

TVMS Newsletter

January 6, 2017

Important Dates

Jan. 11	Incoming 6 th Grade Orientation (Snow Date is February 2 nd)
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
Feb. 3	Report Cards Issued
Feb. 20	HCPSS Schools and Offices Closed
Feb. 21	Schools Closed for Students

A Note From the Principal

TVMS Families,

The start of the new calendar year is off on a positive note for both students and staff. It is hard to believe that the end of the second quarter is on January 26th. Second quarter report cards will be issued on February 3rd. Students have been encouraged to monitor their own grades through Canvas, celebrate areas of success, and work with teachers to improve in areas of academic concern. As always, TVMS staff are committed to each child's success, so please do not hesitate to contact your child's teachers with any questions or concerns.

Mid-year provides the perfect time to check with your student to see if there are any supplies or materials they need to replenish. We are also encouraging students to clean out their binders and start the second semester in an organized and efficient matter.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to your student and TVMS.

Regards,

Shiney Ann John, Principal

Incoming 6th Grade Orientation

The parents of rising 6th graders are invited to a Middle School Orientation on Wednesday, January 11th in the cafeteria. We will provide information on the Middle School Program of Studies and our four signature programs. The evening will also cover our Gifted and Talented Program.

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.

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

Main Office
Student Services (Registration, Student Schedules, Guidance Counselors)
Health Room
Fax

410-313-8711
410-313-8247
410-313-8714
410-313-8091

Grow Strong

At Thomas Viaduct Middle School, staff and students are taking the opportunity of the new year to continue nurturing their individual and unique strengths. According to the “Grow Strong” philosophy, the strengths we have as children shape the adults we become. So, the adage, “new year, new you” does not apply to us. Rather, we continue to work on and develop the strengths that we were born with in order to become the best versions of ourselves.

8th Grade Information Corner

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

- **January 17th and 19th** - Course Recommendation Lesson through ELA class
- **January 18th** - Hammond High School Parent Night, 7 p.m.
- **January 25th** - Completed Course Recommendation Forms to be returned to ELA teachers
- **June 7th** - 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, patricia_marshall@hcpss.org or (410) 313-2878
- Oakland Mills High School: Major (USAF, Retired) Roger Gauert, Air Force Instructor, roger_gauert@hcpss.org or (410) 313-6945

Future Hammond: Golden Bears - Fall Sports Start August 9, 2017

Fall Sports Tryouts at Hammond High School (football, cheer, boys soccer, girls soccer, cross country, field hockey, volleyball, and golf) will begin on **August 9, 2017**. All necessary forms needed for tryouts can be downloaded at <http://www.hcpss.org/athletics/forms-and-guidelines/>. If you have any questions, please contact Michael Lerner, the Hammond High School Athletics and Activities Manager (mlerner@hcpss.org), or the coach of your sport of interest.

- Football - shawn_frederick@hcpss.org
- Girls' Soccer - christopher_reagle@hcpss.org
- Cross Country - kimberley_williams@hcpss.org
- Volleyball - anne_corey@hcpss.org
- Field Hockey - lauren_harrison@hcpss.org
- Cheer - katierunyen77@gmail.com
- Boys' Soccer - TBD

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News from the Health Room

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.

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, or found online at the TVMS website, <http://tvms.hcpss.org/about/staff-award>. Congratulations to our newest Alpha Staff: **Mrs. Fox**

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. The next meeting is Wednesday, January 11th.

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

Come join your fellow student leaders and work together to make Many Students One Voice. For more information please contact cindy_drummond@hcpss.org.

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 – Weapons (Policy 9250)

The presence of weapons on school property poses a serious threat to the safety and well being of students and staff. It is unlawful for any person to carry or possess any rifle, gun, knife, or deadly weapon of any kind on any public school property in the state of Maryland. A weapon, as defined by school system policy, includes: any gun, dirk knife, bowie knife, switchblade knife, star knife, buck knife, hunting knife, throwing star, razor, metal knuckle, Nunchaku, explosive device, or any other object or implement intended to cause harm to another or used in such a way as to cause harm to another. Any student found in possession of a weapon on school property will be suspended and the police notified. Possession of a gun, or any implement possessed under a circumstance that would reasonably lead a person to believe it was a gun, will result in expulsion.

Tips for School Success – Talk to Your Child Before Conferences

Ask your child if he/she has any questions or concerns they would like you to discuss with his/her teacher, and find out what strengths your child uses in the class. Let your child know what you plan to discuss with the teacher – when your child is involved in decisions about their education he/she is more likely to take responsibility for the work and performance. For more tips on school success, please visit <http://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/middle-high-school-parent-teacher-conferences/>.

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