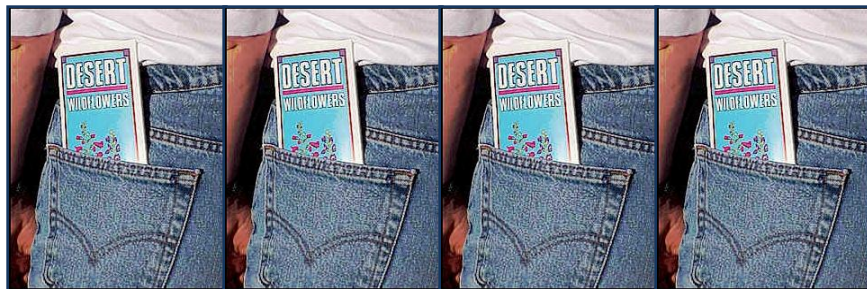


John Poole's **BACK POCKET**



December 21, 2012

A Thought for Today:

Rejoice with your family in the beautiful land of life!

- Albert Einstein

Have a Wonderful Winter Break!

This time of year is always a rich blend of high spirits and holiday stress, and 2012 seems to be ending with national and international echos of that same mix. It looks like the Mayan Calendar wasn't predicting doom after all, but we are flying our flags at half staff and hugging our children a little tighter as we look ahead to unresolved fiscal issues and hope for the economy to keep improving.

Yet, when I look at our little school filled with great kids, I feel some perspective take hold. This week at JPMS has been peaceful and happy, reflecting some of the best qualities kids can bring to their schools.

We had an assembly focused on our core values, with BMX riders entertaining as they reinforced themes of civility and respect for each other. The whole student body was in the gym together and demonstrated both appreciation for the performers and perfect audience behavior.

137 kids participated in our winter concert Wednesday night. They have grown as musicians tremendously this fall, and the pieces they played were quality music beautifully performed. When it was over, parents and students worked together to clear the chairs and music stands in record time. What a help for the staff!

We sent the first batch of bottle caps off to the retired teachers association for use as math counters in the pre-school kits they are making for next fall. We collected a bushell basket full of bottle caps through our kids being thoughtful of how they dispose of their lunch room trash.

The PRIDE store has been busy all month as children use the PRIDE Props they have earned to purchase gifts for their families and friends. It's lovely to see generosity overshadow aqisitivness, but it was even more moving when we counted up the donations our kids had made to the charities they chose to sponsor. Last August, our 8th graders selected Saint Jude's Hospital, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animcals (ASPCA) and Wounded Warriors as their causes, and donation bottles have been in the cafeteria since then. Students who chose to donate their PRIDE Props placed them in the bottle or bottles they care most about. Sponsors matched the Props with cash, so that checks went out this week for \$174 to Saint Jude's, \$185 to Wounded Warriors, and \$364 to the ASPCA. *That's a total of \$723 our kids earned and shared by showing their **Purpose, Respect, Integrity, Dedication and Effort.***

Thanks for your support of John Poole Middle School, and for sending us the best kids anywhere! May the coming weeks bring you family togetherness and every pleasure of the season, and may the new year be filled with peace and joy for us all.

- Charlotte Boucher

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!



Jocelyn Alvarez

Taylor Byrd

Tori Gruber

Aidan Brancom

Vivian Galentine

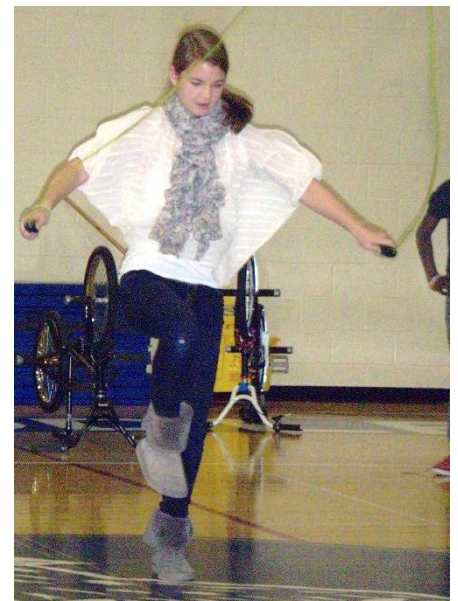
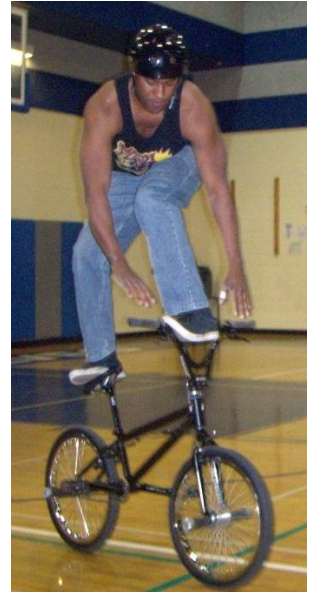
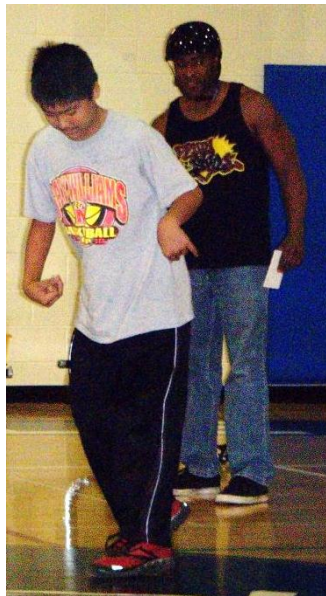
Trent Hinkson

DJ Bricker

Mackenzie Gross

Rebecca Wallace

A look at the BMX Assembly -



Congratulations to Ms. Sprague and Our Wonderful Music Students

Orchestra

Alexis Abrigo
Kieran Barney
Grace Bodmer
Luc Branton
Keyon Budd
Rachel Bupp
Carla Dacanay
Isabella Garner
Isabel Gibbs
Haley Harkins
Sara Himmelfarb
Maureen Hueting
Mackenzie Kovach
Lukas Lightcap
Glenn Mandere
Roshawna Marshall
Michael Payne
Nathaly Portillo-Rivas
Brennah Ringling
Catherine Savage
Samantha Thomas
Tiara Ventura
Roger Yerger
Begonia Zapata

Jazz Band

Christian Andrade
Thomas Behrens
Morgan Bliss
Kenydi Cross
William Field
Kaley Fisher
Jennifer Jang
Ryan Johnston
William Jones
James Kavanagh
Brandon Kocur
Lev Malinin
Stephanie Parker
Gavin Prebilib
Daria Sharifi
John Thompson
Donald Vogel

Chorus

Dorothy Ballmann
Gwendolyn Boe
Madeline Burdette
Taylor Byrd
Abby Carr
Josephine Caruso-
Dipaolo
Lauren Chilla
Paris Copeland
Danielle Creedon
Bryce Davis
Nicole Duran
John Foster
Julianna Garrett
Mackenzie Gross
Tania Jackson
James Klimkiewicz
Jackson Krasche
Erin Larkin
Samuel Lee
Emily Lewis
Maddison Magaha
Ava McEachern
Maureen Miller
Katheryn Morrow
Theresa Nardone
Jeremy Quart
Victoria Pach
Samuel Pavlick
Natali Portillo
Marie Quaranta
Taylor Ramirez
Samuel Ritter
Bostyn Smith
Shelby Smith
Melanie Staszewski
Colin Thomas
Cassandra Volkle
Juliana Vrolijk
Emma Welch
Emma Whitehouse
Megan Windall
Briona Winstead

Concert Band

Jordan Allentuck
Christian Andrade
Diana Arias
Daniel Ballew
Michael Basehore
Stefanie Beltran
Katherine Benitez
Morgan Bliss
Quinlan Brenholtz
Aidan Briancon
Cassandra Campbell
Jay Colmes
Kenydi Cross
Dahlin, Kellie
Dutton, James
Erik Eklof
Kaley Fisher
Mickey Gross
Lucas Hanscom
Ethan Hinds
Taneka Jackson
Jennifer Jang
Ryan Johnston
Raymond Kinzie
Jackson Krasche
Kelliann Lee
Lev Malinin
Darrell Marshall
Connor Miller
Julia Montone
Sean Oliver
Stephanie Parker
Renée Quaranta
Robert Queen
Diana Quiroa
Thomas Riegert
James Royal
Daria Sharifi
Nicole Slebodnik
Liam Speck-McMorris
John Thompson
Donald Vogel
Triana Wallace

Marc Whitehouse
Avery Whitney-Blum
Breanna Young

Band 6

Jocelyn Alvarez
Nicholas Beaton
Thomas Behrens
Matthew Bruckner
Nicolas Cayzedo
Grace Clark
Travis Fraley
Garrett Fultz
Noah Garner
Matthew Gimbrere
Paige Houston
William "Bubby" Jones
Garrett Karns
James Kavanagh
Andrew Kindel
Elena Lavanderos
Benjamin Miller
Andrew Mullins
Guy Norton
Julia Quart
Wilhelmina Prasada-Rao
Alison Ransom
Ethan Richardson
Megan Roldan
José Roque
José Silva
Nikolas Sofelkanik
Thompson, John
John Wasilik
Clare Wilson

**Your
Concert
was
Terrific!**



Thanks to Christina Swanson for sending in these pictures!





Because We Care...

The safety and security of students and staff is our top priority each and every day. All MCPS schools have specific emergency response plans and drills are conducted several times throughout the year. MCPS is in the process of developing new resources for parents, students and staff about our safety and security procedures. The school district has posted a new video and other information on its Emergency Preparedness website. These resources provide details about our school safety procedures and review the different levels of response—Lockdown, Evacuation and Shelter in Place. Please take some time to learn more about our emergency procedures: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/preparedness/>

STAYING SAFE: *A Key to Your Student's Success*

You want to protect your child from everything. But you can't always be there to ensure safety. What you can do is prepare your child to cope in an emergency by teaching the basics of safety.



Children are safer in school than in any other place except their homes. Today, schools are taking extra measures to make sure children are safe. And children who feel secure and safe are ready to focus on school and learning.

You can do your part by teaching your child some common-sense safety rules. Being ready to handle an emergency will give your child self-confidence.

Review family emergency procedures with your child. Make sure she knows how and when to use 911.

Discuss the safety procedures published by your school. Emphasize the importance of following directions in the event of a school emergency.

If you have questions, be sure to talk to a teacher or the school principal.

Reproduced with permission from The Parent Institute

Here's How You Can Help Keep Your Child Safe



- Make sure your child knows important personal information, such as his name, address and phone number.
- Help your child learn the phone number or numbers where you can be reached in case of an emergency.
- Make sure your child knows and feels comfortable with a neighbor who is an emergency contact.
- Expect your child to walk and play with a friend—never alone.
- Know your child's friends and keep a list of their phone numbers.
- Tell your child never to talk to or accept help from strangers.
- Go over the safest routes to and from school, stores, and friends' houses with your child.
- Tell your child to tell a teacher if something is frightening at school.

The best child safety efforts involve parents and schools working together.

English Stock # 111F
Spanish Stock # 211F
1-800-756-5525 © 2009

THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®
www.parent-institute.com

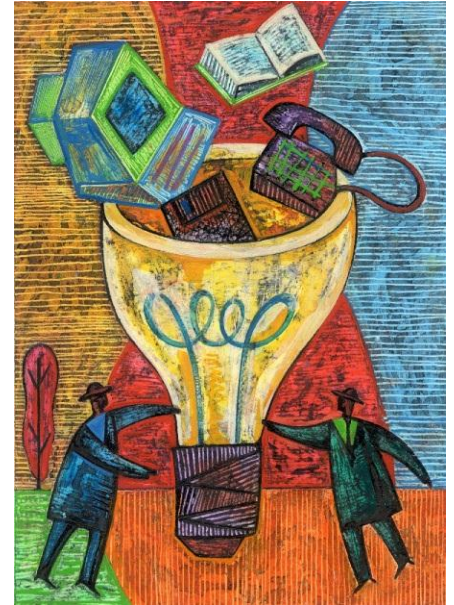
PBIS Recycling Fundraiser

PBIS is conducting our recycling fundraiser again this year. Thank you for making last year's drive a great success!

This fundraiser helps us raise money for our Positive Behavior Program and protects the environment through the donations of your used consumer electronics. Your used items are recycled in accordance with EPA regulations. One hundred percent of the proceeds help fund PBIS.

We are collecting the following items:

Cell Phones	Laptop Computers	GPS Devices
Inkjet Cartridges	E-Book Readers	MP3 Players
Radar Detectors	Handheld Game Systems	
Digital Cameras	Digital Video Cameras	



Please drop off any of the above items you would like to recycle. There is a bin for cell phones, inkjet cartridges, and other small electronics in the school's foyer. Larger items can be dropped off in the office. We greatly appreciate your support!

The Deadline for Fall SSL Hours Is Right after Winter Break!

- It is that time of year again! All Student Service Learning hours earned from September 2012 to December 2012 are due to Mrs. Arnold no later than Friday, January 4, 2013.
- Please start collecting these forms and turn them in to Mrs. Arnold ASAP!

Looking for Ways to Earn SSL Hours during Winter Break?

During your holiday break, you can earn SSL hours at the Interfaith Clothing Center in Rockville.

- Students can volunteer any time 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Tuesday - Friday & 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Saturday.
- To schedule your hours, contact the ICC at 301-424-3796
- For more information, call Mrs. Arnold at 301-972-7980 or check the SSL Bulletin Board.
- Remember, if you volunteer in December, bring completed forms back to school by January 4!

Your PTSA –

“Every child, one voice”

- Jennifer Kasten - President
- Dawn Albert - Vice President
- Dreama Hemingway - Secretary
- Wendy Roldan – Treasurer
- Lori Kocur – Membership & Volunteers
- Anne Donovan & Jackie Gaddis – Staff Appreciation



Spotlight on... Math Curriculum Changes

MCCPTA is hosting a math forum
January 30 from 7:00 – 9:00 PM
850 Hungerford Drive in Rockville

Volunteer Your Time and Join the PTSA!

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!

Membership and volunteer forms are available at the JPMS website:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/poolems/parents/4.%20PTSA%20Membership%20Form.pdf>



THE RISKS

▪ CYBERBULLYING

With the constant connectivity of smartphones, your child may be more susceptible to cyberbullying or have more opportunities to cyberbully others.

▪ GEOLOCATION

A GPS-enabled smartphone can reveal your child's location through online posts and uploaded photos.

▪ INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With smartphones, your child has mobile access to content you may consider inappropriate, such as pornography or violent videos.

▪ SEXTING

Your child may use the Internet and social apps to send, receive, or forward revealing photos.

▪ VIRUSES & MALWARE

Just like a computer, a smartphone is vulnerable to security attacks if your child accesses unsecured websites and apps.

5WAYS TO BE SMARTER THAN THE SMARTPHONE!

1. Be a parent and a resource.

Establish clear guidelines, including time limits and consequences for inappropriate behavior, but be open so your child will come to you with any problems.

2. Set up password protection.

This will keep everyone but you and your child from accessing personal information stored on the phone.

3. Update the operating system.

New versions often contain important security fixes.

4. Approve apps before they are downloaded.

Make sure you understand their capabilities and approve their content.

5. Understand location services.

GPS features are useful when using maps, but you'll want to disable location-tagging when your child posts anything online.

For more resources visit NetSmartz.org/TipSheets

Copyright © 2012 National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. All rights reserved.

NetSmartz Workshop
A PROGRAM OF THE
NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN

Lenhart, Amanda.
Teens, Smartphones & Texting.
Pew Internet & American Life Project,
March 18, 2012.

Look what
came in
the mail
this week!



THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1991

December 12, 2012

Ms. Charlotte Boucher
Principal
John Poole Middle School
17014 Tom Fox Avenue
Poolesville, MD 20837

Dear Principal Boucher:

We are writing to congratulate you and the students from John Poole Middle School as a recipient of a \$3,884 grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust. Jana Davis, Executive Director of the Trust, recently informed us of your notable achievement.

With this grant, we are pleased to know that 80 middle school students will get unique experience learning about our environment. This grant will provide your students the opportunity to participate in two Chesapeake Bay Foundation field experiences and help build a rain garden. This project, we are told, will help educate and engage people in water quality and habitat improvements in our local watershed.

You and your students should be very proud of this achievement. The Trust receives many high quality grant applications from non-profits, schools, local governments and others and we are truly thrilled that John Poole Middle School's application stood above the rest. We hope this grant helps foster a better understanding of the environment and the importance of preserving nature among your outstanding students and the people of Montgomery County.

Again, congratulations on this achievement! We wish you continued success with your environmental studies.

Sincerely,


Brian J. Feldman


Kathleen M. Dumais


Aruna Miller

Delegates – District 15 – Montgomery County



Welcome back JPMS students and parents!

It is our goal to provide activities to meet the desires of all students. If you have any suggestions for programs or interests, please contact Mrs. Crutchfield at [Winessa R Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Winessa_R_Crutchfield@mcpsmd.org).

Some of the programs offered this year are Books and Boxing, Babysitting Club, Jewelry Making, Zumba Class, Scrapbooking, Game Room, Book Club and much more. Keep checking the *Back Pocket* for upcoming classes.

Math Club – Wednesdays after school in room 300

Homework Club – Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school in the Media Center

Scrapbooking – Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning November 27th in room 301



Help for the Holidays

When you're busy you don't always have time to check out everything your children ask for, and this is a very busy time of year.

Common Sense Media has a website devoted to the movies, games, apps and music marketed to kids from infancy to age 19. Everything is rated and all ratings are clearly explained. Check out their holiday hub at <http://www.common sense media.org/holiday>

Their current Parent Newsletter at this link has some great tips, too:

http://view.common sense media-email.org/?i=fec1167571660c74&m=fea013707564077e77&ls=fe591c77776604747c15&l=fef71277776702&s=fe89127771620c7d72&jb=ffcf14&ju=fe8a177472650d787d&utm_source=122012_parent&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=weekly&r=0

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](mailto:Kelly_M_Aulls@mcpsmd.org).

SSL Hours for the Fall Semester Are Due

The deadline for all Student Service Learning hours earned from September 2012 to December 2012 is Friday, January 4, 2013. Collect your paperwork over Winter Break and be sure to get completed forms to Mrs. Arnold as soon as we return from the holiday.

Edline Help Guide

An online Edline help manual is now available at the JPMS website. Click on the "Parents" tab to find the Edline Student/Parent Quick-Start Guide, or locate it in the Quick Links column on our home page.

JPMS Staff Wins the Million Mile Challenge!

Over the past ten weeks, MCPS has conducted the Million Mile Challenge to encourage employees to improve their health by adding more fitness to their lives. Dedication to health and wellness helps decrease stress and fatigue, improves overall health and mental well-being, and inspires others.

Teams from John Poole participated in the challenge and won a grand prize for being one of the top five middle schools: a \$1000 grant for physical education equipment or to promote staff wellness in our school!

What's the BIG Idea?

What's the BIG Idea?" is a new, 30-minute monthly podcast hosted by Superintendent Joshua Starr and Chris Lloyd, an MCPS teacher and vice president of the Montgomery County Education Association. The podcast features in-depth conversations about the complexity, challenges, and opportunities facing public education today. On the second episode of "What's the BIG Idea?" the hosts are joined by Dr. Andrés Alonso, CEO of Baltimore City Public Schools. Visit "What's the BIG Idea?" Podcast at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/superintendent/podcast/ to listen to the episode or subscribe to the podcast via iTunes. You also can follow @wtbipodcast on Twitter to get updates about upcoming episodes.

Public Hearings on Proposed Fiscal Year 2014 Budget

Superintendent Starr submitted his recommended operating budget for FY 2014 to the Board of Education on Dec. 11. [Visit the MCPS Budget Website](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/) at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/> to watch a short video in which Dr. Starr gives an overview of his budget proposal. And don't miss the chance to share your ideas and views on the proposed budget at two upcoming public hearings: The first is Thursday, January 10 at 7:00 p.m.; the second is Thursday, January 17 at 7:00 p.m. Both hearings will be held in the auditorium of the Carver Educational Services Center, 850 Hungerford Drive in Rockville. [Sign up](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/community/participation.aspx) in advance at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/community/participation.aspx> to speak at one of the hearings.

Audiencias Públicas acerca del Presupuesto Operativo Propuesto para el Año Fiscal 2014

El Superintendente Joshua Starr presentó su recomendación para el presupuesto operativo para el año fiscal 2014 ante el Board of Education el 11 de diciembre. Para mirar un corto video en el cual el Dr. Starr da una visión general de su propuesta, visite el sitio de internet de MCPS para el presupuesto en <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/>. No te pierdas la oportunidad de compartir tus idea y opiniones en relación a esta propuesta asistiendo a las próximas dos audiencias públicas: La primera. El jueves 10 de enero a las 7 p.m.; y la segunda, el jueves 17 de enero a las 7 p.m. Ambas audiencias serán celebradas en el auditorio de Carver Educational Services Center, 850 Hungerford Drive in Rockville. Para ser escuchado en alguna de las audiencias, regístrate por adelantado en <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/community/participation.aspx>.

Superintendent's Book Club Event Set for January 8

You are invited to participate in Superintendent Joshua Starr's first Book Club event of the school year on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at 7 p.m., in the auditorium at Carver Educational Services Center. Dr. Starr has selected Paul Tough's *How Children Succeed* as the book for discussion. You can join in on the conversation as members of the studio audience or via Twitter and email. If you would like to join Dr. Starr as a member of the studio audience, please RSVP to pio@mcpsmd.org. Visit the Superintendent's Book Club web page at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/superintendent/bookclub.aspx> for more information.



Season's Greetings to All Our Families!
Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy New Year!



Save the Date!

Important events you won't want to miss!



December 24 & 25	Holiday, Christmas
December 27 - 31	Winter Break
January 1, 2013	Holiday – New Year's Day
January 2	Return to School
January 9	8 th Grade Class Picture
January 9	Geography Bee Finals (afterschool)
January 10	7 th Grade Holocaust Field Trip
January 11	Semester Exam Review Day
January 14-18	Semester Exams
January 18	2 nd Marking Period Ends
January 21	Holiday, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No School)
January 22	Professional Day for Teachers (No School for Students)
January 25	8 th Grade Newseum Field Trip

Activity buses are provided Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, except on early dismissal days or the day before a holiday. Buses leave JPMS at 4:00 p.m.



Basketball Schedule (practice is on Tuesdays and Thursdays)

*January 10	Girls play Baker at JPMS (2:40 p.m.)
*January 10	Boys play Baker at Baker (3:00 p.m.)
January 24	Boys play King at JPMS (2:40 p.m.)
January 24	Girls play King at King (3:00 p.m.)
January 31	Girls play Kingsview at JPMS (2:40 p.m.)
January 31	Boys play Kingsview at Kingsview (3:00 p.m.)
February 7	Boys play Clemente at JPMS (2:40 p.m.)
February 7	Girls play Clemente at Clemente (3:00 p.m.)

***Rescheduled from December 20 to January 10**

PHS NEWS

Go Falcons!



December 21 is Alumni Day!

Boys Varsity Basketball

December 21	5:15 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Seneca Valley HS at Seneca Valley HS
December 27	5:15 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS at Clarksburg HS
December 28	3:30 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Clarksburg HS
January 3	5:15 p.m.	(H)	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at PHS
January 4	7:00 p.m.	(H)	PHS vs. Northwood HS at PHS
January 8	7:00 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Rockville HS at Rockville HS
January 11	7:00 p.m.	(H)	PHS vs. Albert Einstein HS at PHS

Girls Varsity Basketball

December 21	7:00 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Seneca Valley HS at Seneca Valley HS
December 27	7:00 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Clarksburg HS at Clarksburg HS
December 28	1:45 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Clarksburg HS
January 3	7:00 p.m.	(H)	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at PHS
January 4	7:00 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Northwood HS at Northwood HS
January 8	7:00 p.m.	(H)	PHS vs. Rockville HS at PHS
January 11	7:00 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Albert Einstein HS at Albert Einstein HS

CoEd Varsity Swim and Dive

January 5	9:15 a.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Damascus HS at Germantown SC
January 12	5:15 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Northwest HS at Rockville SC
January 19	5:15 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Sherwood HS at Rockville SC
January 26	9:15 a.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Churchill HS at Germantown SC

Boys Varsity Wrestling

January 2	6:00 p.m.	(H)	PHS vs. Wheaton HS at PHS
January 9	6:00 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Magruder HS at Magruder HS
January 12	1:00 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Northwood HS at Northwood HS
January 12	1:00 p.m.	(A)	PHS vs. Kennedy HS at Northwood HS
January 23	6:00 p.m.	(H)	PHS vs. Springbrook HS at PHS

Poolesville High School Mission Statement

Poolesville High School, the only whole school magnet in Montgomery County, uniting close-knit, rural community values and diverse global perspectives, challenges its students to become confident, versatile, problem-solving citizens through rigorous cross-curricular pathways and meaningful, motivating learning experiences.

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**

