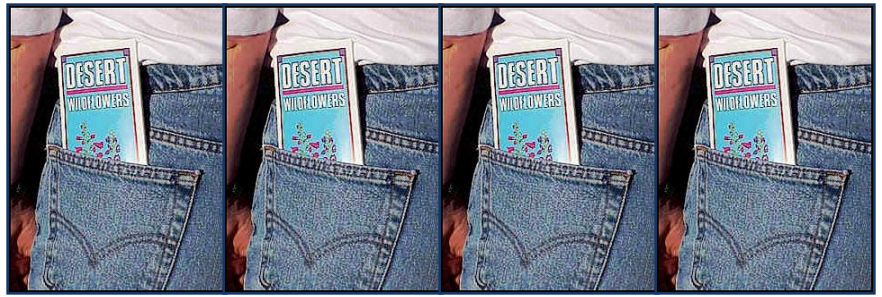


# John Poole's **BACK POCKET**



**March 8, 2013**

**A Thought for Today:**  
**I CAN is 100 times more important than IQ.**  
- Classroom Sign at JPMS

## **A Pause that Refreshes...**

Finally, a snow day! It has been two years since the last one, and that represents *a lot* of frustrating storm tracks and nights spent wearing pajamas inside-out. From our perspective, having Wednesday off was pretty good timing. Sixth graders had already finished their reading assessments and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders hadn't started yet. so we still had an opportunity to fit in their two days of reading tests before the weekend.

Now we are looking at a slightly revised schedule as you can see in the box at right. Next week will be all about math (as Mr. McKay, Mrs. Aulls, Mrs. Bliss and Mrs. Hanks say **every** week should be.) Sixth graders test Monday and Tuesday;

seventh and eighth graders test Wednesday and Thursday; and we're left with only the make-ups for Friday. Attendance has been fabulous, too, so there won't be many make-ups to do. Thanks so much for your support!

Once we finish MSAs, there is only a week left before Spring Break, and that is the last week of the third marking period. **Students will come back from their holiday on the first day of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.**

It's amazing to think the time has flown so fast this year, but it's also a little unsettling to me that we have had such busy Saturday Schools recently. Last week was the final Saturday School of this term because we need to be so focused on testing right up to spring break, but we took in a boatload of work last week, and I know there are still too many students who have fallen behind.

Very little homework is assigned during MSAs, so students who are caught-up can relax, and students who are behind should have some time to get all their work in. Remember, it's not just the Zs and Os that bring grades down - the grading policy gives 50% credit for work that is attempted but not completed. If you see a bunch of half-credit assignments on Edline, these need to be completed for full credit if they are reassessable.

Please take a moment this weekend to check out Edline and plan with your child how to get everything finished and turned-in over the next two weeks before we head into spring break and the fourth quarter. It's just a matter of putting in the effort and then reaping the rewards of hard work.

Quarter 4 is a big one. There are field trips, Earth Day, Career Day, class activities, yearbooks, and a host of other exciting occasions packed into those last few weeks. We ask that families begin paying up student obligations now so that they do not get in the way of participation in some of the fun activities such as Grade 8's field trip to Hershey Park. We also expect students to mind their behavior. Suspensions or too many disciplinary referrals can cause a student to lose out on some of the fun as well. Fortunately, most of our kids have nothing to worry about in that department. You've sent us kids who know how to behave and who generally display lovely manners. Have a great weekend!

- Charlotte Boucher

### **2013 MSA Schedule**

<b>Grade 6 Math Test</b>	<b>March 11 &amp; 12</b>
<b>Grades 7 &amp; 8 Math Test</b>	<b>March 13 &amp; 14</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!



**Allison Foppe**

**Glen Mandere**

**Elizabeth Roberts**

**Preston Foster**

**Madison Peak**

**Rebeckah Trainor**

**Morgan Harney**

**Renee Quaranta**

**John Wasilik**



## Congratulations to a Princess of Our Own

Eighth-grader **Catherine Savage** was named the Maryland Jersey Princess during the Maryland Jersey Cattle Club annual meeting last week. The title means she will spend the next year representing the Jersey dairy cow breed at various events and shows.

Catherine owns and exhibits eight Jersey cows and participates in other dairy activities, such as Dairy Bowl and dairy judging. Congratulations on earning this honor!

## Reading All-Stars

How many times have we seen a movie star at the Oscars saying the honor is in the nomination? Here's an example of that being absolutely true!

Scholastic Publishers names a total of 12 Scholastic All-Stars annually to recognize the outstanding achievements of READ 180 and System 44 students who have overcome reading challenges to succeed in school. It's hard just to qualify for these awards, since you need to put in the effort to improve your reading scores and then extend that effort to improve success across all your classes.

You can tell how significant these awards are by the size of the prizes. Each of the 12 All-Stars will receive an honorary plaque and \$1,200 prize money. They will also be recognized on the READ 180 Community website and in the e-News. Additionally, the teachers who nominated each of the 2013 Scholastic All-Star Award winners will receive \$1,000 worth of Scholastic educational materials.

Mrs. Grifone and Mrs. Vega were delighted to nominate three JPMS students for this prestigious award: **Keyon Budd, Nicole Duran** and **Trey Edwards** met the high standards to compete. We'd love to see them be selected, but the truth is that the honor is in being nominated. Winners will be announced in April.



# Red Ribbon Pledge

**I pledge to make wise decisions,**

**to be drug-free and**

**to support the**

**Red Ribbon Celebration**

**by taking a stand with my family**

**and my friends**

**against alcohol and drug use.**



## Red Ribbon Week Celebration

**March 18-22**

**Stay Clean to Live Your Dreams!**

Each year, Red Ribbon Week provides us with an opportunity to renew our commitment to a safe, healthy and drug-free lifestyle and show our dedication to education and prevention efforts in our schools and community. It is estimated that over 80 million young people and adults throughout the USA participate in this annual campaign.

The week of March 18 -22, we will celebrate each day with a theme and an activity that helps each of us make decisions to Live Our Dreams. Remember, students, that all outfits for theme days must be appropriate for school. Choose appropriate clothing and accessories, too.

Throughout the week, students will sign a banner like the one pictures above promoting a drug-free lifestyle. The banner will be on display in the school hallway. In addition, facts about the dangers of drug involvement will be read during the morning announcements and discussed in classes.

Red Ribbon Week alone cannot solve our state's drug problems, but it can raise awareness and encourage participation in drug-free activities. Talk with your kids about drugs. No matter how young children are, talking with them is one of the best things you can do to help keep them drug free.

Resources for Drug and Alcohol Issues:

How Parents Can Prevent Drug Abuse

<http://www.ncpc.org/topics/drug-abuse/alcohol-tobacco-and-other-drugs>

Parenting Tips for Drug Prevention

[http://www.ehow.com/info\\_7833507\\_parenting-tips-drug-prevention.html](http://www.ehow.com/info_7833507_parenting-tips-drug-prevention.html)

Day/Date	Activities
<b>Monday March 18</b>	<b>Live Your Dream</b> Wear Red and/or Blue
<b>Tuesday March 19</b>	<b>Make Charmed Choices for Success</b> Dress for success
<b>Wednesday March 20</b>	<b>Look Away From Drugs</b> Wear Glasses <b>Sun glasses must be worn above your forehead</b>
<b>Thursday March 21</b>	<b>Twist Away From Drugs</b> Backwards Day – wear tops backwards
<b>Friday March 22</b>	<b>Spring For The RIGHT Choice</b> Wear Crazy Socks and Shoes

# Next Week Is Teen Tech Week

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>

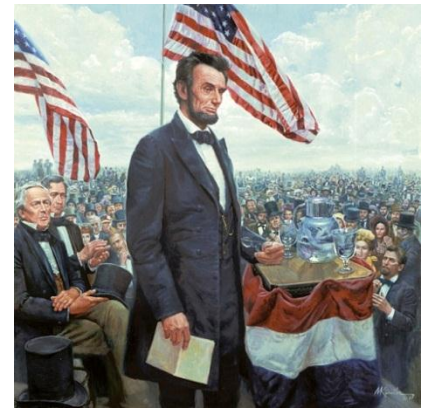
Do you have a library card in your wallet? If you need one or your student needs one, you can use the links below to either print out an application or request one on-line.

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>

## An important reminder for 8th graders.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Ford's Theatre permission slip and payment are due on **March 18, 2013**. This field trip is an important part of our study of the Civil War in US History. Students will be learning about Abraham Lincoln and the impact that his assassination had on our country. It is important that all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in this field trip. Any financial concerns can be direction to the Counseling office at 301-972-7980. A copy of this permission slip can be found on your child's Ed-line page for US History. Thank you! - Mr. Owens



*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!**

On March 2, this year's Read Across Maryland program got 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> was 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.



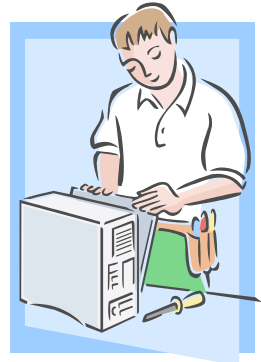


## **EIGHTH GRADE CAREER DAY 2013**

**April 25**

**7:30 a.m. – 2:20 p.m.**

***FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS***



Parents and community members are needed to share their occupations with us! We are looking for a variety of careers to represent all walks of life. Our eighth graders enjoy having you come and share your careers with them. We will be having both morning career presentations and afternoon special sessions for our Career Day, providing a variety of career panels offering learning opportunities for the students.

If you are interested, or have a friend or neighbor who would like to participate, please complete the form below. Your child may return the form by **March 14, 2013**. You may contact Mrs. Arnold or Mrs. Hardy, counselors at JPMS (301-972-7980) with any questions.

We also depend on parent helpers to organize this day and help with material preparation, registration, hospitality, student snacks, and lunch for presenters. This year, we are asking parents who are *not* presenters but who want to help with the materials and food to use **Sign-up Genius** online at [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com).

Here's how it works:

**STEP ONE:** Go to [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com)

**STEP TWO:** Click on the GREEN Tab labeled "FIND A SIGN UP"

**STEP THREE:** Enter email of the Sign up's creator: [judy.mckenney@comcast.net](mailto:judy.mckenney@comcast.net) (all lower case)

**STEP FOUR:** Click on ACTIVE Sign-up: JPMS CAREER DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**STEP FIVE:** Review available opportunities

**STEP SIX:** Click on "Sign up" to volunteer

**STEP SEVEN:** If you are a current member of SignUpGenius, click on "I'm a SignUpGenius Member" and login to sign up

**OR,** if you are *not* a current member of SignUpGenius, Click on "I do not have a Sign up Genius Account" and enter the following information:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Email
- Re-enter email
- Choose a password



Now you will be able to see your choices and volunteer to help! Thanks!

Please return these forms to your American History teacher at JPMS by MARCH 14, 2013.



STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**THURSDAY APRIL 25, 2013**

**7:30 a.m. – 2:20 p.m.**

***Parent Volunteer Information***

Please use our on-line sign-up Genius: [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com) (directions above) -- or you may complete and return this form to the Counseling Office.

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to volunteer to help on Career Day, April 25, 2013. I would like to help with:

\_\_\_\_ Morning Presenter Breakfast

\_\_\_\_ Noon Presenter Lunch

\_\_\_\_ Donate Food for Presenter Breakfast/Lunch

\_\_\_\_ Distribute Student Snacks

\_\_\_\_ I am willing to coordinate one of the above



*You may start dropping any donations the day before to the front office. If you are bringing soda, juice or water it would be helpful to bring it on Wednesday so we can make sure it is chilled for the next day. **Hot lunch** items should be delivered to the school at 11:00 am to ensure they are still warm for lunch. Any other items must be delivered by 7:00 am on Thursday, April 25th.*

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: (H) \_\_\_\_\_

(Cell): \_\_\_\_\_

(Work): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_





Please return these forms to your American History teacher at JPMS by MARCH 14, 2013.



STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**THURSDAY APRIL 25, 2013**

**7:30 a.m. – 2:20 p.m.**

***Presenter Information***

\_\_\_\_ ***Yes, I would like to be a presenter: 8:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.*** My presentation will be:

\_\_\_\_ 5 – 10 minutes

\_\_\_\_ 10-15 minutes

\_\_\_\_ 15-20 minutes

\_\_\_\_ Informative

\_\_\_\_ Interactive

\_\_\_\_ Both

\_\_\_\_ No, I am not available at this time

\_\_\_\_ I have signed up to volunteer in another way.

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Audio visual equipment needed: \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to contact the presenters in my group before Career Day.**

**Please share my email address with them:** \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

Please provide us with a brief description of the presentation you will make to students.

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Please give a brief description of your job responsibilities:

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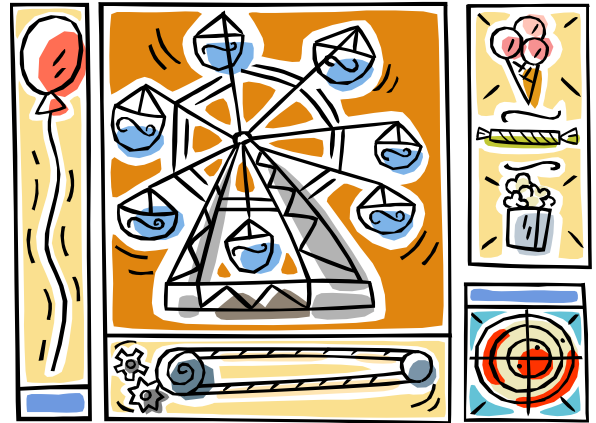
# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Hershey Park

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!



## 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 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!



# 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:** 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
- Scrapbook supplies (paper, scissors, stickers, etc.)
- Beads and Jewelry making supplies; old jewelry
- Magnets—too many on your refrigerator? We will take them!
- Fabric and fabric scraps
- Spray paint
- Yarn and knitting needles or crochet hooks



## John Poole's Got Talent!

Check out Mrs. Seligman and Mrs. Bliss holding the paintings they created in the class they took at Art Adventures in the Kentlands. Who knew these talented educators were artists as well?



# 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

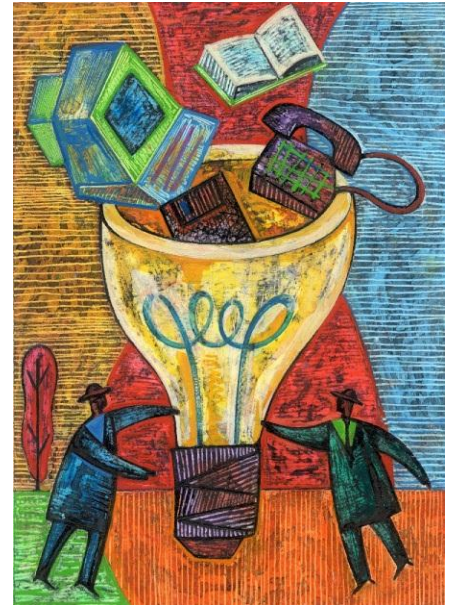
E-Book Readers

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> – TONIGHT! - 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 Krahne 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!!

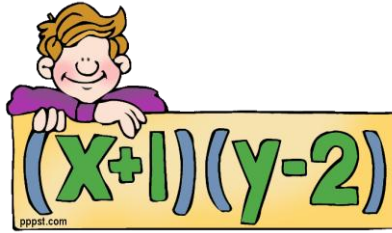
For registration information, access the Montgomery College website at <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthsummerbrochure.html> or contact the youth programs office at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917.

## 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).

## 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).



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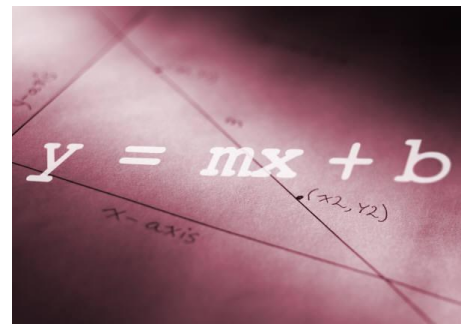
I would like to reserve a spot for the three week Algebra 2 Jumpstart class.

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.**

## 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:

### MCPS 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!*



**March 8-13**

**March 8 & 11**

**March 12 & 13**

**March 14-19**

**March 9 - 10**

**March 17**

**March 18**

**March 18-22**

**March 21**

**March 22**

**March 25-28**

**March 29**

**April 1**

**April 2**

**MSA Testing**

**MSA Math 6**

**MSA Math 7 & 8**

**MSA Make-ups**

**Drama Club Art Show  
at the Old Town Bank  
(10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)**

**St. Patrick's Day**

**Blue Ribbon Monday (Wear Blue)**

**Red Ribbon Week**

**Spring Recital (7:00 p.m.)**

**Third Marking Period Ends**

**Spring Break (No School)**

**Holiday, Good Friday (No School)**

**Holiday, Easter Monday (No School)**

**Professional Day for Teachers (No School for Students)**

**Don't forget...  
Daylight  
Savings Time is  
back!  
Move clocks ahead  
one hour on  
Saturday night!**

## Soccer Schedule

**April 10**

**April 10**

**Boys play King at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)**

**Girls play King at King (3:15 p.m.)**

**April 24**

**April 24**

**Girls play Neelsville at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)**

**Boys play Neelsville at Neelsville (3:15 p.m.)**

**April 30**

**April 30**

**Girls play Kingsview at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)**

**Boys play Kingsview at Kingsview (3:15 p.m.)**

**May 2**

**May 2**

**Boys play Rocky Hill at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)**

**Girls play Rocky Hill at Rocky Hill (3:15 p.m.)**

**May 9**

**May 9**

**Boys play Baker at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)**

**Girls play Baker at Baker (3:15 p.m.)**



**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

**Congratulations to the Honor Society  
for raising \$570.00 for the  
Leukemia/Lymphoma Society at their  
Poolesville Idol talent event last week!  
Great kids working for a great cause!**

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



**Good luck to the  
Boys Basketball team  
at tonight's Class 2A  
Final Play-Off!  
Go Falcons!**

# 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**  
**Purpose**  
**Respect**  
**Integrity**  
**Dedication**  
**Effort**

## **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**

