

## Mr. Levine's Message

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

This week, we have some fun with **Spirit Days on Monday** when **teachers dress like students and students dress like teachers** and **Tuesday** when students (and staff) pick a friend and dress up as an iconic duo from their favorite game or show.

We get a little more into the holiday spirit with our annual festivities — **Winter Hat Day on Wednesday, Winter Sweater Day on Thursday, Winter Pajama Day** and the **Staff vs. Student Basketball Games on Friday.**

There will be no *Paw Prints* on Sunday, December 29, 2024 or on Sunday, January 5, 2025. The next issue will be distributed on Sunday, January 12, 2025.

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



## Looking Ahead

**December 16–20 —**  
**PTA Staff Appreciation Week**

**Monday, December 16**

Spirit Day — Teachers dress like students and students dress like teachers

**Tuesday, December 17 — Activity Buses**

Spirit Day — with a friend, dress up as an iconic duo from your fave game or show  
eSports Club, Mr. Conner and Mr. Maddox, Room 134

**Wed, December 18 — Activity Buses**

Winter Hat Day  
Fidos for Freedom in Media Center  
EML Guitar Club, Mr. Maddox, Room 134  
NJHS, Mr. Conner, Room 209

**Thursday, December 19 — Activity Buses**

Winter Sweater Day  
PTA Baked Potato and Chili Bar for Staff  
EML Guitar Club, Mr. Maddox, Room 134  
Homework Club, Ms. Laraia, Room 227  
Jazz Band, Ms. Fell, Room 107  
Kraft Club, Ms. Ross, Room 101

**Friday, December 20**

Winter Pajama Day  
Staff vs. Student Basketball Games

**December 23–January 1 — Winter Break**

No school for students and teachers

**Thursday, January 2 — No Activity Buses**

**January 6–January 12**

MAP-M and MAP-R Week

**Tuesday, January 7 — Activity Buses**

eSports Club, Mr. Conner and Mr. Maddox, Room 134  
Workout Club, Mr. Fisher, Weight Room

**Wed, January 8 — Activity Buses**

Basketball vs. Clemente, Boys Away/  
Girls Home

**Thursday, January 9 — Activity Buses**

Homework Club, Ms. Laraia, Room 227  
Jazz Band, Ms. Fell, Room 107  
Kraft Club, Ms. Ross, Room 101  
Workout Club, Mr. Fisher, Weight Room



### Winter Hat Day Wednesday, December 18

Students and staff are invited to wear favorite holiday or winter hats at school



### Winter Sweater Day Thursday, December 19

Students and staff are invited to wear favorite holiday or winter sweaters at school



### Winter Pajama Day Friday, December 20

Students and staff are invited to wear favorite holiday or winter pajamas at school



### Staff v. Student Basketball Games Friday, December 20

**8th grade**    **Period 3**    **10:15–10:43**  
**7th grade**    **Period 4**    **11:05–11:36**  
**6th grade**    **Period 5**    **11:58–12:29**



## From the SGA

### Friendship Dance

Parents/Guardians — the annual Friendship Dance takes place on **February 7, 2025**. Please help make this event a success by purchasing any of the decorations on this [wishlist](#) and dropping them off at the Main Office.

### Book Collection

Baker MS Community — please donate new and gently used books for MCPS Foster Care students. Drop off in the Media Center **now through April 24 at 3:00 p.m.**



## C-SPAN STUDENTCAM2025

Students in 6th through 12th grades are invited to participate in C-SPAN's annual national video documentary StudentCam competition, which encourages them to think critically about issues that affect our communities.

This year, students are asked to create a five-to-six-minute video documentary on a topic that relates to the competition theme, "Your Message to the President." Students may compete individually or in groups.

**Monday, January 20, 2025, Inauguration Day, is the submission deadline.** C-SPAN awards cash prizes to the top 150 student documentaries. [FAQs](#) [Getting Started](#)

## Choose Respect Competition

**Choose Respect 2025:** Middle and high school students are invited to participate in the Choose Respect competition for a chance to win up to \$1,000. To enter, students must create a 60-second video with a message raising awareness about emotional abuse, consent, or how to support a friend facing a difficult situation. Participants can earn SSL hours, and the winning videos will be showcased at RespectFest 2025. **The deadline to submit videos is Sunday, February 16, 2025.** To learn more, [visit the website](#).

## Winter Weather Is Coming: Are You Ready?

Winter is coming, and MCPS has your back with information on how to Stay Connected to get the latest information on weather delays and closures.

Keep your contact information up-to-date: Visit the ParentVUE link on the [MCPS Community Tech Support website](#)

### Know the Color-Coded Statuses:

- **Green:** Normal Operations
- **Yellow:** Delayed Opening
- **Blue:** Early Dismissal
- **Red:** Closed
- **Orange:** Modified Virtual Instruction

### [Learn more about Color Codes](#)

**Why it Matters:** Decisions are made with expert input and local assessments to keep everyone safe.

**How to Know:** Check the MCPS website and social media for real-time updates.

### Don't Miss the Superintendent's Video

Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/ugfu7nIDpuk>

## Inclement Weather and Emergency Closures

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 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.



### STAY CONNECTED

- **VISIT** the [MCPS homepage](#).
- **CALL** 240-740-3000. Staff take calls from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays thru Fridays, in English and Spanish (240-740-2845)
- **READ** news and information sent via email and text message and on the [MCPS News](#) page.
- **FOLLOW** the MCPS social media pages on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram in English and Spanish.
- <http://twitter.com/mcps>  
<https://www.facebook.com/mcpsmd>  
[https://www.instagram.com/mcps\\_md](https://www.instagram.com/mcps_md)
- <https://www.facebook.com/mcpsespanol>  
<https://twitter.com/MCPSEspanol>  
<https://www.instagram.com/mcpsenespanol/>
- **SIGN UP** for [emails and text alerts](#) and make sure your [ParentVue](#) information is up to date.
- **WATCH** the MCPS cable channels Comcast 34 (1071 HD), Verizon 36 or RCN 89

## PTA Dates & Contacts

### UPCOMING PTA MEETING DATES:

#### Tuesday, January 14

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

#### Wednesday, February 12

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

#### Tuesday, March 11

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!

### It's Staff Appreciation Week at Baker Middle School!

Grab n' Go Breakfast every day for our hardworking staff and a special luncheon on Thursday, 12/19. We can always use more donations – so please sign up if you'd like to bring something in particular. We also can take cash donations. Please email [BakerPTA@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTA@yahoo.com) for CashApp, Venmo, PayPal, and Zelle donation options!

The Baker SGA is hosting their annual Friendship Dance on 2/07 and is looking for donations to make the dance a success. Please check out their wishlist & drop any donations in the main office! (Wishlist is linked on the PTA Facebook page.)



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

### Upcoming Events & Volunteer Opportunities!

#### Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> Staff Appreciation Week

- ◆ PTA will be providing grab & go breakfast items each day – <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094EABA929A4FC1-53193246-staff>
- ◆ PTA will be hosting a Baked Potato & Chili Bar on Thursday, 12/19 – <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094EABA929A4FC1-52597083-staff>
- ◆ We need volunteers to help with the luncheon to set up, replenish the buffet, and to clean up.



Want more information? Scan the QR Code!



## Fechas y Contactors de la PTA:

### PRÓXIMAS FECHAS DE REUNIONES DE LA PTA:

#### Martes 14 de enero

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

#### Miércoles 12 de febrero

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

#### Martes 11 de marzo

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!

**¡Es la Semana de Agradecimiento al Personal en la Escuela Secundaria Baker!** Desayuno Grab n' Go todos los días para nuestro trabajador personal y un almuerzo especial el jueves 19/12. Siempre podemos utilizar más donaciones, así que regístrate si quieres aportar algo en particular. También podemos aceptar donaciones en efectivo. ¡Envíe un correo electrónico a [BakerPTA@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTA@yahoo.com) para conocer las opciones de donación de CashApp, Venmo, PayPal y Zelle!

Baker SGA organizará su Baile de la Amistad anual el 2/07 y está buscando donaciones para que el baile sea un éxito. ¡Consulte su lista de deseos y deje cualquier donación en la oficina principal! (La lista de deseos está vinculada en la página de Facebook de la PTA).



¿Quieres ser miembro?

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

## ¡Próximos eventos!

### Del 16 al 20 de diciembre

- ◆ La PTA proporcionará productos de desayuno para llevar todos los días - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094EABA929A4FC1-53193246-staff>
- ◆ La PTA organizará una barra de papas al horno y chile el jueves 19/12 - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094EABA929A4FC1-52597083-staff>
- ◆ Necesitamos voluntarios que ayuden a preparar el almuerzo, reponer el buffet y limpiar.



¿Quieres más información? ¡Escanea el código QR!