

Mr. Levine's Message

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

Our Drama Club students have been rehearsing for weeks to fine tune their performance of "The Enchanted Bookshop" under the direction of Ms. Bridget Friedman. Please come and enjoy some magic when characters inside the books come alive. Additional information can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

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

Kudos to Music Department Ensembles!

Baker ensembles attended District II adjudication recently.

- **Symphonic Orchestra** attended on March 14 at Gaithersburg HS and **received straight 1's with an overall superior rating.**
- **Chamber Singers** attended at Quince Orchard HS on March 24 and **received straight 1's with an overall superior rating.**
- **Symphonic Band** attended on March 27 at DHS and **received superior scores from all judges with a rating of 1 across the board.**

Congratulations to all the students in these ensembles and to **Mrs. Fell** and **Mrs. Liuzzi**. The results are a testament to the effort students and teachers put into preparing for adjudication.

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 trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.

March Character Trait – Caring

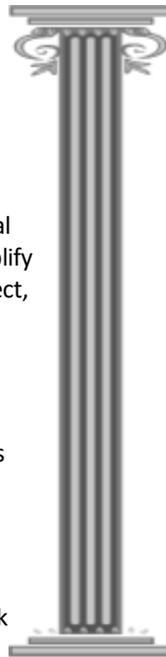
Caring people are kind, helpful, generous, considerate, compassionate, and empathetic. They think about how their conduct affects others and care about how others feel.

March Students of the Month

Odyssey – Ethan Brown, Anjanette Gyamfi
Terrapins – Mafo Makamte, Jack Nichols
Champions – Caitlyn Dunkelberger, Henry Suschak
Explorers – Vanessa Asante, Ayden Essama

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.



Looking Ahead

**April — Arab American Heritage Month,
Autism Awareness Month,
School Library Media Month**

Monday, March 31

No school for students

Tuesday, April 1 — Activity Buses

Last day to submit COSA for FY26 (see p 9)
eSports Club, Mr. Maddox/Mr. Conner, 134
Kickball, Mr. Ruocco, Field
Soccer vs. Clemente, Girls Home/Boys Away

Wednesday, April 2 — Activity Buses

Paraprofessional Appreciation Day
Drama Club, Ms. Friedman, LMC
Kickball, Mr. Ruocco, Field

Thursday, April 3 — Activity Buses

Drama Club, Ms. Friedman, LMC
Homework Club, Ms. Laraia, Room 227
Jazz Band, Ms. Fell, Room 107
Kickball, Mr. Ruocco, Field
SGA, Ms. Blankenship, Room 233

Friday, April 4

Report cards available in Synergy
Deadline to submit SSL forms for
Superintendent's SSL Award
BMS Drama Club production of
"The Enchanted Bookshop" (see page 2)

Saturday, April 5

BMS Drama Club production of
"The Enchanted Bookshop" (see page 2)

April 7–April 11 —

National Assistant Principals Week

Tuesday, April 8 — Activity Buses

Report Cards Distributed
Kickball, Mr. Ruocco, Field
Volleyball, Mr. Standford, Gym
PTA 8th Gr. Committee Mtg, 6:00–7:00 p.m.
PTA Gen Membership Mtg, 7:00–8:00 p.m.
Mtg's in-person and on Zoom (see pp 5-6)

Wednesday, April 9 — Activity Buses

Concert Chorus Adjudication
Flag Football, Mr. Cummings, Field
Kickball, Mr. Ruocco, Field
Volleyball, Mr. Standford, Gym

Thursday, April 10 — Activity Buses

EML Guitar Club, Mr. Maddox, Room 134
Flag Football, Mr. Cummings, Field
Homework Club, Ms. Laraia, Room 227
Jazz Band, Ms. Fell, Room 107
Kickball, Mr. Ruocco, Field
Kraft Club, Ms. Ross, Room 101
NJHS, Mr. Conner, Room 209
Volleyball, Mr. Standford, Gym

April 14–21 — Spring Break



BMS DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS...

THE ENCHANTED BOOKSHOP



DETAILS

During the day, A Likely Story may look like any other used bookstore. But at night, it's a place where magic happens. That's when the characters inside the books come alive.

2 SHOWS

FRIDAY, APRIL 4 AT 6:30PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 5 AT 2:00PM

**Approximately an hour of this
comedic play!**

TICKETS ARE \$7 /person IN CASH AT THE DOOR

From the SGA

Comfort Cases — The Baker SGA is **collecting** items (see *January 12 Paw Prints*) **until April 23** to create comfort cases for foster care students in MCPS. **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.**

Middle School Art Show

Talented Baker Art students and Photography students have exhibited their work for many years at the annual Art Show. This year, the Art Show will be at **Westfield Wheaton**. You can view Baker's exhibits, as well as those of student from other middle schools, from **Tuesday, April 22, to Sunday, April 27.**

Thank you to **Ms. DiMisa** and **Ms. Peters** for all of their efforts in making this an opportunity for our students.

Lifetouch Offering 10% Off
Don't Forget to Order This Year's School Pictures
ENJOY 10% OFF your order!
CODE: S2510OFF EXPIRES: July 31, 2025
[Redeem Now](#)

Sustainability

2025 POSTER CONTEST

All MCPS students and staff are invited to participate in the Division of Sustainability and Compliance's 2025 poster contest.



A few of the winning entries from prior years!

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
APRIL 4, 2025

The focus of this annual contest is to increase awareness and demonstrate your school's commitment to environmental sustainability and sustainable actions related to energy conservation, waste reduction, and responsible recycling.

Scan the QR codes to download the entry form and to get more details about the contest.

240-740-3210
sustainability@mcpsmd.org

Division of Sustainability and Compliance
 45 West Gate Drive, Suite 4000
 Rockville, Maryland 20850

MCPS Approved Summer SSL Opportunity

WE WANT YOU TO BE PART OF OUR YOUTH VOLUNTEER TEAM!
BIG TRAIN YOUTH VOLUNTEER

Why Join Our Volunteer Program?

- Volunteering with Big Train is a great way to give back to the community while being an integral part of a winning organization!
- Additionally, these roles give volunteers a chance to learn and practice valuable workplace skills such as customer service, timeliness and leadership.

Who Can Join?

- Middle School and High School Students (ages 12-17)

Scan the QR code to learn more:



Where to Find Us:
 10600 Westlake Dr, Rockville MD, 20852
www.bigtrain.org/volunteer

These materials are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Board of Education of Montgomery County, the Superintendent, or this school.




BETHESDA BIG TRAIN
Fun is Good!
 SHIRLEY POVICH FIELD

GAME CHANGER

CONFERENCE

Spring 2025 Conference For Young Males and Parents

April 5, 2025

Game Changer Conference

Summary Unity Christian Fellowship, Inc. will host its semi-annual **Game Changer Conference on Saturday, April 5, 2025, from 8:00 a.m.–noon at the Montgomery College—Germantown Campus.** The conference theme is “Achievement to Thrive in 2025 is a Game Changer! What are your goals for winning your future?” The goal is to allow students to succeed as a game changer. The target audience is Black or African American and Hispanic male students of color in Grades 4–12. There will be separate sessions for elementary, middle, and high school students. In addition, parent workshops will be held every half hour (beginning at 8:00 a.m. and the last session ending at noon). A continental breakfast will be provided. Although there is no charge for registration, all participants are asked to pre-register by March 24, 2025.

See details in this parent flyer: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/17TorZQxgWHdLbO5x0xT6vfvysJkRO7zIbKLaUcmKoRs/edit?tab=t.0>

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL
INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025
6:00PM-8:00PM

POR FAVOR ÚNETE A NOSOTRAS
BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL
NOCHE INTERNACIONAL

JUEVES 1 DE MAYO DE 2025
6:00PM-8:00PM

COME TRAVEL TO DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

TASTE FOOD

HEAR DIFFERENT LANGUAGES

FASHION SHOW

HAVE FUN

BAKER SCHOOL GYM




VEN A VIAJAR A DIFERENTES PAÍSES.

PROBAR COMIDA

ESCUCHAR DIFERENTES IDIOMAS

DESFILE DE MODA

DIVERTIRSE

BAKER SCHOOL GYM




PTA Dates & Contacts

UPCOMING PTA MEETING DATES:

Tuesday, April 8

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

Tuesday, May 13

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

Tuesday, June 10

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 its new 2025-2026 Executive Board! If you're looking to be more involved in the decisions for fundraisers, student events, or volunteer opportunities, please consider volunteering for a position on the Board. Please reach out to BakerPTA@yahoo.com by Monday, April 7th if you may be interested in this opportunity.



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

Silent Auction is May 1st!

- ◆ Same night as International Night – attend both events!
- ◆ Willing to donate an item or a themed basket?
- ◆ Own a business that would be willing to donate a service?
- ◆ Talk to your kids & see if they'd like to donate a service – babysitting, lawnmowing, yard clean up, etc.!
- ◆ Please reach out to BakerPTA@yahoo.com!

8th Grade End of Year Activities

- ◆ Adventure Park Field trip – Tuesday, June 10th
- ◆ 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 Contactors de la PTA:

PRÓXIMAS FECHAS DE REUNIONES 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

Martes 10 de junio

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 su nueva Junta Ejecutiva 2025-2026! Si desea participar más activamente en las decisiones sobre recaudación de fondos, eventos estudiantiles u oportunidades de voluntariado, considere ofrecerse como voluntario para un puesto en la Junta. Comuníquese con BakerPTA@yahoo.com antes del lunes 7 de abril si puede estar interesado en esta oportunidad.



¿Quieres ser miembro?

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

¡Subasta silenciosa el 1 de mayo!

- ◆ La misma noche que la Noche Internacional: ¡asiste a ambos eventos!
- ◆ ¿Estás dispuesto a donar un artículo o una canasta temática?
- ◆ ¿Tiene una empresa que estaría dispuesta a donar un servicio?
- ◆ Hable con sus hijos y vea si les gustaría donar un servicio: ¡cuidado de niños, cortar el césped, limpiar el jardín, etc.!
- ◆ ¡Comuníquese con BakerPTA@yahoo.com!

Actividades de fin de año de octavo grado

- ◆ Excursión al Parque de Aventuras - Martes 10 de junio
- ◆ 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? ¡Escanee el código QR!



JOHN T BAKER 8TH GRADE COMMITTEE

HELP US COLLECT ITEMS FOR OUR AUCTION!

SILENT AUCTION INFORMATION

We are collecting donations for our silent auction on May 1st. We are seeking monetary donations to purchase items and/or in kind donations from businesses and families.

**MAY 1, 2025
6 - 8 PM**

Baker Middle School
during International Night

WHAT YOU CAN DONATE

AMAZON WISHLIST ITEMS

Our Amazon Wishlist has items that will be used to create our auction baskets

BASKET ITEMS

We have a Signup Genius with all baskets we are hoping to build and what is needed

GIFT CARDS

Any denomination will add to our auction offerings!

STUDENT DONATIONS

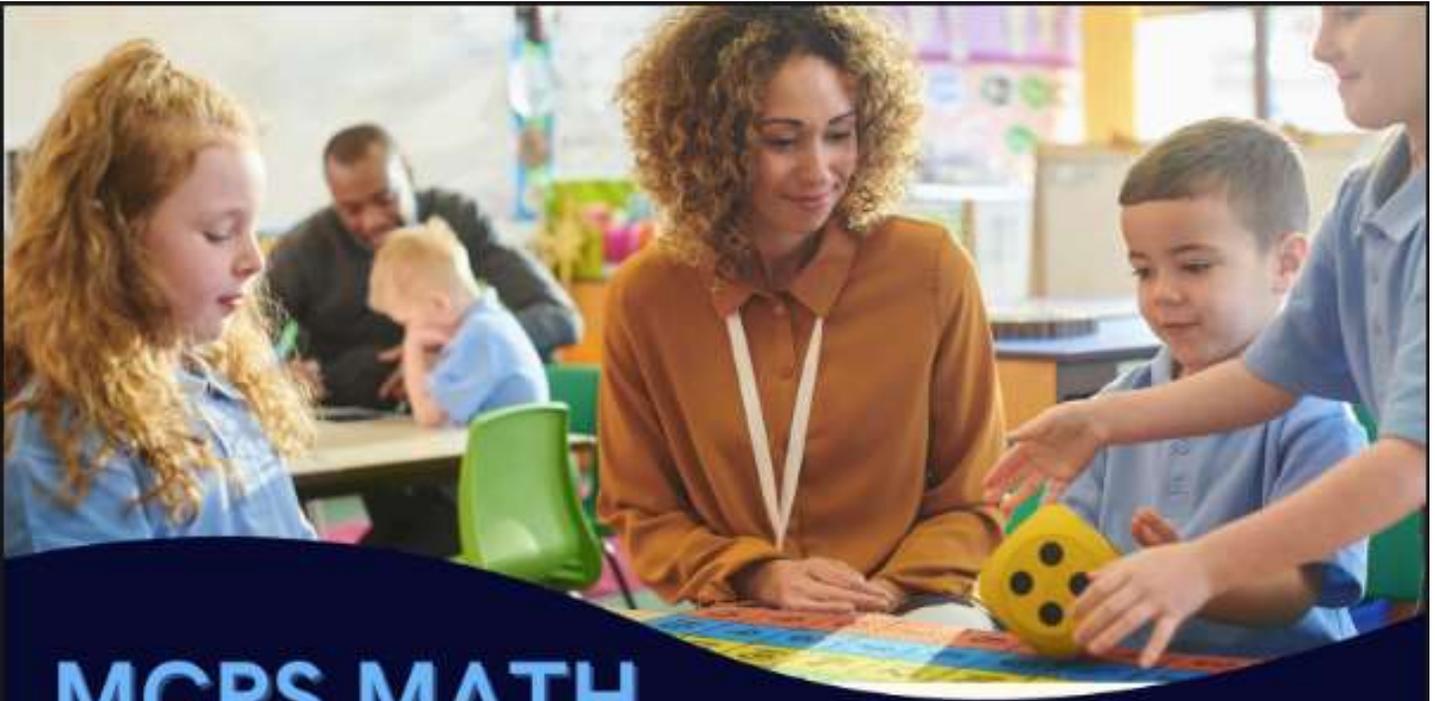
8th Graders, we need your help too! Have artwork to auction off? Are you a babysitter, mow lawns? Donate your services and highlight your business!

CONTACT US TO DONATE:

★ ★ ★ ★

baker8thgrade@yahoo.com
Paypal: @BakerMSPTA

Donations needed by April 27, 2025. Got extra baskets? Donate them for packaging items.



MCPS MATH CURRICULUM NIGHTS



~~MARCH 18, 2025~~
~~6:30 PM - 8:00 PM~~
~~Wheaton High School~~



~~MARCH 26, 2025~~
~~6:30 PM - 8:00 PM~~
~~Watkins Mill High School~~



APRIL 7, 2025
Recording Available
on MCPS website* in
English & Spanish

LEARN MORE ABOUT

Math Curricular
Resources & Learning
Experiences

Course Programming
for Grades K - 12

Upcoming Changes from
MSDE: Integrated Math

*<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/math/>

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.