

# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

Personal Responsibility | Respect | Integrity | Diligence | Excellence

## Important Dates

- **2/3** PTSA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- **2/5** Report Cards Issued
- **2/5** PARCC Night
- **2/6** Schools Closed
- **2/12** Honor Roll Assembly
- **2/12-13** Parent/Teacher Conferences (Schools close 3 hours early)
- **2/16** Schools Closed
- **2/17** NAEP Testing- 8th Grade

## From the Principal's Desk

TVMS Families,

This has been a busy month at TVMS. We closed out quarter two with an incredible Wolf Pride event. Students and staff enjoyed a morning of activities, including a dance, gym activities, board and computer games, and arts and crafts. What a great way to end quarter two with our TVMS family. Our next school-wide activity will be our Honors Assembly scheduled for February 12th.

As previously shared, the new date for report card distribution is February 5, 2015. I am also encouraging you to sign up for parent/teacher conferences scheduled for February 12th and 13th. Staff are always available to parents outside of the conference window. Please do not hesitate to contact any of your child's teachers with questions or concerns about your child's progress.

Regards,  
Shiney Ann John  
Principal



**Enjoy the Super Bowl**



# 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. **TVMS's 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.

## A Night in the PARCC

Have you heard about PARCC and wondered what that means and how it relates to your student? Please join us on Thursday, February 5th, 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.

Please RSVP to this event by completing the information on the flyer sent home with your student or access the link on the TVMS website. For more information, please call 410-313-8711.

## 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.

### Message From Media

Encourage all students to return overdue media items.

### Boxtops

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.



# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

## Tips for School Success

Know Your Child's Friends  
Your child's friends may be correlated to their academic performance. If your child's friends value school success, the more likely it will be that your child will value education. Pay attention to new friendships. Skipping classes, experimentation with drugs or alcohol or a change in your child's appearance are all indicators of what "group" they are trying to identify with. Talk to your child about your expectations and values. Let them know early on what is acceptable and what is not. For more tips on school success, please visit <http://www.understandingspecialeducation.com/school-success.html>

## Lost and Found

Please ask your student to check the lost and found on the cafeteria stage for missing items such as lunch bags, books, binders, and jackets.

Parents are also welcome to check the table that will be set up during Student Conferences.

**Unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity on February 17th.**

## Parent / Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for February 12-13. 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 at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be open through 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Use the same login information you used in the fall. If you need any assistance, please contact Student Services at 410-313-8247.

## BYOD Survey (Bring Your Own Device)

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 before February 2<sup>nd</sup>, so we may improve upon this program. Thank you for your support.

### Parent Survey:

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

## Eighth Grade Students Attending Long Reach High School in Fall 2015

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



# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

## Howard County Middle School Honors Band and 6th Grade Honors Chorus

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HCPSS Office of Fine Arts presented a musical performance at Oakland Mills Middle School on January 28th. Students from across the county joined together to create The Howard County Middle School Honors Band and the Howard County Middle School Sixth Grade Honors Chorus. Thomas Viaduct's very own Lori Reichl co-directed the Honors Band and following TVMS students represented our school:

### **Middle School Honors Band**

Nicholas Howard, 8th grade trumpet

Joseph Shin, 6th grade tuba

Hailey Ramberg, 8th grade euphonium

Tristan Stepniak, 7th grade percussion

### **Middle School Honors Chorus**

Hannah Watanabe

### **Registration**

June Kim

## Selfies on Display

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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!

## TVMS Artists Create Artwork Displayed at the Walters Art Museum!

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Angie Lopez and Lena Brennan, TVMS 8th grade artists, will have artwork displayed at the Walters Art Museum as part of an exhibition honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s vision. The exhibition, "Keeping the Dream Alive: Moving Forward," features student artwork created in response to Dr. King's quotations. The art exhibition will be on display at The Walters Art Museum in Baltimore until February 22nd.

## Spelling Bee

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Marcus Magsavo, the winner of Spelling will now be competing on 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.

**Correction to the previous newsletter:** The final two battling it out for the win were Mark Stephen and Marcus Magsavo. It was incorrectly noted as Mikahil Guimal and Marcus Magsavo. Final results:

**Winner:** Marcus Magsavo

**1st Runner Up:** Mark Stephen

**Congratulations to all participants on a job well done!**



# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

## 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 January

#### 8th Grade Students:

ELA - Robert Sias  
 Math - Sidney Strong  
 Reading - Hernando Muniz Ry  
 Science - Miyako Lewis  
 Social Studies - Ivan Osembor  
 Art - Jake Shoemake  
 FACS - Van Thang  
 Health - Aaron Walton  
 Performing Arts - Justin Chae  
 Physical Education - June Kim  
 Technology Education - Kadesia Kallon  
 World Language - Gabrielle Aidam

#### 7th Grade Students

ELA - Kobe Middleton  
 Math - Legendre Cooper  
 Reading - Maxwell Murphy  
 Science - Ngun Iang  
 Social Studies - Sui Par  
 Art - Jason Munyui  
 FACS - Gerald Brown  
 Health - Myles Cooper  
 Performing Arts - Makenzie Brooks  
 Physical Education - Brandon Langmia  
 Technology Education - Daivat Patel  
 World Language - Tristan Stepniak

#### 6th Grade Students:

ELA - Gabe Ranoa  
 Math - Jessica Aquirre Pina  
 Reading - Jessalyn Velaquez  
 Science - Kiara Ortega  
 Social Studies - Tavell Lewis-Jones  
 Art - Jady Howard  
 FACS - Eliakim Ghee  
 Health - Danielle Gilbert  
 Performing Arts - Sarah Muhammad  
 Physical Education - John Holmes  
 Technology Education - Angelina DuQuin



# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

## Naviance Strengths Assessment

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This week, all 6th, 7th and 8th grade students participated in a Naviance strengths assessments called StrengthsExplorer. Naviance is a signature program at Thomas Viaduct Middle School. It is a web-based college and career readiness platform that helps connect academic achievement to post secondary goals in grades 6-12.

The Strengths Explorer was used to assess 10 themes for students and identified each student's three strongest emerging themes, such as Confidence, Dependability, or Future Thinker. It provides explanations of these themes, strategies for capitalizing on each, and action items to help students gain insight into their greatest talents - natural patterns of thought, feeling, and behavior – to leverage in the classroom and in life.

Please ask your student to share their emerging themes that were identified based on their assessment. Your student can access the Naviance program on any computer via the TVMS website, <http://tvms.hcpss.org>. Students also used a Google Apps for Education (GAFE) document in order to identify what the individual themes mean in their own lives. Please feel free to contact your student's School Counselor with any questions.

We need to **SHIFT** from what's

**WRONG**

to what's

**STRONG.**

A diagram showing ten strengths themes arranged in a pyramid shape. The themes are: Caring, Achieving, Relating, Future Thinker, Presence, Confidence, Discoverer, Dependability, Competing, and Organizer.

Discover and develop each student's innate talents — recurring patterns of thought, feeling, or behavior — or what Gallup calls **strengths**.

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# TVMS WOLF PRIDE

## 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.

## 6th Grade Showcase Features Artwork of TVMS Students

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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 before February 2.

## Thai Student Needs a Host Family

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A high school senior exchange student from Thailand needs a new family through no fault of his own. His current host family agreed to host him to help him get started in the US, and they are hosting him until another Long Reach High School family can be found to host him ensuring he does not need to switch high schools. His exchange organization is looking for a host family for him through the end of next June. He plays guitar and participated in the Long Reach Coffee House and plans to study engineering at a university in the United States. He has excellent English.

As a host family, you share your home -- and family life -- with the student. He has his own health insurance and spending money. This is an opportunity to learn about another country and culture -- as well as make a lifelong friend from Thailand! AFS Intercultural Programs has an active program in Howard County with support for both students and families. If you would like more information, please contact Christina McGarvey at 410-997-7087 or [ckmcgarvey@yahoo.com](mailto:ckmcgarvey@yahoo.com).

## Alpha Staff Members

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Do not forget to nominate a favorite Thomas Viaduct Staff member for Alpha Staff. 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. Forms 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](#).