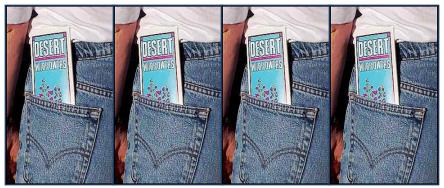
# John Poole's BACK POCKET



April 5, 2013

A Thought for Today: Spring work is going on with joyful enthusiasm.

#### - John Muir

Only 42 School Days left until June 6 –

**Review Day for** 

exams and the

last regular

instructional

day of the

vear!

# **Quarter Four Is a Race to the Finish Line...**

Each year the second semester begins and we find ourselves careening at break-neck speed toward MSAs and Spring Break – the Yin and Yang of middle school life. Then, miraculously, the pace accelerates even more once we get to the 4th quarter and summer is in sight. No wonder staff and students are all exhausted by the time school lets out!

The next few weeks are defining moments for the school year. All the hard work and success of the first three quarters can be undermined by slacking off at the end. On the other hand, there is still time for a strong finish to put a shine on a so-far lack-luster academic year. In short, no student can afford to let schoolwork slide at this point.

But, oh! The temptations! Spring sports fill up the afternoons; at least one major field trip is scheduled for every grade; Career Day and the preparations that lead up to it change 8<sup>th</sup> grade routines; the spring musical, concerts, competitions and celebrations crowd the calendar; yearbooks arrive; the swimming pool opens – there are a million and one reasons why it's hard to stay focused on school at this time of year.

Please help us make sure that your child wins the race to summer vacation. Keep checking Edline and looking at the assignment book. If you get a Saturday School call, send your kid with paper, pencils, and the materials he or she needs to complete outstanding assignments. Put tests, projects, etc. on the household calendar along with the games and special events, then review what's coming up at least once a week with the whole family. That way nothing gets overlooked. *Volunteer*. It's a whole lot easier to keep your mind on your work when your mom or dad is helping in the building or on the field trip, and parents who participate in school activities can't help but be in the know.

There are lots of opportunities to help out in the next few weeks! We are still looking for Career Day presenters and helpers, especially those who could supply green salads and pasta dishes for the presenters' luncheon. Drivers and chaperones are needed for field trips. Give Mrs. Ogden a call in the main office and tell her how you would like to help – she'll make sure you get a chance to join in the fun. And one more thing: all the activities this spring cost money. If you can afford to add a little to the check you write for your own child, we can begin to defray the expense for someone else. No child should miss out because times are hard. Thanks! - Charlotte Boucher

# **Hallway Heroes**

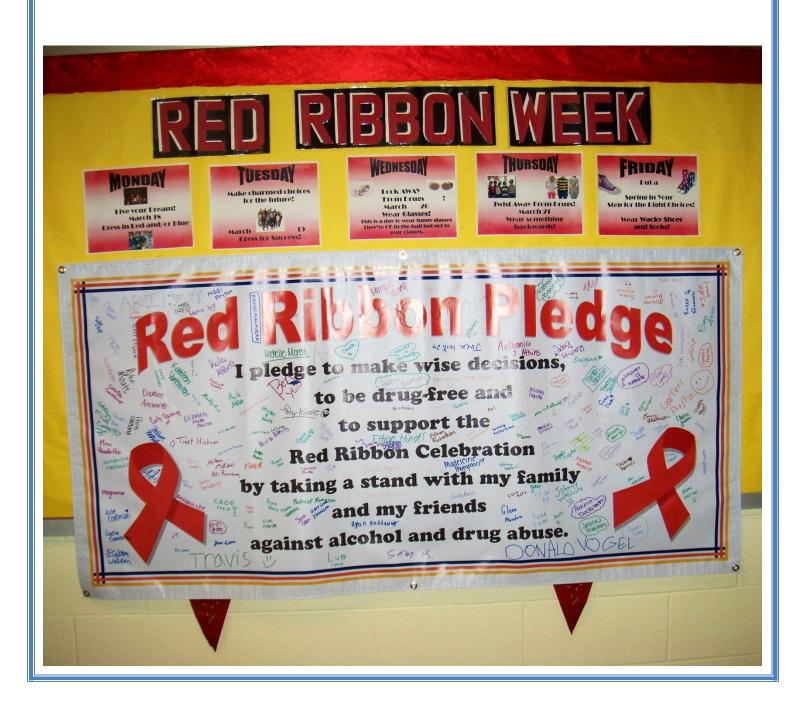
Hallway Heroes are students we honor for demonstrating exemplary PRIDE behaviors as they move from class to class, helping to keep our hallways safe and comfortable for everyone.

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!

Luc Branton	Alison Huber
Alessandra Molina	Sara Oden
Colin Savage	Nikolas Sofelkanik



Jacob Mason Brady Pearre Tiara Ventura



# **Red Ribbon Week at JPMS**

Each year we devote a week to helping our students understand the importance of decisions they make about using controlled substances such as tobacco, alcohol and drugs. In line with the national campaign started when drug traffickers in Mexico City murdered DEA agent Kiki Camarena in 1985, we call our program Red Ribbon Week. Displaying Red Ribbons has become a nation-wide symbol of intolerance towards the use of illegal drugs, and we kicked off Red Ribbon week by asking kids to show their support by wearing red and/or blue – the color we associate with the Poolesville cluster Blue Ribbon program that promotes civility and fights bullying.





















# **Day 2: Dress for Success**

Middle school students are in between childhood and being grown up; they are adults-in-training. On this day we emphasized the thoughtful decision-making that is required of successful adults. Students wrote a letter to their older selves about the hopes and dreams they want to achieve. The letters were sealed and collected to be handed back to their authors during next year's Red Ribbon Week. Meanwhile, students dressed the part of their grown-up successful life styles.

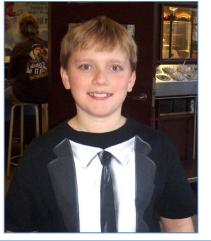
















# Day 3: Look Away from Drugs

On Wednesday, students wore glasses – one of this year's fashion statements - to symbolize their looking towards a bright future and away from substance abuse.

























# Day 4: Twist Away from Drugs

Thursday's lesson was about decision-making. Student reviewed the results of a survey they had taken on peer pressure and the factors that influence their choices; then, they found ways to turn their backs on negative influences and twist away from drugs – which explains all the clothes worn backwards!



















# Day 5: Spring for the Right Choices

Fancy foot gear symbolizes their power to be individuals making the best decisions for bright futures!



# **7<sup>th</sup> Graders become Inca messengers**

Mrs. McGrew took advantage of the sunny (if chilly) days before spring break to take her social studies classes outside for a re-enactment of the system of runners used by the ancient Inca people of South America to send messages over the Andes Mountains.

Because they had no written language system, the Inca required excellent memories. Individuals responsible for communicating information were known as "official remembers" or "runners," who traveled an extensive road system built for trade, travel, and communication. The only information that was recorded was knotted into a colored string called a *quipu* to keep track of births, deaths, trade, and taxes.

The lesson was fun, and it surely brought home that the Inca had to have strong legs as well as strong memories to coordinate their empire.





www.lls.org

March 20, 2013

Ms. Charlotte Boucher John Poole Middle School 17014 Tom Fox Ave Poolesville, MD 20837 \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* Look at the lovely letter I received over break from the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society thanking us for our students' participation in *Pennies* for Patients! \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Dear Ms. Boucher,

As you may know, John Poole Middle School was one of the 465 DC Metro schools that participated in the 2012-2013 Pennies for Patients program benefitting The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. John Poole Middle School generously donated \$1164.60! We would like to share our deepest appreciation for your generosity and thoughtfulness to the local blood cancer patients and their families.

The money raised by your school community funds life-saving research and supports local patient services. Thanks to the wonderful schools like yours, Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, the most common childhood cancer, now has a 93% survival rate. Your support truly makes a difference!

We would also like to extend special thanks to Mr. David Owens who was John Poole Middle School's Pennies for Patients coordinator. Their initiative and hard work are crucial to the program's success. David's commitment to helping others has shown your students that their actions can make a real difference in other's lives.

We cannot thank you, your coordinator, and your entire school community enough for your participation with Pennies for Patients. We have loved working with your school and know that you must enjoy having such a wonderful school community.

On behalf of our patients and their families, thank you for your support. Please share our appreciation and praise with your staff and students. We look forward to working with you next year.

Sincerely,

Leah Tomlin Sr. Campaign Manager, School & Youth

Cc: David Owens



# **Student Service Learning News**

### Earth Day 2013

Earth Day is April 22<sup>nd</sup>, but in Montgomery County it's celebrated during the entire month of April. There are many environmental volunteer projects throughout the month. Get involved in cleaning up the Potomac River Watershed, pulling invasive weeds, and many other local events and projects.

Get your hands dirty and help keep our community clean! This is a great opportunity for students to earn Student Service Learning (SSL) hours while participating in worthwhile activities with family and friends.

MCPS students must complete 75 Student Service Learning hours as a requirement for graduation. They can begin earning SSL hours the summer after 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

<u>Click here</u> to find out more about Earth Day activities or go to the Montgomery County Volunteer Center's website <u>www.montgomeryserves.org</u>.

# **Support Our Elementary School!**

Poolesville Elementary School is planning a make-over weekend next month!

Everyone is invited to join in this effort to beautify the school on Saturday and Sunday, May 4 and 5.

We all can make a contribution! Donations of equipment, talent, materials and cash are needed. Helping hands can come for a just little while or the whole weekend!

Let's all get involved!



- Who: Everyone! Middle and high school students can earn Student Service Learning hours and families can show their community spirit.
   Please remember that young children require supervision and stay to work with them.
- When: Saturday, May 4th & Sunday, May 5th, 2013, 9:00 AM 5:00 PM.
- Where: Poolesville Elementary School, 19565 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville, MD 20837
- Why: To make our world a better place.
- How: Volunteer, donate, tell your friends, or come cheer us on! All donations and help welcome.
- Contact: Elizabeth Ohmen 510-673-5312, or Ross Ohmen 510-673-5310, or rohmen@earthlink.net



### Potomac River Watershed Cleanup

### 25th Annual Potomac River Cleanup

### You can make a difference!

Please join Landscape and Nature Discoveries, Inc. for the <u>Alice Ferguson Foundation's</u> 25th Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup!

Grab your family, friends, and neighbors and contribute to the largest regional effort for a cleaner watershed environment. Cleanups will be going on at sites in Washington, DC, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Students in grades 6-12 will earn SSL hours. Younger children are welcome to join in the cleanup with a parent or adult guardian accompanying them.

### Saturday, April 6th, 2013 from 9am-Noon

Rain or Shine

#### Our site, located in Dickerson, Maryland is along the Monocacy River.

**Directions to Monocacy River cleanup site**: Take Route 28 west through Dickerson. Cross Montgomery County line into Frederick County. Go about one mile to parking lot area (below level of the road) on right just before the Monocacy River bridge.

You will get dirty. Please dress appropriately.

To Register: Please email or call if you want to attend or if you have questions. garth@landandnature.org or 301-972-7266.

# 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...

### Cyber Safety

Come to the April 16 PTSA meeting to discuss this critical topic!

### Volunteer Your Time and Join the PTSA!

Please contact Lori Kocur at <u>kocurs@verizon.net</u> 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: <u>http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/poolems/parents/4.%20PTSA%20Membership%20Form.pdf</u>

### What Is WeatherBug?

- \* An award-winning program
- Support for learning concepts and skills in: Math, Science, Geography, Blogging, Video-casting, and Technology
- \* Online interactive tools
- \* Hands-on student activities
- A new standard in lightning and severe weather detection that will benefit our whole community
- \* A link to more than 8,000 schools nationwide all learning together

Thanks for your generous response to our WeatherBug fundraising initiativel Many families have sent a check to the PTSA so that we can meet our goals without holding another sales campaign this spring. It's not too late to help us purchase the WeatherBug program. Bring your check to school or send it to Emily Pavlik. Thanksl

*This month's PTSA meeting* will address the very important topic of cyber safety. Along with the convenience and advantages of internet access, our kids are exposed to bullying and negative content we never experienced when we were growing up. Being aware is your first line of defense!

Tuesday night, April 16, 7:00 PM in the JPMS Media Center

### Which school will be the winner of \$1000? Poolesville Town Cleaners 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Appreciation Event

# **Double the Happiness**

### **One, Voting for Schools**

1<sup>st</sup> place \$1,000 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$500

- P.T. Cleaners will Donate to Schools on Monday, 10 Jun
- Customers will put a sticker on a board for their favorite schools
- Every order has a right to vote
- A sticker will be given when you pick up your order

#### TWO, Items on Sale

1<sup>st</sup> Week 4/1~4/13 \$25 Any Comforters, \$29 Any Down Comforters 2<sup>nd</sup> Week 4/15~4/27 5 for 4 on Men's Laundry Dress Shirts 3<sup>rd</sup> Week 4/29~5/11 3 For 2 on Sweaters 4<sup>th</sup> Week 5/13~5/25 3 For 2 on any Pants 5<sup>th</sup> Week 5/27~6/8 2 For 1 on Pants Hemming



19616B Fisher Ave Poolesville 301-349-9420 Mon~Fri 7:30~7:00, Sat 8:00~5:00, Sun Closed When : 4/1/2013~6/8/2013



#### **Community Meeting**

Valaree Dickerson, Town Commissioner, has been working with the Montgomery County Police Department to present a program to our entire community on Safety Awareness. Included in the presentation will be a focus on substance abuse. This important topic touches all of us as re remember the young people whose lives have been lost in the past few years to preventable accidents. The program has been postponed but be scheduled in the near future. Stay tuned for additional information.

#### **To All JPMS 7th Grade Parents**

The end of the school year is still a few months away, but we have started planning the end of the year event for our 7<sup>th</sup> graders. We would like to take them all to Smokey Glen Farm on **Thursday**, **June 13, 2013** for games, food and fun. In order to minimize the cost per student, we are asking for approximately 25-30 parent drivers to take students to and from the school and Smokey Glen Farm. We will also need 8-12 of these parents to stay as chaperones for the full day.



Barbequers, Inc.

#### If you volunteer to be a driver:

Drivers will need to have seat belted seats for the number of students they agree to transport. They will need to be at the school at 7:30 AM on **June 13<sup>th</sup>** and will be assigned specific students to transport. We will leave the school by 8:00 AM. Drivers, if they do not stay as chaperones, will need to return to Smokey Glen to pick up the same children by 1:30 PM so we can return to the school by 2:00 PM.

#### If you also volunteer to be a chaperone:

Chaperones will be drivers as stated above and will need to pay the adult event cost of \$16 which includes lunch. Chaperones will also be available to assist JPMS staff with supervision of student activities during the day. We need to know as soon as possible if we will have enough drivers/chaperones to support this event.

### If you can volunteer to be a chaperone and/or driver, please respond to Twyla Insalaco <u>tliemail@verizon.net</u> no later than April 1<sup>st</sup> with the following information:

- Name, email address and cell phone number (in case we need to reach you on that day)
- Whether you are volunteering as just a driver or also a chaperone
- Number of students you can transport (REMEMBER you must have seat belted seats for all students)

Student permission slips for the end of the year event will be distributed at JPMS on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Student payments will be payable to John Poole Middle School and returned to their Social Studies teacher.

Parent chaperone payments of \$16 should be made by **separate check** payable to **JPMS PTSA** and should be included with student forms and fees by the deadline given. Thanks for your support!

#### **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 <u>The Giver</u> and <u>Animal Farm</u>. All students are encouraged to participate. The deadline for submissions is April 30, 2013, so start writing!

#### **Book Donations**

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 <u>Uglies</u>, <u>Ship Breaker</u>, <u>The Secret Lives of Bees</u>, and <u>Chains</u>, to name a few. Please consider donating your used books to keep our kids reading!



Please join us for JPMS Leo Club Restaurant Night at Cugini's: Tuesday, April 16th, 2013 from 5:00-9:00 p.m. This is a great way to support the club's efforts to raise money for service projects and spend some time with your classmates. You can dine in with your friends or carry out. All money raised will help us serve our community.

### **Come join us at Cuginis!**

### See You There!

Please drop your receipt in the Leo Club container after you place your order.

Family decisions with Technology... A Welcome Friend? An Unwelcome Intruder?

## Tuesday April 16, 2013 7:00 JDMS Media Center

For parents only Advantages? Dangers? Ways to monitor? Decisions of timing?



Peade



# PLANTING THE SEEDS, ADVANCING TOWARDS COLLEGE SUCCESS

# College Preparation and Scholarship Fair

Saturday, April 27, 2013

#### 1-4 p.m.

The Universities at Shady Grove 9630 Gudelsky Drive Rockville, MD 20850

Save the date for a special collaborative event for middle and high school students and their parents!

- · Learn what you can do to open your path to successful college experiences
- Meet representatives from various careers, colleges, universities, and scholarship organizations
- · Learn about financial aid and scholarship opportunities

This event is sponsored by the following educational institutions.



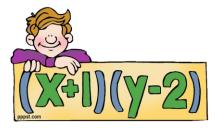


The UNIVERSITIES

Registration is available through the Parent Academy.

www.mcpsparentacademy.org Check-in from 12-1 p.m.





# 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  $8^{th}$  and the last day is Friday, July  $26^{th}$ . 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 <u>no later</u> than Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.

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

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

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

Parent Name:

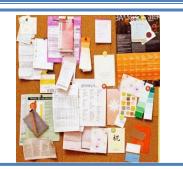
Parent Signature:



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

# **Save the Date!**

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



April 9	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Ford's Theatre
April 11	Report Card Distribution
April 15&16	MSA Science
April 16	PTSA Meeting at 7:00 pm in the Media Center re: Cyberbullying
April 17&18	MSA Science Make-ups
April 19	Clagett Farm Field Trip, Upper Marlboro, MD
April 22	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to DC memorials
April 23	Honor Roll Celebrations (Grade 8 - 8:40 a.m.; Grade 7 – 10:30 a.m.; and Grade 6 – 12:50 p.m.)
April 25	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade College Field Trip to UMBC
April 25	Take Your Child to Work Day
April 25	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Career Day

#### **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.)



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.

# **Vote for PHS!**

Poolesville High School's "Hero" Club has put together a terrific video that is worth your attention. This video was created to promote cyberbullying awareness. It has been entered in a national competition and your votes can help our local Heroes win! To vote, please register at <u>nobull.votigo.com</u> and vote for "Be a HERO!" between April 1st and 15th. Thank you!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFRUKYTIfsU&feature=share

# PHS NEWS



### Go Falcons!

#### **Boys Varsity Lacrosse**

April 8	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Sherwood HS at PHS	
April 10	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at PHS	
April 12	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at Wheaton HS	
April 18	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Einstein HS at PHS	
April 19	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Rockville HS at Rockville HS	
Girls Varsity La	crosse		
April 8	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Sherwood HS at Sherwood HS	
April 10	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at Damascus HS	
April 12	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at PHS	
April 18	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Einstein HS at Einstein HS	
April 19	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Rockville HS at PHS	
	Ap Ap	<ul> <li>Varsity Track/Field</li> <li>ril 17 3:30 p.m. PHS vs. Seneca Valley HS at PHS</li> <li>ril 23 3:30 p.m. PHS vs. Northwest HS at Quince</li> <li>oril 23 3:30 p.m. PHS vs. Quince Orchard HS at PHS</li> </ul>	e Orchard HS
Varsity Baseb	all		
April 6	1:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Seneca Valley HS at PHS	
April 9	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Rockville HS at Rockville HS	
April 11	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Einstein HS at PHS	
April 13	2:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Blair HS at Blair HS	
April 16	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at Wheaton HS	
April 18	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Watkins Mill HS at PHS	
Varsity Softba	all		
A	1 20		

-		
April 6	1:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Seneca Valley HS at PHS
April 10	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Einstein HS at PHS
April 13	2:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Blair HS at Blair HS
April 17	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Rockville HS at Rockville HS

#### **CoEd Varsity Volleyball**

	ty voncyban	
April 8	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwood HS at Northwood HS
April 10	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at PHS
April 12	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Walt Whitman HS at Walt Whitman HS
April 15	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS at PHS
April 19	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at Wheaton HS
Boys Varsity Volleyball		
April 8	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwood HS at Northwood HS
April 10	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at PHS
April 12	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Whitman HS at Whitman HS
April 15	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS at PHS
April 19	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at Wheaton HS

### Call **John Poole!**

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



Principal - Mrs. Boucher Technology & Arts IRT & Grade Level Coordinator - Mr. Grotenhuis **English IRT** Social Studies IRT Math IRT

Special Education IRT

And Ask for...

Science IRT

**Assistant Principal - Ms. Lemon** 

- Mrs. Lindsav
- Ms. Nachlas
- Mr. McKay
- Mrs. Callaghan
- Mrs. Turnbull

Counseling - (Ms. Kitts, Secretary)

Mrs. Arnold - Mrs. Hardv

**JPMS Fimberwolves** η 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