

**North Bethesda Middle School**

**March 30, 2025**

**News and Notes**

*Daniel E. Werbeck, Acting Principal*

<b><i>Monday, March 31, 2025</i></b>	<b><i>No School for Students - Grading &amp; Reporting</i></b>
<b><i>Tuesday, April 1, 2025</i></b>	<b><i>Regular Bell Schedule: PT - 5</i></b> <b><i>Girls' Soccer: Home vs. SC; Boys' Soccer: Away</i></b>
<b><i>Wednesday, April 2, 2025</i></b>	<b><i>MD School Survey for students:</i></b> <b><i><u>Bell Schedule: No PT</u></i></b>
<b><i>Thursday, April 3, 2025</i></b>	<b><i>Career Day: <u>Bell Schedule: No PT</u> MCPS Bookwars Comp. @ CJ</i></b>
<b><i>Friday, April 4, 2025</i></b>	<b><i>Regular Bell Schedule: PT - 6</i></b> <b><i>6<sup>th</sup> &amp; 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social, 6 to 8pm</i></b>

In this week's *News and Notes*, you'll find details on the following topics:

- Maryland School Survey Information
- Ms. Rice's Counseling Update - simply workshops this week
- Hello from the KID Museum
- 6th Grade Social information - Friday, April 4, 2025
- 8th Grade End-of-Year Social Information
- MCPS Meal Viewer – a new tool for viewing breakfast and lunch menus
- Yearbook Information
- Other Helpful Information

We appreciate your continued support and engagement!

2024-2025 SCHOOL HOURS: 8:15 – 3:00 p.m.

[Bell Schedules 2024-2025](#)

[MCPS CALENDAR](#)

To report Bullying and Harassment, please use this [Bullying and Harassment Form](#)

[Bus Route Links](#) – scroll down to North Bethesda Middle School for the most up to date bus routes. If you have any questions, please contact the Department of Transportation Bethesda Bus Depot at 240-740-6580.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Extracurricular activities and Activity Bus Routes Administrators

Grade 6 [Hyle\\_L\\_Daley@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Hyle_L_Daley@mcpsmd.org)

Grade 7 [Katherine\\_B\\_Rudd@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Katherine_B_Rudd@mcpsmd.org)

Grade 8 [tirza\\_carmichaelcollins@mcpsmd.org](mailto:tirza_carmichaelcollins@mcpsmd.org)

Acting Principal - [Daniel E Werbeck@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Daniel_E_Werbeck@mcpsmd.org)

Principal [Annemarie\\_e\\_smith@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Annemarie_e_smith@mcpsmd.org)

### **Upcoming NBMS School-wide State Testing Schedule:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Test</b>	<b>Audience/Venue</b>
Wednesday, 4/2/25	Maryland School Survey	All, AM Homeroom
April 23, 25, 28, 29, 2025	MCAP ELA	All, AM Testing Group
May 5, 6, 2025	MCAP Math	All, Morning and Afternoon Testing Groups
May 12 - 25	MAP M/R	All, English and Math classes
May 19 - 22	MCAP Social Studies	8th Grade only - taken in Social Studies classes

### **Maryland School Survey**

State law requires that all public schools in Maryland survey students about school climate. We will conduct that survey this Wednesday, April 2, 2025. Please

see the follow letter for more information:

[W NBMS MD Survey Parent Letter 2025.docx](#)

**Science Olympiad Team:** Yesterday, the NBMS Science Olympiad team competed in the Maryland Science Olympiad state tournament at Johns Hopkins University. Out of a field of 24 teams, preliminary results show a 7th place ranking. Great job, Phoenix Olympians!

### **PTSA EVENT: 6th and 7th Grade Social - SAVE THE DATE - Friday, April 4, 2025 6pm - 8pm**

Please [see this flyer](#) for more information


6th/7th grade social is scheduled for Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> @ 6-8pm. Tickets are on sale on the [PTSA website](#). PTSA member fee is \$5.00/child and non-members fee \$15.00/child. We will have food (pizza, snacks and drinks), DJ and games.

### **KID Museum's Invent the Future Challenge**

Please [see this flyer](#) for more information

KID Museum's **Middle School-only Invent The Future Club** kicks off next week! Don't miss your chance to sign up for this exciting, hands-on experience.

[Invent the Future After-School Club](#) Over seven weeks, KID Museum educators will guide students through **coding, 3D modeling, electronics, and woodworking** as they develop an invention prototype to enter our Invent the Future Challenge!

 **Wednesdays | 4:30–6:00 PM | March 19 – May 7**

 **KID Museum**

 **Final showcase at the Invent the Future Expo on June 1st!**

The **Invent the Future Challenge** is your chance to dream big, build cool stuff, and make an impact! Whether you're passionate about invention, technology, and design—or just love solving problems—this is your opportunity to bring your ideas to life.

✓ **Solve a real-world problem** 🌍

✓ **Create a working prototype (with a \$60 material limit!)** 🔧

✔ **Showcase your invention at the Expo, where real inventors, scientists, and industry leaders will see your work!** 🏆

### **Can't Make the After-School Club? [Form Your Own Team!](#)**

Gather **3–6 friends and an adult sponsor**, and form your own team for just **\$30 per group!** You'll get all the instructions needed to bring your ideas to life.

**[Register by April 18th!](#)**

We hope to continue engaging your students in innovative, skill-building programs. Let's invent the future together!

**[Sign up today!](#)**

### **Ms. Rice's Counseling Update**

Webinars, Seminars, Announcements, and things...

- [Parent Child Journey](#) with Dr. Shapiro & colleagues
  - **Free Parent Support Group EVERY Monday at 1:00pm:** March 24th- Teaching Empathy; [register in advance for zoom link](#)
  - April Excursion: [Helping Your Child with Self-care](#) - Tuesdays in April from 10:00-11:00am by Zoom
  - May Excursion: [Medication for Struggling Children](#) - Thursdays in May from 8:00-9:00pm on Zoom
- The Chesapeake Center for ADHD, Learning & Behavioral Health has two upcoming virtual parenting groups:
  - Parenting Kids with ADHD - 8 sessions aimed at providing a safe space to connect with other parents while learning strategies to improve home-life; Tuesdays from 12-1:15pm starting March 4th. [Register using this link.](#)
  - Parenting Kids With Autism Spectrum Disorder - 8 sessions aimed at connecting attendees with other guardians who understand the unique challenges and joys of raising a child with autism; Thursdays from 12-1:15pm starting March 13th. [Register with this link.](#)
- PEP Webinar: [Communication with Tweens & Teens](#) through personal stories and experiences, questions and brainstorming solutions together, March 25th from 8:00-9:00pm, \$25
- The Ross Center is hosting a free webinar intended for parents of children with ADHD - [Effective Communication Strategies for a Child with ADHD](#), Thursday, April 3rd from 7:00-8:00pm and another on April 11th from 12:00-1:00pm for [Parents with ADHD who have a Child with ADHD](#)
- [Mindfulness For Your Student Athletes](#) - 6-week online course for coaches, educators, parents & professionals to learn the mindfulness practices, skills, and

core frameworks that help enhance energy, focus, poise, resilience, and performance. Starts April 7th, 7:30-9:00pm,

- Caring Matters: [Camp Erin Montgomery County](#) - free, weekend overnight camp for grieving children & teens, Friday, May 2nd @ 4:00 through Sunday, May 4th at 2:00pm at Bar-T Mountainside in Frederick. If you are interested, contact your child's counselor.

### **Summer Happenings**

- The Verizon Innovative Learning STEM Achievers Program at Uniformed Services University is hosting a no-cost summer STEM camp for middle school students, June 23-July 11, no prior STEM experience needed. For more information email [stem@usuhs.edu](mailto:stem@usuhs.edu) or to [apply, click here](#).
- [Growing Minds Social-Emotional Enrichment Camps](#) at St. Andrews
  - Transitioning to Middle School Through Art - setting the stage for navigating nerves and socializing - for Rising 6th Graders, July 28-Aug 1
  - Empowered Black Girls: A Safe Space for Connection and Growth - for 6th-8th graders, July 21-25
- [Expressive Therapy Center Week-Long Specialty Summer Camps](#) (9:30am-12:30pm)
  - Transition to Middle School - July 21-25
  - Art and Mindfulness - July 28- August 1 (Grades 6-8)

### **8th Grade SOCIAL:**

A committee of parents has been meeting to plan the NBMS end of year 8th Grade Social party. The party will be at North Bethesda on Friday, May 30, 2024 from 6:30 - 9:00 PM. There will be a DJ, dinner, a photo booth, and a slide show featuring your kids and their NBMS buddies over the years :-)

Please start looking for photos of your child/children and their buddies from the last three years at NBMS! Because we hope to include every 8th grader, group photos with other current 8th graders or NBMS teacher(s) will be given preference in the slideshow. This also means that we won't be able to use every photo that you submit but we are committed to making sure that every child is included in this slideshow.

Photos of NBMS activities or photos taken at school or NBMS sporting events will also be given preference in the slideshow.

To help us streamline the process and ensure that the slideshow is the best it can be, please consider the following guidelines when submitting photos. Note that these are only guidelines, not hard-and-fast rules.

Please: IMPORTANT: —> Save each photo with a name that has the grade in which it was taken and the last name of your child and other children featured if you know their names. This will make it easier for us to sort the pictures for the slideshow. Unlabeled photos may be disregarded.

Upload the photos to this

[Google drive folder](#) or email to [nbmsphotos2025@gmail.com](mailto:nbmsphotos2025@gmail.com).

- Please put your photos in the sub drive according to their first name.
- Limit your submission to 3 photos
- Make sure the photos are good quality. Generally, if photos are 1MB or larger, they are fine for the slideshow.
- Upload the original photo whenever possible.
- No family vacation photos or photos with siblings please (unless your children are twin 8th graders like mine!)

\*\*\*Submit all photos by April 15, 2025\*\*\*

Thank you in advance!

Mara Kronenfeld and the 8th Grade Social Parent Organizing Committee

**FEE BASED PTSA ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES  
CODING CLASSES FOR 6th through 8th Grade Students**

**[CODING CLASS](#)**

**Spring NBMS Tennis Programs**

**[Wednesday Intermediate/Beginner](#)**

**[Wednesday Varsity Futures Team](#)**

**[Thursdays Intermediate/Beginner](#)**

**[Thursdays Varsity Futures Team](#)**

**[Extended Season Per Diem Wednesday Classes](#)**

**DONATIONS NEEDED**

- Please consider donating a three ring binder for students in need for the second semester. Donations can be given to Ms. Mary Beth Turska in the NBMS Counseling Office

## **HELPFUL RESOURCES and Information**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Our attendance secretary is Maria Stefanias. The best way to reach her for questions or updates about attendance is to send her an email at [Maria\\_Stefanias@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Maria_Stefanias@mcpsmd.org)

**TO REPORT AN ABSENCE** Call the Attendance Line at 240-740-2101 by 9 a.m. or send an excuse note by email.

Upon return to school, send a note to the main office: include the student's full name, grade, dates, and reason for absence. You can use this [Attendance Note](#) template for Absences, Tardies, or Early Dismissals. MCPS requires a doctor's note for absences of 5 days or more. For an absence of 3 days or longer, homework may be requested by calling the Counseling Office at 240-740-2110.

Teachers enter attendance for each period into Synergy, the attendance system. All class absences generate an automated call/email to parents. If you believe there is an error, please contact the teacher and the attendance office.

### **School Meal Viewer**

Here is the NBMS MealViewer [link](https://schools.mealviewer.com/school/NorthBethesdaMS).  
<https://schools.mealviewer.com/school/NorthBethesdaMS>

Here is a [link](#) to the MCPS Division of Food and Nutritional Services where you can find more information in different languages.

### **CAFETERIA FEES**

It may be necessary to periodically review the cafeteria balance and funding source on your student's account to check for accuracy and for appropriate monetary funds. As a reminder, a traditional school lunch is \$2.80, but students have the option to purchase additional a la carte items for additional purchase. We find it appropriate for you to review with your child expectations and norms around cafeteria spending, and to support them in establishing boundaries and budgeting accordingly. We do not want any surprises for you and your child in terms of their daily spending. Prepay and check your child's account at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com) This service is optional—schools will continue to accept checks and cash for meals in the cafeteria.

Support Call the School Bucks toll-free customer support center at 1-855-832-5226 for assistance with enrollment or questions about your account.

MySchoolBucks support staff are available Monday to Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. eastern standard time.

### **FREE and REDUCED MEALS**

Students in Maryland who qualify for reduced-price meals will not be charged for meals.

Applications: Free and Reduced-price Meals System (FARMS) applications have been updated for the new school year and are now available online at [www.MySchoolApps.com](http://www.MySchoolApps.com); this is the preferred application method.

Apply online NOW at [MySchoolApps.com](http://MySchoolApps.com) (Translations available) Click [here](#) for an English video tutorial. Click [here](#) for a Spanish video tutorial.

- Federal eligibility guidelines change each school year; therefore, a new application must be submitted each school year. All students in the family should be listed on one household application. A notice will be mailed home to each student if you are approved for meal benefits or do not qualify for meal benefits. Please keep this important document for your records and use throughout the school year. Families may apply for meal benefits at any time during the school year.
- Households that are unable to apply online should contact their school or the Division of Food and Nutrition Services at 240-740-7400. If you would like a paper application, please contact the main office.

### **STUDENT HANDBOOKS**

Updated online versions of A Student's Guide to Rights and Responsibilities, the Student Code of Conduct in MCPS, Guidelines for Respecting Religious Diversity and Guidelines for Student Gender Identity are available on the [MCPS website](#).

### **STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING (SSL)**

#### [NBMS Student Service Learning \(SSL\) Website](#)

Resources: [SSL Information and FAQ flyer](#); hard copies are available in the Counseling Office For SSL forms, guidelines, resources, and much more click on the MCPS SSL Hub => <https://bit.ly/SSLHubMCPS>

All students should check their SSL hours quarterly, step-by-step directions for checking SSL hours => <https://bit.ly/SSLonVUE>



Students, please check your [StudentID@mcpsmd.net](mailto:StudentID@mcpsmd.net) Gmail account daily for SSL emails (and of course other important emails)

Make sure to join the NBMS SSL MyMCPS Classroom.

To join, click on the NBMS SSL MyMCPS Classroom link => <https://mcpsmd.instructure.com/enroll/FC6DG7>. Please share this link with students, family, and friends.

If you have any questions, after reviewing the SSL information above, please send an email to [Carla.A.Jurewicz@mcpsmd.net](mailto:Carla.A.Jurewicz@mcpsmd.net). Thank you!

## **YEARBOOKS FOR SALE!**

NBMS yearbook sales have begun! If you would like to order a yearbook this year, please use this link to place your order <https://yearbookforever.com/> Enter "North Bethesda Middle School" in the search bar and it will take you to the order page. The pricing for a yearbook is as follows: Early Bird Discount: \$35 (1/1 until 2/28); Regular Price: \$40 (3/1 onwards). Yearbook orders will only be done online this year. There are a LIMITED AMOUNT of yearbooks. Please get your order ASAP to reserve your copy!

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Lui at [Jemi\\_J\\_Lui@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Jemi_J_Lui@mcpsmd.org).

## **SUBMIT PHOTOS FOR YEARBOOK!!**

Do you have photos you would like to submit for the yearbook? Have you taken pictures of events this year? We hope your answer is YES! The Yearbook Club is looking for students and families to contribute pictures for the '24-'25 yearbook. They can be classes, clubs, student life, community events, SSL, concerts, sporting events, etc. You can submit photos via the Yearbook Snap app (the app icon is orange!), or the Community Upload website

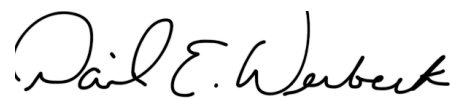
<https://snap.yearbookforever.com/snap/index.html#/upload/1-23J-32823>

The access code is: phoenix (no caps or spaces).

If you have any questions or run into any problems with submissions, please contact Ms. Lui at [Jemi\\_J\\_Lui@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Jemi_J_Lui@mcpsmd.org).

**Have a great week!**

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel E. Werbeck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and 'W'.

**Mr. Daniel E. Werbeck**

Acting Principal

North Bethesda Middle School