

# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

Personal Responsibility | Respect | Integrity | Diligence | Excellence

## Important Dates

- **1/19** Schools Closed
- **1/21** Family Fun, Fitness, and Food Night
- **1/23** End of Marking Period
- **1/22 & 1/23** Schools close 3 hours early
- **1/27** 8th Grade Career Academy Information Night
- **1/28** Honors Band Concert
- **1/30** TVMS Spirit "Jersey" Day
- **2/3** Report Cards Issued
- **2/3** PTSA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- **2/5** PARCC Night
- **2/6** Schools Closed
- **2/12-13** Parent/Teacher Conferences (schools close 3 hours early)
- **2/16** Schools Closed

## From the Principal's Desk

Dear TVMS Families,

The start of the new calendar year has proven to be off to a very positive start for both for students and staff. It is hard to believe that the end of the second quarter is on January 23. Second quarter report cards will be issued on February 3, 2015. Students have been encouraged to monitor their own grades through Aspen, celebrate areas of success, and work with teachers to improve in areas of academic concern. This newsletter contains information regarding our upcoming February Parent Conferences. 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 child to see if there are any supplies or materials they need to replenish. We are also encouraging students to clean out unnecessary papers in their binders and backpack and start the second semester off in an organized and efficient manner.

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

Regards,  
Shiney Ann John  
Principal





# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

## National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

We are pleased to notify you that Thomas Viaduct Middle School has been selected to represent schools across the nation by participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). First administered in 1969, NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subject areas. It is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from state assessments because it provides a common measure of student achievement across the country. The results of NAEP are released as "The Nation's Report Card," which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public. In our school, the NAEP assessment will be given on February 17.

## Yearbook

Be the first to order the TVMS Inaugural Yearbook full of beautiful color photos to celebrate the amazing year! Hundreds of photos will help preserve your memories of our 1<sup>st</sup> year together at TVMS. Simply click on the link below to check all of the available options (paperback, hardcover, personalizations, etc.) Save money by pre-ordering yours today online at [ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com) (Yearbook ID Code 12257815).

**If you order by March 6th, yearbooks are at a discounted price; after March 6th, the price will increase.**

Orders will also be accepted in the Front Office.

## Selfies on Display

TVMS 7th grade artists, Makenzie Brooks, David Liv, and MikaLeigh Rogers, have "selfie photographs" on display in a HCPSS Student Art show called "The Art of the Selfie: Seeing Beyond the Surface." The art exhibition, featuring self-portrait photographs taken by HCPSS students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, runs until February 2nd, at the Columbia Art Center. Check it out!

## Coding and Photojournalism

Two new academic seminars are coming to Thomas Viaduct! Ask your student about Coding and Photojournalism. Applications can be found in the cafeteria.

## Policy Corner

### Student Assault and/or Battery on Staff (Policy 9270)

In order for learning to take place, the school environment must be safe and orderly. Therefore, any assault and/or battery by a student on a school staff member is strictly forbidden. An assault may be physical, oral, or written. Battery I is the unlawful touching of another person by the aggressor, and battery II involves unlawful touching plus a display of blatant disregard for the safety of the staff member or others.

Consequences for an assault violation range from suspension to expulsion. A battery I violation results in suspension of up to 45 days. A first battery II offense results in a suspension of at least 45 days and may result in expulsion. A second battery II offense results in expulsion. A student who violates this policy is ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities for the duration of a suspension.

## Message From Media

Encourage all students to return overdue items **BEFORE** the next TVMS Pride Day on January 23rd. There are over 135 items outstanding. Thank you for your help!



# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

## Tips for School Success

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### Expect Success

Perhaps the most important way you can support your child's efforts at school is to expect him to succeed. That doesn't mean that you demand he be the best student or the best athlete or the best artist. Rather, let him know that you expect him to do "his best" so that he'll be proud of what he can accomplish.

If you make that expectation clear and provide a home environment that promotes learning, then your child will have a greater chance of becoming the best student he can be. For more tips on school success, please visit

[www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/gradeschool/school/pages/Ten-Tips-for-Your-Childs-Success-in-School.aspx](http://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/gradeschool/school/pages/Ten-Tips-for-Your-Childs-Success-in-School.aspx)

### Boxtops

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TVMS PTSA will receive 10 cents for every box top that is submitted! A collection box is located in the cafeteria. Thank you for your support.

## Message From Guidance

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Reminder, when your student is absent, the absence stays unexcused until we receive a note from home. If your student is coming in late from an appointment, please sign them in at the front office or have them bring in a note of confirmation.

## BYOD Survey (Bring Your Own Device)

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The HCPSS Office of Instructional Technology is conducting an important survey to gather information on the use of personal devices in schools. As part of the BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program, TVMS is asking parents to participate in this survey.

Please take a minute to answer a few questions, so we may improve upon this program. Thank you for your support.

### Parent Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BYODWinter2015Parent>

## Alpha Staff Members

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Staff at Thomas Viaduct Middle School play an important role in the lives of young adults, families, and society. The Alpha Staff award is for commitment to our school vision tenets of connect, collaborate, and create. Eligible to be nominated are teachers, counselors, and office, custodial, and administrative staff. Staff can be nominated by students, parents, administrators, colleagues, or community members for excellence in the classroom and/or school community.

A nomination form can be picked up in the front office, be requested via email, [michelle\\_mackall@hcpss.org](mailto:michelle_mackall@hcpss.org), or found online at the [TVMS website](#). Forms should be returned to Mrs. Mackall by 8 a.m. on the 20th of each month.

### TVMS is Proud of Our Newest Alpha Staff Members

Rebecca Ache	Meghan Plofkin	Amber Stasch
Nakia Younger	Jorden Haney	Teri Stephens
Allison Miller	Anny Hoge-Franz	



# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

## High School Information for 8th Grade Students and Parents

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### Academy Information Options for Students and Parents

During ELA classes on Thursday 1/15 and Friday 1/16, 8th grade students were presented with information regarding their course selections for high school. Students will come home with the following information: Catalog of Approved High School Courses, Grade 9 Course Options, Course Registration Form, Four Year Plan, and pamphlets on Navigation of High School and Career Academies. Students should complete their course registration form and four year plan with their parent/guardian.

**Please have your child return both completed forms to their ELA teacher by Wednesday, January 21st.**

### Additional Dates to Note

January 27	East Columbia Library, 7 – 8 p.m. 6600 Cradlerock Way; Columbia, MD
January 29	Miller Branch Library, 7 – 8 p.m. 9421 Frederick Road; Ellicott City, MD

### JROTC Timelines

January 23	All JROTC interviews must be completed
February 5	Letters of approval/denial/waitlist sent to parents via mail
February 20	Deadline for students accepted to JROTC to request an appointment for registration to enroll at the approved school for the 2015-2016 school year.

**Please contact Ms. Raines or Ms. Harig with any questions.**

## MAP Testing

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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.

The next portion of the winter administration schedule is as follows:

- 6th and 8th grade: Tuesday, January 20 (Reading)
- 7th grade: Wednesday, January 21 (Reading)

Testing will occur during the first 2 hours of the school day. 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, breakfast, and is ready to do their best on the day of testing!

As a reminder, students who are enrolled in Algebra or Geometry will not participate in the math portion.



# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

## A Night in the PARCC

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Have you heard about PARCC and wondered what that means and how it relates to your student? Please join us on Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 -8:30 p.m. to learn more about the PARCC Assessment, which is aligned with the Common Core State Standards. Dinner and dessert to be served from 6:30 - 7:00 pm. For more information, please call 410-313-8711.

Please RSVP to this event by completing the information on the flyer sent home with your student on January 20<sup>th</sup> or access the link on the TVMS website.

## Parent Teacher Conferences

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Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for February 12-13 (only 2 days). Teachers will be available during the day and evening on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, and most teachers will be available during the afternoon on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. There will be no evening conferences on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. PickAtime will be available for parents to schedule conferences beginning Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be open through Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Use the same login information that you used in the fall. If you need any assistance, please contact Student Services at 410-313-8247.

## Super Bowl Spirit Day

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Attention students, on January 30<sup>th</sup>, wear your favorite sport's jersey or apparel to school to show your TVMS Spirit for the Super Bowl. The jersey does not have to be one of the two Super Bowl teams. Feel free to personalize a jersey with your favorite local, college, or professional sport's team.

## Howard County Gifted and Talented Parent Academy

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**Howard County Gifted and Talented Parent Academy: Building Resiliency in Advanced-Level Learners** - All interested parents are invited to attend the G/T Parent Academy "Building Resiliency in Advanced-Level Learners" at Atholton High School on Thursday, February 5, 2015, 7 - 8:30 p.m. Dr. Angela Housand, Assistant Professor and Gifted Program Coordinator at University of North Carolina Wilmington, will share her expertise.

Attaining success requires resiliency in order to overcome challenges along the way. Yet many advanced learners expect to "get the right answer" on their first attempt, and once faced with truly challenging situations, give up before trying. This session provides parents with strategies to support high potential youth as they engage in the struggles that lead to meaningful SUCCESS.

## Family Fun, Fitness, and Food Night

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This is a Healthy Howard / Wellness Event for students, staff, and families to be held on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 6-7:30 p.m., in the TVMS gym and cafeteria. Enjoy healthy foods, games, and fitness. Mark your calendar now for this fun event!



# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

## Spelling Bee

On January 9th, TVMS held its 1st Annual Spelling Bee. We are proud of all our participants for their hard work and efforts. We congratulate the students who made it to the finals, a huge achievement to reach this level.

### Finalists

Feben Abiy	Rachel Carter	Jayden Freshwater	Mikhail Guiamal
Faith Kandie	Marcus Magsavo	Joshua Mensah	Kylie O'Connor
Sidarth Patel	Saim Rizvi	Lisa Roache	Mark Stephen
Sophia Villagaray			

And finally, it came down to two: Mikhail Guiamal and Marcus Magsavo. It was an amazing word fight between them, their achievement, hard work and their aim to win was shown on stage.

### TVMS is proud to present the winner and runner-up of the 2014-2015 Spelling Bee

<b>Winner:</b>	Marcus Magsavo
<b>1st Runner Up:</b>	Mark Stephen

Marcus will now compete on the County level on March 13, 2015, at Reservoir High School. The winner of the County Bee will represent at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., in the Spring.

Thank you to our PTSA, Mimi's Cafe, and our Judges' Panel:

### Judges' Panel:

Pronouncer:	Mr. Steve Manning
Head Judge:	Mrs. Kim Mahle
Dictionary Judge:	Mr. Bradley Mullen
Records Judge:	Mrs. Emily Perry

## 6th Grade Showcase Features Artwork of TVMS Students

The following TVMS students have work in the HCPSS 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Showcase Art Exhibition at the Board of Education (BOE) Building:

Kofi Atta-Poku	Isaiah Liadi
Lyzander Marantal	Kristina McKirahan
Madelyn Morales	Connor Schein

Please check out their artwork if you are in the BOE building between December 3 and February 2.

## Dr. MLK, Jr. Exhibition

### Keeping the Dream Alive!

Samantha Martin, TVMS 8th grade artist, will have her artwork displayed at Howard Community College as part of an exhibition honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s vision. The exhibition, "Keeping the Dream Alive: Moving Forward," is sponsored by HCPSS and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission and features student artwork created in response to Dr. King quotations. Samantha based her artwork on the quote, "Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." The art exhibition will be on display at HCC until January 18th.