

Dr. Worthington's Message

Twitter: DrLouise Worthington@BAKERprincipal

Registration for the 2024–2025 school year is coming up. **Baker Parent Articulation Night for rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders (current 5th, 6th, and 7th graders) will be held on Thursday, January 18, 2024.** Baker counselors will be in 6th and 7th grade Social Studies classes January 17–19, 2024, to talk about course options for the upcoming school year. Registration for 6th and 7th grade students will take place January 22–26, 2024. Registration will be done at home using a Google form.

Baker Middle School

Parent Articulation Meeting

for Parents of Rising 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders
(Current 5th, 6th, and 7th Graders)
attending Baker Middle School for 2024-2025

Thursday, January 18, 2024

6:30–7:30 p.m.

Baker Middle School Cafeteria

Damascus High School Parent Orientation for parents of rising 9th graders (current 8th graders) will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at the high school (see page 4). DHS counselors will be at Baker to discuss course options with 8th graders during a Town Hall on January 18, 2024. Online registration will be held in English classes on January 23, 2024.

Semester 1 and Marking Period 2 end on Friday, January 26, 2024. There's still time to turn in that last assignment or study for that final assessment before report card grades are submitted. Please be sure to ask your children if they are missing any assignments or assessments. You may check the ParentVue, or your child's planner, for updates.

Recognizing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

- The MLK Day of Service will be recognized on Monday, January 15, 2024.
- The MLK Week of Service will be Saturday, January 13 through Sunday, January 21, 2024.

See page 2 for service opportunities for Baker Students.

Americanism Essay Contest

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) is sponsoring an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12. This year's essay deals with **"What does Freedom mean to me?"** The required cover sheet and additional information will be available from Ms. Lawrowycz. Students will need to ask a Baker MS teacher to sponsor them. **Essays are to be turned in to the sponsoring teacher no later than January 23, 2024.**

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



Looking Ahead

January 13–21 — MLK Week of Service

Monday, January 15 — MLK Day of Service
MLK Day — schools and offices closed

Tuesday, January 16 — Activity Buses

Art Club, Room 210, Ms. Alvarado
Chess Club, Room 115, Mr. Ciccarello
eSports Club, Room 134, Mr. Conner and Mr. Maddox

Homework Club, Room 227, Ms. Laraia
SGA Meeting, Room 233, Ms. Blankenship
Workout Club, Weight Room, Mr. Fisher
Music Department Fundraiser at J&P Pizza in Damascus (see page 3)

January 17–19 — Counselors visit 6th/7th Social Studies with FY25 registration info

Wednesday, January 17 — Activity Buses

NJHS, Room 209, Mr. Conner
Rubik's Cube Club, Room 225, Mr. Fisher
DHS Parent Orientation, 7:00 p.m. at DHS

Thursday, January 18 — Activity Buses
Town Hall with DHS Counselors, 10:00-10:47
Jazz Band, Room 107, Mrs. Fell
K-Club, Room 210, Ms. Alvarado
Workout Club, Weight Room, Mr. Fisher
Baker Parent Articulation Night, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, January 19

Jazz Band at Towson Jazz Festival

January 22–26 — 6th/7th Graders register for FY25 classes at home using Google

Tuesday, January 23

8th Grade Registration in English classes

Wednesday, January 24

Town Halls through PE/Health classes

Friday, January 26

End of Marking Period 2 and Semester 1

NJHS/SGA Friendship Dance

Baker MS community and all:
Please help students have a friendly and fun time at the February 9, 2024, Friendship Dance by purchasing any items from the following Amazon list. Items can be ordered and then **sent with your student** to drop off in the Media Center. Please do not set the delivery address as Baker MS.

Thank you so much!

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/ILTZWQN1G6W?ref=wl_share



Baker Students Honor Martin Luther King Jr. through Community Service

This week, Baker Middle School students learn about the history of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and will have the opportunity to serve by starting a Comfort Cases project. Student will publicize the need for Comfort Cases, will collect and organize donations, and ultimately will pack Comfort Cases. Please use the QR code at the right or go to [MLK Jr. Week Presentation](#) to learn more.



MLK Jr. said, "Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

SGA, with the help of the Baker MS community, is starting a comfort cases project during MLK Jr. week. Any student can attend the SGA 2 hour SSL opportunity after school on next Tuesday, 01/16 in room 233 from 3-4:20pm to help create posters to spread awareness.

The list of donation items that can be dropped off in the media center

- ☐ Small Duffel Bag or Backpack
- ☐ Pajamas, Child Size 10 to Adult 3XL
- ☐ Blanket (no larger than 50"x60")
- ☐ Adult Toothbrush (1 – 3 pack)
- ☐ Toothpaste (travel size)
- ☐ Shampoo & Conditioner (travel size)
- ☐ Lotion (travel size)
- ☐ Soap or Body Wash (travel size)
- ☐ Deodorant
- ☐ Stuffed Animal (12" or smaller)
- ☐ Journal
- ☐ Pens & Pencils
- ☐ Book

2024 MLK Day of Service Event at the Damascus Community Center!

JOIN US FOR
2024 MLK DAY OF SERVICE!

Kick off the new year by making a difference!

WHEN?	WHERE?	WHO?
Monday January 15th 12-2pm	Damascus Community Center 25520 Oak Dr Damascus, MD 20872	All ages are welcome!

HOW?

SIGN UP! rb.gy/vt60z3

2 Service Hours Provided!



NEST Volunteers

NEST4US is partnering with Montgomery County Volunteer Center at the 2024 Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Day of Service event. We will join thousands of Americans across the country who will be celebrating the national holiday honoring the life and work of Dr. King by doing service in their communities.

During this event, volunteers will be participating in various service projects including notes of kindness, mealtime inspiration kits, blessing bags, grocery bags, brunch bags, compassion wall, gratitude bags, etc. Together, let's brighten the day of families in need with these bags, giving them nourishment, love, and hope!

****2 service hours will be provided for this event****

To register, go to [NEST Volunteers: 2024 MLK Day of Service Event! \(signupgenius.com\)](#)

For additional service opportunities, visit
[MLK Day - For Volunteers - Montgomery County Volunteer Center \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](#)



Support the John T. Baker Middle School Music Department!

When: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 3:00-9:00 pm

Where: New York J&P Pizza
26067 Ridge Road
Damascus, MD
(301) 253-1600

Grab a delicious meal from J & P Pizza in Damascus from 3:00-9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 16. Carry out or dine in only. Don't forget to mention the Baker Music Department when you check out at the register!

JOHN T. BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOK 2024



The yearbook captures today's memories to enjoy for a lifetime.
Don't miss out — reserve your copy today!

WAYS TO ORDER:



ONLINE
JOSTENSYEARBOOKS.COM



SCAN

OTHER HELPFUL INFO:

This year, we are providing a limited number of promo codes for a discount online. Visit the website to view the active promo code. Don't delay these codes are first-come, first-serve.

JOSTENSYEARBOOKS.COM

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ELECTRIC VEHICLE WRAP



BACKGROUND

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Policy ECA, Sustainability, states our systemwide commitment to environmental sustainability. To support this policy, MCPS has purchased seven electric-powered cargo vans as fleet replacements. These electric vehicles will help reduce MCPS's overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and support the Board of Education's commitment to cut GHG emissions by 80% by 2027 and 100% by 2035.

We need your help to promote the actions that MCPS is taking to protect the environment. Your creative designs can inspire others care more about sustainability!

**CONTEST ENDS
FEBRUARY 2, 2024**

- ### RULES
- This contest is open to all MCPS students and staff.
 - Entries may be hand-drawn or created digitally.
 - Artwork must contain the **MCPS** acronym and the slogan **Committed to Sustainability**.
 - Artwork must promote the use of electric vehicles and/or the use of renewable energy sources.
 - All entries must be accompanied by an official contest entry form.
 - See the contest guidelines sheet for more details.

The focus of this contest is to increase awareness and demonstrate our school district's commitment to environmental sustainability and our sustainable actions.

Visit www.MCPSsustainability.org or call 240-740-3210 for more information.

Sustainability POSTER CONTEST

All MCPS students and staff are invited to participate in the Division of Sustainability and Compliance's 2024 poster contest.



SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

APRIL 5, 2024



The focus of this annual contest is to increase awareness and demonstrate your school's commitment to environmental sustainability and sustainable actions related to energy conservation, waste reduction, and responsible recycling.

Scan the QR codes to download the entry form and to get more details about the contest.



ENTRY FORM
bit.ly/46CKOGB



GUIDELINES
bit.ly/4SQVHRu

240-740-7715

sustainability@mcpsmd.org



Division of Sustainability and Compliance
45 West Gude Drive, Suite 4000
Rockville, Maryland 20850

DAMASCUS HIGH SCHOOL

RIISING 9TH GRADE PARENT

ARTICULATION NIGHT

SY 2024-2025

Rising 9th grade students and families are cordially invited to attend the DHS 9th Grade Parent Information Night on

January 17 at 7:00 PM in the DHS Auditorium

This is an opportunity to

- Meet the DHS administration team, counselors, and department leaders (RTs)
- Hear an overview of DHS
- Review the instructional program and course offerings at DHS
- Review the recommendation and registration process for SY 2024-2025
- Hear department-specific information regarding course offerings and recommendations

FOR MORE INFO

Please contact Ms. Sarah Fitzgerald, Assistant Principal at Damascus High School, if you have any questions.

Sarah_B.Fitzgerald@mcpsmd.org
240.207.2400



ESCUELA SECUNDARIA DE DAMASCO

PADRE EN ASCENSO DE NOVENO

GRADO NOCHE DE ARTICULACIÓN

SY 2024-2025

Los estudiantes y familias que ingresarán al noveno grado están cordialmente invitados a asistir a DHS - Noche de información para padres de noveno grado el **miércoles 17 de enero de 2024 a las 7:00 p.m.**

Esta es una oportunidad para

- Conozca al equipo de administración, los consejeros y los líderes de departamento (RT) de Damascus High School
- Escuche una descripción general de Damascus High School
- Revise el programa de instrucción y las ofertas de cursos en Damascus High School
- Revisar el proceso de recomendación y registro para 2023-2024
- Escuche información específica del departamento sobre ofertas de cursos y recomendaciones.

**¡Estamos emocionados de darle la bienvenida a DHS!
Reúnase en el auditorio del DHS a las 7:00 p.m.**

Comuníquese con la Sra. Sarah Fitzgerald, subdirectora de Damascus High School, si tiene preguntas.

Sarah_B.Fitzgerald@mcpsmd.org
240.207.2400



2023-2024 MCPS Inclement Weather and Operating Status

This is the full list of systemwide weather-related and operating status options for Montgomery County Public Schools and provides guidelines related to school status and activities during certain emergency conditions, and identifies the various levels of personnel.

Green

Normal Operations

All Schools and Admin Offices are open on time

.....
All staff report on time
Before/After school childcare programs and
Community Use occur as scheduled

Yellow

Delayed Opening

Schools will open 2 hours later and Admin Offices will open on time

.....
10-month staff report 2 hours later
11 and 12-month staff report on time
Before/After school childcare programs and
Community Use occur as scheduled

Blue

Early Dismissal

Schools will close 2.5 hours earlier and Admin Offices will remain open

.....
10-month staff depart after all students
11 and 12-month staff remain to complete
scheduled work day
Before/After school childcare programs and
Community Use canceled

Orange

Schools Closed Offices Open

Schools closed and Admin Offices are open

.....
10-month staff do not report
11 and 12-month staff report 2 hours late
Before/After school childcare programs may
decide to operate
Community Use is canceled

Red

School System Closed

Schools and Admin Offices are closed

.....
Only emergency personnel will report
All other staff does not report
Before/After school childcare programs and
Community Use are canceled

Purple

Virtual Learning Day

Virtual Instruction Occurs

.....
Emergency personnel and others performing
essential functions report in person
All other staff can report virtually
Before/After school childcare programs and
Community Use are canceled

- ICB Childcare Programs follow the responses for MCPS administrative offices
- CUPF - Community Use Activities are canceled when schools are closed, for the morning if there is a 2 hour delay, and for the afternoon when schools are dismissed early
- Emergency personnel must report to work and perform work for all status options, as in the negotiated contracts

[Emergency Information](#) — How to Receive MCPS Emergency Information, Weather Decisions, School Closings and Other Emergency Procedures, Emergency Preparedness, Resources

Opciones para el tiempo inclemente y el estado de funcionamiento de MCPS 2023-2024

Esta es la lista completa de opciones relacionadas con el clima y el estado operativo en todo el sistema para las Escuelas Públicas del Condado de Montgomery y proporciona pautas relacionadas con el estado escolar y las actividades durante ciertas condiciones de emergencia, e identifica los diversos niveles de personal.

Verde

Operaciones normales

Todas las escuelas y oficinas administrativas abren en su horario habitual

Todo el personal se reporta a trabajar en su horario habitual. Los programas de cuidado infantil de antes y después de la escuela y el uso comunitario ocurren según lo programado

Amarillo

Apertura retrasada

Las escuelas abrirán 2 horas más tarde y las oficinas administrativas abrirán en su horario habitual

El personal de 10 meses se reporta a trabajar 2 horas más tarde. El personal de 11 y 12 meses se reportan a trabajar en su horario habitual. Los programas de cuidado infantil de antes y después de la escuela y el uso comunitario ocurren según lo programado.

Azul

Salida temprana

Las escuelas cerrarán 2.5 horas más temprano y las oficinas administrativas permanecerán abiertas

El personal de 10 meses sale después de todos los estudiantes. El personal de 11 y 12 meses permanecen para completar el día de trabajo programado. Los programas de cuidado infantil de antes y después de la escuela y el uso comunitario quedan cancelados.

Naranja

Escuelas Cerradas Oficinas Abiertas

Las escuelas están cerradas y las oficinas administrativas están abiertas

El personal de 10 meses no se reporta a trabajar. El personal de 11 y 12 meses se reportan a trabajar 2 horas más tarde. Los programas de cuidado infantil de antes y después de la escuela pueden decidir operar. Se cancela el uso comunitario

Rojo

Sistema escolar cerrado

Las escuelas y las oficinas administrativas están cerradas

Solo el personal de emergencia se reporta a trabajar. Todo el resto del personal no debe reportarse a trabajar. Los programas de cuidado infantil antes y después de la escuela y el uso comunitario se cancelan

Morado

Día de aprendizaje virtual

La instrucción es virtual

El personal de emergencia y otras personas que desempeñan funciones esenciales se reportan a trabajar en persona. El resto del personal puede reportarse a trabajar de manera virtual. Los programas de cuidado infantil antes y después de la escuela y el uso comunitario se cancelan.

- Los Programas de Cuidado Infantil de ICB siguen las pautas para las oficinas administrativas de MCPS.
- CUPF (siglas en inglés) - Las actividades de uso comunitario se cancelan cuando las escuelas están cerradas, por la mañana si hay un retraso de 2 horas, y por la tarde cuando las escuelas salen temprano.
- El personal de emergencia debe presentarse al trabajo y realizar el trabajo durante todas las opciones de estado, según los contratos negociados.

Información de emergencia: cómo recibir información de emergencia de MCPS, decisiones meteorológicas, Cierre de escuelas y otros procedimientos de emergencia, preparación para emergencias, recursos