

November 1, 2013

John Poole's **BACK POCKET**

A Thought for Today:

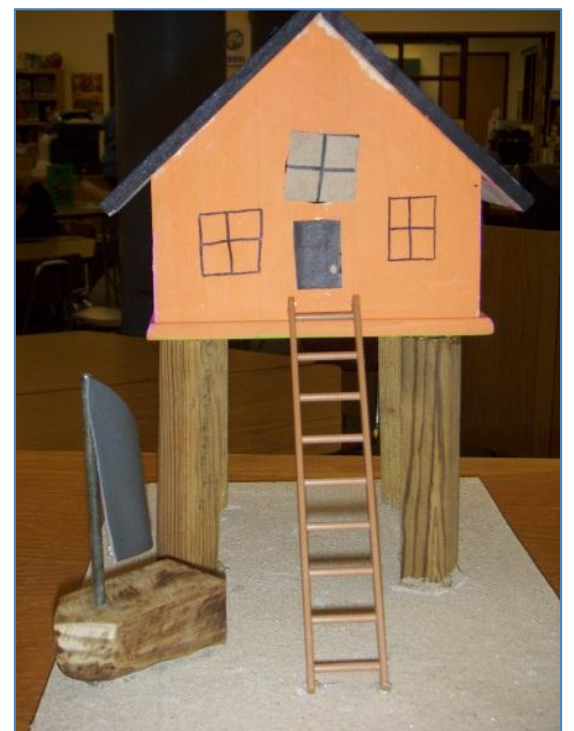
"It is not enough to have a good mind. The main thing is to use it well.."

- Rene Descartes

Don't Miss STEM Night!

The arrival of the Common Core State Curriculum has brought us another tidal wave of acronyms – CCSS for one! This week we are celebrating another important feature of the Common Core: STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Math. I especially like this updated angle for looking at the overlapping skills needed in these four important areas, because it is so well suited to the middle school learner. STEM skills take understanding the science and being able to calculate the math into the practical world of problem-solving and creating products. Kids are hands-on learners at this age, and the STEM approach is a great fit.

Join us on Thursday night to see how JPMS is making STEM exciting for our kids. You can see the Sea Perch robots in action – actual remote control submarines our 8th graders build in technology classes - and the home designs created in science classes. As the news follows the painful rebuilding process after Hurricane Sandy last year, we have real-world proof of the importance of respecting our environment and living with the climate in mind. Some students designed houses on stilts; some are built in a geodesic dome shape to withstand high winds; others may be underground to regulate high outdoor temperatures. Many of the projects suggest the use of alternative energy: wind, water, geothermal, solar, and provide for rain harvesting with traditional methods or by using a fog net. So many of these options are new since I went to school, but they are important parts of the world we are sending our students off to live in!



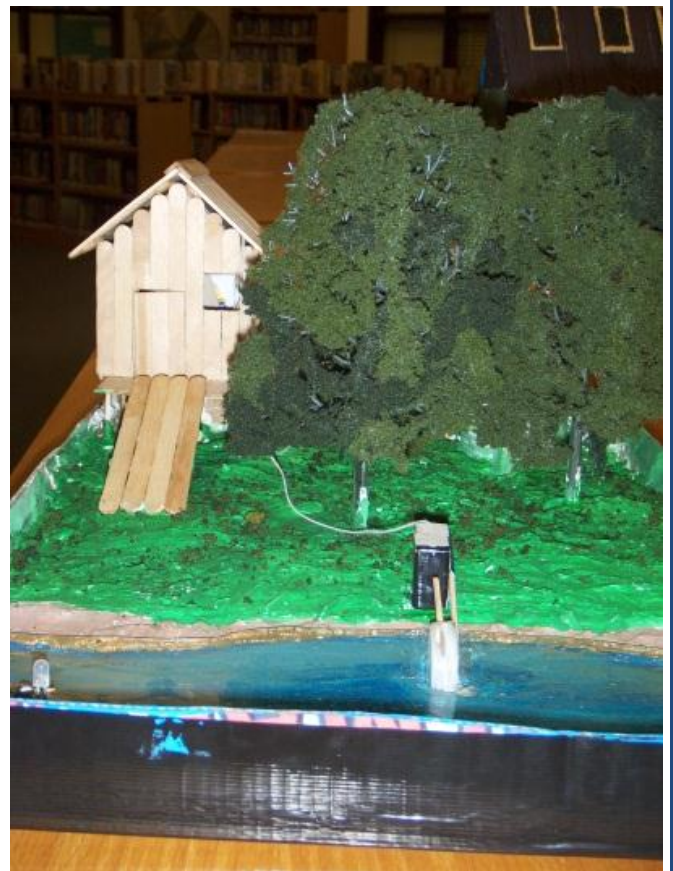


In keeping with the hands-on learning theme, you and your kids will be able to participate in creative challenges such as building and racing wind-powered “boats” and competing in problem-solving activities. You can even play penny hockey on student-built game boards. Dr. Dewey’s liquid Nitrogen demonstration always brings an “Oh, Wow!” from the participants as they witness the amazing impact of very low temperatures on everyday objects. Developing STEM skills makes learning fun – and STEM Night is going to be a great event!

Come at 5:15 for a pizza dinner and a chance to see the Sea Perch projects in action, then stay for rotations through your choice of events. The whole family will enjoy STEM Night – there’s even a silent auction for a foursome golf outing at Four Streams that our adult guests can bid on. We run the activities early so you’re not rushed for dinner at home and we can wind up early enough for your younger children to be in bed on time (and your older kids to get all their homework done!)

So I hope to see you this Thursday night, November 7!

- 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!



Dewontay Ainsworth

Rachel Bupp

Taylor Byrd

Kristina Chu

William Field

Tori Gruber

Patrick O'Connell

Holly Raines

Jessica Volkle

Sailboat Regatta!



Liquid Nitrogen
Demonstration!



JPMS

STEM Night

Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013

6:00 – 7:30 pm

Dinner and Sea Perch demo.

5:15 – 6:00 pm



Go for the
Gold Activities!

Food!

Info for
Parents!

JPMS Gets Local, State and National Recognition!

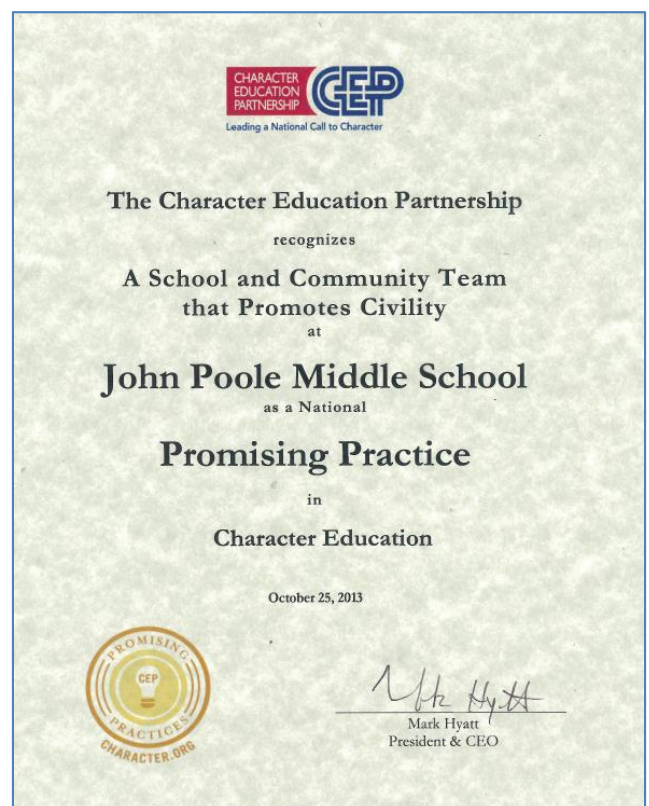
Our school has been in the spotlight this week for many wonderful reasons. On the local level, MCPS presented us with an award from the SERT office - School Energy and Recycling Team.

JPMS has earned the designation as an official Maryland Green School, which means we take developing environmentally friendly habits seriously. Our SERT award was for boosting our paper recycling during the fourth quarter last year and for significantly reducing our energy consumption. We plan on improving again this year! In November, our 6th graders will begin a stepped-up paper management program under Mr. Boettner's leadership.

The lovely wooden plaque in the picture is now hanging in our front hall. It names JPMS as a Maryland State School of Character. This award was presented to only 5 schools in Maryland this year, and JPMS was the only school in Montgomery County so honored. We earned our SSOC status by embracing our core values of Purpose, Respect, Integrity Dedication and Effort – Timberwolf PRIDE. Our students live with PRIDE, and it shows in their positive attitudes and cooperative behavior.

On Friday, we received the National Promising Practices Award at a conference in Washington attended by all 50 states and 6 foreign countries. JPMS was honored for our work with our other cluster schools and the whole Poolesville community to emphasize civility, empathy and positive relationships.

Thanks to our great students, devoted staff, and supportive families and neighbors, JPMS is an amazing school, acknowledged by all to be among the best.



Congratulations!

John Poole Middle School



Spotlight on...

PTSA Fundraiser

November 4 - 19

Proceeds to support bringing
WeatherBug to JPMS

- Jennifer Kasten - President
- Neile Whitney - Vice President
- Hisaho Blair - Secretary
- Michelle Hobbs - Treasurer
- Wendy Gotlewski - Membership & Volunteers

Questions? Ideas? Opinions?
Getting in touch with your PTSA is as easy
as sending an email message!

JPMSPTSA@gmail.com

Membership and volunteer forms are available at the JPMS website:

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

It is not too late to join the JPMS PTSA. Membership provides a great way to get involved and to keep in touch.

Directories will be distributed soon. You haven't missed your chance to claim one.

It is very easy to join. All the information is found on the JPMS homepage under the parents tab. If you have any questions, please email Wendy Gotlewski, membership coordinator, at gotlewski@msn.com.

Glow Scented Candles Fundraiser

Glow Scented Candles are highly scented candles.

Share them with family, friends, and co-workers!!

Holidays are just around the corner and all of these Products would make wonderful GIFTS for your family and friends.

10oz Candles ... \$13.00

16oz "TINS" ... \$20.00

"Boxed Melts" 3 packs per box.....\$16.00

Warmers available at various prices

Make checks payable to JPMS PTSA.

Help us bring a WeatherBug weather station to JPMS!





Registration for the Fall 2013 Parent Academy is now **available**.

- [Registration form and schedule of classes\(English\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Programa de talleres & Formulario de Inscripción\(Spanish\) \(PDF\)](#)



Parent Conferences are coming on November 11.

Should I schedule a conference?

Every parent is always welcome to come in for a conference!

It's a high priority if

- *You get a call inviting you to come for a conference*
- *You have questions about how your child is doing*
- *You have medical or personal updates to share*
- *You have a concern of any kind you'd like to discuss*

It's less of a priority if

- *You have been in for a conference recently*
- *You feel comfortable with the level of communication you already have with your child's teachers*
- *Everything seems to be going well and your child seems happy at school*

Fall 2013 School-Based Flu Clinics



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

November 1, 2013

John F. Kennedy High School

Richard Montgomery High School

Seneca Valley High School

for all students

9:00 a.m. – 12 p.m.

November 11 and 12, 2013

All Elementary Schools

for MCPS students enrolled at the school

For more information visit:

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

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/flu

Student Service Learning (SSL) Notes

Give a Little Time...Make a Big Difference



- Keep Track of the SSL graduation requirement: See the number of SSL hours required, the number of hours completed, and the number of hours remaining on each report card.
- Holidays and early release days are great SSL times to Give a Little Time and Make a Big Difference. Plan ahead!
- Remember: All service must occur in a public place... not a private residence. There is a maximum of 8 SSL hours that can be earned in a 24-hour period.
- All service for which SSL hours are desired must be supervised by an adult representing an official, approved, nonprofit, tax exempt organization not a parent or relative.
- The SSL graduation requirement does not take the place of what students do to support their neighbors, family members, and members of their faith-based organizations. SSL addresses a need in the greater community through secular service.

VOLUNTEER IN MONTGOMERY PARKS FALL 2013



Fruit Flies Festival, Locust Grove Nature Center, Bethesda

Friday, November 1. Celebrating those tiny, annoying flies!!?? Nah....we're just launching apples into the air. It's all part of our seasonal seed dispersal bash. Help us fling apples into the meadow, make flying seeds and seed 'bombs', and teach our visitors how seeds stick to us and our animal friends. Shift is **9am-1:30pm. SSL approved.**

Natural Surface Trail Workdays

Build new trail, repair erosion, stabilize muddy tread surfaces, and help with bridge construction. Connect with new people and learn about trail building and maintenance techniques while getting exercise. The minimum age to volunteer is 16, but sometimes youth 12-15 years old can volunteer if accompanied by an adult. **SSL approved.**



Park and Stream Cleanups

We are gearing up for a busy fall with many cleanup days, starting with a Day to Serve & National Public Lands Day in September and Community Service Week in October. Minimum age is 14 on your own, but younger volunteers are welcome with a parent. Go to

www.montgomeryparks.org/team/npld.shtm to see different locations/dates, or to sign up to host your own cleanup! **SSL approved.**

Other “Long Term” Volunteer Opportunities available:

Nature Center Host/Hostess; Oakley Cabin Docent; Volunteer Naturalist; Historic Interpretation Docents; Gardeners and Groundskeepers; Trail Rangers, and many more opportunities with all the details are on our website at www.ParksVolunteers.org.

Questions about these opportunities or how to apply?

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, OR TO APPLY
GO TO WWW.PARKSVOLUNTEERS.ORG

Brookside
GARDENS
1800 Glenallan Ave.
Wheaton MD 20902



**Brookside Gardens SSL Volunteer Opportunities
Fall & Winter 2013**

Volunteer at Brookside Gardens to make a difference, to broaden your skills, or just for fun. Apply for any of these Brookside Gardens volunteer opportunities at <http://www.parksvolunteers.org>.

Additional volunteer opportunities may be available.

Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at (301) 962-1429 or

MCP-GardenVolunteer@MontgomeryParks.org to request information on submitting a volunteer application and for more information.



**Remember to turn
your clocks *back* on
Saturday night!**

**Daylight Savings Time is over
for another year –
and we get an
extra hour of sleep!**





Noteworthy

Running Club Is Coming!

Does your child like to get outside this time of year, but doesn't know what to do? Mr. Gemmell has just the right club to offer. He will be holding the **Running Club** after school on Wednesdays starting November 6. He will be leading students on some fun runs throughout the neighborhood and around JPMS, and he has lots of other fun activities planned, too.

Parent Permission Slips must be turned in before a student can attend. Permission slips can be picked up from Mr. Gemmell or from the locker rooms. Be sure students bring their running shoes and dress appropriately for the outdoor runs.

Hope to see lots of JPMS runners there!! If you have any further questions, please contact Mrs. Gerrie or Mr. Gemmell

Teaching Digital Responsibility

At JPMS, the theme of "Kindness Counts" will be part of our programming all year. The particular aspect of our theme featured throughout November is digital responsibility.

We all recognize that Cyber bullying is a problem, but it may not always be clear what to look for or what to do about it. Here are some web resources you might find helpful in working with us to keep your children safe and teach them positive ways to use their electronic resources.

<http://www.commonsensemedia.org/educators/educate-families/tip-sheets>

http://www.commonsensemedia.org/digitalcitizenshipweek?utm_source=2013_10_Newsletter_1&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=weekly

http://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/parents-top-10-cyberbullying-questions?utm_source=100713_Parent+Default&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=weekly

Sign Up for the 2013 Flu Vaccine Clinics

All MCPS elementary schools will host a flu clinic on either Monday, November 11, or Tuesday, November 12, 2013, following early dismissal of students on those days.

**Monocacy Elementary School's clinic is scheduled for November 11;
Poolesville Elementary's clinic will be November 12.**

All clinics are free, but registration is required due to limited vaccine supplies.

For more information about the upcoming clinics and the FluMist, visit the following websites: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/flu/>
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/flu>

Both the injectable seasonal flu vaccine and nasal spray flu vaccine will be available, at no charge, at other DHHS flu clinics at various locations in the county, October through December. Visit <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/flu> or call 311 for county locations.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MARYLAND

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org

November 6, 2013



Dear Parents/Guardians:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of an opportunity to purchase a piano or keyboard for your family. Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has an agreement with Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., to provide MCPS with new grand and upright pianos to be used in schools. Schaeffer's Piano Co., Inc., located in Rockville, Maryland, is the area's oldest piano store. This agreement also provides MCPS families and staff an opportunity to purchase these and other pianos for considerably reduced prices at an annual piano sales event.

This year's liquidation sales event will take place on November 15, 16, and 17, 2013, at Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., 105 North Stonestreet Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, 20850. Friday and Saturday, November 15 and 16, 2013, are by appointment only to provide an opportunity for you to purchase these pianos before they are offered for sale to the public on Sunday, November 17, 2013. All pianos will carry a 15-year transferable warranty. Each piano will come with a bench and one free in-house tuning.

For additional information, you may visit the Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., website at www.schaefferspiano.com. To make an appointment for November 15 or 16, call the Schaeffer's Piano Company appointment desk at 301-424-1147. No appointment is required for Sunday, November 17, when the sale will be open to the general public from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Friday, November 15, 2013
Saturday, November 16, 2013
Sunday, November 17, 2013

Call 301-424-1147 to schedule an appointment
Call 301-424-1147 to schedule an appointment
Open to the General Public, 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

We are grateful to be working with Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., to support our school music programs and help MCPS keep new and well-maintained instruments in our schools each year. If you have any questions, please contact Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., at 301-424-1144.

Sincerely,

Larry A. Bowers
Chief Operating Officer

LAB:pjm

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

850 Hungerford Drive, Room 149 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850 ♦ 301-279-3626

Save the Date!

Important events you won't want to miss!



November 3	Daylight Savings Time Ends – Clocks Move Back 1 Hour
November 7	STEM Night
November 8	Magnet Applications Due
November 11	Veterans' Day Dr. Starr's State of the Schools Address Parent Conferences Early Release for Students
November 12	Early Release for Students
November 13	First Quarter Report Cards Distributed
November 15	Grade 8 Newseum Field Trip
November 25	Blue Ribbon Monday
November 27	Early Release
November 28 & 29	Holiday - Thanksgiving

MCPS State of the Schools Event Set for November 11

Superintendent Joshua P. Starr will deliver his second State of the Schools address on Monday, November 11, 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 preparing all students for success and we celebrate the outstanding students of Montgomery County Public Schools. This free event will take place from 7:30 to 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 RSVP.

El Evento “Estado de las Escuelas de MCPS” Está Programado Para el 11 de Noviembre

El Superintendente Joshua P. Starr pronunciara su segundo discurso sobre el Estado de las Escuelas el lunes, 11 de noviembre en el Centro de Música en Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane en Bethesda. Los padres de MCPS y los miembros de la comunidad están invitados a acompañar al Dr. Starr cuando él presente su visión para preparar a todos los estudiantes para el éxito y a celebrar a los estudiantes destacados de las Escuelas Públicas del Condado de Montgomery. Este evento gratuito se llevará a cabo de 7:30 a 9:30 a.m. y contará con la presentación de obras de arte y actuaciones de los estudiantes de MCPS. Visite la página de internet del Estado de las Escuelas en www.mcpsstateoftheschools.org para obtener más información y para registrarse al evento.

Magnet Dates

Event	Date	Time	Location
Application Deadline	November 8		
Testing for Magnet Program	December 7 (Snow Date December 14)	8:00 - 11:00 AM	See application for details
Special Needs Testing for Magnet Program	December 8 (Snow Date December 15)	8:00 - 11:00 AM	Richard Montgomery High School
Notification of Magnet Selection Results	By mid February, 2014		

PHS NEWS

Go Falcons!



Athletic Schedule (partial)

Boys Varsity Football: 11/1/13 6:30 PM (H) PHS vs. Boonesboro
11/8/13 6:30 PM (A) PHS vs. Rockville

Nicholas Nickleby November 21st-23rd

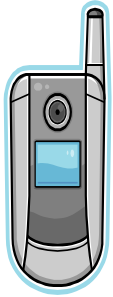
The PHS Midnight Players' next production will be *Nicholas Nickleby*, based on the novel of the same name by the world famous English writer, Charles Dickens. He also wrote *David Copperfield*, *Great Expectations*, *Oliver*, *A Christmas Carol*, and many others. Prize-winning playwright, Tim Kelly, a lifelong Dickens buff, has created a superb dramatization of this entertaining classic.

The play will be presented November 21 at 7:00 p.m., November 22 at 7:30 p.m., and November 23 at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets for both adults and students are \$7 for General Admission and \$11 for seats in the Reserved Section. They may be purchased from the PHS website. Beginning November 12, tickets may also be purchased in person at the school box office on school days from 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. and 2:15 – 2:45 p.m. Tickets will also be sold at the door beginning 45 minutes before each show.

In the past, patrons have been able to choose any seat they wanted in any part of the theatre. This year, specific seats may be chosen only in the Reserved Section which is the front half of the auditorium. Patrons holding General Admission tickets may choose any empty seat in the back half of the auditorium when they arrive for a show. We no longer have different prices for students and adults. Patrons sitting in the Reserved Section will pay \$11; Patrons sitting in the General Admission Section will pay \$7.

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
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**

