Good evening John Poole Middle School families,

This is Mr. Green with your weekly updates for November 6 - November 10, 2023.

I hope everyone remembered to set their clocks back and took today to adjust to the new time with an extra hour of sleep.

I would like to take a moment and congratulate our fall athletes on successful seasons.  It was great seeing you all participate and compete on the field and on the course.

All parents and guardians are invited to attend our annual Open House on Friday, November 10, 2023. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to visit your child’s classes and learn more about our instructional program.  There will also be staff members available for any parents who need assistance with ParentVUE and myMCPS Classroom.

Please bring a valid driver’s license ID with you because you will be required to sign in at the main office before proceeding to classrooms.  If you would like to be registered ahead of time, please complete [this](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fforms%2Fd%2Fe%2F1FAIpQLSfz3IgK7Cw8jusqnU19Pe5bxcUg5vgQojG2uZHMVRfyVhl8eg%2Fviewform%3Fusp%3Dsharing&data=05%7C01%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C5326e9e441334bed1aac08dbd94aca13%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638342687468223300%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vjNc2TunTv08ui0TzGw7uRHGgfsJ1cS8lrD6khWEInA%3D&reserved=0) form.  Please contact the school with any questions.

Report cards will be available in Synergy on Thursday, November 9.  Report cards will be distributed to students on 11/9.

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**John Poole MS Athletics - 7th and 8th Graders:**  JPMS Girls and Boys Basketball Registration opened up on Monday, Oct. 30.  Before you register you must have completed the doctor's [Pre-participation physical (MCPS Form SR-8)](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org%2Fdepartments%2Fforms%2Fpdf%2Fsr-8.pdf&data=05%7C01%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C67ec86f412f84d777abf08dbc9ad7787%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638325519098858774%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IQg%2F6jevcKqHPB6EG1n0Uz2U%2Bf6r3HOcybAPoTzg74I%3D&reserved=0) (within two years) and also have this form ready to upload when you register.  [Click here](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fpresentation%2Fd%2F1oytMIZIE_pKxkAXr_8RRUjfPMN9aObFCLG-1osNKHIA%2Fedit%3Fusp%3Dsharing&data=05%7C01%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C67ec86f412f84d777abf08dbc9ad7787%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638325519098858774%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=l1RfHO7ffvKVThhpSCUxp3i9f1NDe6G%2Fry3FGNCrov8%3D&reserved=0) to learn more about the JPMS Basketball Season

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INTRAMURALS - Open to ALL JPMS students.

WEIGHT ROOM starts November 8 with Mr. Hartley.  It will be held on Tuesdays/Wednesdays or Thursdays.  Stop by the locker rooms to get more information and pick up the permission slip.

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**DONATIONS NEEDED!**  John Poole Middle School's 8th Grade Timberwolf Ambassadors, in collaboration with WUMCO, are again organizing a food drive to provide 10 local families with complete Thanksgiving meals including all the fixings!  Please sign up at the [Sign Up Genius found here](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.signupgenius.com%2Fgo%2F4090D44ABAA28A3F85-45787486-john&data=05%7C01%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7C78b6a9898af8429a00bc08dbde577aeb%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638348239540675362%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1kO00kcgajyf7O9OOwbm9uVPSorLdqGQgfLg%2BKXz02Y%3D&reserved=0) to contribute a food item(s) to this effort.   All food can be dropped off at John Poole Middle School between November 6th and November 16th.  Perishable items should be dropped off in the Main Office and canned goods should be brought to students’ TAP classes for collection.  Thank you in advance for supporting the Timberwolf Ambassadors and WUMCO!

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**Applications Now for High School Regional/Countywide Special Programs**

Grade 8 students will have the opportunity to apply for Regional/Countywide Special Programs using the high school common application found in ParentVUE. Additionally, students in Grades 9-11 may [apply](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fdocument%2Fd%2F1Ubyax0quGFNQJp7Cdo8Fp5r8QLkSfCCd418aZ7ILdsE%2Fpreview&data=05%7C01%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C7d1a31ae754a42f043ea08dbcbf116c8%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638328008549328767%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vCIGu1ivxPd9gT%2BiaatQTmi1l%2FgZE8tkswjreYPKnns%3D&reserved=0) for career readiness programs. Information sessions will be available for students and families, and all dates can be found on the [special programs webpage](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org%2Fcurriculum%2Fspecialprograms%2Fhigh%2F&data=05%7C01%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C7d1a31ae754a42f043ea08dbcbf116c8%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638328008549328767%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=73QUKChGZztO3ah8%2FbVfiRFlFGAYcAhy3cVlN04m0cM%3D&reserved=0).

The application deadline has been extended to Wednesday, Nov. 8.

[Programs-At-A-Glance](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fdocument%2Fd%2F1iOZqNQ1ug40Z4HAaaoCIxxL4vx-22PukRl44-XBo5qw%2Fpreview&data=05%7C01%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C7d1a31ae754a42f043ea08dbcbf116c8%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638328008549328767%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2F8dZ0SW4YPFoMJMuUOJ%2FvPAQfr3uSGhvYz%2B8UCUxA3c%3D&reserved=0), eligibility, frequently asked questions and October [open house dates](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fdocument%2Fd%2F1iOZqNQ1ug40Z4HAaaoCIxxL4vx-22PukRl44-XBo5qw%2Fpreview&data=05%7C01%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C7d1a31ae754a42f043ea08dbcbf116c8%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638328008549485004%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1ODtyy3tE94dfSpRWCDyeW3rDqPoachjFHgGC1JBzjQ%3D&reserved=0) are available on this [website](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org%2Fcurriculum%2Fspecialprograms%2Fhigh%2F&data=05%7C01%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C7d1a31ae754a42f043ea08dbcbf116c8%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638328008549485004%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=homy8bt0Tui5sKvH3v904lfJVHsldKYwsbJAW7zKCwE%3D&reserved=0).

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**Drama Production Update**

We have had to move the Saturday, December 16, 2023, afternoon show to Friday, December 8, 2023.  The show will begin at 6:30 p.m.  The second show will continue as originally scheduled for Friday, December 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.  We hope to see you at the shows!

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**MCPS Personal Body Safety Lessons**

MCPS implements Personal Body Safety Lessons (PBSLs) with grade-level, age-appropriate content for students in every grade from Pre-K to 12. During the 2023–2024 school year, the lessons were revised for Prekindergarten through Grade 8, ensuring they were more interactive and age-appropriate.

These lessons are designed to empower students to recognize and report suspected cases of abuse without fear of reprisal. In addition, embedded in the MCPS elementary and secondary health curriculum are age-appropriate lessons on safety and injury prevention, family life and human sexuality, cyberbullying and social media, healthy relationships, harassment, and intimidation.

PBSL focuses on:

* Defining abuse and neglect;
* Teaching students skills for self-protection with opportunities to practice reporting to a trusted adult; and
* Promoting positive and appropriate interactions among children, adults, and peers.

JPMS students will receive PBSL through their Health or PE class with support and guidance from a school counselor.  These lessons will be provided to students on November 7 and November 8, 2023.

If you have any questions please contact Kevin Maruskin, counselor, via email at [Kevin\_T\_Maruskin@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Kevin_T_Maruskin@mcpsmd.org).

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Parent Teacher Conferences

John Poole Middle School is preparing for our November 2023 Parent-Teacher conferences.  For families who are new to the middle school format, please understand that our teachers will not be able to meet with all parents about all of their students.  While some conferences will be scheduled by our school staff, we will also offer an open house format.  If you are unable to meet with a specific teacher or if you are not available to attend our conference night, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate you at another time.  Thank you!

Our parent-teacher conferences will be held on Monday, November 20, 2023.  Parents are encouraged to meet with as many teachers as they choose. Unlike elementary school conferences, middle school conferences are completely voluntary.  Teachers have been encouraged to keep each conference to 5-10 minutes to ensure that as many parents as possible have the opportunity to meet with their student’s teachers.

Teachers will be stationed alphabetically in the main gym from 4:15-7:15 p.m.  If there is a long line for a teacher or if a teacher is not currently available, parents are encouraged to visit another teacher until that teacher is available.  Below is the break schedule for departments so that you can plan your visit.  There will be several other staff members to assist if needed.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Department(s)** |
| 4:15 - 4:45 p.m. | Math |
| 4:45 - 5:15 p.m. | English, Reading, & ELD |
| 5:15 - 5:45 p.m. | Autism Program & Social Studies |
| 5:45 - 6:15 p.m. | Science |
| 6:15 - 6:45 p.m. | PE / Health & Electives |
| 6:45 - 7:15 p.m. | Building Services |

When we get closer to the date, we will update you on which teachers may be unable to stay for conferences on the evening of Monday, November 20th. These teachers will be available from 1:00-4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 21st, or at another convenient time to meet with you if needed.  Please contact teachers directly for more information on their availability.

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Holiday Giving Project of Montgomery County

The Holiday Giving Project of Montgomery County has provided Thanksgiving meals and December holiday assistance to households for over 30 years.  If your family would like to be referred to possibly receive assistance this holiday season, please contact the Counseling Office at John Poole Middle School at 240-740-4210 or send an email to: [Tammy\_P\_Lightcap@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Tammy_P_Lightcap@mcpsmd.org).  While a referral is not a guarantee of assistance, the Project helps as many families as donations allow.  
  
Deadline to apply for Holidays:

November 20, 2023 – December Holiday

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**YEARBOOK NEWS:**

The 2023-2024 John Poole Yearbook is currently available for purchase at Jostens.com. Personalization is available through January 26, 2024.

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Please continue to check the [myMCPS Classroom](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclassroom.mcpsmd.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7C78b6a9898af8429a00bc08dbde577aeb%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638348239540675362%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9rPmhsdbcojbGIUaWd6cVN0pYf4Bg7GAbkBbQlRjonA%3D&reserved=0) calendar or our [JPMS school webpage](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org%2Fschools%2Fpoolems%2F&data=05%7C01%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7C78b6a9898af8429a00bc08dbde577aeb%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638348239540675362%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zbg706y2ftgIg5W%2B%2BAhKR9MTZuNo4Qv45iW4tlNzE%2Bs%3D&reserved=0) for the most updated information, including upcoming events, bus routes, and other happenings occurring at school.

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Please mark your calendars for these important upcoming events:

Thursday, November 9: Report Card Distribution and Report Cards available in ParentVUE

Friday, November 10:  Open House

Monday, November 20:  Early Release Day.   Students will be dismissed at 12:10 p.m.

Monday, November 20: Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held from 4:15 - 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, November 21: Early Release Day.   Students will be dismissed at 12:10 p.m.

Wednesday, November 22 - Friday, November 24:  Holiday.  NO SCHOOL.  All schools and officers are closed.

Monday, November 27 - Wednesday, November 29:  Outdoor Ed for all 6th-grade students.

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Have a great night and a wonderful week!

Mr. Green