

Mr. Levine's Message

Greetings Bulldog Families,

I hope this message finds you well.

Lifetouch will be at Baker the morning of **Thursday, March 6**, to take **Spring Portraits**. This session will be for buyers only. You can pre-order on mylifetouch.com using your Student ID or Picture Day ID: 86SQMZTVE. Paper order forms were distributed to students on Thursday, February 27, if you prefer to use those.

There will be no make-ups.

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



Registration Open for Spring Soccer

The middle school interscholastic athletics program is available for students in seventh and eighth grades only.

Middle School soccer season runs from March 11–May 22, 2025

Tryouts — March 11, 12, and 13, 3:15–4:30 p.m. (activity buses available on tryout days) There are tryouts for interscholastic sports teams (there will be cuts.)

Practices will be held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Sometimes on Monday or Friday if needed. 3:15-4:30/5

Boys' Coach: Rob Wilkie Robert_C_Wilkie@mcpsmd.org

Girls' Coach: Ken Diehl kendiehl@erols.com

Athletic Coordinator: Scott Frye Scott.Frye@mcpsmd.net

Directions for how to register ([English](#)/[Spanish](#))

All students that want to participate in sports, as part of the MCPS interscholastic athletics program, must have their Parent/Guardian complete the online registration process by going to [ParentVue Portal](#) in order to participate. All forms must be up to date in order to be able to participate. **There are no exceptions.**

Parents/Guardians who have difficulty with registration (e.g., forgot Login or Password) please contact: Bonnie Nichols at Bonnie_J_Nichols@mcpsmd.org. Any other difficulties please contact Scott.Frye@mcpsmd.net

Helpful tips for registering your student-athlete

When you are in [ParentVue Portal](#), click on "Online registration" in the upper right hand corner. Then from the four drop downs choose "Middle school registration" From there, please follow along and fill out all of the information. During your registration it will ask you to upload a copy of their physical. **Your child must have an up-to-date physical in order to participate.** The proof of physical must be filled out on the MCPS [SR-8 Physical](#) Form only. **No** other forms will be accepted. Proof of your physical **MUST** be submitted through your [ParentVue Portal](#). You cannot tryout for a team until the registration and your up-to-date physical is filled out on the SR-8 physical form only.

After you are finished please HIT SUBMIT.



Looking Ahead

March — Women's History Month

Tuesday, March 4 — Activity Buses
eSports Club, Mr. Maddox and
Mr. Conner, Room 134

Wednesday, March 5 — Activity Buses
Drama Club, Ms. Friedman, LMC

Thursday, March 6 — Activity Buses
Lifetouch Spring Portraits—buyer's only
Drama Club, Ms. Friedman, LMC
Homework Club, Ms. Laraia, Room 227
Jazz Band, Ms. Fell, Room 107
NJHS, Mr. Conner, Room 209
SGA, Ms. Blankenship, Room 233

Friday, March 7
Interims available in ParentVUE and
mailed to households without an active
ParentVUE account

Sunday, March 9
Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 a.m.

Tuesday, March 11 — Activity Buses
MISA Testing (*see page 2*)
Soccer Tryouts
PTA 8th Gr. Committee Mtg, 6:00 p.m.
PTA Gen. Membership Mtg, 7:00 p.m.

PTA meetings in-person and on Zoom:

[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)

Meeting ID: 856 0156 9113 **Passcode:** 908892

Phone: +1 301 715 8592 US

One tap mobile:

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

Wednesday, March 12 — Activity Buses
MISA Testing (*see page 2*)
Drama Club, Ms. Friedman, LMC
EML Guitar Club, Mr. Maddox, Room 134
Flag Football, Mr. Cummings
Soccer Tryouts

Thursday, March 13 — Activity Buses
Drama Club, Ms. Friedman, LMC
Flag Football, Mr. Cummings
Homework Club, Ms. Laraia, Room 227
Jazz Band, Ms. Fell, Room 107
Kraft Club, Ms. Ross, Room 101
SGA, Ms. Blankenship, Room 233
Soccer Tryouts

Pillars of Character

“Character – the willingness to accept responsibility for one’s own life – is the source from which self-respect springs.” *Joan Didion*

Character education is an integral part of the instructional program at Baker Middle School.

A person of good character is ethical and has moral strength. Baker will recognize students who exemplify the core universal values of respect, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.

February Character Trait – Fairness

Fairness is playing by the rules, taking turns, sharing, and listening to what others have to say. Fair people do not take advantage of others. They consider all sides before making decisions.

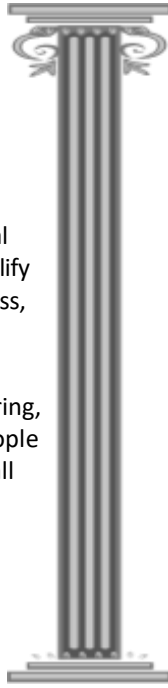
February Students of the Month

Odyssey – Dylan Pratt, Rebecca Zalewski

Terrapins – Anna Morris, Bryson Rendelman

Champions – Kenneth Ansah, Skylar Smith-Zeigler

Explorers – Miley Arline, Fredy Barillas Alfaro



Superintendent’s SSL Award

Any middle school student who completes 75 SSL hours in middle school will earn the Superintendent’s SSL award. **The DEADLINE for submitting SSL documentation that qualifies students for this SSL Award is April 4, 2025.** If you turn in hours after April 4, 2025, and no later than May 30, 2025, they will still count towards your record, but will not count towards the Superintendent’s award. No SSL hours from this school year will be accepted after May 30, 2025.

From the SGA

Comfort Cases — The Baker SGA is collecting items until **April 23** to create comfort cases for foster care students in MCPS. For a list of the items needed, please see previous issues of *Paw Prints*.

Baker students can earn up to 2 SSL hours for helping to pack the comfort cases after school on April 24, 2025.

Book Collection — 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.**

SY24 Spring MISA 8 Testing Schedule

Day 1 (Tuesday, March 11, 2025) 2 sections x 40 minutes

Bells	GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
8:15- 9:05	Period 1/Announcements	Period 1/Announcements	8:15 - 10:43 MISA 8 Testing (Sections 1 & 2)
9:09 - 9:54	Period 2	Period 2	
9:58 - 10:43	Period 3	Period 3	
10:47 - 11:36	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4 - Lunch/Advisory
11:40 - 12:29	Period 5	Period 5 - Lunch Advisory	Period 5
12:33 - 1:22	Period 6 - Lunch/Advisory	Period 6	Period 6
1:26 - 2:11	Period 7	Period 7	Period 7
2:15 - 3:00	Period 8	Period 8	Period 8

Day 2 (Wednesday, March 12, 2025) 2 sections x 40 minutes

Bells	GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
8:15- 9:05	Period 8/Announcements	Period 8/Announcements	8:15 - 10:43 MISA 8 Testing (Sections 3 & 4)
9:09 - 9:54	Period 7	Period 7	
9:58 - 10:43	Period 3	Period 3	
10:47 - 11:36	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4 - Lunch/Advisory
11:40 - 12:29	Period 5	Period 5 - Lunch Advisory	Period 5
12:33 - 1:22	Period 6 - Lunch/Advisory	Period 6	Period 6
1:26 - 2:11	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1
2:15 - 3:00	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2

*****Total testing time includes material handout, collection, and extended time accommodation**

PTA Dates & Contacts

UPCOMING PTA MEETING DATES:

Tuesday, March 11

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

Tuesday, April 8

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

Tuesday, May 13

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

PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Amy Bartosch, President –
BakerPTA@yahoo.com

Shannon West, Treasurer –
BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com

Stacy Smith, Secretary –
BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com

Jaime Kemp, 8th Grade Committee –
Baker8thGrade@yahoo.com

Visit our webpage!



Visit our Facebook Page!



Hello from the PTA!

The PTA is looking for more members and parent volunteers for our upcoming activities! Our monthly meetings are held simultaneously in person and on Zoom, so you can attend in whichever format you prefer. Please see the QR code below to become a member.



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

Our Next PTA Meeting is Tuesday, 3/11

- ◆ 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:
+13017158592,,85601569113#,,,,*908892# US

Silent Auction is coming!

- ◆ The PTA will be holding a Silent Auction in conjunction with Baker's annual International Night
- ◆ Willing to donate an item or a themed basket? Own a business that would be willing to donate a service? Please reach out to BakerPTA@yahoo.com!

8th Grade End of Year Activities

- ◆ 8th Grade Promotion – Thursday, June 12th
- ◆ 8th Grade Dance – Friday, June 13th
- ◆ Want to volunteer? Please sign up [here](#) or print & use this [form](#)!



Want more information? Scan the QR Code!

Fechas y Contactores de la PTA:

PRÓXIMAS FECHAS DE REUNIONES DE LA PTA:

Martes 11 de marzo

6 pm – comité de octavo grado

7 pm – reunión de la PTA

Martes 8 de abril

6 pm – comité de octavo grado

7 pm – reunión de la PTA

Martes 13 de mayo

6 pm – comité de octavo grado

7 pm – reunión de la PTA

JUNTA EJECUTIVA DE LA PTA:

Amy Bartosch, Presidenta –

BakerPTA@yahoo.com

Shannon West, Tesorera –

BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com

Stacy Smith, Secretaria –

BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com

Jaime Kemp, comité de 8 grado –

Baker8thGrade@yahoo.com

Visita nuestra página web!



Visit nuestra página de Facebook!



Hola de la PTA!

¡La PTA está buscando más miembros y padres voluntarios para nuestras próximas actividades! Nuestras reuniones mensuales se realizan simultáneamente de forma presencial y por Zoom, por lo que puedes asistir en el formato que prefieras.

Consulte el código QR a continuación para convertirse en miembro.



¿Quieres ser miembro?

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

Nuestra próxima reunión de la PTA es el martes 3/11

- ◆ 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?pwd=Fd4X4T4qMIUcFN997gJFXr1QQZG4MT.1) <https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/85601569113?pwd=Fd4X4T4qMIUcFN997gJFXr1QQZG4MT.1>

Meeting ID: 856 0156 9113 **Passcode:** 908892

Phone: +1 301 715 8592 US

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,85601569113#,,,,*908892# US

¡Se acerca la subasta silenciosa!

- ◆ La PTA llevará a cabo una subasta silenciosa junto con la Noche Internacional anual de Baker.
- ◆ ¿Estás dispuesto a donar un artículo o una canasta temática?
¿Tiene una empresa que estaría dispuesta a donar un servicio?
¡Comuníquese con BakerPTA@yahoo.com!

Actividades de fin de año de octavo grado

- ◆ Promoción de 8vo grado - Jueves 12 de junio
- ◆ Baile de 8vo grado - Viernes 13 de junio
- ◆ ¿Quieres ser voluntario? ¡Regístrese [AQUÍ](#) o imprima y utilice este [FORMULARIO](#)!



¿Quieres más información? ¡Escanea el código QR!

February 27, 2025

Dear Staff, Parents, and Guardians:

We are pleased to inform you of an opportunity to purchase a piano for your family. Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has an agreement with Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., to provide MCPS with new grand, upright, and digital pianos to be used in schools. Schaeffer's Piano Co. Inc., located in Rockville, Maryland, is the area's oldest piano store. This agreement also provides MCPS families and staff an opportunity to purchase these and other pianos for considerably reduced prices at an annual piano sales event.

This year's liquidation sales event will take place March 8–16, 2025, at 105 North Stonestreet Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Sales will be by appointment only to provide an opportunity for you to purchase these pianos before they are offered for sale to the public. All pianos will carry a 15-year transferable warranty. Each piano will come with a bench and one free in-house tuning.

For additional information, you may visit the Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., website at www.schaefferspiano.com. To make an appointment for the sale, between March 8–16, 2025, please call the Schaeffer's Piano Company appointment desk at 301-424-1147.

We are grateful to be working with Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., to support our school music programs and help MCPS keep new and well-maintained instruments in our schools each year. If you have any questions, please contact Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., at 301-424-1144.

Sincerely,



Dana E. Edwards
Chief of District Operations

27 de febrero de 2025

Estimados miembros del personal, padres y tutores:

Nos complace informarles sobre una oportunidad para comprar un piano para su familia. Las Escuelas Públicas del Condado de Montgomery (MCPS) tienen un acuerdo con Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc. para proporcionar a MCPS pianos de cola, verticales y digitales para ser usados en las escuelas. Este acuerdo también brinda la oportunidad a las familias y el personal de MCPS de comprar estos y otros pianos a precios considerablemente reducidos en un evento anual de ventas de pianos.

El evento de ventas de liquidación de este año se llevará a cabo de 8-16 de marzo de 2025, en 105 North Stonestreet Avnue, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Las ventas serán únicamente con cita para brindar la oportunidad de que compre estos pianos antes de que se los ofrecen al público. Todos los pianos tendrán una garantía transferible de 15 años. Cada piano incluirá un banco y una afinación a domicilio gratuita.

Para más información, puede visitar el sitio web de Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., en www.schaefferspiano.com. Para programar una cita para la venta de 8-16 de marzo de 2025, llame a la línea de citas de Schaeffer's Piano Company al 301-424-1147.

Agradecemos trabajar con Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc. a fin de apoyar nuestros programas musicales de las escuelas y ayudar a MCPS mantener instrumentos nuevos y bien mantenidos en nuestras escuelas cada año. Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor comuníquese con Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., al 301-424-1144.

Atentamente,



Dana E. Edwards
jefa de operaciones del distrito

Change of School Assignment (COSA) Application Season February 3 through April 1, 2025

Student Transfer Application Season Schedule from the first school day February through the first day in April 2025

ROCKVILLE, Maryland – Montgomery County parents/guardians who wish to request a Change of School Assignment (COSA) for their children from their home school may begin the process during the upcoming transfer season; from February 3 through April 1, 2025.

Students in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) are expected to attend the school within the established attendance area in which they reside (home school) or assigned in accordance with their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Students may apply for Change of School Assignment (COSA) from the home school, or the school of assignment through the IEP process, based on the following criteria:

- When a documented unique hardship is shown: Students may apply for a COSA when extenuating circumstances related to their specific physical, mental or emotional well-being or their family's individual or personal situation could be mitigated by a change of school assignment.
- When a family moved within Montgomery County who wish to continue attending their former home school may request a COSA without demonstrating a unique hardship. Such requests may be considered for a remainder of the current school year only, with the exception that students in Grade 11 or 12 may be granted a COSA to stay through high school graduation.
- When a student seeks to attend the school where a sibling will be enrolled in the regular/general school program, or a special education program, during the year the students wants to enroll.
 - ▶ When a sibling attends a magnet, language immersion or other application program at elementary level, a COSA may be approved to the regular school program for other sibling on a case-by-case basis. Such approval requires consideration of available classroom space, grade-level enrollment, staffing allocations, or other factors that impact the schools involved.

The criteria above regarding siblings do not apply if a boundary change has occurred or if the sibling is in PreK. Consideration will be given to school capacity and other issues that impact the ability of the requested school to admit new students.

The transfer process begins in the home school, where parents/guardians may request the *Change of School Assignment (COSA) Information Booklet through ParentVue*. *The booklet describes the process, and provides useful information. Beginning the first week of February 2025, the COSA booklet will be available in both English and Spanish. Exempt countywide programs that do not fall under the transfer guidelines are listed in the booklet.*

New for the 2025-2026 school year, parents must submit their request for a change of school assignment (COSA) online through their ParentVue portal. The parent making the request will be copied on an email notification sent to the administrative team of the student's current school shortly after the submission; this will serve as their "receipt" of request and will be sent to the email they entered when completing the online form.

For information about assignments for students residing in the Northeast, Downcounty or Middle School Magnet Consortium areas, please contact the Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services 240-740-7800 or visit the website at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/schoolchoice.

For more information about the transfer process, parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the principal at their home school. Non-english speaking students and parents/guardians who may require assistance may contact ASK MCPS to get the information they need by telephone at 240-740-3000. Telephone operators who speak English and Spanish are available from 7:30am to 5:30pm, Monday through Friday. Parents who speak languages other than English or Spanish who call the ASK MCPS telephone line and identify their language will have their questions answered through a telephone interpreter.