

Good evening John Poole Middle School families,

This is Mr. Green with your weekly updates for the week of September 18 - September 22, 2023.

This week marks the halfway point of the first marking period of the school year. Interim reports will be available on October 5. Please make sure you complete all assignments on time and take advantage of the reassessment opportunities.

Friday, September 22 is an early release day. Students will be dismissed at 12:10 p.m. We will also have a School Safety Day during the school day. We will practice most of our required state of Maryland safety drills, such as fire evacuation, reverse evacuation, public shelter and safety lockdown, weather, and earthquake drills. More information will be shared with students later this week.

There is NO SCHOOL on Monday, September 25.

We continue to see an uptick in COVID-19 cases at John Poole. If you are feeling symptoms, you are strongly encouraged to test and stay home if you are ill. We have a limited supply of testing kits if you need one. Please call the main office.

Media Center Memo:

In an effort to help students have worry-free school days, the media center has some tips for keeping students' Chromebooks ready and in working order:

- Students should be transporting their Chromebooks in something like a padded case, cover, or binder. The Chromebook screens are made of glass and are likely to break if dropped. The media center has padded carrying cases for students if they would like one.
- Chromebooks should be plugged in EACH NIGHT so that they are fully charged and ready to go in the morning. One idea to help form this habit is to plug in the Chromebook in the same place your student charges their phone overnight or where they keep their backpack.

Parents, thank you for helping your students with these tasks!

YEARBOOK NEWS:

We are currently collecting photographs from families for the very popular yearbook spread: "First Day of School". If you have a first day of school photo of your student that you would like us to include, please email it to karen_c_kavanagh@mcpsmd.org

Also, it is not too early to purchase the 2023-2024 yearbook! Go to jostens.com today to get the best pricing for the school year.

Hearing/Vision Screening

In accordance with Maryland State Law students in Montgomery County Public Schools are screened for possible vision and hearing problems. Trained hearing and vision screeners will be screening students new to MCPS, students in Grade 8, and students referred by teachers because of possible signs of hearing or vision problems. The screeners will be at John Poole Middle School on September 29, 2023, and October 2, 2023.

Children who do not see clearly or are unable to hear what their teacher and classmates are saying have a harder time learning at school.

You will receive a referral form, via US mail, to take to your child's doctor if your child fails the screening. If your child is already under care for a hearing or vision problem, or you do not wish your child to be screened at school because of conflicts with your religious beliefs, please notify the school nurse in writing.

If your child wears glasses or contacts, they should wear them every day and bring them to the screening.

School-based vision screenings may not detect every vision problem. To learn more about possible vision problems and symptoms or health conditions that may require additional evaluation go to Montgomery County Government's website at this link: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS-Program/PHS/SchoolHealth/HearingVision.html>

Contact our health room if you have questions about your child's screening.

Family Portraits - October 6

Our photography company, Freed Photography, is providing a family portrait opportunity to our families. Family portraits will take place on Friday, October 6th from 4:00-6:30 p.m. at John Poole Middle School. Family portraits will take place outside, weather permitting.

Families must sign up online. [CLICK HERE](#) or visit <https://schedule.freedphoto.com/johnpoolems> and follow the prompts to make an appointment at your preferred time.

All ordering will be entirely ONLINE! You will be able to choose from many wonderful photos. Parents will receive an e-mail alert with a link to the gallery when it becomes available. If you have any questions, please contact the main office.

Please continue to check the [myMCPS Classroom](#) calendar or our [JPMS school webpage](#) for the most updated information, including upcoming events, bus routes, and other happenings occurring at school.

Please mark your calendars for these important upcoming events:

Friday, September 22: Early Release Day. Students will be dismissed at 12:10 p.m.

Monday, September 25: NO SCHOOL for staff and students.

Have a great night and a wonderful week!

Mr. Green