

Mr. Levine's Message

Greetings Bulldog Families,
I hope this message finds you well.

We invite all students, families, and friends to participate in our first **PTA sponsored Spirit Night Fundraiser on Monday, September 23, at Hornet's Nest Grille**. Please see the fliers on pages 4 and 5 for more information about this event and other upcoming PTA meetings and spirit night fundraisers. Please also note that our **school picture day** will take place on **Thursday, September 26**.

Thank you for your support and partnership. Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can be of assistance in any way.

Best,
Sam Levine

Outdoor Ed Informational Meeting

There will be an Outdoor Education parent informational meeting in the Media Center **from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 25**. During this meeting, we will describe the Outdoor Ed experience, explain how parents/guardians can become chaperones, and answer any questions regarding the experience. If you have any questions regarding the meeting, please contact [Mr. Haren](#) or [Mrs. Woodward](#). We are looking forward to seeing you at the meeting.

7th Grade Team-Building Day

The 7th grade team will hold a team-building activity on **Friday, September 27**. Students will engage in multiple activities that require teamwork and cooperation with each other. This will be our 15th year of doing this fun team activity. Permission slips and waiver forms were sent home with students and are also posted on our school website. Please have your student **return this paperwork by Wednesday, September 25**, to their science teacher. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mr. Cummings at [Stewart W Cummings@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Stewart_W_Cummings@mcpsmd.org).

SSL News

Summer SSL Hours Due by September 27

If you completed SSL hours over the summer, please turn in your completed verification forms by September 27. Please do your best to turn in your verification forms as soon as you complete the hours so that you don't forget or lose the completed forms! Also, just a reminder that you should always make a copy or take a picture of your form before you turn it in! See Mrs. Paredes in Room 219 if you have any SSL questions! Students who completed Student Service Learning (SSL) hours over the summer must submit their [Activity Verification forms](#) to Mrs. Paredes by **Friday, September 27**.

Student Leadership and SSL Opportunities

For middle and high school students: The Association for Safe International Road Travel and the Montgomery County Regional Student Government Association are hosting a competition centered on road safety and how to keep students and others safe on the roads. Participants who submit a public service announcement (PSA) that meets contest requirements will **earn 10 SSL hours** and have a chance to win Amazon gift cards. **Entries are due Sunday, October 6**. [Learn more](#).

A full list of SSL in-person and virtual opportunities, reminders and updates are available on the [SSL website](#).



Looking Ahead

September 15–October 15

Hispanic–Latino Heritage Month

Monday, September 23

PTA Hornet's Nest Spirit Night (*see pp 4-5*)

Tuesday, September 24 — Activity Buses

eSports, Mr. Conner/Mr. Maddox, Rm 134
Cross Country vs. Clemente, at Clemente
Softball vs. Poole, Boys Home/
Girls Away

Wed., September 25 — Activity Buses

NJHS, Mr. Conner, Room 209
Outdoor Ed Parent Info Meeting
6:30–8:00 p.m., Media Center

Thursday, September 26 — Activity Buses

Lifetouch Fall Picture Day
8th Grade Band Night at DHS Home Game

Friday, September 27

Early Release Day for students,
Baker dismisses at 12:30 p.m.
6th Grade Mini Outdoor Ed
7th Grade Team Building Day
Back to School Block Party (*see p 6*)

October — National Principals' Month

Tuesday, October 1 — Activity Buses

Wednesday, October 2 — Activity Buses
Cross Country vs. Neelsville, at Baker
Softball vs. Neelsville, Boys at Ridge Road
Park/Girls Home

Thursday, October 3

No school for students and teachers

Friday, October 4

PTA Leech Woods Spirit Night (*see pp 4-5*)

Lifetouch

Picture Day – September 26

Order today on mylifetouch.com

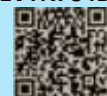
with your Student ID or
Picture Day ID: EVTNPS4B4

**El Día de la Foto
26 de septiembre**

Encarga hoy en mylifetouch.com

con tu ID de estudiante o
la ID del Día de la Foto

EVTNPS4B4





PICTURE DAY IS
EL DÍA DE LA FOTO ES
Thursday, September 26, 2024

Order today on mylifetouch.com
using your Picture Day ID: **EVTNPS4B4**
Encarga hoy en mylifetouch.com usando
tu ID del Día de la Foto: **EVTNPS4B4**



Lifetouch

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Baker MS Girls Scouts are collecting donated products for their Skin Cancer Awareness Girl Scout Silver Award project. They are collecting sunscreen, sunglasses, hats, and other products that will help avoid skin cancer. They plan to hand out all of the collected products in the Damascus community at various sports events, community gatherings, etc. Please drop off any items in the main office. For more information, go to <https://princessunicorn826.wixsite.com/skin-cancer/donate>

Counseling News

Upcounty Hub Snack Bags

The Upcounty Hub, a school-based food assistance program, is offering snack bags for the weekend to address hunger and food insecurity to our families at Baker Middle school. With your permission, the weekend food bag will go home in student's backpack on Friday afternoon. The program will start in October.

Please fill out the form below if you are interested in having your child participate. Reach out to Mrs. Jones, part-time school counselor at shannon.jones@mcpsmd.net if you have questions,

Upcounty Hub, un programa de asistencia alimentaria escolar, ofrece bolsas de refrigerios para el fin de semana para abordar el hambre y la inseguridad alimentaria de nuestras familias en la escuela secundaria Baker. Con su permiso, la bolsa de comida del fin de semana se irá a casa en la mochila del estudiante el viernes por la tarde. El programa comenzará en octubre.

Complete el formulario si está interesado en que su hijo participe. Si tiene preguntas, puede comunicarse con la Sra. Jones, consejera escolar de tiempo parcial en shannon.jones@mcpsmd.net. ¡Gracias!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeiiBvr-ael7jPBu6RFuSnam103udHtpzkLyLuwj2vqUhzXbQ/viewform>

Holiday Giving Project

The Holiday Giving Project provides **Thanksgiving and December Holiday assistance to low-income households**. A network of social workers, school counselors, and human service professionals refer families in need of assistance. Local non-profits, faith-based organizations, and public agencies service recipients as donations are available.

If your family would like to be referred for possible assistance for the Thanksgiving and/or December holiday season, please complete the referral form by clicking [here](#)

Referral Deadline Dates:

- Thanksgiving Holiday - Friday, October 25, 2024
- December Holiday - Friday, November 22, 2024

While a referral is not a guarantee of assistance, the Project helps as many families in need as donations allow.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Jones.



SGA Canned Food Drive

Baker MS SGA is collecting non-perishable canned food and boxed food items **until Thursday, November 14, 2024** to help feed our Damascus community. Please drop off all donations in Ms. Blankenship's room — Room 233. The Advisory with the most donations receives a pizza party!

Outreach and Admission Process Information Overview for Regional/Countywide High School Application Programs

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) offers a wide range of high school application programs for students entering Grades 9–12. These programs have a centralized admissions process, which begins with a common online application. The admission process opens in early October 2024.

- For students entering Grades 9–12 in 2025–2026, the regional/countywide high school application programs admission and timelines are available at: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/high/.
- MCPS has streamlined the Grade 8 high school application process by providing one common online application for all programs via Synergy. Grades 9–11 will apply electronically through a link on the website.
- Program eligibility for current Grade 8 students is based on the student's address and middle school. [List of Programs by Home/Base High School for Grade 8 Students](#).
- For Grades 9–11 students, it is based on the home address only. [List of Programs for Grade 9-11 Students](#).
- All MCPS parents/guardians of students in Grades 8–11 will receive communication regarding the high school programs during the weeks of September 9 and 16, 2024, respectively.
- The criteria-based application programs will continue with multiple academic measures and a committee review. The admission process will continue with student criteria such as the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), report card grades, and student application.
- The High School Common Application for Grade 8 students will be online in ParentVUE.
- Students in private schools must have an active MCPS ID to access the high school common application on ParentVUE.

Important Dates

- **October 4, 2024**—Application for Regional/Countywide High School Application Programs (ParentVUE and Google) opens.
- **November 1, 2024**—Application Deadline for all programs.

INCLEMENT WEATHER and EMERGENCY SCHOOL SYSTEM CLOSURES

The safety of our Montgomery County Public School (MCPS) community is critical and being able to communicate with students, staff, and families during severe weather or other emergencies is of the utmost importance. Sometimes a change in operational status for the school system is necessary due to severe weather or other emergencies. The operating status options for the 2024-2025 school year include:

- Code Green - Normal Operations
- Code Yellow - Delayed Opening
- Code Blue - Early Dismissal
- Code Orange - Schools Closed/Offices Telework
- Code Red - School System Closed

MCPS is prepared to address weather-related concerns including snow, ice, flooding, hurricanes, tornadoes, excessive heat, and other emergencies that may require a change in operational status for schools and offices. The MCPS Inclement Weather Team tracks weather patterns and traffic conditions, as well as benchmarks with surrounding districts and county agencies to make recommendations to the Superintendent related to the district's operating status. Once a decision has been made by the superintendent based on research, analysis, and recommendations from the team, that decision is communicated to staff, students, and families.

The safety of our MCPS community is critical, and being able to communicate with students, staff, and families during severe weather or other emergencies is of the utmost importance. Use this [link](#) to find all the ways you can connect with MCPS to receive emergency operational information from the school system. The current operating status options for the school district appear on the MCPS website and on individual school websites. In the event of a change in operational status, this [link](#) will provide more information about the MCPS Operating Status options.

Links/Additional Information

- [Alert Montgomery - register to receive text, email, or voice message emergency alerts to your cell phone](#)
- [Hurricane Safety Information](#)
- [Tornado Safety Information](#)
- [Tornado Warning Procedures for Buses](#)
- [Earthquake Safety Information](#)
- [Hurricane and Summer Storm Tips - Montgomery County, MD](#)
- [NOAA Prediction for Above-Normal 2024 Atlantic hurricane season](#)

PTA Dates & Contacts

UPCOMING PTA MEETING DATES:

Tuesday, October 8
6 pm – 8th Grade Committee
7 pm – PTA Meeting

Monday, November 11
6 pm – 8th Grade Committee
7 pm – PTA Meeting

Wednesday, December 11
6 pm – 8th Grade Committee
7 pm – PTA Meeting

PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Amy Bartosch, President –
BakerPTA@yahoo.com

Kalihah Barber, Vice President –
BakerPTAVP@yahoo.com

Shannon West, Treasurer –
BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com

Stacy Smith, Secretary –
BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com

Jaime Kemp, 8th Grade Committee –
BakerPTA8thGrade@yahoo.com

Visit our webpage!



Visit our Facebook Page!



Hello from the PTA!

The Baker PTA Board is in full swing for the 2024-2025 school year. We already have a lot of activities planned & more in the works! We could always use more volunteers and would love to have you!



Want to become a member?
Scan the QR code to link to our
online membership form!

Upcoming Spirit Night Events!

Monday, September 23rd

Hornet's Nest

- ❖ *All Day (11:30 am to 9:30pm!)*
- ❖ Must mention "Baker PTA" when ordering.
- ❖ Ordering online? Enter "Fundraiser" in the promo code!

Friday, October 4th

Leech Woods

- ❖ *Starting at 6:30 pm*
- ❖ *Order by 9/15 – get 20%, after – get 15% off*
- ❖ *Use code "BULLDOGS"*

Monday, October 14th

Ricoton!

- ❖ *After 3 pm, until closing*
- ❖ All orders will be entered into a raffle for a free taco box or Ricoton gift card.



Want more information?
Scan the QR Code!

Fechas y Contactores de la PTA:

PRÓXIMAS FECHAS DE REUNIONES DE LA PTA:

Martes 8 de octubre

6 pm – comité de octavo grado
7 pm – reunión de la PTA

Lunes 11 de noviembre

6 pm – comité de octavo grado
7 pm – reunión de la PTA

Miércoles 11 de diciembre

6 pm – comité de octavo grado
7 pm – reunión de la PTA

JUNTA EJECUTIVA DE LA PTA:

Amy Bartosch, Presidenta –
BakerPTA@yahoo.com

Kalihah Barber, Vicepresidenta –
BakerPTAVP@yahoo.com

Shannon West, Tesorera –
BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com

Stacy Smith, Secretaria –
BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com

Jaime Kemp, comité de 8 grado –
BakerPTA8thGrade@yahoo.com

Visita nuestra página web!



Visít nuestra página de Facebook!



Hola de la PTA!

La Junta de la PTA de Baker está en pleno apogeo para el año escolar 2024-2025! ¡Ya tenemos muchas actividades planeadas y más en proceso! ¡Siempre nos vendrían bien más voluntarios y nos encantaría tenerte!



¿Quieres ser miembro?

¡Escanee el código QR para vincularlo a su formulario de membresía en línea!

¡Próximos eventos de la noche espiritual!

Lunes 23 de septiembre

Hornet's Nest

- ❖ *Todo el día (11:30 am to 9:30pm!)*
- ❖ Debe mencionar "Baker PTA" al realizar el pedido.
- ❖ ¿Hacer pedidos en línea? ¡Ingrese "Fundraiser" en el código de promoción!

Viernes 4 de octubre

Leech Woods

- ❖ *A partis de las 6:30 pm*
- ❖ Haga su pedido antes del 15 de septiembre – 20%; después, obtenga un 15 % de descuento.
- ❖ Utilice el código "BULLDOGS"

Lunes 14 de octubre

Ricotón

- ❖ *Después de las 3:00 pm hasta el cierre.*
- ❖ Todos los pedidos participarán en la rifa de una caja de tacos o una tarjeta de regalo Ricoton gratis.
- ❖ Puedes apoyar a la PTA y ganar tacos gratis



¿Quieres más información? Escanea el código QR



COUNCILMEMBER MARILYN
BALCOMBE INVITES YOU TO THE



BACK TO SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY

A (FREE) EVENT FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

BLACKROCK CENTER FOR THE ARTS

12901 Town Commons Drive
Germantown, MD 20874

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH
FROM 1-4PM**



Featuring local food vendors, community resources,
student performances, outdoor fun, and good vibes.

SSL HOURS AVAILABLE

Students are invited to share their experiences in
Montgomery County and earn SSL hours for their
participation in the advocacy opportunity.

Email councilmember.balcombe@montgomerycountymd.gov or call
240-777-7960 if you have any questions about this event.

