

Dr. Worthington's Message

Twitter: DrLouise Worthington@BAKERprincipal

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.

I am proud to inform you that a member of Baker's teaching staff achieved **National Board Certification** in December of 2023! Congratulations to **Mrs. Brittany Gagle** and thank you for elevating National Board in our school community!

MCPS and MCEA will be recognizing staff members during the Annual NBC Pinning Ceremony on Monday, May 6, 2024 at Gaithersburg High School from 5:00–7:00 p.m.



Support the Baker Middle School Music Department!

When: **Tuesday, January 23, 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!

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

Tuesday, January 23 — Activity Buses

8th Grade Registration in English classes
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 Comfort Cases Project, Room 233, Ms. Blankenship. Open to all students (see page 3)

Workout Club, Weight Room, Mr. Fisher
Basketball vs. Neelsville,

Boys Away/Girls Home
Music Department Fundraiser at J&P Pizza in Damascus

Wednesday, January 24 — Activity Buses

Town Halls through PE/Health classes
Math Support, Mr. McKay
NJHS Meeting, Room 209, Mr. Conner
Rubi's Cube Club, Room 225, Mr. Fisher

Thursday, January 25 — Activity Buses

8th Grade Registration for make-ups and EML students
Jazz Band, Room 107, Mrs. Fell
K-Club, Room 210, Ms. Alvarado
Workout Club, Weight Room, Mr. Fisher

Friday, January 26

End of Marking Period 2 and Semester 1

Monday, January 29

No school for students

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



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

©2023 Jostens, Inc. 23_1128038723

**weis4
school**
Building a Weis future

Scan here
to register!

Help your school
earn a share of
\$500,000

Dear Parents,

Educational technology and funding changes daily. To keep up with these changes and expenses, our school is partnering with Weis Markets in their annual Weis 4 School program. Register your Weis Rewards card online at weis4school.com. By participating in this program, we can earn money for our school by simply shopping. Once you register, you're in the program and you do not need to register again this school year. Please share this information with your friends and family. The more interest and enthusiasm we generate, the greater the benefits to our school.

Thank you for your support.

weismarkets.com

ELECTRIC VEHICLE WRAP

ART CONTEST

RULES

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!

- 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.

CONTEST ENDS
FEBRUARY 2, 2024

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.

THREE OF THE FIVE WINNING POSTERS FROM 2023

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/46CK00B

GUIDELINES
bit.ly/4SQVHRu

240-740-7715
sustainability@mcpsmd.org

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

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

Communication Channels

MCPS connects with families and staff in a variety of ways.

[MCPS News Center](#)

Webpage featuring the latest MCPS news and press releases updated regularly.

Thursday Message

Weekly message with at least five things to know sent to families, students, and staff. Find the latest edition [here](#).

QuickNotes

A newsletter emailed to all families every other week. Find the latest edition [here](#).

Ask MCPS / Spanish Hotline — General information about MCPS

Call: 240-740-3000 | Spanish Hotline: 240-740-2845 | E-mail: ASKMCPS@mcpsmd.org

Social Media - Connect With Us

MCPS:

<https://twitter.com/mcps>
<https://www.facebook.com/mcpsmd>
https://www.instagram.com/mcps_md/
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/292911/>

MCPS en Español:

<https://twitter.com/mcpsespanol>
<https://www.facebook.com/mcpsespanol>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/MCPSTVespanol>

MCPS-TV:

<https://twitter.com/MCPSTV>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/MCPSTV>

What You Need To Know

ENGLISH	SPANISH
Coming Soon: Bus Tracking App MCPS will be launching a self-service bus app for families this semester. The tracking app will allow users to receive live updates on where their student's bus is, provide important two-way communication capability and enhance safety for students while they wait for and ride the bus. The MCPS Department of Transportation is currently in a pilot phase with families and students at 10 schools. More information will be shared in the coming weeks as we prepare for the full launch across the district.	Próximamente: aplicación de seguimiento de autobuses MCPS lanzará una aplicación de autobús de autoservicio para las familias este semestre. La aplicación de seguimiento permitirá a los usuarios recibir actualizaciones en vivo sobre dónde está el autobús de sus estudiantes, brindará una importante capacidad de comunicación bidireccional y mejorará la seguridad de los estudiantes mientras esperan y viajan en el autobús. El Departamento de Transporte de MCPS se encuentra actualmente en una fase piloto con familias y estudiantes de 10 escuelas. Se compartirá más información en las próximas semanas mientras nos preparamos para el lanzamiento completo en todo el distrito.
Tell Us What You Think About Our Food! The Division of Food and Nutrition Services (DFNS) wants to hear from you! DFNS is seeking feedback from staff, students and parents on what you want to see more of on school menus. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey and give us your input. Survey results will directly impact menu development.	¡Cuéntanos qué piensas de nuestra comida! ¡La División de Servicios de Alimentos y Nutrición (DFNS) quiere saber su opinión! DFNS busca comentarios del personal, los estudiantes y los padres sobre lo que desea ver más en los menús escolares. Tómese unos minutos para completar esta encuesta y brindarnos su opinión. Los resultados de la encuesta afectarán directamente el desarrollo del menú.
Jan. 23 Screening and Panel to Address Mental Health in the Asian American Community On Jan. 23, MCPS, in partnership with the Asian American Health Initiative and the Montgomery County Government, will have a screening of the documentary film, "Silent War: Asian American Reckonings with Mental Health," followed by reflection from one of the individuals in the film and a moderated panel discussion. Read more.	Evaluación y panel para abordar la salud mental en la comunidad asiático-americana del 23 de enero El 23 de enero, MCPS, en asociación con la Iniciativa de Salud Asiático-Americana y el Gobierno del Condado de Montgomery, proyectará el documental "Silent War: Asian American Reckonings with Mental Health", seguido de una reflexión de uno de los individuos en la película y una mesa redonda moderada. Leer más.
Looking for something for your junior to do when school is out on Monday, Jan. 29? MCPS, in partnership with the NAACP Parents' Council and Johns Hopkins University, will host a Junior Day college event for rising minority seniors to learn about scholarships, financial aid, interviews and more. Buses, breakfast and lunch will be provided. Read more. Register	¿Está buscando algo que pueda hacer su hijo/a cuando terminen las clases el lunes, 29 de enero? MCPS, en asociación con el Consejo de Padres de NAACP y la Universidad Johns Hopkins, organizará un evento universitario de día juvenil para que los estudiantes de último año de minorías en ascenso aprendan sobre becas, ayuda financiera, entrevistas y más. Se proporcionarán autobuses, desayuno y almuerzo. Leer más. Registro
16th Annual HBCU Fair Set for Feb. 16 Registration opens Friday, Jan.19 for the 16th Annual HBCU Fair. This free in-person event at The Universities at Shady Grove will provide students in Grades 8–12 an opportunity to meet representatives from more than 50 Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Read more.	La 16ª Feria Anual de HBCU está programada para el 16 de febrero La inscripción abre el viernes, 19 de enero para la 16ª Feria Anual HBCU. Este evento gratuito en persona en The Universities at Shady Grove brindará a los estudiantes de los grados 8 al 12 la oportunidad de conocer a representantes de más de 50 colegios y universidades históricamente negros. Leer más.

ENGLISH	SPANISH
Save the Date: Join us for the Girls’ Summit on Saturday, March 9 at Northwood High School. This event will provide informative workshops geared towards middle and high school girls on a variety of current topics. Join us for a chance to network, participate in fun activities, learn valuable skills and enjoy a fashion show presented by White House Black Market celebrating diverse body types.	Reserve la fecha: Únase a nosotros para la Cumbre de Niñas el sábado, 9 de marzo en Northwood High School. Este evento brindará talleres informativos dirigidos a niñas de secundaria y preparatoria sobre una variedad de temas actuales. Únase a nosotros para tener la oportunidad de establecer contactos, participar en actividades divertidas, aprender habilidades valiosas y disfrutar de un desfile de moda presentado por White House Black Market que celebra diversos tipos de cuerpo.
To The Point, Student Service Learning Hours https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hovpbsTeD3w Tune in to the second episode of <i>To The Point</i> to learn more about Student Service Learning hours, how students earn them and why this is a graduation requirement. <i>To The Point</i> is a new talk show designed to do just that: get to the point about various MCPS programs, challenges and initiatives. You can watch the show on the MCPS TV YouTube channel and cable channels Comcast 34 & 1071 HD, Verizon 36 and RCN 89 & 1058 HD.	To The Point, horas de aprendizaje de servicio estudiantil https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hovpbsTeD3w Sintonice el segundo episodio de <i>To The Point</i> para obtener más información sobre las horas de aprendizaje mediante servicio estudiantil, cómo las obtienen los estudiantes y por qué es un requisito de graduación. <i>To The Point</i> es un nuevo programa de entrevistas diseñado para hacer precisamente eso: ir al grano sobre varios programas, desafíos e iniciativas de MCPS. Puede ver el programa en el canal de YouTube de MCPS TV y en los canales de cable Comcast 34 y 1071 HD, Verizon 36 y RCN 89 y 1058 HD.
Montgomery County Public Libraries Partner with Washington Wizards to Launch ‘Reading Challenge’ Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL) and the Washington Wizards have teamed up with the D.C. Public Library, Prince George’s County Memorial Library System, Alexandria Library, Arlington Public Library and Fairfax County Public Library to build a positive reading culture this winter with the “Wizards Winter Reading Challenge.” The free challenge, designed for kids and teens aged 3-19, will run through Wednesday, March 20. Read more.	Las bibliotecas públicas del condado de Montgomery se asocian con los Washington Wizards para lanzar el "desafío de lectura" Las Bibliotecas Públicas del Condado de Montgomery (MCPL) y los Washington Wizards se han asociado con la Biblioteca Pública de D.C., el Sistema de Bibliotecas Conmemorativas del Condado de Prince George, la Biblioteca de Alexandria, la Biblioteca Pública de Arlington y la Biblioteca Pública del Condado de Fairfax para construir una cultura de lectura positiva este invierno con los “Desafío de lectura de invierno de los Wizards”. El desafío gratuito, diseñado para niños y adolescentes de 3 a 19 años, se extenderá hasta el miércoles, 20 de marzo. Leer más.
Art, Writing, Video Contests Open to Students Earthday.org’s Your Art, Our Earth poster competition for Earth Day 2024 is open to students from 5-17 years old, and 18 and older until Monday, Jan. 22. The 2024 theme is Planet vs. Plastics, which aims to spotlight the detrimental effects of plastics in our oceans and on land. The MCPS Division of Sustainability and Compliance (DSC) is sponsoring an art contest to find designs to use as wraps for new electric-powered cargo vans. These electric vehicles will help reduce MCPS’ overall greenhouse gas emissions and support the Board of Education’s commitment to cut GHG emissions by 80% by 2027. All MCPS staff and students from MCPS middle and high schools are invited to participate. The deadline is Friday, Feb. 2. Click to learn more. Visit the MCPS newsroom for more contests	Concursos de arte, escritura y vídeo abiertos a estudiantes El concurso de carteles de Earthday.org, Tu arte, nuestra Tierra para el Día de la Tierra 2024 está abierto a estudiantes de 5 a 17 años y mayores de 18 años hasta el lunes, 22 de enero. El tema del 2024 es Planeta contra plásticos, cuyo objetivo es destacar el efectos perjudiciales de los plásticos en nuestros océanos y en la tierra. La División de Sostenibilidad y Cumplimiento (DSC) de MCPS está patrocinando un concurso de arte para encontrar diseños que se puedan usar como envolturas para nuevas camionetas de carga eléctricas. Estos vehículos eléctricos ayudarán a reducir las emisiones generales de gases de efecto invernadero de MCPS y respaldarán el compromiso del Consejo de Educación de reducir las emisiones de GEI en un 80% para el 2027. Todo el personal de MCPS y los estudiantes de las escuelas intermedias y secundarias de MCPS están invitados a participar. La fecha límite es el viernes, 2 de febrero. Haga clic para obtener más información. Visite la sala de redacción de MCPS para conocer más concursos.

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