



December 20, 2013

John Poole's BACK POCKET



**A Thought for Today:
Let peace begin with me,
Let this be the moment now;
With every step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment
In peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.**

- Jill Jackson and Sy Miller



Winter Break Is Here!

This week we shared the fable of *The Ant and the Grasshopper* with students at TAP. You know the story: the ants work hard all summer and the grasshopper just sings and dances, so when winter comes, the ants have food and the grasshopper starves to death. Except – when I went looking for YouTube versions of the fable, I found one Walt Disney created in 1934, in the depths of the Depression, that ends differently. The hungry grasshopper arrives at the ants' warm winter nest and is admonished that to eat, you have to work – so they put him to work playing his fiddle for everyone to dance. The grasshopper learns to work and the ants learn to play. Everyone is better off.

The moral of this story is to collaborate for the greater good and contribute what you can. With the end of the quarter coming just as we get back from vacation, the TAP lesson gave hints for “bringing out your inner ant and your inner grasshopper.” I think it's great advice for the season: Think of others, prepare for the future, but enjoy yourself, too. One way to do it all is to read over the holiday. It keeps your child's mind sharp, helps his or her reading skills, and can bring great pleasure to the family as you share stories, experiences and information together.

There are some family reading recommendations in this issue of the *Back Pocket* that I hope are helpful. I have also reprinted the letter about cyberbullying from Dr. Starr. As you know, we have been very proactive with students and the community about this 21st Century technology issue, so it really encouraged me to hear from Dr. Starr for two reasons. First, as our leader, he has a responsibility to weigh in on challenges that affect so many of our students; I'm glad he has done so. But the second reason has to do with modeling correct behavior. What did he do when he was a victim of cyber bullying? Exactly what we advise our kids to do: he reported it. He contacted the police about threats to his family and told as many adults as he could reach through this letter. When our students do the same, we can work together in their support.

Best wishes for a wonderful Winter Break and a Happy New Year! – 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!

Jocelyn Alvarez

Will Ennis

Mathew Hill

Eleanor Boyle

Max Fisher

Tania Jackson

Sabrina Edwards

Allison Foppe

William Jones



Holiday Music Fills the Air!

On Sunday, December 15, an ensemble of JPMS music students performed at the Poolesville Baptist Church's Christmas Program. They looked and sounded great!



Sydney Allentuck

Kristina Chu

Grace Clark

Bryce Davis

Chase Hanscom

Jennifer Jang

Isaac Kasuske

Emily Lewis

Lucas Lightcap

Krishna Ponnappalli

Heather Robinson

Jacob Roe

Brennah Ringing

Melanie Staszewski

Congratulations to Ms. Sprague and our Amazing Music Students on a Wonderful Winter Concert!

Featuring Sign Language students performing with the Chorus:

Jessica Hawkins, Mackenzie Kovach, Cassandra Maier, Sarah Mulliken, Katrina Rowe, Susanna Schmidt and their teacher, Mrs. Toman

Orchestra

Alexis Abrigo
Jocelyn Alvarez
Eleanor Boyle
Vincent Chim
Meghan Dower
Joseph Esser
Travis Fraley
Isabel Gibbs
Isaac Kasuske
Mackenzie Kovach
Lukas Lightcap
Roshawna Marshall
Krishna Ponnappalli
Brennah Ringling
Heather Robinson
Melanie Staszewski
Tiara Ventura
Roger Yerger
Begonia Zapata

Jazz Band

Allentuck Sydney
Christian Andrade
Morgan Bliss
Aidan Briancon
Grace Clark
Cailin Ferguson-Mitchell
Jennifer Jang
Ryan Johnston
James Kavanagh
Raymond Kinzie
Stephanie Parker
Anya Speck-McMorris
John Thompson
John Wasilik
Roger Yerger

Chorus

Anna Akdag
Remy Anderson
Kyra Bertolini
Grace Bodmer
Samuel Bodmer
Gwendolyn Boe
Gabriella Brooks
Madeline Burdette
Lydia Caballero

Jessica Carey
Rebecca Carin
Lauren Chilla
Kristina Chu
Carla Dacanay
Bryce Davis
Lillian Dice
Nicole Duran
Cailin Ferguson-Mitchell
Madison Folk
John Foster
Alyson Gotlewski
Jessica Hawkins
Franklina Hovor
Maureen Hueting
Tania Jackson
Jackson Krasche
Emily Lewis
Maddison Magaha
Casandra Maier
Amirah Paksima
Julia Pavlick
Wilhelmina Prasada-Rao
Marie Quaranta
Renée Quaranta
Taylor Ramirez
Bostyn Smith
Bryce Taylor
Cole Taylor
Juliana Vrolijk
Breanna Young

Concert Band

Jordan Allentuck
Christian Andrade
Diana Arias
Thomas Behrens
Stefanie Beltran
Morgan Bliss
Cassandra Campbell
Nicolas Cayzedo
Grace Clark
Erik Eklof
Matthew Gimbrere
Ethan Hinds
Paige Houston
Chloe Insalaco
Jennifer Jang

Ryan Johnston
William Jones
James Kavanagh
Andrew Kindel
Raymond Kinzie
Jackson Krasche
Kelliann Lee
Darrell Marshall
Jacob Marshall
Andrew Mullins
Guy Norton
Julia Quart
Stephanie Parker
Wilhelmina Prasada-Rao
Renée Quaranta
Robert Queen
Alison Ransom
Jose Roque
Nicole Slebodnik
Liam Speck-McMorris
John Thompson
Triana Wallace
John Wasilik
Avery Whitney-Blum

Band 6

Sydney Allentuck
Samuel Allgood
Aidan Auel
Dwight Bevley
Shirley Chen
Nicholas Ferguson
Dovid Fischer
Maxwell Fisher
Leo Guillette
Oriol Guitart
Chase Hanscom
Andrew Johnson
Michelle Lu
Celine Macairan
Zachary Onderko
Emma Parker
Nathaly Portillo-Rivas
Jacob Roe
Brandon Sier
Bailey Smith
Anya Speck-McMorris
Clare Wilson

Sorry we had to turn the Concert Band on its end, but that's the only way to get a look at so many kids!



Orchestra



6th Grade Band



Jazz Band





Chorus

The Spring Concert is May 22, 2014.
Save the date as soon as you get your new calendar!



Basketball Highlights

The girls' basketball team has started off the season red hot. On December 12, the Lady Timberwolves beat Roberto Clemente 44-20. **Sarah Mullikin** and **Megan Roldan** led all scorers with ten points each. **Erin Green** also added eight points, followed by **Kelliann Lee** and **Alexis Abrigo** with four points apiece.

This Wednesday, December 18, the winning continued with another dominating performance against Kingsview: 44-24. **Erin Green** once again dominated on the boards which led to fifteen points for her. **Kalie Terragno** came up big by putting in eight as well. **Kelliann Lee** also contributed 6 points.

The boys' team opened the season with a tough loss to Roberto Clemente Middle School, ending the game at 25 to 26. The bright spot in the game was our defense. The

historical average for this very strong Roberto Clemente team is to score in the high 40's. Our boys held them to only 26 points. On the other hand, we went 1 for 16 from the foul line.

The Timberwolves worked on foul shooting before our second game against Kingsview Middle School and it paid off! The boys improved their performance at the free throw line from 6% to 50% - a huge achievement! Unfortunately, our defense struggled and we lost our second game of the season, 27 to 48.

After winter break the season gets going again on January 28 against Baker Middle School.

Student Service Learning

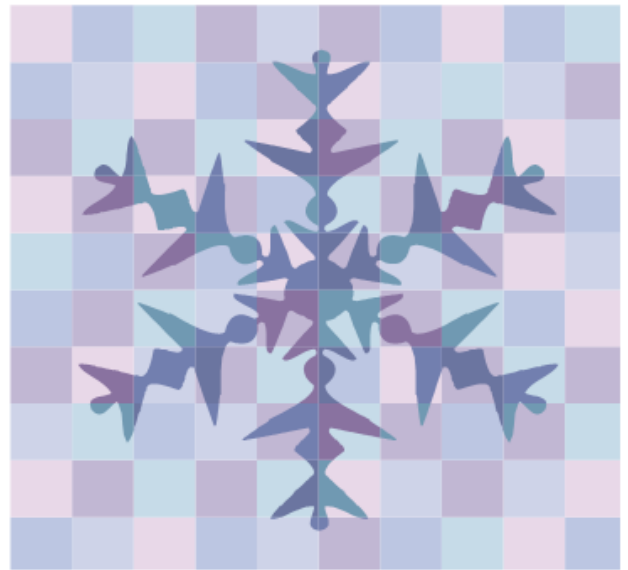
Notes

Give a Little Time...Make a Big Difference

- Verification of service performed during the first semester can be turned in throughout the semester but the deadline for turning in documentation to the SSL coordinator of service performed during the first semester is the first Friday in January (January 3 2014).
- SSL opportunities provided by preapproved faith-based organizations must be non-religious in nature and address recognized needs beyond the organization's membership.
- MCPS Form 560-51 *SSL Activity Verification* becomes part of the student record. Reflection paragraphs by students should document both their service and their learning.
- With approval of MCPS Form 560-50 Individual SSL Request hours may be awarded for direct service to residents/patients at assisted-living facilities and nursing homes.
- Students involved in school clubs that address a real need may earn SSL hours for time spent outside of their instructional day on preparation action and reflection phases when supervised at school by the club advisor.



S
S
L



All 1st Semester Hours
Are Due to Mrs. Arnold by
January 3!



Do you want to be a published writer?

Do you like to write?

Do you want to impress your
friends and family?

Do you want to win a prestigious
award?

If you answered yes to any of these
questions this contest is for you.



Creative Writing Contest Celebrating Diversity

**Write a poem a dialogue a story or an essay
celebrating diversity and enter this contest!**

- You could write about your family's ethnic background or traditions your religion important holidays you celebrate working with students with disabilities or having a disability.
- You could write about learning about other cultures or celebrating what your culture has in common with others!
- You could make up a fictional poem or story about people from different cultures learning about each other!

**Your writing piece needs to show diversity among
people in a positive light!**

**To enter you must submit a registration form and
your writing to your English teacher by January 17.
See your English teacher for details.**

Celebrating Diversity Through Creative Writing

STUDENT PARTICIPATION FORM

BY COMPLETING THE INFORMATION BELOW YOU AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MIDDLE SCHOOL WRITING CONTEST "CELEBRATING DIVERSITY THROUGH CREATIVE WRITING." AS A PARTICIPANT YOU AGREE TO WRITE AN ESSAY A SHORT STORY OR A POEM (INCLUDING A WRITTEN VERSION OF A RAP OR SPOKEN WORD) BASED ON THE THEME "MY CULTURE." YOU AGREE TO WORK WITH YOUR SCHOOL'S CONTEST CONTACT TO SUBMIT YOUR WORK ON TIME BASED ON THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONTEST. FINAL SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE ON THURSDAY JANUARY 31 2013 BUT YOU MUST SUBMIT REQUIRED DRAFTS TO THE CONTEST CONTACT AS REQUESTED. PLEASE SEE YOUR SCHOOL'S CONTEST CONTACT **Ms. RICE** IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.

Student Name _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Contact Phone _____ Email _____

Grade (check one) ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8

School Name _____



Holiday Reading Ideas



Reading is always good for kids, but over Winter Break it's an especially beneficial idea. Who knows what the weather will bring this time of year? When it's too cold or messy to go outside, a good book gets kids away from endless screen time – and it requires no batteries!

But not all reading has to be books. There are great opportunities to read in the kitchen, when you are making holiday favorites from recipes your kids can read aloud to you. While you're working on a project, they can show you something interesting in a magazine, newspaper or website and summarize the information or read a picture caption aloud to you. Your job is just to be interested in what they are reading.

An audience is often the key to building reading pleasure. Kids out of school can miss their friends and the constant social contact that's part of going to school. Providing an audience for reading – whether it's visiting relatives or a younger sibling who asks for a story – makes reading a social event most kids enjoy. And I've never yet encountered grandparents who didn't love and applaud being read to by a grandchild.

Whether or not your child already loves to read, I hope a book or magazine is among your holiday gifts to the kids. Here are a few simple questions that can help you choose something your child is likely to enjoy:

- About how many words do you like to see on a page? Some kids get intimidated by lots of print in a small typeface; others are proud to read “adult” style text.
- Are pictures important to your enjoyment of a story?
- Do you like comic books? Many kids don't realize there is now a huge array of graphic novels (comic book-style books for readers of all ages) that let you enjoy pictures as you read. There are even graphic novels of Shakespeare plays that have authentic language and renowned artists doing the drawings!
- Would you rather read about something that is real or something that is made-up?
- What is the last book you can remember enjoying? (It might be a picture book from childhood or that he or she has read to a younger child.)

If you're not sure what your child is interested in, you need to know that, too. There are lots of good books and magazines about skateboarding, horses, dogs, hunting, designing computer games and protecting our environment – all topics many middle school students like to learn about. If the family is traveling this holiday, reading about your destination is a perfect way to enjoy the trip even more!

If you're having a hard time deciding on a book to give, there is a ton of help available on the web. I'm a fan of the reviews and recommendations for ages 0 – 18 published by Common Sense Media <http://www.commonsensemedia.org/book-reviews> You can also check out the award-winners chosen by the American Library Association <http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/awards/browse/bpma?showfilter=no> and the nominees for the Maryland Association of School Librarians' Black-eyed Susan Awards. <http://maslmd.org/> Not only do JPMS students who read 3 or more of the nominees get to participate in a party to vote for their favorites, but the website lists great titles nominated for grades 4 – 12 as well as quality graphic novels.

So don't let your kids' reading skills rust this vacation – make reading a treat for the whole family!

An Open Letter to Parents from Superintendent Joshua Starr

Dear Parents:

Since becoming superintendent of Montgomery County Public Schools I have spoken at length about the importance of social emotional learning—essentially giving our students the skills they need to navigate their lives in a healthy positive way. And that is why I am writing to you today.

This week the wintry weather required us to go through our normal processes to determine whether we should delay or cancel school. It's not an easy decision and involves staff working at all hours to monitor road conditions and weather forecasts. As we were in the process of evaluating the situation students started contacting me on Twitter. Some of these "tweets" were clever funny and respectful pleading for me to cancel school so they could sleep in or have more time to do their homework. Many of these tweets however were offensive and disturbing. Some were threatening to me and others. A few referenced my family. There was rampant use of racial epithets and curse words.

This activity on social media caused me to reflect on my responsibilities as a parent of three children and the superintendent for 151000 children and what our role is in ensuring that our children are using technology appropriately. This is especially important as we increase the use of technology in our schools including full wireless access and bring-your-own-device possibilities for our students.

As superintendent I have the legal responsibility of *in loco parentis* meaning that I and other educators are supposed to serve as "parents" in the school building. Some of the tweets I received were so disturbing that my staff reported them to the school principal and our security team. This may seem like an overreaction to some but it is our legal responsibility to do so and we take it very seriously.

But this is more than just a challenge at the office. My wife and I find ourselves in a daily conversation with our children about the appropriate use of technology. How long can they use a device? How often during a day? What are they allowed and not allowed to take pictures of? They don't have internet access yet but I am already imagining what it will be like when they do. How will my wife and I ensure that they are being safe online while allowing them to access the many positive aspects of the online world and social media? How will we ensure we have the right controls and oversight so they are doing so in an appropriate way?

I don't have all the answers in my home or in our schools. But I know it takes deliberate and tough conversations within families and communities to help kids understand how to use technology and social media appropriately.

I'm sure that most of the students who posted inappropriate comments to me on Twitter were doing so without thinking. In fact we know that the adolescent brain isn't equipped to think long term and doesn't calculate risk/reward ratios in the same way that adults do. I'd like to think that they wouldn't post such things if they understood the consequences of their actions or if they knew that I'm legally responsible for reporting threats to the police and to their parents. I'd like to think they wouldn't post such things especially if they understood that these posts are permanent and can follow them and impact college acceptances job opportunities and future relationships.

I'm writing this letter to start a conversation about how we can support our children in using technology in a way that is healthy productive and positive. Cyberbullying is a real issue among children and adults. We not only have to teach our kids how to handle new technologies appropriately but we also have to model that behavior in our own communications on social media and email. We need to talk about "cybercivility;" how we can help our children grow into responsible and caring adults who interact with one another in a civil respectful way. I have asked my staff to develop some materials and methods to help schools and families navigate these conversations so look for more information about this in the near future.

In the meantime I urge you to talk to your children on an ongoing basis about what's appropriate and not appropriate to do online. Also remember if your child is under 13 do not allow them to use social media—they aren't ready for it and it is a violation of the user agreements or guidelines for nearly all major social media sites. If your child is 13 or older please consider whether they are ready to use social media. Set limits and talk to them about the appropriate use of social media and mobile technology. And make sure you are monitoring what they post online.

[Our website has some resources](#) that you can use to talk to your children now and we will be adding more resources in the near future. If you have any thoughts or ideas to help further this cybercivility dialogue please do not hesitate to email me at Joshua_Starr@mcpsmd.org or contact me on Twitter at [@mcpssuper](https://twitter.com/mcpssuper).

Sincerely

Josh

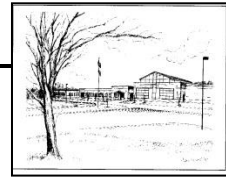
[Visit the MCPS Cybercivility website](#)



John Poole Middle School

17014 Tom Fox Avenue
Poolesville Maryland 20837
301-972-7979 Fax: 301-972-7982

<http://www.mcpsmd.org/schools/poolems>



Office of the Principal

December 13, 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians:

During the next few months a new access control system (ACS) will be installed at John Poole Middle School. This initiative to enhance school-based security is a component of the Montgomery County Public Schools six-year capital improvements plan which includes installation of an ACS in all middle schools during the next three years.

The ACS consists of a surveillance camera installed at the school's main entrance with a second camera at another entrance. Signs will direct a visitor to push a button to alert main office staff of your arrival. A remote locking system controlled from the main office will allow entry into the building during the period between students' morning arrival times and afternoon dismissal times. When a visitor arrives during these times he or she will be prompted to press an alert button at the main entrance. Office staff will communicate with the visitor and provide controlled entry into the school. All visitors will be instructed to report to the main office to sign in. Visitors arriving at the secondary entrance will be instructed to enter only through the main entrance. In order to ensure the successful implementation of the ACS all other entrances to the school building will remain secured at all times.

This initiative and others that will follow are provided to ensure the safety and security of the learning and working environment. Thank you for your continuing support. Please call me if you have questions or wish to discuss this new security initiative.

Sincerely



Charlotte Chakan Boucher
Principal

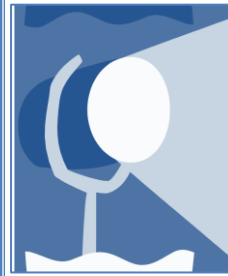
CCB:edu

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

Montgomery County Public Schools



John Poole Middle School



Spotlight on...

Contributing to Your School

PTSA fundraising pays for
programs and facilities that
benefit all our kids.

- 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 goflewski@msn.com.

Giving to the PTSA Makes it Possible to Provide More for Our Children

The PTSA will officially begin its Donation Drive in February 2014. Our target this year is \$6000 in donations.

In preparation for the Donation Drive we encourage parents to investigate their company's giving campaigns and donation matching policies. Many organizations match donations made from an employee to a non-profit organization like the JPMS PTSA.

If you would like to get a donation in before the end of the calendar year to increase your 2013 charitable donations please drop a check off in the office at the school. The check should be made out to JPMS PTSA.

We will continue to share more information about this effort as we approach February. The JPMS PTSA wants to thank our families for their support of our school and wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season.



Noteworthy

Kid's College

Montgomery College is now registering youth for its spring 2014 Kids' College. Enrichment courses in sports writing music math web design etc. are available to students in grades K-12. If interested pick up a pamphlet in our counseling office or call 240-567-7917 or visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth.

Winter Programs at the National Wildlife Visitor Center

The Visitor Center is located on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197. There are some wonderful opportunities for kids and the whole family to enjoy the outdoors in winter!

Bird Count 4 Kids takes place on Saturday January 11th 8:30 am -1:00 pm Ages 5-14. Join experienced birders as you discover what birds are out and about in Maryland during the winter. This half-day event is patterned after the National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count. Bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them (some will be provided). Dress for the weather and wear comfortable shoes or boots. Bring a brown-bag lunch and a curiosity for birding! At least one parent or guardian must attend. Please register by January 7th by calling 301-497-5887. Registration is required.

Winter Walk is **scheduled for** Saturday January 18th 1:00-2:00 pm Ages 5+ Join a naturalist on this forest walk to learn about common trees while looking and listening for signs of wildlife along the trail. Registration is required.

Bird Walk is a program at the North Tract located on Rt. 198 between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 32. It will take place on Sunday January 19th 8:15-10:15 am and is for all ages Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars are recommended. Registration is required.

Owl Prowl. Also at the North Tract will be held on Sunday January 19th 4:45-6:15 pm Ages 10+. Explore the refuge at night while looking and listening for owls. Registration is required.

Winter Weather Plans

Earlier in this issue you will find reminders of how to receive news about school closings delayed openings and early releases due to inclement weather. It is also very helpful for working parents to have an emergency plan for times when you can't get home to be with your children.

If the weather is so bad that we have to close school early it may not close your place of business. In addition the roads may be so bad that it takes unusually long for you to get back home even if you can leave work early. What to do? Please connect with family friends or neighbors to agree who will be responsible for your children in case of bad weather when you cannot be there yourself. If you want a neighbor or family member to pick your child up from school you need to give us permission to release your child to that person. If you send a note in to Mrs. Ogden now

she will have it on file for the rest of the year and you don't have to worry if we have an early release for bad weather. If you want your child to report to a neighbor please be sure he or she knows where to go in case you cannot get home and remind everyone to keep your work or cell number handy so you can get a call as soon as the kids are safe and warm in the designated location.

Having a foul weather plan that everyone knows in advance can really lower your stress when the weather gets bad!

After School Activities

RecXtra has returned to John Poole this year with a full schedule of after school activities. Students need to listen to the morning announcements or follow them [online](#) at our website to be ready to participate in the programs that interest them.



If you have any suggestions for programs you would like to lead or to see offered at JPMS please contact Mrs. Crutchfield at Winessa_R_Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org.

Activities begin after school at 2:30 p.m.

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

Homework Club (Tuesday)

Drama Club (Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday)

Basketball Practice (Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday)

Extended Day Reading Classes (Tuesday)

Zumba Club (Tuesday) – Low enrollment students needed to keep program alive!

Leo Club (Wednesday)

HERO Club (Wednesday)

Magnet Prep Class (Wednesday) – Class Full

Yoga (Wednesday and Thursday) – Low enrollment students needed to keep program alive!

Jazz Band (Wednesday)

Newspaper Club (Wednesday)

Math Extended Day (Thursday)

Running Club (January 8 15 22 & 29; February 5 12 19 & 26; March 5)

Running Club

Do you need something to do after school? The running club just might be the place for you. Mr. Gemmell holds running club on Wednesdays. While at running club you will get a chance to run throughout the neighborhood with your friends work out in the weight room play basketball and many fun activities. Permission slips can be picked up in the locker rooms or from Mr. Gemmell. If you have any questions please see Mr. Gemmell or Mrs. Gerrie.

Because we return from break to a short school week (only Thursday and Friday,) there will be no *Back Pocket* published on Friday, January 3. The next issue will be on the web January 10, 2014. See you in 2014!



Montgomery College

Workforce Development
& Continuing Education

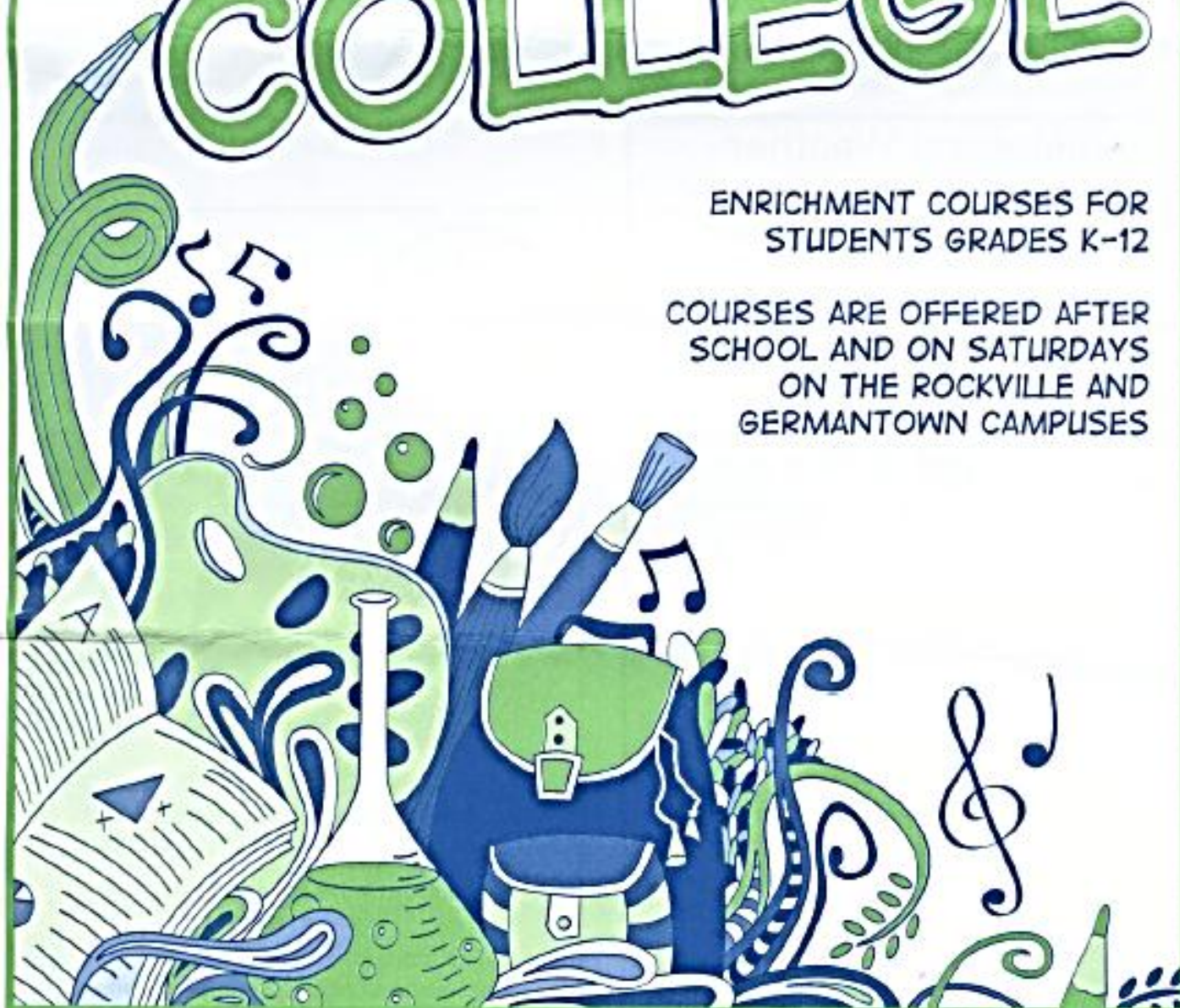
SPRING 2014

KIDS' COLLEGE

**REGISTER
NOW**

ENRICHMENT COURSES FOR
STUDENTS GRADES K-12

COURSES ARE OFFERED AFTER
SCHOOL AND ON SATURDAYS
ON THE ROCKVILLE AND
GERMANTOWN CAMPUSES



**Asistencia en
Español Disponible**

www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth

240-567-7917 or 240-567-7264



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 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 (JA) is seeking adult volunteers to teach prepared, interactive [lessons](#) about goal-setting, budgeting, insurance and credit to 6th grade students at John Poole Middle School.

Training and materials are provided. Volunteers teach with a professional educator in the classroom and receive constant support from Junior Achievement staff.

There is something to fit everyone's schedule—JA staff will help you find the class time that meets your schedule, or you can volunteer in your child's social studies class! The time commitment is 45 minutes per week for five weeks during the school day. John Poole will participate on the following dates: **1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27 (Snow Date - 2/25)**

Junior Achievement's [partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools](#) supports the State of Maryland mandate for financial literacy education. This is a [prime](#) opportunity to give back to our community by sharing your economic 'life lessons'!

To learn more, contact Jeni Pastier at jeni.pastier@ja.org or 301-838-0471.

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

District of Columbia
Main Office
1050 17th Street, NW
Suite 750
Washington, DC 20036
202-296-1200

Virginia
4099 Pickett Road
Fairfax, VA 22032
703-426-1560

Maryland
804 West Diamond Avenue
Suite 300
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-838-0470

www.myJA.org

Work Readiness | Entrepreneurship | Financial Literacy

Give the gift that lasts a Lifetime!



Order Your 2014 Yearbook NOW.

Dear Parents & Students,

We look forward to an amazing year at John Poole Middle School! Our yearbook staff will be there to capture all the big events of the school year. Pre-order your child's yearbook **NOW**.

The cost of the yearbook is \$35, but you can purchase through January 31st for \$32.

Please order online at jostensyearbooks.com as John Poole Middle School does not accept any in-school purchases.

Online payment options include credit card, debit, personal check, Bill Me Later, Paypal or monthly installment option. Yearbooks may sell out, so order **NOW** and reserve your copy today!

NEED A HOLIDAY GIFT IDEA? Order your child's yearbook today and then share one of the certificates below with them to let them know that they will be receiving a yearbook.

**Tenemos
un anuario
a tu
nombre.**

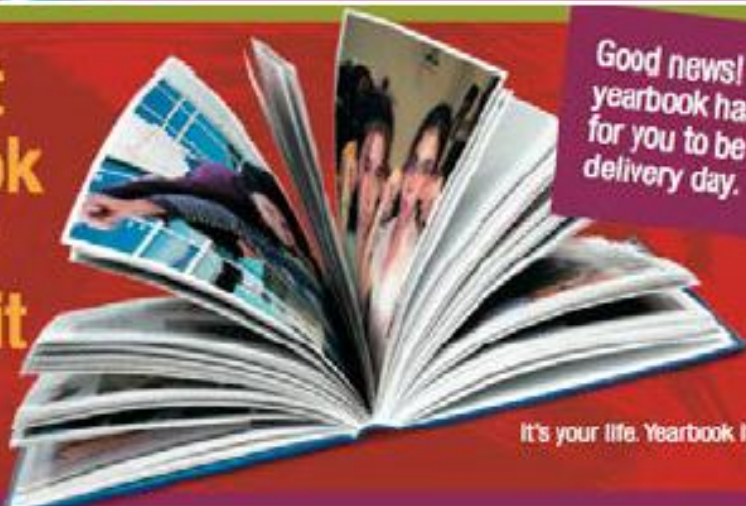


¡Buenas noticias! Se ha reservado un anuario personalizado para ti para que lo recojas el día de entrega.

Es tu vida. ¡Ponla en un anuario!



**We've got
a yearbook
with your
name on it**



Good news! A personalized yearbook has been reserved for you to be picked up on delivery day.

It's your life. Yearbook it!



Save the Date!



Important events you won't want to miss!

December 23 - 31	Winter Break (No School for Students and Teachers)
January 1	Holiday – New Year's Day
January 2	Return to School
January 8	8 th Grade Departing Picture Geography Bee (After school)
January 9	Review Day – Exams
January 10 - 15	Exams
January 16 & 17	Make-up Exams
January 17	2 nd Marking Period Ends
January 20	Holiday Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)
January 21	Professional Day (No School for Students)

JPMS Basketball Schedule

January 28	Boys play Baker at JPMS (2:40 p.m.)
January 28	Girls play Baker at Baker (3:00 p.m.)
January 30	Girls play Neelsville at JPMS (2:40 p.m.)
January 30	Boys play Neelsville at Neelsville (3:00 p.m.)
February 5	Girls play Rocky Hill at JPMS (2:40 p.m.)
February 5	Boys play Rocky Hill at Rocky Hill (3:00 p.m.)
February 11	Boys play King at JPMS (2:40 p.m.)
February 11	Girls play King at King (3:00 p.m.)



Save the Date



Looking for the presenters for our
Career Day April 24, 2014.

Please contact Diane Kitts in Counseling 301-972-7980
if you are available.

Thank you!

PHS NEWS

Go Falcons!



Congratulations to the Digital Forensics Challenge Team!

12th overall in the world 9th overall in the United States
top high school team *in the world* for the third year in a row!! Check it out:

<http://www.dc3.mil/challenge/2013/stats/leaderboard.php>

Poolesville High School Athletics (Winter)

Boys Varsity Basketball

12/20/13	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Blake HS at Blake HS
1/6/14	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at PHS
1/10/14	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwood HS at Northwood HS
1/17/14	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Quince Orchard HS at PHS
1/21/14	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton at PHS
1/24/14	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Blair HS at Blair HS
1/28/14	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Whitman HS at Whitman HS

Girls Varsity Basketball

12/20/13	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Blake HS at Blake HS
12/27/13	1:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Oakland Mills Holiday at Oakland Mills
12/28/13	TBA	PHS vs. Whitman HS at PHS
1/6/14	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus at PHS
1/10/14	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwood HS at Northwood HS
1/17/14	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Quince Orchard HS at Quince Orchard HS
1/21/14	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at Wheaton HS
1/24/14	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Blair HS at Blair HS
1/28/14	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Whitman HS at Whitman HS



CoEd Varsity Swim and Dive

12/21/13	9:15 a.m.	PHS and Richard Montgomery at Germantown Indoor Swim Center
1/4/14	11:30 a.m.	PHS vs. Churchill at Martin Luther King Swim Center
1/11/14	9:15 a.m.	PHS vs. Wootton HS at Kennedy Shriver Aquatic Ctr.

Boys Varsity Wrestling

1/4/14	1:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwood HS at Northwood HS
1/7/14	6:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS at Clarksburg HS



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**

