

# TVMS Newsletter

## December 9, 2016

### Important Dates

<b>Dec. 15</b>	TVMS Spirit Day: Wear Your Future High School Colors
<b>Dec. 16</b>	TVMS Spirit Day: Follow Your Passion
<b>Dec. 19</b>	Winter Concert
<b>Dec. 19 – 22</b>	MAP Assessment
<b>Dec. 21</b>	Interim Report Cards Issued
<b>Dec. 23</b>	TVMS Winter Wear Day
<b>Dec. 24 – Jan. 1</b>	Winter Break
<b>Jan. 3</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Vision and Hearing Screening
<b>Jan. 4</b>	PTSA Meeting

### A Note From the Principal

TVMS Families,

We hope the Thanksgiving break was enjoyable and relaxing for our TVMS families. We were excited to see many parents join us for American Education Week and meet with staff for parent/teacher conferences prior to the break. We are proud of the connections we have created with students and families. Our staff wishes to thank the TVMS PTSA for the meal provided on November 22<sup>nd</sup> during parent/teacher conferences. Our PTSA continues to be a great asset to our students, staff, and community.

Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will begin high school articulation meetings this month. They will begin working on their high school registrations with teachers and counselors over the next couple of weeks. More information will be sent home with students in the coming weeks.

Our Winter Concert will be held on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Hammond High School and will feature the TVMS chorus, band, and orchestra students. We hope you can join us to hear our very talented TVMS musicians.

We live in a world surrounded by technology and know that whatever field our students choose to go into as adults, their ability to succeed will increasingly depend on understanding how technology works. But only a tiny fraction of us are learning how technology works, and fewer than half of all schools teach computer science.

During Computer Science Education Week this week, TVMS participated in The Hour of Code, a global movement. The Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify computer programming and show that anyone can learn the basics. The Hour of Code is reaching tens of millions of students in 180+ countries, and we are proud to host it at Thomas Viaduct. For more details, see the Hour of Code [website](#).

Thank you to our TVMS students, staff, and families for the canned goods contributed during the "Thankful Food Drive." We collected 510 canned goods, which were delivered to Grassroots this week.

Our 7<sup>th</sup> grade students experienced real-world application of the political, social, and economic aspects of life in the Middle Ages by participating in the Medieval Times program on Thursday. Thank you to our parent chaperones for their help and support, which allowed us to open up real-world learning experiences for our students.

Regards,

Shiney Ann John, Principal

### TVMS Phone Numbers – Hours 7:55 a.m. to 3:25 p.m.

Main Office  
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Fax

410-313-8711  
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410-313-8091

## MAP Testing

As a reminder, all HCPSS middle schools are administering the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP®) assessment to provide information on student instructional skill levels and growth over time. In order to gauge progress, MAP will be administered at TVMS to all students in the fall, winter, and spring. Testing will occur during the first 2 hours of the school day.

The winter administration schedule is as follows:

6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades: Dec. 19 (Reading) and Dec. 20 (Math)

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Dec. 21 (Reading) and Dec. 22 (Math)

We ask that you try not to schedule appointments during your child's test time to avoid having to take them from classes to make up the assessment. Also, please make sure your son or daughter gets a good night's rest, a good breakfast, and is ready to do their best on the day of testing!

## 8th Grade Information Corner

The month of December begins many high school related activities and lessons. Please note important dates below:

- **November 29<sup>th</sup> thru January 13<sup>th</sup>** - Students interested in JROTC schedule interviews
- **December 12<sup>th</sup>** - Career Academy Information Night, 7 p.m., at Miller Branch Library
- **December 15<sup>th</sup>** - High Schools Visit TVMS / Future High School Colors Spirit Day
- **December 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>** - High School 101 lesson through science class
- **January 4<sup>th</sup>** - Long Reach High School Parent Night, 6:30 p.m., (January 5th snow date)
- **January 5<sup>th</sup>** - Career Academy Information Night, 7p.m., at ARL
- **January 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>** - Course Recommendation Lesson through ELA class
- **January 18<sup>th</sup>** - Hammond High School Parent Night. 7p.m.
- **January 25<sup>th</sup>** - Completed Course Recommendation Forms to be returned to ELA teachers
- **June 7<sup>th</sup>** - Rising 9th Grades to Visit High Schools

## Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) Information

Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) programs are offered at Atholton (Army), Howard (Army), and Oakland Mills (Air Force) high schools. A student who wishes to participate in JROTC, but does not attend one of the schools that offers JROTC, may apply for participation. Each school has a limited number of spaces available. To apply for participation in the 2017-2018 school year, students must contact a JROTC official between November 29, 2016, and January 13, 2017, to schedule an interview. Only students who are interviewed during this designated period will be considered for enrollment.

To schedule an interview, contact the JROTC official for the program of interest:

- Atholton High School: LTC (USA, Retired) William Reinhart, Senior Army Instructor, [william\\_reinhart@hcpss.org](mailto:william_reinhart@hcpss.org) or (410) 313-7076
- Howard High School: LTC (USA, Retired) Patricia Marshall, [patricia\\_marshall@hcpss.org](mailto:patricia_marshall@hcpss.org) or (410) 313-2878
- Oakland Mills High School: Major (USAF, Retired) Roger Gauert, Air Force Instructor, [roger\\_gauert@hcpss.org](mailto:roger_gauert@hcpss.org) or (410) 313-6945

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## News from the Music Department

**TVMS Winter Concert** - Please join us for our Winter Concert to be held at Hammond High School on Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. Enjoy the talents of our students in chorus, band, and orchestra.

**TVMS Band Honors** - Four students from the TVMS band program have been selected to be a part of the Howard County Honor Band! Congratulations to the following students:

### **Symphonic Band**

Jadyn Howard (8th Grade)  
Nathan Howard (8th Grade)  
Zion-Reign Gibbs (7<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### **Concert Band**

Darius Theodore (6<sup>th</sup> Grade)

All students worked very hard practicing with instructional assistance as well as practicing on their own. We are proud of our TVMS students who auditioned. It takes great courage. Please congratulate the students for this great opportunity and accomplishment!

## News from the Art Department

**7th Grade Art Show** – Six TVMS students will have their artwork displayed December 5, 2016, through February 2, 2017, at the Howard County Department of Education Gallery. There is an Artist Reception on December 14, 2016, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. for the students whose work will be in the show.

Congratulations to the following TVMS students whose artwork was chosen:

Ethan Vinodh	Aadarsh Patel
Emi Hnem	Megan Banh
Jaylin Smith	Thang Cin

## TVMS Spelling Bee

The TVMS Spelling Bee process has just begun! Each student has received a grade-specific list of words from his or her ELA teacher. Each ELA classroom will conduct their own spelling bee before students depart for winter break. The winner from each classroom will participate in the TVMS School-wide Spelling Bee on January 11, 2017. Our school-wide winner will then move on to the Howard County Library System Spelling Bee on March 17, 2017.

If you are interested in learning more about the spelling bee, you are welcome to go to [www.spellingbee.com](http://www.spellingbee.com) and click on Word Club. Thank you for your support.

## News from the Health Room

**Vision and Hearing Screening** - On Tuesday January 3, 2017 all 8th grade students at TVMS will be screened for Vision and Hearing. Please remind your child to bring in their glasses if they have them that day. If you have any questions, please call the school nurse at (410) 313-8714. Please see the [attachment](#) for more information.

**The Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP)** - The Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP) gives full health benefits to children up to age 19 and their families. Call the Howard County Health Department at (410) 313-5845 extension 111 to see if you are eligible.

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## TVMS Upcoming Spirit Days – Show Your Wolf Pride

- **Thursday, Dec. 15: Wear Your Future High School Colors**  
Look ahead and show your pride: Long Reach wears purple and black; Hammond wears maroon and gold.
- **Friday, Dec. 16: Follow Your Passion**  
What do you like? What is it that you want to be? What do you want to accomplish? Wear it!
- **Friday, Dec. 23: Wear Your Winter Wear**  
It's the last day of school before winter break. Make your fashion statement for the cold months ahead.

## The Council of Elders

Every year, schools are invited to celebrate our students at The Council Of Elders of the Black Community of Howard County at the recognition ceremony. TVMS will have a large turn out of students at the Hammond High School celebration on January 3, 2017, at 7 p.m. We welcome all staff and families to attend the celebration.

## The Bright Minds Foundation and Comcast

The Bright Minds Foundation in collaboration with Comcast offers discounted Internet access for qualified families. For more information, please see the letter [here](#).

## Career Academies Information Sessions

Learn how the Career Academies provide high school students with opportunities to earn college credit, scholarships and industry certifications, participate in worksite and mentorship experiences, and to become creative problem solvers by participating in hands-on project based learning. Career Academies invite middle/high school students and their families to an information session on January 5, 2017, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. For more information, please see the [flyer](#).

## Student Leadership and Service Opportunity

HCASC invites middle and high school students interested in student leadership and service opportunities to attend the Howard County Association of Student Councils (HCASC) meetings the 2nd Wednesday of every month, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Homewood Cafeteria, 10914 MD 108, Columbia, MD 21042.

- Sharing the Student Voice on School Policy and Community Issues
- Gaining Leadership Skills
- Practicing Community Service
- Working with student leaders from across HCPSS

The next meeting is Wednesday, December 14th. This month's topic is HCASC and Beyond - School Start Times and How to Share Student Voice at Your School. Come join your fellow student leaders and work together to make Many Students One Voice. For more information please contact [cindy\\_drummond@hcpss.org](mailto:cindy_drummond@hcpss.org).

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## Alpha Staff

Is there a TVMS staff member who is making a difference in your student's life? Please nominate them for Alpha Staff. Eligible to be nominated are teachers, counselors, office, custodial, and administrative staff. Staff can be nominated in the classroom and/or school community. Forms may be picked up in the Front Office, requested via email at [michelle\\_mackall@hcpss.org](mailto:michelle_mackall@hcpss.org), or found online at the TVMS website, <http://tvms.hcpss.org/about/staff-award>.

Congratulations to our newest Alpha Staff:

Mr. Pottieger  
Ms. Garhart  
Ms. McNeill

Mr. Manning  
Ms. Ache  
Mr. Janelli

Ms. Sica  
Ms. Oburn  
Mrs. Stevens

## Community News

Please visit the Community News and Programs page (<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>) on the HCPSS website for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.

## Policy Corner - Discrimination (Policy 1010)

The Board is committed to providing an educational and work environment that is free from discrimination, fosters equitable opportunities, and values diversity and commonality. To that end, the Board prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, physical or mental disability, age, gender, marital status, or sexual orientation in its educational program, including co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, and in the workplace.

Furthermore, the Board recognizes its responsibility to promote the worth and dignity of all individuals through curriculum, instruction, professional development, and resource selection. Employees and third parties share responsibility for the health, safety, and general welfare of students and for contributing to an environment free from discrimination.

It is a violation of this policy for any student, employee, or third party to engage in acts of discrimination in schools, school system offices, or at school-related activities. It is a violation of this policy to engage in retaliation with regard to allegations of discrimination. Violations of this policy are cumulative; subsequent offenses may affect the nature and severity of the consequences.

## Tips for School Success –Homework

Follow these tips for homework success with your child to make the most of their learning time at home:

- Provide quiet study time in a well-lit place.
- Be available to encourage, praise, advise, and supervise.
- Monitor your child's understanding of concepts and skills.
- Check work for accuracy, neatness, and completeness.
- Provide related home-learning experiences to reinforce concepts learned at school.
- Cooperate with and be supportive of the child's teacher.
- Help your child make education a top priority during his/her school years. Show by example that learning can be exciting and fulfilling.
- Talk with your child's teacher or counselor if needed.

For more tips on school success, please visit <http://www.thelearningcommunity.us/resources-by-format/tips-for-parents/your-role-in-school-success.aspx>.

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## Pack Leaders of the Month

TVMS is approaching the traditional concept of Student of the Month from a different angle. Students and families may not be familiar with this approach to recognizing student leadership by capitalizing on strengths, but TVMS realizes students display strengths in one or more of the academic areas, and we are focused on capitalizing on the power of these individual strengths.

TVMS is proud to recognize our Pack Leaders of the Month. Each month, a student from one of the 12 academic areas will be recognized for displaying the PRIDE traits (Personal Responsibility, Respect, Integrity, Diligence, Excellence). The academic areas include Math, Science, English, Social Studies, Reading, Art, Technology Education, Family and Consumer Science, Health Education, Physical Education, Performing Arts, and World Language. Recognized students will receive a certificate of accomplishment and be acknowledged on the morning news. In addition, students will have their picture posted in the TVMS Alpha Hall of Fame. We look forward to highlighting TVMS students for their individual student strengths in a variety of academic areas.

### Pack Leaders of the Month for November

#### 8th Grade Students:

ELA – Lizbeth Bawden Rojas  
Math – Nakiyah Henson  
Reading – Diana Mendez-Osorio  
Science – Tavell Lewis-Jones  
Social Studies – Devon Gorel  
Art – Hudson Pae  
FACS – Ricki Waters  
Health – Cesar Herrera-Saavedra  
Performing Arts – Kofi Atta Poku  
Physical Education – Lal Dam  
Technology Education – Rem Iang  
World Language – Devon Gorel

#### 7th Grade Students:

ELA – Jaylin Smith  
Math – Nidhi Patel  
Reading – Melanie Tapia  
Science – William Nichols  
Social Studies – William Ennis  
Art – Leoul Zekairas  
FACS – Bryce Allen  
Health – Desean Shields  
Performing Arts – Cole Heineman  
Physical Education – Trinity Key  
Technology Education – Tony Darco  
World Language – Jameelah Destry

#### 6th Grade Students:

ELA – Melany Rodriguez  
Math – Maya Jeffers-Bourne  
Reading – Zion Par  
Science – Holly Ryan  
Social Studies – Stephanie Okoma  
Art – Tania Mendez  
FACS – Jacob Shaplin  
Health – Justin Stave  
Performing Arts – Darius Theodore  
Physical Education – Diego Carino  
Technology Education – Kaden Amadour  
World Language – Victoria Benitez

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