

John Poole's

BACK POCKET

June 13, 2014

A Thought for Today:

All changes are more or less tinged with melancholy, for what we are leaving behind is part of ourselves.

Amelia Barr

Thanks for the Memories...

It is always bittersweet to hold the 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony. Over the years we watch our students grow from children to young adults. The little kids who ran down the hallways hoping their lockers would open on the first try so they would be sure not to be late to class have turned into confident students who can afford to saunter from class to class because they have their timing down pat. They are many inches taller and many (very expensive!) shoe sizes bigger than when they arrived, and our hearts have expanded with them, including each in the circle of caring that nurtured them while they were JPMS students and that shares their hopes and dreams as they move on to the high school.

This year is especially moving to me since it is my last at JPMS. Retirement is a happy goal, but it is also a loss. I am looking forward to sleeping in on Saturday mornings, being home most evenings and taking in a matinee when a popular new movie comes out – indulgences I haven't been able to enjoy for many years. But I will miss our outstanding staff, the great kids who make our futures bright with promise, and the wonderful families who are so generous with their support for John Poole.

Yesterday's Promotion Ceremony was an example of why it has been so meaningful to work at JPMS. The auxiliary gym was packed with a record turn-out of families and friends; the temperature soared; the many honors earned by this outstanding group of students meant the program was lengthy; but none of these factors marred the occasion. The sense of community and shared pride in our young people was, as always in our school, the overwhelming sentiment.

What other community builds a fabulous dinner dance for the 8th graders with generous donations of time and effort? Where else do dozens of parents volunteer to drive other people's children to the 7th grade picnic so everyone can afford to go? We begin the message of care and support with the many, many parent volunteers who assist our wonderful teachers at Outdoor Ed in the fall of 6th grade and the community collaboration continues right up to that Promotion Ceremony at the end of Grade 8. No wonder so many of our students are so successful academically and personally; they are surrounded by excellent role models and caring support.

Thank you for showing me that caring support as well. My five years at John Poole have been among the most rewarding of my career. It has been a pleasure and an honor to be a part of this beautiful little school and this wonderful community. Please keep in touch! – Charlotte Boucher

A message from the new principal...

Hello John Poole Middle School Community,

I am proud to have been selected to serve as the next principal of John Poole Middle School and I am excited to begin our work together. I wanted to take a minute to introduce myself.

I am an educator with 17 years of educational experience. I have taught at both the high school and middle school levels and have served as a middle school administrator for the past 10 years. My instructional background is in mathematics and I have taught courses ranging from Algebra I to Precalculus. Nine of my ten years in administration have been at Redland Middle School in Rockville where I am finishing up my 6th year as principal. In my tenure at Redland Middle School I worked collaboratively with our staff, students, and parents to create an environment focused on teaching, learning, and supporting the social and emotional growth of our students. Through our collaborative work we have created a solid environment for our staff and students and have seen a steady improvement in instruction and student performance. As an educator I am dedicated to setting high targets for our students to hit while providing them with the support and motivation they need to hit those targets.

As we begin our journey together I believe the first thing you will find is that I am passionate about working to meet the needs of our students. I frame this passion around what I expect for my own children in their education. I believe that the best way of developing well-rounded students is through collaboration between home and school. I am always available and willing to work with you to support our school and the work we do. I invite you to call, stop in, or send me an email (Robert Sinclair@mcpsmd.org) if you ever have any questions, concerns, or thoughts you would like to share. I will also be developing formal avenues for us to meet and talk throughout the year to solicit ongoing feedback and input on how we are doing and what we can do to improve our work together.

John Poole Middle School is an exceptional school that is doing great work and I am looking forward to continuing, building on and furthering that work. I have had the pleasure of meeting many of the incoming 5th grade students and many of their parents as well as most of the John Poole Middle School staff and I am looking forward to continuing to meet the community. To that end I would like to remind you that we have set up a parent meet and greet on **Tuesday, June 17, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.** in the John Poole Middle School media center. This is an opportunity for you to meet and learn more about me and for us to talk about John Poole Middle School and what we see as our work moving forward.

I am looking forward to working with each of you and beginning my work at John Poole Middle School July 1st. Have a great summer!!

Sincerely,

Robert Sinclair Jr

End of Pear Awards

We are tremendously proud of the outstanding students with whom we are privileged to work. The following students have been recognized for excellence as the 2013 - 2014 school year comes to an end.

• Perfect Attendance Awards were presented to students who missed no days during the 2013 - 2014 school year.

> Grade 6 Grade 8

Isaac Kasuske **Cameron Carney** Ellen Beall Trevor McFall Shirley Chen Charles Brill Benjamin Kovich Lydia Caballero Triana Wallace Michelle Lu Nicole Duran

Straight A Awards were presented to students who earned All A's during the first three marking terms.

Grade 6 **Bradford Blair** Madeline Brode Joseph Esser Caroline Field Maxwell Fisher Alyson Gotlewski **Oriol Guitart** Colin Hemingway Julianna Hitchcock Eleanor Jensen

Lindsey Lightcap

Michelle Lu Saloni Maskey Rachel Onderko **Zachary Onderko** Emma Parker Maya Rosenbaum Jenna Stroud **Cole Taylor Ethan Tievy Rachel Tievy**

Grade 7 Aidan Auel Gwendolyn Boe Rachel Bupp Vincent Chim Kristina Chu Carla Dacanay Meghan Dower Hannah Helfert Maureen Hueting William Jones Alison Ransom Megan Roldan Katrina Rowe Samantha Varona

Grade 8 **Morgan Bliss** Dylan Drain Erin Green **Bridgette Hammett** Haley Harkins Clara Jackson Ryan Johnston Kelliann Lee Melanie Staszewski **Dalton Webber**

Subject Awards. The following students in 6th and 7th grades were selected to receive an award from a teacher for outstanding work in that class. All of these honorees exemplified our school vision; personified JPMS PRIDE; and earned a GPA that is among the top 5% of the class in that subject.

GRADE 6

Juan Barron **Bradford Blair** Olivia Burdick Joseph Esser **Justin Fisher** Alyson Gotlewski **Oriol Guitart** Colin Hemingway Chase Hillegas Julianna Hitchcock **Briana Hobbs** Eleanor Jensen

Ariana King Kenna Krueger Lindsey Lightcap Michelle Lu Saloni Maskey Rachel Onderko

Zachary Onderko Maya Rosenbaum Jenna Stroud Cole Taylor **Rachel Tievy**

GRADE 7

Aidan Auel	Bryce Davis	Maureen Hueting	Alison Ransom
Dwight Bevley	Alec De Luna	William Jones	Megan Roldan
Gwendolyn Boe	Julianna Garrett	Josephine Mallow	Katrina Rowe
Rachel Bupp	Daniel Geehreng	Roshawna Marshall	Kalie Terragno
Jessica Carey	Isabel Gibbs	Sarah Mullikin	Samantha Varona
Vincent Chim	Allison Haddaway	Julia Pavlick	
Kristina Chu	Hannah Helfert	Madison Peek	

The following students in 8th grade comprise the top 5% of each subject as listed. The student selected from that group to receive the Subject Award is indicated in **blue**.

- * Advanced English 8: Morgan Bliss, Bridgette Hammett, Haley Harkins, Clara Jackson, Kelliann Lee, Melanie Staszewski, Dalton Webber
- * Algebra: Chloe Insalaco, Clara Jackson, Hannah Leibrand, Michelle Reyazuddin
- * Algebra Prep: Jared Books, Cassandra Campbell, Stephanie Parker,
 Amelia Williams
- * Art: Bridgette Hammett, Rachel Macairan, Kelsey McLoughlin, Julia Rich
- * Chorus: Rebecca Carin, Jackson Krasche, Maddison Magaha
- * Earth and Space Systems: Morgan Bliss, Dylan Drain, Bridgette Hammett, Haley Harkins, Clara Jackson, Melanie Staszewski, Dalton Webber
- * Earth & Space Technology: Sean Lyons, Robert Siegrist, Dalton Webber
- * Environmental Science: Dylan Drain, Ryan Lockett, Molly Sherman
- * Honors Geometry: Dylan Drain, Haley Harkins, Ryan Johnston, Gavin Prebilic
- * Instrumental Music: Morgan Bliss, Kelliann Lee, Melanie Staszewski
- * Living with Technology: Ellen Beal, Paul Graham, Bridgette Hammett, Haley Harkins
- * Physical Education: Carter Fry, Erin Green, Haley Harkins, Kelliann Lee, Sean Lyons, Trevor McFall, Dalton Webber
- * Read 180: Alayna Dockstader, Jeremy Ouart
- * Reading: Nicole Duran, Elizabeth Parise
- * Spanish 1: Dylan Drain, Ryan Johnston, Melanie Staszewski
- * Spanish 2: Bridgette Hammett, Haley Harkins, Clara Jackson
- * Specialty Art: Dylan Drain, Michelle Reyazuddin, Paige Solans
- * U.S.History: Rebecca Carin, Dylan Drain, Haley Harkins, Clara Jackson, Kelliann Lee, Melanie Staszewski, Dalton Webber

• Middle School Straight A Awards were presented to 8th grade students who earned All A's at John Poole Middle School during Grades 6 and 7 and through the first three marking terms of Grade 8.

Morgan Bliss Haley Harkins Ryan Johnston Erin Green Clara Jackson Kelliann Lee

• **Presidential Awards** were presented to 8th grade students whose Grade Point Average (GPA) was greater than 3.5 for every marking period in middle school through Quarter 3 of Grade 8.

Peter Barry Erin Green Kelliann Lee Michelle Reyazuddin Morgan Bliss **Bridgette Hammett** Ryan Lockett Molly Sherman Paige Solans Hannah Bush **Haley Harkins Erin Lyons** Melanie Staszewski Taylor Byrd Chloe Insalaco Sean Lyons Clara Jackson Paris Copeland Rachel Macairan **Donald Vogel** Perry Dominici Jennifer Jang Maddison Magaha Cassandra Volkle Dylan Drain **Ryan Johnston Trevor McFall Dalton Webber** Elise Evans Ryan Kasten Kelsey McLoughlin **Amelia Williams** William Field Yaniv Kovich Gavin Prebilic Nahbuma Gana Jackson Krasche

• Superintendent's Student Service Learning Awards were presented to students who completed their high school graduation requirement of 75 SSL hours in 2014. Students whose names are underlined attained this milestone in Grade 6 or 7.

Jordan Allentuck Dylan Drain Kelliann Lee **Dorothy Ballman** Samuel Garrett Kelsey McLoughlin Erin Green ** Maureen Miller Ellen Beall **Brooke Hamm Morgan Bliss** Sara Oden Taylor Byrd **Haley Harkins** Molly Sherman Melanie Staszewski Gabriella Capobianchi Chloe Insalaco Rebecca Carin Clara Jackson **Bryce Taylor** Killian Carney **Jackson Krasche Donald Vogel** Paris Copeland **Estephan Lavanderos**

• The Rising Star Award for Consistent Effort Leading to Steady Improvement was presented for significant overall improvement in GPA from Quarter 1 through Quarter 3 in 8th grade to a student who exemplifies the school vision and personifies JPMS PRIDE.

Kathleen Van Houten

• The Odd Fellows Award was presented to two students who have earned the most SSL hours through April 30 of Grade 8.

Dylan Drain Stefan Fessenden

• The American Legion Award was presented to a student who consistently demonstrates Honor, Leadership, Patriotism, Scholarship, and Service.

Erin Green

• The Linda Fiore Memorial Award, named for the first principal of John Poole Middle School, was presented to a student who has attended JPMS for 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.

Peter Barry

• International Thespian Society Junior Achievement Award is presented to students to honor their work and dedication to the theater, school, and community.

Dorothy Ballman	Nicole Duran	Maureen Miller
Taylor Byrd	Chloe Insalaco	Jeremy Ouart
Gabriella Capobianchi	Clara Jackson	Melanie Staszewski
Rebecca Carin	Jacob Marshall	Bryce Taylor

Congratulations to all our wonderful students!

Thank you to the many generous parents who helped us celebrate the end of the school year!

6th Grade luncheon volunteers
7th grade Smokey Glen drivers and
chaperones
8th Grade dance planners
and chaperones

You are the best!

A Night to Remember...

The 8th Grade dance was a beautiful event the students will want to remember forever.

Thanks to the generosity of our PTSA, the photographer has posted hundreds of pictures online for everyone to be able to access, download, and print for free, or you can order professionally printed pictures if you prefer.

Use this link to view over 400 photographs of the big evening:

http://the-

kastens.smugmug.com/Other/ JPMS8thGradeDance/4156013 0 8jR3B2

The case-sensitive password is NoSchool.

I know you'll enjoy seeing our kids have a great time together!









Our Outdoor Classroom

Takes Shape

Last year, Mr. Grotenhuis, Mrs. Yesnick and Mrs. Thomas met to discuss an exciting new project: the design and construction of an outdoor classroom. As this year comes to a close, the dream is becoming a reality.

Students have been part of the project from the beginning, and last week School Energy and Recycling Team (SERT) representative Mr. DJ Connelly presented the environmental science class with a certificate for taking first place in the MCPS Lead by Example



Green School Contest. The award recognizes our school's work to engage everyone in awareness of and caring for our environment, and it brings a \$1000 check as the prize!



energy in the building and a project to recycle paper led by Mr. Boettner in Grade 6, helped build the enclosure and fill it in with longlasting fabricated mulch to make the classroom comfortable and easy to care for. Collaboration with Snitzer

That prize money, combined with

Landscaping of Dickerson over the past two years resulted in the planting of three good-sized shade trees on the classroom's parimeter, making a more beautiful setting that will continue to grow more inviting as the trees get larger and cool the

> site with their shade.

Beautiful. sturdy tables with benches were purchased when we won a grant from Lowe's Education

Congratulations to our 2013/2014 grant winners.

2014 LEAD BY EXAMPLE **ENERGY & RECYCLING AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**

FIRST PLACE

JOHN POOLE MIDDLE SCHOOL



Foundation. The five tables were delivered this week between the rainstorms. Now we're just about ready to take advantage of our new classroom.



Over the summer, the final touches will be added as JPMS alum Cole McKenney builds and installs a display board similar to the kind of structures you find at the entrances to state and national parks. Cole is taking on the project as part of becoming an Eagle Scout. His work will have a lasting benefit for generations of JPMS students whose classes will be able to use his board to take their learning outside the school building. Part of the Scout project is also clearing some brush from the wooded area behind the classroom so trails can be used to access all the components of our school environment.

I hope you will come by next fall to see the outdoor classroom's finished form. We're already designing a sign-up system so everyone will be able to take advantage of this new resource.

Many thanks to the host of collaborators who have made the outdoor classroom project so successful! Mr. Grotenhuis provided design expertise and organizational skill; Mrs. Yesnick procured thousands of dollars in grant money and worked with her students on environmental issues; Mr. Boettner led the 6th grade paper recycling team; Mrs. Thomas and her building service team advised the project and supervised construction; Mrs. Phillips acted as liaison with Lowes to ensure we got our tables assembled, delivered and placed on time; John Snitzer of Snitzer Landscaping taught students about native species and planting wisely so that we can enjoy the outdoors without spoiling it; he and his crew procured and planted the shade trees; Cole McKenney and his Boy Scout troop are providing important improvements that will make the space practical for instruction as well as inviting for relaxation. It is wonderful to see this teamwork produce a beautiful product that will last for many years to come!

Summer Movies Are Here

Been too busy to keep up with what's playing in theaters for your kids this year? Common Sense Media publishes some great resources for families that could help you out!

This website focuses on the hot trend to make movies from popular young adult novels. It gives the five best book-to-movie treatments of the summer: https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/5-books-to-read-before-theyre-movies?utm source=052214+Parent+Default&utm medium=email&utm campaign=weekly

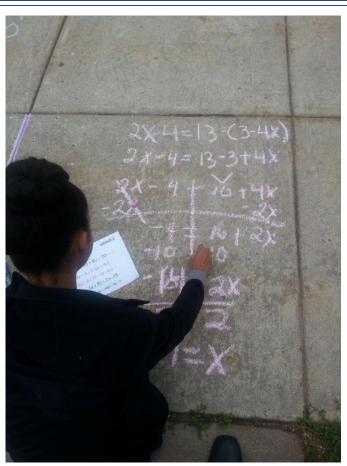
From action & adventure to eye-popping animation to "pass the tissues, please" love stories, this is your guide to the summer's biggest movies for kids and families: $\frac{\text{http://click.commonsensemedia-email.org/?qs=4959ec2ec6298f1ae2fb8f344eddba32e3236f2d9071d0fdff456cd3a253231b6415ae16ec68a86b}$

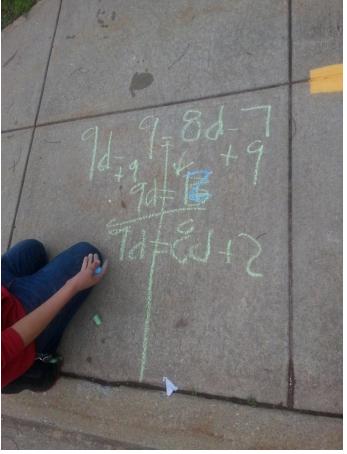
Sidewalk Math

Mr. McKay's 2nd period Algebra Prep class managed to find a few sunny moments in the past week to go outside and cover the school's front walk with math. Each group had to solve 6 algebra equations on the sidewalk using colored chalk. Staff walked around and gave feedback using purple chalk on the student equations. Although the rain quickly washed the evidence away, students and teachers alike enjoyed taking their lessons to the sidewalks!







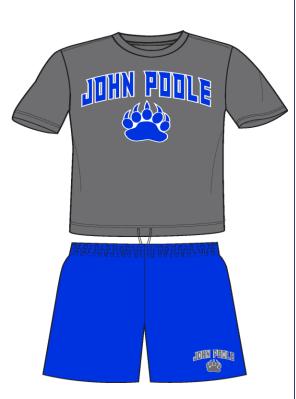


JPMS TIMBERWOLVES PHYSICAL EDUCATION ON-LINE UNIFORM SALE

Don't wait! Purchase next year's PE uniform online at the Online School Payments website.

It's as easy as shopping at Amazon and there's no check to carry back and forth (or drop on the way to school!)

These shirts and shorts are popular with the kids and many students like to have an extra tee shirt or complete set at home to wear outside of school. Sometimes we even see dads wearing JPMS gear in the community!



Follow these simple steps to make your purchase:

- 1. Visit the JPMS home page: http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/poolems/
- 2. Under Quick Links, Click on IPMS Online School Payments
- 3. Click on JPMS t-shirt and/or shorts
- 4. E-mail Kimberly_S_Gerrie @mcpsmd.org with sizing. Available sizes are
 - a. Shorts: Kids XL, Adult S, M, L, XL
 - b. Shirts: Adult S, M, L, XL

If a size request is not received the PE staff will size your child accordingly.

5. If payment and size request are received on or before **Friday**, **July 17** the uniform will be delivered to your child during the first week of school through his or her Physical Education Class.

Thanks for thinking ahead so there will be a smooth start to PE classes in the fall!

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.





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.

<u>Applications are due by August 29, 2014</u>. 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 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-diptheria-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

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.





Save the Date!



Important events you won't want to miss!

June 15 Father's Day! Best wishes and thanks to all our great dads,

granddads, uncles and mentors!

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

June 19 Report Cards Mailed

August 25 First Day of School for the 2014 - 2015 school year!

John Poole Middle School Summer Orientation for 6th Grade!



Summer Orientation For Incoming 6th Graders



Yvesday, August 12

9:00 - 11:00 am

or

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Media Center

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

- Locker combination races
- · Scavenger hunt
- . Meet other students

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

PHS NEWS

Go Falcons!



Congratulations to the Class of 2014!!

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 - Mr. Sinclair **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