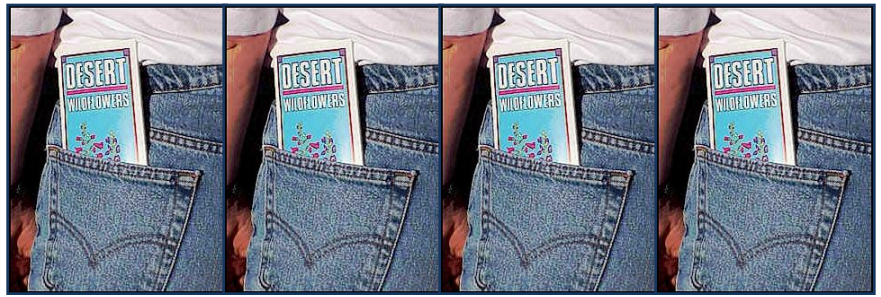


John Poole's **BACK POCKET**



April 27, 2012

A Thought for Today:

To find a career to which you are adapted by nature, and then to work hard at it, is about as near to a formula for success and happiness as the world provides. One of the fortunate aspects of this formula is that, granted the right career has been found, the hard work takes care of itself.

- Mark Sullivan

Another Outstanding Career Day

Thursday was a big day this week with both the 8th grade Career Day and 7th grade college field trip. Both were tremendous successes, and all our students, including the 6th graders who conducted their day of classes smoothly without bells in order not to interrupt the Career Day presenters, did a great job thinking and learning.

There will be pictures to share in next week's *Back Pocket*, but I don't want to wait that long to thank the many wonderful volunteers and our outstanding staff who made these opportunities happen. Mrs. Arnold, ably assisted by Mrs. Kitts, the Counseling Office secretary, is the driving force behind Career Day. She starts planning for next year as soon as the event is over by analyzing the feedback from students, staff and presenters, looking for ways to enhance the experience. One of the innovations this year was the last session of the day being a performance by *Soul Box*, a band of local musicians who have balanced successful careers with a love of music and desire to perform. Gina Beck, Randy Dalrymple, Rick Normoyle, and Kevin Staten treated us to their incredible talent and talked about music as a career as well as ways they have maintained their love of music while supporting themselves in other pursuits. It was great!

I got a chance to hear many presenters during the day, but it was impossible to get to every session – there were so many! Volunteers came from a wide variety of occupations, from software designers to farmers. Everywhere I went, I saw beautifully prepared presenters giving generously of their time, and respectful, polite young adults learning from their experiences. The eighth graders dressed up for the occasion, giving the classrooms the air of professionalism that matched the information being shared. I was very proud of our kids.

Of course, nothing is ever perfect, and at the last minute, one of the keynote speakers, Commander Carlos Nunez, a NASA education specialist, was detailed to the USA Science & Engineering Festival at the Convention Center in Washington. Mr. Natale, our Information Technology Support Specialist, had to do some fancy last-minute maneuvering, but he managed to get a live webcast going so that the Commander could join us electronically. [Incidentally, the festival runs through Sunday, April 29, and Cmdr. Nunez urged us all to go!]

We owe so many people our gratitude for making Career Day so successful! For months, the Advisory to School Counseling Committee, a dedicated group of parent volunteers, has been putting the program together with the help of many, many parents who organized the million details of such a big event, from registering students to donating and serving food for the presenters. We are tremendously fortunate that our community models so consistently the positive values we want our students to learn. Thanks to all!

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!

Quin Brenholtz

Julia Montone

James Royal

Elise Evans

Allison Nalesnik

Trey Willis

Liam Horrigan

Elizabeth Roberts

Michael Wink



Student Member of the Board Election

On Wednesday, Student Government Association (SGA) representatives conducted the annual election for the student member of the MCPS Board of Education.

This is a great opportunity for students to participate in the democratic process – it's a real election. Middle and high school students hear the platforms of two candidates and vote across the county. The winner spends a term of one year on the Board of Education.

Generally, students use actual voting machines, but this year, the proximity of the date to the primary elections earlier this month made it impossible to have everything in place for school

voting. We used our netbooks as part of the alternate process.

Mr. Matthews and his SGA poll workers did an excellent job as social studies classes came to the APR to vote. Having our netbooks on mobile carts was a real help, since they could be wheeled down the hall to a classroom when the APR was in use for lunch, allowing uninterrupted access.





**Don't
Miss
It!**

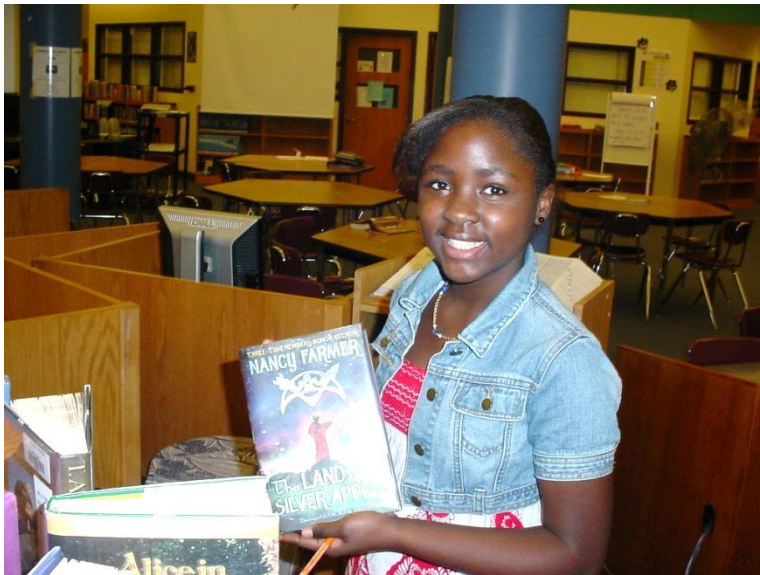
Literacy Night

is Tuesday, May 8!

Come for an early-bird dinner at 5:00,
then stay for literacy-related
activities from 5:30-7:00.



**MAY
11&12
7:00 PM
JPMS APR
Be there!**



Get Ready for the Book Fair

The Book Fair is coming to JPMS next week! It will open on Thursday, May 3rd and end on Wednesday, May 9th. Before the Fair starts, students will be bringing home a flyer that highlights some of the books that will be available.

Students will visit the Fair with their English classes on Thursday and Friday. The Book Fair will be open every day before school and during

lunch. In addition, we will be open during Literacy Night, on Tuesday, May 8th from 5:00 – 7:00 PM. We will also be selling raffle tickets to win posters. Proceeds from this activity will benefit the Toys for Tots program.

This year students will be required to read one fiction book and one nonfiction book for the summer reading program. The Fair is a perfect opportunity for students to choose the books they would like to read to fulfill these requirements.

And here's a special innovation! This year students, parents and grandparents will be able to order books on-line. Our Book Fair online website is available at this link: www.scholastic.com/schoolbookfairs

Please contact Joy McIntyre if you have any questions at 301-972-7979. See you at the Book Fair!

Some Good Advice About Bad Language

All of us over the age of 25 have had a moment when language came out of someone's mouth and shocked us. It might have been an ad on TV for products that used to be considered personal, a character in a movie with a foul mouth, or our own child, trying out crude terms. The fact is that standards for what is acceptable in public and the media have radically changed over the last few years.

We are concerned about ugly language at school. Some words are just plain inappropriate for this setting, even if kids have heard them on TV or sometimes in their own homes. Some words are cruel and can constitute bullying or even sexual harrassment. It's important for us to teach children what is acceptable and what isn't – otherwise, they will think that everything they hear is okay.

Many kids in middle school repeat words they know are offensive even when they don't know what they mean. They have the idea that it makes them cool, and it's a form of rebellion that leaves little or no evidence and can easily be denied. The only way to curb the use of inappropriate language is for kids to know we don't accept it, understand just how ugly it is, and realize they have good reasons for choosing other ways to express themselves.

I recently read a very good article on this topic online at commonsensemedia.org. It's called *5 Ways to Talk to Your Kids About Swearing -- and Why* by Sierra Filucci. If you'd like to see what she has to say, here's the link: <http://www.common sense media.org/new/5-ways-talk-your-kids-about-swearing-and-why> I think it's worth reading.

Mother's Day Is Coming

Looking for a special gift for Mom, Grandma or a favorite Aunt? Why not have this year's school picture printed on an item that will be used every day with extra pleasure because it's a reminder of your son or daughter!

There's time to order before Mother's Day on May 13, and lots of items to choose from.

Here are some of our kids' photos on an apron, water bottle, a mug and magnets, but you have many more choices in a wide

price range. Perhaps a tote bag, mouse pad, tee shirt or key ring would be perfect for your favorite Mom. You can find all these gifts and more online at our school photographer's web site.

Go to www.blantonstudio.hjclix.com to check out the selections and place your order. Because your child's security is a high priority, this website is password protected. You need the individual code that identified your child's picture package to be able to order. If you have problems accessing your school pictures, the Customer Service number is 301-840-8044 ext. 12.

Next time you are at school, check out the personalized items on display. I'm sure you'll be pleased with the quality of reproduction and the samples.

Of course, while you're shopping for Mother's Day, you might plan ahead for Father's Day as well. June 17 is getting closer every day!



► Log onto HJclix.com today!



Also check out the "Freebies" section to print your own candy wrapper!



Coming This Weekend!

Once again this year, John Poole is a transition station for the American Relay Run Adventure. This team race starts early Friday, April 27, and ends Saturday evening in Washington, DC. They'll be running through town Saturday morning, so you'll want to check the map below to be prepared in case you are out and about yourself tomorrow.

JPMS is proud to support this event, since it's all for charity. The American Odyssey Relay Run adventure partner charities include **Hope for the Warriors**, which strives to enhance the quality of life for US service members and their families who have been adversely affected by injury or death in the line of duty; **Hope Connections for Cancer**, which is dedicated to helping people with cancer and their loved ones deal with the emotional as well as physical impact of the disease; **Team Red, White & Blue**, which aims to transform the way wounded veterans are reintegrated into society when their active duty is complete; and many, many other wonderful organizations through **Crowdrise**, an organization that supports community-wide efforts to raise money for the charity they choose to support.

AMERICAN ODYSSEY RELAY

LEG 30

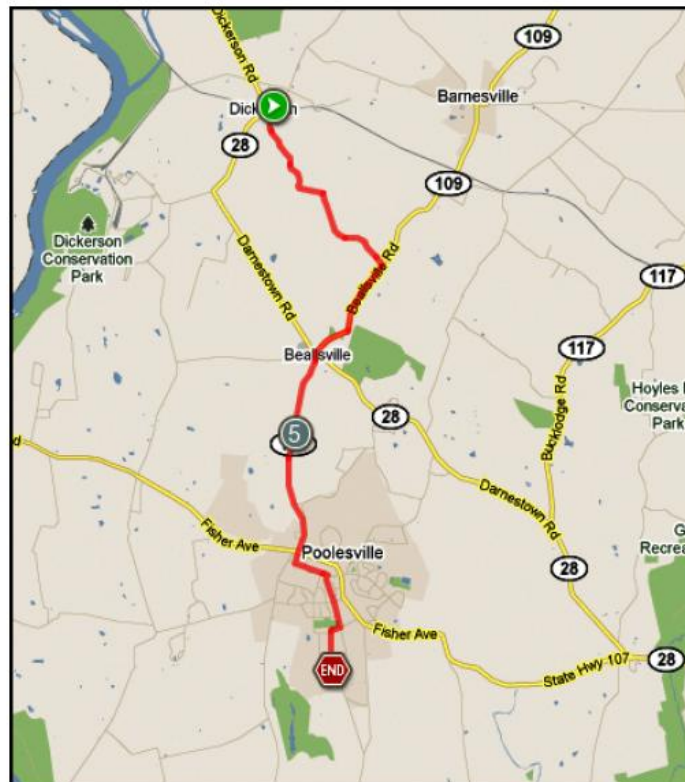
8.1 MILES | HARD



RUNNERS

Mileage is per segment, not cumulative

1. Continue on Mt. Ephraim for .2 to
2. Left on Rt. 28, Darnestown Road to
3. Immediate left after bridge onto Big Woods for 2.6 to
4. Right on Beallsville Road (Rt. 109) for 1.4 to cross over Rt. 28 and
5. Continue on Beallsville Road for 2.0 and
6. Bear right as road changes name to Elgin for .4 to cross over Fisher and
7. Stay on Elgin for .1 to end to
8. Left on Wootton for .4 to
9. Right on Hughes for .6 to
10. Right on Tom Fox for .3 to
11. Transition at John Poole Middle School



We can do our part by welcoming the runners as they pass through our community, and remaining patient when participants and their vehicles slow down our travels Saturday morning.

Watch for the teams as they transfer in the JPMS parking lot. Of course, they'll be bringing business to our restaurants, gas station and other places of business when they come to town, too!

Student Service Learning Notes

This month has special SSL opportunities in our own community and in celebration of Earth Day. It's easy and even more meaningful when our students have the opportunity to help out here in town, so let's be especially supportive of the event at Poolesville Elementary. Liz Royal (Royals2@verizon.net) is the contact person.

On Friday, May 4, Poolesville Elementary will be holding its Art Show and Auction, sponsored by the PES Arts Alive Committee, from 3:15 until 7:30 PM at Poolesville High School. Each student will have one piece of artwork to display. At the end of the art show, there will be an auction for the art projects. Students can earn SSL hours by assisting with the setup of the arts show; assisting students with their displays; and/or assisting with the auction and cleanup at the end of the evening. The deadline for requesting SSL hours is Friday, April 30.

Summer SSL Planning

Since the summer planning is underway for many of you, perhaps SSL is on that list of "to-do's."

For all activities that required *additional* preapproval (MCPS Form 560-50) during the school year, those expire on May 31. If more volunteering with the organization will be taking place in June or beyond, please complete the form 560-50 *Individual SSL Request* ([the updated preapproval form](#)), and submit it to Mrs. Arnold in early-mid May (sooner is fine).

For those working on political campaigns, you will need two (2) preapprovals. ALL CAMPAIGN WORK REQUIRES PREAPPROVAL. There are no exceptions, and this includes those running for school board to those running for president. The first preapproval form is for hours performed now through May. The second preapproval form is for hours performed June through the end of the elections. Both preapproval forms may be submitted at the same time, just be sure to indicate the relevant dates in Section 1 of the form.

The MCPS Form 560-50 *Individual SSL Request* and MCPS Form 560-51 *SSL Activity Verification* may be downloaded from our website. The Counseling Office at JPMS also has a supply on hand.

Any questions, please contact Peg Arnold 301-972-7980 in the counseling office or visit the JPMS website for SSL information.

Support Soles 4 Souls – Monday Is the Last Day!

The 7th graders are contributing to Soles 4 Soles by collecting shoes and loose change for their Student Service Learning project. So far the students have collected over 400 pairs of shoes.

Please clean out your closets and bring any gently used shoes to room 307. The organization's goal is to distribute 11 million pairs of shoes in 2012. Our kids can help make that goal a reality!

We are only collecting shoes until Monday, April 30!! Getting your shoes together for donation would be a great weekend project!

For more information about Soles4Souls, visit <http://www.soles4souls.org/>



VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME and JOIN the PTSA

- 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 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\[1\]%20ptsa%20volunteer%20form.pdf](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/poolems/parents/13[1]%20ptsa%20volunteer%20form.pdf)

The Slate of Officers for 2012 – 2013 Has Been Named!

Thanks to the following parents for agreeing to have their names placed in nomination for these important offices!

President: Jennifer Kasten
Vice President: Dawn Albert
Secretary: Dreama Hemingway
Treasurer: Wendy Roldan
MCCPTA Reps: Vacant

As there is no public meeting this month, the slate of officers will be placed in nomination and elections will be held at the May meeting, at which time nominations from the floor will be accepted and voted upon as well.

8th Grade Dinner Dance Meeting

We will have our next planning meeting on Monday, April 30th at the home of Karen Carrillo, 18317 McKernon Way, Poolesville. If you can't make it but would love to volunteer to help, we could use a few more people. Please contact Karen at 301-349-4565 or karencarrillo35@hotmail.com



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!!

Bands:

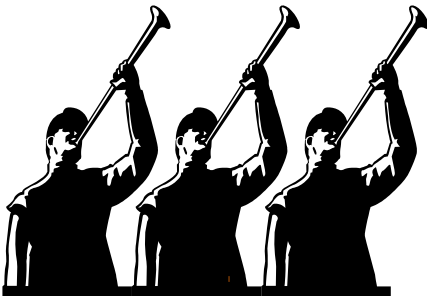
SoulBox; Smoke n' Mangos; Jay Summerour & Memphis Gold with Eric Selby
www.littlebitablues.com
www.memphisgoldblues.com

Beer, BBQ, Vendors,
BBQ contest and
More!!

Saturday, May 19
1:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Whalen Commons
Poolesville, MD
Rain or Shine



For more info: <http://www.poolesville.com/springfest.html>



Announcing –

Time to Start Thinking About College

PrepTalk, a biannual newsletter, is a partnership project between MCPS and Montgomery College. Each issue provides helpful information for parents and students regarding college preparation and readiness.

Topics covered in *PrepTalk* include such important subjects as preparing for college admission and placement tests, planning academic schedules, earning college credit while in high school, attending college fairs, applying for on-the-spot college admissions, and planning for key deadlines. Current and past issues of *PrepTalks* can be found online at

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/careercenter/resources/preptalk.aspx>

Free College Admissions Seminar

The College Admissions Game: The Rules Have Changed featuring College Consultant Shirley Levin MA, CEP, will be offered Tuesday, May 8, from 7:30 - 9:00 PM in the Walter Johnson High School Cafeteria. The goal is To Help Parents Navigate the Process, but students Are Always Welcome. Topics will include:

- How has the admissions process changed since you were a student?
- What courses should your child be taking now to prepare for a competitive college?
- What do admissions officers consider besides academics?
- How should your child prepare for the SAT and ACT? How important are these scores?
- How do you help your child narrow down the list and choose the "best fit" colleges? What about "safety" schools?
- How have population trends impacted the admissions standards?
- How has the financial aid process changed in recent years?
- How has the current economic situation affected college choices and college admissions?

Contact: Jonina Duker at JD_MBHS_volunteer@yahoo.com for more information.

Walter Johnson HS is located next to (north of) Democracy Blvd., near (west of) Old Georgetown Rd., and inside the "triangle" formed by the two I-270 spurs and I-495. Enter the school on Rock Spring; parking lots are on Rock Spring and Rockledge Dr.

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. There is even a Circus Camp!

Brochures are available in the Counseling office at JPMS. For more information and details, call Sharon Wolfgang (240) 567 – 7264 or Karla Espinoza (240) 567 – 7917 at the WDCE Youth Programs office, or go to <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthsummer.html>.

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!!**

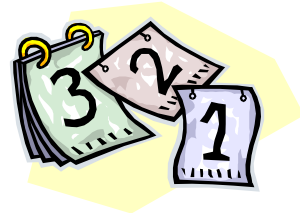
Superintendent to Hold Spring Forum

Superintendent of Schools Joshua Starr will hold one more forum this spring, focusing on the topic of Social and Emotional Learning (May 10 at Whitman HS). The 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).

Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth

The Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY) is seeking talented 2nd – 8th graders. From now through spring, parents may enroll a 2nd – 8th grade advanced student in the 2012 CTY Talent Search. Doing so can open the door to CTY's testing, courses, and services for gifted learners. For information, and to enroll your child, go to www.cty.jhu.edu.

Save the Date!



Important events you won't want to miss!

April 27	SGA Spring Dance (2:30-4:00 p.m. in the APR)
April 30 & May 1	MSA Science Exam (Grade 8)
May 2-3	MSA Science Make-ups
May 3-9	Book Fair
May 7-11	Staff Appreciation Week (May 8 National Teacher's Day)
May 7-11	MAP-R Testing
May 11	Drama Production – <i>Annie, Jr.</i> (7:00 p.m. in the APR)
May 12	Drama Production – <i>Annie, Jr.</i> (1:30 p.m. Matinee and 7:00 p.m. in the APR)

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.)

JPMS Soccer Schedule

Congratulations!

Tuesday, the girls' soccer team notched their second victory of the season in dominating fashion. The Lady Timberwolves dominated Neelsville Middle School, 8-1. **Allie Nevius** and **Hailey Khalil** each scored 3 goals. **Alison Huber** and **Kristen Darragh** also added a goal a piece. Assisting on the goals were **Rebecca Wallace**, **Breanne Hall**, **Alison Huber**, and **Allie Nevius**, who had three assists to match her goals. The dominating defense was anchored by **Carley Kenly**, **Delaney Cecco**, **Lilli Pederson** and **Danielle Torres**. **Kristen Darragh** and **Breanne Hall** once again played outstanding in goal.

PHS NEWS

Go Falcons!



Boys Varsity Lacrosse

April 27	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Seneca Valley HS at PHS
May 2	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at PHS
May 4	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. B-CC HS at PHS
May 8	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Wootton HS at Wootton HS

Girls Varsity Lacrosse

May 2	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at Damascus HS
May 4	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. B-CC HS at PHS
May 8	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Wootton HS at Wootton HS



Varsity Baseball

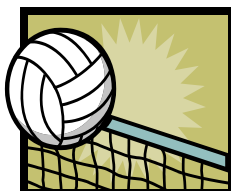
April 28	1:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Paint Branch HS at Paint Branch HS
May 3	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Northwest HS
May 5	2:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at PHS
May 7	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. B-CC HS at PHS
May 9	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS at Clarksburg HS

Varsity Softball

April 28	1:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Paint Branch HS at Paint Branch HS
May 2	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Northwest HS
May 4	3:30 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at PHS
May 7	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. B-CC HS at PHS
May 9	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS at Clarksburg HS

CoEd Varsity Track and Field

May 9	3:30 p.m.	MCPS Championship at Walter Johnson HS
May 12	8:00 a.m.	MCPS B Meet at Wootton HS



CoEd Varsity Volleyball

April 27	5:15 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at PHS
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Boys Varsity Volleyball

April 27	7:00 p.m.	PHS vs. Damascus HS at PHS
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PHS STUDENTS IN THE NEWS

- Jake Koenig could be one of 20 students from the U.S. to represent the United States in this year's International Physics Olympiad, to be held in Tartu, Estonia. Here's the link:
<http://www.gazette.net/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20120425/NEWS/704259523/1007/poolesville-student-could-be-physics-olympian&&template=PrinterFriendlygaz>
- Logan Jackson represented Maryland in the 75th annual American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest. Read about it here:
<http://www.gazette.net/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20120425/NEWS/704259946/1096/poolesville-student-performs-in-oratorical-contest-in-indiana&&template=PrinterFriendlygaz>

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**

