

TVMS Newsletter

March 3, 2017

Important Dates

Mar. 6	Orchestra Assessment
Mar. 7	PTSA Meeting, 6 p.m.
Mar. 8	Interim Report Cards Issued
Mar. 8	Orchestra Adjudication
Mar. 9	3-Hour Early Dismissal
Mar. 10	3-Hour Early Dismissal
Mar. 9 – 10	Parent / Teacher Conferences
Mar. 15	8 th Grade Panoramic Photo
Mar. 17	Den Dash
April 3 – 7	TVMS Spirit Week
April 6	TVMS Spring Play: Alice @ Wonderland
April 8 – 17	Spring Break

A Note From the Principal

TVMS Families,

It is hard to believe we are half way through the third quarter marking period. Interim report cards will go home with students on March 8th. Students continue to work diligently in and out of the classroom, and we are proud of their yearly progress. Interims are a great reminder to schedule parent/teacher conferences where needed and to set goals for the remainder of the quarter and school year.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for March 9th and 10th. Further details regarding parent conferences can be found in this newsletter. Ms. Nicholson, Student Services Secretary, will be available to assist with any questions regarding conferences. Please feel free to contact her at 410-313-8247 or at nicole_nicholson@hcpss.org.

Students who are not earning passing grades in core content classes recently received a student achievement letter regarding our concern with academic success. The letter asks parents/guardians to contact their student's counselor so we can develop a plan to help all students be successful. Student Services staff have been contacting families who did not respond to the letter. Thank you for working with us for the success of your student.

Remind your child to stay focused as spring days bring anticipated warm weather and longer hours of daylight. It is essential that our students arrive to school on time, ready to fully engage in learning inside and outside of the classroom. Students still have much to accomplish within their classes, and the TVMS calendar has many activities scheduled for student participation.

We are thankful for the support of our TVMS families.

Regards,
Shiney Ann John, Principal

Yearbooks Are on Sale – Discount Price Until March 13th

Order the TVMS 2016-2017 yearbook featuring color photographs, which highlights the students and events celebrated throughout the year! Soft cover yearbooks start at \$20; **after March 13th, the price will increase to \$25.** Simply click on the link below to learn about all available options: paperback, hardcover, personalized, etc.

Preorder your yearbook today online at ybpay.lifetouch.com (yearbook ID code: 12257817). Orders will also be accepted in the front office.

Parent – Teacher Conferences

Parent – Teacher conferences will take place March 9 and March 10, 2017. The schedule for Thomas Viaduct Middle School March conferences is as follows:

Thursday, March 9, 2017 (afternoon)	12:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 9, 2017 (evening)	4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Friday, March 10, 2017	12:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Teachers who hold conferences during the evening of March 9 th will not be available for conferences on the afternoon of March 10 th .	

Online scheduling opened on February 22, 2017, for parents to log into HCPSS Connect to view and select from the time slots provided by the teacher for the conference. Instructions for online registration are found at this [link](#). Parents without online access may contact Ms. Nicholson in Student Services, at 410-313-8247, for assistance in scheduling conferences. All conferences will be 15 minutes and will take place in the room identified when scheduling.

The conference-scheduling window will close on Monday, March 6, 2017, at 11:59 p.m. After March 6, 2017, please contact Ms. Nicholson, Student Services Secretary, at 410-313-8247 when conference cancellations are necessary. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Nicholson at 410-313-8247 or nicole_nicholson@hcpss.org.

Grow Strong - Confidence

Throughout the school year, students learn about their strengths' themes and how to use their strengths toward personal success and goals. Although students have each of these strengths within themselves, certain themes have been identified as their top three strengths. We will be highlighting the ten strength themes in order to allow you to become more familiar with each--achieving, caring, competing, confidence, dependability, discoverer, future thinker, organizer, presence, and relating.

People especially talented in the confidence theme believe in themselves and their ability to be successful in their endeavors. These students have no problem giving class presentations and performing for a crowd. According to eighth-grader, Dylan Redding, confidence can be contagious. He said, "I use my confidence to help boost the confidence of others. I just make them laugh and feel good about themselves." Ultimately, the self-assured nature of students with this strength contributes to their success as well as the success of others.

Grow Strong has made it possible for students to clearly "name" their positive qualities, which helps them build their confidence in and out of school.

We look forward to continuing to "Grow Strong" together this school year!

PTSA News

TVMS PTSA meets the first Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., in the Media Center. Mark your calendar and plan to join us on **March 7th**.

PTSA Quarter & Silent Auction: PTSA is holding their 3rd Annual Quarter and Silent Auction fundraiser event on **April 8th, 2017**. This is the most significant fundraising event for our school. Many of projects, events, and activities depend on this event's success.

Full details about the event can be found on the PTSA [Quarter Auction webpage](#). Donations are being sought based on themes and are needed at the school by March 15th. Donations may be given to the front office. Donation sign up can be found at <http://signup.com/go/RcRUyy>.

Please feel free to contact Becky at tvmsptsa.fundraising@gmail.com with any questions!

News from the Health Room

Dental Clinic - The Chase Brexton Dental Clinic is scheduled for Thursday, March 30, 2017 at TVMS. Information went home with your student on Friday, February 24th. Please contact Ms. Harris, TVMS Nurse, at 410-313-8714 or Cheryl_harris@hcpss.org with any questions.

Immunization Requirements - Effective for the 2017-2018 school year, the Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene requires all 7th, 8th and 9th grade students in the state of Maryland to have a single dose of Tdap AND a single dose of Meningococcal vaccine (MCV4) BEFORE entering school.

If your student requires additional immunizations, parents should contact their healthcare provider as soon as possible to make an appointment for the student to obtain the required vaccines. Please provide the school with an updated copy of your child's immunization record, which includes the provider's signature, once vaccinations have been completed.

Some students may have already received these immunizations, but the Health Room may not have the updated immunization record.

Failure to provide proof of updated immunizations by the first day of school, or to provide evidence of an appointment to receive those immunizations within 20 calendar days from the first day of school, will result in your student being excluded from school. If you have any questions, contact 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.

8th Grade Information Corner

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

- **June 5th** – 8th Grade Cruise
- **June 7th** – Rising 9th Graders to Visit High Schools
- **June 8th** – 8th Grade Farewell Celebration

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

Policy 9070 – Eligibility for High School Extracurricular Activities

The Board of Education of Howard County is committed to providing a well-rounded program of education-based student activities for high school students as a complement to the academic program. The Board further recognizes that to best carry out the vision and mission of the school system, extracurricular activities will not, in any way, supplant academics as the primary focus of the school system.

The purpose of this policy is to establish minimum academic criteria that must be met by high school students in order to be eligible to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities.

To review the requirements, please see the full policy at the following [link](#).

Long Reach News - The Taste of Long Reach

The Long Reach High School Boosters Club is having their annual fundraiser, “The Taste of Long Reach,” on Friday, March 3rd from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. at the Ten Oaks Ballroom in Clarksville, MD. Join them for delicious food from area restaurants and caterers, a silent auction and basket raffle, door prizes, and dancing! The Boosters, a non-profit organization made up of parent volunteers, sponsors fundraisers and gives thousands of dollars annually to support sports teams, clubs, organizations, dance, drama, prom, scholars, and more. Please come to our biggest fundraiser! Tickets are \$40, if purchased by February 24th, and \$50 after. For more information or to purchase tickets, please go to [the website](#).

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 recipient: Ms. Veltre.

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, March 8th. Come join your fellow student leaders and work together to make Many Students One Voice. For more information please contact cindy_drummond@hcpss.org.

Howard County Summer Theatre Auditions

Howard County Summer Theatre will be conducting auditions for *The Lion King, Jr.*, on March 19th at 1 p.m. at Long Reach High School. Auditions are open to students currently in grades 3-9. Please prepare a Broadway song and bring your own karaoke accompaniment. For more information, please go to [the website](#) or email Marla Blasko, Director, at mjblasko@verizon.net

Policy Corner

Gangs, Gang Activity and Similar Destructive or Illegal Gang Behavior (*Policy 9290*)

The Board prohibits any gang activity and any similar destructive or illegal group behavior on school property, on school buses or at school-sponsored functions. This includes reprisal or retaliation against individuals who report gang activity or individuals who are victims, witnesses, by-standers or have reliable information about gang activity.

All suspected violations of this policy will be investigated by school administration. Violations of this policy are cumulative; subsequent offenses may affect the nature and severity of the consequences.

Whenever a report of ongoing or threatened gang-related violence appears accurate and reliable, law enforcement officials will be contacted. Students who violate this policy may be referred to law enforcement officials and may be subject to criminal or other legal action.

Tips for School Success – Challenge Your Child to a Read-Athon

See who can read the most books, with each one slightly more challenging than the last. Make it happen by setting a designated family reading time, when the whole gang curls up with a good book, parents included. For more information please visit the [website](#).

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.

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 February

8th Grade Students:

ELA – Jenny (Thanh) Nguyen
Math – Mujtaba Khawaja
Reading – Zaria Hillard
Science – Emre Derin
Social Studies – Eyiwunmi Ajao
Art – Vishal Shah
FACS – Seven Barnes
Health – Beylee King
Performing Arts – Nathan Roy
Physical Education – Nhi Nguyen
Technology Education – Christian Amador
World Language – Madison Barrett

7th Grade Students:

ELA – Marlo Ibanez-Sermeno
Math – Gabriel Arteaga
Reading – Mackenzie Watkins
Science – Morgan Prater
Social Studies – Joseph Polimeni
Art – Ivan Perez Morales
FACS – Xavier Samuel
Health – Nick Collins
Performing Arts – Jade Osborne
Physical Education – Rhiannon Clark
Technology Education – Alyssa Ryans
World Language – Damon Gullion

6th Grade Students:

ELA – Joleen Nguyen
Math – Savanna Velez
Reading – Steven Hernandez
Science – Kayla Destry
Social Studies – Lela Ayaba
Art – Saniya Curtis
FACS – Chloe Brooks
Health – Sung Tial
Performing Arts – Isaiah Royster
Physical Education – Isaiah Hagan
Technology Education – Jaylin Coleman
World Language – Kaden Rochelle