank The Poolesville Band Project for volunteering to run Stage #3 sound. **We also want to thank the following people and local businesses for use of their properties:** The Jamisons, Mr. Willard, the Post Office and the Asian House of Poolesville.



**Save the Date!**

**Saturday, September 15, 2012**

**2012 Poolesville Day**  
**Celebration**

Interested in being a part of  
Poolesville Day?

"Day of" Volunteers are needed each year from 6:30am-10:00am. Please email the committee at [poolesvilleday@yahoo.com](mailto:poolesvilleday@yahoo.com) or call 301-349-2123 if you are interested.



**TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!**  
**Poolesville Day 2011 Survey**

The committee would like to know about your Poolesville Day experience.

Please fill out the short public survey located at: [www.poolesvilleday.com](http://www.poolesvilleday.com).

### FREE TUTORING!



Hello! The National Honor Society is excited to offer students one-on-one tutoring in all subjects once again. Beidi Luo and Jack Zhu are our tutoring coordinators; they can be reached at [nationalhonorsociety.phs@gmail.com](mailto:nationalhonorsociety.phs@gmail.com) if you have any questions about the program.

TO REQUEST A TUTOR: Students should complete the form at [www.tinyurl.com/NHSTutoringRequest](http://www.tinyurl.com/NHSTutoringRequest).

We will be making signs soon to advertise the request site; until then, please spread the word! If you have contacted me about getting a tutor for a student and no match has yet been made, please make a request through the site.

As always, tutoring is provided on a first-come, first-serve basis and we cannot guarantee a match.

If course teachers are interested in offering lunchtime drop-in tutoring and would like NHS members present, please let Jack and Beidi know.

Thanks for your support of the tutoring program!



**MIDNIGHT PLAYERS FALL PLAY**

On November 17 at 7:00 p.m. The Midnight Players of Pooleville High School will open the curtain on their newest production, *The Madwoman of Chailiot*, a French farce by acclaimed playwright Jean Giraudoux. The production continues on November 18 at 7:30 p.m. and November 19 at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets may be purchased in advance using a [mail-in form](#) which will be on the PHS website and in this publication on [Page 12](#). Tickets will also be sold at PHS during lunch from 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. and from 2:15 – 2:45 p.m. beginning November 10. Tickets will **not** be available on line.

At Café Chez Francis a group of investors including The President, The Prospector, and The Baron forge a plot to make huge sums of money. Unfortunately, large

sections of Paris will be destroyed in the process. The common people of Paris appeal to the Countess Aurelia, the so-called Madwoman of Chailiot, to stop the destruction. At first the countess does not believe the evil that is being plotted, for she lives sometimes in the past, sometimes in the present, and sometimes in the future. In her eyes, Paris is a wonderful, magical place. Nevertheless, her friends convince her that the city is not all beauty and light. She is taken aback by the greediness with which the city has been overcome. She takes it upon herself, assisted by her friends and three other “Madwomen” countesses, to try save Paris in a most unusual way -all in one afternoon!



**Support your PTSA. Order your Pooleville High School Ornaments Now!**



2011 Pooleville HS 100th Anniversary Ornament. PHS as it looked 100 years ago!



2010 Water Tower Ornament

**POOLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY ORNAMENT ORDER FORM**

**YES!** I would like to order the 100 year anniversary ornament. I understand that to fulfill this order my payment in full must be enclosed. The cost per ornament is \$20. The 2010 Water Tower Ornament is also available for \$15. *Supplies are limited.*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to order (#) \_\_\_\_\_ 2011 100 Year Anniversary ornaments at a cost of \$20 each for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I would like to order (#) \_\_\_\_\_ of the 2010 Water Tower ornament at a cost of \$15 each for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please add \$2.00 (flat rate) for shipping: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total payment enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **PHS PTSA**. Mail your order form and payment to:

**PHS PTSA – Ornament  
17501 West Willard Rd  
Pooleville, MD 20837**

**\*\*Also available at the Pooleville Hardware Store for \$23 (100 yr.) and \$18 (water tower)**



## COUNSELING & CAREER CENTER NEWS

*Ms. Pavlik, Resource Counselor; Mr. Cappuccilli, Counselor; Ms. Nagy, Counselor; Mrs. Martin, Counselor, Mr. Gysberts, Counselor; Mrs. Hornburg, Secretary, Ms. DeOto, College & Career Information Coordinator*

### FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

A financial aid workshop will be held at PHS in the auditorium on Wednesday, Dec. 7, from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. This workshop is very important for parents of 11th and 12th grade college-bound students. Representatives from the Financial Aid Office of Hood College will present the workshop. The free application for the federal student aid form (FAFSA) will be discussed along with other pertinent financial aid information. The FAFSA form should be completed for all seniors planning to attend college or a career school regardless of family income. The form will be available to students in mid-December but cannot be filed until AFTER January 1, 2011. In addition, important information from the Maryland Higher Education Commission about Maryland State financial aid will be presented.

Seniors and their parents can (and should!) register for their FAFSA PIN (Personal Identification Number) now. If you fill out the form on-line you will need this information in order to 'sign' it. To apply for this number please visit the U.S. Department of Education website: [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) This is an important first step to applying for federal student aid.

### VISITS TO SENIOR CLASSES

The week of September 5th, the counselors visited senior English classes to explain the career and college application process and to answer questions. Families, please look for the senior packet that came home with your senior. It contains critical information about the process at PHS. Check the PHS Counseling web site for copies of all materials presented to the students and to families of seniors on Back-To-School Night.

### VISITS TO SOPHMORE CLASSES

In November the Counseling Services team will meet with sophomore students to help prepare them for the college application process. Sophomores will be introduced to Naviance, our college and career software. Students will complete a personality inventory and learn about the college search process. Additionally, students will review how to use Triumph, software for SAT and ACT preparation.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

##### Financial Aid Workshop

⇒ PHS auditorium on Wednesday, Dec. 7, 7:00pm - 9:00 pm

##### Senior Class Visits

⇒ Occurred the Week of Sept. 5. Look for senior packet given to your student.

##### Sophomore Class Visits

⇒ Coming in November

### COLLEGE SEARCH TIPS

#### Choosing the Right Fit

Many magazine and newspaper articles broadcast the increasing selectivity of college admissions and this leads students to believe that "most selective" means "best." There is no such thing as a "one size fits all" college -- what is right for one student may not be right for another student with similar characteristics. A student's success in life is not determined by the college they attended. Do not select a school based on reputation, but instead on how well it fits your requirements. Studies have shown that students who have been accepted at one of the most prestigious institutions but choose to attend a lesser known school attain the same financial success as those who chose the more selective college. It is the student's attributes like drive, intelligence, work ethic and leadership qualities that will lead to a successful career. That being said, be aware of the college characteristics most important to you. Try looking beyond the reputation and amenities (beautiful campus and buildings) and focus on the students, professors, opportunities and course offerings. Choose colleges that support the way you learn best and where the institutional philosophy is in line with goals for your own education.

#### Why Consider Liberal Arts Colleges?

Liberal arts colleges are small and focus on the undergraduate. They provide students with a broad based knowledge in science, the humanities and art. Students are actively engaged in the learning process and critical & analytical thinking and writing skills are stressed. Classes in liberal arts colleges are taught by faculty (not graduate assistants) and professors interact with students in and out of the classroom. The experience of students at a liberal arts college differs from that of students at large public institutions. There is an emphasis on individualized instruction in a primarily residential environment. A 1998 study found that although only 3% of all American college graduates were educated at residential liberal arts colleges, they accounted for 19% of the U.S. presidents, 23% of Pulitzer Prize winners in drama, and 8% of Forbes magazine's listing of the wealthiest CEO's in America. Graduates from liberal arts colleges are twice as likely to earn a doctorate degree in science and are disproportionately represented among leaders in education, public service and business.



## COUNSELING & CAREER CENTER NEWS - Cont.

*Ms. Pavlik, Resource Counselor; Mr. Cappuccilli, Counselor; Ms. Nagy, Counselor; Mrs. Martin, Counselor, Mr. Gysberts, Counselor; Mrs. Hornburg, Secretary, Ms. DeOto, College & Career Information Coordinator*

### SAT/ACT INFORMATION

#### School Year 2011-12

ACT \$49.50		
TEST DATE	REGULAR REGISTRATION	LATE REGISTRATION**
10/22/11	9/16/11	9/30/11
12/10/11	11/04/11	11/18/11
02/11/12	01/13/12	01/20/12
04/14/12	03/09/12	03/23/12
06/09/12	05/04/12	05/18/12

\*\*NOTE: Late fee for ACT test registration is an additional \$21.00

\*\*\*NOTE: Late fee for SAT test registration is an additional \$26.00

SAT \$49.00		
TEST DATE	REGULAR REGISTRATION	LATE REGISTRATION***
10/01/11	9/09/11	09/21/11
11/05/11	10/07/11	10/21/11
12/03/11	11/08/11	11/20/11
01/28/12	12/30/11	01/13/12
03/10/12	02/10/12	02/24/12
05/05/12	04/06/12	04/20/12
06/02/12	05/08/12	05/22/12

\*NOTE: ACT offers an optional 30 minute writing test for all 2011-2012 test dates. The SAT writing section is not optional. Be advised that colleges and universities would like to see a student writing sample score prior to admission therefore students are encouraged to sign up for the writing section of the ACT.

The ACT web site is [WWW.ACT.ORG](http://WWW.ACT.ORG). The SAT site is [WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.COM](http://WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.COM). The Poolesville High School Code, which is required for both applications, is 210-825.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Juniors planning to take the SAT in the spring of 2012 can register NOW. The testing sites in Montgomery County fill up very quickly, especially for the May and June test dates.

#### SAT SPECIAL NEEDS TESTING LOCATIONS:

MCPS provides a central testing location in Bethesda for most students pre-approved for accommodations on the SAT. The student using the Walter Johnson H.S. special testing center will receive notification from the College Board that they are approved for "School Testing" and report to WJHS on the day of the test. Students requiring the use of a reader and/or writer will test at his/her home school and will receive approval for "Site Testing." For additional information contact Sue Hartung at the Walter Johnson High School site (301-803-7140).

#### SAT PREPARATION:

Montgomery College Workforce Development and Continuing Education is sponsoring County-wide SAT Prep classes this year. Registration can be done in person at any MC campus registration office, through the mail by completing an application available from the PHS Career Center, or by faxing a copy of the complete registration form. The cost is \$295.00 for Maryland residents. There are many schedules and locations available. Interested students and parents should go to the MC website for complete details:

[www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/ce/satprep.html](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/ce/satprep.html)



## COUNSELING & CAREER CENTER NEWS - Cont.

Ms. Pavlik, Resource Counselor; Mr. Cappuccilli, Counselor; Ms. Nagy, Counselor; Mrs. Martin, Counselor, Mr. Gysberts, Counselor; Mrs. Hornburg, Secretary, Ms. DeOto, College & Career Information Coordinator

### SCHOLARSHIP & COLLEGE INFORMATION

#### **SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION**

SENIORS, routinely check the scholarship folders in the career center. New information is coming in all the time, and there is too much of it to include in the *Falcon Free Press*.

Worried about how to pay for college? Take a look at the [WWW.UPROMISE.COM](http://WWW.UPROMISE.COM) website. There are many major corporations who will help you save for college. Also if your senior has not registered for [WWW.FASTWEB.COM](http://WWW.FASTWEB.COM) they should do so. This website is free and will send scholarship information based upon student demographics and interest.

#### **COLLEGES VISITING PHS**

The most current list of colleges scheduled to visit PHS can be found on the PHS Career Center webpage and the bulletin board outside of the career center. All juniors and seniors are invited to attend these sessions. They must have permission from their classroom teacher. *Students may attend the college visits if they bring their agenda book to Ms. DeOto in the career center at least two days in advance to obtain a pass.*

#### **COLLEGE OPEN HOUSES**

All colleges encourage prospective students to visit during their senior year of high school. These visits help in the decision-making process of which school to attend. Check with the schools you are considering and see when their campus visits are. Plan to visit if at all possible. See a dorm, talk with students, meet with the admissions representatives and learn what scholarships might be available for you.

#### **COLLEGE FAIRS**

PHS Juniors will attend the Montgomery County College Fair in April of 2012. The fall college fairs are primarily for undecided seniors and their parents.

Top tier schools generally do not attend college fairs. They do host information sessions at various locations throughout the DC area. If you are interested in applying to Harvard, Princeton, U. Penn, Georgetown, Duke and the like, be sure and check their website to see where their information sessions will be held. This is an opportunity for you to meet with their rep for this area and make sure you are on track with their admissions process. Any flyers that are received at PHS regarding these sessions are posted on the bulletin board across from the career Center.

#### **NATIONAL HISPANIC COLLEGE FAIR**



**Career Council, Inc.**  
**National Hispanic College Fairs, Inc.®**

On Wednesday, October 19, students from PHS will be attending the Montgomery County Annual Hispanic College Fair. This is a wonderful opportunity for any college-bound minority student to meet with representatives from many colleges in one place. Beginning in mid-October students will be able to pick up an information packet from Ms. DeOto in the Career Center and return a signed parental permission slip for transportation purposes. We are limited to 20 juniors or seniors for this college fair. Sign-ups will be on a 'First Come-First Served' basis. Deadline for signing up is Friday, October 7.

#### **MILITARY**



If you are interested in a career in the military after graduation, talk to the recruiters that you see visiting during lunch or ask Ms. DeOto to set up an appointment for you to meet during an elective. Make sure to listen to what each branch of service has to offer. This option may be just the ticket for you. Mark your calendar for late February 2012 for the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery administration at PHS. The ASVAB is used by the military to determine eligibility and also to inform students of possible career options. Parental permission is required to take the ASVAB. Details will be forthcoming in future newsletters.



## COUNSELING & CAREER CENTER NEWS - Cont.

Ms. Pavlik, Resource Counselor; Mr. Cappuccilli, Counselor; Ms. Nagy, Counselor; Mrs. Martin, Counselor, Mr. Gysberts, Counselor; Mrs. Hornburg, Secretary, Ms. DeOto, College & Career Information Coordinator

### SCHOLARSHIP & COLLEGE INFORMATION - Cont.

#### Historically Black Colleges/Universities (HBCU) On-The-Spot College Admission Events

There will be several on-the-spot admissions events this school year. Seniors interested in attending should talk with their counselor or Ms. DeOto in the Career Center. The schedule of dates, schools and location is included below. There will be additional information for students as the events get closer. If you are considering any of these schools please let us know so that we can ensure you have everything you need to attend (test scores, transcript, application, etc. The high school hosting the event will want to know who to expect from Poolesville H. S. Typically, these evenings begin at 5:30 pm with a presentation from the admissions rep, followed by individual interviews (first come/first served). Students must be prepared with a completed application, transcript and test scores in hand and ready to interview with the admissions representative.

The On-The-Spot Admissions/Scholarship Events are open to all African-American and Hispanic seniors. Please see Ms. DeOto in the Career Center room 10 or your counselor for information.

The February 15, 2012 **HBCU College Fair is open to grades 9-12**. Last year MCPS students were awarded more than \$1.6 million in scholarships from these On-The-Spot admissions sessions.

#### CAREER CENTER OPEN TO STUDENTS

Remember the **Career Center** is open before school, after school and during lunch. Stop in and see what the Center has to offer.

In the **Career Center**, you may:

- perform a college search,
- read through college catalogues,
- watch campus videos.

Most importantly, you may look over the ***Guess Who's Coming to PHS calendar*** to see which colleges, tech schools or military recruiters will be visiting.

College open house information is posted on the bulletin board across from the Career Center. Look to see when colleges are hosting open houses during the fall.

Schedule a weekend visit to schools that you are interested in attending.

#### Historically Black Colleges and University "On-The-Spot" Admissions Evenings 2011– 2012

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
10/26, 2011	6:00-8:00 pm	Trinity @ Northwood HS
11/9, 2011	6:00-8:00 pm	Lincoln Univ @ Wootton HS
11/15, 2011	6:00-8:00 pm	Hampton @ Richard Montgomery HS
11/17, 2011		Morehouse College @ Gaithersburg HS
11/30, 2011	6:00-8:00 pm	Morgan State Univ. @ Walter Johnson HS
12/7, 2012	6:00-8:00 pm	Univ. of MD Eastern Shore @ Springbrook HS
2/15, 2012	6:00-8:00 pm	HBCU College Fair @ Blair HS 6-8 p.m. (snow date 2/17)
Feb, 2012	2:00-4:00 pm	College Goal Sunday @ Montgomery College—Takoma Park



## The Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations

Joyce Breiner, Jane Harris - PHS PTSA MCCPTA Delegates

### THE **VOICE** OF THE PTSA

The MCCPTA delegate is the voice of the PTSA. By participating in the Delegates' Assemblies and our local PTSA meetings, we are a link between the MCCPTA, and our local PTSA. Our role is to share information about what is happening across the school system with the members of our PTSA, and we will bring the perspective of our PTSA members to the discussions at the county level. We have the privileges of introducing motions, debating and voting at the Delegates' Assemblies (DA.) Joyce Breiner and Jane Harris, as delegates, cast two of the three votes our PTSA has at the DA. Mai Le, as president, has the third.

The majority of our time as delegates is spent as "conduits of information." In addition to attending the monthly Delegates' Assemblies (every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month), we sift through numerous emails sent via both the MCCPTA Delegates elist and the MCCPTA Bulletin elist to find what is relevant to our community. We then report information from the meetings and the elists to you. Along with the cluster coordinators, we are involved in the MCCPTA process of advocating for our PTSA with regard to CIP and Operating Budget issues.

#### WHY IS IT **IMPORTANT** TO JOIN YOUR PTA AND GET INVOLVED?

**CONNECT** - Parents, teachers, students and administrators meet, discuss and act together. There's no better way to know what's happening in your school.

**LEARN** - Montgomery County Council of PTAs offers great monthly programs and forums to educate parents on what is happening in our county.

**GROW** - By volunteering, you put your skills to use for a noble cause - your child and all children.

**SPEAK** - Through PTA, you speak for every child - diverse, united, and speaking with one voice.

**IMPROVE** - By getting involved, you will be part of the solution, helping make positive changes.

**MODEL** - Be a role model by demonstrating to your child the importance you place on education.

### FIND YOUR **PASSION** & GET INVOLVED!!

The Montgomery County Council of PTAs ("MCCPTA") is your voice across the county. MCCPTA's purpose is to unify and strengthen local PTAs in order to promote the interests of children and to encourage programs and projects that will carry out the purposes of the PTA. In order to assist in that business, MCCPTA has created a number of committees dedicated to school issues. Please review the committee vision statements below. All committees are open to any member of the PTA. There are plenty of ways you may get involved! Visit [www.mccpta.com](http://www.mccpta.com) for a complete listing of committees.

#### IMPORTANT COMMITTEES

##### High School:

**Chair: Dave Lechner,**  
dave@lechneronline.com

The High School Committee works to promote change on issues that affect high school students, focusing on improving communication and the involvement of parents within our high schools. Committee initiatives this year include county-wide programs such as the Safe-Prom Video contest, the High School Model United Nations event, and release of a Parking Lot Safety Study. Other issues such as student release on test days, IB programs, relationships with Booster clubs, and school improvement plans are planned topics of discussion.

##### Operating Budget

**Chair: Jean Schlesinger,**  
jeanschlesinger@verizon.net

The MCPS Operating Budget represents the translation of MCPS priorities into action by allocating funds across programs and functions. The vision of the Operating Budget Committee is that all parents would become well-informed and active partners in the budget process. It is the job of the committee to make this vision happen.

##### Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

**Chair: Steve Augustino,**  
sauggiedog@comcast.net

The CIP Committee supports the advocacy of MCCPTA and the individual clusters on school construction issues. The Committee is dedicated to the principle that every child in Montgomery County is entitled to attend school in a safe, secure, healthy and modern facility. MCPS's ability to increase academic rigor throughout all levels and to expand participation in college-level coursework, requires sufficient classrooms, modern facilities, and appropriate learning environments. The CIP Committee will work to see that MCPS meets countywide facilities needs, and in particular that MCPS keeps pace with planned additions, modernizations and county-wide programs to replace and maintain building facilities.



## The Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations

*Joyce Breiner, Jane Harris PHS PTSA MCCPTA Delegates*

### MCCPTA EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

#### October Delegate Assembly

- ⇒ Tuesday, Oct 25, 7:30pm, MCPS Carver Auditorium, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville MD
- ⇒ Includes "Meet Dr. Starr" at 6:30 pm

#### Meet Dr. Starr—"Listen and Learn" Events

- ⇒ Many dates in Oct. and Nov. See below for details.

#### Board of Education Community Conversations

- ⇒ October 12, 7:00 pm at Northwood High School
- ⇒ October 27, 7:00 pm at Watkins Mill High School

#### Board of Education Meeting with Poolesville School Cluster

- ⇒ Thursday, April 19, 2012, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

### Board of Education Community Conversations

Parents, staff, students and community members are invited to participate in discussions with the Board of Education at this year's Community Conversations. Information shared at the forums will be used to help set priorities for the Fiscal Year 2013 Operating Budget. Dates are scheduled for October 12 and 27. See Calendar at left.

### Board of Education Meeting with Poolesville School Cluster

The Board of Education has scheduled a visit with the Poolesville Cluster on Thursday, April 19, 2012, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Board members view these meetings as an opportunity to get better acquainted with the community and to discuss positions on issues pending before the Board.

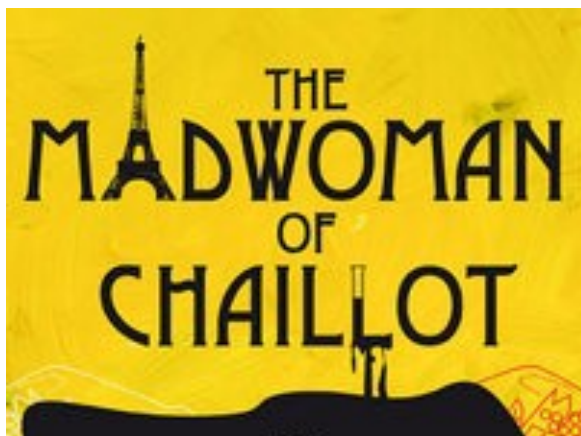
### Meet Dr. Starr, New MCPS Superintendent

Dr. Joshua P. Starr, MCPS, has announced dates and locations for "Listen and Learn" events he is hosting this fall to meet with school system stakeholders (see schedule below).

The events will provide Dr. Starr an opportunity to meet with a variety of parents, students, staff and community members to hear their observations and perspectives on MCPS. They are among a series of public events he has planned to get to know the community in his first six months. The remaining events are scheduled as follows:

DR.STARR "LISTEN AND LEARN" EVENTS		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION
October 3	7:00-8:30 pm	Watkins Mill HS
October 10	7:30—9:00 pm	Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS
October 18	7:00-8:30 pm	Long Branch Community Center
October 19 (New Date)	7:00-8:30 pm	Thomas S. Wootton High School
November 1	7:00-8:30 pm	Damascus High School
November 7	7:00-8:30 pm	Wheaton High School
November 21	7:00-8:30 pm	Sherwood High School

*Poolesville High School Midnight Players presents*



**November 17 at 7:00pm**  
**November 18 and 19 at 7:30pm**  
**November 19 at 2:00pm**

- **Adult Tickets \$10** •
- **Student Tickets \$5** •

Visit our Box Office on November 10 – November 17 from 11:00am – 11:30am  
and 2:00pm – 2:30pm, and 1 hour before each performance.

- For information please call 301-972-7940 or email [Gail\\_H\\_Howard@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Gail_H_Howard@mcpsmd.org) •

## TICKET ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

- Please fill-in the number of seats requested for each performance •

Thursday, November 17 at 7:00pm      \_\_\_\_\_ Adult      \_\_\_\_\_ Student  
Friday, November 18 at 7:30pm      \_\_\_\_\_ Adult      \_\_\_\_\_ Student  
Saturday, November 19 at 2:00pm      \_\_\_\_\_ Adult      \_\_\_\_\_ Student  
Saturday, November 19 at 7:30pm      \_\_\_\_\_ Adult      \_\_\_\_\_ Student

### Total Seats & Prices

\_\_\_\_\_ Adult @ \$10 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Student @ \$5 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Due = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

- Make checks payable to Poolesville High School •
- Mail ticket orders with payment to – Gail Howard • PHS Midnight Players • 17501 W. Willard Road • Poolesville, MD 20837 •
- Paid ticket orders will be held at the Box Office OR can be picked up at the Will Call table one hour before performances •
- All sales are final • No refunds or exchanges •



## Poolesville High School PTSA Membership Form

**Parents, students, and staff may join at any time.  
We encourage you to join at the beginning of each school year.**

### **Membership Dues**

**Parent/Guardian & Community Members – \$11.00**

**Student & Staff Members – \$5.00**

(Dues include your membership in the County, State and National PTAs  
and a copy of the PHS Student Directory to be distributed this Fall.)

**Tax-Deductible Donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you!**

Please, make checks payable to Poolesville High School PTSA. Mail check and completed form to:  
PHS PTSA – Membership, 17501 W. Willard Road, Poolesville, Maryland 20837

Parent/Community Member Last Name	First Name	Street Address City, State, Zip (if different from student)	Phone Number	Email Address

Student/Staff Last Name	First Name	Grade	Street Address, City, State, Zip	Phone Number	Email Address

### **Membership Dues:**

Parent/Guardian Community Member	\$11.00 each # _____	\$ _____
Student/Staff Member	\$ 5.00 each # _____	\$ _____
Tax-Deductible Donation		\$ _____
Total Amount Enclosed		\$ _____

Yes  No **Please add the above email addresses to the PHS PTSA Yahoo Group.**

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**Questions? Please visit the PTSA page on the PHS website for membership chair contact info:**  
[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/poolesvillehs/ptsa/ptsa.html](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/poolesvillehs/ptsa/ptsa.html)



# Poolesville High School PTSA Volunteer Me!

**Yes, I would like to serve on the following PTSA committees (circle as many as you would like).**

Cultural Arts

PTSA Webpage Management

Electronic Communication

Reflections

Grade Level Liaison

School Improvement Plan

Membership

Staff Appreciation

Newsletter

Student Directory

Promotions

Volunteer Recognition

**Our PTSA is looking for a few additional committee chairpersons. Please let us know if you are interested in chairing or co-chairing...**

\_\_\_\_\_ Cluster Representative (to represent our cluster before the Board of Education and MCCPTA)

\_\_\_\_\_ Nominating Committee (to develop slate of officer nominees and committee chair recommendations for the following year)

\_\_\_\_\_ Promotions (to organize and manage our direct donations and buy a brick program)

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Prom (to organize and manage our after-prom program)

**Feel free to contact me/us if you need help with any of the following school events (circle as many as you would like).**

Awards Night

Homecoming

Graduation

Prom

General Help

Other Special Events

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Daytime Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ideas, questions? Write them here!**