



**June 6, 2014**

# John Poole's **BACK POCKET**

## **A Thought for Today:**

**An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don't.**

- **Anatole France**

## **Winding Up a Great Year**

We're heading down the home stretch now. This is the next-to-last issue of the *Back Pocket* for the 2013 – 2014 school year. Next Friday, June 13, we will publish the names of our end-of-year award winners, celebrate the completion of our new Outdoor Classroom, and close up the newsletter until next fall. Can it really be summertime already?

Today we started exam week with English exams for all students in the morning and Spanish 1 in the afternoon. Monday will launch the last week of school with US History exams and Spanish 2. The rest of the schedule is published at right. Please help us out by making sure your child arrives on time and ready to test each day; making up a missed exam is much harder at the end of the year than any other time.

### **FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE**

<b>Exams – US History (AM)/Spanish 2 (PM)</b>	<b>June 9</b>
<b>Exams – Math (AM)/Science (PM)</b>	<b>June 10</b>
<b>Make-up Exams by individual arrangement</b>	<b>June 11 - 13</b>
<b>Exams – Electives/PE in class periods</b>	<b>June 12</b>
<b>Final Exam Make-up Day (AM)</b>	<b>June 13</b>



The big news of the week, of course, is the naming of our new principal at Tuesday's Board of Education meeting. I am very pleased to welcome **Mr. Bob Sinclair** to JPMS. I have known Mr. Sinclair for several years, and I think very highly of him. He is an experienced leader, having served as the principal of Redland Middle School in Rockville until his appointment to John Poole. I am confident that this school I love so much will be left in good hands.

**There will be a community meet and greet for Mr. Sinclair on Tuesday night, June 17 at 6:00 PM in the JPMS media center** – mark your calendars so you don't miss it – and he will be in his new office starting July 1. I hope you will be able to come out on the 17th so Mr. Sinclair can quickly learn what a great community he will be working with.

See you next week for one more *Back Pocket*!

– 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!



**Colin Hammett**

**Andrew Kindel**

**Susanna Schmidt**

**Caitlin Harris**

**Andrew Poore**

**Nikolas Sofelkanik**

**Ethan Hinds**

**Renee Quaranta**

**Connor Sorrell**

## Student Leaders of the Pack

At JPMS, we focus every day on helping our students to be as successful as possible, both academically and personally. Part of that focus is instilling the core values of **Timberwolf PRIDE: Purpose, Respect, Integrity, Dedication** and **Effort**, because we believe these qualities will support all students being the successful learners they want to be today and becoming the positive, contributing members of our community they can be all their lives.

Each month, the staff recognizes five students in each grade who are leaders and role models because they routinely demonstrate the components of Timberwolf PRIDE. We celebrate them at a ceremony on the first Friday of each month where they receive a certificate and are served a breakfast treat. Their pictures are proudly posted on a bulletin board in the front hall during the month in which they are being honored. **Congratulations to our May winners!**

### 6th Grade

*Purpose* - Andrew Johnson  
*Respect* - William Ennis  
*Integrity* - Lindsay Lightcap  
*Dedication* - Kathleen Wyrick  
*Effort* - Rachel Onderko

### 7th Grade

*Purpose* - Troy Edwards  
*Respect* - Ali Ransom  
*Integrity* - Julia Pavlick  
*Dedication* - Allison Foppe  
*Effort* - Abby Carr

### 8th Grade

*Purpose* - Jennifer Jang  
*Respect* - Dewontay Ainsworth  
*Integrity* - Nahbuma Gana  
*Dedication* - Elizabeth Parise  
*Effort* - Thomas Oram





# Read 180 Banquet Honors Achievement in Reading

On Tuesday night the All-Purpose Room looked lovely and smelled delicious as students and their families gathered for the Read 180 Banquet. White tablecloths and balloons made a festive setting for the fried chicken dinner given in honor of students whose hard work and dedication has resulted in exceptional progress in reading.

According to Scholastic, the publisher of the Read180 curriculum, middle school students are doing well if they advance by 75 to 100 lexiles in a school year. Our honorees distinguished themselves by gaining at least 100 lexiles this year!



After dinner, students received certificates of achievement and each was invited to select a free book to take home. The evening ended with cake for all. Congratulations to these great readers!



Giavanna Santorocco, Brandon Sison, Nick Spano, Drew Turner, Clare Wilson, and Briona Winstead,

8th grade: Alayna Dockstader, Thomas Oram, Jeremy Ouart, and Alivia Tetlow

6th grade: David Barkdoll, Juan Barron, Owen Brill, Kyle Burns, Cameron Carney, Jessica Convers, Holly Cross, Mary Deffinbaugh, Zachary Fedders, Madison Folk, Jakelinne Fuentes, Makayla Lemarr, Malik Smith,

7th grade: Abby Carr, Stephanie Leitner, Alec DeLuna, Demetrius Jackson, Nathaly Portillo-Rivas,





**"The best advice I  
ever got was that  
knowledge is  
power and to keep  
reading."  
- David Bailey**



# The 25 Book Challenge

Each fall our English teachers challenge their students to read and record having read 25 or more books during the year. I'm very proud that many students in all three grades achieved this goal! They will celebrate at a make-your-own-sundae party after school on Monday, and their lives will be richer forever because they are becoming life-long readers.

Congratulations to the following students for reading 25 or more books this year!

## Grade 6

**Remy Anderson**  
**Daniel Chen**  
**Aly Gotlewski**  
**Oriol Guitart**  
**Julianna Hitchcock**  
**Kenna Krueger**  
**Emma Parker**  
**James Savage**  
**Anya Speck-McMorris**  
**Rachel Tievy**

## Grade 7

**DJ Bevley**  
**Gabbie Brooks**  
**Rachel Bupp**  
**Lauren Chilla**  
**Vincent Chim**  
**Julianna Garrett**  
**Alli Haddaway**  
**Maureen Hueting**  
**Josephine Mallow**  
**Ali Ransom**  
**Regan Roldan**

## Grade 8

**Dottie Ballman**  
**Ellen Beal**  
**Morgan Bliss**  
**Ella Boyle**  
**Paris Copeland**  
**Erin Green**  
**Brooke Hamm**  
**Franklina Hovor**  
**Clara Jackson**  
**Jennifer Jang**  
**Kelliann Lee**  
**Michelle Moraa**  
**Stephanie Parker**  
**Renee Quaranta**  
**Julia Rich**  
**Kathleen Van Houten**  
**Avery Whitney-Blum**



## After School Activities Have Finished

Thanks to Mrs. Crutchfield, our After School Coordinator; the Montgomery County Department of Recreation, that funds many of our activities, and the wonderful teachers and community members who sponsor clubs and programs for students during the year. Here are some snapshots of the popular Babysitting Certification Classes – just one of the many opportunities our kids enjoy each year. Thanks to

**Kathleen Wyrick** for taking the pictures, and keep a look-out for ways to get involved as activities start up again in the fall!



**REC<sup>X</sup>TRA**  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION

# **Poolesville High School Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation Friday, June 13, 2014**

The orientation program for incoming students new to Poolesville High School is scheduled for Friday, June 13, from 7:25 to 11:40 am. This program will give students:

- an opportunity to become familiar with bus runs. Students are to use this year's arrival bus route numbers and locations for the coming to school, and the 2:10 departure bus route numbers and locations for the 11:40 ride back home.
- an opportunity to become familiar with the school facility
- a chance to meet classmates, Heads of Houses, and other school staff
- an introduction to high school policies, procedures, and services
- an overview of academic and extracurricular programs

The morning's schedule is outlined below:

7:20 – 7:30 am	–	Check-in (Auditorium Lobby)
7:30 – 7:45 am	–	Welcome Assembly
7:50 – 11:03 am	–	Facilities Tour
11:08 – 11:21 am	–	Magnet House Meetings
11:21 – 11:30 am	–	Refreshments in Cafeteria
11:40 am	–	Departure



The Upside Down Organization (UDO) was established in 2007 to provide high quality learning experiences for child-serving professionals in the United States and abroad. Partnered with The Children's Guild, UDO infuses cutting-edge neuroscience into its philosophy of Transformation Education. I often visit their website and read their newsletter to keep abreast of brain research and get ideas for helping our kids succeed. This article caught my eye in the current issue of the eNewsletter, and I thought it was a good one to share. Thanks - CCB

# Keep Kids Off the Slide This Summer

by Frank J. Kros, MSW, JD - President, The Upside Down Organization  
reprinted from Brainwaves, the Upside Down Organization's e-Newsletter



The "summer slide" is the loss of learning students experience during the long summer break. Sometimes students simply forget what they've learned. Sometimes the loss of learning occurs because students don't practice essential skills. Reading and math skills, in particular, require regular practice to stay sharp. When kids aren't reading or using math in July and August, lots of the hard work that students, teachers and families put in during the school year is wasted.

## It's a bigger problem than you might think.

Summer slide has been studied in the United States since 1906. More than 100 years of research demonstrates that nearly all students suffer learning loss when they do not engage in educational activities during the summer. Most students will regress about two full months but some of these students will lose as much as three months of prior learning over the summer break. (Cooper, 1996). In addition, much of the achievement gap between lower and higher income youth can be explained by unequal access to summer learning activities. (Alexander et al, 2007).

Most alarming is that summer slide is cumulative. In other words, for kids getting little or no educational stimulation in the summer, the months of learning lost "add up" each summer, pushing students farther and farther behind peers that do keep learning even though school is not in session. (Cooper et al, 2000).

But summer slide can be stopped with a little planning and the use of mostly free resources. Most important, summer learning can be fun. See below for just a few of the many strategies adults can use to help students avoid sliding back several months over the summer.

## 7 Strategies to Stop the Summer Slide

1. **Run to your local librarian.** Every library has a summer reading program for every age child. Simply go to the information desk and tell the librarian you want to help your child avoid the "summer slide." You'll get lots of help and your child will get lots of choices including book recommendations, live readings, reading groups, audio books, games and prizes.
2. **Use the Web.** Math can be challenging to engage students in over the summer, but there are websites that are very helpful. For younger children, try Touch Math ([www.touchmath.com](http://www.touchmath.com)). They have a number of PDF activity guides that are engaging and fun while giving kids the practice they need. For older students, Education.com has a great article with lots of ideas for helping tweens and teens stay current in math. Check it

out at [www.education.com/magazine/article/teen-summer-math-slide/](http://www.education.com/magazine/article/teen-summer-math-slide/). If you don't have a computer, you and your student can use one free at the library.

3. **Cook with your kids.** Cooking is a unique activity in that it integrates reading, math, following directions, planning and practicality! If possible, challenge your student to plan a menu for guests, select the ingredients, prepare the meal and serve it to guests. Cooking for others builds lots of skills and gives your student confidence. Two good kid-centered cookbooks are *Kids Around the World Cook! The Best Foods and Recipes from Many Lands* by Arlette Braman and the *Betty Crocker Kids Cookbook*.
4. **You want apps with that.** *Teachers With Apps* is another great resource to help you stop the summer slide. Many students have mobile phones and these learning-centered apps are inexpensive and lots of fun. Two of my favorite include *Math Doodles* and *Stack the States*. *Math Doodles* uses interactive games to get students to practice concepts like number and operations, number sense, angles and rotation, time and clocks, money, problem solving, and mathematical reasoning. With *Stack the States*, students answer questions about each state correctly and "win" that state and stack their winnings. Stacking is a fun but really challenging feature that keeps the game very engaging. Both under \$3. (<http://teacherswithapps.com/10-apps-stop-summer-slide/>).
5. **Use virtual readers for young children.** If you have limited time to read to your child, go online and have an adult read to them. For example, <http://www.storylineonline.net> has a terrific line-up of books for young children read by adults who know how to be engaging readers. Hearing books read out loud builds reading fluency, increases knowledge and expands experience. This is also a great tool when you need a few minutes break!
6. **Take a virtual field trip.** There are a number of great websites that will take your students on awesome field trips when you can't take them in person. Take a complete tour of the Museum of Natural History in New York City or discover the mysteries of survival in the arctic tundra. There are many good sites for virtual field trips, but I like <http://www.educatorstechnology.com/2014/01/20-wonderful-online-museums-and-sites.html>.
7. **Read Something Every Day.** This is probably the most commonly offered suggestion but is also the most important advice -- try to plan for reading every day through one of the suggestions above or ideas you create and discover on your own. Getting your students to read -- and to listen to others reading -- prevents the loss of language skills so critical to success in every academic area.

**So, have fun this summer and keep your kids off the slide!**

### **References**

- Cooper, H., Nye, B., Charlton, K., Lindsay, J., & Greathouse, S. (1996). *The effects of summer vacation on achievement test scores: A narrative and meta-analytic review. Review of Educational Research, 66*, 227-268.
- Alexander, K.L., Entlisle, D.R. and Olson, L.S., (2007). *Lasting Consequences of the Summer Learning Gap. American Sociological Review, vol. 72 no. 2* 167-180.
- Cooper, H., Charlton, K., Valentine, J. C., & Muhlenbruck, L. (2000). *Making the most of summer school. A meta-analytic and narrative review. Monographs of the Society for Research in Child Development, 65* (1, Serial No. 260),



# SSL Hours Opportunity

*If you love soccer this is perfect for you!*

July 19-27

Maryland SoccerPlex, Germantown MD

The Maryland State Youth Soccer Association will be hosting the **US Youth Soccer National Championship** from July 22-27 at the Maryland SoccerPlex in Germantown MD.

The US Youth Soccer National Championship serves as the crown jewel of competitive youth soccer as the nation's top 96 youth soccer teams, in the Under-13 through Under-19 Boys and Girls age groups, compete for the US Youth Soccer National Championship title.

Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks from July 19-27 for:

- set up the weekend prior (ages 16 and over)
- ball kids (completed 5th grade and over)
- parking attendants (ages 16 and over)
- hydration crews (ages 16 and over)
- take down the last day (ages 16 and over)

This event has been approved for SSL for those who have completed 5th grade through seniors. If interested, visit the volunteer signup website at <http://goo.gl/FhvmMm> to choose your task(s) and timeslots(s) or contact us for more information at [ncsvolunteer@msysa.org](mailto:ncsvolunteer@msysa.org).



# Under 21 Activities from the Rec Department!



Do you want to have fun, make friends, get student service learning hours, and help your community? Then join the Montgomery County Department of Recreation Youth Advisory Committee (YAC). This committee plans under 21 activities such as Teen Café, Soccer, Basket Ball events and activities for students on half days, weekends, and holidays. The goal of YAC is to decrease the amount of bullying, drugs, underage drinking and violence in our county. So join YAC.

**Applications are due by August 29, 2014.** Together we can reach out to make a difference for youth in Montgomery County. For more information, call 240-777-8080.

## 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](http://www.mcpsgivebackpacks.org) or by calling 301-309-MCPS.

## Vaccination Clinics

All Maryland school students entering 7th grade in August 2014 must show proof of one Tdap (Tetnus-diphtheria-acellular pertussis) vaccination and one Meningococcal (MCV4) vaccination. 7th grade students who do not provide proof of Tdap and Meningococcal vaccinations will be excluded from attending 7th grade.

Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services will offer FREE Tdap and Meningococcal vaccinations for 7th graders who have not been vaccinated. On June 13, 2014 from 1:00pm through 4:00pm, there will be three vaccination clinics:

**Col. E. Brooke Lee Middle School**  
11800 Monticello Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20902

**Julius West Middle School**  
651 Great Falls Road  
Rockville, MD 20850

**Rocky Hill Middle School**  
22401 Brick Haven Way  
Clarksburg, MD 20871

A parent or guardian must be present at the time of vaccination. The student's immunization record should be brought to the vaccination appointment. The vaccination clinics are by appointment only. Make your appointment online at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Resident/vaccination.html> or by calling 311.





# Noteworthy

## Yearbooks

Yearbooks sales began Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Students can purchase their yearbooks each morning in the lobby before school. To purchase a yearbook in the afternoon, come to room 207. The cost of the yearbook is \$40. Checks can be made payable to JPMS. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Aulls.

## 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 JPMS Health Room - (301) 407-1029, as soon as possible.



## John Poole Middle School Summer Orientation for 6th Grade!



### Summer Orientation For Incoming 6th Graders



**Tuesday, August 12**

**9:00 – 11:00 am**

or

**1:00 – 3:00 pm**

**Media Center**

- Locker combination races
- Scavenger hunt
- Meet other students



Call for Questions  
At 301-972-7980  
or 301-972-7979  
No Reservations Needed!

**PLEASE ALSO PLAN TO ATTEND**  
**THE 1/2 DAY ORIENTATION**  
**AUGUST 21, 2014**

# Save the Date!



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

- June 6** Last day to submit SSL documents for the second semester.  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance – 7:00-10:00 pm at Poolesville Baptist Church
- June 11** End of Year Activities  
Grade 6 – Picnic Lunch/Movie (11:12 - 2:20 PM)  
Grade 7 – Smokey Glen (8:00 am – 2:00 PM)  
Grade 8 – Hershey Park (7:30 am – 7:30 PM)
- June 12** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony in the Aux Gym (10:00-11:30 am)  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Final Locker Cleanout (11:30 am)  
Final Locker Cleanout for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Graders at 2:15 pm  
Last Day to Access Lockers
- June 13** 8<sup>th</sup> Graders to PHS for Orientation  
6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Preview to meet next year's teachers  
4<sup>th</sup> Marking Period Ends  
Early Release at 11:50 am
- June 16** Last Day for Teachers
- June 17** Meet Mr. Sinclair, new principal of John Poole Middle School!  
6:00 PM in the media center

## PHS NEWS

***Go Falcons!***



### Congratulations to the Class of 2014!!

**Final Exam Schedule for Underclassmen:**

Exams periods 3 and 4 – June 9

Exams periods 6 and 7 – June 10

Exams periods 8 and 9 – June 11

**Rising Senior Pictures – June 9 – 11, 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM**



# 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**  
**P**urpose  
**R**espect  
**I**ntegrity  
**D**edication  
**E**ffort

## **Our Vision:**

**The Timberwolf community experiences joy in learning celebrates excellence and values positive relationships.**

## **Our Mission:**

**At John Poole Middle School our mission is to:**

- **promote joy in learning through motivation and engagement**
- **celebrate excellence by acknowledging achievement**
- **foster a shared responsibility for academic and social success**
- **value positive relationships thereby promoting a respectful and supportive learning environment**

