

Mr. Levine's Message

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

We welcome back students and staff after the unexpected three day school closure. We hope everyone had a chance to enjoy the snow and managed to stay warm and safe.

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

Martin Luther King Jr. Service Week

To honor Martin Luther King Jr. service week, SGA, with the help of Baker MS is collecting the following items to create comfort cases (backpacks) for foster care students in MCPS until April 23.

Drop off in the media center.

- Duffel Bag or Backpack
- Pajamas, Child Size 10 to Adult 3XL
- Blanket (no larger than 50"x 60")
- Adult Toothbrush (1 – 3 pack)
- Toothpaste (travel size)
- Shampoo & Conditioner (travel size)
- Lotion (travel size)
- Soap or Body Wash (travel size)
- Deodorant
- Stuffed Animal (12" or smaller)
- Journal
- Pens & Pencils
- Book

Baker students can help pack the comfort cases after school on April 24, 2025, for 2 SSL hours.

Adopted 2025-2026 School Year Calendar

[2025-2026 Traditional School Year Calendar](#)

Highlights from the 2025-2026 Traditional School Year Calendar:

- 181 instructional days and six built-in contingency days within the school year
- Student Transition Day: Monday, August 25, 2025 (non-instructional full day) This is a non-instructional full day designed to support students transitioning to new school levels or schools. It is designed for students in Grades K, 6, 9, Grade 3 students in Grades 3-5 elementary schools, and students new to a school or MCPS.
- First Day of School for All Students: Tuesday, August 26, 2025
- Winter Break: December 24, 2025 – January 4, 2026
- Spring Break: March 28, 2026 – April 6, 2026
- Last Day of School for Students: June 17, 2026
- Districtwide Professional Development Days on October 17, 2025, and March 20, 2026
- Grading and Planning Days following the end of each marking period on November 3, 2025, January 26, 2026, April 15, 2026, and June 18, 2026.



Looking Ahead

Monday, January 13

MAP-M

Cluster MS/HS Choral Concert, 7:00 p.m.
DHS Auditorium

Tuesday, January 13 — Activity Buses

Workout Club, Mr. Fisher, Weight Room
PTA 8th Gr. Committee Mtg, 6:00–7:00 p.m.
PTA Gen Membership Mtg, 7:00–8:00 p.m.

PTA meetings available on Zoom:

[https://mcpmsmd.zoom.us/](https://mcpmsmd.zoom.us/j/85601569113?pwd=Fd4X4T4qMIUcFN997gJfXr1QQZG4)

[j/85601569113?](https://mcpmsmd.zoom.us/j/85601569113?pwd=Fd4X4T4qMIUcFN997gJfXr1QQZG4)

[pwd=Fd4X4T4qMIUcFN997gJfXr1QQZG4](https://mcpmsmd.zoom.us/j/85601569113?pwd=Fd4X4T4qMIUcFN997gJfXr1QQZG4)

[MT.1](https://mcpmsmd.zoom.us/j/85601569113?pwd=Fd4X4T4qMIUcFN997gJfXr1QQZG4)

Meeting ID: 856 0156 9113 **Passcode:**

908892

Phone: +1 301 715 8592 US

One tap mobile:

+13017158592,,85601569113#,,,,*908892

US

Wednesday, January 15 — Activity Buses

Fidos for Freedom during lunches
Special Education Resource Fair (*see p. 2*)
EML Guitar Club, Mr. Maddox, Room 134
NJHS, Mr. Conner, Room 209

Thursday, January 16 — 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
DHS Rising 9th Gr. Family Night (*see p. 6*)

January 18–26 — MLK Week of Service

Monday, January 20 — MLK Jr. Day

schools and offices closed

MLK Jr. Day of Service

Inauguration Day

Tuesday, January 21 — Activity Buses

Basketball vs. Neelsville, Boys Home

Girls Away

Wednesday, January 22

PTA Chipotle Fundraiser (*see page 5*)

Thursday, January 23 — Activity Buses

Baker Articulation Night, 6:30–8:00 p.m.

Special Education Resource Fair

Set for 5:30–7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 15, in the Carver Educational Services Center auditorium, 850 Hungerford Drive in Rockville. This event is open to all parents who have children with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). MCPS families can learn more from community organizations about after-school activities, summer programs and tutoring.

From the SGA

Friendship Dance

Parents/Guardians, & Students — the annual Friendship Dance takes place on Friday, February 7, from 3:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Please make sure to purchase your \$7 ticket and fill out the online permission slip on this [schoolcash link](#) before 12:59 p.m. on February 6, 2025.

Any help to make this event a success is appreciated by purchasing any of the decorations on this [Amazon wishlist](#) and dropping them off at the Main Office.

See you there to celebrate friendship!

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.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 – 8th Grade Committee
7 pm – PTA Meeting

Wednesday, February 12

6 pm – 8th Grade Committee
7 pm – PTA Meeting

Tuesday, March 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 – BakerPTA-Treasurer@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!

We hope everyone enjoyed their winter break and last week's snow days! Our January PTA meeting is coming up on Tuesday and a Chipotle Spirit Night on the 22nd!

Reminder: 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!

Tuesday, January 14th

PTA Meetings

- ◆ 8th Grade Committee meeting at 6 pm
- ◆ General Committee meeting at 7 pm
- ◆ [Zoom Link](https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/85601569113?pwd=Fd4X4T4gMIUcFN997gJFXr1QQZG4MT.1)
<https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/85601569113?pwd=Fd4X4T4gMIUcFN997gJFXr1QQZG4MT.1>
Meeting ID: 856 0156 9113 **Passcode:** 908892
Phone: +1 301 715 8592 US
One tap mobile:
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Wednesday, January 22nd

Spirit Night at Chipotle

- ◆ From 4 pm to 8 pm
- ◆ Show the flyer in the restaurant (see attached)
- ◆ Ordering online or the app? Use code ABJQP8X



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

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!



Visit nuestra página de Facebook!



Hola de la PTA!

¡Esperamos que todos hayan disfrutado de sus vacaciones de invierno y de los días de nieve de la semana pasada! ¡Nuestra reunión de PTA de enero se llevará a cabo el martes y habrá una noche de espíritu Chipotle el 22!

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!

Martes 14 de enero

Reuniones de la PTA

◆ Reunión del Comité de 8vo Grado a las 6 pm

◆ Reunión del Comité General a las 7 pm

◆ [Zoom Link](#)

[https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/85601569113?](https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/85601569113?pwd=Fd4X4T4qMIUcFN997gJFXr1QQZG4MT.1)

[pwd=Fd4X4T4qMIUcFN997gJFXr1QQZG4MT.1](https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/85601569113?pwd=Fd4X4T4qMIUcFN997gJFXr1QQZG4MT.1)

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Miércoles 22 de enero

Noche de espíritu en Chipotle

◆ De 4 pm a 8 pm

◆ Mostrar el flyer en el restaurante (ver adjunto)

◆ ¿Quieres hacer tu pedido online o a través de la aplicación? Usa el código ABJQP8X



¿Quieres más información? ¡Escanea el código QR!

WE CAN DO THIS! // FOOD WITH INTEGRITY
COMMUNITY STARTS HERE // 55% TAYLOR

DO GOOD WITH CHIPOTLE



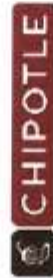
CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR

BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL PTA

25% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22ND | 4-8PM
9815 MAIN ST STE 104, DAMASCUS, MD, 20872

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **A8JQP8X**
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count toward the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

WE CAN DO THIS! // FOOD WITH INTEGRITY
COMMUNITY STARTS HERE // 55% TAYLOR

HAZ EL BIEN CON CHIPOTLE



RECAUDACIÓN DE FONDOS PARA

BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL PTA

25% DE LAS VENTAS DEL EVENTO SERÁN DONADAS A LA CAUSA

MIÉRCOLES, ENERO 22º | 4-8PM
9815 MAIN ST STE 104, DAMASCUS, MD, 20872

ORDENA EN LÍNEA PARA RECOGER USANDO EL CÓDIGO **A8JQP8X**
O MUESTRA ESTE VOLANTE EN EL RESTAURANTE



Para que las ordenes en línea se tengan en cuenta para el evento de recaudación de fondos, deberán ser del mismo lugar del evento y realizarse durante las horas del mismo. Las ordenes con servicio de entrega y las realizadas con una tarjeta de regalo no cuentan para el evento. Se requiere un mínimo de \$150 dólares de ventas para recibir cualquier donación.



DHS RISING 9TH GRADE FAMILY NIGHT

FOR INCOMING DHS 9TH GRADE
STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

16 JANUARY | 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
DAMASCUS HIGH SCHOOL

✦ HIGHLIGHTS ✦



Fair-style opportunity to speak with staff about courses offered for SY 2025-2026



Meet with your student's future counselors and administrators



Tour the building with student ambassadors

This is an opportunity to learn more about the courses offered at DHS, meet staff members, and get to know Damascus High School. This event will be the first of several throughout the school year to welcome families and students to Damascus High School.

For further details, feel free to reach out to us at Damascus High School at 240.207.2400.

WELCOME TO

MealViewer

NEW

The new way to view breakfast and lunch menus!



Scan here for the
MealViewer website
OR download
MealViewer from
any app store



**ACCESS
MEALVIEWER**



View and filter by
the top 9 allergens

Milk, Eggs, Peanuts
Tree Nuts, Fish,
Shellfish, Soy
Wheat, and Sesame

**DIETARY
NEEDS**



Menus available
in eight different
languages

አማርኛ 中文
Français English
한국어 Español
Português
and Tiếng Việt

**TRANSLATED
MENUS**



View pictures
and nutritional
information, set
favorites, and rate
menu items!

AND MORE!



Check out the [Division of Food & Nutrition Services website](#) for how-to videos, quick tips, and additional information!

[MCPS MealViewer](#)

[DFNS Website](#)

BIENVENIDOS A

MealViewer

NEW

¡La nueva forma de ver los menús de desayuno y almuerzo!



Escaneen aquí para ver el sitio web de MealViewer O descarguen MealViewer desde cualquier tienda de aplicaciones



ACCEDER A MEALVIEWER



Vean y filtren por los 9 alérgenos más comunes

Leche, Huevos, Maní
Frutos secos,
Pescado, Mariscos
(crustáceos), Soja
Trigo y Sésamo

NECESIDADES DIETÉTICAS



Los menús están disponibles en ocho idiomas diferentes

한국어 中文
Français English
한국어 Español
Português y
Tiếng Việt

MENÚS TRADUCIDOS



¡Vean imágenes e información nutricional, establezcan sus favoritos y califiquen los elementos del menú!

¡Y MÁS!



¡Consulten el sitio web de la División de Servicios de Alimentos y Nutrición para ver videos prácticos, consejos rápidos e información adicional!

[MCPS MealViewer](#)

[Sitio web de DFNS](#)