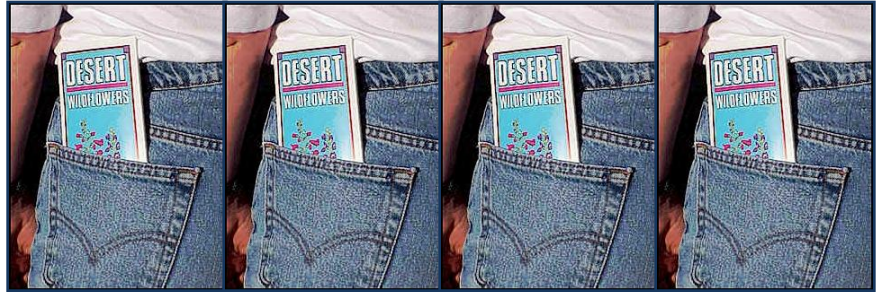


# John Poole's **BACK POCKET**



March 23, 2012

## A Thought for Today:

**"I stuck my head out the window this morning and spring kissed me bang in the face."**  
- Langston Hughes

## Changing Seasons

Not only is the weather looking like spring, but the MSAs are over and break is just a week away! I am very proud of the excellent effort our kids made during the two weeks of testing just concluded. They showed their **Purpose** by being in their testing locations on time and ready to go each day; their **Respect** by minimizing noise and disruptions that could prevent others from doing their best; their **Integrity** by scrupulously following directions, including those that maintain test security; their **Dedication** by using their test-taking strategies; and their **Effort** by carefully applying themselves to every question and using any extra time to go back over their work to check that every answer is correct. You've sent us some terrific kids!

This kind of assessment marathon is grueling for kids and staff alike, so getting down to the last few make-up tests helps us all look forward to the coming vacation time with pleasure. I've lined up a pile of novels I've had to put off for professional reading lately, and now is the time to get some recreational reading lined up for your children to enjoy over spring break, too.

Of course, the hot young adult book of this year is The Hunger Games. With a movie just out, it's high-interest as well as stylish to have this book in your hand. Here's a little of what the *School Library Journal* had to say about The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins:

**'Grade 7 Up – In a not-too-distant future, the United States of America has collapsed, weakened by drought, fire, famine, and war, to be replaced by Panem, a country divided into the Capitol and 12 districts. Each year, two young representatives from each district are selected by lottery to participate in The Hunger Games...Collins's characters are completely realistic and sympathetic as they form alliances and friendships in the face of overwhelming odds; the plot is tense, dramatic, and engrossing.'**

Because the Hunger Games are to the death, the story is violent, which is why the movie is rated PG-13, but the message is positive. The book is the first of a trilogy, so kids will be following the story for years.

It's also Black-eyed Susan Award time. Mrs. McIntyre is featuring these books in the media center. When students read three of the nominated titles, they are eligible to participate in voting for the state-wide book award (and they get to come to a pizza party where the voting takes place.) Encourage your child to come by the media center and check out a Black-eyed Susan book for spring break. If you would like to learn more about the contest, including a complete list of nominated books at all age levels, here's the link:

[http://www.maslmd.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=53&Itemid=70](http://www.maslmd.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=53&Itemid=70)

Finally, there's another link I'd like to share with you. It's the Top 100 Middle School Must Reads from GoodReads.com. The titles were chosen by online book club members, so they represent both books kids enjoyed reading and subjects this age group is interested in. You might find clicking around the site gives you some good information about young adult literature, too. Have fun reading over spring break!

[http://www.goodreads.com/list/show/1606.Top\\_100\\_Middle\\_School\\_Must\\_Reads](http://www.goodreads.com/list/show/1606.Top_100_Middle_School_Must_Reads)

# 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!

Kayla Brody

Collin Fisher

Georgia Micheals

Delaney Cecco

Hailey Harkins

Mckenzie Mullett

Jessie Dorsey

Sophia Mendez

Tatum Posey



## Saturday Was History Day!



Our school sent three excellent entries researched by **Diana Arais**, **Antonia Atkins** and **Franklina Hover** to the MCPS National History Day competition. Antonia's project on the Tuskegee Airmen won special recognition. She was awarded the African-American History prize! As the winner, she received \$100.

Congratulations to our students and their sponsor, Ms. Nachlas, on the hard work they put in to represent JPMS at the competition. You did a terrific job!



Thanks to Ms. Nachlas for taking the pictures!

# Monday, March 26 is our next Blue Monday

Please remind your kids to wear BLUE in support of our Blue Ribbon Week Goals to make our school a safe, welcoming place for everyone and to prevent bullying.

## Student Service Learning Notes – March 2012

- Students who have met the graduation requirement of 75 hours by the first Friday in April of a middle school year will be awarded the Superintendent's SSL Award. This year due to spring break all documentation for this award is due to the SSL coordinator by **Thursday, April 12.**
- Spring Break next month is a good time to get involved in service. Address real need in the community while gaining knowledge, developing skills, and earning SSL hours in a meaningful way.

## SSL: Earth Day 2012



**Celebrate Earth Day during the entire Month of April!**

Earth Day is April 22nd but in Montgomery County we celebrate it during the entire month of April. There are many environmental volunteer projects throughout the month. Get involved in cleaning up the Potomac River Watershed, planting greens at the Twinbrook Community Center, and many other local events and projects.

[Click here](http://www.montgomeryserves.org) to find out more about Earth Day activities or go to the Montgomery Serves website: [www.montgomeryserves.org](http://www.montgomeryserves.org).

Calleva's annual **Earth Day cleanup** will take place April 14, 10am-2pm at Riley's Lock. It's sure to be a productive & fun day. These organizations are participating:

Potomac Community Resources (PCR) -- joining in for the 5th year in a row!

Potomac Riverkeeper -- canoe cleanup team

C&O Canal Association

Redlands Landscaping -- our co-stewards at Riley's Lock

National Park Service

Alice Ferguson Foundation

Come work on invasive species removal, cleanup of Seneca Creek & the surrounding trails, park maintenance (new grills, picnic tables & parking lot maintenance), and more. There's definitely something for everyone -- all ages and abilities -- in this INCLUSIVE Earth Day event, which has become an annual tradition at Calleva.

**Celebrate Earth Day with Calleva**





# Earth Hour

Saturday, March 31, 2012

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Yes, you can make a difference. Please join millions of people around the world in turning off your lights for **Earth Hour**, to raise awareness to fight climate change. Share this message with your friends and family.

At 8.30 p.m. on Saturday, March 31, 2012, lights will switch off around the globe for **Earth Hour**. This year, when the lights go back on, we want you to think about what you can change in your daily life that will benefit the planet. Together our actions add up.

**Earth Hour** began in 2007, in Sydney, Australia, 2.2 million homes and businesses switched off their lights for one hour. In 2008, the idea had grown into a global sustainability movement, with 50 million people switching off their lights.



For more information please visit:

<http://www.myeearthhour.org>

MCPS – DFM - School Energy & Recycling Team

2096 Gaither Road, Rockville, Maryland 20850

Any questions please contact: [Barbara M. Ruppel@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Barbara.M.Ruppel@mcpsmd.org)

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/facilities/greenschoolsfocus/sert.shtm>

Spring 2011





*JOHN POOLE MIDDLE  
SCHOOL  
EIGHTH GRADE  
CAREER DAY*

*THURSDAY  
APRIL 26, 2012  
7:30 a.m. - 2:20 p.m.*



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 and afternoon sessions for our Career Day with 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 and attached. Your child may return the form no later than **March 28, 2012**. 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 registration, hospitality, student snacks, lunch for presenters and material preparation.

**Please return the attached forms to your American History teacher at JPMS by MARCH 28, 2012.**

**STUDENT NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Career Day – THURSDAY  
APRIL 26, 2012  
7:30 a.m. – 2:20 p.m.*

**Parent Volunteer Information**

\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to volunteer with Career Day Registration, April 19, 2012, 1:15 to 2:20 p.m.

\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to volunteer, April 20, 2012, 7:45 to 8:30 a.m.

\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to volunteer to help on Career Day, April 26, 2012,

\_\_\_ Morning Presenter Breakfast or \_\_\_ Noon Presenter Lunch

\_\_\_ Donate Food for Presenter Breakfast/Lunch \_\_\_ Distribute Student Snacks

\_\_\_ Willing to coordinate one of the above

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

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

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

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

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

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Career Day Presenter Information

To help us schedule the day and use your presentation effectively, please check the appropriate boxes below:

☐ ***Yes, I would like to be a presenter: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon***

☐ ***I am interested in the afternoon session and understand it is reserved for large group special demonstrations***

My presentation will be:

☐ 5 – 10 minutes      ☐ 10-15 minutes      ☐ 15-20 minutes

☐ Informative      ☐ Interactive with Informative      ☐ Interactive

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

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

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

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

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

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

Visual aids: \_\_\_\_\_

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 your presentation you will make to students.**

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**Please give a brief description of your job responsibilities:** \_\_\_\_\_

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# Are you tired of paying 5¢ for every bag that you need?

John Poole MS's PE department has the answer...

Join the PE department in simplifying your 'bag' problems.

We will be selling Designer, one-of-a-kind Timberwolf Bags!!

Not only will you have a cool looking, awesome bag for carrying school supplies, PE clothes, and other special items, but you will be helping to raise money to benefit the PE Classes, so they may purchase an iPod to hook up to the new sound system our PTA helped us buy.

Show your school spirit and PRIDE by wearing and carrying a  
**New, Blue Timberwolf bag.**

Order deadline is Monday, April 16, 2012.

Cost for these high quality bags is ONLY \$10.00

Delivery will be early May.



## Timberwolf Bags

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ PE/Health Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate below the quantity of bags you would like to purchase and the type of payment being used.  
If you are paying by check, please make it payable to JPMS.

Item	Individual Price	Quantity	Total Price	Cash Total	Check #/Total
Timberwolf Bag	\$10.00				

The deadline to place your order is Monday, April 16.

Expected delivery date is early May.

For Staff:

Received order on: \_\_\_\_\_ Order filled on: \_\_\_\_\_ Delivered on: \_\_\_\_\_

# VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME and JOIN THE PTA

- Sharon Armstrong - President
- Marilyn Soltis - Vice President
- Dawn Albert - Vice President
- Dreama Hemingway - Secretary
- Sue Van Meter – Treasurer
- Lori Kocur – Membership & Volunteers
- Anne Donovan – Staff Appreciation

It is always worthwhile and never too late to join John Poole Middle School's PTSA.

Your membership entitles you to receive the 2011-2012 JPMS Student Directory at no charge!

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!

Show your kids how much you care and how important their school experience is to you – register to volunteer today!

Membership and volunteer forms are available at the JPMS website:

[http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/poolems/parents/13\[1\]%20ptsa%20volunteer%20form.pdf](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/poolems/parents/13[1]%20ptsa%20volunteer%20form.pdf)

*The following information has been provided by Donna Pfeiffer, Chair, MCCPTA Health and Safety Committee:*

Together we can foster healthy, positive and respectful dating relationships among the teens in our community.

Teens, parents and youth service providers are invited to attend the 3rd Annual Choose Respect Montgomery Teen Dating Conference on Saturday, March 24, 2012 from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus of Montgomery College.

There's still time to register. For more conference details and to register online go to <http://chooserespectmontgomery.eventbrite.com/>

## Proposed Shift of Pension Funding on to Counties

We are now in the midst of budget season and are in need of your voices. The primary concern that is facing all counties in Maryland right now is the Governor's proposal to shift the cost of teacher pensions to the counties. There is some support within the Maryland General Assembly for this shift...at least until they hear from you!

### How to Advocate?

We need many voices on this. Please take one (or more) of several routes to share your opposition to the pension shift:

- Go to <http://www.change.org/petitions/no-pension-shift> and sign the MCCPTA sponsored online petition.
- Print and sign the letter at the following MCCPTA link:

[http://www.mccpta.com/legislative\\_dir/2011-2012/MCCPTA\\_Pension\\_shift\\_letter.pdf](http://www.mccpta.com/legislative_dir/2011-2012/MCCPTA_Pension_shift_letter.pdf)

## Reminder: Dinner/Dance Planning Meeting

The next 8<sup>th</sup> grade dinner/dance meeting will be held on Monday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Karen Carrillo, 18317 McKernon Way, Poolesville.

Please contact Karen with any questions: 301-349- 4565 or [karencarrillo35@hotmail.com](mailto:karencarrillo35@hotmail.com). We hope that you will join us!



Individuals can mail it themselves or take it to your school's PTA meeting in March & ask that it be forwarded by PTA leadership to the MCCPTA office who will ensure it gets to the right officials.

### Why advocate?

- Shifting the cost of teacher pensions to the counties will cost Montgomery County \$47 million next year, \$61 million the following year, and \$71 million the year after that. \$47 million translates into approximately 500 positions or, for the school setting, an additional 2-3 students per classroom.
- The school budget, as well as many other county services, has seen large cuts in recent years and the county cannot absorb this additional expense. MCCPTA included opposition to a pension shift in its Legislative Platform [http://www.mccpta.com/legislative\\_dir/2011-2012/Adopted\\_Legislative\\_Platform\\_2011-2012.pdf](http://www.mccpta.com/legislative_dir/2011-2012/Adopted_Legislative_Platform_2011-2012.pdf)
- The state pension fund is underfunded due to actions by the state to include "corridor funding" that set aside less money for pensions than was recommended. Further, the state improved benefits in 2006 without providing additional funds to pay for them.
- Our school system saw major reductions last year. While we will not see restoration of those cuts in the next school year, the hope was that by August of 2013, the system might be able to start restoring those valuable positions. That likely will not occur if counties have to include pension funding in their budgets.

More info:

- Montgomery County Council Press Release  
[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Apps/Council/PressRelease/PR\\_details.asp?PrID=8272](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Apps/Council/PressRelease/PR_details.asp?PrID=8272)
- Board of Education Press Release  
<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/press/index.aspx?page=showrelease&id=3101>
- Other organizations are also offering online petitions opposing the pension shift, to include [http://salsa.wiredforchange.com/o/6096/p/dia/action/public/?action\\_KEY=5561](http://salsa.wiredforchange.com/o/6096/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=5561)
- <http://capwiz.com/nea/md/issues/alert/?alertid=60813666>
- And for those up for a more intensive effort, contact your state legislators <http://www.montgomerycountydelegation.com/contact.html> directly and tell them to stop the shift.

**Remember, if the shift in teacher pensions from the state to the county takes place, it is yet another thing to slow the modernization of the high school for your children in addition to endangering your school's funding needs and causing the other impacts to be felt by all students across the county.**

Any adult resident can advocate by writing to Governor Martin O'Malley, President of the State Senate "Mike" Miller, or Speaker of the Maryland House of Representatives Michael Busch.

Use the letter on the next page, download the letter at [http://www.mccpta.com/legislative\\_dir/2011-2012/MCCPTA\\_Pension\\_shift\\_letter.pdf](http://www.mccpta.com/legislative_dir/2011-2012/MCCPTA_Pension_shift_letter.pdf), or write your own letter.

Bring your signed letters to the March 13 PTSA meeting or take them to the school office to send them to the MCCPTA office via "pony" (MCPS interoffice mail). The MCCPTA office will take care of the rest.



everychild.onevoice.™

Montgomery County Council of PTAs  
February 15, 2012

The Honorable Martin J. O'Malley  
Governor of Maryland  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1925

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.  
President of the Senate  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

The Honorable Michael E. Busch  
Speaker of the House  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Dear Governor O'Malley, President Miller, and Speaker Busch:

As a resident of Montgomery County and the parent of a child attending Montgomery County Public Schools, I oppose any effort to shift state pension costs to local governments. I appreciate your overall support for education funding in the face of difficult economic times. However, I am deeply concerned that the proposed "pension pushback" will leave our county and others across our state far less able to fund public education, as well as other essential County services.

Montgomery County fiscal constraints have forced our public schools to slash more than \$400 million from the budget since 2009. These cuts have necessitated increases in class sizes across all grades and required the elimination of 1,300 positions. All of these reductions have occurred as our county has seen dramatic growth in student enrollment -- now at an all-time high of 146,500 students -- and intensified student needs. At present, there are 47,365 students who qualify for Free and Reduced-price Meals (FARMS) -- the highest number of students living at or near poverty in our county's history -- and 22.5% of all elementary school students require English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) services. Even without the "pension pushback," our County is struggling with these mounting education costs. Accordingly, I implore you to look for a solution to the pension problem that does not involve shifting even greater financial burdens onto our counties.

Given that 1) the General Assembly determines how much employees contribute and how much retirees will receive and 2) the State Retirement Agency invests pension funds and administers the program with local officials having very little input into how the fund is managed or operated, it hardly seems fair to "pass the buck" for the underfunded pension to cash-strapped counties. This is particularly true given that state-level decisions—including the 2006 enhancement of benefits and the so-called "corridor funding" (which allows underfunding by up to 10 percent)—were substantial drivers that led to the underfunding.

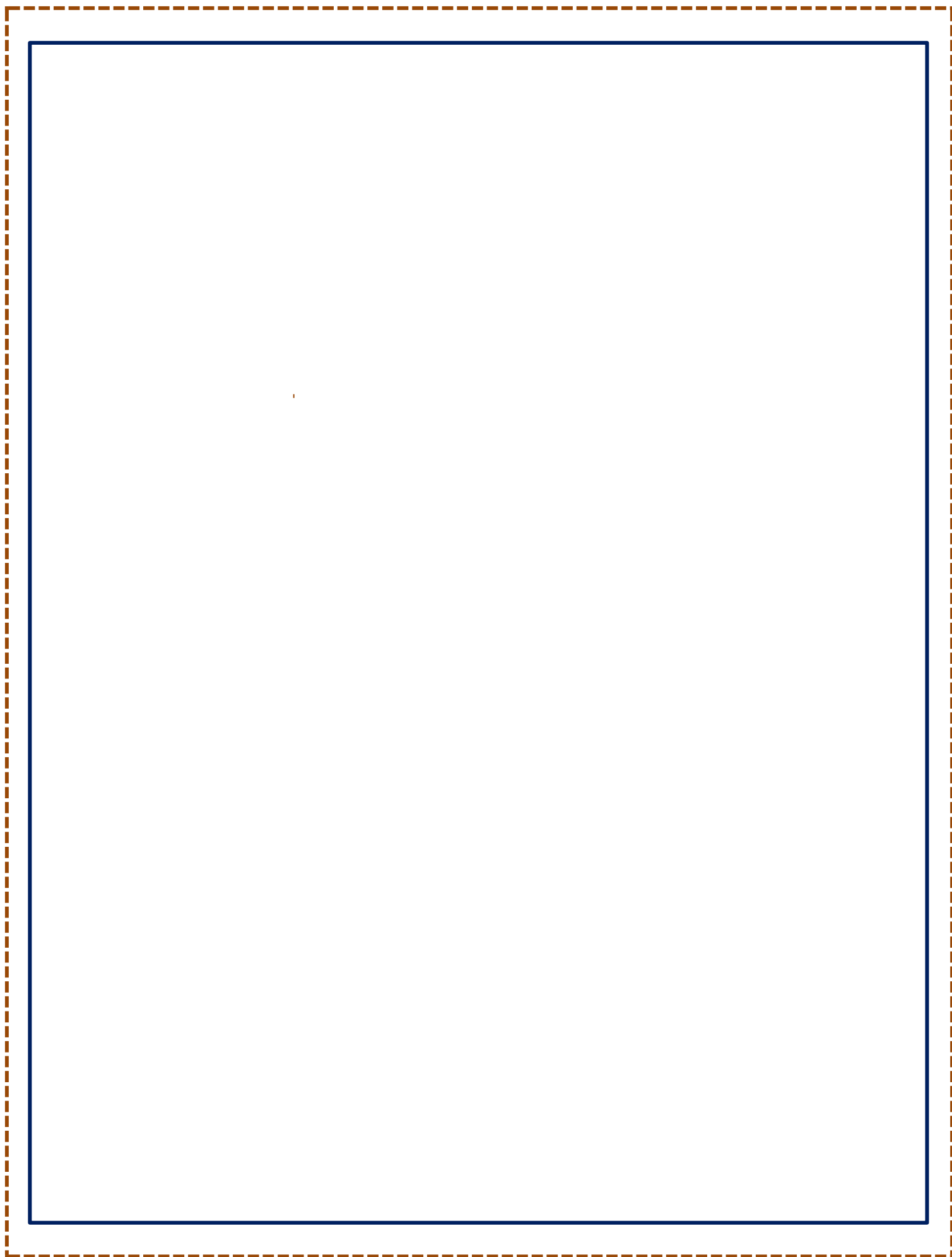
In closing, I urge that you work with leaders from our County and others to find a solution to improve the long-term health of the pension fund, without placing the burden on the backs of county citizens and -- most importantly -- students, who depend on all of us.

Sincerely,

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

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

cc: Senator Jamie Raskin, Chair, Montgomery County Senate Delegation  
Delegate Brian Feldman, Chair, Montgomery County House Delegation



# Contribute to *A Wider Circle*

Kali Wolin is a PHS student (and JPMS alum) who is making service a part of her way of life. She maintains a bin on her front porch so that her neighbors and friends can make donations for families in need.

Each month, Kali sets a different focus for the donations. In March, she is collecting **non-toxic cleaning supplies (new condition - unopened please)** such as dish soap, sponges, toilet cleaner and brushes, laundry detergent, cleaning sprays, mops and brooms. At the end of the month, Kali will deliver the items she has collected to A Wider Circle in Silver Spring, where they will be made available to families that need our help.

If you would like to be a part of this on-going effort, simply drop off your donations at Kali's home. The bin is on the front porch of **19505 Gray Farm Court (Hunter's Run)**.

In addition to this month's focus on non-toxic cleaning supplies, Kali is also continuing to collect items from her past drives. Below is the list of other things to donate if you have them as they are always in great need:

- **Healthy non-perishable food:** whole grain pasta, pasta sauce, brown rice, low-sodium canned beans, dried beans and lentils, low-sodium vegetable soup, low-sugar oatmeal, low-sodium canned vegetables, etc.
- **Personal care items:** soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes, wet wipes, toilet paper, deodorant, lotion, shampoo and conditioner, etc. (new-unopened)
- **Blankets, sheets, and curtains:** bed sheets/sheet sets, blankets, pillow cases, mattress pads, comforters, quilts, curtains, throw blankets, etc. (new or gently used)
- **Kitchenware:** plates, bowls, utensils (not plastic), cups, mugs, pots and pans, kitchen appliances, dish sets, etc. (new or gently used)

Thanks for helping Kali with her commitment to service!



**FAMILY DAY FUN**  
March 24, 2012

From 11:00 am to 3:00 pm  
the Embassy of Sweden  
offers children and their  
adults:

- Mad Science shows
- A Swedish fish pond
- Scavenger hunt
- Swedish children's stories
- Interactive exhibitions

Have your photo taken  
with Swedish features!

FREE, no reservations required, just  
come on down. For a complete  
schedule of activities, please visit:  
[swedenabroad.com/washington](http://swedenabroad.com/washington)

**HOUSE OF SWEDEN**  
Embassy of Sweden, 2900 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20007 (Georgetown waterfront)



**Congratulations  
to our talented  
music students on  
their wonderful  
Spring Recital!**

**Look for pictures  
in next week's  
*Back Pocket!***



Parents, Students and Community Members... All are welcome!

# ***Distracted Driving: The Accident Waiting To Happen***

Presented by Sal Zambri, Esq

Tuesday, March 27th, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Carver Educational Services Center Auditorium

850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville

Light refreshments will be provided

*Mr. Zambri's message will save lives - - why not save some in your community? Young parents are often distracted by babies and young children; new drivers are often distracted by loud music, their friends and the sound of a text message coming in; we are all distracted by our ever present cell phones. Mr. Zambri has important information for us all - - and ALL ARE WELCOME.*

Public Education Session on April 12:

Understanding New Research and Treatment:

## ***Helping Children and Teens With Anxiety Disorders and Depression***

- **Thursday, April 12, 2012**

**10:00 am — 12:00 pm**

Salon A-B, Crystal Gateway Marriott

Arlington, Virginia

\$25 per person (free for children under 18)

For more information, call 240-485-1030 or [send an e-mail](#).

Register in advance, or register on-site (starting at 9:15 am).

### **About Anxiety and Depression in Children and Teens**

About one in eight children suffer from an anxiety disorder, a category that includes obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), panic disorder, social anxiety disorder, separation anxiety, phobias, generalized anxiety disorder, and PTSD. These disorders often occur simultaneously with ADHD, depression, bipolar disorder, eating disorders, and others.

When anxiety becomes unrelenting and persistent, it can interfere with your child's everyday activities, making it difficult to play, relax, sleep, or concentrate. Children and teens may experience stomach and headaches and other physical ailments. Anxiety in children and teens may not be obvious because it may appear to be irritability, sleep problems, or refusal to join in family or social activities. Find out how you can help your child avoid a lifetime of anxiety.

### **New Research**

Recent scientific advances have led to effective treatments and show that early intervention is critical. Waiting for your child to mature or grow out of these behaviors may not be the right approach. In some cases children may develop chronic anxiety and depression, which is often associated with substance abuse and other high-risk behaviors. In this program, experts will discuss new research that advances our understanding of the brain and anxiety disorders and depression in children.

*Please note: This is an educational program. No treatment, evaluations, or prescriptions will be provided. ADAA is not connected to a treatment center or hospital.*



Some of the activities scheduled for this year are Books and Boxing, Babysitting Club, Jewelry Making, Zumba Class, Scrapbooking, Photo Club and much more. Keep checking the *Back Pocket* for upcoming classes. It is our goal to provide activities to meet the desires of all students. If you have any suggestions for new programs, please contact Mrs. Crutchfield at [Winessa\\_R\\_Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Winessa_R_Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org).

Homework Club -- Tuesday and Wednesday

PYSO – Thursday

Drama Club – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Jazz Band – Wednesday

Soccer – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Line Dancing – Tuesday, April 17 – May 8th (if they like it we can extend it)

**RecExtra needs your donations: Wrapping paper, beads and old jewelry, fabric and textbook supplies. Please drop all donations in the RecExtra box in the front office. Thank you!!**



# Announcing –

## 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).

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

John Poole Middle School's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade will have an end of the year trip on **Monday, June 11, 2012**, 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. Information about the trip will be given out March 1, 2012 in Social Studies classes.

Students need to return the permission slip/medical form to their Social Studies teacher with a check for **\$71.00** payable to John Poole Middle School. Payment is due no later than **March 22, 2012**. Funds are available to students unable to pay; please contact your child's counselor if there are any financial concerns or needs. Any outstanding financial obligations also need to be paid before March 22, 2012.

The price includes transportation to Hershey Park and all rides and admissions in the park. Buses will leave John Poole Middle School at **7:30 AM** and return at **7:30 PM**.

## Friends of Patuxent Wildlife Art Show and Sale

Wild about Wildlife? Join the Friends of Patuxent at the 23rd Patuxent Wildlife Art Show & Sale. Highlights include 35 Wildlife Artists, live birds of prey shows, selections from the DC Environmental Film Festival and more! The FREE show & sale is held at the National Wildlife Visitor Center, Laurel, Maryland, on Saturday, March 24 (9:00 am to 4:30 pm) and Sunday, March 25 (11:00 am to 4:30 pm), 2012. Don't miss the Evening Artists' Reception & Sale, March 23, 2012, from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm! The reception features a live band, drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$40 in advance/\$45 at the door. For more information, contact Friends of Patuxent at 301-497-5789 or [www.friendsofpatuxent.org](http://www.friendsofpatuxent.org).

## Learn how to be a puppeteer!

Montgomery College MC Adventures has something new - Kaydee Puppets!

This special one-day program offered for students in grades 4 – 6 is scheduled for Saturday, March 24, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring campus.

Students will have an opportunity to participate during the day in workshops on puppeteering. Workshops will include making and using show puppets, manipulating puppets, creating script writing, learning to be a puppeteer and performing a group puppet production. Let that inner puppeteer come out and register today on our website [www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthpdf/mcadventures.pdf](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthpdf/mcadventures.pdf). Workshops fill quickly, so register right away! For more information, call the Youth Programs office at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917.

## Superintendent to Hold Four Forums This Spring

Superintendent of Schools Joshua Starr will be holding two more forums this spring, each focusing on a specific topic—Special Education (April 16 at Seneca Valley HS), and Social and Emotional Learning (May 10 at Whitman HS). Each forum will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. and will provide an opportunity for parents, staff, and the community to hear about the latest trends and research, find out what's happening in our schools, and share their thoughts and ideas with Dr. Starr, guest panelists, and other participants. Interpretation and childcare will be available. Additional information is available at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org) or by calling 301-309-MCPS (6277).

*El Superintendente de Escuelas Joshua Starr estará realizando cuatro foros durante esta primavera, cada uno de ellos enfocado en un tema específico—Educación Especial (16 de abril, en Seneca Valley HS); y, Aprendizaje Social y Emocional (10 de mayo, en Walt Whitman HS). Cada foro se realizará de 7:00 a 8:30 p.m., y ofrecerá una oportunidad para que los padres, el personal y la comunidad conozcan las últimas tendencias e investigaciones, para que sepan lo que está sucediendo en nuestras escuelas y para que compartan sus opiniones e ideas con el Dr. Starr, con los panelistas invitados y con los demás participantes. Habrá a disposición servicio de interpretación y cuidado infantil. Se puede obtener información adicional en [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org), o llamando al 301-309-MCPS (6277).*

## Young Scholars Program

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation has announced the opening of the application process for the Jack Kent Cooke Young Scholars Program. This program honors 50 to 75 seventh-graders who demonstrate outstanding academic ability, accomplishments outside the classroom, and substantial financial need. Students who are selected receive financial support for educational and extracurricular activities as well as help applying to high schools, colleges, summer programs, and more. The application deadline is Monday, April 16, 2012. For more information, contact Lionel Foster at the Center for Talented Youth at 410-735-6270 or [jkcinfo@jhu.edu](mailto:jkcinfo@jhu.edu)

## Summer Institute for the Gifted

The **Summer Institute for the Gifted** offers summer programs that combine academics with social, cultural and recreational opportunities for students ages 4 – 17. Catalogs for the 2012 **Summer Institute** are now available. If you are interested in residential, commuter, and day programs for gifted and academically talented students, go to <http://www.giftedstudy.org/> for information.

## Eighth Grade Boys Interested in Football at PHS

Students are invited to visit and meet Poolesville High School Head Football Coach Will Gant on Monday March 26, 2012 during lunch period in room 110. Student-athletes must have a pass to attend the meeting. Passes can be obtained from Mr. Young. During the meeting, Coach Gant will explain to potential football players the upcoming pre-season expectations.

## Falcon Basketball Camp

Sign-ups start on March 15, so mark your calendars for that special week in June (June 18-22---the week after school ends) when practically every gym in Poolesville will be literally jumping with basketball players. There is a Falcon Basketball Camp specifically designed for every hoopster starting with Kindergarteners right through current 8th graders. For more information go to [www.PBAHoops.com](http://www.PBAHoops.com) and look under "Camp Info". Early registrants are guaranteed a spot in camp (all camps will sell out) and sibling discounts and scholarships are available.

## Calleva Summer Programs

Visit the Calleva web site TODAY to see what's available – the camp weeks are filling quickly! Some ideas: Building Green, Canoeing and River Stand-Up Paddleboarding. Also, for teens (ages 12-17), check out the Calleva Leadership School. Come learn about CLS at our LAST open house of the season: Sunday, April 15, 4-6:30 pm at a camper family's home in North Potomac. RSVP to [Karen@Calleva.org](mailto:Karen@Calleva.org) for more information.

## Montgomery College Summer 2012 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, wood working, technology, and more.

The summer program runs for an eight-week period from June 18 – August 10, 2012. 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, contact the Youth Programs Office at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917 or access our website at <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthsummerbrochure.html>

## Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students

Continuing a tradition of excellence for 45 years, the Maryland Summer Centers (MSC) engage gifted and talented students entering Grades 4-12 in unique summer programs. Centers located across the State offer one- to three-week residential and nonresidential programs with a focus on the arts, sciences, technology, engineering, and world languages.

Please consult the Maryland State Department of Education website [www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters) for more detailed descriptions of the Centers and application forms. Spanish translation is available. Call 410-767-0821.

The deadline for applications is April 15, 2012. Directors will accept applications after April 15 until the Center enrollment is filled.

## Don't Forget!

*This Monday is Blue Monday – we're wearing blue to support our Blue Ribbon Program promoting civility, kindness, and living with PRIDE at school and in the community.*

*We're still looking for Career Day presenters to share their jobs and the road that got them there. If you are interested, don't delay! Fill out the form in this newsletter and get it back to our Counseling Office before we go to spring break.*  
*Thanks!*





# Step Into Spring @ Your Library

with



**The Duffy School  
of Irish Dance**



Bring the whole family to enjoy an evening of Irish Step Dancing!

Sponsored by the  
Poolesville Library Advisory Committee

Wednesday, March 28 @ 7:00pm  
at Poolesville Library

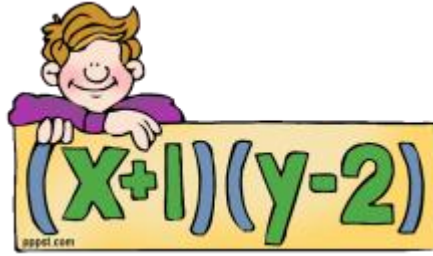
Poolesville Library  
19633 Fisher Avenue  
Poolesville, MD 20837  
(240)-773-9550      TTY: (301)-972-7825

For more information about this or other library events please visit us at:  
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library> or



*To request this flyer in an alternate format or for ADA program accommodations, contact this library seven work days in advance.*

# Algebra 2 Jumpstart



Our Honors Geometry students are among our Best and Brightest students at JPMS; we want them to have every opportunity to be the Best and Brightest at Poolesville High School! All Honors Geometry students are invited to attend a very special *Summer Program* that will give you a *Jumpstart* into Algebra 2!

Over the past two years, Mrs. Aulls has developed this curriculum to help strong students refresh their Algebra skills so they are ready for excellence in high school. It has been a year since Honors Geometry students took Algebra – of course those skills are a little rusty. This class is a great way to review Algebra 1 concepts so JPMS students are ready on Day 1 to excel in Algebra 2. Mark your calendars now for this great opportunity which is available only to John Poole students.

The class will run Monday through Friday for three weeks at John Poole Middle School. The first day of class is Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup> and the last day is Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. The class will be from 9:30am – 11:30am. Students will need to have their own transportation to attend this program. There *may* be afternoon transportation if there are other summer programs at John Poole MS.

There is 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 and return it with your registration fee to Mrs. Ogden in the main office or Mrs. Aulls in room 309 as soon as possible and no later than Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>.

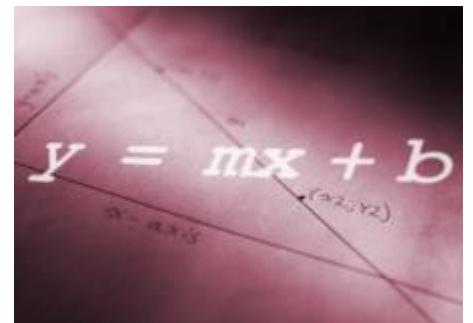
I would like to reserve a spot for the three week Algebra 2 Jumpstart class.

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

2012-2013 Math Course: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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



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

Register Online at [www.FunkLax.com](http://www.FunkLax.com)



# 2012 Summer Camp!

## JUNE 25<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup>

**Poolesville H.S.**

Join Coach Josh Funk and the Lax Factory staff, for the 2012 Lax Factory Summer Camp for boys and girls. Each day players will experience new drills, learn proper technique, all while having fun the Lax Factory way!

- Camp will run from 9am to 2:30pm each day.
- Early bird discount \$195 (before April 15), \$245 for late registration
- Camp counselors will feature past and current college stars, as well as local high school coaches
- All players will receive Harrow camp reversibles, water bottle and lanyard
- To register and for more info visit us at [www.FunkLax.com](http://www.FunkLax.com)
- Contact us at [LaxFactoryTeam@gmail.com](mailto:LaxFactoryTeam@gmail.com)





# WANTED!

**LOOKING FOR  
FURNITURE FOR A READING CORNER.**

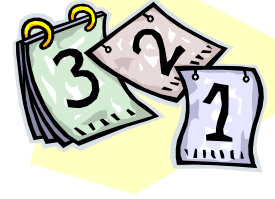


Ms. Vega and Ms. Grifone would like to make their reading classroom more inviting for young readers. If you have chairs that are in decent condition or furniture that you are looking to get rid of please contact John Poole Middle School.

We have received some wonderful donations of comfortable furniture, but there is still room for another chair or two. Spring cleaning is coming – perhaps you're ready to refresh your current furniture. We're happy to help!



# Save the Date!



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

March 29	Third Marking Period Ends
March 30	Professional Day for Teachers (No School for Students)
April 2,4,5	Spring Break
April 3	Holiday – Primary Election Day
April 6	Holiday – Good Friday
April 9	Holiday – Easter Monday
April 10	4 <sup>th</sup> Marking Period Begins
April 12	Report Cards Distributed
April 20	Honor Roll Celebrations
April 12	Girls play King at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)
April 12	Boys play King at King (3:15 p.m.)
April 26	Boys play Neelsville at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)
April 26	Girls play Neelsville at Neelsville (3:15 p.m.)
May 2	Boys play Kingsview at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)
May 2	Girls play Kingsview at Kingsview (3:15 p.m.)
May 8	Girls play Rocky Hill at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)
May 8	Boys play Rocky Hill at Rocky Hill (3:15 p.m.)
May 15	Girls play Baker at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)
May 15	Boys play Baker at Baker (3:15 p.m.)

## JPMS Soccer Schedule

# PHS NEWS

***Go Falcons!***



Poolesville High School Athletic Booster Club 2012 spring mulch sale is on! Orders are now being accepted and must be received by Friday, March 23. Delivery will be on Saturday, March 31st. The Booster Club offers very competitive pricing and 100% of the proceeds are reinvested in PHS athletics.

You can visit the Booster Club website at [phsboosterclub.org](http://phsboosterclub.org) either to place an online order or to print out an order form to be filled out and mailed in. Also, mark your calendar and bring your student and pick-up truck if you have one to help us make deliveries on the 31st. Please visit our website today. For more information, go to <http://phsboosterclub.wordpress.com/> or call Cathy Bupp at 240-793-5410.

**Boys Varsity Lacrosse**

March 23	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Quince Orchard HS at PHS
March 28	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Sherwood HS at Sherwood HS
April 3	TBA	Battle at the Burg Game #1 at Clarksburg HS
April 3	TBA	Battle at the Burg Game #2 at Clarksburg HS
April 11	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at Damascus HS
April 13	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at PHS

**Girls Varsity Lacrosse**

March 23	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Quince Orchard HS at Quince Orchard HS
March 28	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Sherwood HS at PHS
April 11	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at PHS
April 13	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at Wheaton HS
April 18	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Einstein HS at PHS

**Varsity Baseball**

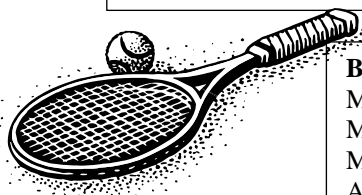
March 23	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Richard Montgomery HS at Richard Montgomery HS
March 26	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Magruder HS at Magruder HS
March 29	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Blair HS at PHS
April 2	12:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Gaithersburg HS at Gaithersburg HS
April 11	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Seneca Valley HS at Seneca Valley HS

**Varsity Softball**

March 24	1:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Richard Montgomery HS at Richard Montgomery HS
March 26	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Magruder HS at Magruder HS
March 28	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Blair HS at PHS
April 11	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Seneca Valley HS at Seneca Valley HS
April 13	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Rockville HS at PHS

**CoEd Varsity Track and Field**

March 27	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at PHS
April 12	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at Damascus HS
April 17	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Quince Orchard HS at Quince Orchard HS

**Boys Varsity Tennis**

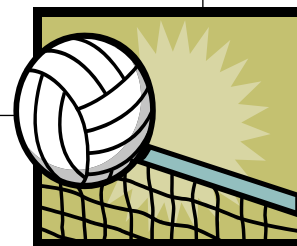
March 23	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Einstein HS at PHS
March 27	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Springbrook HS at PHS
March 28	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Rockville HS at Rockville HS
April 11	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Quince Orchard HS at PHS

**CoEd Varsity Volleyball**

March 23	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wootton HS at Wootton HS
March 26	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwood HS at PHS
March 28	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Northwest HS
April 11	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Walt Whitman HS at PHS
April 13	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS at PHS

**Boys Varsity Volleyball**

March 23	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Wootton HS at Wootton HS
March 26	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwood HS at PHS
March 28	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Northwest HS
April 11	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Walt Whitman HS at PHS
April 13	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS at Clarksburg HS



# 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
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**

