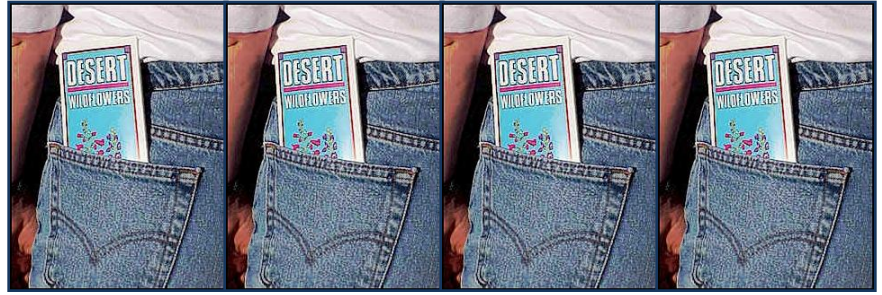


# John Poole's BACK POCKET



May 11, 2012

**A Thought for Today:**  
**Mothers can look through a child's eyes and see tomorrow.**

- Reed Markham

## Next Week Is Red Ribbon Week

Our action-packed spring is racing forward! We are already half-way through the final quarter of the school year and there is still a lot going on at JPMS! I will be publishing an updated end-of-year calendar each week from now until June 8, when this year's final issue of the *Back Pocket* will come out. Be sure to keep an eye out each Friday for the newsletter so you don't miss any of the news and activities.

This week was Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, and our amazing PTSA Staff Appreciation Committee, led by Anne Donovan, made us feel very special with daily treats. Next week is Red Ribbon Week, when we rededicate ourselves to making wise choices about substance abuse. Each day there will be a special lesson linked to one of the core classes, and students can show their support by dressing to match each day's theme.

Red Ribbon Week is a great time to talk with your children about your views and expectations related to controlled substances such as tobacco, drugs and alcohol. We observe this event in the spring instead of the fall when other schools hold their Red Ribbon events, because we think younger children in our community are more likely to be exposed to these issues when the weather is nice enough to bring them outside and away from home, and their older siblings and neighbors are abuzz with the excitement of prom, graduation, field parties and the like. It's a natural lead-in to conversations about which you may feel a little awkward if you ask about Red Ribbon activities next week. Our kids need to know how we want them to behave and that we are there for them as they begin to assert more independence and, therefore, face more challenges. No lesson we deliver here at school could ever be as powerful as the lessons you teach at home!

Thanks, and have a lovely Mother's Day this weekend!

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Monday</b><br><b>May 14</b>    | <b>Theme: Reach for your Heroes</b><br><b>Dress: Wear Red, White and/or Blue</b><br>Students sign pledge in 1 <sup>st</sup> period and receive a Red Ribbon bracelet.   |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br><b>May 15</b>   | <b>Theme: Reach for your Finish Line</b><br><b>Dress: Wear Crazy Shoes and Socks</b>  |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>May 16</b> | <b>Theme: Reach for your Goals</b><br><b>Dress: Wear Team Jersey</b>  |
| <b>Thursday</b><br><b>May 17</b>  | <b>Theme: Reach for Success</b><br><b>Dress: Dress for Success</b><br>Assembly with motivational speaker Mike Hall  |
| <b>Friday</b><br><b>May 18</b>    | <b>Theme: Reach for the Sky</b><br><b>Dress: Rainbow Colors</b><br><div> Red—Respect                      Green-Gracious<br/> Orange- Outgoing              Blue-Brilliance<br/> Yellow-Youthful                Indigo-Integrity<br/> Pink-Purpose </div> |

# 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!



Jordan Belski

Dylan Landis

Caroline Mullins

Melissa Hall

Jessica Martinez

Triana Wallace

Keegan Hemingway

Tyler Morningstar

Breanna Young



## Don't Miss the Musical!

## You're going to love it!

**The cast and crew have been working their hardest for months to make this beloved show a great success.**

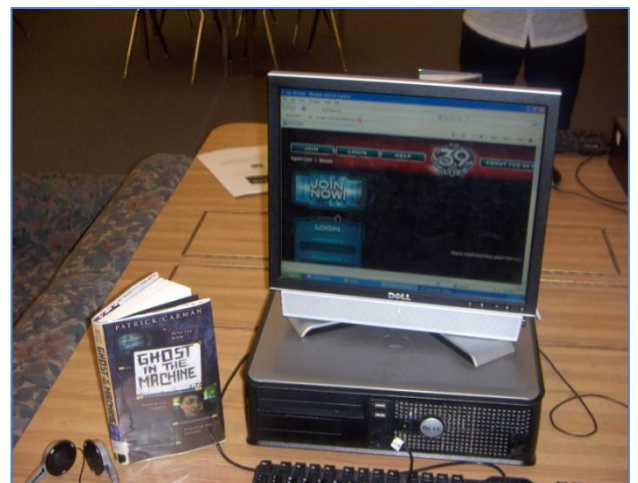
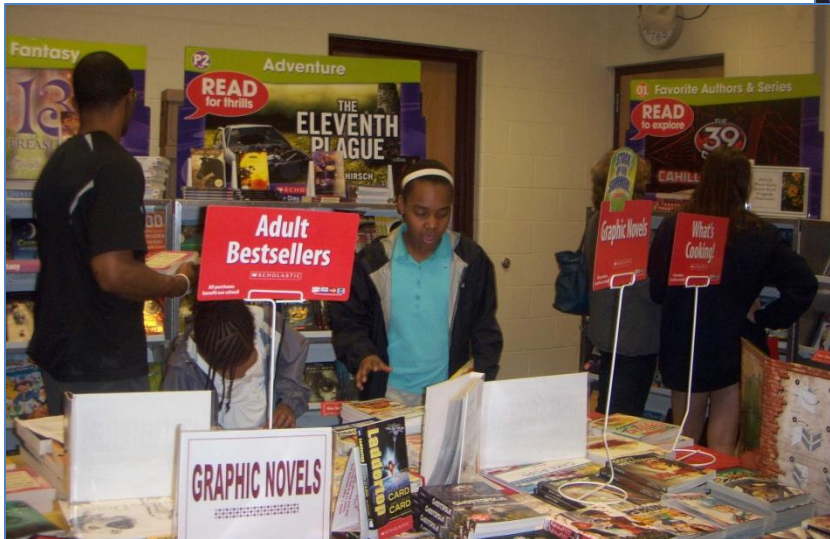
**Bring the whole family to see Little Orphan Annie leave the hard knocks life behind for happiness in a new home.**

**Friday and Saturday nights, May 11 & 12  
7:00 PM**

**Saturday Matinee – 1:30 PM**



# Literacy Night – Fun for All







Thanks to the wonderful staff and student helpers who came out to make Literacy Night and the Book Fair so much fun!

Special thanks to **Morgan Harney** for taking these pictures.

Are your kids e-readers? Here's a site with lots of interesting book apps for smart phones and tablets. They go from pre-readers to high school. Each app is described and rated. None are very expensive, and many have exciting extra features. Check it out!

[http://www.common sense media.org/mobile-app-lists/best-book-apps-kids?utm\\_source=newsletter050312\\_OLD&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=ADVICE&utm\\_campaign=PARENT](http://www.common sense media.org/mobile-app-lists/best-book-apps-kids?utm_source=newsletter050312_OLD&utm_medium=email&utm_content=ADVICE&utm_campaign=PARENT)



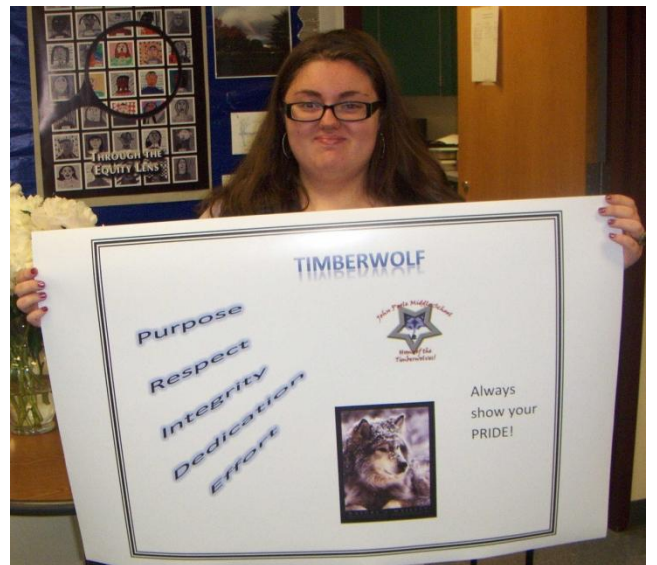
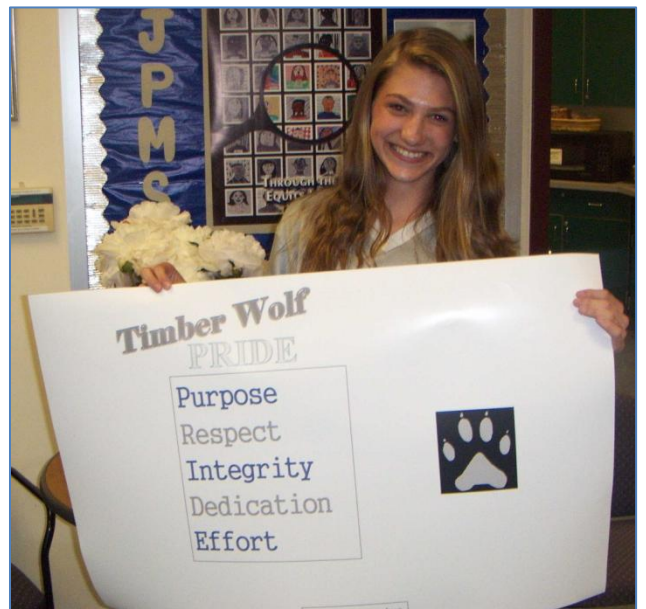


# Our PRIDE Is Showing!

Ms. Rosendorf's technology class worked on posters to promote our core values of **Purpose, Respect, Integrity, Dedication** and **Effort**. They did such a good job that we had large posters made to place in the permanent frames located around the building.

Here are some of the designers with their work. Take a look the next time you are in the building! We have more talented creators than we have frames, so we'll be rotating posters every few weeks.

Thanks, Mr. Boettner, for taking these pictures!



May 7, 2012

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

We are writing to share our collective concern about the devastating impact the so-called "doomsday" budget would have on our three school systems and Maryland's hard-earned standing as being "first in education." As you prepare to gather for a special session of the General Assembly on May 14, we urge you to fully restore the Geographic Cost of Education Index (GCEI) and other formula funding for public education.

Our districts, combined, educate more than one-third of Maryland's students and, within that, nearly two-thirds of the African American and Hispanic students in the state and more than half of the students who qualify for free and reduced-price meals. The elimination of \$93 million in GCEI funding would disproportionately harm our students, our ability to continue to narrow achievement gaps for those students who are minorities and poor, and student performance for the state as a whole.

Under the state's Thornton formula in the past five years, our districts have received a majority of GCEI dollars that the state distributes to create equity in funding across jurisdictions. The GCEI offsets funding in districts where the cost of living—and, by extension, the cost of educating children—is higher. During those same five years, our three districts combined have shown significant student achievement gains—gains that have improved the educational and life prospects of tens of thousands of children and gone a long way to moving us toward financial and educational equity for our kids. These gains have also contributed heavily to Maryland's continued status as having the best public education system in the country.

For instance, Maryland is rightfully proud of its position as a national leader in Advanced Placement participation and performance. Since 2007, the number of AP exams taken by Maryland students has increased 35 percent. Our three districts, combined, have accounted for about half of the state's AP growth, having increased the number of AP exams taken by more than 40 percent since 2007.

And the GCEI funding has been critical to making this success happen; most importantly, it has been essential to our ability to deliver the education our students need and deserve. The elimination of the GCEI would be a huge setback in the gains our students have made.



Collectively, our three districts would sustain 73 percent of what would be a \$128.8 million cut to public education.

If we are to ensure that our students graduate from high school prepared for the workforce of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and if we are to grow the pool of workers trained to enter the fast-emerging STEM professions in our state, then we cannot retreat on education funding. If we are to make good on our commitment to educating children equitably, regardless of their geographic location, we must maintain, and even increase, our investment in education. As our state's leaders, you have demonstrated your commitment to education time and again. We ask you to maintain that commitment to our students during the special session.

Sincerely,



Andrés A. Alonso, Ed.D.  
CEO, Baltimore City Public Schools



William R. Hite, Jr., Ed.D.  
Superintendent, Prince George's County Public Schools



Joshua P. Starr, Ed.D.  
Superintendent, Montgomery County Public Schools

## Please Stay Informed!

The letter above from the superintendents of MCPS, Prince George's County Public Schools and Baltimore City Public Schools outlines the reasons the coming special legislative session on the Maryland state budget is so important to our children.

All of us can call, write, or email Governor O'Malley and the members of the House of Delegates and the State Senate to let our voices be heard!

# Student Service Learning Notes

- Service performed during the second semester can be turned in any time during the semester. The latest date to turn in documentation of second semester service is the Friday before exams begin (June 1, 2012). Senior hours are due before that date.
- All forms required to document SSL are found on the website [www.mcpsssl.org](http://www.mcpsssl.org) or at any middle or high school. Completed forms become part of each student's record.
- All service for which SSL hours are awarded must be performed in a public place. The only exception to this is students may earn SSL hours by making bag lunches at home and delivering them to a county homeless shelter. SSL hours are awarded based on the number of meals delivered.

## Summer SSL Planning

Since the summer planning is underway for many of you, perhaps SSL is on that list of "to-do's."

For all activities that required *additional* preapproval (MCPS Form 560-50) during the school year, those expire on May 31. If more volunteering with the organization will be taking place in June or beyond, please complete the form 560-50 *Individual SSL Request* (the updated preapproval form), and submit it to Mrs. Arnold in early-mid May (NOW!)

**For those working on political campaigns**, you will need two (2) preapprovals. ALL CAMPAIGN WORK REQUIRES PREAPPROVAL. There are no exceptions, and this includes those running for school board to those running for president. The first preapproval form is for hours performed now through May. The second preapproval form is for hours performed June through the end of the elections. Both preapproval forms may be submitted at the same time, just be sure to indicate the relevant dates in Section 1 of the form.

The MCPS Form 560-50 *Individual SSL Request* and MCPS Form 560-51 *SSL Activity Verification* may be downloaded from our website. The Counseling Office at JPMS also has a supply on hand.

Any questions, please contact Peg Arnold 301-972-7980 in the counseling office or visit the JPMS website for SSL information.



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@mcpssmd.org](mailto:Winessa_R_Crutchfield@mcpssmd.org)

Homework Club -- Tuesday and Wednesday  
Drama Club – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday  
Soccer – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

PYSO – Thursday  
Jazz Band – Wednesday

**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!!**

**WE LOVE OUR PTSA STAFF  
APPRECIATION COMMITTEE!**

**THANKS!**



# VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME and JOIN the PTSA

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\[11%20ptsa%20volunteer%20form.pdf](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/poolems/parents/13[11%20ptsa%20volunteer%20form.pdf)

Many thanks to our out-going officers:

- 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

## Congratulations to Our Officers for 2012 – 2013!

President: Jennifer Kasten  
Vice President: Dawn Albert  
Secretary: Dreama Hemingway  
Treasurer: Wendy Roldan  
MCCPTA Reps: Vacant

New PTSA officers were appointed at the May 8 PTSA Meeting.

## All JPMS 8th graders are cordially invited to attend the 8th Grade Promotion Celebration

**"An Evening on the Boardwalk"**  
**Friday, June 8th; 6-10 p.m.**  
**Poolesville Baptist Church**  
**Dinner served "Boardwalk Style"**  
**Music by DJ Valaree Dickerson**  
**Games; Door Prizes; Photos; Design your own T-shirt**

**Dressy attire: No jeans, shorts or T-shirts (Boys, jackets are NOT required)**

**Tickets - \$20 per student. Invitations will be mailed home with details on how to RSVP.**

**Parents, the Dance Committee is trying to collect 60 door prizes to make the night even more memorable for our children. Please send cash, gifts, or gift cards valued from \$5 to \$25 for the dance to the school office clearly marked "for the 8th Grade School Dance" or mail them to Karen Micheals, 19723 Selby Ave, Poolesville, MD 20837 before June 1. Thank you!**





everychild.onevoice.®

Montgomery County  
Council of PTAs



## A Community Action Forum on Teen Drinking/Substance Abuse

*presented by MCCPTA'S HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE*

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Carver Educational Services Center (CESC) Auditorium

850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville

A Discussion About Awareness, Prevention, Intervention, Recovery, School Policy

### *Panel includes*

- Board of Education Members Shirley Brandman and Mike Durso
- Montgomery County Police Captain Tom Didone & School Resource Officers
- MCPS Principals: Alan Goodwin - Whitman HS, James Koutsos - Clarksburg HS, Leroy Evans - Magruder HS
- Montgomery County Deputy State's Attorney Steve Chaikin
- Montgomery County Treatment Specialist Robert Roth, Coordinator of Adolescent Behavioral Health - Addiction & Mental Health Center MedStar Montgomery Medical Center
- Representatives from (P.R.O.T.E.C.T.) Parents Reaching Out to Educate Communities Together Mr. Greg Lannes, Mr. Greg Richter, and Ms. Taylor Gibson

*Moderated by Ed Clarke, Retired MCPD Captain/District Commander and former Director of Safety & School Security for MCPS*

Following a brief presentation from panel members, the panel will be opened for questions and discussion as to real life impacts, risks, and ills of substance abuse.

We look forward to an informative evening!!

Montgomery County Council of PTAs thanks you for all that you do!







# Announcing –

## 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. There is even a Circus Camp!

Brochures are available in the Counseling office at JPMS. For more information and details, call Sharon Wolfgang (240) 567 – 7264 or Karla Espinoza (240) 567 – 7917 at the WDCE Youth Programs office, or go to <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthsummer.html>.

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!!**

## Time to Start Thinking About College

*PrepTalk*, a biannual newsletter, is a partnership project between MCPS and Montgomery College. Each issue provides helpful information for parents and students regarding college preparation and readiness.

Topics covered in *PrepTalk* include such important subjects as preparing for college admission and placement tests, planning academic schedules, earning college credit while in high school, attending college fairs, applying for on-the-spot college admissions, and planning for key deadlines. Current and past issues of *PrepTalks* can be found online at

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/careercenter/resources/preptalk.aspx>

## Student Auto and Computer Sale

Don't miss the final student-run sale of the school year! Students in the MCPS Automotive Body and Technology programs and Network Operations programs will sell refurbished cars and computers from 9:00-11:00 a.m. on **Saturday, May 12** at Thomas Edison High School of Technology, 12501 Dalewood Drive in Silver Spring. The items for sale are donated, refurbished and tested by students as part of their classroom studies.

For information on the cars, call Mike Snyder at 301-929-2164. All cars are Maryland State Inspected and reasonably priced. For information on the computers, call John Brewer at 301-929-6975.

Complete pricing information will be available in early May on the Automotive Trades Foundation and Information Technology Foundation websites. Proceeds will benefit the Montgomery County Students Automotive Trades and Information Technology Foundations.

## Ms. Vega in NEA Today

Ms. Vega was recently featured in an article published by the national Education Association newsletter NEA Today. You can read her comments at <http://neatoday.org/2012/03/19/parents-and-educators-agree-better-assessments-less-high-stakes-testing/#respond>

# The Blake High School Musical Theatre Institute

*presents*

## A Musical Show Experience

*for Students in Grades 5 - 9*

July 2– 27, 2012

Added/Second Session of

**AUDITIONS: June 2nd**



### *Information*

on the Blake HS Website or at  
[www.blakestagecompany.org](http://www.blakestagecompany.org) or  
[Michel\\_D\\_D'Anna@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Michel_D_D'Anna@mcpsmd.org)

**Audition Times:** 2-4 pm on Saturday June 2nd

**Performance Dates:** July 26 and 27 at 7:30 pm

**Daily Classes** from 9 am – 3 pm

### *Institute Features*

Training in Musical Theatre

Acting, Vocalizing, Dance

Stage Design, Performance Skills

### *Institute Staff*

Professional Instructors

### *Audition Requirements*

A comedic or dramatic monologue of 60 seconds

An upbeat song or ballad in your vocal range

We will have materials for those who need  
assistance.

Institute is just as good for Beginners as well as  
Advanced Students

### *Institute Participation*

Open to students from public and private  
schools entering Grade 6-9 in the fall

**Low Tuition Rate**

NOTE: Depending on role requirements, alternative  
musicals may be substituted to accommodate the  
casting of this musical experience.



## CONGRATULATIONS!

The girls' soccer team got back to winning ways this week against Rocky Hill MS. The Lady Timberwolves battled the elements for a 3-0 victory. **Breanne Hall** paced the offense with a goal and two assists. **Allie Nevius** and **Hailey Khalil** added to the scoring with by scoring a goal apiece. **Bailee Smith** had the last assist of the game. Defensively, **Carley Kenly**, **Delaney Cecco**, **Alessandra Molina**, and **Kristen Hepburn** all played well. The midfield of **Casey Harkins**, **Emily Yinn**, **Rebecca Wallace** and **Alison Huber** helped to provide the offensive pressure all game long. **Kristen Darragh** continued her strong play in goal. The girls finish up their season next Tuesday against Baker MS.

## Go Lady Timberwolves!

Bands:

SoulBox; Smoke n'  
Mangos; Jay  
Summerour &  
Memphis Gold with  
Eric Selby  
[www.littlebitablues.com](http://www.littlebitablues.com)  
[www.memphisgoldblues.com](http://www.memphisgoldblues.com)

Beer, BBQ,  
Vendors, BBQ  
contest and  
More!!

Saturday,  
May 19  
1:00 PM to  
6:00 PM



Whalen Commons  
Rain or Shine

For more info: <http://www.poolesville.com/springfest.html>

# Save the Date!

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



Here are some end-of-year dates to keep in mind as we head toward the close of the 2011 – 2012 school year.

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| May 11:   | Spring Musical – Annie, Jr. (7:00 p.m. in the APR)   |
| May 12    | Spring Musical – Annie, Jr. (1:30 p.m. Matinee and 7:00 p.m. in the APR)   |
| May 14-18 | Red Ribbon Week  |
| May 17:   | Quarter 4 Interim Reports mailed   |
| May 18:   | All library books due<br>Last day students may charge lunch. Please clear any outstanding balance on your cafeteria account!                                   |
| May 23:   | Algebra High School Assessment   |
| May 24:   | Preliminary locker clean-out. Start taking home personal possessions and donate extra school supplies to the Drive for Supplies<br>Last day for activity buses |
| May 28:   | Memorial Day holiday   |
| May 29:   | Book Check Day – students bring all books to class   |
| May 30:   | PHS graduation   |
| June 4:   | Review Day; last day to bring back packs to school   |
| June 5    | Exams periods 3 & 7  |
| June 6:   | Exams periods 2 & 5  |
| June 7:   | Exams periods 4 & 6  |
| June 8:   | Exam period 1 and make-ups<br>Grade 8 Awards Assembly<br>Final locker clean-out: Last Day for Locker Access<br>8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Dance                     |
| June 11:  | Class Activities   |
| June 12:  | Last day for students; 8 <sup>th</sup> grade orientation at PHS  |

**The End  
Is Near!**



# PHS NEWS

*Go Falcons!*



Thursday, May 17  
NHS Awards Night (6:00 p.m.)  
Senior Awards Night (7:00 p.m.)

Friday, May 18  
PROM  
followed by Post Prom at PHS

Wednesday, May 23 - Evening of the Arts 5:00 p.m.

Graduation: Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at Mt. St. Mary's College

CoEd Varsity Track and Field

May 12

8:00 a.m.

MCPS B Meet at Wootton HS



## POOLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

### POMPON TRYOUTS 2012 – 2013

PHS Pompons are a dedicated group of exceptional academic/athletic students who support and represent Poole'sville High School's outstanding reputation.

#### CLINICS – PHS New Gym

Tuesday, June 5 – 3:30 to 5:00 PM

\*Wednesday, June 6 – 3:30 to 5:00 PM

Thursday, June 7 – 3:30 to 5:00 PM

#### TRYOUTS – PHS New Gym

Friday, June 8, 2012

3:30 to 6:00 PM

Tryouts begin at 4:00 PM....SHARP

**There are no alternative dates for tryouts. No exceptions.**

# 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**  
**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**

