

# TVMS Newsletter

## February 5, 2016

### Important Dates

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Jan. 19 – Feb. 12</b> | “Soup”er Bowl of Kindness   |
| <b>Feb. 8</b>            | No School for Students  |
| <b>Feb. 9</b>            | Report Cards Issued   |
| <b>Feb. 12</b>           | TVMS National History Day   |
| <b>Feb. 15</b>           | Schools and Offices Closed  |
| <b>Feb. 18</b>           | Incoming 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Orientation<br>(Snow date is February 23) |

### A Note From the Principal

TVMS Families,

We have settled in after our unanticipated snow break. The TVMS family would like to thank our custodial staff with snow removal and building preparation following the blizzard. They worked tirelessly to ensure the school would be ready for the safe return of students and staff.

Quarter two ended on Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, and we ended the quarter with our incredible Wolf Pride event on Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. Students and staff enjoyed a morning of activities, including a dance, gym activities, board and computer games, and arts and crafts. It was a great way to celebrate with our TVMS family.

As previously shared, the new date for report card distribution is Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Please take time to review grades with your child and continue to set goals. We have provided some suggestions for a positive homework experience in this newsletter edition.

We were happy to see so many parents/guardians at the parent/teacher conferences this week. Home/school collaboration is the key to success for each child, and conferences are just one way to connect with your child's teachers. Staff is 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

### Lost and Found

Please have your student check lost and found for missing items. Tables with items will be set up until 3 p.m. on Tuesday. Any items not retrieved will be donated to a charity at the end of the school day on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.

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## Yearbook

Be sure to order the TVMS yearbook. It will be full of beautiful color photos to celebrate the amazing year. Hundreds of photos will help preserve your child's memories of the year. Forms are also available in the front office and Media Center. If you would like to order online, simply go to the link to check all of the available options (paperback, hardcover, personalization, etc.). Save money by pre-ordering your yearbook today at [www.ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://www.ybpay.lifetouch.com) (Yearbook ID Code 12257816).

## PBIS Team

The PBIS team is seeking parent/guardian input for a special project for the Honors Assembly. If you are interested in providing information regarding your student's strengths, please contact Ms. Weyforth at [alexandra\\_veyforth@hcpss.org](mailto:alexandra_veyforth@hcpss.org) or Ms. Raines at [nicole\\_raines@hcpss.org](mailto:nicole_raines@hcpss.org) for more information.

## Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation

The parents of our rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to a Middle School Orientation on Thursday, February 18 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.

## Leadership with a Purpose

Want information on scholarship, internship, and leadership opportunities? HCASC invites all middle and high school students interested in leadership with a purpose to participate in our unique student-run monthly meetings the second Wednesday of every month-

- Learn leadership skills and best practices
- Discuss current events impacting students in HCPSS
- Explore ways to make a difference in their schools and communities
- Have fun!

Come see what 100 student leaders, athletes, and artists, who meet each month already know - HCASC is for students who want to get involved and work together to make their schools and HCPSS as strong as it can be.

The next meeting is Wednesday, February 10th, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at the Homewood School. 10914 MD-108; Ellicott City, MD 21042. For more information, contact [cindy\\_drummond@hcpss.org](mailto:cindy_drummond@hcpss.org).

## Guidance

Please welcome Brian Mazzeo, Student Services Intern, to Thomas Viaduct Middle School. He is joining us from Loyola University for his last semester internship before he graduates with his counseling degree. Mr. Mazzeo will be at TVMS three days a week until May. Please feel free to stop in and welcome him!

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## Naviance

Throughout the school year, students are learning 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. Each month we will be highlighting one of 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.

This month we are highlighting: **DEPENDABILITY**

People especially talented in the DEPENDABILITY theme keep their promises and show a high level of responsibility.

Trust is important to them, and they care about being seen as responsible and trustworthy. People count on them to do what they say they will do. When they make a promise, they mean to keep it. They like being chosen to be in charge of getting something done because they know it means others see them as dependable and trustworthy. Sometimes, being asked to do more is like getting a reward; it means people believe in them. Maybe they have special chores or responsibilities at home or at school. Whatever job they are given, they want to get it done. Some people might say they act older than other kids their age because they are so responsible. They can be a good example to others. Earning the praise of teachers and parents for getting things done and doing what is right feels good to them.

Stay tuned! In our next newsletter, we will provide DEPENDABILITY action items for adults.

We look forward to "GROWING STRONG" together this school year!

## Alpha Staff

Is there a TVMS staff member who is making a difference in your student's life? Please nominate him/her for Alpha Staff. Eligible to be nominated are teachers, counselors, office, custodial, and administrative staff. Students, parents, administrators, colleagues, or community members can nominate staff for their excellence in the classroom. Forms may be picked up in the Front Office, requested via email at [michelle\\_mackall@hcpss.org](mailto:michelle_mackall@hcpss.org), or found online at the TVMS [website](#).

Please join me in congratulating our newest Alpha Staff:

|                  |                |                     |
|------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Alix Weyforth    | Tekiya Brower  | Meg Garhart         |
| Liz VanderVeen   | Nina Paparazzo | Steve Manning       |
| Brian McWilliams | Amber Stasch   | Sheila Jones-Wagner |
| Alison Daniels   | Teri Stevens   |                     |

## Hammond High News – Future Golden Bears

Eighth grade students interested in auditioning for Hammond High School's Dance Company should review the information in the link below, which includes registration information and March deadlines. [https://sites.google.com/a/hcpss.me/hahs\\_kuhl\\_dance/auditions](https://sites.google.com/a/hcpss.me/hahs_kuhl_dance/auditions)

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## Long Reach High News – Future Lightnings

### **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 4<sup>th</sup>, 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. For more information, please visit <http://lrhsboosters.com/taste-of-long-reach> or see the Long Reach Boosters Club on Facebook.

### **Military Information Night**

River Hill High School will be hosting a countywide Military Information Night on Thursday, March 17, 2016, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The program will take place in the cafeteria and media center. Representatives from the five United States Military Academies, private and state sponsored military colleges, enlistment recruiters, ROTC, and the Howard County JROTC programs at Atholton, Howard, and Oakland Mills will be present and will be manning tables to distribute information. In addition, representatives of Congressional offices will be on hand to discuss the nomination process for the Military Academies. We will also have representatives of the Military Academies discussing their application processes.

### **Tips for School Success –Homework**

Follow these tips for homework success with your child to make the most of their learning time at home:

- Provide quiet study time in a well-lit place.
- Be available to encourage, praise, advise, and supervise.
- Monitor your child’s understanding of concepts and skills.
- Check work for accuracy, neatness, and completeness.
- Provide related home-learning experiences to reinforce concepts learned at school.
- Cooperate with and be supportive of the child’s teacher.
- Help your child make education a top priority during his/her school years. Show by example that learning can be exciting and fulfilling.
- Talk with your child’s teacher or counselor if needed.

For more tips on school success, please visit <http://www.thelearningcommunity.us/resources-by-format/tips-for-parents/your-role-in-school-success.aspx>.

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## **Policy Corner - Discrimination (*Policy 1010*)**

The Board is committed to providing an educational and work environment that is free from discrimination, fosters equitable opportunities, and values diversity and commonality. To that end, the Board prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, physical or mental disability, age, gender, marital status, or sexual orientation in its educational program, including co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, and in the workplace.

Furthermore, the Board recognizes its responsibility to promote the worth and dignity of all individuals through curriculum, instruction, professional development, and resource selection. Employees and third parties share responsibility for the health, safety, and general welfare of students and for contributing to an environment free from discrimination.

It is a violation of this policy for any student, employee, or third party to engage in acts of discrimination in schools, school system offices, or at school-related activities. It is a violation of this policy to engage in retaliation with regard to allegations of discrimination. Violations of this policy are cumulative; subsequent offenses may affect the nature and severity of the consequences.

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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 January

#### 8th Grade Students:

ELA – Gabrielle Staples  
Math – Rushil Desai  
Reading – Sui Par  
Science – David Liv  
Social Studies – Sui Cin  
Art – Au'Bria Clemons  
FACS – Sean Becraft  
Health – Tye Ecker  
Performing Arts – Sophia Villagaray  
Physical Education – Vung Bawi  
Technology Education – Rebekahlynn Zielinski  
World Language – Julie Tu

#### 7th Grade Students:

ELA – Devon Gorel  
Math – Stephen Lewis  
Reading – Donovan Townsend  
Science – Feben Abiy  
Social Studies – Zachary Kane  
Art – Nyree Noboa  
FACS – Kwado Addo  
Health – Eric Cooper  
Performing Arts – Lisa Roache  
Physical Education – Bawi Par  
Technology Education – Saul Hernandez-Miranda  
World Language – John Holmes

#### 6th Grade Students:

ELA – Aadarsh Patel  
Math – Victoria Dunne  
Reading – Devin Furr  
Science – Conner Bosley  
Social Studies – Jasmine Munyui  
Art – Diya Rahi  
FACS – Shyanne Bell  
Health – Dylan Chacha  
Performing Arts – Xavier Samuel  
Physical Education – Karley Wines  
Technology Education – Gabriel Arteaga  
World Language – Jessica Annoh

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