

TVMS WOLF PRIDE

Personal Responsibility | Respect | Integrity | Diligence | Excellence

Important Dates

- **12/08-01/17** Schedule Interview for JROTC program
- **12/24-01/02** Winter Break
- **1/5** School Reopens
- **1/6** PTSA Meeting
- **1/7** Hammond High Parent Night @ Hammond (Parents of 8th Grade Students)
- **1/9** TVMS School-Wide Spelling Bee
- **1/13** Long Reach High Parent Night (Parents of 8th Grade Students)
- **1/13 & 1/15** High School Catalogs Distributed to 8th Grade Students
- **1/19** Schools Closed
- **1/21** Family Fun, Fitness, and Food Night

From the Principal's Desk

Dear TVMS Families,

The TVMS cafe was filled to capacity over the past two nights. For those of you who joined us for the Winter Concerts, I am sure you were amazed by the talent of our young performing artists. The concert was truly a moving experience. Our heartfelt congratulations go out to all of our students and to Ms. Reichl, Ms. Ramis, and Ms. Hairston, for their leadership and dedication.

It is hard to believe the winter break is almost here. I would like to take a moment to appreciate all the great things that have happened for our TVMS family over the first part of the school year. As this year comes to a close, we have the opportunity to be grateful for all the "firsts" in the life of our TVMS family. We are appreciative of being part of this incredible community and look forward to many more great "firsts" in the new year.

Best wishes for a safe, healthy, and rich holiday season!

Regards,
Shiney Ann John
Principal





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Pack Leaders of the Month

TVMS is approaching the traditional concept of Student of the Month differently. Students and families may not be familiar with this approach to recognizing student leadership, but TVMS realizes students display strengths in one or more of the academic areas and is focused on capitalizing on 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 - Quentin Mason
 Math - Riley Dailey
 Reading - Alannah Muhammad
 Science - Tina Osman
 Social Studies - Lote Ebube
 Art - Bawi Thawng
 FACS - Ama Addo
 Health - Elijah Modeste
 Performing Arts - Cheyenne Reilly
 Physical Education - Chase Hogan
 Technology Education - Preet Patel
 World Language - Nicholas Denbow

7th Grade Students:

ELA - Mallory Zeleznik
 Math - Mya Proctor
 Reading - Wesley Ma
 Science - Sui Par
 Social Studies - Marcus Magsayo
 Art - David Liv
 FACS - Aziza Barry
 Health - Rushil Desai
 Performing Arts - Aisha Khetib
 Physical Education - Skylar Melton
 Technology Education - Joey Rikon
 World Language - Miguel Amaro

6th Grade Students:

ELA - Katherine (Katie) Park
 Math - Lisa Roache
 Reading - Zeena Osman
 Science - Danielle Gilbert
 Social Studies - Julianna Coker
 Art - Marion Rochelle
 FACS - JJ Reilly
 Health - Husain Rizvi
 Performing Arts - Hannah Watanabe
 Physical Education - Kojo Addo
 Technology Education - Nicholas Martin



TVMS WOLF PRIDE

Alpha Staff Member

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, 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 to recognize Our First Alpha Staff Members

- Alexandra Weyforth
- Caitlin Sica
- Caroline Sellers
- Debbie Puhak

6th Grade Showcase Features Artwork of TVMS Students

The following TVMS students have work in the HCPSS 6th 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.

Message From Guidance

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.

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, bystanders 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.

Message From Media

Encourage all students to return overdue items. Thank you for your help!



TVMS WOLF PRIDE

Tips for School Success

Ask Open-Ended Questions

We all know the drill. You pick up your child from school or reconnect with him at the end of the day and ask the question, "How was school today?" The answer to this question is almost invariably "Fine" or "Good," neither of which open up the line of communication you're hoping for.

The trick to getting more information is to ask your child questions about his day at school that can't be answered with a monosyllable. Try one of these more open-ended questions as a way to get your child to talk about school.

What project are you working on in Art/Music class?

What skills are you working on in Physical Education?

What book(s) did you read today? Tell me a little bit about the characters.

What are you learning about in science/social studies/math?

For more tips on school success, please visit <http://childparenting.about.com/od/schoollearning/tp/tips-for-school-success.htm>.

World Languages

Our World Languages classes would like to have opportunities to speak with community members that use languages other than English in their workplace.

If you would like to share your experience in a past or present position using other languages, we would love to have you join us in class one day. You will have the opportunity to Skype or visit a classroom in person. All languages and professions are welcome. No preparation needed on your end, just your experiences to share with our students.

Please contact Lisa-Ann Mertz at Thomas Viaduct MS or by e-mail at lisa-ann_mertz@hcpss.org if interested. We are flexible to your schedule.

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.

The Winter administration schedule is as follows:

- 6th and 8th grade: Tuesday, January 13 (Math); Tuesday, January 20 (Reading)
- 7th grade: Wednesday, January 14 (Math); 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.



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High School Information for 8th Grade Students and Parents

January 6 and 8	Introduction to High School Overview
January 7	Hammond High School Parent Night @ Hammond High, 7 p.m.
January 13	Long Reach High School Parent Night @ Long Reach High, 7 p.m.
January 13 and 15	Catalogs distributed to 8th grade students with class information and recommendations

Career Academy Information Options for Students and Parents

January 15	Applications and Research Laboratory, 7 – 9 p.m. 10920 Clarksville Pike; Ellicott City, MD
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

Dec. 8 – Jan. 17	Parents call the high school with JROTC programs of interest (Atholton, Howard, Oakland Mills) to schedule an interview with the JROTC instructor and high school administrator
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

Family Fun, Fitness, and Food Night

This is a Healthy Howard / Wellness Event for students, staff, and families in the TVMS gym and cafeteria. . Enjoy healthy foods, games, and fitness. Mark your calendars now for this fun event!

TVMS School-wide Spelling Bee

Participants from all grades will be participating in a school-wide spelling bee. Parents are welcome to watch their son or daughter compete.

The winner of our Spelling Bee will go on to the county bee on March 13, 2015, at Reservoir High School. The winner of that bee will represent us at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., in the spring.