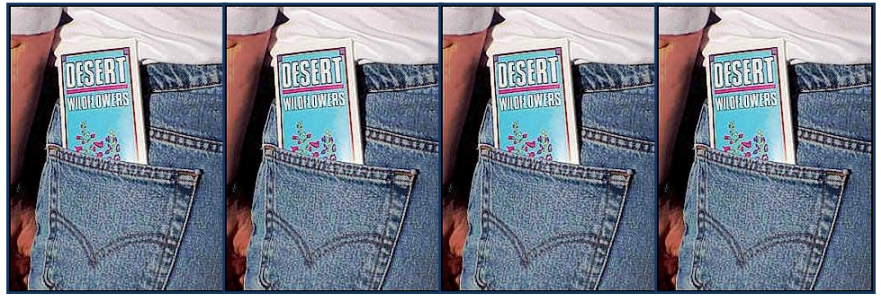


John Poole's **BACK POCKET**



March 16, 2012

A Thought for Today:

**If people only knew how hard I work to gain my mastery,
it wouldn't seem so wonderful at all.**

- Michelangelo

Our Kids Are Doing a Great Job!

The first week of MSAs has been exceptional. Our kids are working hard and everything has run smoothly. That's what showing our PRIDE is all about! Thanks for your help in getting students to school on time each day and making sure they have had good breakfasts. With the allergy season starting early, we've had a lot of runny noses and eyes to contend with, but the kids have cheerfully taken on the tests and given it their best. I think they liked the clementines we've been distributing, so this little energy boost may become a part of our assessment traditions.

Just three more days of testing and then it's a matter of getting the make-up tests done and moving on to the end of the school year. These two weeks of assessment can really distract us from seeing the calendar overall, so it's important to look ahead and realize the marking period ends on March 29 – just as we are headed into Spring Break. We don't do Saturday School during testing, so there is only one more Saturday (March 24) when kids can come to school for help with their work before the term is over. Please be sure to take notice if you get that Saturday School call on Friday afternoon, March 23!

Time is short! This weekend would be a great time to go over Edline reports to make sure your child is up to date and doing his or her best in all classes. Teachers want to get all the late and missing assignments in before the quarter is over as well, so they will be available to help. Make sure your child asks the teacher when he or she can get some extra help if it's needed.

Because there is less homework right now, it's also a great opportunity to do some spring cleaning of the binder. Just think how pleasant the coming break can be if all the work is done and everything is organized to launch the fourth quarter when we return from the holiday.

Happy Saint Patrick's Day to one and all – and please don't forget to shop at Finders Keepers (19831 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville) this weekend. When you mention John Poole Middle School, they'll donate 10% of your purchase to JPMS.

MSA 2012 Testing Schedule

**When 6th grade tests, 7th & 8th grades meet periods 1 & 2.
When 7th and 8th grades test, 6th grade meets periods 1 & 2.**

Date	Monday 3/19	Tuesday 3/20	Wednesday 3/21	Thurs. & Fri. 3/22 & 23
Test	Math 6	Math 7 & 8	Math 7 & 8	Make-ups

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!

Jennifer Benitez

Katherine Benitez

Adam Branscome

Jami D'Amelio

Nicolas Fernandez

Megan Grubb

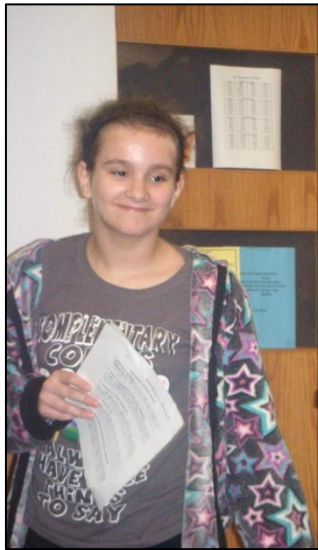
Tania Jackson

Yaniv Kovich

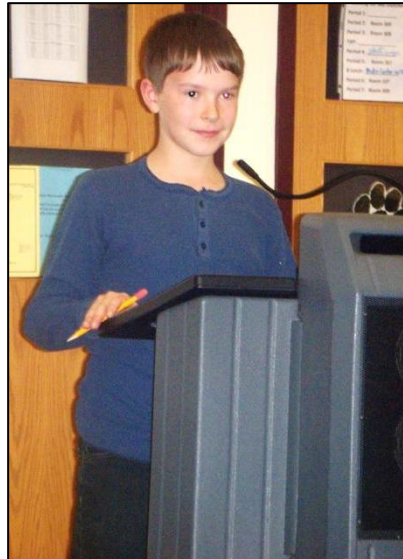
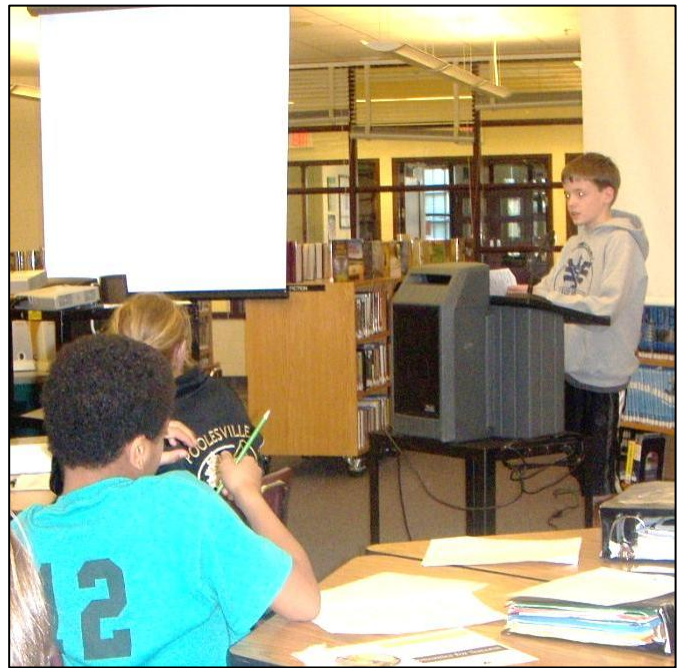
Sara Oden



Persuasive Speeches Voice Student Opinions



After researching issues such as school uniforms and start times, students in Grade 6 English classes expressed their opinions in persuasive speeches given to their classmates in the media center. Just like adults, student opinions were mixed on most topics, but most kids agreed they enjoyed using the computers to learn about their topics.





Thanks to Ms. McIntyre for taking the pictures of both the persuasive speeches and the financial literacy classes.



Grade 6 Financial Literacy Unit

This year, volunteers from Junior Achievement have visited world studies classes to teach 6th graders some of the basics of how to manage money and understand the marketplace as part of the curriculum's economics strand. Here are some of our kids at work on these lessons.



**Monday,
March 26 is
our next
Blue Monday**

**Please remind your
kids to wear BLUE in
support of our
Blue Ribbon Week
Goals to make our
school a safe,
welcoming place for
everyone and to
prevent bullying.**

Focus on Preventing Bullying

A new documentary about bullying that airs on the Cartoon Network on Sunday will feature opening remarks from President Barack Obama.

The movie, "Speak Up," is described as capturing the real, everyday stories of young people who were bullied. Last year, the president hosted a White House summit on bullying, where he told of being taunted when he was a child.

The Cartoon Network's film is an extension of the network's *Stop Bullying: Speak Up* initiative, which seeks to empower all kids to take part in the growing movement to help bring an end to bullying. It airs nationally at 5:30 p.m. Eastern and Pacific times, commercial-free, and again at 8 p.m.

Before, during and immediately after the telecast, bullying prevention expert Rosalind Wiseman will provide further explanation of key bullying issues for kids and adults, answering viewer questions online at www.StopBullyingSpeakUp.com.

Join us Thursday, March 22 for
for our
Spring Recital
7:00 PM – JPMS APR



Spring fashions are skimpy again this year. All the stores are showing shorts that are low on the hip and very short – and then there may be side slits that make them even shorter! It could be hard to find clothes that are stylish as well as appropriate for school!

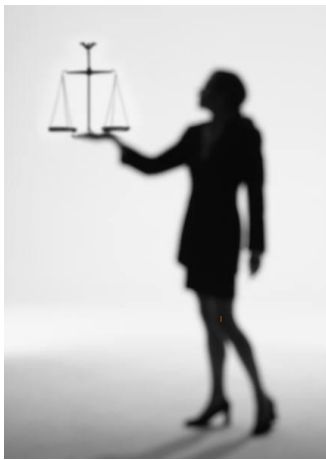


Dress for Success

The warm weather has suddenly arrived before most of us have had a chance to shop for the season. Kids are coming to school in last year's warm-weather gear, although it may be a size or two small if a lot of growth took place over the winter! Please go over your child's wardrobe a little earlier than usual this year so that you are sure he or she has what to wear to school on warm days.

Chances are you will be doing some shopping over spring break. If so, please remember that school is a place of business for the students. Play clothes and beach wear have to wait until school is out.

We ask kids to be sure their shirts meet their pants without skin showing, their shorts are long enough to let them sit and move without embarrassment, and no underwear shows. Shoulder straps on girls' tops need to be an inch wide – halter tops and spaghetti straps – even several layers of spaghetti straps – must be covered with a sweater or shrug. Thanks!



*JOHN POOLE MIDDLE
SCHOOL
EIGHTH GRADE
CAREER DAY*

*THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 2012
7:30 a.m. - 2:20 p.m.*



Parents and community members are needed to share their occupations with us! We are looking for a variety of careers to represent all walks of life. Our eighth graders enjoy having you come and share your careers with them. We will be having both morning and afternoon sessions for our Career Day with a variety of career panels offering learning opportunities for the students.

If you are interested, or have a friend or neighbor who would like to participate, please complete the form below and attached. Your child may return the form by **March 9, 2012**. You may contact Mrs. Arnold or Mrs. Hardy, counselors at JPMS (301-972-7980) with any questions.

We also depend on parent helpers to organize this day and help with registration, hospitality, student snacks, lunch for presenters and material preparation.

Please return the attached forms to your American History teacher at JPMS by MARCH 9, 2012.

STUDENT NAME _____ **Teacher:** _____

*Career Day – THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 2012
7:30 a.m. – 2:20 p.m.*

Parent Volunteer Information

___ Yes, I would like to volunteer with Career Day Registration, April 19, 2012, 1:15 to 2:20 p.m.

___ Yes, I would like to volunteer, April 20, 2012, 7:45 to 8:30 a.m.

___ Yes, I would like to volunteer to help on Career Day, April 26, 2012,

___ Morning Presenter Breakfast or ___ Noon Presenter Lunch

___ Donate Food for Presenter Breakfast/Lunch ___ Distribute Student Snacks

___ Willing to coordinate one of the above

___ No, I am not available at this time.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: (H) _____ (Cell): _____ (Work): _____

Email address: _____

Student Name: _____ **Teacher:** _____

Career Day Presenter Information

To help us schedule the day and use your presentation effectively, please check the appropriate boxes below:

☐ ***Yes, I would like to be a presenter: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon***

☐ ***I am interested in the afternoon session and understand it is reserved for large group special demonstrations***

My presentation will be:

☐ 5 – 10 minutes ☐ 10-15 minutes ☐ 15-20 minutes

☐ Informative ☐ Interactive with Informative ☐ Interactive

Name: _____

Address: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

Company: _____

Position/ Occupation: _____

Visual aids: _____

I would like to contact the presenters in my group before career day, please share my email address with them: ☐ yes ☐ no

Please provide us with a brief description of your presentation you will make to students.

Please give a brief description of your job responsibilities: _____

Are you tired of paying 5¢ 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: _____ Grade: _____ 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 Price	Quantity	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: _____

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

Major thanks to Anne Donovan and her wonderful parent helpers who treated the staff to St. Patrick's Day goodies this morning! They were delicious!

Dawn Albert, Anne Marie Caruso DiPaolo, Paige Kovach, Judy McKenney, Brandy Miller, Leigh Ross, Nora Terrell, Helen Trainor, Maria Wasilik & Claudia Yin

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

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

Please contact Lori Kocur at kocurs@verizon.net 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:

[http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/poolems/parents/13\[11\]%20ptsa%20volunteer%20form.pdf](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/poolems/parents/13[11]%20ptsa%20volunteer%20form.pdf)

Proposed Shift of Pension Funding on to Counties

We are now in the midst of budget season and are in need of your voices. The primary concern that is facing all counties in Maryland right now is the Governor's proposal to shift the cost of teacher pensions to the counties. There is some support within the Maryland General Assembly for this shift...at least until they hear from you!

How to Advocate?

We need many voices on this. Please take one (or more) of several routes to share your opposition to the pension shift:

- Go to <http://www.change.org/petitions/no-pension-shift> and sign the MCCPTA sponsored online petition.
- Print and sign the letter at the following MCCPTA link:

http://www.mccpta.com/legislative_dir/2011-2012/MCCPTA_Pension_shift_letter.pdf

Individuals can mail it themselves or take it to your school's PTA meeting in March & ask that it be forwarded by PTA leadership to the MCCPTA office who will ensure it gets to the right officials.

Why advocate?

- Shifting the cost of teacher pensions to the counties will cost Montgomery County \$47 million next year, \$61 million the following year, and \$71 million the year after that. \$47 million translates into approximately 500 positions or, for the school setting, an additional 2-3 students per classroom.
- The school budget, as well as many other county services, has seen large cuts in recent years and the county cannot absorb this additional expense. MCCPTA included opposition to a pension shift in its Legislative Platform http://www.mccpta.com/legislative_dir/2011-2012/Adopted_Legislative_Platform_2011-2012.pdf
- The state pension fund is underfunded due to actions by the state to include "corridor funding" that set aside less money for pensions than was recommended. Further, the state improved benefits in 2006 without providing additional funds to pay for them.
- Our school system saw major reductions last year. While we will not see restoration of those cuts in the next school year, the hope was that by August of 2013, the system might be able to start restoring those valuable positions. That likely will not occur if counties have to include pension funding in their budgets.

More info:

- Montgomery County Council Press Release
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Apps/Council/PressRelease/PR_details.asp?PrID=8272
- Board of Education Press Release
<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/press/index.aspx?page=showrelease&id=3101>
- Other organizations are also offering online petitions opposing the pension shift, to include http://salsa.wiredforchange.com/o/6096/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=5561
- <http://capwiz.com/nea/md/issues/alert/?alertid=60813666>
- And for those up for a more intensive effort, contact your state legislators
<http://www.montgomerycountydelegation.com/contact.html> directly and tell them to stop the shift.

Remember, if the shift in teacher pensions from the state to the county takes place, it is yet another thing to slow the modernization of the high school for your children in addition to endangering your school's funding needs and causing the other impacts to be felt by all students across the county.

Any adult resident can advocate by writing to Governor Martin O'Malley, President of the State Senate "Mike" Miller, or Speaker of the Maryland House of Representatives Michael Busch.

Use the letter on the next page, download the letter at http://www.mccpta.com/legislative_dir/2011-2012/MCCPTA_Pension_shift_letter.pdf, or write your own letter.

Bring your signed letters to the March 13 PTSA meeting or take them to the school office to send them to the MCCPTA office via "pony" (MCPS interoffice mail). The MCCPTA office will take care of the rest.



everychild.onevoice.™

Montgomery County Council of PTAs
February 15, 2012

The Honorable Martin J. O'Malley
Governor of Maryland
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1925

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker of the House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Dear Governor O'Malley, President Miller, and Speaker Busch:

As a resident of Montgomery County and the parent of a child attending Montgomery County Public Schools, I oppose any effort to shift state pension costs to local governments. I appreciate your overall support for education funding in the face of difficult economic times. However, I am deeply concerned that the proposed "pension pushback" will leave our county and others across our state far less able to fund public education, as well as other essential County services.

Montgomery County fiscal constraints have forced our public schools to slash more than \$400 million from the budget since 2009. These cuts have necessitated increases in class sizes across all grades and required the elimination of 1,300 positions. All of these reductions have occurred as our county has seen dramatic growth in student enrollment -- now at an all-time high of 146,500 students -- and intensified student needs. At present, there are 47,365 students who qualify for Free and Reduced-price Meals (FARMS) -- the highest number of students living at or near poverty in our county's history -- and 22.5% of all elementary school students require English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) services. Even without the "pension pushback," our County is struggling with these mounting education costs. Accordingly, I implore you to look for a solution to the pension problem that does not involve shifting even greater financial burdens onto our counties.

Given that 1) the General Assembly determines how much employees contribute and how much retirees will receive and 2) the State Retirement Agency invests pension funds and administers the program with local officials having very little input into how the fund is managed or operated, it hardly seems fair to "pass the buck" for the underfunded pension to cash-strapped counties. This is particularly true given that state-level decisions—including the 2006 enhancement of benefits and the so-called "corridor funding" (which allows underfunding by up to 10 percent)—were substantial drivers that led to the underfunding.

In closing, I urge that you work with leaders from our County and others to find a solution to improve the long-term health of the pension fund, without placing the burden on the backs of county citizens and -- most importantly -- students, who depend on all of us.

Sincerely,

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

cc: Senator Jamie Raskin, Chair, Montgomery County Senate Delegation
Delegate Brian Feldman, Chair, Montgomery County House Delegation

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 17th-18th shop at

Finders Keepers

Home • Garden • Gifts

19831 Fisher Avenue Poolesville MD

Vintage and cottage chic home décor and gifts for every occasion



Mention “JPMSPPTA” and 10% of
your total purchase will be
donated to your PTA!

Saturday March 17th 10am – 6pm

Sunday March 18th 12 – 5pm

For more info go to www.finderskeepershgg.com or find us on

Facebook



Restaurant Nights

Please join us for our first **Poolesville Elementary Restaurant Night at Bassett's**
ALL DAY on Tuesday March 20, 2012.

This is a great way to support the school and spend some time with your classmates.

You can dine in with your friends or carry out and
10% of all food proceeds will go to Poolesville Elementary School PTA.

More information go to www.pespta.com/restaurant



Where: **Bassett's**

When: Tuesday, March 20th ALL DAY
19950 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville, MD

LUNCH and DINNER!

Thank you for your support!!

SSL: Earth Day 2012

Celebrate Earth Day during the entire Month of April!

Earth Day is April 22nd but in Montgomery County we celebrate it during the entire month of April. There are many environmental volunteer projects throughout the month. Get involved in cleaning up the Potomac River Watershed, planting greens at the Twinbrook Community Center, and many other local events and projects.

With Spring Break in April, this is a great opportunity for students to earn Student Service Learning (SSL) hours while participating in worthwhile activities with family and friends.

MCPS students must complete 75 SSL hours as a requirement for graduation. They can begin earning SSL hours the summer after 5th grade.

[Click here](#) to find out more about Earth Day activities or go to the Montgomery Serves website: www.montgomeryserves.org.

Celebrate Earth Day with Calleva

Calleva's annual **Earth Day cleanup** will take place April 14, 10am-2pm at Riley's Lock. It's sure to be a productive & fun day. These organizations are participating:

Potomac Community Resources (PCR) -- joining in for the 5th year in a row!

Potomac Riverkeeper -- canoe cleanup team

C&O Canal Association

Redlands Landscaping -- our co-stewards at Riley's Lock

National Park Service

Alice Ferguson Foundation



Come work on invasive species removal, cleanup of Seneca Creek & the surrounding trails, park maintenance (new grills, picnic tables & parking lot maintenance), and more. There's definitely something for everyone -- all ages and abilities -- in this **INCLUSIVE** Earth Day event, which has become an annual tradition at Calleva.



Earth Hour

Saturday, March 31, 2012

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Yes, you can make a difference. Please join millions of people around the world in turning off your lights for **Earth Hour**, to raise awareness to fight climate change. Share this message with your friends and family.

At 8.30 p.m. on Saturday, March 31, 2012, lights will switch off around the globe for **Earth Hour**. This year, when the lights go back on, we want you to think about what you can change in your daily life that will benefit the planet. Together our actions add up.

Earth Hour began in 2007, in Sydney, Australia, 2.2 million homes and businesses switched off their lights for one hour. In 2008, the idea had grown into a global sustainability movement, with 50 million people switching off their lights.



For more information please visit:

<http://www.myeearthhour.org>

MCPS – DFM - School Energy & Recycling Team

2096 Gaither Road, Rockville, Maryland 20850

Any questions please contact: [Barbara M. Ruppel@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Barbara.M.Ruppel@mcpsmd.org)

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/facilities/greenschoolsfocus/sert.shtml>

Spring 2011



Contribute to *A Wider Circle*

Kali Wolin is a PHS student (and JPMS alum) who is making service a part of her way of life.

Kali maintains a bin on her front porch so that her neighbors and friends can make donations for families in need.

Each month, Kali sets a different focus for the donations. In March, she is collecting **non-toxic cleaning supplies (new condition - unopened please)** such as dish soap, sponges, toilet cleaner and brushes, laundry detergent, cleaning sprays, mops and brooms.

At the end of the month, Kali will deliver the items she has collected to A Wider Circle in Silver Spring, where they will be made available to families that need our help.

If you would like to be a part of this on-going effort, simply drop off your donations at Kali's home. The bin is on the front porch of **19505 Gray Farm Court (Hunter's Run)**.

In addition to this month's focus on non-toxic cleaning supplies, Kali is also continuing to collect items from her past drives. Below is the list of other things to donate if you have them as they are always in great need:

- **Healthy non-perishable food:** whole grain pasta, pasta sauce, brown rice, low-sodium canned beans, dried beans and lentils, low-sodium vegetable soup, low-sugar oatmeal, low-sodium canned vegetables, etc.
- **Personal care items:** soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes, wet wipes, toilet paper, deodorant, lotion, shampoo and conditioner, etc. (new-unopened)
- **Blankets, sheets, and curtains:** bed sheets/sheet sets, blankets, pillow cases, mattress pads, comforters, quilts, curtains, throw blankets, etc. (new or gently used)
- **Kitchenware:** plates, bowls, utensils (not plastic), cups, mugs, pots and pans, kitchen appliances, dish sets, etc. (new or gently used)

Thanks for helping Kali with her commitment to service!

Protecting Our Kids

Facebook 101 and beyond

There is much more to Facebook than status updates, friend requests and likes. In fact, many parents are unfamiliar with important features that can help keep you and your children safe from online predators, hackers and identity thieves.

Join Maryland Attorney General Douglas Gansler and representatives from Facebook for a community forum on March 20 at Winston Churchill High School to discuss what all parents should know about safely navigating Facebook and protecting your kids' online well-being.

The event is free and open to the public.

Winston Churchill High School
11300 Gainsborough Road,
Potomac, MD
Tuesday, March 20, 7 - 8:30 PM

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

Parents, Students and Community Members... All are welcome!

Distracted Driving: The Accident Waiting To Happen

Presented by Sal Zambri, Esq

Tuesday, March 27th, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Carver Educational Services Center Auditorium

850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville

Light refreshments will be provided

Mr. Zambri's message will save lives - - why not save some in your community? Young parents are often distracted by babies and young children; new drivers are often distracted by loud music, their friends and the sound of a text message coming in; we are all distracted by our ever present cell phones. Mr. Zambri has important information for us all - - and ALL ARE WELCOME.

Public Education Session on April 12 :

Understanding New Research and Treatment:

Helping Children and Teens With Anxiety Disorders and Depression

- **Thursday, April 12, 2012**

10:00 am — 12:00 pm

Salon A-B, Crystal Gateway Marriott

Arlington, Virginia

\$25 per person (free for children under 18)

For more information, call 240-485-1030 or [send an e-mail](#).

Register in advance, or register on-site (starting at 9:15 am).

About Anxiety and Depression in Children and Teens

About one in eight children suffer from an anxiety disorder, a category that includes obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), panic disorder, social anxiety disorder, separation anxiety, phobias, generalized anxiety disorder, and PTSD. These disorders often occur simultaneously with ADHD, depression, bipolar disorder, eating disorders, and others.

When anxiety becomes unrelenting and persistent, it can interfere with your child's everyday activities, making it difficult to play, relax, sleep, or concentrate. Children and teens may experience stomach and headaches and other physical ailments. Anxiety in children and teens may not be obvious because it may appear to be irritability, sleep problems, or refusal to join in family or social activities. Find out how you can help your child avoid a lifetime of anxiety.

New Research

Recent scientific advances have led to effective treatments and show that early intervention is critical. Waiting for your child to mature or grow out of these behaviors may not be the right approach. In some cases children may develop chronic anxiety and depression, which is often associated with substance abuse and other high-risk behaviors. In this program, experts will discuss new research that advances our understanding of the brain and anxiety disorders and depression in children.

Please note: This is an educational program. No treatment, evaluations, or prescriptions will be provided. ADAA is not connected to a treatment center or hospital.



Some of the activities scheduled for this year are Books and Boxing, Babysitting Club, Jewelry Making, Zumba Class, Scrapbooking, Photo Club and much more. Keep checking the *Back Pocket* for upcoming classes. It is our goal to provide activities to meet the desires of all students. If you have any suggestions for new programs, please contact Mrs. Crutchfield at Winessa_R_Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org.

Homework Club -- Tuesday and Wednesday

PYSO – Thursday

Drama Club – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Jazz Band – Wednesday

Soccer – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Line Dancing – Tuesday, April 17 – May 8th (if they like it we can extend it)

RecExtra needs your donations: Wrapping paper, beads and old jewelry, fabric and textbook supplies. Please drop all donations in the RecExtra box in the front office. Thank you!!



Announcing –

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 www.jostens.com today to pre-order your yearbook. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Aulls at Kelly_M_Aulls@mcpsmd.org.

8th Grade Trip to Hershey Park

John Poole Middle School's 8th 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**.

Friends of Patuxent Wildlife Art Show and Sale

Wild about Wildlife? Join the Friends of Patuxent at the 23rd Patuxent Wildlife Art Show & Sale. Highlights include 35 Wildlife Artists, live birds of prey shows, selections from the DC Environmental Film Festival and more! The FREE show & sale is held at the National Wildlife Visitor Center, Laurel, Maryland, on Saturday, March 24 (9:00 am to 4:30 pm) and Sunday, March 25 (11:00 am to 4:30 pm), 2012. Don't miss the Evening Artists' Reception & Sale, March 23, 2012, from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm! The reception features a live band, drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$40 in advance/\$45 at the door. For more information, contact Friends of Patuxent at 301-497-5789 or www.friendsofpatuxent.org.

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 www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthpdf/mcadventures.pdf. Workshops fill quickly, so register right away! For more information, call the Youth Programs office at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917.

Kids College

Enrichment and advancement courses covering a wide range of topics. Some of our exciting new courses... Aggressive Learning, for Grades 6 – 8, Financial Fitness for Teens, for Grades 6 – 8, Myth Mania, for Grades 4 – 6, Cartooning, Comics, and Manga, for Grades 5 – 9, Debate: Conversation, Persuasion, Competition, for Grades 5 – 8, Fundamentals of Drawing, for Grades 5 – 7.

Don't miss it!!! **Register right away!** For brochures or registration forms, access our website at <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthkidscollege.html>. For additional information, contact 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 www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org 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 www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org, o llamando al 301-309-MCPS (6277).

Young Scholars Program

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation has announced the opening of the application process for the Jack Kent Cooke Young Scholars Program. This program honors 50 to 75 seventh-graders who demonstrate outstanding academic ability, accomplishments outside the classroom, and substantial financial need. Students who are selected receive financial support for educational and extracurricular activities as well as help applying to high schools, colleges, summer programs, and more. The application deadline is Monday, April 16, 2012. For more information, contact Lionel Foster at the Center for Talented Youth at 410-735-6270 or jkcinfo@jhu.edu

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 <http://www.giftedstudy.org/> for information.

Eighth Grade Boys Interested in Football at PHS

Students are invited to visit and meet Poolesville High School Head Football Coach Will Gant on Monday March 26th, 2012 during lunch period in room 110. Student-athletes must have a pass to attend the meeting. Passes can be obtained from Mr. Young. During the meeting, Coach Gant will explain to potential football players the upcoming pre-season expectations.

Falcon Basketball Camp

Sign-ups start on March 15, so mark your calendars for that special week in June (June 18-22---the week after school ends) when practically every gym in Poolesville will be literally jumping with basketball players. There is a Falcon Basketball Camp specifically designed for every hoopster starting with Kindergarteners right through current 8th graders. For more information go to www.PBAHoops.com and look under "Camp Info". Early registrants are guaranteed a spot in camp (all camps will sell out) and sibling discounts and scholarships are available.

Calleva Summer Programs

Visit the Calleva web site TODAY to see what's available – the camp weeks are filling quickly! Some ideas: Building Green, Canoeing and River Stand-Up Paddleboarding. Also, for teens (ages 12-17), check out the Calleva Leadership School. Come learn about CLS at our LAST open house of the season: Sunday, April 15, 4-6:30pm at a camper family's home in North Potomac. RSVP to Karen@Calleva.org for more 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, contact the Youth Programs Office at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917 or access our website at <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthsummerbrochure.html>

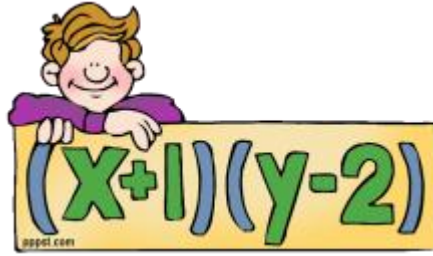
Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students

Continuing a tradition of excellence for 45 years, the Maryland Summer Centers (MSC) engage gifted and talented students entering Grades 4-12 in unique summer programs. Centers located across the State offer one- to three-week residential and nonresidential programs with a focus on the arts, sciences, technology, engineering, and world languages.

Please consult the Maryland State Department of Education website www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters for more detailed descriptions of the Centers and application forms. Spanish translation is available. Call 410-767-0821.

The deadline for applications is April 15, 2012. Directors will accept applications after April 15 until the Center enrollment is filled.

Algebra 2 Jumpstart



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 9th and the last day is Friday, July 27th. 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 30th.

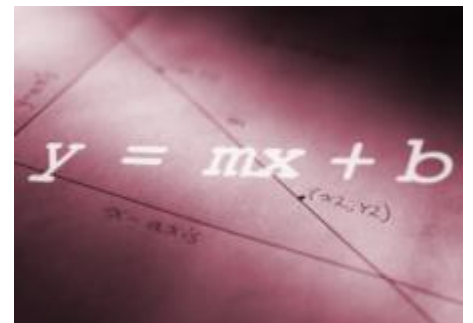
I would like to reserve a spot for the three week Algebra 2 Jumpstart class.

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.

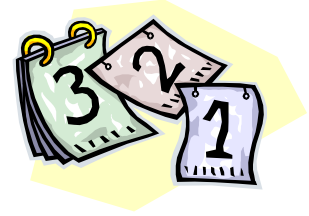
WANTED!

**LOOKING FOR
FURNITURE FOR A READING CORNER.**



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.

Save the Date!



Important events you won't want to miss!

March 19-22	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)
April 2,4,5	Spring Break
April 3	Holiday – Primary Election Day
April 6	Holiday – Good Friday
April 9	Holiday – Easter Monday
April 10	4 th Marking Period Begins
April 12	Report Cards Distributed
April 20	Honor Roll Celebrations

JPMS Soccer Schedule

April 12	Girls play King at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)
April 12	Boys play King at King (3:15 p.m.)
April 26	Boys play Neelsville at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)
April 26	Girls play Neelsville at Neelsville (3:15 p.m.)
May 2	Boys play Kingsview at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)
May 2	Girls play Kingsview at Kingsview (3:15 p.m.)
May 8	Girls play Rocky Hill at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)
May 8	Boys play Rocky Hill at Rocky Hill (3:15 p.m.)
May 15	Girls play Baker at JPMS (2:50 p.m.)
May 15	Boys play Baker at Baker (3:15 p.m.)

PHS NEWS

Go Falcons!



Congratulations to

- Maryland State Reflections winners **Lauren Gross** and **Sandow Sinai!**
- American Legion Maryland High School Oratorical Contest winner **Logan Jackson!**
- The Poolesville High School State Champs Boys Swim Team!

Poolesville High School Athletic Booster Club 2012 spring mulch sale is on! Orders are now being accepted and must be received by Friday, March 23. Delivery will be on Saturday, March 31st. The Booster Club offers very competitive pricing and 100% of the proceeds are reinvested in PHS athletics. You can visit the Booster Club website at phsboosterclub.org either to place an online order or to print out an order form to be filled out and mailed in. Also, mark your calendar and bring your student and pick-up truck if you have one to help us make deliveries on the 31st. Please visit our website today. This is one of the Booster Clubs largest fundraisers and your support is greatly appreciated. For more information, go to <http://phsboosterclub.wordpress.com/> or call Cathy Bupp at 240-793-5410.

Boys Varsity Lacrosse

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)
March 21	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Northwest HS
March 23	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Quince Orchard HS at PHS

Girls Varsity Lacrosse

March 21	7:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Northwest HS
March 23	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Quince Orchard HS at Quince Orchard HS
March 28	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Sherwood HS at PHS
April 11	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at PHS
April 13	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at Wheaton HS
April 18	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Einstein HS at PHS



Varsity Baseball

March 21	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Whitman HS at PHS
March 23	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Richard Montgomery HS at Richard Montgomery HS
March 26	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Magruder HS at Magruder HS
March 29	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Blair HS at PHS
April 2	12:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Gaithersburg HS at Gaithersburg HS

Varsity Softball

March 21	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Whitman HS at PHS
March 24	1:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Richard Montgomery HS at Richard Montgomery HS
March 26	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Magruder HS at Magruder HS
March 28	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Blair HS at PHS

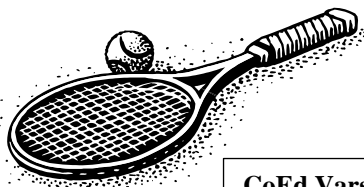
CoEd Varsity Track and Field

March 21	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS and Watkins Mill HS at PHS
March 27	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at PHS
April 12	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at Damascus HS



Boys Varsity Tennis

March 21	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Watkins Mill HS at Watkins Mill HS
March 23	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Einstein HS at PHS
March 27	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Springbrook HS at PHS
March 28	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Rockville HS at Rockville HS

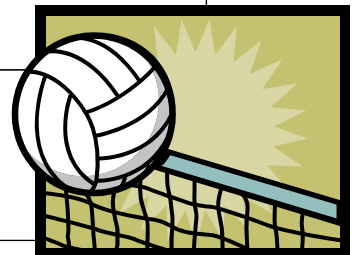


CoEd Varsity Volleyball

March 21	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Watkins Mill HS at Watkins Mill HS
March 23	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wootton HS at Wootton HS
March 26	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwood HS at PHS
March 28	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Northwest HS

Boys Varsity Volleyball

March 21	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Watkins Mill HS at Watkins Mill HS
March 23	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Wootton HS at Wootton HS
March 26	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwood HS at PHS
March 28	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Northwest 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
Counseling - (Ms. Kitts, Secretary)	Mrs. Arnold - Mrs. Hardy

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**

