

## Mr. Levine's Message

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

This week we observe **Character Counts Week** (see page 3), **Mental Health Awareness Week** (see page 4), and **National School Bus Safety Week** (see pages 5–6). Students have written notes of appreciation to their dedicated bus drivers and staff will be facilitating valuable learning activities for students about these topics throughout the week.

On **Friday, October 25**, all students and staff are invited to join SGA in **wearing pink** to display solidarity and commitment to ending breast cancer.

We invite all parents/guardians to visit your child's classes for our **Open House** event on **Monday, November 11**. Additional information about this event will be shared in a separate communication. We hope you can join us!

Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can be of assistance in any way.

Thank you for your support and partnership.

Best,  
Sam Levine

## Student Contest — Councilmember for a Day

**November 7 - Deadline to submit video essay. [Submit](#)**

### History & Purpose

Councilmember for a Day is an opportunity for middle and high school students in Montgomery County to share their vision for a better community through digital storytelling. The winner of the video essay challenge will be honored at Council with a proclamation and serve as an honorary councilmember for a day.

### The Eligibility & Requirements

Current middle school or high school students who live and attend school in Montgomery County (this includes MCPS, independent school, and homeschool students in the equivalent 6–12 grades).

Create and submit a digital video essay highlighting a public policy opportunity by the deadline.

The winner and finalists must be available for the Councilmember for A Day events.

Videos should be no more than **5 minutes**.

### Prizes

Winner - The winner is honored with a proclamation and a \$100 gift card and joins the Council as an honorary councilmember.

### Dates for 2024

- **November 7** - Deadline to submit video essay. [Submit Video Essay](#)
- **November 19** - The winner participates in the Council session and is honored with a proclamation and prize. Friends, family, and school representatives are welcome.



## Looking Ahead

### October — National Principals' Month

#### October 21–25

Character Counts Week (see page 3)  
Mental Health Awareness Week (see p 4)  
National School Bus Safety Week (see p 5)

#### Tuesday, October 22 — Activity Buses

Basketball – Boys, Mr. Smith, Gym  
eSports Club, Mr. Conner & Mr. Maddox  
Room 134  
Softball vs. Poole, Girls Home

#### Wednesday, October 23 — Activity Buses

Basketball – Boys, Mr. Smith, Gym  
Restorative Approaches *Student Voices*  
(see page 9)

#### Thursday, October 24 — Activity Buses

Cross Country vs. Hallie Wells, Away  
Softball vs. Hallie Wells, Boys Home/  
Girls Away  
Basketball – Boys, Mr. Smith, Gym  
Homework Club, Ms. Laraia, Room 227  
Jazz Band, Ms. Fell, Room 107  
NJHS, Mr. Conner, Room 209  
SGA, Ms. Blankenship, Room 233  
Talent Show, Mr. Fisher, Room 225

#### Friday, October 25

**All Students and staff: Please join SGA in wearing pink to display solidarity and commitment to ending breast cancer**

#### Saturday, October 26

Mental Health Resource Fair and Student Forum (see page 4)  
Game Changer Conference (see page 10)

#### October 28–31

Baker Celebrates Red Ribbon Week  
(see page 7)

#### Thursday, October 31 — Activity Buses

Costume Day

#### November — National Native American Heritage Month

#### Friday, November 1

End of Marking Period 1  
Locker Clean-Out during Advisory



PICTURE DAY IS  
EL DÍA DE LA FOTO ES

Friday, November 08, 2024

Make-Ups and Retakes

Order today on [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com)

using your Picture Day ID: **EVIKWHXZX**

Encarga hoy en [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com) usando

tu ID del Día de la Foto: **EVIKWHXZX**

**Lifetouch**



## SGA Canned Food Drive

Baker 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 to Ms. Blankenship in Room 233.

Pizza Party for the Advisory with the most donations!

## Guidance for Civic Engagement

Students and families must know the rights and guidelines for students to express views on issues important to them.

[Guidelines for Students](#) (including Frequently Asked Questions)

## Counseling News

### Good Grief Club

Baker Middle school will be partnering with Caring Matters, a local non-profit organization to deliver the Good Grief club. The club is a school-based support group for children who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling, other family member or a friend. The group is co-lead by a school counselor and a trained Caring Matters volunteer. The group would meet once a week during the school day for seven weeks. Through arts and craft, guided discussions, and reading materials, we will help students better understand what grief is and how to cope in healthy ways with their feelings. If you would like your child to participate, please reach out to Shannon Jones, school counselor, at [Shannon.Jones@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Shannon.Jones@mcpsmd.org). Before submitting names, please have a conversation with your child to see if they are interested in attending. To learn more about Caring Matters, please visit their website at [www.caringmatters.org](http://www.caringmatters.org)

### Club del Buen Dolor

La escuela secundaria Baker se asociará con Caring Matters, una organización local sin fines de lucro para implementar el club Good Grief. El club es un grupo de apoyo escolar para niños que han experimentado la muerte de un padre, hermano, otro familiar o un amigo. El grupo está codirigido por un consejero escolar y un voluntario capacitado en Caring Matters. El grupo se reuniría una vez por semana durante el día escolar durante siete semanas. A través de artes y manualidades, debates guiados y materiales de lectura, ayudaremos a los estudiantes a comprender mejor qué es el duelo y cómo afrontar sus sentimientos de manera saludable. Si desea que su hijo participe, comuníquese con Shannon Jones, consejera escolar, en [Shannon.Jones@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Shannon.Jones@mcpsmd.org). Antes de enviar nombres, hable con su hijo para ver si está interesado en asistir. Para obtener más información sobre Caring Matters, visite su sitio web en [www.caringmatters.org](http://www.caringmatters.org).

### 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](mailto:shannon.jones@mcpsmd.net) if you have questions,

### Upcounty Hub Bolsas de Merienda

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](mailto: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.**

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

### November 1, 2024 – Application Deadline for all 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.

- 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/](http://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](#).
- All MCPS parents/guardians of students in Grades 8–11 received 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 in ParentVUE.

# CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK – OCTOBER 21-25



**CHARACTER COUNTS! WEEK**

**TRUSTWORTHINESS**

- Be honest. Don't deceive, cheat, or steal.
- Have integrity. Do what you say you'll do.
- Keep your promises.
- Be loyal. Stand by your values.

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**CHARACTER COUNTS! WEEK**

**RESPECT**

- Follow the Golden Rule.
- Be accepting of differences.
- Be courteous to others.
- Deal peacefully with anger, insults, and disagreements.
- Be considerate of others' feelings.

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**CHARACTER COUNTS! WEEK**

**RESPONSIBILITY**

- Do what you are supposed to do. Try your best.
- Persevere. Keep on trying.
- Be self-disciplined.
- Think before you act. Consider the consequences.
- Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes.

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**CHARACTER COUNTS! WEEK**

**FAIRNESS**

- Play by the rules.
- Take turns and share.
- Be open-minded. Listen to others.
- Don't take advantage of others.

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**CHARACTER COUNTS! WEEK**

**CARING**

- Be kind.
- Be compassionate.
- Express gratitude.
- Forgive others.

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**CHARACTER COUNTS! WEEK**

**CITIZENSHIP**

- Do your share to make your home, school, and community better.
- Cooperate.
- Stay informed. Vote.
- Be a good neighbor.
- Make choices that protect the safety and rights of others.
- Protect the environment.

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# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## MCPS Mental Health Awareness Week Oct. 21–Oct. 26, 2024

*Let's end the stigma.*

*Let's talk about mental health.*



### Inviting all community members

The Office of Well Being and Student Services and the Montgomery County School Psychologists' Association will co-host the 2024 Mental Health Awareness Week (MHAW).

**The Mental Health Resource Fair and Student Forum will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2024, from 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. at Seneca Valley High School, 19401 Crystal Rock Dr., Germantown, MD 20874.**

The event is open to students, families, and staff and will include MCPS and community partners sharing information about mental health and wellness; as well as a student forum focusing on issues impacting Montgomery County youth. Students may earn Student Service Learning hours for attending the Resource Fair.

For details and announcements about activities, speakers, resources for students and staff, and how to join us, please visit [www.MCPSmentalhealth.org](http://www.MCPSmentalhealth.org).



### TOPICS

- Mental Wellness
- Coping with Stress
- School and Community Resources
- and more...



Maryland's Largest School District

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

# NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK

## Safety Tips and School Bus Laws for Families and Motorists

Here are safety tips and reminders about the Maryland School Bus Laws for families and motorists.

### [Stop On Red—Knowing When to Stop for School Buses—Zero Deaths Maryland & Vision Zero](#)

While riding a school bus is the safest mode of transportation for school children, let's get the facts straight on when it is – and isn't – OK to pass a school bus, when you should begin to slow down and how far away from the bus you need to stop.

### [Maryland School Bus Laws and Safety Tips](#)

School buses are the safest way for children to get to school. Still, children are especially vulnerable as they get on and off the bus. In Maryland, bus safety laws are in place to help drivers safely navigate the roads where children might be crossing.

### [Stop For School Buses: What Are The Laws In Maryland?](#)

Maryland State Police and the Maryland Center for School Safety remind motorists to stop for school buses.

- Pay attention when driving, especially in school zones and during times of day when school buses are typically on routes.
- Stop when a bus stops. It is illegal to pass a school bus with its red lights flashing.
- Prepare to stop when the school bus is flashing its yellow lights and be cautious of students beginning to move toward the bus during these times.
- Students of all ages are unpredictable. Therefore, prepare for the unexpected and maintain a safe distance from school buses at all times

### [MCPS Rules & Safety About Riding the School Bus Safe Routes to School](#)

### [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration \(NHTSA\) School Bus Safety](#)

## Zeal's Bus Safety Tips

Zeal, the Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (MCDOT) Traffic Safety Zebra, is here with some school bus safety tips! [This video](#) was created in partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). All aboard!

## Respect the Bus

Learn about the [bus cameras with MCPS](#) to help keep kids safe!

## NAPT 2024–2025 POSTER CONTEST IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Theme: Safety First - Safety Always ([NSBSW Poster Contest](#))

Poster Creation Period: October 1, 2024–April 1, 2025

Submission Deadline: April 18, 2025 to the [State Director](#) The centerpiece of National School Bus Safety Week is the Poster Contest. Thousands of school districts in over 40 states participate in local and state-level competitions to select artwork that depicts school bus safety-related themes and encourages and promotes school bus safety. The winning posters are used to promote safer school transportation for everyone.



## For Students Ride by the Rules: Making the Right Choices

### Do:

- Behave appropriately at the bus stop, respecting private property and keeping noise levels down for nearby residents
- Line up to board the bus promptly, without shoving or pushing
- Be seated and make room for others to sit as well. After bus routes are adjusted at the beginning of the school year, standing is not allowed
- Obey the bus operator just as you would a teacher or school administrator and act as you would in the classroom
- Keep the aisle and emergency door clear of obstructions
- Keep your arms, feet, and head inside the bus at all times
- Tell the bus operator, principal, and your parents if anyone is harassing, bullying, threatening, or fighting with you
- Be aware that bus operators may assign seats to students
- Be considerate of nearby yards, driveways, houses, buildings, and private property
- Discard trash in appropriate containers
- Be courteous and respectful of others

### Don't:

- Use vulgar language or gestures
- Throw any papers or objects in the bus or out the windows
- Smoke, drink, eat, chew tobacco, or play radios without headphones
- Engage in any violent behavior or sexual harassment, which also may be punishable by law
- Engage in any sexual activity
- Bring prohibited materials (i.e., alcohol, drugs, weapons, explosives, and glass containers) on the bus. In addition to being against school system regulations, possession of some of these materials is a criminal offense
- Damage or deface any part of the vehicle
- Operate the emergency door without permission
- Bring large objects that cannot be held on your lap on the bus, such as some musical instruments, class projects, etc.; try to make other arrangements to take such items to school

**Riding the school bus is a privilege**

### Know the consequences

Failure to follow the rules may result in one or more of the following consequences:

- The bus operator may bring you back to the school, or call the police, if you pose a serious threat to your own safety and/or the safety and health of other riders
- The principal may suspend your bus riding privileges temporarily or permanently, depending on the circumstances
- For certain offenses, you may be suspended from school
- For illegal activities, you may face criminal charges

NOTE: Buses may be equipped with both an audio and a visual recording device.

## Protect Yourself—and Others

You are responsible for your behavior and self-control at all times. Knowing this, and making good decisions based on the rules, can save you from making mistakes that could have unintended consequences.

School buses are an extension of school, and you must adhere to the same standards of behavior on a school bus as in the classroom. If you don't, you could face severe consequences, including losing the privilege of riding the bus or even being suspended from school. To protect yourself and others, and keep the privilege of riding the school bus, ride by the rules!

### Put safety first

Be careful walking to and from the bus stop and while waiting for the bus to arrive. During early morning and late afternoon hours it is more difficult for motorists to see pedestrians. At all times, but particularly in winter when you may be walking and waiting near dark and slippery roads you should

- Wear highly visible clothing and/or carry a backpack with reflective material
- Have a safe and well-lit area to wait for the bus, especially when the roads are wet or slick
- Wait well off the road and be observant of all traffic
- Move toward the bus only after it stops and the driver has signaled that it is safe
- Refrain from trying to direct traffic upon walking toward or leaving the bus

*Remember: Riding the school bus is a privilege for most students, not a right, and this privilege can be revoked at any time. Be smart...*

**Ride by the Rules!**



*Obey the bus operator just as you would a teacher or school administrator.*

## Bus Safety: A Team Effort

Every day nearly 100,000 students in the Montgomery County Public Schools ride a school bus. Their safety is a top priority for the school system. A safe, pleasant ride helps students start and end the school day on a positive note and can have an enormous impact on a student's attitude toward school.

Students, parents, bus operators, principals, and teachers must work together to ensure safe and pleasant bus transportation. A parent's responsibility includes knowing and reinforcing standards of safety and behavior at the bus stop and on the bus. Disorderly students can threaten their own safety and that of others by distracting the bus operator. Disorderly and aggressive conduct also can make the bus ride to and from school an unpleasant and even intimidating experience for students. To help prevent this, buses may be equipped with audio and video recording devices.

**An emphasis on safety**

Parent responsibility also includes ensuring that your children have a safe and, especially for younger children, supervised place to go if school is closed, opens late, or closes early due to adverse weather conditions or if the bus does not come for some reason.

### How parents can help

Every member of the community has a role in fostering safe, positive behavior at the bus stop and on the bus. As a parent, you can help preserve the safety of all students and ensure a smooth beginning and ending to the school day by making sure that your children

- Know and understand the rules for riding the school bus
- Understand that the school bus is an extension of school, and the same standards of behavior expected in the classroom apply to the bus as well.
- Obey the instructions of the bus operator, just as they would follow the instructions of a teacher or school administrator;
- Show consideration for other students on the bus and at the bus stop;
- Speak respectfully to everyone, including their peers, without using vulgar language;
- Know that fighting and other violence, harassment, bullying, and sexual activity is strictly prohibited;
- Show consideration for properties around the bus stop, refraining from littering or damaging any property;
- Know the bus route number and ride the same bus daily; and
- Understand that riding the school bus is a privilege for most students, not a right, and that this privilege can be revoked temporarily or permanently because of misconduct.

### Protecting your children

#### Elementary school

Parents have a central role in making school bus trips safe for their young children. To fulfill this role, make sure they

- Know basic principles of traffic safety, such as how and when to cross the road safely;
- Stay out of the road while waiting for the bus;
- Are supervised by a parent or other adult while walking to and waiting at the bus stop (at some bus stops, parents rotate this duty, while at others, parents escort their children to the bus stop and remain with them until the bus comes);
- Move toward the bus only after it stops and the driver has signaled that it is safe; and
- Understand the importance of following the rules on the bus.

**Riding the school bus is a privilege**

#### Middle and high school

Even older students need reminders about the rules of conduct and safety on school buses. Reinforcing the idea that they are responsible for their behavior and self-control on the school bus and at the bus stop can save them from making mistakes that could have severe and long-lasting consequences. To help protect your children, make sure they

- Treat others, including the bus operator, with respect;
- Have a safe and highly visible area to wait at the bus stop, especially in the winter when the road may be slippery and dark;
- Know and understand the consequences of certain behaviors, such as smoking and bringing prohibited materials (i.e., alcohol, drugs, weapons, explosives, and glass containers) on the bus. In addition to being against school system regulations, possession of some of these materials is a criminal offense; and
- Refrain from any violent behavior or sexual harassment, which also may be illegal.

### Open communication

Parents need to encourage their children to report any harassing, bullying, or otherwise harmful behavior to the bus operator and/or principal, as well as share this information with a parent. The Montgomery County Public Schools takes all such reports seriously and will take action to resolve these problems.

**A parent's responsibility includes knowing and reinforcing standards of safety and behavior at the bus stop and on the bus.**

**Encourage your children to follow the standards of behavior—for everyone's safety. The privilege to ride the school bus can be revoked if the standards aren't observed.**

NOTE: Buses may be equipped with an audio and visual recording device.

## For Parents Ride by the Rules: A Parent's Role



BAKER BULLDOGS 2024

# RED RIBBON WEEK

OCTOBER 28 - 31

*Monday*

**Rally in Red**

Stand up to drugs by wearing something Red

*Tuesday*

**Peace Out to Drugs**

Wear something tie-dye.

*Wednesday*

**Team Up Against Drugs!**

Wear your favorite team jersey

*Friday*

**Drugs are Scary!**

Wear your school appropriate costume. No masks or inappropriate costumes!

**Say NO To Drugs**



Dear Parent or Student,

Yearbook Recognition Ads are the perfect way to commemorate achievements and celebrate milestones. In addition, revenues from Recognition Ads help our school create a better yearbook. To purchase your ad online, follow the instructions listed below. Jostens is responsible for our school's yearbook ad sales. Please do not contact or send materials to the school. Please also consider our school's ad content guidelines below during the creation of your ad online. All orders must be placed by 11/01/2024 to take advantage of the early bird SAVINGS! Prices increase on 11/02/2024. The final deadline to purchase a congratulatory ad is 1/31/2025.

ORDER BY 11/01/2024	
COLOR AD	
1/4 Page	\$130.00
1/8 Page	\$80.00

Taxes, service fees, and shipping fees will be added, if applicable. Jostens payment plan available; minimum purchase requirements and eligibility restrictions apply.



# 3 EASY STEPS TO CREATE A YEARBOOK RECOGNITION AD!



## Step 1

**Choose your ad size and layout**  
(Options may vary by school.)



## Step 2

**Add your photos**



## Step 3

**Enter your text**

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**What are the guidelines for recognition ad content?**

Schools may review and edit ads per their guidelines. Jostens retains the right to remove any explicit text, graphic photos or copyright-protected imagery or photos.

**School Ad Content Guidelines**

Our school reserves the right to edit ads per our guidelines. Please make sure all submitted materials are appropriate for school publication.

**How are the ad prices determined and what is the money used for?**

Recognition ad prices are determined by our school. Revenue from recognition ads helps the school create a better, more affordable yearbook.

**How is the ad deadline determined?**

The ad deadline is set by our school based on the production schedule for the yearbook.

**Can I create my student's ad on my mobile device?**

Yes, yearbook ads can be created online from both desktop and mobile devices.



**(800) 358-0800**  
**jostensadservice.com/student**





# RESTORATIVE APPROACHES

## Student Voices

First Meeting is 10/23

Students! Click here to join

### Attention All Middle and High School Students!

Meet and engage with students all across MCPS!

- Learn about restorative approaches and how they can benefit your school community
- Engage in dialogue with students and instructional specialists about how you can lead in community building, wellness and conflict resolution at your school

Earn 1 SSL hour per meeting!



2024-2025 Dates  
3:20pm-4:15pm on Zoom

Oct. 23rd  
Dec. 18th  
Feb. 19th  
April 23rd

All meetings are virtual via Zoom

# ENFOQUES RESTAURATIVOS

## Voces de los estudiantes

La primera reunión será el 23 de octubre.

¡Estudiantes! Haz clic aquí para unirte.

### ¡Hola a todos los estudiantes de secundaria y preparatoria!

¡Conoce e interactúa con estudiantes de todo MCPS! Descubre los enfoques restaurativos y cómo pueden ser de ayuda para tu comunidad escolar.

- Únete a una charla con estudiantes y expertos en educación sobre cómo puedes guiar la creación de comunidad, el bienestar y la resolución de conflictos en tu escuela.
- ¡Consigue 1 hora SSL por cada reunión!



Fechas 2024-2025

De 3:20-4:15 horas en Zoom.

23 de octubre  
18 de diciembre  
19 de febrero  
23 de abril

Todas las reuniones se realizan de forma virtual por medio de Zoom.



# GAME CHANGER CONFERENCE

## 2024 Fall Conference For Young Males and Parents

**Theme: The World is Shifting Forward!  
Focus Forward and Compete.**

### ATTENTION PARENTS OF YOUNG MALES (Grades 4th - 12th)

☀️ **Empower Your Son's Tomorrow, Today!** ☀️

**Join us at the Game Changer Conference 2024 and  
ignite his path to unparalleled success!**

#### CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS:

##### For Students

- Life Skills Stations & Enrichment Forums
- Panel Conversations with Inspiring Leaders
- "What if I don't want to go to college" workshop
- STEM Exposure Experience
- Essay Writing Competition:  
"Being a Competitor is a Game Changer: How will you Compete to win and own your future?"

##### For Parents:

- Parent Advocacy Workshop: New School Parenting for Old School Issues
- Equipping parents with strategies and insights to advocate effectively for their children and navigate the complexities of modern parenting.

**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 26, 2024**

8:00 AM - 12 NOON  
(CHECK-IN STARTS AT 7:30AM)

**Montgomery College - Germantown  
Globe Hall**

20200 Observation Drive, Germantown, MD 20876

**REGISTER TODAY!**



[www.thegameconference.org](http://www.thegameconference.org)

**Thanks to our Sponsors!**







# COUNCILMEMBER



# FOR A DAY CHALLENGE



**A FREE PUBLIC POLICY DIGITAL  
STORYTELLING CHALLENGE OPEN TO  
ALL MONTGOMERY COUNTY MIDDLE  
AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!**

## THE WINNER:

- Receives a Council proclamation!
- Serves as an honorary Councilmember for a Day!
- Receives a \$100 gift card to enable their continued digital storytelling!



**THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT A VIDEO IS NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>**

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SUBMIT YOUR VIDEO, GO TO:

**[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/CM4ADAY-2024](https://tinyurl.com/cm4aday-2024)**



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
COUNCIL**



# MCPS CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS

Protect Yourself Online: Essential Cybersecurity Measures

## RECOGNIZE PHISHING

Phishing scams can deceive you into revealing sensitive information or downloading harmful attachments, putting your device and data at risk.

### Common signs of a phishing attempt:

- Misspelled email address or unknown/external sender
- Urgent/alarming language that calls for “immediate action”
- Unexpected attachments or suspicious links
- Requests for personal or financial information



## UTILIZE PASSWORD PROTECTION

The average person has around 100 passwords to remember. Passwords are the key to accessing personal information.



### How to secure your information:

- Use a password manager
- Always log off all devices
- Use hard to guess passwords
- Avoid reusing the same password

## BEWARE OF SOFTWARE & MALWARE

Malware is an umbrella term for software designed to harm or exploit a device or network.

### How to prevent and protect:

- Update all software, apps, and devices to keep them current
- Back up your data frequently
- Carefully check all emails and messages for suspicious links



## USE MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (MFA)

MFA provides an extra layer of security in addition to a password when logging into accounts and apps, like a face scan or a code sent by text.



### Benefits of implementing MFA:

- Reduces fraud and identify theft
- Reduces possibility of phishing attempts

REPORT ANY SUSPECTED ATTACKS OR PHISHING ATTEMPTS TO:  
**ABUSE@MCPSMD.ORG**



## PTA Dates & Contacts

### UPCOMING PTA MEETING DATES:

#### Monday, November 11

6 pm – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee  
7 pm – PTA Meeting

#### Wednesday, December 11

6 pm – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee  
7 pm – PTA Meeting

#### Tuesday, January 14

6 pm – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee  
7 pm – PTA Meeting

### PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Amy Bartosch, President –  
[BakerPTA@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTA@yahoo.com)

Kalihah Barber, Vice President –  
[BakerPTAVP@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTAVP@yahoo.com)

Shannon West, Treasurer –  
[BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com)

Stacy Smith, Secretary –  
[BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com)

Jaime Kemp, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee –  
[BakerPTA8thGrade@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTA8thGrade@yahoo.com)

Visit our webpage!



Visit our Facebook Page!



## Hello from the PTA!

The PTA has had a great start to the school year, with three successful fundraisers (Hornet's Nest, Leech Woods, and Ricoton) and an SSL/volunteer opportunity with the Damascus Placemaking Festival! Catch your breath before even more activities later this Fall!

Our next PTA meeting will be Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. We meet in the Media Center and on Zoom. Check the PTA website for Zoom call in information.

Thank you for supporting your Baker Bulldogs! Many more opportunities to come!



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

### Upcoming Events!

#### November 10<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Fundraiser

❖ More information to come soon!

#### Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> Ledo Pizza Spirit Night

❖ *All day (11 am to 9 pm)*

❖ Use code "Fundraiser" when ordering online or mention the Baker PTA fundraiser if dining in or calling ahead for carryout.



Want more information? Scan the QR Code!

## Fechas y Contactors de la PTA:

### PRÓXIMAS FECHAS DE REUNIONES 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

**Martes 14 de enero**  
6 pm – comité de octavo grado  
7 pm – reunión de la PTA

**JUNTA EJECUTIVA DE LA PTA:**  
Amy Bartosch, Presidenta –  
[BakerPTA@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTA@yahoo.com)

Kalihah Barber, Vicepresidenta –  
[BakerPTAVP@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTAVP@yahoo.com)

Shannon West, Tesorera –  
[BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com)

Stacy Smith, Secretaria –  
[BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com)

Jaime Kemp, comité de 8 grado –  
[BakerPTA8thGrade@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTA8thGrade@yahoo.com)

Visita nuestra página web!



Visit nuestra página de Facebook!



## Hola de la PTA!

¡La PTA ha tenido un excelente comienzo del año escolar, con tres exitosas actividades para recaudar fondos (Hornet's Nest, Leech Woods y Ricoton) y una oportunidad de SSL/voluntariado con el Damascus Placemaking Festival! ¡Recupere el aliento antes de realizar más actividades a finales de este otoño!

Nuestra próxima reunión de la PTA será el lunes 11 de noviembre. Nos reunimos en el Media Center y en Zoom. Consulte el sitio web de la PTA para obtener información sobre llamadas de Zoom.

¡Gracias por apoyar a sus Baker Bulldogs! ¡Muchas más oportunidades por venir!



¿Quieres ser miembro?  
¡Escanee el código QR para vincularlo a su formulario de membresía en línea!

### ¡Próximos eventos!

**Del 10 al 14 de noviembre**  
**Recaudación de fondos para octavo grado**  
❖ ¡Más información próximamente!

**Martes 10 de diciembre**  
**Noche de espíritu de Ledo Pizza**  
❖ Todo el día (de 11:00 a 21:00)  
❖ Utilice el código "Recaudación de fondos" cuando haga su pedido en línea o mencione la recaudación de fondos de la PTA de Baker si cena o llama con anticipación para pedir comida para llevar.



¿Quieres más información? ¡Escanea el código QR!



# Help The Veterans

This holiday season

We are collecting donations the help feed 30 veterans.

Donate A Turkey or Ham

Or Any Donation To Help Purchase A Turkey or Ham.

Help

Local Veterans

Collecting 10/1-11/18

This year goal 20 turkeys and 10 hams

Sponsored by

Weis Markets Damascus MD

And





# SECOND CLASSIC CAR CRUISE-IN

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

### 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. (in the Damascus Weis parking lot)

Brought to you by:

- Damascus Weis
- Heart of Maryland Classic Chevy Club
- Community Pantry of Montgomery UM Church\*

Including:

- Hot Dogs and Chips (donations to Community Pantry welcome)
- 50/50 Heart of Maryland Raffle & Tee shirt sale

\*Please bring some canned or shelf stable food to donate to The Community Pantry Trailer for the "STUFF THE TRAILER"

event with food for local food banks!!

Join us for a **TRICK OR TREAT** in-store event

**Date:** 10/26/24

**Time:** 12p - 3p

**Ages 1 - 10**

[weismarkets.com](http://weismarkets.com)