

John Poole's **BACK POCKET**



May 25, 2012

A Thought for Today:

**All we have of freedom, all we use or know –
This our fathers bought for us long and long ago.**

- **Rudyard Kipling**

End of the Year Awards

All year long, we recognize our wonderful students for their many accomplishments in and out of the classroom. Because school is out when report cards are ready to go home, we have no fourth quarter Honor Roll celebration, but we make sure awards are distributed before we head out for the summer.

Of course, the biggest honors are accorded our departing 8th graders. They have a special ceremony to which parents are invited. Younger students get their awards here at school in front of their classmates.

Here are the end-of-year awards for which *all three grades* are eligible;

- **Perfect Attendance** (No days missed during the school year)
- **Straight A's** (All A's during the first three marking terms of the year)
- **Subject Awards** (Exemplifies the school vision; personifies JPMS PRIDE; GPA is among the top 5% of the class in that subject)

These awards are given *only to 8th graders*:

- **Perfect Attendance** (No days missed for all three years)
- **Straight A's** (All A's in Grades 6 and 7 as well as during the first three marking terms of Grade 8)
- **Presidential Award** (GPA greater than 3.5 for every marking period in middle school through Quarter 3 of Grade 8)
- **Academic Improvement Award** (Significant overall improvement in GPA from Quarter 1 through Quarter 3 in 8th grade; exemplifies the school vision; personifies JPMS PRIDE)
- **Service Learning Award** (All students who have earned more than 100 SSL hours by April 30 of Grade 8)
- **Odd Fellows Award** (Two students who have earned the most SSL hours through April 30 of Grade 8)
- **American Legion Award** (Honor, Leadership, Patriotism, Scholarship, and Service; nominated by all staff and selected by staff vote)

The highest accolade we accord our 8th graders is **The Linda Fiore Memorial Award**. Named for the first principal of John Poole Middle School, this award focuses on the qualities Mrs. Fiore established through her leadership as hallmarks of our school. The honoree must have attended JPMS all three years and consistently demonstrated academic growth, effective interpersonal skills, effective use of technology, and perseverance in overcoming obstacle(s) and/or problem-solving. Selection is made by nomination and vote of the staff.

As we get ready to celebrate Memorial Day, I want to send a special thank you to the families in which loved ones are serving our country, have been members of our armed forces, or have been lost in the line of duty. No award can ever fully acknowledge the price you have paid to keep us free and strong.

Have a great Memorial Day!

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!



Madison Carrillo

Brian Jacobs

Darrell Marshall

Allie Nevius

Louis Potts

Rebeckah Trainor

Kathleen Van Houten

Marc Whitehouse

Camdin Wolin



STAR Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to 6th grader **Franklina Hover** and 7th grader **Kenydi Cross**, both of whom have been selected for recognition by the STAR Scholarship Foundation.

STAR stands for Stand Tall and Reach. In 1992, the STAR Foundation was created by Paul Peck to help African-American/black students in MCPS achieve their higher education goals. Students with strong academic performance balanced with commitment to service and family responsibilities can earn financial incentives in middle school and larger scholarship awards in high school to assist them in reaching their educational goals. Franklina's award of \$25 and Kenydi's of \$100 will be presented at a ceremony in June.

Don't Miss the Spring Concert!

- **The chorus will be singing and dancing to your favorite tunes from the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s!**
- **The Concert Band will be playing some of John Williams' most well-known works from *Star Wars*, *E.T.*, *Jaws*, and more!**
- **The 6th grade band will be playing "Lord of the Dance," an exciting piece called "The Tempest," and more!**
- **Plus, lots more by the JPMS Orchestra and the JPMS Jazz Band! It's going to be a fun evening of great music. See you there!**

Thursday, May 31
7:00 PM
JPMS Gym

Important Lessons + School Spirit Red Ribbon Week



We spend a lot of time talking to kids about the many choices they have to make as they grow up. It can be pretty heavy conversation, too – especially when the topic is as serious as substance abuse. At the same time, we know that adolescents can reach emotional overload and then shut down if the messages are too intense. Kids invest when they feel part of a group and learn when they participate in some way in the lessons. That's why we incorporate spirit days into Red Ribbon Week. The message is consistent and tough-minded, but a spoonful of sugar really does help the medicine go down.

Here's a glimpse into student engagement in last week's Red Ribbon Week spirit days. Thanks to Mrs. Phillips for taking the pictures!



Monday's Theme: Reach for your Heroes. Wear Red, White and Blue.

**Tuesday was Reach for your Finish Line Day.
Wear crazy socks and shoes.**



Wednesday's Theme: Reach for your Goals. Wear a team jersey.



On Thursday, we Reached for Success...



...and heard Mike Hall talk about making our goals realities. Thanks to the Town of Poolesville for the grant that made this cluster-wide program possible!



On Friday, we reached for the Stars, and dressed like a Rainbow!





SSL



All SSL Hours Jan through May Turn in by June 1st!

- 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 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.
- 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 NOW!
- Those working on political campaigns 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.
- Any questions, please contact Peg Arnold 301-972-7980 in the counseling office or visit the JPMS website for SSL information.

Drive for Supplies

By: Georgia Micheals

The 8th grade has a special project to collect school supplies for under-privileged kids in MCPS. The *Drive for Supplies* project serves many functions. *Drive for Supplies* collects used but still usable school supplies such as pens, pencils, crayons, notebook paper, glue, rulers, notebooks, etc. Last year *Drive for Supplies* collected 15,021 pounds of materials across MCPS and benefited 65 families.



There will be boxes in each Social Studies classroom as well as other places in the school. There will be locker clean outs on May 24th and June 8th. Contribute to helping others.

Plan Ahead: Order Next Year's PE Uniform Now

Dear Parent/Guardian:

If your child has lost or outgrown this year's PW uniform, the following information will give you a head start on what is needed for PE classes in the fall.

All students will need the following materials:

1. Black gym shorts and gray T-shirt. These should be marked with the student's name with a permanent marker.
2. Sneakers with laces. Shoes that slip on are not permitted.
3. Sweatshirts and sweatpants (any color). These will be needed when cooler weather begins.

If you would like to purchase a JPMS uniform, we are taking orders until June 8, 2012. The PE Uniform consists of 100% cotton, pre-shrunk, gray T-shirt with JPMS two-tone logo on the front and black mesh shorts with JPMS two-tone logo on the leg. The cost is \$25.00 for the full uniform. Pre-ordered uniforms will be delivered to your student the first week of school in August 2012.

Reasons for recommending a student change into black and gray clothing for PE classes include:

- Reduce competition between students when selecting sportswear for PE class.
- Distinguish between students' school clothes and their physical education attire; it is often difficult to make this distinction.
- Provide attire that is very comfortable and allows students to move freely during class.
- Promote good personal hygiene.

The completed order form must be turned in to JPMS by Friday, June 8, 2012. Make checks payable to John Poole Middle School and include your child's name at the bottom of the check.

WE CANNOT GUARANTEE YOUR STUDENT A UNIFORM ON TIME IF THE ORDER IS LATE!!!

Order forms may be dropped off in the main office at JPMS or mailed to:
John Poole Middle School, Attn: Kim Gerrie / 17014 Tom Fox Ave. / Poolesville, Maryland 20837

If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Gerrie via phone (301-972-7979 ext. 144) or by e-mail [Kimberly S Gerrie@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Kimberly_S_Gerrie@mcpsmd.org). Thanks!



JPMS
TIMBERWOLVES
PHYSICAL EDUCATION
UNIFORM SALE

Students first and last name: _____

Parent/Guardian(s) name: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Alternate Phone Number: _____

Please indicate below how many items of each size you would like to purchase.

ITEM	PRICE	Youth L	Adult S	Adult M	Adult L	Adult XL	Adult XXL
Gray JPMS T-Shirt	\$10.00	Not Available					
Black Mesh Shorts w/ JPMS logo	\$15.00	(Size 14-16 6" Inseam)	(28-30 Waist 7" Inseam)	(32-34 Waist 7" Inseam)	(36-38 Waist 7" Inseam)	(40-42 Waist 7" Inseam)	(44-46 Waist 7" Inseam)

Total # of items ordered _____ Total Paid \$ _____

Cash/Check # _____

Orders must be received by Friday, June 8th to be guaranteed delivery the first week of school.

For Staff:

Received order on : _____ Ordered Filled on: _____

Delivered: _____

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME and JOIN the PTSA

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

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

**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!**

The Deadline for Registering for Summer School at JPMS Has Passed!

If your child was invited to come to summer school, don't miss out on this important opportunity to build skills for the coming school year.

Make sure your child is enrolled – call us today! 301-972-7979



Announcing –

Calleva Creates Scholarships to Honor George Kephart

The George Kephart Memorial Scholarship Fund will provide free Calleva summer camp to children in our local community who otherwise could not afford to participate in summer camp. Kephart Scholarship recipients can choose between the Growing Green (farming) and Building Green (sustainable building) programs, which occur on Calleva Farm in Dickerson. Both programs are part of the working farm operations, and children have loads of fun while learning about traditional, sustainable methods for farming, water conservation, building with reclaimed and reusable materials, and alternative energy as they take on and complete creative, engaging projects. They also get to help take care of the animals and just enjoy bright, summer days on a beautiful farm and woods. For more information, contact Mrs. Arnold in the Counseling Office - 301-972-7980.

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>

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!!**

2012 SUMMER BACKPACK JOURNALISM ACADEMY



WHAT IS IT?

Backpack Journalism is a form of broadcast journalism where the individual is the reporter, camera operator and editor! These individuals have the ability to get into their neighborhoods and communities to find stories that matter to them. These reporters are vital to getting the word out in Montgomery County! Here at Montgomery Community Media we are helping more and more backpack journalists to tell their stories. We strive to have a community atmosphere and backpack journalists are important to us.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

This program is open to all 6th -12th grade students in Montgomery County. Students will have four(4) four-hour classes teaching the basics of Backpack Journalism. Students will learn story composition, shooting and editing. Students will be able to use their segments in MCM's *Backpack Beat* TV program and be a part of other programs that air on The Montgomery Channel and Access 19.



SPACES ARE LIMITED

3 Sessions Offered

June 18th—29th (9-12)

July 2nd—13th (6-9)

July 16th—27th (9-12)

Each session includes snacks, training materials, hands-on experience & a DVD copy of the completed show

ALL FOR \$225!

NOW ONLY \$150 UNTIL JUNE 1st



Visit
www.mymcmmedia.org/backpack
For more information



HOPE GARDEN CHILDREN'S



BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS

Pas des Dudes



June 1, 2012 ★ 7:00 pm

POOLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Adult Admission: \$10 Students: \$7

Fran Lchiyo, Artistic Director

HGCBT is a charitable non-profit organization as defined by 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO RESERVE TICKETS, VISIT WWW.HGCBT.ORG

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 or
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.

Welcome to John Poole Middle School!



*You are cordially invited to our
Pre-Summer Sixth Grade
Parent Orientation*

**Tuesday, June 5, 2012
6:30-7:30 pm
All Purpose Room**

*Please take this
opportunity to tour the
school, discuss the changes
in middle school, summer
expectations, learn about
SSL requirements and
more!*

John Poole Middle School Summer Orientation for 6th Grade!



**Summer Orientation
For Incoming
6th graders**



**Thursday July 26th
9:00-11:00**

**or
1:00-3:00 pm
Media Center**

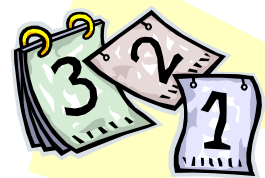
**Call for Questions
At 301-972-7980
or 301-972-7979**



- Locker combination races!
- Scavenger Hunt
- Meet other students

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 28: Memorial Day holiday
- May 29: Book Check Day – students bring all books to class
- May 30: PHS graduation
- May 3: Spring Concert, 7:00 PM
- June 1: Last day to submit SSL hours for second semester
- June 4: Review Day; last day to bring back packs to school
- June 5: Exams periods 3 & 7
Pre-Summer Sixth Grade Parent Orientation, 7:00
- June 6: Exams periods 2 & 5
- June 7: Exams periods 4 & 6
- June 8: Exam period 1 and make-ups
Grade 8 Awards Assembly
Final locker clean-out: Last Day for Locker Access
8th Grade Dance
- June 11: Class Activities
- June 12: Last day for students
8th grade orientation at PHS

**The End
Is Near!**


Congratulations, PHS!
once again recognized by *Newsweek*
and the *Washington Post* as one of
America's Top High Schools!

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

May 20, 2012

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Joshua P. Starr, Superintendent of Schools 

Subject: Outstanding Performance on National High School Rankings

I am pleased to inform you that Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has produced impressive results on two national rankings of high school performance. The High School Challenge, published by *The Washington Post*, and America's Best High Schools, published by *Newsweek* and The Daily Beast website, were both released on Sunday. The outstanding performance of our students and schools reflects your continuing commitment to providing all students with access to college-level work so that they are better prepared for postsecondary education and the workforce.

The High School Challenge

The High School Challenge ranks schools on the access students have to college-level classes, such as Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB). MCPS placed five schools in the top 100 nationally on the 2012 rankings: Poolesville (54), Richard Montgomery (77), Bethesda-Chevy Chase (88), Walter Johnson (89), and Winston Churchill (98). Overall, 23 MCPS high schools are among the top half of the 1,848 schools analyzed as part of *The Washington Post* report.

In the regional rankings, the same five MCPS high schools are ranked among the top ten schools in the Washington, DC, area, and two additional schools, Thomas S. Wootton and Walt Whitman, are among the top 20 schools in the region. Twenty-three MCPS high schools are in the top 100 regionally. In addition, eight MCPS high schools are ranked among the top ten schools in Maryland. National and regional rankings for MCPS schools are attached.

The High School Challenge uses the Challenge Index, a measure devised 15 years ago by *Washington Post* reporter Jay Mathews. The ranking formula divides the number of AP, IB, or other college-level tests a school gave in 2011 by the number of graduating seniors. Only schools that had at least the same number of college-level tests taken as the school had graduates are included in the rankings. Therefore, just 1,848 out of the nation's 22,000 high schools are included. All MCPS high schools met this bar. For the first time this year, some private schools are included in the regional rankings.

America's Best High Schools

The America's Best High Schools list also ranks schools on how they are preparing students for college, but uses a different methodology. The formula includes graduation rate (25 percent); college matriculation rate (25 percent); AP, IB, and other college-level tests taken per student (25 percent); average SAT/ACT scores (10 percent); average AP, IB, and other college-level test scores (10 percent); and the number of AP courses offered per student (5 percent). Only the top 1,000 schools are published as part of the list.

MCPS had nine schools on the America's Best High Schools list: Poolesville (81), Winston Churchill (150), Thomas S. Wootton (212), Walt Whitman (299), Richard Montgomery (365), Bethesda-Chevy Chase (434), Walter Johnson (475), Northwest (787) and Sherwood (992). These schools represent more than one-third of the 23 Maryland high schools on the list. Last year, MCPS placed eight schools in the top 500. This year, the authors analyzed significantly more schools and published the top 1,000.

Please join me in congratulating our staff and students on their outstanding performance on both the High School Challenge and the America's Best High Schools lists.

2012 High School Challenge Washington, DC Area List (out of 176 schools)

Rank	School	30	Quince Orchard	78	Northwood
4	Poolesville	35	Montgomery Blair	79	Springbrook
		40	Sherwood	80	Wheaton
5	Richard Montgomery	43	Rockville	81	Clarksburg
7	Bethesda-Chevy Chase	47	Albert Einstein	82	Paint Branch
8	Walter Johnson	50	Northwest	83	James Hubert Blake
9	Winston Churchill	59	Damascus	84	Watkins Mill
18	Thomas S. Wootton	68	Col. Zadok Magruder	103	Gaithersburg
20	Walt Whitman	70	Seneca Valley	125	John F. Kennedy

2012 High School Challenge National List (out of 1,848 schools)

Rank	School	Change from 2011 rank	Rank	School	Change from 2011 rank
54	Poolesville	+15	409	Northwest	-36
			447	Damascus	+3-7
77	Richard Montgomery	-12	598	Col. Zadok Magruder	+300
88	Bethesda-Chevy Chase	-29	612	Seneca Valley	-121
89	Walter Johnson	-7	702	Northwood	-276
98	Winston Churchill	0	711	Springbrook	-39
154	Thomas S. Wootton	-51	715	Wheaton	+55
168	Walt Whitman	-46	716	Clarksburg	+220
225	Quince Orchard	-25	731	Paint Branch	-208
267	Montgomery Blair	-37	734	James Hubert Blake	-247
313	Sherwood	+33	769	Watkins Mill	-145
326	Rockville	-61	1008	Gaithersburg	-265
360	Albert Einstein	-67	1386	John F. Kennedy	-652

PHS NEWS

Go Falcons!



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

PHS POMPON TRYOUTS 2012 – 2013

PHS Pompons are a dedicated group of exceptional academic/athletic students who support and represent Poolesville 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**

