

## Dr. Worthington's Message

✂ (Twitter): DrLouise Worthington@BAKERprincipal

## Baker's International Night

Photos from our wonderful International Night are on page 2.

## Motto Extension

The window for submitting suggestions for next year's motto has been extended until April 17, 2024. Go to the Baker website <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bakerms/> to submit your entry.

## Asynchronous Instruction on April 22

There have been three inclement weather school closures in the 2023-2024 school year thus far. **Monday, April 22** is now an **asynchronous learning day** and will be used as a make-up instructional day for students. Students will be sent home with assignments to complete independently.

Asynchronous learning describes educational activities and assignments that engage students in learning without live instruction or use of technology. Students must complete assignments to count towards their attendance for the day. Additional time for students to complete assignments will be granted for any challenges or unforeseen circumstances.

## 7th Grade Field Trip

The 7th grade Champions Team will attend **Medieval Times** on **Friday, June 7, 2024**. Each student received a permission slip in World Studies classes. Here is a [link](#) (also on our Baker website) for anyone who lost theirs. **All permission slips must be turned to their Science teacher NO LATER THAN May 3, 2024**. This is a firm date, since all tickets must be pre-ordered.

## Viewing the Eclipse



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



**Parents/Guardians:**  
**please restock your child's supplies — especially pencils.**



## Looking Ahead

**April — Arab American Heritage Month, Autism Awareness Month, and School Library Media Month**

**Tuesday, April 16 — Activity Buses**  
 Art Club, Room 210, Ms. Alvarado  
 Chess Club, Room 115, Mr. Ciccarello  
 Homework Club, Room 227, Ms. Laraia  
 Street Hockey, Mr. Sprankle  
 Music Department Chipotle Fundraiser  
*(see page 3)*

**Wednesday, April 17 — Activity Buses**  
 Report cards available in StudentVUE and ParentVUE  
 SMOB Election  
 Soccer vs. Neelsville, Girls at Baker at 3:15/  
 Boys at Baker at 4:30  
 Flag Football, Field, Mr. Cummings  
 Kickball Club, Blacktop, Mr. Ruocco  
 Rubik's Cube Club, Room 225, Mr. Fisher  
 Street Hockey, Mr. Sprankle  
 Motto Portal Closes

**Thursday, April 18 — Activity Buses**  
 Report cards distributed  
 Flag Football, Field, Mr. Cummings  
 Jazz Band, Room 107, Mrs. Fell  
 K-Club, Room 210, Ms. Alvarado  
 Kickball Club, Blacktop, Mr. Ruocco  
 Street Hockey, Mr. Sprankle

**Friday, April 19**  
 Baker Kindness Day through World Studies

**Saturday, April 20**  
 Game Changer Conference *(see page 8)*  
 Weis Markets Community Shred Event  
*(see page 9)*

**Monday, April 22**  
 Asynchronous Virtual Instruction for Students

**Tuesday, April 23 — Activity Buses**

**Wednesday, April 24 — Activity Buses**  
 Administrative Professionals Day

**Thursday, April 25 — Activity Buses**  
 Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day  
 Lifetouch Spring Picture Day *(see page 4)*  
 MCJC Field Trip for SGA

**Friday, April 26**  
 Choral Adjudication



# Baker Middle School International Festival



## A Message from Mr. Moyler Regarding Testing

On April 5, 2024, MSDE notified our Office of Shared Accountability (OSA) that headphones may be needed for the MCAP ELA test in grades 5, 7, and 8. OSA encourages school staff to allow the students to use their own hard-wired earbuds/headphones for testing. **Parents are being asked to support students by providing them with hard-wired earbuds/headphones for testing.**

**Baker Students in 6th Grade, 7th Grade, and 8th Grade** will participate in the **ELA/MATH MCAP** Testing that will occur on the following dates:

**Wednesday, May 1**

ELA: Sections 1 - 2  
8:15 - 11:15

**Monday, May 6**

Math: Sections 1 - 2  
8:15 - 11:15

**Thursday, May 2**

ELA: Sections 3 - 4  
8:15 - 11:15

**Tuesday, May 7**

Math: Sections 3 - 4  
8:15 - 11:15

**Only 8TH GRADE Baker Students** will participate in the **SOCIAL STUDIES** Testing that will occur on the following dates:

**Wednesday, May 15**

Social Studies: Sections 1- 2  
8:15 - 10:43

**Thursday, May 16**

Social Studies: Sections 3 - 4  
8:15 - 10:43

**Baker Students in 6th Grade, 7th Grade, and 8th Grade** will participate in the **MAP-M and MAP R** Testing that will occur on the following dates:

**Tuesday, May 28**

MAP M: All Sections  
8:15 - 10:11

**Wednesday, May 29**

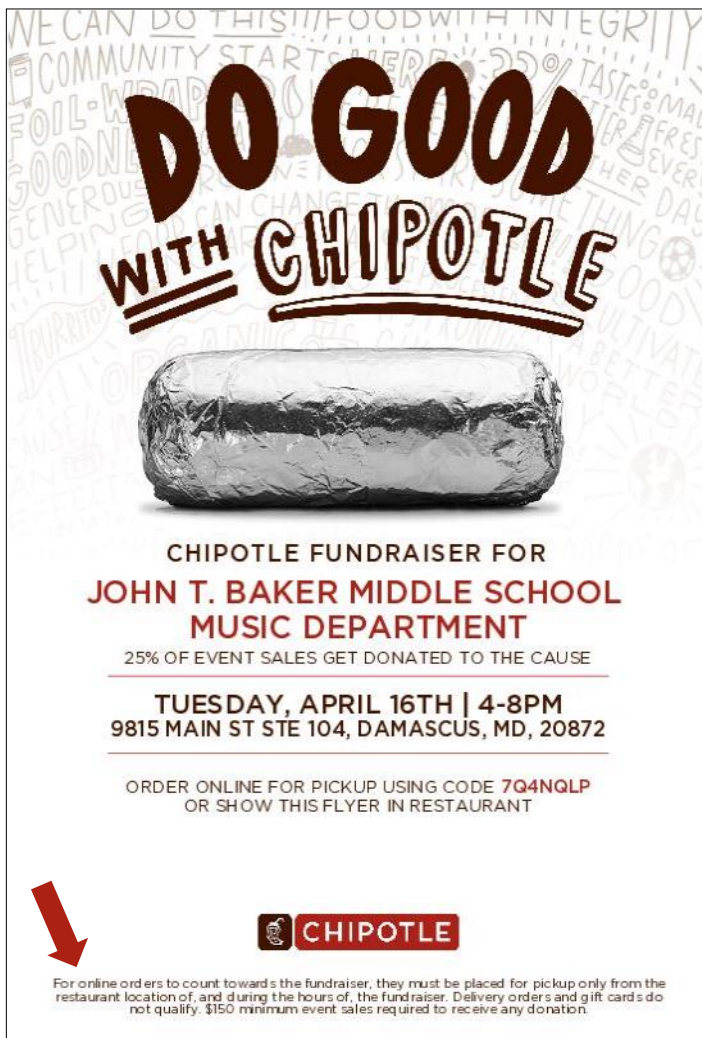
MAP R: All Sections  
8:15 - 10:11

Your child needs to be present for all scheduled testing. Please avoid making appointments on these days and help us prevent unnecessary absences.

You can also do some things to help your child do better on tests. Before a test, a student needs a full night's sleep, a good breakfast, comfortable school clothing, a little understanding if they're anxious or upset, and a reminder to charge their Chromebooks.

We know that John T. Baker Middle School's students will show what they know and can do. Let's work together to make your child's experience a positive and successful one. Thank you for your help and support.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact David Moyler at 240-207-2440 or [david\\_h\\_moyler@mcpsmd.org](mailto:david_h_moyler@mcpsmd.org)




**DO GOOD WITH CHIPOTLE**

**CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR JOHN T. BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

25% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

**TUESDAY, APRIL 16TH | 4-8PM**  
9815 MAIN ST STE 104, DAMASCUS, MD, 20872

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **7Q4NQLP**  
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.



**HAZ EL BIEN CON CHIPOTLE**

**RECAUDACIÓN DE FONDOS PARA JOHN T. BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

25% DE LAS VENTAS DEL EVENTO SERÁN DONADAS A LA CAUSA

**MARTES, ABRIL 16º | 4-8PM**  
9815 MAIN ST STE 104, DAMASCUS, MD, 20872

ORDENA EN LÍNEA PARA RECOGER USANDO EL CÓDIGO **7Q4NQLP**  
O MUESTRA ESTE VOLANTE EN EL RESTAURANTE



Para que las órdenes en línea se tengan en cuenta para el evento de recaudación de fondos, deberán ser del mismo lugar del evento y realizarse durante las horas del mismo. Las órdenes con servicio de entrega y las realizadas con una tarjeta de regalo no cuentan para el evento. Se requiere un mínimo de \$150 dólares de ventas para recibir cualquier donación.

## Calling All Students: Enter to Win!

The theme of this year's National School Bus Safety Week [poster contest](#) is **Driving Safely Into the Future**. Posters must be submitted to state directors by **Wednesday, April 17**. The contest is open to students in K–8th grade, special education students in K–12th grades and those who use computer-aided drawing. Details and guidelines are available [here](#).

## StudentVUE Update Glitch Solution

With the new StudentVUE update, students may need to clear their browser data to remove previously cached versions of the site. They can clear browser data following these steps: <https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/32050?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop>

## SGA Creating Comfort Case Backpacks

SGA, with the help of the Baker MS community, is creating comfort case backpacks for teens in the foster care system in MCPS. Please donate any of these items: backpacks, duffel bags, blankets, pjs, journals, pens and pencils, stuffed animals, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, soap, bodywash, and books. Travel sizes are preferred.

## SSL News

**The hard deadline to turn in any SSL hours done in the 2023/2024 school year is May 31, 2024.** If you have done any SSL hours this school year, please make sure to get those forms turned in to Mrs. Paredes as soon as possible. **If you do not turn in forms by May 31, the SSL hours will not count towards your record.** Any SSL hours completed between June and August should be turned in at the beginning of next school year. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Paredes at [Patricia\\_T\\_Paredes@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Patricia_T_Paredes@mcpsmd.org).

## MCCPTA Cluster Coordinators for Damascus

We are in desperate need for 1-2 MCCPTA Cluster Coordinators to represent the Damascus community schools. This is a position that ensures that the Damascus perspective is taken into account when Montgomery County decisions are being made. You would participate in cluster and other Montgomery County level meetings (most are now virtual), representing the Damascus Cluster of schools and bringing back to our cluster information provided and decisions made. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Leander at [lawdog9428@verizon.net](mailto:lawdog9428@verizon.net) or Aimee at [aimee1000@yahoo.com](mailto:aimee1000@yahoo.com). Leander cannot continue next year as her student is graduating, so please consider joining Aimee in this very important position! Average time per month: 3 hours

**Students will be photographed only if they have pre-ordered or have order forms with payments in hand. Order forms will be distributed to students on Thursday, April 18.**

# Lifetouch

# SPRING PICTURE DAY IS COMING!

¡YA LLEGA EL DÍA DE LA FOTO DE PRIMAVERA!

**Thursday, April 25, 2024**  
**¡ jueves, 25 de abril, 2024**  
**John T. Baker Middle School**



Scan to order!  
¡Echa un vistazo para encargar!



Pre-order on  
[mylifetouch.com](https://mylifetouch.com) using  
your Student ID or  
Picture Day ID:  
**EVT7KBBHF**



Students are  
photographed on  
Picture Day



Orders will be sent  
home with your student  
after Picture Day

## How it Works:

*Cómo funciona: Encarga de manera anticipada en [mylifetouch.com](https://mylifetouch.com) usando tu ID de estudiante o la ID del Día de la Foto. Los estudiantes son fotografiados el Día de la Foto. Los pedidos serán enviados a tu casa con tu estudiante después del Día de la Foto.*

Questions? Contact our Help Center at [lifetouch.com/support-us](https://lifetouch.com/support-us). Select K-12 School Photography for assistance.  
¿Preguntas? Comunícate con nuestro Centro de Ayuda en [lifetouch.com/support-us](https://lifetouch.com/support-us). Selecciona Fotografía Escolar K-12 para recibir asistencia.

# CONVERTING FROM HEAT TO AC

## KNOWING YOUR SCHOOL'S MECHANICAL SYSTEM

It is springtime and schools will have their heating systems converted to air conditioning **starting in mid-April**. The majority of our mechanical systems provide both heating and cooling to MCPS school buildings. Therefore, twice a year, that system must be shut down for the seasonal changeover. This flyer provides information regarding that process.

### A Common Question:

*At my house, we just flip a switch and we have heat one day and cooling the next. Why can't you do that at our school building?*

### Response:

School mechanical systems are very different from residential systems. Boilers and chillers, known as central plant equipment, heat or cool water that is then pumped to the equipment that conditions air for your room. However, only one set of pipes connects the central plant to the room equipment in most schools.

When the chiller operates, the boiler must be physically disconnected by valves from the pipe loop. Similarly, when the boiler operates, the chiller must be isolated from the pipe loop.

Prior to switching the valves, the water in the loop must first be allowed to return back to room temperature. The boiler cannot be started with chilled water in the loop. The loop temperature takes approximately 24 hours to equalize.

Altogether, the complete changeover process may take up to two days at each school, during which time the building has neither heating nor cooling available. Please be prepared and **dress appropriately for the weather** each day; sweaters or jackets work well for chilly mornings. Maintenance crews will perform the changeover with as little inconvenience as possible.

**CHECK YOUR  
SCHOOL'S  
CHANGEOVER  
STATUS ONLINE!**

[Click here to view the status.](#)

### GOT QUESTIONS?

*If you have questions or concerns about the changeover process, contact your school's assigned Division of Maintenance and Operations Service Center.*

[Click here to find your center.](#)



# John T Baker Middle School PTA

## 8th Grade Promotion and End of Year Activities

Hello 8th grade families. This is your child's last year at Baker Middle School and there will be a lot to celebrate in June of 2024! We are planning now and need your help to make 8th grade events a success for our children.

End of year events and activities include a DHS Class of 2028 t-shirt for each student, the 8th grade celebration/dance, a class gift to the school, and the 8th grade promotion ceremony on the last day of school.

**We ask that families contribute \$25 or more for each child.** The money will be applied toward the items mentioned above and to make sure that *all students* are included, so if you would like to contribute more than \$25 it will be well utilized. We also ask that families consider signing up to help with various events and activities. We appreciate both your financial contributions and your time and efforts to help create wonderful memories for our children.

Please complete the form and send it in, along with your \$25 contribution, to the main office. Please make checks payable to "Baker PTA," and note in the memo AND on the envelope: "8th Grade Promotion." Return to Baker Middle School PTA, 25400 Oak Drive, Damascus, MD 20872.

If you prefer digital payment options, you can pay through PayPal by using [@BakerMSPTA](#) or by scanning the following QR code:



8th grade committee meetings are from 6-7 PM before PTA meetings. Please stay connected so you know what the plan is and to see how you can help. Email questions to the PTA at BakerPTA@yahoo.com. We greatly appreciate your support!

Your 8th grader's full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Let us know how you can help! Circle one or more.

Dance/Celebration

Promotion ceremony

T-shirt distribution

Fundraising

Class gift

Committee Chair

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose your \$25 check payable to Baker PTA, and mark in the memo "8th Grade Promotion."



# PTA de la escuela secundaria John T. Baker

## Promoción de 8vo grado y actividades de fin de año

Hola familias de octavo grado. ¡Este es el último año de su hijo/a en Baker Middle School y habrá mucho que celebrar en junio 2024! Estamos planeado ahora y necesitamos su ayuda para que los eventos de octavo grado sean un éxito para nuestros niños.

Los eventos y actividades de fin de año incluyen una camiseta de DHS Clase 2028 para cada estudiante, la celebración/baile del 8.º grado, un obsequio de la clase para la escuela y la ceremonia de promoción de 8.º

**Pedimos que las familias contribuyan con \$25 o mas por cada niño.** El dinero se aplicará a los artículos mencionados anteriormente y para garantizar que todos los estudiantes están incluidos, por lo que si desea contribuir con más de \$25, será bien utilizado. También pedimos que las familias consideren inscribirse para ayudar con diversos eventos y actividades. Apreciamos tanto sus contribuciones financieras como su tiempo y esfuerzos para ayudar a crear recuerdos maravillosos para nuestros niños.

Complete el formulario y envíelo, junto con su contribución de \$25, a la oficina principal. Por favor haga los cheques a nombre de “Baker PTA” y nota en el memorando Y en el sobre: “Promoción de 8.º grado”. Volver a PTA de la escuela secundaria Baker, 25400 Oak Drive, Damascus, MD 20872.

Si prefiere las opciones de pago digital, puede pagar a través de PayPal usando @BakerMSPTA o escaneando el siguiente código QR:



**Las reuniones del comité de octavo grado son de 6 a 7 p. m. antes de las reuniones de la PTA. Manténgase conectado para saber cuál es el plan y ver cómo puede ayudar.** Envíe sus preguntas por correo electrónico a la PTA a BakerPTA@yahoo.com. ¡Estamos muy agradecidos por su apoyo!

El nombre completo de su hijo/a de octavo grado \_\_\_\_\_

¡Háganos saber cómo puede ayudar! Encierra en un círculo uno o más.

- |                                |                   |                           |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Promoción de baile/celebración | Ceremonia         | Distribución de camisetas |
| Recaudación de fondos          | Obsequio de clase | Presidente del comité     |

Nombre: \_\_\_\_\_

Correo electrónico: \_\_\_\_\_ Número de teléfono: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjunte su cheque de \$25 a nombre de Baker PTA y marque en el memorando “Promoción de 8º grado”.

# GAME CHANGER CONFERENCE

## 2024 Spring Conference For Young Males

**Theme: The World is Shifting Forward!  
Focus Forward and Compete.**

### ATTENTION PARENTS OF YOUNG MALES (Grades 4th - 12th)

🌟 Empower Your Son's Tomorrow, Today! 🌟

Join us at the Game Changer Conference 2024 and  
ignite his path to unparalleled success!

#### CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS:

##### For Students

- Life Skills Stations & Enrichment Forums
- Panel Conversations with Inspiring Leaders
- "What if I don't want to go to college" workshop
- STEM Exposure Experience
- Essay Writing Competition:  
"Being a Competitor is a Game Changer: How will you Compete to win and own your future?"

##### For Parents:

- Parent Advocacy Workshop: New School Parenting for Old School Issues
- Equipping parents with strategies and insights to advocate effectively for their children and navigate the complexities of modern parenting.
- Super Powers Education for Parents - We Care! (Drug Awareness Trailer). Community Opioid Prevention Education (COPE) Trailer.

**SATURDAY  
APRIL 20, 2024**

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
(CHECK-IN STARTS AT 7:30PM)

**The Universities at Shady Grove**

9630 Gudelsky Drive, Rockville, MD 20850

**REGISTER TODAY!**



[www.thegameconference.org](http://www.thegameconference.org)

**Thanks to our Sponsors!**





# COMMUNITY SHRED EVENT

Damascus  
**weis**  
Parking Lot  
April 20th  
10am-2pm

Fun for the whole family, come out, bring your documents to shred and enjoy!

**FREE**  
Onsite  
Document  
Shredding



**Kids  
Activities**

**Touch a  
Fire Truck**



*Support*

St. Jude Children's  
Research Hospital  
*Finding cures. Saving children.*



**All Donations  
Made with:**



**Randy Scritchfield  
and Associates**

**will be MATCHED  
up to \$1,000!**