



April 25, 2014

John Poole's BACK POCKET

A Thought for Today:

"The best way to predict your future is to create it."

—Abraham Lincoln

Another Happening Week!

What an action-packed week we have had! We started off with the make-up day on Monday, and attendance was high. Thanks for valuing what we do and sending so many kids in to work! We had our last Town Hall meetings of the year with each grade level, so we've set the expectations and reinforced the focus – by holding on to their Purpose, Respect, Integrity, Dedication and Effort, our kids will finish this somewhat topsy-turvy school year strong.

Tuesday launched the after school Algebra HSA review sessions. If your child is currently taking Algebra, I strongly recommend he or she come to the remaining three sessions. There's a flyer a little farther on in this issue. The main point, though, is that the HSA is a graduation requirement, but it doesn't align perfectly with the new Algebra curriculum – *and* we lost two weeks of instruction to bad weather this winter. Our amazing math teachers have put together these sessions to get the students ready for success on the HSA. Even strong students will benefit, and there's no cost for these test prep classes.

Thursday was an adventure for all! 8th graders came looking sharp in their professional clothes for another wonderful Career Day. The speakers were great and the kids showed their PRIDE all day long. There will be pictures in next week's *Back Pocket*, but I can't wait that long to say a huge THANK YOU to the many generous parents who made this ambitious event so successful. Some folks presented their careers; some donated and/or managed breakfast and lunch for the presenters; some put together the registrations and materials handed out – it was an awesome display of collaborative effort on behalf of our kids.

Seventh graders spent Thursday at UMBC touring the campus and getting a taste of college life. Not only was the experience wonderful for the kids, but the weather was perfect and the bus drivers praised our kids effusively for their manners and pleasant cooperation. Thanks also to the wonderful parents who went along on the trip! It's super helpful to have additional adult support, and it's a pleasure to show off to our families how beautifully the kids work together.

Next time you come by or even drive down Tom Fox, I know you will be impressed with how beautiful our school looks. 6th graders worked outside Thursday observing Earth Day by planting and cleaning up the grounds under the direction of our generous parents Amy and Garth Seely. The Seelys have been donating their time and materials for years to teach our kids how to care for our environment responsibly. Thanks to these great folks!

And today we celebrate students on the Honor Roll! The week has been a full one.

Finally, a personal note: After many years in the school system, I will be retiring this summer. There is a process for staff and parents to have input into the selection of the new principal. A letter went home today explaining how to participate; the same letter is reproduced farther along in this issue. It all starts with a meeting Monday evening, May 5, here at school. I hope you will be able to attend. We all want the very best for JPMS, so your input is important. 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!

Ajda Connell

Elizabeth Parise

Madeline Stempler

Ryan Haddaway

Kaeli Potts

Kalie Terragno

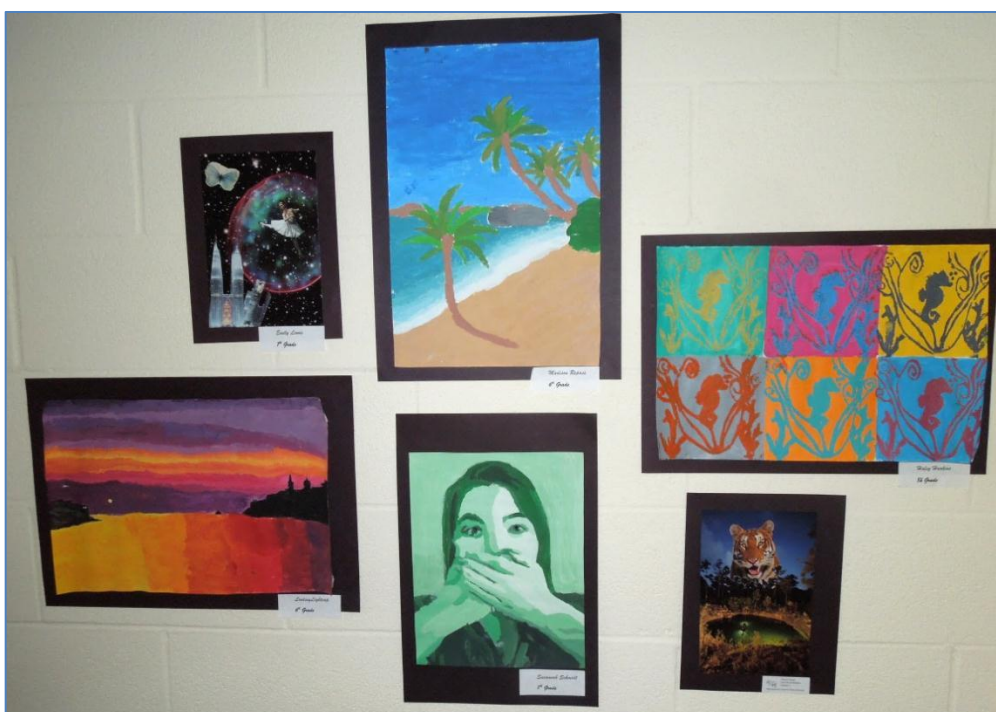
Jackson Krasche

Alison Ransom

John Wasilik



Artists of the Month



Again this month I am delighted to have a wonderful display of student artwork gracing my office!

Madison Repass and **Lindsey Lightcap** painted gorgeous Impressionist Landscapes. **Emily Lewis** and **Allison Foppe** created Surreal Collages that make you wonder and laugh at

the same time. **Haley Harkins** made a colorful Pop Art Print and **Carson Rauschenberg's** Clay Character is amazing!

Three Monochromatic Portraits show tremendous skill and personality. **Susannah Schmidt's** is in my office and **Lucan Stroud's** and **Hannah Bush's** are on the main office bulletin board. I hope you will get a chance to drop in this month to get a look at these works of art!



Third Quarter Grade 8 Honor Roll

Jordan Allentuck
Christian Andrade
Diana Arias
Dorothy Ballmann
Peter Barry
Ellen Beal

Morgan Bliss*

Eleanor Boyle*

Quinlan Brenholtz

Charles Brill

Hannah Bush

Taylor Byrd

Cassandra Campbell

Gabriella Capobianchi*

Rebecca Carin

Killian Carney

Paris Copeland

Perry Dominici

Dylan Drain*

Nicole Duran

Erik Eklof

Elise Evans

William Field

Carter Fry

Nahbuma Gana*

Erin Green

Victoria Gruber

Ryan Haddaway

Brooke Hamm

Bridgette Hammett*

Haley Harkins*

Jessica Hawkins

Mathew Hill

Franklina Hovor

Chloe Insalaco

Clara Jackson*

Jennifer Jang

Ryan Johnston*

Ryan Kasten

Raymond Kinzie

Yaniv Kovich

Jackson Krasche*

Estephan Lavanderos

Kelliann Lee*

Hannah Leibrand

Ryan Lockett

Erin Lyons

Sean Lyons

Rachel Macairan

Maddison Magaha

Darrell Marshall

Jacob Marshall

Trevor McFall

Kelsey McLoughlin

Colin Metz

Catherine Meyer

Michelle Moraa

Katheryn Morrow

MacKenzie Mullett

Amirah Paksima

Elizabeth Parise

Stephanie Parker

Gavin Prebilio

Renee Quaranta

Robert Queen

Carson Rauschenberg

Michelle Reyazuddin*

Julia Rich

Tyler Roy

James Royal

John Sartschev

Susanna Schmidt

Molly Sherman

Nicole Slebodnik

Bostyn Smith

Paige Solans

Melanie Staszewski*

Lucas Stroud

Paul Szafranski Jr

Byrce Taylor

Colin Thomas

Madeleine Thompson

Kathleen VanHouten

Donald Vogel

Cassandra Volkle

Triana Wallace

Dalton Webber*

Amelia Williams

Roger Yerger

**** = Straight A's***

Third Quarter Grade 7 Honor Roll

Alexis Abrigo

Anna Akdag

Jocelyn Alvarez

Aidan Auel*

Nicholas Beaton

Darian Berger

Dwight Bevley

Gwendolyn Boe*

Gabriella Brooks

Rachel Bupp*

Madeline Burdette*

Jessica Carey

Nicolas Cayzedo

Lauren Chilla*

Vincent Chim*

Kristina Chu*

Grace Clark

Julia Corfman

Carla Dacanay*

Bryce Davis

Meghan Dower*

Michael Edwards, III

John Foster

Lita Fraley

Travis Fraley
 Garrett Fultz
 Ethan Gaddis
 Vivian Galentine
 Julianna Garrett
Daniel Geehrens*
 Isabel Gibbs
 Matthew Gimbrere
Allison Haddaway*
Hannah Helfert*
 Trent Hinkson
 Foster Holmquist
Maureen Hueting*
 Harrison Johnson
Bubby Jones*
 James Kavanagh
 Andrew Kindel
Eve Knudson*

Mackenzie Kovach
 Elena Lavanderos
 Lukas Lightcap
 Casandra Maier
 Josephine Mallow
 Roshawna Marshall
 Diego Mejia
 Benjamin Miller
 Ryan Moats
 Sarah Mullikin
 Julia Pavlick
Madison Peek*
 Nathaly Portillo Rivas
 Wilhelmina Prasada Rao
 Marie Quaranta
 Taylor Ramirez
Alison Ransom*
 Brennah Ringling

Franco Rivas
Megan Roldan*
Katrina Rowe*
 Finn Ryan
 Colin Savage
Cade Seely*
 Nikolas Sofelkanik
 Nicholas Spano
 Kalie Terragno
 Samantha Thomas
 Clark Trone
Samantha Varona*
 Tiara Ventura
 John Wasilik
 Ashley Windsor
 Begonia Zapata

**** = Straight A's***

Third Quarter Grade 6 Honor Roll

Sydney Allentuck
 Samuel Allgood
 Remy Anderson
 Marcus Antolli
 Michael Ballew
 Juan Barron
 William Batres
 Kyra Bertolini
Bradford Blair*
Samuel Bodmer*
 Cheyanne Bowen
 Shaun Bolten
Madeline Brode*
Olivia Burdick*
 Jacob Carin
 Cameron Carney
 Fernando Carranza
 Daniel Chen
 Shirley Chen
 Matthew Contreras
 Jessica Convers
 Holly Cross

Mary Deffinbaugh
 Timothy Dominici
 Connor Dorsey
Sabrina Edwards*
 Adam Eisenhardt
 William Ennis
Joseph Esser*
 Zachary Fedders
 Nicholas Ferguson
Caroline Field*
Maxwell Fisher*
 Madison Folk
 William Fry
Alyson Gotlewski*
 Leo Guillette
Oriol Guitart*
 Chase Hanscom
Colin Hemingway*
 William Hicks
 Chase Hillegas
Julianna Hitchcock*
 Brianna Hobbs

Owen Horrigan
 Tess Insalaco
Eleanor Jensen*
 Andrew Johnson
 Jacob Kasten
 Ariana King
 Josie Kolb
 Benjamin Kovich
Kenna Krueger*
 Makayla Lemarr
Lindsey Lightcap*
Michelle Lu*
Celine Macairan*
 Christopher Mantz
Saloni Maskey*
 Eamon Murphy
 Patrick O'Connell
Rachel Onderko*
Zachary Onderko*
Emma Parker*
 Krishna Ponnappalli
 Andrew Poore

Kaeli Potts
 Holly Raines
 Jordan Rendzio
 Madison Repass
Heather Robinson*
 Jacob Roe
Maya Rosenbaum*
 James Savage
 Emily Singleton
 Connor Sorrell
Anya Speck McMorris*
 Lillian Staples
 Colin Staszewski
 Madeline Stempler
Jenna Stroud*
 Kelsey Szafranski
Cole Taylor*
Ethan Tievy*
Rachel Tievy*
 Lucas Trythall
 Jessica Volkle
**** = Straight A's***

Black-eyed Susan Book Party



Once again this year, Mrs. McIntyre sponsored our school's participation in the Black-eyed Susan Awards program.

Librarians in the state of Maryland nominate books each year in four different categories: Picture Books, books for students in Grades 4-6, books for students in Grades 6-9, and books for High School students.

JPMS students are encouraged to read as many of the nominated titles as possible during the contest, and special awards are presented as they work their way through the list. Some kids finish all 10 of the Grades 6 – 9 nominees, but reading just three qualifies you to vote for your favorite. Voting took place at a pizza lunch in the media center (with decorate-your-own cookies for dessert!) We'll learn which books were chosen by the students of Maryland in May. For more information and complete lists of nominated books, visit <http://maslmd.org/about-bes/>.

Don't Miss the Musical!

The cast and crew of this year's spring musical, *Cinderella*, are hard at work perfecting the show which opens on the stage at Poolesville High School in just two weeks!

You and the whole family will love this version of the classic fairy tale. The singing, dancing, costumes, staging – everything! will be sure to delight.

This year there will be three performances – Friday and Saturday nights, May 9 and 10, and a special Saturday Matinee with a chance to meet and greet the cast.

As usual, the Drama Club invites you to bring donations of non-perishable food items to the show in support of the WUMCO pantry.

Donations are not required, but helping our neighbors is always a good idea. See you at the show!



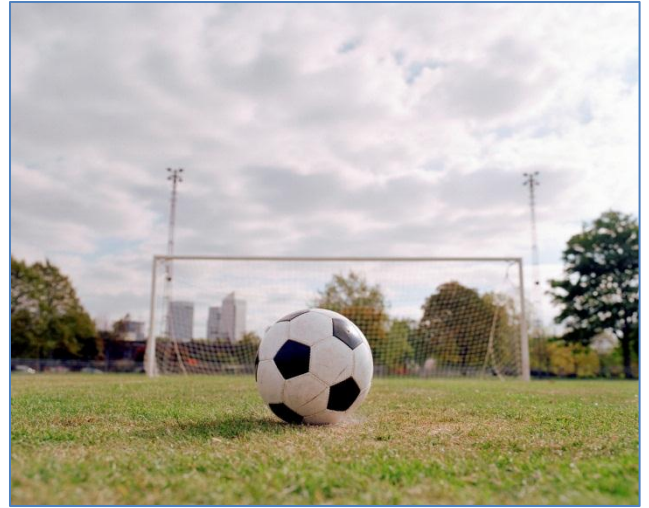
Soccer News

After an exhausting battle in which both teams gave their everything to score, our Timberwolves fought hard but lost 0 - 1 against Baker Middle School. If you weren't there, you missed an incredible match!

Baker scored at the last minute of the game with a counter-attack. Our team dominated all the positions (defense, midfield & offense), controlling the ball most of the time. A big cheer for our players! Every game they are showing progress after hard work at practices!

The girls' soccer team continued their winning ways on Thursday with a 1 - 0 victory against Baker Middle School. **Kelliann Lee** scored the only goal of the game off a shot attempt by **Sarah Mullikin**.

In previous games, the offense has been the driving force in their victories. Against Baker, the defense led the way. **Tori Gruber** continues to play outstanding soccer in the goal, stopping every shot she has faced this year, including a penalty shot early in the game. **Alli Haddaway**, **Sammie Thomas**, **Begonia Zapata**, and **Vivian Galentine** played significant roles in keeping the pressure off the goalie. Next Tuesday, the girls play at home against Clemente.



Economics in the Classroom

Seventh grade students of Ms. Bedard, Mr. Mattingly, and Mr. McKee participated in a trade simulation designed to illustrate the differences between a traditional and market economic system.

In groups, students first constructed a chain out of paper strips according to rules of a traditional society.



Then they competed in a market economy, which allowed each group to build and design the chain links that would best appeal to their student customers.



Red Ribbon Week Was Great!

Here are some of the best pictures of our kids having fun as they learn about substance abuse and commit themselves to making good, healthy choices in the future.



Wearing Red and Blue to
Show our Purpose



Showing we're intent on Following Our Dreams by wearing pajama pants.





**Crazy footwear
shows we'll
SOCK It to Drugs!**



On Thursday we Teamed Up Against Drugs...



**And on Friday, we
Let Our Colors Shine!**



Thanks for a great week!

Award Winning Writers



We are proud to announce that two JPMS students have received awards in the Friends of the Library's *Celebrating Diversity through Creative Writing* Contest!

6th grader **Saloni Maskey** took first place with her story "Going Back Home," and 8th Grader **Paige Solans** received an Honorable Mention for her essay "Friends with Diversity."

Congratulations to these fine student authors!

Friends With Diversity

By **Paige Solans**

Coming from a small fishing town in Massachusetts, I have spent my life surrounded by people exactly like me. Everywhere I turned, there was another Portuguese or Italian sharing with me some facts of their culture, facts I have heard countless times before. I was never exposed to any different ethnicities—that was, until I moved to Poolesville. Once I set foot in the town boundaries, I was flooded with unique and colorful lifestyles, all partnered with unique and colorful people. Already, I have friends whose parents come from countries I can barely pronounce. Just having friends of different races isn't enough, though; I have to do my part and be the one who starts asking the questions.

Back in New England, my closest friend was exactly like me, brown hair, brown eyes with an Irish heritage. Here, the diversity between me and my best friend, Franklina, is almost enough to pull us apart. I already knew that she was African, but when I started asking questions about her culture that dipped below the surface, I got to know her a lot better. The 'interview' consisted of Frankie getting really enthusiastic explaining about her background, and pretty soon, her little sister joined in, spewing facts at me. For almost an hour, I got the pleasure of learning all about how amazing Ghannan chocolate is, how they dance for almost every occasion, and even how they produce "really bad movies." In the midst all the facts (Did you know Ghana was the first African country to gain independence?), Frankie even put down her iPod! I never really knew that listening to someone else talk about their background could do something other than put me to sleep.

My friend Taylor is part Native American, Michelle is Muslim, Stephanie is Spanish, and Anna is Turkish. The amount of diversity in my English class would probably be equal to my entire county back in Massachusetts. But the question is, why do we need diversity? Sometimes the 'safer' route seems to be surrounding ourselves with people like us, but that is not the road that extends our horizons. A variety of cultures provides us with new ideas about growth and change in our community. The person next to me with the equivalent ethnicity and the equivalent background will probably have the same basic thinking, too. Now, imagine what ideas someone coming from a whole new way of life and culture might have. They will probably be a far cry from the same bland understandings we are so accustomed to.

Going Back Home

By Saloni Maskey

That one summer I treasure in my heart but cry to even think about. I am a natural born Nepali-American girl, meaning my parents are both Nepali, but I live in America even though I wasn't born here. Being a Nepali is not easy, especially when I am expected to be very ladylike and proper. All this starts at age seven for most girls, sometimes even younger. I am proud to be Nepali, and through my words, you will see why.

My Nepali culture has always been important to me. Before I explain my summer, let me tell you about Nepal itself. Nepal is a poor country, but from what I've seen, I know in my heart that it is filled with beauty and bright colors with designs that you can never forget. Nepali people celebrate holidays that are very festive with dancing and delicious food.

About every three or four years, my family and I go back to Nepal. As I set my feet on Nepali ground and head through the gate of my family's house, I can feel curious eyes staring. I look up to see tears pouring out of my grandmother's eyes. She takes my hands and looks at the tall, tan-skinned girl, trying to find that little girl who was always so quiet. My grandpa smiles, and I remember myself as I was as a little girl. Oh, how I love being back home.

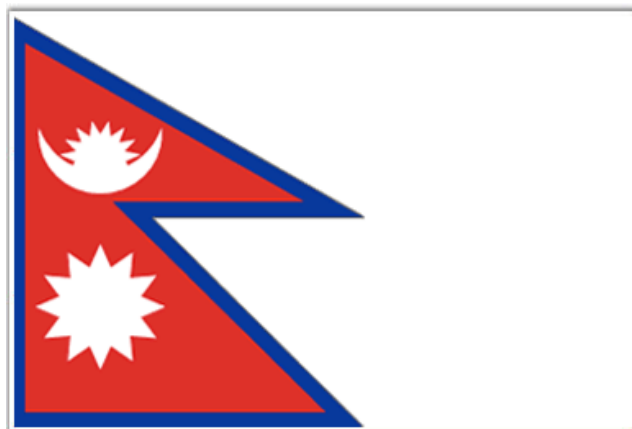
Stars are what I love most out of the whole trip. My grandfather and I always stay up and look at them through our terrace. One night that summer, he told me, "You'll be leaving soon, and I know that, but every night, look up, Saloni, and remember the stars as a sign of Nepal." His words got me thinking: would I ever forget who I am? Sometimes I try so hard to fit in that I am not even sure who I am anymore, but that night, I promised myself I would always remember that I am an American girl with Nepali blood.

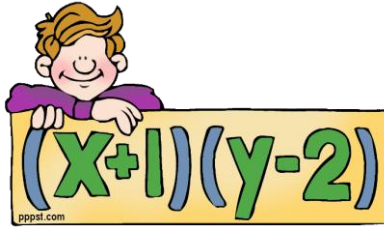
Writing has always calmed me down. Whenever I go through something tough, I let my feelings pour out into words. My grandfather has always been very typical but funny about the way I write. I kept a journal that summer and wrote every night, and just so he and I could spend more time together, I would make him check what I wrote, and, like usual, he would correct my terrible grammar and spelling. "I don't understand why your writing is so slanted!" he would say, and my grandmother would always be there by us and laugh. I say I am working on making it straighter but never actually mean it. Words come easy to me, but there's always a moment where I take my time to think up the right words. "Take your time and think about it" may not be famous, but they are words I have come to notice because of my grandfather.

Six months have passed, and I am trying to hold back tears from my eyes. I embrace my mother, and she, too, cries "I know...I'm going to miss them too." I will never forget that summer, and I will always remember to be proud of my culture and that I will always be a Nepali girl no matter where I am in the world.

Remember, Saloni...

***Never
End
Peace
And
Love***





Algebra 2 Jumpstart

Our Geometry students are some of our Best and Brightest students at JPMS; we want them to have every opportunity to be the Best and Brightest at Poolesville High School, too! All Honors Geometry students are being invited to attend a *Summer Program* that will give them 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 two weeks **at PHS** (Poolesville High School, room # TBD). The first day of class is Monday, July 7th and the last day is Friday, July 18th. The class will be from 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM. You will need to have your own transportation to attend this program. There *may* be afternoon transportation if there are other summer programs at our location.

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 207 as soon as possible and no later than Wednesday, April 30th. There will be a small fee of \$10 for this great opportunity to jumpstart your Algebra skills (checks made payable to JPMS).

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

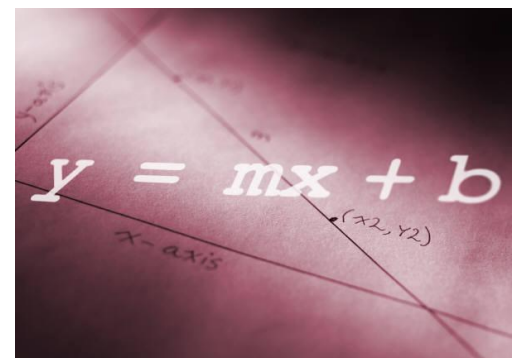
Student Name: _____

2014-2015 Math Course: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

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

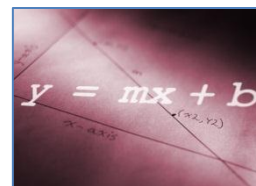


IF YOU MISSED THIS WEEK, IT WOULD STILL BE A GREAT IDEA TO START
THE SESSIONS IN WEEK TWO!

Attention Algebra Students!!



HSA is coming soon!



You must pass the test to graduate high school!

The math teachers have prepared a 4 week review class to help you get ready for the HSA. We encourage **every** Algebra student to attend.

Remember you must pass this test to graduate high school.

Complete the form below to indicate if you will attend on Tuesdays or Wednesdays. Return it to your math teacher by **Tuesday, April 22**.

Name _____

Circle the classes you will be attending: Tuesdays or Wednesdays

You must attend all 4 days so that you can prepare for the HSA.

Tuesday classes will be held
afterschool on:

Tuesday, April 22nd

Tuesday, April 29th

Tuesday, May 6th

Tuesday, May 13th

Wednesday classes will be held
afterschool on:

Wednesday, April 23rd

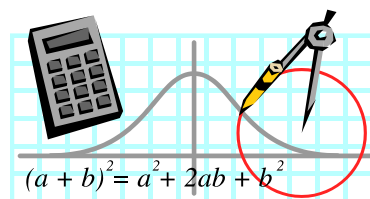
Wednesday, April 30th

Wednesday, May 7th

Wednesday, May 14th


Parent signature _____

Parent phone number _____



Student Service Learning (SSL) Tips

Give a Little Time...Make a Big Difference

- Meaningful SSL experiences can prompt students to redirect initial career paths toward more challenging and fulfilling opportunities.
- Students involved in school-sponsored clubs and organizations that include a *service learning* project may earn SSL hours for their involvement in the supervised project in a public place outside of the instructional day.
- Find answers to questions that are frequently asked regarding the SSL program by clicking on <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl/pages/faq.aspx>. It's all there!
- Plan now for a summer that includes *service* and *learning*. Choose organizations and opportunities that have a  graduation cap icon by them on the website www.mcpsssl.org OR get approval of MCPS Form 560-50 *Individual SSL Request* in advance of any service.
- Stay well informed to *Serve* and *Learn* within the MCPS SSL guidelines. Know program details..and follow them!

This Year's Superintendent's SSL Award Winners

Congratulations to the following 6th and 7th grade students who are winners of the Superintendent's Student Service Learning Award for 2013-14 school year. These students have completed their required graduation requirement of 75 or more hours by April 1, 2014.

Eighth grade winners will be announced and honored at their June 12th awards assembly.

Kyle Burns
Aidan Auel
Nicholas Beaton
Grace Bodmer
Gwendolyn Boe

Madeline Burdette
Carla Dacanay
Julianna Garrett
Allison Haddaway
Lukas Lightcap

Josephine Mallow
Madison Peek
Brennah Ringling
Franco Rivas
Begonia Zapata

Student Volunteers Are Needed

for the Special Education Summit: **Leading the Way Today, Partnering for Tomorrow** held on May 17 from 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Rockville High School. Students will be handing out materials and doing other support jobs. An MCPS staff member will be onsite to provide supervision and to sign the MCPS Form 560-51.

For more information, visit **Leading the Way Today, Partnering for Tomorrow** at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy/default.aspx?id=358292>

Earn SSL at the 8th Annual Walk for Water

Local nonprofit [Amman Imman: Water is Life](#) invites you and your family to the 8th annual [A Walk for Water](#), a global service event on Saturday, May 10th at the Locust Grove Nature Center, just steps from the Montgomery Mall in Bethesda, Maryland.

A Walk for Water supports Amman Imman's activities to drill deep wells and provide sustainable development for indigenous communities in West Africa.

This is a great family event and a perfect way to teach your children, family and friends about water scarcity, which is a growing global issue. In the Azawak region of Niger and Mali, children walk 35 miles to bring water home to their families. At [A Walk for Water](#), students and families will walk 3 miles in solidarity with the children of the Azawak.

[Pre-Register Online Today](#), and help raise funds! For every \$25 raised by April 30, your name will be entered into a drawing to win a Kindle Fire (must be present to win). *Registration rates will be higher for onsite registration.*

Program Details

[A Walk for Water](#) includes an interactive pre-walk festival highlighting the nomadic cultures of the Azawak, aimed at educating students as global citizens with live music from West Africa, hands-on activities for all ages, and cultural demonstrations. Food, refreshments and merchandise will be available for purchase.

The event qualifies as SSL hours for MCPS students.

Schedule

Saturday, May 10th, 10:30 am - 2:30 pm

- **10:30 am - 12:00 pm** Azawak Cultural Festival
- **12:00 pm** Pre-Walk Rally and drawing to win Kindle Fire
- **12:30 pm** 3 mile Walk begins, 1 - 2 hours depending on your pace

Location

Locust Grove Nature Center: 7777 Democracy Blvd in Bethesda, MD.

Event Information is available online at www.ammanimman.org/walk

For questions and additional information, contact Debbie Kahn, (240) 418-1143 or debbie@ammanimman.org.

Coming Attractions!

Watch for pictures from Career Day, the college field trip and Earth Day in next week's *Back Pocket!*



CITY OF GAITHERSBURG REGIONAL EVENTS



Gaithersburg Book Festival Saturday, May 17 2014

Multiple Shifts: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm



Volunteers needed to assist in author pavilions and escort authors to book signing area; book signing line assistants; VIP lounge assistant; greeters; information booth attendees; dress up as book characters; help with children's activities – and much more! **ADULT VOLUNTEERS ARE REALLY NEEDED!** Register to Volunteer at www.gaithersburgbookfestival.org.

Celebrate! Gaithersburg Day Sunday, June 8, 2014

Shift: 12:00 Noon – 5:00 pm and Set-Up



Volunteers needed to greet Festival goers; information booth attendees; assist with children's activities; decorations and set-up. **VOLUNTEERS MUST BE 14 YEARS OLD.** To sign up email: Sheila Bouley at sbouley@gaithersburgmd.gov include your name, address, email and age.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MARYLAND
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org

April 24, 2014



Dear John Poole Middle School Parents and Guardians:

As you may know, Ms. Charlotte Chakan Boucher, principal of John Poole Middle School, is retiring effective July 1, 2014. We want to thank her for her years of service and contributions to John Poole Middle School and wish her only the best in her new adventures.

In keeping with the procedures outlined by the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), my office is preparing the hiring process to name a principal at John Poole Middle School. A parent meeting will be held at the school on Monday, May 5, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. in the media center, to explain the process and to obtain parent/guardian input regarding the leadership qualities and characteristics that stakeholders believe are important for the principal.

An interview panel will be formed to include representatives from parents/guardians, school staff, and MCPS administration. Parents/guardians will be given an opportunity to indicate interest in participating on the interview panel at this meeting.

Please feel free to contact my office at 301-315-7370 if you have questions about the meeting or the selection process. I invite your active participation in this very important task, and I look forward to your involvement and working with you.

Sincerely,

Darryl L. Williams, Ed D.
Associate Superintendent of Middle Schools

DLW:mmh

Copy to:

Dr. Schiavino-Narvaez

Office of School Support and Improvement

850 Hungerford Drive, Room 100 • Rockville, Maryland 20850 • 301-315-7377

John Poole Middle School



Spotlight on...

WeatherBug

**Our weather station is up
and running**

- Jennifer Kasten - President
- Neile Whitney - Vice President
- Hisaho Blair - Secretary
- Michelle Hobbs – Treasurer
- Wendy Gotlewski – Membership & Volunteers

Questions? Ideas? Opinions?
**Getting in touch with your PTSA is as easy
as sending an email message!**

JPMSPTSA@gmail.com

Membership and volunteer forms are available at the JPMS website:

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

It is not too late to join the JPMS PTSA. Membership provides a great way to get involved and to keep in touch.

Directories have arrived and have been distributed. If you paid for a membership and did not receive a directory, please contact us a.s.a.p.

It is very easy to join. All the information is found on the JPMS homepage under the parents tab. If you have any questions please email Wendy Gotlewski, membership coordinator at goflewski@msn.com.

WeatherBug Is Here!

The JPMS WeatherBug station is fully installed and operational just in time for the severe weather that so often comes in the spring. We are delighted to invite everyone to take advantage of this great community service purchased through the generosity of our PTSA and the Town of Poolesville! Just click on the link below and you can download the free desktop application that allows you to have real time weather information from JPMS and around the world.

<http://cms.weatherbug.com/Affiliate/Download.aspx?partner=googlesem&channel=standardcampaign&gclid=CO-94ajS2L0CFeMSOgodgVEA6A>

You may also want to download the new mobile weather app specifically designed in partnership with **Little League Baseball and Softball** for players, coaches and their families. The free app, called **Little League WeatherBug**, focuses on early warnings for lightning and severe storms, as well as information on dangerous heat and humidity. It is aimed at helping officials better decide when to postpone games and practices – but it's just as useful for the rest of us who worry about the safety of our kids.

Available for Apple and Android devices, this app is free and easy to use. You can watch a video that explains how it works at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NEHtSxybos>

Here's the link to the press release about the new app.:

<http://www.earthnetworks.com/MediaCenter/PressRelease/tabid/118/newsid513/634/Little-League-and-WeatherBug-Launch-iOS-and-Android-App-to-Promote-Lightning-and-Weather-Safety/Default.aspx> . Get it free at Google Play or the iTunes Apps Store.

Thanks to Michelle Hobbs for locating this new and useful app!



Noteworthy

Intramurals: Speed and Agility Club

Tyler Bierly, a former JPMS student and Poolsville High School Football Coach, will be coming to JPMS and running a Speed & Agility Club for all JPMS students. The club starts on Tuesday, April 29 and will be held every Tuesday and Thursday after school through the month of May. In order to participate, students must have a signed permission slip, have paid their ECA fee and be academically eligible. Permission slips can be picked up in the boys and girls locker rooms. If you have any questions, please contact the Intramural Coordinator, Mrs. Gerrie.

2014 MCPS Summer School Program

The MCPS summer school program helps keep thousands of students engaged and learning over the summer. Registration for the 2014 high school and elementary school summer school programs has begun. For high school programs, MCPS students should register through their school-based counselor. Programs will be offered at four locations: Montgomery Blair, Paint Branch, Watkins Mill and Thomas S. Wootton high schools. The first session runs from June 23 – July 11; the second session runs from July 15 - August 1. Registration ends on June 9 for session I and June 25 for session II. **Late registrations will not be accepted.** Visit <http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/extendedhours/summerschool/high.aspx#sites> for more details on the registration process.

For elementary programs, parents must use the mail-in registration form that is available on the elementary summer school website at <http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/extendedhours/summerschool/elementary.aspx>



Mark your calendars and strap on your helmet! Bike to School Day is Wednesday, May 7!

Schools around the county are encouraged to join schools across the country to celebrate National Bike to School Day 2014. Bike to School Day events raise awareness of the need to create safer routes for bicycling and walking and emphasize the importance of issues such as increasing physical activity among children, pedestrian safety, reducing traffic congestion and concern for the environment. The events build connections between families, schools and the broader community. Your school community can do a ride, hold an assembly about bike safety, show videos on your morning announcements, etc. You can do what works best for your school! For planning ideas and to register your school to participate please visit www.walkbiketoschool.org.

. The program will be offered at Beall, Fields Road, and William Tyler Page elementary schools. The session starts on **July 8** and ends **August 1**. The registration period closes on June 20.

Parents should contact the Summer School Coordinator at their child's school for information on the Middle School Program, which is operated independently of the elementary and high school programs.

Programa de Escuela de Verano 2014 de MCPS

El programa de escuela de verano de MCPS ayuda a mantener a miles de estudiantes involucrados y aprendiendo durante las vacaciones. Las inscripciones ya comenzaron. Para los programas de las escuelas secundarias, los estudiantes deben inscribirse a través del consejero escolar de su escuela. Los programas se ofrecerán en cuatro localidades: las escuelas secundarias Montgomery Blair, Paint Branch, Watkins Mill, y Thomas S. Wootton. La primera sesión es desde el 23 de junio hasta el 11 de julio; la segunda sesión es desde el 15 de julio hasta el 1ro. de agosto. La inscripción cierra el 9 de junio para la Sesión I y el 25 de junio para la Sesión II. **No se aceptarán inscripciones después del plazo límite.** [Visite la página de Internet de escuela de verano para escuelas secundarias para más detalles sobre el proceso de inscripción.](#)

Para los programas de las escuelas elementales, los padres deben usar el formulario de inscripción que se envía por correo y que está a disposición en la [página de Internet de la escuela de verano para las escuelas elementales](#). El programa se ofrecerá en las escuelas elementales Beall, Fields Road, y William Tyler Page. La sesión comienza el **8 de julio** y finaliza el **1ro. de agosto**. El período de inscripción cierra el 20 de junio.

Los padres deben comunicarse con el Coordinador de la Escuela de Verano en la escuela de su hijo/a para obtener información sobre el Programa de Escuelas de Enseñanza Media (Middle School Program), que opera independientemente del Programa Regional de Escuela de Verano.

MCPS Special Education Summit Set for May 17

MCPS parents, staff and community members are invited to the Special Education Summit, *Leading the Way Today, Partnering for a Better Tomorrow*. The summit will take place on Saturday, May 17, 8:15 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Rockville High School, 2100 Baltimore Road in Rockville.



The summit will feature resources and workshops for families of students with disabilities. Families will also have an opportunity to meet representatives from many MCPS offices and Montgomery County agencies and non-profit organizations.

To register for the summit, visit www.mcpsparentacademy.org or call 301-517-5940. The summit is free. Childcare, a light breakfast, and box lunches will be provided.

Cumbre de Educación Especial de MCPS Programada Para el 17 de Mayo

Los padres de estudiantes de MCPS, el personal, y los miembros de la comunidad están invitados a asistir a la Cumbre de Educación Especial, *Abriendo el Camino Hoy, Colaborando Para un Mejor Mañana*. La cumbre tendrá lugar el sábado, 17 de mayo, de 8:15 a.m. a 2:30 p.m., en Rockville High School, 2100 Baltimore Road, en Rockville.

La cumbre presentará a un conferencista de nivel nacional, recursos, y talleres para familias de estudiantes con discapacidades. Las familias tendrán también la oportunidad de conocer a

representantes de muchas oficinas de MCPS y agencias y organizaciones sin fines de lucro del Condado de Montgomery. Para inscribirse en la cumbre, visite www.mcpsparentacademy.org o llame al 301-517-5940. La cumbre es gratis. Se proveerá servicio de cuidado infantil, un desayuno ligero, y cajas de almuerzo.

Immunization Requirements for Students Entering 7th Grade

There are new school immunization requirements for the 2014-15 school year affecting students entering the 7th grade this fall. Your child will not be allowed in school without these vaccinations next fall. All children entering the 7th grade must have received a vaccination known as Tdap as well as a meningococcal meningitis vaccine. Call your health care provider to discuss if your child has had these vaccines or schedule an appointment for your child to receive a Tdap and meningococcal vaccination. Provide a copy of your child's updated immunization record to the Health Room at your child's school as soon as possible.



Another Opportunity at Calleva

Poolesville's own Steven McKone is now the Director of the River School at Calleva, where an adaptive paddling school for the physically disabled is about to begin. Teaming up with Team River Runner (TRR), a non-profit that works with disabled veterans, the new program will teach disabled children how to kayak, canoe, or use a Stand-up Paddleboard (SUP.)

Starting on April 27, the Calleva office on Riley's Lock Road will host free open houses on Sundays from 2:00 – 5:00 PM. If you would like to volunteer at an open house, or if you know of disabled children who could participate, please email Steveo@calleva.org for information.

MCPS GIVE BACKpacks



The MCPS GIVE BACKpacks campaign is under way and needs your help to raise funds to purchase backpacks filled with school supplies for MCPS students in need. Last year, MCPS parents, staff, and community members generously donated more than \$100,000 to the GIVE BACKpacks campaign, and nearly 15,000 students in 41 schools received backpacks filled with school supplies. We're hoping to serve even more students this year. A backpack filled with school supplies only costs \$10, and donors have the option to sponsor an individual student, a classroom, a grade level, an entire school, or a cluster of schools. Additional information is available at www.mcpsgivebackpacks.org or by calling 301-309-MCPS.

College Prep Fair

A free College Preparation and Scholarship Fair will be held 1-4 p.m. on Saturday, May 10, at the Universities at Shady Grove, 9630 Gudelsky Drive in Rockville. The fair is intended for students in grades 6–10 and their parents. Attendees will have an opportunity to meet various colleges and universities, learn about financial aid and scholarship opportunities and attend informative breakout sessions. There also will be a tour of the USG campus. Space is limited, so be sure to register early! Registration can be completed at www.mcpsparentacademy.org. Call 301-279-3100 for more information.

Feria de Preparación Universitaria a Realizarse el 10 de Mayo

Habr  una Feria Gratuita de Preparaci n Universitaria y Becas el d a s bado, 10 de mayo, de 1:00 a 4:00 p.m., en Universities at Shady Grove, 9630 Gudelsky Drive, en Rockville. La feria est  dirigida a los estudiantes de los Grados 6–10 y sus padres. Las personas que asistan tendr n la oportunidad de conocer a representantes de varios colegios universitarios y universidades, aprender acerca de ayuda financiera y oportunidades de becas, y asistir a sesiones informativas en grupos separados. Tambi n se ofrecer  un recorrido por las instalaciones de USG. El espacio es limitado, se recomienda inscribirse, proceso que se puede completar ingresando a la p gina virtual de la [Academia Para Padres de MCPS](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy/workshops.aspx). Comun quese al 301-279-3100, para m s informaci n.

Parent Academy Offers New Workshops

The spring season of the MCPS Parent Academy has begun! The Parent Academy helps equip parents with the tips and tools they need to help their children succeed. All of the workshops are free and are held at schools and locations throughout Montgomery County. Don't miss sessions on college entrance exams, effective parenting strategies, cybersafety and social media, and many more topics. Childcare and interpretation services are provided at all classes. The schedule of workshops is available at

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy/workshops.aspx>



Parent Academy

Giving parents tips and tools to help their children succeed in school

La Academia Para Padres Ofrece Nuevos Talleres

La sesi n de primavera de la Academia Para Padres de MCPS ha comenzado! La Academia para Padres ofrece a los padres una variedad de talleres que les permitir  apoyar a sus hijos para que triunfen en la escuela. Todos los talleres son gratuitos y se realizan en escuelas a trav s del condado. No se pierda las sesiones en ex menes de admisi n al colegio, destrezas eficaces de crianza infantil, ciberseguridad, los medios sociales, y muchos otros temas. Se ofrece servicios de cuidado infantil gratuito e interpretaci n de idiomas en todas las clases. El horario de los talleres de la Academia Para Padres est  disponible en l nea en

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy/workshops.aspx>

Are You Up to the 5th Grade Challenge?

Join the MCPS Educational Foundation for a night of fun and entertainment at one of three “Are You Up to the 5th Grade Challenge?” events in May. The events will test local celebrity contestants on their knowledge of 5th Grade facts. Students from dozens of MCPS elementary schools will be participating. Proceeds will directly support the mission of the MCPS Educational Foundation, which provides grants, programs, and scholarships that improve educational opportunities for MCPS students. The “5th Grade Challenge” events will be held:



Tuesday, May 6, 7 p.m., at BlackRock Center For the Arts, 12901 Town Commons Drive in Germantown,

- **Tuesday, May 13, 7 p.m.**, at AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center, 8633 Colesville Road in Silver Spring
- **Wednesday, May 21, 7 p.m.**, at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive in Rockville.

Public Input Sought on Policy Guiding Facility Improvements Funded by Contributions

MCPS is seeking public input on Policy CNE: *Facility Improvements That Are Not Funded with Montgomery County Revenues*, which guides facility improvements that are paid for through contributions. The Board of Education's Policy Management Committee is scheduled to review the policy during the 2014-2015 school year and public input will be an important part of the process in determining what changes will be considered.

The MCPS Division of Long-range Planning will hold three community meetings to gather public input. The dates and locations of the meetings are:

- Monday, May 5, at Seneca Valley High School, 19401 Crystal Rock Drive in Germantown
- Wednesday, May 7, at Springbrook High School, 201 Valley Brook Drive in Silver Spring
- Thursday, May 8, at Winston Churchill High School, 11300 Gainsborough Road in Potomac

All meetings will be held in the school media center from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information, visit <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/policy/pdf/cne.pdf>.

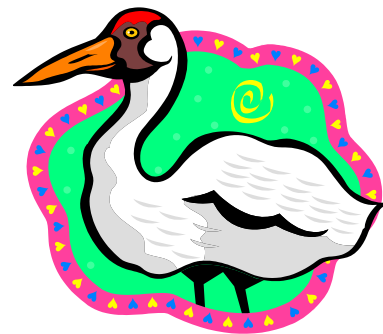
May Is the Month of the Whooping Crane

The National Wildlife Visitor Center invites your family come out this May to celebrate the Whooping Crane, one of North America's most endangered birds. ADMISSION IS FREE. There are many fun family activities to enjoy, including:

- "Story Time" by author Mary Beth Mattison - May 3 at 1:00 PM and May 17 at 11:00 AM
- Tours of the Whooping Crane Observatory on selected Sundays from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM

(Registration is required: call 301-497-5887 for reservations)

- Whooping Crane Tiny Tots Programs - May 4 at 11:30 and May 5th at 10:30 AM. (Registration is required. Call 301-497-5887 for reservations.)
- Whooping Crane Puppet Show on May 10 at 10 AM and 11:30. No reservation required.
- Whooping Crane Presentations by Dr. John French, Research Manager at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center - May 10; by Brooke Pennybacker of Operation Migration on May 17; and by Ken Lavish, Volunteer Crane Technician on May 31. (All of these talks begin at 1:30 PM)
- Whooping Crane Migration Game - May 31 from 10:00 AM to 12 Noon
- See the entire calendar of activities at [http://www.friendsofpatuxent.org/images/May_2014_Calendar_of_Events\)MWCM.pdf](http://www.friendsofpatuxent.org/images/May_2014_Calendar_of_Events)MWCM.pdf)



The National Wildlife Visitor Center is located at 10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop, Laurel, MD 20708, just off Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rte 197. See detailed directions at <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/patuxent/VCllocation.html>. Call 301-497-5887 for information and special accommodations.

After School Activities

RecXtra has returned to John Poole this year with a full schedule of after school activities. Students need to listen to the morning announcements or follow them [online](#) at our website to be ready to participate in the programs that interest them.



If you have any suggestions for programs you would like to lead or to see offered at JPMS please contact Mrs. Crutchfield at [Winessa R Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Winessa_R_Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org). Activities begin after school at 2:30 p.m.

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

Algebra (Tuesday)

Boxing Club (April 29; May 1, 6, 8, 13 & 15)

Homework Club (Tuesday)

Drama Club (Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday)

Leo Club (Wednesday – Dates TBD)

Jazz Band (Wednesday)

Newspaper Club (Wednesday)

Rocketry Club – **New!** (May 1, 15 and 29)

Softball Practice (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

Spa Days (May 3)

Summer 2014 Youth Programs at Montgomery College!

To see our full list of exciting classes or for more information, please visit our website at www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth or call Youth Programs at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917

Asistencia en Español Disponible

Over 200 Fun-Filled
Classes for
Grades K-12

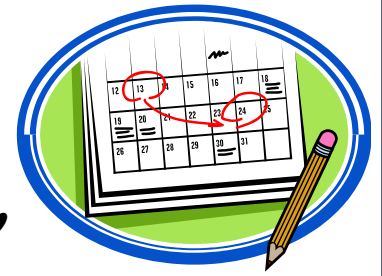
Art, Computer Graphics, Cooking, Math, Music,
Reading, Robotics, Science, Sports, Theatre,
Web Design, Writing, Yoga,
AND SO MUCH MORE!!!

Registration
is Open!
Class sizes are limited.



Save the Date!

Important events you won't want to miss!



April 26	American Odyssey Relay Race (JPMS is a team transfer station)
May 2	Grade 8 Field Trip – Oakley Cabin & Underground Railroad
May 3	Saturday School
May 5	Parent Meeting to discuss selection of a new principal 6:30 PM in the JPMS Media Center
May 5 – 9	School Staff Appreciation Week
May 7	Bike to School Day
May 8	Grade 7 Env. Science Field Trip (Arthur Sherwood Center)
May 9 & 10	Drama Production (<i>Cinderella</i>) at PHS May 9 – 7:00 PM May 10 – 1:30 PM Matinee and 7:00 PM)
May 12-14	MAP-R Testing
May 15-16	Make-up Days for MAP-R Testing
May 16	Interims Mailed
May 16	Last Day for Students to Charge Lunch

JPMS Soccer Schedule

April 29	JPMS vs Clemente Girls at JPMS (2:50 p.m.); Boys at Clemente (3:15 p.m.)
May 6	JPMS vs Rocky Hill Boys at JPMS (2:50 p.m.); Girls at Rocky Hill (3:15 p.m.)

Don't Miss the Spring Musical!

May 9 – 7:00 PM

May 10 – 1:30 PM, 7:00 PM

Performed on the Big Stage at
Poolesville High School



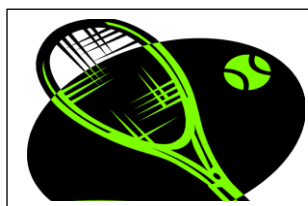
PHS NEWS

Go Falcons!



**Congratulations to Poolesville High School
Named the #1 High School in Maryland
For the 4th year in a row
by the *Washington Post*!
Awarded a Gold Medal by
US News and World Reports as one of the
Top 100 High Schools in the US!**

Poolesville High School Spring Sports Schedule



Boys Varsity Tennis

4/26/14	10:00 AM	PHS vs. Seneca Valley HS at Seneca Valley HS
4/29/14	3:30 PM	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS at PHS

Co-Ed Varsity Track & Field

4/29/14	3:30 PM	PHS vs. Damascus HS at Damascus HS
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Varsity Softball

4/26/14	10:00 AM	PHS vs. Springbrook HS at Springbrook HS
4/28/14	5:15 PM	PHS vs. Sherwood HS at Sherwood HS
5/2/14	3:30 PM	PHS vs. B-CC HS at PHS
5/5/14	5:15 PM	PHS vs. Gaithersburg HS at Gaithersburg HS



Varsity Baseball

4/26/14	1:30 PM	PHS vs. Springbrook HS at Springbrook HS
4/28/14	3:00 PM	PHS vs. Sherwood HS at Sherwood HS
5/2/14	3:30 PM	PHS vs. B-CC HS at PHS
5/5/14	5:15 PM	PHS vs. Gaithersburg HS at Gaithersburg HS

CoEd Varsity Volleyball

4/28/14 7:00 PM PHS vs. Churchill HS at Churchill HS

Boys Varsity Volleyball

4/28/14 5:15 PM PHS vs. Churchill HS at Churchill HS



Girls Varsity Lacrosse

4/30/14	5:15 PM	PHS vs. Richard Montgomery HS at PHS
5/2/14	7:15 PM	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Northwest HS
5/5/14	7:15 PM	PHS vs. Churchill HS at PHS

Boys Varsity Lacrosse

4/30/14	7:00 PM	PHS vs. Richard Montgomery HS at PHS
5/2/14	5:15 PM	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Northwest HS
5/5/14	5:15 PM	PHS vs. Churchill HS at PHS



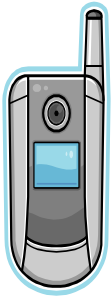
POMS and Cheerleading Tryouts will be held on:

**May 27, May 28, and May 29
from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
in the Poolesville HS Main Gym**

If interested, stop by the main office at JPMS to pick up a packet.

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. Eisenberg

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**

