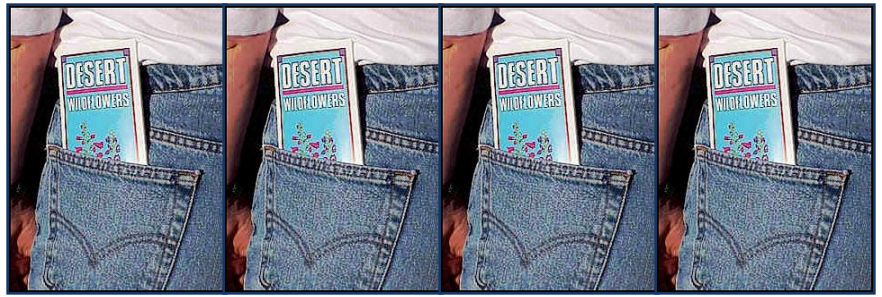


# John Poole's **BACK POCKET**



**March 1, 2013**

## **A Thought for Today:**

**Doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment.  
- Oprah Winfrey**

## **We're Ready**

There's always a flurry of activity just before state testing begins. All of the materials are kept under tight security, counted, labeled, and ordered for each of the four days every child will spend in assessment. Pencils are sharpened; rulers, compasses and protractors are counted out and packed into testing kits; scratch paper is prepared, and everybody gets one last review of the rules and procedures. Bags of clementines and peppermints are counted out so there's a little energy boost for every kid taking a test. This year we included hand sanitizer in the test materials; it's been a tough flu season.

Part of our philosophy at JPMS is the belief that when we make our expectations clear to our students, they generally do their best to meet them. We've gone over testing expectations and provided everyone with a rubric that reminds students each day to use their time wisely, try their hardest, read every question carefully, use their testing strategies, and check their work. We've discussed what Purpose, Respect, Integrity, Dedication and Effort look like during assessments.

At TAP this Thursday, we made sure every student and teacher practiced going to his or her testing room. That helps testing get off to a smooth start, but it also reduces student anxiety when they are confident about where they are to report and who will be there to work with them. Teachers are preparing their rooms by taking down or covering the charts and posters that might give away information students are required to know, and by moving desks out of discussion-friendly patterns into traditional rows facing forward.

Most importantly, we are keeping instruction rolling on as usual throughout the testing season. After all, what we are about is teaching and learning first. Assessment is an important tool of that process, but it is not our primary purpose; that's educating our children. The homework load will be lighter so that kids can unwind after school, but teaching and learning go on.

Thanks for your support at home. We very much appreciate your efforts to schedule dentist appointments and the like around the testing schedule and to take care that getting good sleep and healthy breakfasts are a particular priority on days your child will come in to start the day with a long test.

So, we're ready. Please give your child a hug for me and remind him or her that all we need our kids to do is relax and show what they know. The rest will take care of itself. Thanks! - Charlotte Boucher

## **2013 MSA Schedule**

<b>Grade 6 Reading Test</b>	<b>March 4 &amp; 5</b>
<b>Grades 7 &amp; 8 Reading Test</b>	<b>March 6 &amp; 7</b>
<b>Grade 6 Math Test</b>	<b>March 8 &amp; 11</b>
<b>Grades 7 &amp; 8 Math Test</b>	<b>March 12 &amp; 13</b>

# Hallway Heroes

**Hallway Heroes** are students we honor for demonstrating exemplary **PRIDE** behaviors as they move from class to class, helping to keep our hallways safe and comfortable for everyone.

The students recognized below consistently demonstrate **Purpose, Respect, Integrity, Dedication** and **Effort** everywhere they go at JPMS. They are **Hallway Heroes** and we are proud to celebrate their high expectations and their Timberwolf PRIDE!



**Julia Fisher**

**Luke Hanscom**

**Cubby Schmidt**

**Tori Gruber**

**Michael McDonald**

**Daria Sharifi**

**Daniel Geehreng**

**Gia Santorocco**

**Clark Trone**

## Student Leaders of the Pack

At JPMS, we focus every day on helping our students to be as successful as possible, both academically and personally. Part of that focus is instilling the core values of **Timberwolf PRIDE: Purpose, Respect, Integrity, Dedication** and **Effort**, because we believe these qualities will support all students being the successful learners they want to be today and becoming the positive, contributing members of our community they can be all their lives.

Each month, the staff recognizes five students in each grade who are leaders and role models because they routinely demonstrate the components of Timberwolf PRIDE. We celebrate them at a ceremony on the first Friday of each month where they receive a certificate and are served a breakfast treat. Their pictures are proudly posted on a bulletin board in the front hall during the month in which they are being honored.

Congratulations to February's **Leaders of the Pack!**

### 6th Grade

- Purpose* - **Maureen Hueting**
- Respect* - **Matthew Gimbrere**
- Integrity* - **Jimmy Kavanagh**
- Dedication* - **Gwen Boe**
- Effort* - **Alexis Abrigo**

### 7th Grade

- Purpose* - **Gabriella Capobianchi**
- Respect* - **Susanna Schmidt**
- Integrity* - **Cassandra Volkle**
- Dedication* - **Jackson Krasche**
- Effort* - **John Sartschev**

### 8th Grade

- Purpose* - **James Klimkiewicz**
- Respect* - **Kimi Maier**
- Integrity* - **Jacob Tievy**
- Dedication* - **Josephine Caruso-Dipaolo**
- Effort* - **Rebeckah Trainor**





# Reading Awards Banquet

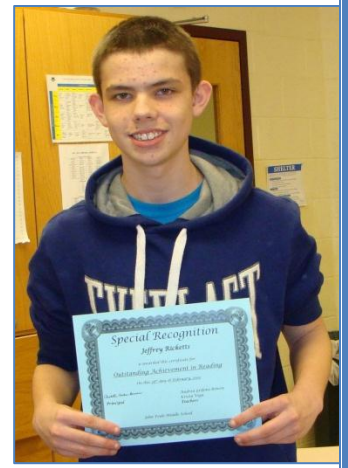
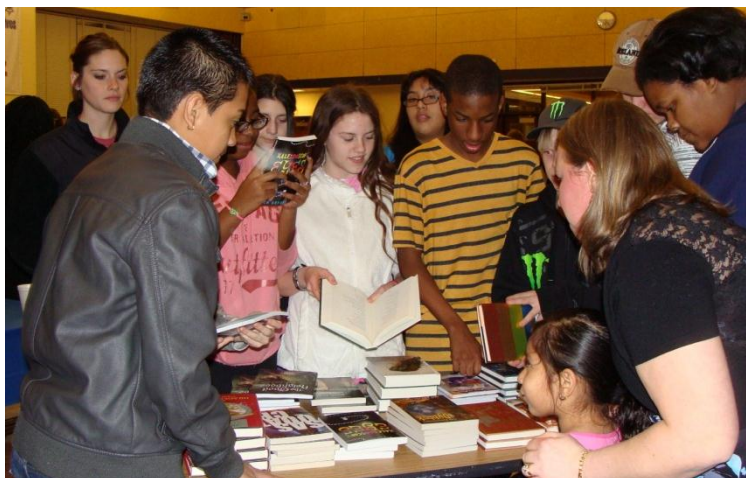
Reading is the key to academic success, because students have to read and study material in **every** class, even PE, art and music. Reading is also a skill adults are required to use every day both at home and on the job for everything from filing an insurance claim to choosing a cell phone plan or shopping online.



One reason our students do so well is that they value being good readers. Wednesday night, we honored Read 180 students who have made major gains in their reading scores during the first semester with an awards banquet. Families joined us for a yummy meal catered by Cugini's and presentation of awards for gaining 50 or more lexiles by the end of the second quarter. (That's Reading-speak for making more progress than the curriculum expects successful students to accomplish is just one semester!) As an additional prize, a book was selected by each award winner to enjoy at home.



Thanks to our great teachers Mrs. Grifone and Mrs. Vega for putting this event together; to our families for coming out on a cold, rainy night to honor their kids; and to our award-winning reading students for working so hard and showing their PRIDE! Congratulations!









# Pennies for Patients

The SGA finished up the Pennies for Patients drive last week. In all, we raised \$1,164.60 to benefit children with leukemia and lymphoma. Second period classes competed to see which class could bring in the most money. Students did a great job of showing their PRIDE and generosity.

The top three classes were:

Mr. Willett's class- \$315.54

Mrs. Aulls's class- \$204.09

Mrs. Petak and Mrs. Vega's class- \$176.55



Thanks to everyone who participated and made Pennies for Patients such a great success!

## Teen Tech Week Is Coming

Teen Tech Week is coming to the Poolesville Library. During the week of March 10-16 there will be an online scavenger hunt with the opportunity to win a Barnes and Noble gift card. Details will be posted soon on the MCPL Teensite: <http://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/teensite>

Do you have a library card in your wallet? If you need one or your student needs one, you can use the links below to either print out an application or request one on-line.

Link to the registration process (Page includes links to the online and printable registration forms):

<http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/libtmpl.asp?url=/content/libraries/usingthelibrary/librarycard.asp>

Printable Form: <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/libraries/usingthelibrary/librarycardreg.pdf>

*The 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers are looking to restock our shelves! Please consider donating middle school level books, especially current titles that your son or daughter has already read. Many students are vying for our copies of Uglies, Ship Breaker, The Secret Lives of Bees, and Chains, to name a few.*

*Please consider donating your used books to keep our kids reading!*



## Read Across Maryland

**Coming soon to a middle school near you!**

Beginning on March 2, this year's Read Across Maryland program gets under way. People of all ages are challenged to read for 30 minutes a day for 30 days. Students at John Poole M.S. will have two opportunities to win prizes. Students who turn in their calendar, signed by their parent with a list of the books they have read will have their names entered into a drawing for various gift cards. Students can also choose to compete in a drawing for a Kindle Fire or a \$25.00 Amazon gift card. Details will be on the website: <http://www.readacrossmaryland.org/>

Students will receive related materials this week in English classes. Remember that March 2<sup>nd</sup> is the birthday of Dr. Seuss!

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

The more you read,  
The more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
The more places you'll go!  
-Dr. Seuss

[illegible]

# Read 30 of 30 MINUTES OR DAYS

## READ ACROSS MARYLAND At Your Library March 2013

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Sponsored by Governor O'Malley, Maryland State Education Association, Maryland State Department of Education,  
Maryland Library Association and Maryland Association of School Librarians.



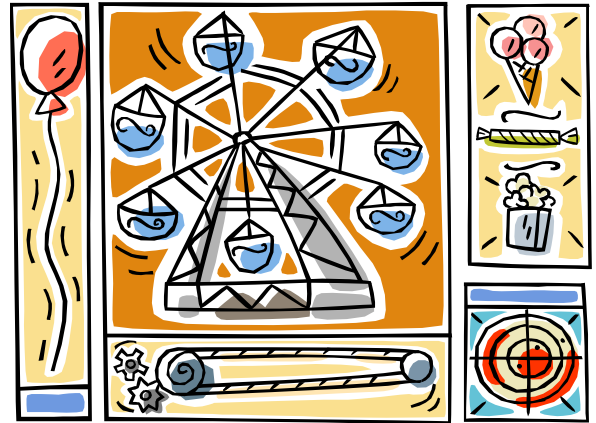
# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Hershey Park

Planning is already under way for John Poole Middle School's annual 8<sup>th</sup> Grade end of the year trip on Thursday, June 13, 2013 to Hershey Park.

Eighth graders and their teachers will travel to Hershey Park via video coach buses using Rill's Bus Service for a great day of fun and adventure. Buses will leave John Poole Middle School at 7:30 AM and return at 7:30 PM.

Information about the trip was given out March 1 (today!) in Social Studies classes. Students need to return the permission slip/medical form to their Social Studies teacher with a check for \$73.00 payable to John Poole Middle School. This price includes transportation to Hershey Park and all rides and admissions in the park.

Payment is due no later than March 21, 2013; any outstanding financial obligations also need to be paid before March 21. Funds are available to students who need financial support. Please contact Mrs. Hardy, your child's counselor, for more information. Economic concerns should not keep any student from enjoying this celebration!



## There are still some 8<sup>th</sup> grade class pictures available for purchase!



But supplies are limited, so don't miss out on this opportunity to remember the friends who have made middle school so special.

Pictures cost \$15. Laminated pictures cost \$20. Don't delay! Send your check made out to JPMS in to the main office today!

## Scholarship Opportunity

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars Program is one of the most competitive, intensive, and personalized scholarship and educational support programs offered to students in the United States. Beginning in the eighth grade and continuing throughout high school, the Foundation provides Young Scholars with individualized advising and educational opportunities that build upon their talents and prepare them for success at highly selective colleges and universities.

The Foundation seeks exceptionally promising seventh grade applicants from low-income families who stand out in their schools for their academic excellence, determination, leadership, and community engagement. If you know any such students, please encourage them to visit the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation's website from January through early March to obtain an application at <http://www.jkcf.org/scholarships/young-scholars-program/>.



# Your PTSA –

*“Every child, one voice”*

- Jennifer Kasten – President
- Dawn Albert - Vice President
- Dreama Hemingway - Secretary
- Wendy Roldan – Treasurer
- Lori Kocur – Membership & Volunteers
- Anne Donovan & Jackie Gaddis – Staff Appreciation



Spotlight on...  
Opportunities to  
Contribute

Be a volunteer; give your financial support. Please see the information below.

## Volunteer Your Time and Join the PTSA!

Please contact Lori Kocur at [kocurs@verizon.net](mailto:kocurs@verizon.net) for membership information or to register as a JPMS Parent Volunteer. Once you are a registered volunteer, you will receive emails when opportunities to help out at school arise. It's as easy as that!

Membership and volunteer forms are available at the JPMS website:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/poolems/parents/4.%20PTSA%20Membership%20Form.pdf>

## Calling All Parents!

**Are you interested in volunteering as either an officer or committee chair next year?**

**We are seeking persons to serve as the Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer. We also have several committees that will need new chairpersons.**

**Put your energy and talent to good use in support of our kids!**

**Contact Jennifer Kasten or any of our officers to see how you can help!**

In case you missed it, the notice your PTSA sent home this week about fundraising activities is printed on the next page!



**Meeting Reminder:** There will be no PTSA general meeting in February. Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**. We will also have our regularly scheduled meeting on **April 9<sup>th</sup>**.

**Mark your calendar so you won't miss these dates!**



# JOHN POOLE MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSA

*Winter 2013*

*Together We Can Accomplish More*

Your PTSA Board would like to take this opportunity to communicate in more detail with you what the PTSA is doing and request assistance with future plans of the association and our fundraising activities. Together with the school, your PTSA works hard to offer a variety of events to bring our community together. Math Night, Science Expo, Career Day, Geography Bee, class celebrations and other activities are all designed to enrich the experience of JPMS students. These events provide opportunities to celebrate the efforts and successes of our children.

In addition to these events, the PTSA, working collaboratively with the school and parents, have set funding priorities including staff appreciation events, cultural arts, curriculum support, year-end grade specific activities and dedicated projects that we focus on in a particular school year. Last year your PTSA purchased the beautiful mobile promethean board that is used daily in our media center and frequently at evening events. ***Our current dedicated project is to purchase and implement a WeatherBug Program at JPMS.*** The WeatherBug Program is truly innovative and supports improved education for our students. The WeatherBug Program will place a state-of-the-art WeatherBug weather station, Motion Camera, InstaCam, and WeatherBug Achieve online software at JPMS. Real-time weather data will be used for enhanced mathematics, science, geography, and technology education in the school.

To support funding priorities in the past, the PTSA has sponsored the sales of various products that were intended to be desirable to the community, such as Yankee Candle and Ethel's Chocolates. We have noticed this year a decline in the purchase of fundraising products, which is certainly understandable given the economic climate. Additionally, we live in a small community and many families have noted that between the schools, sports teams and clubs our children are involved in, we are all asking families to purchase similar or like fundraising products.

***In response to the decline in interest and overlap in product sales, the PTSA is eliminating winter product fundraising sales and instead asking each family to make a monetary donation as they are able.*** This is a fundraising effort we are managing ourselves as we understand many families would prefer to give the money directly to the PTSA, rather than a fundraiser where only a portion of the money reaches our school directly.

To make this successful, we are asking every family to make a donation directly the PTSA. These donations would be totally voluntary, and some may prefer to donate time rather than money. ***We will run this fundraising campaign from March 1st – March 22<sup>nd</sup>.*** Once donations have been received, we can take stock of our accounts and then decide if any additional product fundraisers are needed or desired. The PTSA greatly appreciates your consideration to make a monetary donation. ***Your cash or check can be brought into the school and left with Darlene Umberger, at the front desk. You can also mail to Emily Pavlick, PTSA Fundraising: 18008 Bliss Dr., Poolesville, MD 20837. Checks should be made out to "JPMS PTSA."*** A receipt for the donation is available upon request.

Again, we appreciate your support in this effort. If you have any questions you can contact any PTSA Board member directly.

Thank you,

Jennifer Kasten  
PTSA President

# Student Service Learning Tips

## Give a Little Time...Make a Big Difference

- Spring break begins March 25 ...make a plan now to *serve* and *learn*!
- MCPS recognizes exceptional service contributions of students through the **Superintendent's SSL Award** which recognizes the accumulation of 75 hours of service during middle school, and the **Certificate of Meritorious Service** which documents 260 or more SSL hours by the year of high school graduation. All qualifying documentation for these MCPS SSL awards is due to our SSL coordinator, Mrs. Arnold, no later than the "first Friday in April" (**April 5, 2013**).
- The majority of SSL occurs in the official, nonprofit, tax exempt sector. For-profit assisted living facilities and for-profit nursing homes are the only for-profit entities where SSL hours can be earned. Direct service to residents in these facilities requires approval of MCPS Form 560-50, *Individual SSL Request* in advance.
- MCPS SSL approved faith-based organizations identify real need beyond their membership and assist students in using secular (non-religious) activities to address need in the greater community.
- One SSL hour is awarded for every one hour of service outside of the instructional day. (A maximum of 8 hours may be awarded within a 24-hour period.)



It is our goal to provide activities to meet the desires of all students. If you have any suggestions for programs or interests, please contact Mrs. Crutchfield at [Winessa\\_R\\_Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Winessa_R_Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org).

Some of the programs offered this year are Books and Boxing, Babysitting Club, Jewelry Making, Zumba Class, Scrapbooking, Game Room, Book Club and much more. Keep checking the *Back Pocket* for upcoming classes.

**Math Club** – Wednesdays after school in room 300

**Homework Club** – Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school in the Media Center

**Algebra Enrichment and Reading Enrichment** – Tuesdays after school

**Math Enrichment** – Wednesdays and Thursdays afterschool

**Rec Extra needs your donations for upcoming classes. Don't throw it away!!! Recycle with us! You may drop any of these items in the Rec Extra Box in the Main Office. Thanks in advance for your donations!**

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| ➤ Sewing supplies, thread, trim, buttons, fiber fill        | ➤ Fabric and fabric scraps     |
| ➤ Scrapbook supplies (paper, scissors, stickers, etc.)      | ➤ Spray paint                  |
| ➤ Beads and Jewelry making supplies; old jewelry            | ➤ Yarn and knitting needles or |
| ➤ Magnets—too many on your refrigerator? We will take them! | crochet hooks                  |

## Your Kid Wants a Yearbook!

If you haven't ordered it yet, you're risking running out of time. Supplies are limited, and the deadline for ordering is March 29. If you have been putting off ordering a yearbook, the only way to guarantee your child will get one is to act quickly.

All sales are online. Go to [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) or the JPMS website for a link to the order form. The time to act is now!



# PBIS Recycling Fundraiser

PBIS is conducting our recycling fundraiser again this year. Thank you for making last year's drive a great success!

This fundraiser helps us raise money for our Positive Behavior Program and protects the environment through the donations of your used consumer electronics. Your used items are recycled in accordance with EPA regulations. One hundred percent of the proceeds help fund PBIS.

We are collecting the following items:

Cell Phones

Inkjet Cartridges

Radar Detectors

Digital Cameras

Laptop Computers

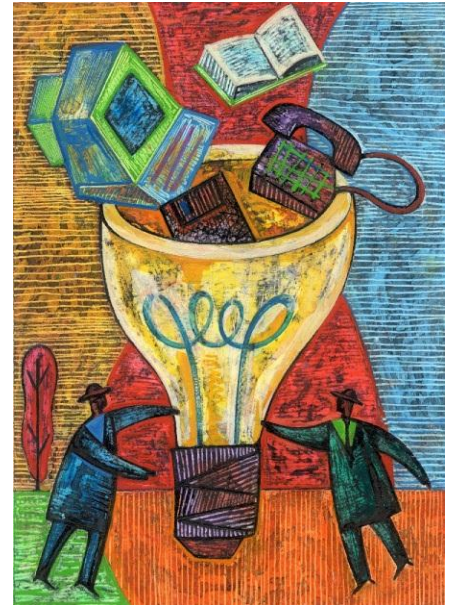
E-Book Readers

Handheld Game Systems

Digital Video Cameras

GPS Devices

MP3 Players



Please drop off any of the above items you would like to recycle.

There is a bin for cell phones, inkjet cartridges, and other small electronics in the school's foyer. Larger items can be dropped off in the office. We greatly appreciate your support!



## Attention 7th and 8th Grade Soccer Players

The JPMS Girl's and Boys' Soccer Teams will be holding soccer try-outs the week of March 12. In order to try out, students must have turned in the paperwork that can be picked up in the locker rooms. Student physicals are good for two years and must be on file with the health room. If you have any questions please see Mr. Willett (girl's coach) or Mr. Owens (boy's coach).

## Movie Night at Poolesville Elementary

*Ice Age: Continental Drift* will be shown on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at PES. This family-friendly movie runs from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Admission is just \$5.00 per person and includes popcorn, drink and 1 choice of candy along with the movie. What a great way to enjoy a night out in town!

## Homework Hotline Live

Homework Hotline Live is here to help you start-off March right. For homework help call 301-279-3234, or go to Ask H-H-L dot org. That's 301-279-3234 and A-S-K, H-H-L, dot O-R-G.



## Writing Contest

All 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have received information about a writing contest sponsored by the Anne Arundel Peace Action. This statewide writing contest focuses on themes of peace and social justice. It is a particularly timely fit with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade literature, including the short stories "Indian Education" and "Harrison Bergeron" as well as the novels The Giver and Animal Farm. All students are encouraged to participate. The deadline for submissions is April 30, 2013, so start writing!

## Falcon Basketball Camps

Sign-ups for the 2013 series, which takes place the week after school lets out in June, start in mid-March. There is a Falcon Basketball Camp for every child from kindergarten through current 8th graders. For more information, look for Camp Info at [www.PBAHoops.com](http://www.PBAHoops.com). Early registration guarantees a spot in camp, and sibling discounts and scholarships are available.

## JPMS Students Helping Others

Part of earning the Girl Scouts Silver Award involves serving the community, and three of our students in Troop 430 are conducting a Silver Award project called *Dress Fancy*. **Josephine Caruso-Dipaolo, Mackenzie Gross** and **Beth Roberts** are collecting donations of gently used party dresses in all sizes. The dresses will be resold on Saturday, March 16, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and on Sunday, March 17, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Poolesville Town Hall. Proceeds will benefit the Betty Ann Krahnke Center, a domestic violence shelter for women and their children. Donations may be dropped off at Town Hall, Poolesville Elementary School or Monocacy Elementary School between now and March 10. Whether you're making room in your closet or shopping for something new, you'll be helping women in need and supporting some great kids.

## Montgomery College Summer 2013 Youth Programs

Registration is now open for courses for students in grades K - 12 held on all three campuses, Germantown, Rockville and Takoma Park/Silver Spring. There are over 200 exciting full- and half-day courses that cover a wide range of topics, such as art, music, science, math, writing, sports, robotics, study skills, engineering, woodworking, cooking, debate, technology, and so much more. The summer program runs for a nine-week period from June 17 – August 16, 2013. So, if you are interested in doing something really different and fun this summer, register now online, by fax, by mail, or come to the Rockville Campus, Campus Center, Room 220. Classes fill quickly, so register right away!!

For registration information, access the Montgomery College website at <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthsummerbrochure.html> or contact the youth programs office at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917.

## Community Dialogue on Academic Success to Take Place on March 2

Montgomery County Public Schools is holding its first Community Dialogue on Academic Success on Saturday, March 2, 2013. This event, which will focus on African American students, is the first of several activities that have been planned to engage the MCPS community in a conversation about minority student performance in MCPS.

The event will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the People's Community Baptist Church, 31 Norwood Road in Silver Spring. The event is free and open to MCPS parents, staff, students, and community members who want to work together to help African American students prepare for college and the workforce. Come learn about innovative strategies and programs at work in our schools that help students succeed and help create a framework for increased academic achievement for African American students in MCPS. For more information and to register online, visit

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/familycommunity/minoritystudentdialogue/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/familycommunity/minoritystudentdialogue/) .

## **Community Meeting on the MCPS Strategic Plan Set for March 5**

Montgomery County Public Schools will hold a Community Meeting on the Strategic Plan—Our Call to Action: Pursuit of Excellence—on Tuesday, March 5, 2013, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the auditorium at the Carver Educational Services Center, 850 Hungerford Drive in Rockville. MCPS is in the process of revising the plan and would like to hear your thoughts on how the school system can update the plan and ensure that all students are equipped with the skills and resources they need to thrive academically and socially. The event is free and open to the public. Free childcare (ages 4 and up) and interpretation services will be provided. Please contact the Office of Community Engagement and Partnerships at 301-279-3074 if you have any questions.

## **Reunión Comunitaria sobre el Plan Estratégico de MCPS programada para el 5 de marzo**

Montgomery County Public Schools llevará a cabo una reunión comunitaria sobre el Plan estratégico: Nuestro Llamado a la Acción: Búsqueda de la Excelencia el Martes, 05 de marzo del 2013, de 6:30 pm a 8:30 pm en el auditorio del Carver Educational Services Center, 850 Hungerford Drive en Rockville. MCPS está en el proceso de revisar su plan y le gustaría conocer su opinión sobre cómo el sistema escolar puede actualizar el plan y asegurar que todos los estudiantes cuenten con las habilidades y recursos que necesitan para superarse académica y socialmente. El evento es gratuito y abierto al público. Se ofrecerán servicios de cuidado de niños gratis (4 años en adelante) y de interpretación de lenguajes. Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor, póngase en contacto con la Oficina de Community Engagement and Partnerships al 301-279-3074

## **How to Receive Emergency Information from MCPS**

MCPS offers numerous ways for parents to learn about school closures, delayed openings and early dismissals due to hazardous weather including *MCPS QuickNotes*, Alert MCPS, Twitter, the MCPS website, MCPS TV, and a recorded telephone information line. If you haven't already done so, establish and discuss your emergency plan with your child should school be dismissed early. Please make sure the emergency contact information on file at your child's school is up to date. For more information on how to stay in touch with MCPS and to be informed in times of emergencies, visit [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency).

## **Cómo Recibir Información de Emergencia de MCPS**

MCPS ofrece numerosas formas para que los padres aprendan sobre el cierre de escuelas, retrasos en las aperturas y salidas tempranas debido al tiempo inclemente y riesgoso, incluyendo MCPS QuickNotes Alert, MCPS, Twitter, el sitio de internet de MCPS, TV MCPS, y una línea de información telefónica grabada. Si aún no lo ha hecho, establezca y discuta su plan de emergencia con su hijo en caso de que la escuela cierre temprano debido al tiempo inclemente u otras emergencias. Por favor, asegúrese de que la información de contacto de emergencia en los archivos de la escuela de su hijo está al día. Para obtener más información sobre la forma de mantenerse en contacto con MCPS y de ser informado en situaciones de emergencia, visite [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency).

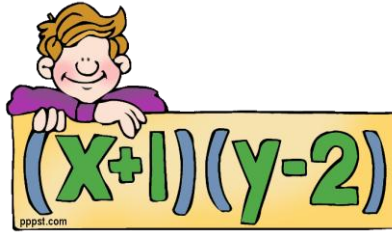
## **Yearbooks**

Yearbooks can be pre-ordered through Jostens only. If you do not pre-order a yearbook, you are not guaranteed a yearbook. You can go to [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) today to pre-order your yearbook. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Aulls at [Kelly\\_M\\_Aulls@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Kelly_M_Aulls@mcpsmd.org).

## **Edline Help Guide**

An online Edline help manual is now available at the JPMS website. Click on the "Parents" tab to find the Edline Student/Parent Quick-Start Guide, or locate it in the Quick Links column on our home page.





# Algebra 2 Jumpstart

Geometry students are some of our Best and Brightest students at JPMS; we want you to have every opportunity to be the Best and Brightest at Poolesville High School! You are being invited to attend a *Summer Program* that will give you a *Jumpstart* into Algebra 2!

Mark your calendars now for this great opportunity to refresh your Algebra skills so you are ready for excellence in high school. It has been a year since you took Algebra, and this is a great way to review Algebra 1 concepts so you are ready on Day 1 to excel in Algebra 2.

The class will run Monday through Friday for three weeks at John Poole Middle School. The first day of class is Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup> and the last day is Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. The class will be from 9:30am – 11:30a.m. You will need to have your own transportation to attend this program. There *may* be afternoon transportation if there are other summer programs at John Poole MS.

There will be a small fee of \$10 for this great opportunity to jumpstart your Algebra skills (checks made payable to JPMS).

Fill out and detach the reservation slip below with your registration fee and return it to Mrs. Ogden in the main office or Mrs. Aulls in room 309 as soon as possible and no later than Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.

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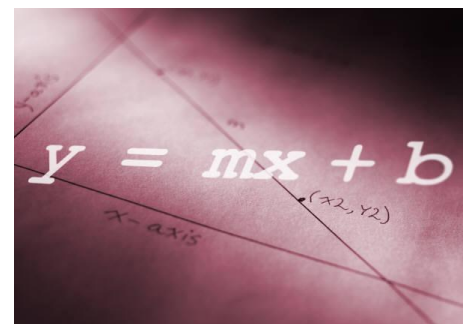
I would like to reserve a spot for the three week Algebra 2 Jumpstart class.

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

2013-2014 Math Course: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



**Please provide a name and number below of someone who can be reached in case of an emergency.**

## Student Transfer Application Season Is Open

Montgomery County parents/guardians who wish to request a Change of School Assignment (COSA) for their children from their home school may begin the process during the upcoming transfer season—February 1 through April 2, 2013.

Students in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) are assigned to a school on the basis of their place of residence or their Individualized Education Program (IEP) and are expected to attend their home school. Assignment changes for students from one school to another are permitted under the following limited circumstances:

- An older sibling attends the requested school in the regular program, absent a boundary change
- A continuation in a feeder pattern from middle to high school, except when affected by boundary change, application program acceptance, or consortium choice guidelines
- A documented, unique hardship situation
- A student selected for an exempt program

Beginning the first week of February, the COSA booklet will be available in schools and online at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/transfers](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/transfers). The booklet will be available in English and Spanish. Exempt programs that do not fall under the transfer guidelines are listed in the information booklet.

## MCPS Hopes You Will Participate in the Parent Engagement Survey

In the past, you may have filled out a parent survey about your child's school that came in the mail and asked a bunch of questions about your satisfaction with the school. It was long, and many families just threw the thing out.

This spring, MCPS is trying a different way of getting parent input. Some, but not all, families will be asked to take a much shorter survey online. This technique is called "random sampling" because the folks who receive the survey are chosen by the computer at random. There's no reason any family would be sent the survey, so being selected to participate means nothing except that you have a child who attends our school. On the other hand, it means you have an opportunity to help MCPS serve our parents better, so I hope you will take this chance to provide feedback if the invitation to complete a survey comes to your home.

There is more information provided below:

### Montgomery County Public Schools Parent Engagement Survey Frequently Asked Questions

#### What is the Parent Engagement Survey?

The parent engagement survey is a new survey that focuses on parents' perceptions of their child's school and education. The information you provide will help schools better understand families' engagement in their children's education and improve connections between schools and families. It should take about **10 minutes** to complete the survey.

#### Who will participate in the Parent Engagement Survey?

A random sample of families at all grade levels in each school will be asked to participate in the survey.

#### What does *random sample* mean?

Each family has an equal chance of being selected to take the survey. A sample streamlines the collection of information by reducing the number of surveys (and postage costs) while ensuring that a full range of opinions are included.

#### Why is it important to answer the survey?

We want to make sure that we have heard from everyone in the sample so that we have a full and complete picture of parent opinion about each school.

**When is the survey available?**

March 1–May 24, 2013

**How do families participate?**

Families in the random sample will receive information sent directly to their homes on how to complete the survey. The information contains the website address and a password. Translated surveys will be sent directly to families. A paper survey in English will be available upon request.

**Why is a password necessary?**

The password ensures that only families with children in the school answer the survey about the school. All answers are completely **confidential** and reported together with the answers from other families in the school. Families and students are not identified.

**What can families do if they do not have a computer with Internet access?**

- They can go to their child's school and ask to use a computer.
- They can go to the local library.
- They can go to the MCPS Division of Family and Community Partnerships, Room 50, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, Maryland, (Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.)
- A paper copy is available upon request at 301-279-3848.

**Is the survey translated?**

The survey is translated into Amharic, Chinese, French, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Families who typically receive translations will receive a translated survey in the mail.

**Questions?** Please contact Mrs. Cynthia L. Loeb, Office of Shared Accountability, at 301-279-3848, or via e-mail at [Cynthia.Loeb@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Cynthia.Loeb@mcpsmd.org)

# Save the Date!

*Important events you won't want to miss!*



## Soccer Schedule

<b>April 10</b>	<b>Boys play King at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)</b>
April 10	Girls play King at King (3:15 p.m.)
<b>April 24</b>	<b>Girls play Neelsville at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)</b>
April 24	Boys play Neelsville at Neelsville (3:15 p.m.)
<b>April 30</b>	<b>Girls play Kingsview at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)</b>
April 30	Boys play Kingsview at Kingsview (3:15 p.m.)
<b>May 2</b>	<b>Boys play Rocky Hill at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)</b>
May 2	Girls play Rocky Hill at Rocky Hill (3:15 p.m.)
<b>May 9</b>	<b>Boys play Baker at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)</b>
May 9	Girls play Baker at Baker (3:15 p.m.)





<b>March 1</b>	<b>Interims Mailed</b>
<b>March 4-13</b>	<b>MSA Testing</b>
March 4 & 5	MSA Reading 6
March 6 & 7	MSA Reading 7 & 8
March 8 & 11	MSA Math 6
March 12 & 13	MSA Math 7 & 8
March 14-19	MSA Make-ups
March 9 - 10	Drama Club Art Show at the Old Town Bank (10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)
March 17	St. Patricks Day
March 18	Blue Ribbon Monday (Wear Blue)
March 18-22	Red Ribbon Week
March 21	Spring Recital (7:00 p.m.)
March 22	Third Marking Period Ends
March 25-28	Spring Break (No School)
March 29	Holiday, Good Friday (No School)
April 1	Holiday, Easter Monday (No School)
April 2	Professional Day for Teachers (No School for Students)

Activity buses are provided Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, except on early dismissal days or the day before a holiday. Buses leave JPMS at 4:00 p.m.

# PHS NEWS

*Go Falcons!*



## Boys Varsity Lacrosse

March 8	4:00 p.m.	PHS vs. St. John's Frederick at St. John's (Scrim.)
March 11	4:00 p.m.	PHS vs. The Heights at The Heights (Scrim.)
March 15	4:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS at Clarksburg HS (Scrim.)
March 21	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at Damascus HS

## Project Lead the Way

While eighth graders are considering your registration options at PHS, you may want to look into Project Lead the Way (PLTW). Applications and forms are due March 22nd. The following forms are available for more information and to apply to the program:

- [Program Brochure](#)
- [Application](#) for students IN a Magnet Program
- [Application](#) for students NOT in a Magnet Program
- [Teacher Recommendation form](#)

# Call John Poole!

Main Office 301-972-7979  
Counseling 301-972-7980  
Cafeteria 301-407-1037  
Health Room 301-407-1029



## *And Ask for...*

Principal - Mrs. Boucher	Assistant Principal - Ms. Lemon
Technology & Arts IRT & Grade Level Coordinator	- Mr. Grotenhuis
English IRT	- Mrs. Lindsay
Social Studies IRT	- Ms. Nachlas
Math IRT	- Mr. McKay
Science IRT	- Mrs. Callaghan
Special Education IRT	- Ms. Turnbull
Counseling - (Ms. Kitts, Secretary)	Mrs. Arnold - Mrs. Hardy

**JPMS**  
**Timberwolves**  
**live with**  
**P**urpose  
**R**espect  
**I**ntegrity  
**D**edication  
**E**ffort

## **Our Vision:**

**The Timberwolf community experiences joy in learning, celebrates excellence, and values positive relationships.**

## **Our Mission:**

**At John Poole Middle School, our mission is to:**

- **promote joy in learning through motivation and engagement**
- **celebrate excellence by acknowledging achievement foster a shared responsibility for academic and social success**
- **value positive relationships, thereby promoting a respectful and supportive learning environment**

