Principal •

ohn T. Baker Middle School • Louise Worthington, Ed.D.,

Dr. Worthington's Message

X (Twitter): DrLouise Worthington@BAKERprincipal

MCPS Communications Updates

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.

Inviting All Students, Staff and Families to Share Your Feedback We want to hear from you on how we are doing. MCPS is inviting ALL students, staff and parents/caregivers to share your experiences and thoughts on academics, communication, and overall satisfaction with your school and the district and/or experience working at MCPS. Your input and insight are essential in helping us understand what is working well and areas of improvement. Your participation and any identifying information are completely confidential. The feedback collected will be used to inform decisions and help create a more supportive and enriching environment for students, staff, and families in our district.

<u>Click here to access more information about the surveys</u>. The survey will be open until **March 15**.

Prekindergarten and Head Start Registration Opens March 1
Fall 2024 Prekindergarten and Head Start registration begins
Friday, March 1 for the 2024-2025 school year. Children must
be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, and families must be income
-eligible to apply. Families can register their children online or in
person. Registration information

Doodle for Google

<u>Doodle for Google</u> is holding its 16th annual art contest for students in grades K-12. Kids are invited to create their own Google Doodle for the chance to have it featured on Google.com, as well as win college scholarships and tech packages for their schools.The deadline to apply is **Thursday**, **March 14.** How to enter Submit a doodle

SSL News — Superintendent's SSL Award

Any student that is interested in getting the Superintendent's SSL award this year **must have 75 SSL hours turned in BEFORE April 5!** Please see Mrs. Paredes if you have any questions about this. If you turn SSL hours in after April 5, they will be accepted, but will not count towards the Superintendent's SSL award for this year!

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





February 1–April 1, 2024 — COSA Transfer Application Season (see page 9)

March — Women's History Month

Tuesday, March 5 — Activity Buses Soccer tryouts

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

Wednesday, March 6 — Activity Buses

Drama Club – Everyone Soccer tryouts Kickball Club, Blacktop, Mr. Ruocco

NJHS, Room 209, Mr. Conner Rubik's Cube Club, Room 225, Mr. Fisher

Thursday, March 7 — Activity Buses 7th Grade JA Finance Park Soccer tryouts Drama Club — Everyone Jazz Band, Room 107, Mrs. Fell Kickball Club, Blacktop, Mr. Ruocco

Friday, March 8

7th Grade JA Finance Park

Saturday, March 9

MCPS Girls' Summit (see pages 9-10)

Monday, March 11

8th Grade MISA Testing (see page 3)
Interims available on StudentVUE/
ParentVUE and mailed home to
non-activated ParentVUE Households

Tuesday, March 12 — Activity Buses 8th Grade MISA Testing (see page 3) Lifetouch Group Photo Make-Ups Chess Club, Room 115, Mr. Ciccarello Drama Club — Actors Only Homework Club, Room 227, Ms. Laraia Jazz Band, Room 107, Mrs. Fell Street Hockey, Mr. Sprankle PTA 8th Grade Committee Mtg, 6:00 p.m. PTA General Membership Mtg, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 13 — Activity BusesDrama Club — Everyone

Rubik's Cube Club, Room 225, Mr. Fisher

Kickball Club, Blacktop, Mr. RuoccoStreet Hockey, Mr. Sprankle

Thursday, March 14 — Activity Buses
Kickball Club, Blacktop, Mr. RuoccoStreet
Hockey, Mr. Sprankle
The H.S. Army Physic Physical Free Physics

The U.S. Army Blues, DHS Jazz Ensemble, and Baker Jazz Band, 7:00 p.m. at DHS

Friday, March 15

Sami Saed (SMOB) visits during lunches

Pillars of Character

"Character – the willingness to accept responsibility for one's own life – is the source from which self-respect springs." Joan Didion

Character education is an integral part of the instructional program at Baker Middle School.

A person of good character is ethical and has moral strength. Baker will recognize students who exemplify the core universal values of respect, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.

February Character Trait - Fairness

Fairness is playing by the rules, taking turns, sharing, and listening to what others have to say. Fair people do not take advantage of others. They consider all sides before making decisions.

February Students of the Month

Odyssey – Livia DaSilva, Lincoln Turner Terrapins – Patrick McCarty, Haley Regan Champions – Lydia Klein, Caleb Logan Explorers — Nevaeh Cooper, Khaled Elhage

DHS Drama Club News

The Damascus Drama Club proudly presents the Elvis inspired musical All Shook Up. Remaining shows will be at 7pm on March 8 and 9, with a matinee at 2pm on March 9. Tickets are \$10 for students and senior citizens, and \$12 for adults. Children 5 and under are free of charge. Tickets are sold at the door. Come out and support the performing arts!

Scan here to register! Help your school earn a share of ⁵500,000 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 fy@dpp

Calling All Students: Enter to Win!

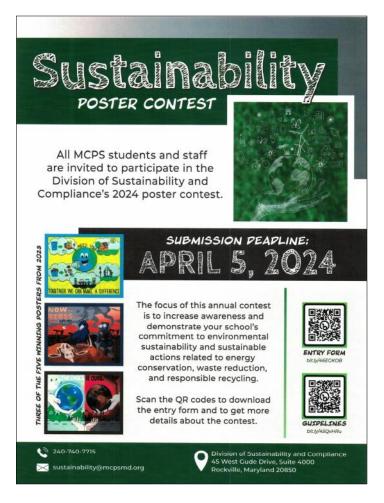
The Keeping it SAFE Coalition: Under Twenty-One Alcohol Prevention Coalition is sponsoring its annual video contest to create a 30-second public service message addressing the risks and dangers of under 21 alcohol use. This year's topics are:

- Standing Your Ground: Fighting Peer Pressure from Friends to Drink
- Ways to Help/Support Friends Who Are Abusing Alcohol
- How Alcoholic Drinks Affect Mental Health

The contest is open to teams of two or more students enrolled in Montgomery County middle and high schools. Cash prizes of \$100 to \$1,000 are up for grabs. Participating MCPS students are also eligible for five Student Service Learning (SSL) hours. **Entries are due by 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 31.** Visit the website for more information and official contest rules.

The **Division of Sustainability and Compliance** is sponsoring its <u>annual poster contest</u>, open to MCPS students and staff. Raise awareness about the importance of environmental sustainability, energy conservation, waste reduction and responsible recycling, and showcase your creativity! Entries are due **Friday, April 5**. Check out the <u>contest flyer</u>, <u>guidelines</u> and <u>entry form</u>.

The National School Bus Safety Week poster contest is sponsored by the National Association for Pupil Transportation. This year's theme 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.



SEE SOMETHING? HEAR SOMETHING? SAY SOMETHING!

SY24 Spring MISA 8 Testing Schedule

Day 1 (Monday, March 11, 2024) 2 sections x 40 minutes

Bells	GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
8:15- 9:05	Period 1/Announcements	Period 1/Announcements	8:15 - 10:43
9:09 - 9:54	Period 2	Period 2	MISA 8 Testing (Sections 1 & 2)
9:58 - 10:43	Period 3	Period 3	
10:47 - 11:36	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4 - Lunch/Advisory
11:40 - 12:29	Period 5	Period 5 - Lunch Advisory	Period 5
12:33 - 1:22	Period 6 - Lunch/Advisory	Period 6	Period 6
1:26 - 2:11	Period 7	Period 7	Period 7
2:15 - 3:00	Period 8	Period 8	Period 8

Day 2 (Tuesday, March 12, 2024) 2 sections x 40 minutes

Bells	GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8	
8:15- 9:05	Period 8/Announcements	Period 8/Announcements	8:15 - 10:43	
9:09 - 9:54	Period 7	Period 7	MISA 8 Testing (Sections 3 & 4)	
9:58 - 10:43	Period 3	Period 3		
10:47 - 11:36	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4 - Lunch/Advisory	
11:40 - 12:29	Period 5	Period 5 - Lunch Advisory	Period 5	
12:33 - 1:22	Period 6 - Lunch/Advisory	Period 6	Period 6	
1:26 - 2:11	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	
2:15 - 3:00	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	

^{***}Total testing time includes material handout, collection, and extended time accommodation



THE U.S. ARMY BLUES with

Damascus High School Jazz Ensemble and

Baker Middle School Jazz Band

Matt Kuhn Memorial Auditorium 25921 Ridge Road / Damascus, MD

FREE; no tickets required







FUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024

6:00PM-8:00PM

MARTES 9 DE ABRIL

6:00PM-8:00PM





VEN A VIAJAR A DIFERENTES PAISES.





ESCUCHAR DIFERENTES IDIOMAS

PROBAR COMIDA



HEAR DIFFERENT LANGUAGES



FASHION SHOW

DESFILE DE MOD



HAVE FUN



DIVERTIRSE

BAKER SCHOOL GYM

BAKER SCHOOL GYM

Weis Markets Damascus #129



Fundraiser for St. Jude's April 13, 2024 Doors open at 5pm Bingo starts at 7pm

Advance Tickets: \$40 per person At the door: \$50 per person

\$100 GAMES!

Ticket includes: 6 pack *20 games*
2 piece chicken dinner with sides and drink

OTHER GAMES SOLD SEPERATE:

-Two 50/50's -Vegas Games

-Jackpot €300

For Tickets Contact: Weis Markets Damascus #129 26075 Ridge Rd. Damascus MD. 20872

Venmo Available for Ticket Purchase (please put first and last name and phone number in the "what's this for" section please send as *GIFT*

Jay Smith

@Jay-Smith-1097

venmo

MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER TO PLAY

We reserve the right to change payouts if less tickets are sold

Location: Damascus VFD Activities Building 10211 Lewis Dr., Damascus MD





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 though 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 h	elp! Circle one or more.		
Dance/Celebration	Promotion ceremony	T-shirt distribution	
Fundraising	Class gift	Committee Chair	
Name:			
Email:	1	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

<u>Pedimos que las familias contribuyan con \$25 o mas por cada niño.</u> 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:		nero de teléfono:					

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

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Montgomery County Public Schools Girls' Summit

Please join us for the districtwide Girls' Summit on Saturday, March 9th from 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. at Northwood High School. Students in 6th through 12th grades and caregivers (not a drop off!) are invited to multiple supportive sessions on topics including healthy relationships, healthy eating and body image, self-esteem, and more! This summit will empower girls and their caregivers through exposure to vital skills and information, networking, and fun activities. In addition to the supportive sessions, the day will end with a fashion show sponsored by White House Black Market celebrating diverse body types and focusing on strong female fashion!

Sessions will be provided in both English and Spanish and will be organized by grade level. Topics include:

- Healthy relationships/dating violence
- Social media use and mental health (including cyberbullying)
- Self-esteem
- Identifying symptoms of depression & anxiety
- Non-suicidal self-injury and suicide (how to get help)

- · Healthy eating
- Body image
- · Gardening therapy
- Music therapy
- Zumba
- · Kaiser spin bikes
- ♦ Kaiser health screening & flu shots
- · And much more!

RSVP Here: http://tinyurl.com/222kpurn



Saturday, March 9, 2024 9:00 a.m.— 1:00 p.m.

Northwood High School 919 University Blvd., West Silver Spring, MD 20901 SSL Hours available for students Narcan training & distribution on site





















MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Montgomery County Public Schools Cumbre Femenina

Únase a nosotros para un evento de estudiantes femeninas de todo el condado el Sábado 9, de marzo, de 9:00 a.m. a 1:00 p.m., en la escuela secundaria de Northwood. Estudiantes de grados 6 al 12 y sus padres/guardianes, (no personas que andan dejando los estudiantes) están invitados a múltiples sesiones de apoyo sobre temas que incluyen relaciones saludables, alimentación saludable e imagen corporal, auto estima y más! Este evento empoderará las jóvenes y a sus padres/guardianes a través de talleres que van a compartir habilidades vitales e información como hacer nuevas amistades, y actividades divertidas. A demás de las sesiones de apoyo, el día terminara con un desfile de moda patrocinado por White House Black Market- una tienda de ropa que celebra diferentes tipos de cuerpos y se especializa en una fuerte moda femenina. Las sesiones se brindarán en inglés y español y se organizará por nivel de grados. Los temas incluyen:

- Relaciones saludables/violencia en noviazgos
- Usos de las redes sociales y salud mental (incluyendo acoso cibernético)
- Autoestima
- Identificar las síntomas de depresión y ansiedad
- Autolesiones no suicidas y suicidios (como obtener ayuda)

- Alimentación saludable
- Imagen corporal
- Terapia de jardinería
- Terapia musical
- Zumba
- · Bicicletas de spinning Kaiser
- Exámenes de salud de Kaiser y vacunas para el flu
- Y MUCHO MAS!

Reservar su espacio aqui: http://tinyurl.com/222kpurn



Sábado, Marzo 9, 2024 9:00 a.m.— 1:00 p.m.

Northwood High School 919 University Blvd., West Silver Spring, MD 20901 Horas SSL disponible para estuiantes Entrenamiento y distribucion de Narcan





















Maryland's Largest School District

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

Student Transfer Application Season Begins February 1

The Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) 2024-2025 Change of School Assignment (COSA) transfer season opens on Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024. The COSA process allows families to submit a request for their children to transfer out of their assigned home school. All COSA request applications must be submitted no later than Tuesday, April 2, 2024.

New for the 2024-2025 COSA transfer process:

COSA request applications now can be submitted online instead of the traditional paper form. When an
application is submitted online, a "receipt" email notification will be sent to the parent/guardian submitting
the request shortly after the administrative team of the student's assigned home school receives the
application. If the request is successfully completed online, a paper form submission is not necessary. The
link to the online COSA request form can be found on the <u>Student Transfers website</u>.

MCPS students are expected to attend the school within the established attendance area in which they reside (home school) or according to their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Students may apply for a COSA from the home school or the school of assignment through the IEP process based on the following criteria:

- Unique Hardship: When an extenuating circumstance(s) related to a student's specific physical, mental
 or emotional well-being or their family's individual or personal situation could be mitigated by a change of
 school assignment.
- **Family Move:** When a family moves within Montgomery County and wishes to continue attending their current school, they may request a COSA without demonstrating a unique hardship. Such requests may be considered for the remainder of the current school year only, with the exception that students in Grade 11 or 12 may be granted a COSA to stay through high school graduation.
- **Siblings:** When a student seeks to attend the school where a sibling will be enrolled in the regular/general school program, or a special education program, during the year the student wants to enroll.
- When a sibling attends a magnet, language immersion or other application program at the elementary level, a COSA may be approved to the regular school program for other siblings on a case-by-case basis. Such approval requires consideration of available classroom space, grade-level enrollment, staffing allocations or other factors that impact the schools involved.

The sibling exemption does not apply if the sibling is in Pre-K or if a boundary change has occurred.

The transfer process begins in the assigned home school. Applications can be found online or in the <u>Change of School Assignment (COSA) Information Booklet</u>, which also provides useful information on the COSA process. Exempt countywide programs that do not fall under the transfer guidelines are listed in the booklet. Booklets can be obtained from the student's home school.

For information about assignments for students residing in the Northeast, Downcounty or Middle School Magnet Consortium areas, please contact the Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services (DCCAPS) at 240-740-2540 or visit the Student Transfers website.

For more information about the transfer process, parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the principal at their home school. Non-English speaking students and parents/guardians who require assistance can call ASK MCPS at 240-740-3000.

2023-2024 MCPS Inclement Weather and Operating Status

Maryland's Largest School District

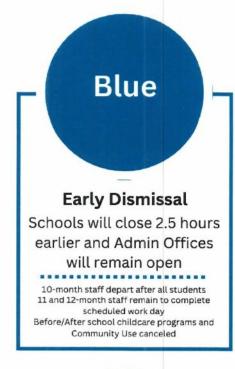
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

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.

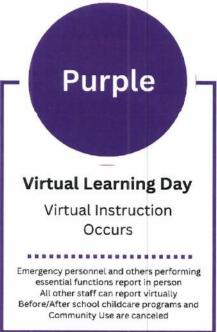












- ICB Childcare Programs follow the responses for MCPS administrative offices
- CUPF Community Use Activities are canceled when schools are closed, for the morning if there is a 2 hour delay, and for the afternoon when schools are dismissed early
- · Emergency personnel must report to work and perform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

<u>Emergency Information</u> — 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

Maryland's Largest School District

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

La instrucción es virtual

El personal de emergencia y otras personas que

desempeñan funciones esenciales se reporatn 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.

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.



Los Programas de Cuidado Infantil de ICB siguen las pautas para las oficinas administrativas de MCPS.

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

 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.

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

 El personal de emergencia debe presentarse al trabajo y realizar el trabajo durante todas las opciones de estado, según los contratos negociados.

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