

- Mark Twain

# **Getting Ready for March Madness**

That familiar phrase *March Madness* brings extra meaning with it this year. This winter's crazy weather has kept us all confused, including the trees and bulbs that are already blooming up a storm. Now we are already at interim time – you will receive them next week – and the MSA is just a week away. The month concludes as spring break begins, and we return on the first day of the fourth quarter for that final sprint to the finish line of another school year. Phew! Time is flying and so are we.

Please look closely at your child's interim report. During testing, there is not as much homework assigned so it could be a great time to get your child caught up on all his or her work. Once testing is over, we only have a few days before the end of the quarter, so there won't be as good an opportunity to get back on track at that point.

The testing schedule is below. Please look ahead and try to clear the mornings for assessments. If you have a doctor's appointment on a day your child is scheduled for testing, it would be a huge help if you can reschedule for the afternoon or a date after testing. All kids need to be on time, well-rested and full of a good breakfast each day as well. <u>All</u> students who qualify for free <u>or</u> reduced price meals are entitled to a <u>free</u> breakfast every day of the school year. MSA is a great time for kids to take advantage of that and get a good meal at school. Just be sure your child arrives on time to eat and be in the testing room ready to go at 7:35.

	MSA 2012 Testing Schedule								
Whe	When 6 <sup>th</sup> grade tests, 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> grades meet periods 1 & 2. When 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> grades test, 6 <sup>th</sup> grade meets periods 1 & 2.							eriods 1 & 2.	
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thurs. & Fri.
Date	3/12	3/13	3/14	3/15	3/16	3/19	3/20	3/21	3/22 & 3
Test	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Math	Math	Math	Math	Make-ups
rest	6	6	7&8	7&8	6	6	7&8	7&8	wake-ups

The other madness we are enduring this March is much sadder. This week's school shooting is another occasion when we find ourselves confronting a reality that can be very frightening to our kids even though the events took place far off in another state. Unlike most similar acts of violence, this shooter did not perish at the scene. Legal proceedings will be sure to go on for a long time, keeping his story and picture in the news for months. If you plan to protect your children from this news story, it will be very difficult. This weekend may be a great time to talk with them, help them understand your family's beliefs about evil in the world, and reassure them that you and we are there for them no matter what. Thanks.

## **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!

**Kellie Dahlin** 

**Ryan D'Amelio** 

Victoria Gruber

Grace Howard Jackson Krasche Erin Larkin



Jacob Mason Austin Nichols Odalis Rojas

## **Student Leaders of the Pack**

Each month, our staff selects five students from each team who have exemplified the Timberwolf PRIDE core values of **P**urpose, **R**espect, Integrity, **D**edication and **E**ffort. Sometimes, these students have earned recognition through scholarly excellence, but these values are personal as well as academic, so sometimes the honorees will be chosen for displaying the good citizenship that makes our school a better place to work and learn.

Student Leaders of the Pack for February received their certificates at a ceremony this morning. Parents were invited to attend, a light breakfast was served, and photographs were taken of each award winner for display in the school lobby.

Congratulations to these great kids! We are very proud of the February Leaders of the Pack!

#### **6TH GRADE**

Purpose – Jackson Krasche Respect – Zach Falls Integrity – Diana Arias Dedication – Clara Jackson Effort – Morgan Bliss

#### 7TH GRADE

Purpose – Courtney Bourque Respect – James Donovan Integrity – Daniel Ballew Dedication – Jake Hough Effort – Alona Carr



8TH GRADE Purpose – Lilli Pedersen Respect – Chance Garner Integrity – Julia Link Dedication – Breanne Hall Effort – Kyran Gill

## **New Technology in Spanish Classes**

Mrs. Peace and Ms. Rice are bringing new technology to their Spanish lessons. The photographs on the next page show students in the media center practicing with *Audacity*, a computer program that supports the oral component of the class and will be incorporated into the semester exam. Students are practicing recording their responses. They will have several opportunities to do this throughout the semester so they are comfortable with the process when exams roll around.

Thanks to Mrs. McIntyre for taking the pictures!



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## Are you tired of paying $5\mathfrak{c}$ for every bag that you need? John Poole MS's PE department has the answer... Join the PE department in simplifying your 'bag' problems.

We will be selling Designer, one-of-a-kind Timberwolf Bags!!

Not only will you have a cool looking, awesome bag for carrying school supplies, PE clothes, and other special items, but you will be helping to raise money to benefit the PE Classes, so they may purchase an iPod to hook up to the new sound system our PTA helped us buy.

Show your school spirit and PRIDE by wearing and carrying a New, Blue Timberwolf bag.

Order deadline is Monday, April 16, 2012.

Cost for these high quality bags is ONLY \$10.00

Delivery will be early May.

### Timberwolf Bags

Student:

\_\_\_\_\_ PE/Health Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone:

Please indicate below the quantity of bags you would like to purchase and the type of payment being used. If you are paying by check, please make it payable to JPMS.

Item	Individual Pr	Quantit	Total Price	Cash Total	Check #/Total
Timberwolf Bag	\$10.00				

The deadline to place your order is Monday, April 16.

Expected delivery date is early May.

For Staff:

Received order on: \_\_\_\_\_ Order filled on:\_\_\_\_\_ Delivered on: \_\_\_\_\_



# Coming Soon to a Middle School Near You!

Starting on March 2, 2012 the Read Across Maryland program will begin. People of all ages are challenged to read for 30 minutes for 30 days. Students at

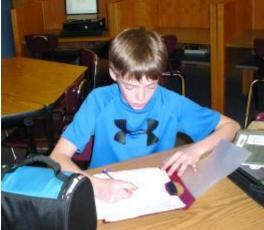
John Poole M.S. will have two opportunities to win prizes. Students who turn in their calendars, signed by their parent with a list of the books they have read will have their names entered into a drawing for various gift cards. Students can also choose to compete in a drawing for a Kindle Fire or Amazon gift card by completing the registration form on the back of their calendar and sending the form and a list of the books they have read to:

Radical Readers MSEA c/o Angela Booker 140 Main Street Annapolis, MD 21201 Entries must be postmarked by April 2, 2012. Details are available on the Read Across Maryland website: <u>http://www.readacrossmaryland.org/</u>

Today - March 2<sup>nd</sup> - we started off the fun by wearing red and white clothing. Students will receive related materials next week in English classes. Remember that March 2<sup>nd</sup> is the birthday of Dr. Seuss!

## VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME and JOIN THE PTA

- Sharon Armstrong President
- Marilyn Soltis Vice President
- Dawn Albert Vice President
- Dreama Hemingway Secretary
- Sue Van Meter Treasurer
- Lori Kocur Membership & Volunteers
- Anne Donovan Staff Appreciation



It is always worthwhile and never too late to join the John Poole Middle School PTSA.

Your membership entitles you to receive the 2011-2012 JPMS Student Directory at no charge!

Please contact Lori Kocur at <u>kocurs@verizon.net</u> 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!

Show your kids how much you care and how important their school experience is to you – register to volunteer today!

Membership and volunteer forms are available at the JPMS website: <u>http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/poolems/parents/13[1]%20ptsa%20v</u> <u>olunteer%20form.pdf</u>

# HELP WANTED! PTSA PRESIDENT & TREASURER

Exciting positions for parents who care about our school community, want the best for our kids, and like to take an active role in school life!

Ideally, this is a two-year term. The current President and Treasurer have served for two years and are now transitioning with their kids to the high school.

The vice president and secretary are staying on in their jobs, so new officers will have experienced, hard-working support.

Doesn't this sound like a job you'd enjoy? Contact Sharon Armstrong or another of the current officers for more information. Thanks!

# **PTA Fundraiser** on March 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> shop at



Home • Garden • Gifts

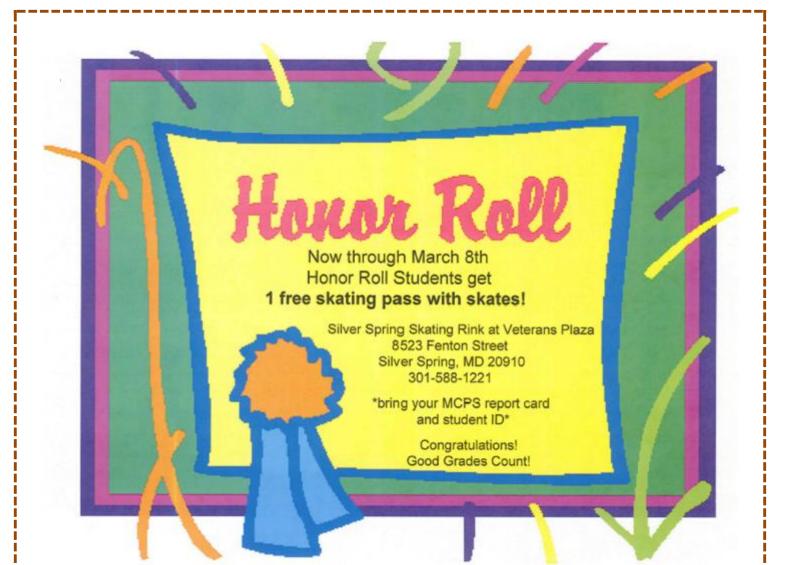
19831 Fisher Avenue Poolesville MD

Vintage and cottage chic home décor and gifts for every occasion



Mention "JPMSPTA" and 10% of your total purchase will be donated to your PTA! Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup> 10am – 6pm Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup> 12 – 5pm

For more info go to <u>www.finderskeepershgg.com</u> or find us on **Facebook** 



# Donations Welcome for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance



Now that we are in the second semester of the school year, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders at John Poole Middle School are looking ahead to moving to high school. In fact, planning is already underway for their annual 8<sup>th</sup> grade celebration dance, which will be held June 8, featuring a fun beach theme.

The dance committee is looking for donations for raffle and game prizes for the dance, such as gift baskets, gift cards, movie tickets, beach-themed merchandise, electronics, sports equipment, restaurant gift certificates, and popular store gift certificates. (Only new or unused items, please.) Financial donations are also appreciated so we can purchase prizes. Please take your donations to Mrs. Ogden in the middle school office before June 1 and clearly label them for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance. If you have any questions, contact Karen Micheals at <u>kmicheals@cornetser.com</u> or at 240-425-4446. Thank you for helping to make the dance a fun and memorable occasion for our children!



New Clubs are beginning next week! See below for classes and times! These classes are great opportunities for the students at JPMS. Please join us! It is the purpose of RecXtra to serve all students, please do not hesitate to submit club suggestions for your child. Please contact Mrs. Crutchfield at Winessa\_R\_Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org

#### **Upcoming RecXtra Clubs:**

Boxing Fitness: Thursdays -- 3/8 and 3/15. Registration forms are available in the main office.

**RecXtra** needs your donations for upcoming classes. Don't throw it away!!! Recycle with us! You may drop items in the RecXtra Box in the Main Office. Thanks!

• Magnets

• Yarn

- Scrapbook supplies
- Spray paint--any color
- Beads and Jewelry making supplies
- Old and unwanted jewelry

• Fabric cuts or scraps

Montgomery County Department of Recreation is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Please call a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist @240-777-4925V /240-777-6974 TTY to request accommodations no later than two weeks prior to the activity.



#### **Yearbooks**

Yearbooks can be pre-ordered through Jostens only. If you do not pre-order a yearbook, you are not guaranteed a yearbook. You can go to <u>www.jostens.com</u> today to pre-order your yearbook. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Aulls at <u>Kelly M Aulls@mcpsmd.org</u>.

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Hershey Park

John Poole Middle School's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade will have an end of the year trip on **Monday, June 11, 2012**, to Hershey Park. Eighth graders and their teachers will travel to Hershey Park via video coach buses using Rill's Bus Service for a great day of fun and adventure. Information about the trip will be given out March 1, 2012 in Social Studies classes.

Students need to return the permission slip/medical form to their Social Studies teacher with a check for **\$71.00** payable to John Poole Middle School. Payment is due no later than **March 22, 2012.** Funds are available to students unable to pay; please contact your child's counselor if there are any financial concerns or needs. Any outstanding financial obligations also need to be paid before March 22, 2012.

The price includes transportation to Hershey Park and all rides and admissions in the park. Buses will leave John Poole Middle School at **7:30 AM** and return at **7:30 PM**.

#### **Donations Needed for Drama**

The drama program is in need of donations for *Annie Jr*. as well as for the drama program. We need plastic boxes with covers and handles (bigger than shoe box size). Any old flannel nightgowns, pajamas, dress socks and clothing that could pass for the 1930's would be great. If you do make any donations, please make sure Mrs. Turner has your name. Thank you!

#### **Boys Soccer Coach Needed**

JPMS is looking for a qualified boy's soccer coach who has experience coaching and working with middle school students. The season runs March 14, 2012 to May 17, 2012. Practice is only 3 days a week, Tuesday – Thursday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. There are 5 games during the season. If you're interested in applying for the vacancy, please email Mr. Young to set up an interview at Terry\_W\_Young@mcpsmd.org. Thanks!

#### **MSI Soccer**

The Poolesville 6th/7th grade boys MSI recreational soccer team has openings for a few new players. Practices will be held in Poolesville. Please contact Lori Kocur at kocurs@verizon.net or at 301-349-9670 for more information.

#### **Girls on Track**

Girls on Track will be starting the spring session on March 6th. We will meet every Tuesday and Thursday after school for 10 weeks. Interested girls can register on line at <u>www.girlsontherunofmoco.org</u>

If you have questions or need assistance with the registration process, go to the health room and speak with Mrs. Salyers or Mrs. Sypes. Financial assistance is available.

#### **Soccer Tryouts**

Attention all students in 7th or 8th grade who are interested in playing soccer for John Poole Middle School! Tryouts will begin Wednesday, March 14. Before you try out, you must have all the necessary paperwork completed and an updated physical on file in the nurse's office. You can pick up a packet of information from your PE teacher, the main office, or Mr. Young. Packets need to be returned to the <u>coaches</u> the first day of tryouts.

#### Learn how to be a puppeteer!

Montgomery College MC Adventures has something new - Kaydee Puppets!

This special one-day program offered for students in grades 4 – 6 is scheduled for Saturday, March 24, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring campus.

Students will have an opportunity to participate during the day in workshops on puppeteering. Workshops will include making and using show puppets, manipulating puppets, creating script writing, learning to be a puppeteer and performing a group puppet production.

Let that inner puppeteer come out and register today on our website at <u>www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthpdf/mcadventures.pdf.</u> Workshops fill quickly, so register right away!

For additional information, contact the Youth Programs office at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917.

#### Summer Institute for the Gifted

The **Summer Institute for the Gifted** offers summer programs that combine academics with social, cultural and recreational opportunities for students ages 4 - 17. Catalogs for the 2012 **Summer Institute** are now available. If you are interested in residential, commuter, and day programs for gifted and academically talented students, go to <u>http://www.giftedstudy.org/</u> for information.

#### **Montgomery College Summer 2012 Youth Programs**

Registration is now open for courses for students in grades K - 12 held on all three campuses, Germantown, Rockville and Takoma Park/Silver Spring. There are over 200 exciting full- and half-day courses that cover a wide range of topics, such as art, music, science, math, writing, sports, robotics, study skills, engineering, wood working, technology, and more.

The summer program runs for an eight-week period from June 18 – August 10, 2012. So, if you are interested in doing something really different and fun this summer, **REGISTER NOW online, by fax, by mail, or come to the Rockville Campus, Campus Center, Room 220.** Classes fill quickly, so register right away!!

For registration information, access our website at <u>http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthsummerbrochure.html</u> or contact the Youth Programs Office at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917.

#### **Superintendent to Hold Four Forums This Spring**

Superintendent of Schools Joshua Starr will be holding four forums this spring, each focusing on a specific topic—English Language Learners (March 12 at Kennedy HS), Gifted Education (March 22 at Magruder HS), Special Education (April 16 at Seneca Valley HS), and Social and Emotional Learning (May 10 at Whitman HS). Each forum will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. and will provide an opportunity for parents, staff, and the community to hear about the latest trends and research, find out what's happening in our schools, and share their thoughts and ideas with Dr. Starr, guest panelists, and other participants. Interpretation and childcare will be available. Additional information is available at <u>www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org</u> or by calling 301-309-MCPS (6277).

El Superintendente de Escuelas Joshua Starr estará realizando cuatro foros durante esta primavera, cada uno de ellos enfocado en un tema específico—Estudiantes de Inglés Como Segundo Idioma (English Language Learners) (12 de marzo, en Kennedy HS); Educación Para Estudiantes de Alto Potencial (22 de marzo, en Magruder HS); Educación Especial (16 de abril, en Seneca Valley HS); y, Aprendizaje Social y Emocional (10 de mayo, en Walt Whitman HS). Cada foro se realizará de 7:00 a 8:30 p.m., y ofrecerá una oportunidad para que los padres, el personal y la comunidad conozcan las últimas tendencias e investigaciones, para que sepan lo que está sucediendo en nuestras escuelas y para que compartan sus opiniones e ideas con el Dr. Starr, con los panelistas invitados y con los demás participantes. Habrá a disposición servicio de interpretación y cuidado infantil. Se puede obtener información adicional en <u>www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org</u>, o llamando al 301-309-MCPS (6277).

#### Kohl's Cares® Scholarships

The Kohl's Cares<sup>®</sup> Scholarship Program recognizes and rewards young volunteers who help make their communities a better place. To be nominated, students must be between the ages of six and 18 and not yet a high school graduate as of March 15, 2012. Each student must be nominated by someone age 21 years or older. Nominations close for 2012 on March 15. Visit https://www.act.org/kohls for more information. Click the **Register Now!** button to nominate a student. Again, thanks to Mr. Terrell for passing on this information.

#### **Homework Hotline Live**

Ask teachers for help Tuesdays-Thursdays, 4-9 PM, on MCPS TV's Homework Hotline Live (HHL). Watch teachers on TV as they work with you to solve homework problems. **Here's how to ask your question:** 

- From 4 to 6 PM, call 301-279-3234 (STILL THE BEST--talk directly with a teacher).
- From 4 to 9 PM, send a text message from the Homework Hotline website (AskHHL.org); send a text message from your cell phone to 724-427-5445; post a message on the <u>HHL Facebook wall</u>, or send an e-mail to <u>guestion@AskHHL.org</u>.



Our Honors Geometry students are among our Best and Brightest students at JPMS; we want them to have every opportunity to be the Best and Brightest at Poolesville High School! All Honors Geometry students are invited to attend a very special *Summer Program* that will give you a *Jumpstart* into Algebra 2!

Over the past two years, Mrs. Aulls has developed this curriculum to help strong students refresh their Algebra skills so they are ready for excellence in high school. It has been a year since Honors Geometry students took Algebra – of course those skills are a little rusty. This class is a great way to review Algebra 1 concepts so JPMS students are ready on Day 1 to excel in Algebra 2. Mark your calendars now for this great opportunity which is available only to John Poole students.

The class will run Monday through Friday for three weeks at John Poole Middle School. The first day of class is Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup> and the last day is Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. The class will be from 9:30am - 11:30am. Students will need to have their own transportation to attend this program. There *may* be afternoon transportation if there are other summer programs at John Poole MS.

There is a small fee of \$10 for this great opportunity to jumpstart your Algebra skills (checks made payable to JPMS). Fill out and detach the reservation slip below and return it with your registration fee to Mrs. Ogden in the main office or Mrs. Aulls in room 309 as soon as possible and no later than Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>.

I would like to reserve a spot for the three week Algebra 2 Jumpstart class.

Student Name:

2012-2013 Math Course: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name:

Parent Signature:



Please provide a name and number below of someone who can be reached in case of an emergency.

#### LOOKING FOR FURNITURE FOR A READING CORNER.

WANTED!









Ms. Vega and Ms. Grifone would like to make their reading classroom more inviting for young readers. If you have chairs that are in decent condition or furniture that you are looking to get rid of please contact John Poole Middle School.

We have received some wonderful donations of comfortable furniture, but there is still room for another chair or two. Spring cleaning is coming – perhaps you're ready to refresh your current furniture. We're happy to help!



What: The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of the Mid-Atlantic's 2012 Walk for Wishes® is a community-wide celebration and effort to grant wishes for local children with life-threatening medical conditions. Walkers of all ages will come together and enjoy a day that includes the walk itself, a Virtual Walk and ongoing family-fun festivities including; great music, face painting and balloon art, special guest appearances and other surprises.

Where: University of Maryland's Comcast Center

When: Saturday, April 14, 2012 from 8:30a.m. - 12:00p.m.

For added convenience for participants, there will be four "waves" of start times for walkers;

9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

Who: Everyone! Children who have received wishes, their families and other enthusiastic Mid-Atlantic supporters such as corporations, clubs, schools, families and friends can all be involved.

Why: To raise awareness and funds so that the Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Mid-Atlantic can continue to serve local children. The average cost of a wish in the Mid-Atlantic region is \$7,500 and each year the Mid-Atlantic chapter grants more than 400 wishes. We rely on community members to help us grant these wishes.

HOW: You can get involved in this event in a variety of ways.

- · Sponsor the Walk for Wishes and join other committed partners like UnitedHealthcare
- Walk and join the fun and festivities at the University of Maryland or via our Virtual Walk. Registration is;
  - Adults \$25
  - Kids six 18 \$15
  - Kids five and under FREE!
- Recruit others to walk with you and share the power of a wish<sup>®</sup>
- Pledge your financial support and turn your dollars into wishes! Support your family, friends and co-workers by making an online donation via their personal fundraising Webpage
- Volunteer to be an event committee member or event day volunteer
- Donale in-kind goods and services to help reduce costs

For more information on how to get involved go to, www.midatlantic-walkforwishes.org



Our thanks to lead Star Sponsor - UnitedHealthoare

UnitedHealthcare

## **Save the Date!**



#### Important events you won't want to miss!

March 6	Interims Mailed
March 12-22	MSA Testing
March 22	JPMS Spring Recital (7:00 p.m.)
March 29	Third Marking Period Ends
March 30	Professional Day for Teachers (No School for Students)





Boys Varsity Lacrosse						
March 8	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Tuscarora HS at Tuscarora HS (Scrim.)				
March 13	4:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Gaithersburg HS at PHS (Scrim.)				
March 17	TBA	PHS vs. Brunswick HS at Brunswick HS (Brunswick Play-Day)				
March 17	TBA	PHS vs. Walt Whitman HS at Brunswick HS (Brunswick Play-Day)				
March 17	TBA	PHS vs. Frederick HS at Brunswick HS (Brunswick Play-Day)				

#### In case you need to call the PHS Counseling Office with registration questions, here is the office staff list: Serving students whose last names begin with

James Cappuccilli, Counselor	A - Fo	
Melissa Nagy, Counselor	Fr - Ho	
Barbara Martin, Counselor	Hs – M	Susan Hornburg, Secretary
David Gysberts, Counselor	N — To	Libby Hillard, Registrar - 301.972.7913
Sarah Pavlik, Resource Counselor	Tr - Z	

Read about the PHS students who earned their way into the finals of this year's AbilityOne Design Challenge, a competition among high school students to create original tools to aid the disabled. Click on this link to the Gazette article:

#### Poolesville students invent tool to assist disabled workers

## Call **John Poole!**

Health Room 301-407-1029

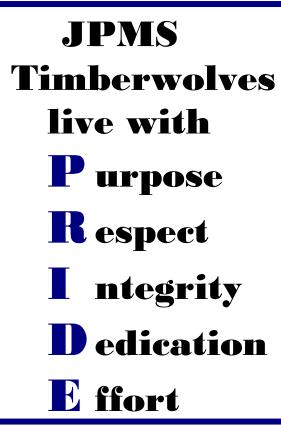
Counseling

Cafeteria

Main Office 301-972-7979 301-972-7980 301-407-1037

And Ask for...

Principal - Mrs. Boucher	<b>Assistant Principal</b>	-	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, Secreta	ary) Mrs. Arnold	-	Mrs. Hardy





## **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