# TVMS Newsletter December 23, 2016

## **Important Dates**

Dec. 24 - Jan. 1	Winter Break
Jan. 3	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade and New Students Vision and Hearing Screening
Jan. 3	Howard County Council of Elders Recognition
Jan. 4	PTSA Meeting
Jan. 11	TVMS Spelling Bee
Jan. 13	TVMS Spirit Day: College Wear
Jan. 16	HCPSS Schools and Offices Closed
Jan. 27	Schools Closed for Students

# A Note From the Principal

#### TVMS Families,

December has been a busy month for our TVMS timber wolves. MAP testing for all grades was completed this week, and I am incredibly impressed by how our students can articulate their MAP scores and be able to set realistic goals for the next test administration. Interim report cards were sent home on Wednesday. Please take time to celebrate your student's accomplishments and set new goals for 2017.

This past Monday marked our TVMS Winter Concert at Hammond High School. The auditorium was filled with families and staff who support our students and our Performing Arts Program. TVMS shined at the Winter Concert, and I am sure those in attendance were amazed by the talents of our chorus, orchestra, and band students. The concert was truly a moving experience. Our heartfelt congratulations go out to all of our students and to Ms. Rivera, Ms. Niles, and Ms. Hunt for their leadership and dedication.

The last two months have been filled with celebrations and acts of giving by our students, staff, and PTSA. We were able to make the holidays a little brighter for some of our families this month. TVMS staff, our generous PTSA, Hungry Harvest, and CrossLife Community Church helped provide baskets filled with food and gift cards. We are truly fortunate to be part of this remarkable TVMS community. Thank you to everyone for your generosity and kindness and for going the extra mile to encourage others.

I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many accomplishments that have happened in our TVMS family over the first part of the school year. As 2016 comes to a close, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve this incredible community and look forward to all the new year has to offer for our students, staff, and families.

Best wishes for a safe, healthy, and rich holiday season! We look forward to seeing our students back on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Regards,

Shiney Ann John, Principal

#### 8th Grade Information Corner

Please note important dates for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students regarding high school related activities and lessons.

- 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, 7 p.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, 7 p.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 or (410) 313-7076
- Howard High School: LTC (USA, Retired) Patricia Marshall, <u>patricia\_marshall@hcpss.org</u> or (410) 313-2878
- Oakland Mills High School: Major (USAF, Retired) Roger Gauert, Air Force Instructor, roger\_gauert@hcpss.org or (410) 313-6945

# **TVMS Spelling Bee**

The TVMS Spelling Bee process has begun! The winners from the ELA 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 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 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 at extension 111 to see if you are eligible.

#### 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 number 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 <a href="here.">here.</a>

#### **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 and 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 <u>flyer</u>.

# 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 <a href="mailto:michelle\_mackall@hcpss.org">michelle\_mackall@hcpss.org</a>, or found online at the TVMS website, <a href="http://tvms.hcpss.org/about/staff-award">http://tvms.hcpss.org/about/staff-award</a>.

Congratulations to our newest Alpha Staff: Ms. Fader

# **Community News**

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

# **Policy Corner - Student Search and Seizure (Policy 9260)**

Authorized school officials have the right to search students, their possessions, and automobiles during the school day, and at school-related activities, when the school official has a reasonable belief that the student possesses an impermissible item. Additionally, authorized school officials may search property assigned to a student for school use, such as lockers, desks, electronic devices, and cubbies, at any time.

# Tips for School Success - Make a Winter-Weather Plan

Have an advance plan for snow days or sick days. Can another family member or neighbor care for your kids while you work? Make sure you have a safety kit in case of power outages; have your children help assemble it so they get a lesson in emergency preparation, too. For more tips on school success, please visit <a href="http://www.ed.gov/parents/countdown-success">http://www.ed.gov/parents/countdown-success</a>.

#### **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 December

#### **8th Grade Students:**

ELA – Jason Silva
Math – Brandon Sias
Reading – Isabella Mejia
Science – Peteros Gebrewold
Social Studies – Jadyn Howard
Art – Christopher Liv
FACS – Dominic McGlotten
Health – Adunoluwa Oguntuga
Performing Arts – Joanne Ibironke
Physical Education – Joseph Griffin
Technology Education – Nana Amoateng
World Language – Tiffany Furr

# 6th Grade Students:

ELA – Kaelyn Baggett
Math – Peyton Breitenbucher
Reading – Emily Portillo
Science – Pranav Rahavel
Social Studies – Isaiah Hagan
Art – Helen Santons-Melendez
FACS – Santiago Rico-Cervantes
Health – Kellen Harding
Performing Arts – Sophie Kang
Physical Education – Safi Hampton
Technology Education – Luisa Wiltrout
World Language – Brianna Buford

#### 7th Grade Students:

ELA – Sachi Irizawa
Math – Heaven Thang
Reading – Sarah Al-Yaseri
Science – Jayda Sarfo
Social Studies – Cole Heineman
Art – Laiba Bhatti
FACS – Megan Bahn
Health – Jaylin Smith
Performing Arts – Luis Orellana
Physical Education – Kiran Tracht
Technology Education – Allyson Ryans
World Language – Long Vuong