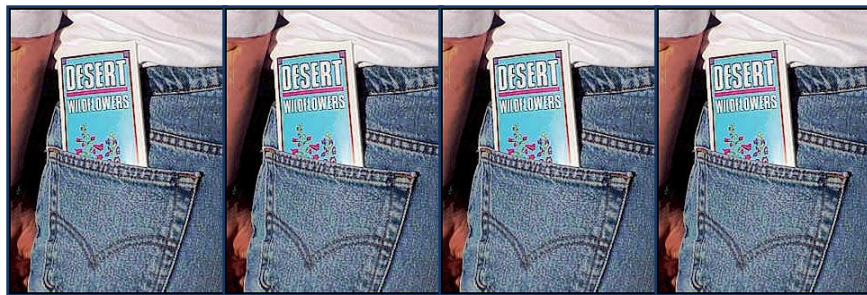


John Poole's **BACK POCKET**



October 26, 2012

A Thought for Today:

**Mathematics is the sister, as well as the servant, of the arts
and is touched with the same madness and genius.**

~ Harold Marston Morse



Why Don't We Celebrate Halloween in Middle School?

What's cuter than little kids in costume for the Halloween parade? It's an adorable moment captured in many family albums, but the parades and parties are over once students hit Grade 6. In middle school, we leave the distractions to teaching and learning for the hours outside the school day so we can concentrate on finishing the quarter strong.

Please don't send your child to school in a Halloween costume, mask, or face paint next week. Of course, anything that would be appropriate to wear on a typical school day, such as an orange shirt or pumpkin earrings, is still fine to wear as Halloween approaches, but anything that would not meet dress expectations on a typical day – such as hats, antennae, or clown wigs – can be distractions we don't need as we focus on winding up the first marking term.

Sometimes kids will ask why they can dress up for Blue Ribbon Week but not for Halloween. The answer is simple: we have an instructional objective behind Blue Ribbon Week; Halloween is just for fun. Furthermore, the rules still apply even during a spirit week. For example, there is never a Hat Day during Blue Ribbon Week, because if hats can create a distraction, there is no day at school when they are appropriate to wear.

Halloween is Wednesday night and Friday is the last day of the first quarter. This is an especially good week to be on top of Edline and sure that your child hasn't forgotten his or her school responsibilities. It's also a week when many schools are awash in candy. I am very proud that, even at this time of year, the corridors at JPMS are generally clear of candy wrappers and squished treats. If you are tempted to send in your bags of surplus candy, please don't. Kids love to hand out the sweets, but too much of a good thing is nothing but trouble for kids this age – as I'm sure you already know from Halloweens gone by.

Don't forget that Math Night is next Tuesday (Halloween Eve!) There will be games and math activities for the whole family, Edline support, and this year, an exciting opportunity to purchase real movie theater posters from hundreds of your favorite films. (Check out the ad a little farther along in this issue!) We've planned the evening to be over at 8:00 so that you can get home for a reasonable bedtime for the little ones. Thanks!

- Charlotte Boucher

Hallway Heroes

Hallway Heroes are students we honor for demonstrating exemplary **PRIDE** behaviors as they move from class to class, helping to keep our hallways safe and comfortable for everyone.

The students recognized below consistently demonstrate **Purpose, Respect, Integrity, Dedication** and **Effort** everywhere they go at JPMS. They are **Hallway Heroes** and we are proud to celebrate their high expectations and their Timberwolf PRIDE!



Emily Bolten

Lita Fraley

Darrell Marshall

Coleman Carmack

Noah Garner

Victoria Pach

Ronan Connell

Michael Huff

Briona Winstead

Congratulations to Our Newly Elected SGA Officers!

Last week we heard campaign speeches from a host of excellent candidates for office in the Student Government Association, and this week students voted through their social studies classes. (They had already elected class representatives in earlier elections.)

In a national election year, it's especially appropriate to model responsible voter practices; students were provided with capture sheets and photos of the candidates so they could take notes during the speeches and associate the ideas with the faces of students they may not know personally but whom they pass in the halls every day.

Mr. Owens is our SGA sponsor, and the new officers are **James Donovan** – President; **Theresa Nardone** – Vice President; **Molly Sherman** – Secretary; and **John Thompson** – Treasurer. Congratulations to these great kids! We are looking forward to their strong leadership this year!



This week a concerned parent alerted me to a near accident that occurred when students were arriving to school recently. A line of cars waited to enter the parking lot from Tom Fox, and a car exited after dropping off a student without yielding to oncoming traffic. Drivers cannot assume everyone on Tom Fox in the morning is coming to drop off a student! A car that was not turning into our parking lot nearly collided with the exiting vehicle.

Please remember – *our children's safety is of paramount importance.* Always pull forward to the marked drop off zone so cars don't back up too far on Tom Fox. Always turn right out of our parking lot (as the sign requires). Always check for and yield to oncoming traffic. Thanks!

GAMES!!

***Cool
Prizes!!***

***Math
Fun!!!***

***DOOR
PRIZES!!***

***Don't be
SQUARE!
We'll see you
there!***

JPMS

Math Night

Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012

5:45 – 8:00 pm

Buy dinner : Pizza and drinks

5:45 – 6:30 pm

Sudoku!

***Adult sessions –
Math and Technology;
Edline support***

Check out the AMAZING array of movie posters on sale in the APR!

GREG KINNEAR STEVE CARELL TONI COLLETTE PAUL DANO WITH ABIGAIL BRESLIN AND ALAN ARKIN

"THE FUNNIEST LAUGH-OUT-LOUD AUDIENCE PLEASER
AT THE SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL"

"THE"

HOLLYWOOD Comes to JPMS!

Thanks to our
good friends at

Kentlands Stadium 10 Theaters
we have a treasure trove of authentic
movie posters to sell over the next few
weeks!

Because these are actual posters sent
to the theater for publicity, we have
hundreds of movies to choose from,
and both regular-sized movie posters
and giant banners are available.

There are duplicates of many movie
posters, but only one of others, so
purchase will have to be first come,
first served.

Posters from movies for all ages!

\$5 for regular posters

\$10 for large paper posters

\$30 for huge canvas banners

Browse the catalog of posters online at
our website. You can begin sending in
your orders on

Monday, October 29.

**KENTLANDS
STADIUM 10**

<http://www.kentlandsstadium8.com>



John Poole Middle School Movie Poster Order Form

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name of Movie #1: _____

Size: ☐ regular (approximately 27" x 40") \$5
☐ large paper (see database for size) \$10
☐ large canvas banner \$30

Name of Movie #2: _____

Size: ☐ regular (approximately 27" x 40") \$5
☐ large paper (see database for size) \$10
☐ large canvas banner \$30

Name of Movie #3: _____

Size: ☐ regular (approximately 27" x 40") \$5
☐ large paper (see database for size) \$10
☐ large canvas banner \$30

Name of Movie #4: _____

Size: ☐ regular (approximately 27" x 40") \$5
☐ large paper (see database for size) \$10
☐ large canvas banner \$30

Looking for a frame to go with your poster?

Ligon to : http://snapframesdirect.com/Snap-Frames/Movie_Poster_Frames_SALE.html?gclid=CMmazfXtmbMCFQSf4AodJzIAuw

When you order a frame, use the code JPMS. Your frame will be shipped at no charge to JPMS where we will send it home with your child or hold it for you to pick up.

Free shipping for you – a bonus for JPMS!

Total amount

enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to JPMS.

For Office Use Only
Received

Date:

Time:

Fall Sports Highlights

The Boys Softball Team has gotten off to a great start this season, posting a 3 and 0 record, led by consistent pitching from **Brady Pearee**, strong defense in the infield from **Cole Carmack** and great offense by the whole team with a combined batting average 700.

- The boys won their first game against Rocky Hill 7 to 1.
- In their second game against Roberto Clemente, they won 17 to 0 only allowing only 2 base runners in the game.
- In their 3rd game against Kingsview, they did what no other team in 8 seasons has been able to accomplish, and that is to come away with a victory. Kingsviews's 44 game win streak came to an end with our boys bringing home the victory 7 to 5

On Wednesday this week, the boys were scheduled to play Ridgeview, but an accident closed Route 28. The team was on the way to the game when the accident occurred. The bus driver and Coach Cartwright knew that there were other roads to take to Ridgeview, but they felt that these back roads were not the safest place for a charter bus to travel. To err on the side of caution, they returned to school, and the boys' softball team did not get the opportunity to play their game.

Thank you, Coach Cartwright, for keeping the boys' safety in mind! We are currently working on a makeup game and will keep you posted. On November 1st, the boys are scheduled to play the final game of their outstanding season at home against King Middle School.

Thanks to everyone who has come out and supported the boys' softball team.



The John Poole Middle School Co-ed Cross Country season has gotten started with an outstanding effort by our 7th and 8th grade runners. The Timberwolves hosted Rocky Hill in their first outing, resulting in a 20-35 win for the JPMS girls team. The competition was highlighted by a first place finish for 8th grader **Emily Yin** who finished the hilly mile and a half course in 10:19 - fourteen seconds faster than Rocky Hill's second place finisher who edged 8th grade Timberwolf **Hailey Khalil** by just one second. 7th grade standouts **Kelliann Lee**, **Bridgette Hammett** and **Haley Harkins** sealed the JPMS victory with fourth, fifth and seventh place finishes respectively. Other notable Timberwolf finishers were **Hannah Bush**, **Killian Carney**, **Delaney Cecco**, **Bella Garner**, **Ava McEachern**, **Kaelyn Milby**, **Alessandra Molina**, **Susanna "Cubby" Schmidt**, and **Rebeckah Trainor**.



In the boy's race, a solid third place finish was turned in by John Poole's **Tucker Ross** with a time of 8:50, just four seconds behind Rocky Hill's first place finisher. Also finishing in the top ten were 8th grader **Joe Brashear** and 7th grader **Perry Dominici**. Rocky Hill's boys team proved well-conditioned, scoring a 44-18 team victory. Teammates **Calvin Kinzie**, **Raymond Kinzie**, **Brandon Kocur**, **Sean Lyons**, **Alex O'Donnell**, **Michael Payne**, **Parker Nockett**, **Sam Ritter** and **Luke Terrell** rounded out the John Poole field of finishers. Next week we'll review the running Timberwolves's dual wins over Germantown's Roberto Clemente Middle School. Run! Timberwolves! Run!





Economics for Success

Dear Parents:

As a result of the economic challenges facing our nation in the last few years, the need for students to begin building a foundation of financial understanding is greater than ever. Maryland has recently mandated that all schools systems include instruction of the Maryland Standards for Financial Literacy at the Elementary, Middle, and High School levels. In the middle schools of Montgomery County Public Schools these standards will be addressed through social studies classes in Grades Six and Seven.

This year, students in Grade Six will take part in five lessons from the Junior Achievement program, *Economics for Success*. Junior Achievement has been a long-standing partner with MCPS in delivering volunteer-led lessons to students throughout the county. Volunteers are drawn from local businesses and community organizations as well as the parent community. *Economics for Success* explores personal finance and students' education and career options based on their skills, interests, and values.

Junior Achievement **needs 3 volunteers** to help the 6th grade. You do not have to have any prior knowledge, as Junior Achievement will train you. You will teach a series of 5 lessons on things like budgeting, credit cards, and insurance to the 6th grade students at John Poole. It's a great way to be involved and give back to the community at the same time! **We need 3 more parents for this program, which will take place on November 12th & 13th.** If you are interested, please contact Jeni Pastier as soon as possible at 301-838-0471 or e-mail her at jeni.pastier@ja.org.

Starting this school year, students in Grade Seven will take part in five lessons delivered by their classroom teacher that further expand their understanding of financial literacy.

You can learn more about MCPS' partnership with Junior Achievement and see a preview of the *Economics for Success* program by visiting www.myJA.org/montgomery.

Junior Achievement of Greater Washington
804 West Diamond Avenue, Suite 300, Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-838-0471
jeni.pastier@ja.org
www.myJA.org

Destination Imagination (DI – formerly Odyssey of the Mind)

An adventure in team work, problem-solving and creativity!

DI is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to give students the chance to learn and experience the creative process from imagination to innovation.

Parents – would you be willing to sponsor a team of JPMS students to compete in this year's DI tournaments? You would meet with your team through the year, responding to challenges that require students to work together and think outside the box.

Want to know more? There will be a "Try DI" night on October 29 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the Carver Educational Services Center Auditorium, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville. Participants will hear a presentation about the program and get the chance to try actual hands-on activities. For more information, contact Ms. SueAnn Dahl (sueann_dahl@mcpsmd.org) or Ms. Gail Rothberg (cantor.family@verison.net) but hurry – the deadline for signing up to participate in DI is November 30!

It's Magnet Recommendation Season

This week, students who are planning to apply for a competitive entry program received the letter below from the 8th grade team. Applications must include four recommendations, one from each of the current English, math, science and history teachers.

Every year, I hear from PHS that the recommendations our teachers write stand out as excellent, helpful and accurate contributions to the selection process. That's hard, because the 8th graders have not even worked with their teachers for a marking term yet. Our teachers are asking for the information that will help them show specific evidence in support of JPMS candidates.

If your 8th grader is applying to a magnet program, please make sure he or she submits a strong, well-written letter by November 2 to each teacher writing a recommendation. The thoughtful effort can make a real difference!

Dear Student,

You may be getting ready to ask for a recommendation from your teachers for a special high school program. Each teacher knows you as a student in his or her particular class, but may have limited knowledge of you as a whole person. To help your teacher write the best recommendation he or she can, **please provide each teacher with a letter or outline about your background and interests, any hardships you have overcome, your reason(s) for applying to the program, and your personal goals.**

Some items you may include are:

- Your personal background.
- An explanation of which magnet program(s) to which you are applying and why the program is important to you.
- Personal strengths that make you an ideal candidate for a magnet program, such as being inquisitive, motivated and hard-working. In other words, what are your strengths?
- Your commitment to other students and your community, as demonstrated by your volunteer work, willingness to help other students, and involvement in humanitarian causes. Remember, we don't see your completed application!
- Your interests outside of school, and how these have helped you to become who you are today.
- Your leadership skills and experiences.

You do not have to write a *different* letter to each of your teachers! It is fine to **write one letter and distribute a copy of the letter to each of the following teachers: Math, English, Science, and American History.** Your letter must include your student identification number!

It is important that you are respectful of deadlines during the application process. We are requesting that you have your letter/outline and recommendation form to us by Friday, November 2. We will complete the recommendations in the order in which they are received. Last year we completed over 60 recommendations; if you provide us with personal information, we can make the recommendation as unique as possible.

Remember, too, to be respectful as you approach your teacher for a recommendation. Manners are essential when you ask someone to do something for you!

Sincerely,
The 8th grade team

Vote for Mrs. Yesnick – and Mr. Keegin!



Two teachers from Poolesville have been nominated for The Gazette's Favorite Teacher contest! **Kaley Fisher** nominated our Grade 7 Science and Environmental Science teacher, **Mrs. Yesnick**, and **Mr. Keegin** from Poolesville Elementary was also selected as a finalist.

We can vote for both our local nominees, and since they are in different categories, these votes won't cancel each other out.

From now until November 9, everyone can visit <http://ww2.gazette.net/teacher/> to vote as many times as you want. Just be careful – it takes visiting several screens before your vote is recorded. Clicking on the "Vote Now" icon doesn't submit your vote; it just gets you to the voting screen. Then you click on the box next to Mrs. Yesnick or Mr. Keegin, and you still have one more screen to go. They will ask for your name and email, but you don't have to give either one – just click on "Done" and your vote will finally be recorded.

There will be one winner in each county at each level--elementary, middle and high school. Let's get all our students, family and friends online and voting!

Remember, bookmark this page and come back as often as you can to vote for our local teachers!



Welcome back JPMS students and parents!

It is our goal to provide activities to meet the desires of all students. If you have any suggestions for programs or interests, please contact Mrs. Crutchfield at Winessa_R_Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org.

Some of the programs offered this year are Books and Boxing, Babysitting Club, Jewelry Making, Zumba Class, Scrapbooking, Game Room, Book Club and much more. Keep checking the *Back Pocket* for upcoming classes.

Sewing Club – Tuesdays and Thursdays after school in room 301

Chemistry Club Sponsored by Mrs. Callaghan



We held our first chemistry club on Wednesday, October 10th. The club members were introduced to the importance of scientific literacy via the dihydrogen monoxide hoax. Following that introduction, students received the periodic table and are becoming familiar with its layout by identifying families of elements. We played a couple rounds of element BINGO to practice learning the symbols.



We'd love to have more students join us as we discover basic concepts of chemistry.

Chemistry Club Dates: 10/31, 11/7, 11/14, 11/28, 12/11, 12/18

Community Opportunities

Neighbor to Neighbor

MCPS has launched a new community engagement initiative called "Neighbor to Neighbor". The Neighbor to Neighbor project provides you with the resources to host and moderate a self-guided, small-group discussion on important topics in MCPS. The goal of this project is to provide feedback to the school system about issues that are important to you. These discussions may be held during a variety of times and places, such as during a PTA or other parent meeting, in a community member's home, or as part of a civic or community organization meeting. The first discussion will center on what the MCPS community values in the MCPS operating budget. The Neighbor to Neighbor website includes an online toolkit that serves as a step-by-step guide. It includes a short video and documents that provide an overview of the operating budget. It can be accessed at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/neighbor-to-neighbor/.

Vecino a Vecino

MCPS ha lanzado su nueva iniciativa para participación de la comunidad, llamada "Vecino a Vecino". El proyecto de Vecino a Vecino le proporciona recursos para que usted organice y modere una conversación en grupo pequeño guiada por usted acerca de temas importantes en MCPS. El objetivo de este proyecto es proveer comentarios/sugerencias al sistema escolar acerca de temas que son de importancia para usted. Estas conversaciones pueden realizarse en distintos momentos y lugares, como ser durante una reunión de la asociación de padres y maestros (PTA, por sus siglas en inglés) u otro tipo de reunión de padres, en la casa de un miembro de la comunidad, o como parte de una reunión en una organización cívica o comunitaria. La primera conversación se centrará en lo que la comunidad de MCPS valora en el presupuesto operativo de MCPS. La página de Internet de Vecino a Vecino incluye una serie de herramientas en línea que sirven como una guía paso a paso. Se incluye un video corto y documentos que proveen un panorama del presupuesto operativo. Se puede obtener acceso ingresando a www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/neighbor-to-neighbor/.

2012 School Based Seasonal Flu Vaccine Clinics

The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will conduct free nasal spray flu vaccine clinics (FluMist) in November for children 18 and under. On Monday, November 5, flu clinics open to any school-aged child will be held at John F. Kennedy, Richard Montgomery, and Seneca Valley high schools. All MCPS elementary schools will host a flu clinic on either Monday, November 12, or Tuesday, November 13, following early dismissal of students on those days.

All clinics are free, but registration is required due to limited vaccine supplies. For more information, visit the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services website at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs> or call 311.

Clínicas de Vacunación en las Escuelas Contra la Gripe Común/de Temporada 2012

Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) ofrecerá clínicas gratis con vacunas contra la gripe en atomizador nasal (FluMist) en noviembre para menores de 18 años. El lunes, 5 de noviembre, se realizarán clínicas contra la gripe en las escuelas secundarias John F. Kennedy, Richard Montgomery y Seneca Valley. Ese día no hay clases porque es un día profesional para los maestros. Estas clínicas son para cualquier niño de edad escolar. Todas las escuelas elementales tendrán una clínica de vacunación contra la gripe en una de dos fechas—el lunes, 12 de noviembre, o el martes, 13 de noviembre—y comenzarán una vez que los estudiantes sean despedidos después de la media jornada de clases en ambos días. En octubre, la escuela le enviará con su hijo/a más información.

Todas las clínicas son gratis, pero se requiere inscripción dada la cantidad limitada de vacunas. Para más informes, consulte el sitio de Internet de Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, ingresando a <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs> o llame al 311.

Community Conversation with the Board of Education

The Montgomery County Board of Education would like to hear from you concerning the values that should guide the school system. Parents, staff, students and community members are invited to participate in a Community Conversation with the Board of Education on Wednesday, November 14, at 7 p.m. in the Richard Montgomery High School cafeteria. Foreign language interpretation and child care will be available. For additional information and to register for the event, call 301-279-3617 or visit the Board of Education website at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/.

Conversación de la Comunidad con Board of Education

Montgomery County Board of Education quisiera saber su opinión con respecto a los valores que deberían guiar al sistema escolar. Se invita a los padres, al personal, a los estudiantes y a los miembros de la comunidad a que participen en una Conversación de la Comunidad con Board of Education, el miércoles, 14 de noviembre, a las 7:00 p.m., en la cafetería de Richard Montgomery High School. La inscripción para el evento comenzará a mediados de octubre. Habrá interpretación de idiomas y cuidado infantil disponible. Para información adicional y para inscribirse para el evento, por favor llame al 301-279-3617 o visite el sitio de Internet de Board of Education en www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/.

SSL Opportunities

1. Community Service Day 2012

Projects for Community Service Day have begun, but it's not too late to be a part of this exciting Day of Service. There are projects that still need your help. Sign up now to be a part of Montgomery County's [Community Service Day](#), Saturday, October 27, 2012. **Projects are available the whole week of October 22-28!**

This is a great way for students to earn Student Service Learning (SSL) hours and for families and groups to serve together!

Take pictures of your project and volunteers in action! Send photos to mcvolunteers@gmail.com.

[Click here](#) to see the full list of projects



2. SSL Volunteer Opportunities at Brookside Gardens

Community Service Day Oct 27nd at Brookside Gardens, 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m. Volunteers will help remove non-native invasive plants from natural wooded areas surrounding [Brookside Gardens](#). Volunteers must be 14 or older (volunteers 11-13 may work with a registered parent volunteer as a one on one team). Be prepared for outdoor physical work. Volunteers must register at <https://ec.volunteernow.com/recruiter/index.php?class=OppSearchResults&recruiterID=1296&transProv=586>

Contact the volunteer desk at 301.962.1429 or mcp-gardenvolunteer@montgomeryparks.org for more information.

Community Service Day Oct 27nd at McCrillis Gardens in Bethesda, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Volunteers will spend the morning removing invasive English Ivy from mature shade gardens at our satellite garden location, [McCrillis Gardens](#). Volunteers must be 14 or older (volunteers 11-13 may work with a registered parent volunteer as a one on one team). Be prepared for outdoor physical work. Volunteers must register at <https://ec.volunteernow.com/recruiter/index.php?class=OppSearchResults&recruiterID=1296&transProv=590>

Contact the volunteer desk at 301.962.1429 or mcp-gardenvolunteer@montgomeryparks.org for more information.

3. **WUMCO Fall Festival**

Come WALK A MILE FOR WUMCO on October 27th from Noon-4:00 p.m. at Whalen Commons in Poolesville and enjoy great vendors and fun activities at the WUMCO Fall Festival. Join your neighbors, friends, and Poolesville's own "Biggest Loser" celebrities, Gail and Lauren Lee, as you become involved in WUMCO's Miniwalk, Costume Contests, Scarecrow Making, Pumpkin Painting, Music, Carnival Games, Corn Hole, Moon Bounce, Rock Wall, Basket Auction and MORE!

Walk Registration (11:30 a.m.) and Walk (12:00)

1:00 Dog Costume Contest 1:30 Kid Costume Contest 3:30 Pumpkin and Scarecrow Judging

Walk Registration Forms available at Poolesville.com, local churches and businesses.

If you are interested in volunteering please email PvilleFallFestival@gmail.com. Both Adult and Youth volunteers are needed. All students will receive SSL hours.

4. **Drama Club Service Project**

The JPMS Phantom Players are participating in a nationwide community service project called Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat (TOTS-EAT). This is a program run by the International Thespian Society.

Thousands of students across the U.S. are working together to try to collect 350,000 pounds of food for this year's campaign. We want to make a difference, so from October 1 through Halloween the JPMS Phantom Players are collecting nonperishable food for **WUMCO**. Please contribute to a drama club member in your neighborhood or drop your donations off at JPMS.



5. **Join the Leo Club!**

The Leo Club is a non-profit organization that stands for Leadership, Experience and Opportunity. By volunteering time and talents for the benefit of others, Leos learn firsthand the value and rewards of community service. Though sponsored by the Lions Club, Leo Clubs elect their own officers, schedule their own meetings, and select their own fundraisers and service projects. You will earn SSL hours for your service time.

The club has plans to be very active this year. Our first big project is raising money with the proceeds going towards Thanksgiving baskets for area families. Last year we were able to provide meals to 20 families. We also hope to visit a local hospital to read to children. We welcome any suggestions to fill needs that you see locally.

Our new officers elections for 2012-2013 will be held soon. Please bring ideas for service projects this year and a friend!! If anyone is interested in joining the Leo Club or wants to be added to the email list or has any questions please contact Mrs. Kari Auel at Kari_R_Auel@mcpsmd.org



6. **Scholarship opportunity – Patriot's Pen**

Patriot's Pen -- An opportunity for 7th and 8th graders. Do you like to write? Do you enjoy history? Would you like to earn money? Each year the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) holds a writing contest called the Patriot's Pen. All entries are due to the local VFW by November 1, 2012, so all entries must be turned into Mrs. Arnold by October 31st. This allows her time to get them to the local VFW by November 1st. For more information check out this website <http://www.vfw.org/Community/Patriot-s-Pen/>

Pick up an application from your English Teacher, Mrs. Arnold or on-line.

Our Bake Sale Needs You!

Hi JPMS Families,

We have an exciting opportunity to earn some extra money for our PTSA this year! On election day (Tuesday, November 6th), we will be running a bake sale from 7am to 8pm (with a break in the middle) at the school, and we can't do it without everyone's help!

We need people to staff the table (two per two hour block). And of course we need baked goods (brownies, cookies, donuts, muffins--YUM!!). We are also asking for people to donate prepared dinners (e.g., chili with corn bread, lasagna with a green salad, etc.). The dinner will sell for more and will be sure to please those people rushing from work to vote and then home!



So if you love to cook, this is a great way to show off your talents! To pitch in for this great event please:

1. **Click this link** to go to our invitation page on VolunteerSpot:
<http://vols.pt/kG1yyt>
2. **Enter your email address.** (You will NOT need to register an account on VolunteerSpot.)
3. **Sign Up!** Choose your spots. VolunteerSpot will send you automated confirmation and reminder messages. Easy!

(Note: VolunteerSpot does NOT share your email address with anyone or send spam emails. If you prefer not to enter your address - please contact Emily Pavlick at [240-489-3383](tel:240-489-3383) and I can sign you up manually.)

As for getting your baked good/prepared dinner to us:

1. Drop off at the school on Friday, November 2nd if your donation is packaged to stay fresh until Tuesday
2. Drop off anytime over the weekend, or Monday November 5th to either: Jen Kasten's house at 18016 Bliss Drive or Emily Pavlick's house at 18008 Bliss Drive.



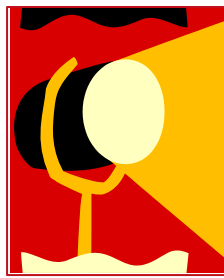
And one last thing, we are also looking to borrow a large coffee carafe (or two), and a couple coolers for drinks. Please contact Emily Pavlick if you can donate these items for the day. Any questions at all, please email (emilypavlick@gmail.com) or call Emily Pavlick at [240-489-3383](tel:240-489-3383). Thanks everyone--looking forward to a great bake sale!!

Best Regards,
JPMS PTA

Your PTSA –

“Every child, one voice”

- Jennifer Kasten - President
- Dawn Albert - Vice President
- Dreama Hemingway - Secretary
- Wendy Roldan – Treasurer
- Lori Kocur – Membership & Volunteers
- Anne Donovan & Jackie Gaddis – Staff Appreciation



Spotlight on...

Election Day – 11/6

The PTA needs parents to donate baked goods for a bake sale during election hours. if you are able to help, please email emilypavlick@gmail.com. Thanks!

Volunteer Your Time and Join the PTSA!

Please contact Lori Kocur at 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!

Membership and volunteer forms are available at the JPMS website:

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

A Note from the President:

PTSA Fundraising Goals

Our Yankee Candle order has been placed. More information to come as candles are ready for distribution. Thanks to everyone for your support!

Fundraising activities support student and teacher activities including academic rewards and snacks at honor ceremonies, staff appreciation, and PRIDE activities. This year we are also trying to raise money for the PTA Objective to purchase a WeatherBug Program for the school.

The WeatherBug Program would place a state-of-the-art WeatherBug weather station, Motion Camera, InstaCam and WeatherBug Achieve online software at our middle school providing Poolesville with real-time weather data. Data collected will be used for enhanced mathematics, science, geography, and technology education in the school. The complete program also includes interactive and dynamic lessons and activities with access on all school computers to the WeatherBug Program and the entire WeatherBug network, comprised of more than 8,000 sites.

More information can be found at: <http://weather.weatherbug.com/weather-education/teachers/?focus=2>.

Remember: Magnet applications must be postmarked no later than this Friday, November 2. You may also deliver them to the PHS Magnet Office by 3:00 PM this Friday afternoon.

TECHNOLOGY

A Welcome Friend? An Unwelcome Intruder?

Technology and the Internet are here to stay. Learn about how you can be proactive in this empowering forum, presented by Peg Arnold, Counselor at JPMS. Free and open to adults only, this event comes highly recommended and is not to be missed!

2 Dates to Choose From

Thursday, November 8, 2012
Poolesville Elementary School
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
(Following the 6:30 pm PES PTA meeting)

Thursday, December 6, 2012
Monocacy Elementary School
9:30 am to 10:30 am

POOLESVILLE
PRIDE
PROMOTING CIVILITY

Attention Magnet Applicants!



Tips for Writing a Magnet Application Essay...

- Spend time planning! Have a plan for how your essay will flow (how it will be organized)—jot down the topics of your body paragraphs so that you have a big picture before you start writing.
- Remember to start with an introduction paragraph that hooks your reader and states a clear, focused main idea.
- End with a conclusion that reviews your main idea and leaves your reader satisfied!
- Give vivid, specific examples that show who you are as a person and illustrate your points about yourself—don't make a list of blah generalizations that will bore your reader.
- Showcase your great writing skills—use vivid verbs, captivating adjectives, and smooth transition words!
- Check your work—look it over for spelling and punctuation mistakes, fragments and run-on sentences. Check for your introduction and conclusion. Check for multiple paragraphs with specific examples. Read it over to add last-minute touches!

Making Sense of Edline: What do these codes mean?

Using Edline gives you the power to monitor your child's assignments and grades as often as you wish 24/7. We have agreed on various codes that are consistent in every class so that you can access as much information as possible from the Current Assignment Reports. Here is a summary of those codes and what they mean. You may want to print this page to keep by your computer for reference.

If you have additional questions, please contact your child's teacher.

R- Reassessable: the student may earn a score to replace the original for this assignment. It is the student's responsibility to arrange for additional instructional activities and then reassess the objectives.

NR- Not Reassessable: The student may not reassess this assignment.

F- Formative: This assignment is part of the "Formative Assessments" grading category, which counts for 50% of a student's quarter grade.

S- Summative: This assignment is part of the "Summative Assessments" grading category, which counts for 40% of a student's quarter grade.

H- Homework: This assignment is part of the "Homework for Practice/Preparation" grading category, which counts for 10% of a student's quarter grade.

by [date]- by a certain deadline: This is the deadline by which a student must reassess a given assignment to replace the original grade.

X- Excused: The student is excused from this assignment, so the assignment has no effect whatsoever on the quarter grade.

Z- Zero: The student did not turn in the assignment on the due date, but the deadline has not passed, so the student may still submit the assignment for credit.

0- Numerical Zero: The student did not turn in the assignment before the deadline and may no longer submit it.

What's the different between a due date and a deadline?

The due date is the date the student should turn in an assignment for full credit. The deadline is the last day the teacher will accept the assignment for credit.

Formative assessments are assignments during the progress of a unit, when a student is still mastering objectives. They indicate a student's learning in progress.

Summative assessments are assignments at the conclusion of a unit that indicate whether a student has mastered assessed indicators. They conclude that particular unit of study.

Homework for practice/preparation is homework or in-class assignments that may have been checked for effort or participation or were minor assignments in the class.



Fall 2012 School-Based Flu Clinics



Nasal Spray Flu Vaccine will be offered at school clinics this fall!

November 5, 2012

John F. Kennedy High School
Richard Montgomery High School
Seneca Valley High School
for all students
9:00 a.m.—12 noon

November 12 and 13, 2012

All Elementary Schools
for MCPS students enrolled at the school

Monocacy Elementary's clinic will be November 12
Poolesville Elementary's clinic will be November 13

For more information visit:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/flu/>
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/flu



Noteworthy

Halloween Help

This time of year, we are bombarded with macabre seasonal images everywhere. Displays in the stores or on the neighbor's lawns are rarely distressing to middle school aged children, but graphic videos and movies can be upsetting. I really like the way Common Sense Media provides information about everything from games to movies so parents can make informed judgments about appropriate seasonal entertainment for their kids of all ages. Visit <http://www.common sense media.org/> for ideas, product reviews, and all sorts of tips related to Halloween. It's worth a look to help you make sure scary is still fun.

MCPS First State of the Schools Is Set for November 12

Save the Date!

Superintendent Joshua P. Starr will deliver his first State of the Schools address on Monday, November 12, at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane in Bethesda. MCPS parents and community members are invited to join Dr. Starr as he shares his vision for MCPS' future and highlights the successes of the outstanding students and staff of Montgomery County Public Schools. This free event will take place from 7:30–9:30 a.m. and will feature artwork and performances by MCPS students. Visit the State of the Schools website at www.mcpsstateoftheschools.org for more information and to register for the event. Please RSVP for this exciting event by November 1st.

Evento Inaugural del Estado de las Escuelas de MCPS Programado Para el 12 de Noviembre

El Superintendente Joshua P. Starr dará su primer discurso sobre el Estado de las Escuelas el día lunes, 12 de noviembre, en The Music Center en Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane en Bethesda. Los padres de estudiantes de MCPS y los miembros de la comunidad están invitados a acompañar al Dr. Starr cuando él comparta su visión para el futuro de MCPS y destaque los éxitos alcanzados por los sobresalientes estudiantes y personal de Montgomery County Public Schools. Este evento gratuito tendrá lugar de 7:30–9:30 a.m., y se exhibirán trabajos de arte y habrá actuaciones por parte de estudiantes de MCPS. Visite la página de internet del Estado de las Escuelas en www.mcpsstateoftheschools.org para más información y registración para el evento. Por favor RSVP para este gran evento antes del 1º de noviembre.

Homework Club

The Homework Club is a valuable resource that allows students to complete many of their assignments. This opportunity is a quiet place where students can go to work on homework assignments in a focused and structured school setting. Students will bring home a contract to be signed and returned to school. The Club meets on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the Media Center from 2:30 - 4:00 pm. Attendance is an important indicator of student commitment and will be taken daily. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Hardy, Homework Club Coordinator at 301-972-7978.

Edline Help Guide

An online Edline help manual is now available at the JPMS website. Click on the "Parents" tab to find the Edline Student/Parent Quick-Start Guide, or locate it in the Quick Links column on our home page.

New Season of Homework Hotline Live!

The new season of the MCPS TV program Homework Hotline Live! HHL offers students in Grades K-12 free homework assistance from MCPS teachers. Students can call, send text messages, or email questions on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. Questions received by phone are answered between 4 and 6 p.m.; all other questions are answered up until 9:00 p.m.

Homework Hotline Live! can be viewed on MCPS-TV (Comcast 34, Verizon 36, RCN 89) and on the Web at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/itv/hhl/

Help Improve the MCPS Website

MCPS is gathering feedback to improve the content and structure of the school system's website. Please take a few moments and tell us about your experiences using the website. Your input is important as we work to improve the website. Complete the survey here: <https://mcpsweb.wufoo.com/forms/website-survey/>

College Readiness Newsletter - PrepTalk

PrepTalk, a biannual newsletter, is a Montgomery County Public Schools and Montgomery College partnership project that provides information for parents and students regarding college preparation and readiness.

Topics covered in *PrepTalk* include, but are not limited to, taking 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 *PrepTalk* can be found online at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/careercenter/resources/preptalk.aspx



Attention Parents—Please join us for our one-night workshop: **Little-Known Secrets of Paying for College**

- Attend expensive private schools for the same out-of-pocket as in-state public schools.
- Pay for college in the most efficient and effective manner.
- Avoid jeopardizing your retirement nest egg.
- Qualify for your maximum Financial Aid package.
- Discover unique student positioning techniques.
- Gain an insider's view of the college admissions process.
- Recapture your out-of-pocket college costs.
- And much, much more!

Techniques
for parents
with kids of
all ages!

Walter Johnson HS
Thursday, November 15
6:30 – 8:30

Quince Orchard HS
Wednesday, January 23, 2013
7:00-8:30 in the Media Center

**Two Sessions Scheduled for
Montgomery County
This Fall!**

The link for class registration is: <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/ce/finance.html> "Little Known Secrets of Paying for College" Click "How to Register"

Save the Date!

Important events you won't want to miss!



October 30	MATH NIGHT! (5:45-Pizza\$ and 6:30-Activities)
November 2	First Marking Period Ends Magnet applications postmarked by this date or hand delivered by 3:00 PM
November 5	Professional Day – No School for Students
November 6	Election Day (No School) PTSA Bake Sale – sign up to help!
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 12 & 13	Early Release (students dismissed at 11:50 a.m.) Parent Conferences
November 14	Report Card Distribution
November 14	Town Hall Meeting in the APR (4:00-9:00 p.m.) – Video Broadcast
November 21	Early Release (students dismissed at 11:50 a.m.)
November 21	Honor Roll Celebrations
November 22 & 23	Holiday - Thanksgiving

Our next PTSA meeting will be
December 11th at 6:30.

Mark your calendars now so you
can come and participate!

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

Fall Sports Schedule

Softball Schedule

November 1 Boys play King at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)
Girls play King at King (3:15 p.m.)

Coed Cross Country Schedule

November 1 JPMS at King (3:15 p.m.)



PHS NEWS

Go Falcons!



PHS Magnet Calendar – more information is available at the PHS Website.

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/poolesvillehs/>

Application Deadline	Friday, November 2, 2012	Hand delivered by 3 pm or Postmarked
----------------------	-----------------------------	---

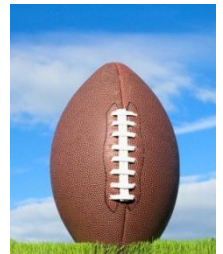
**Congratulations to Poolesville High School for being ranked the
#1 school in the State of Maryland and DC Metropolitan area
for the second year in a row by *Newsweek* magazine!**

We are so proud of our school!

Athletic Schedule (partial)

Boys Varsity Football: 10/26/2012 7:00 PM (A) PHS vs. Catoclin
11/2/2012 6:30 PM (A) PHS vs. Rockville

Girls Varsity Volleyball 10/26/2012 6:00 PM (H) PHS vs. Wheaton



Sign up to follow Miss Levine on Twitter:

http://twitter.com/Principal_PHS

Come to the fall play

THE PEOPLE VERSUS MAXINE LOWE

Thursday, November 15, 7:00 pm

Friday, November 16, 7:30 pm

Saturday, November 17, 2:00 and 7:30 pm.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults.

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**

