

# TVMS Newsletter

## March 4, 2016

### Important Dates

<b>March 11</b>	Interims Issued (Date Change from March 4)
<b>March 12</b>	PTSA Quarter Auction
<b>March 21 – 24</b>	Spirit Week
<b>March 25 – April 3</b>	Spring Break
<b>April 20</b>	Family Health and Wellness Night

### A Note From the Principal

TVMS Families,

This newsletter is filled with accolades about our students' accomplishments. TVMS has much to be proud of when it comes to our students' performance and character. In order to maintain our high expectations for student performance, it is essential that we engage our students in quality instruction and create a school culture that values each student's strengths in the classroom.

Due to the student days we lost for inclement weather, interim reports will be issued on March 11th. Please set aside time to review the report with your student, discuss strategies for classroom success, and determine how the student can best use his/her strengths in each class.

Regards,  
Shiney Ann John  
Principal

### 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).

### Spring Pictures

Students had their spring pictures taken on Tuesday, March 1, 2016. Please see the instructions below on how to order your child's photos.

- All students had their picture taken.
- All families will receive a sampling of their student's pictures.
- Parents select pictures from the envelope that they would like to keep. All prices will be on the envelope provided with the pictures. Payment is due to LifeTouch.
- Any pictures parents do not wish to keep should be placed in the envelope and returned to TVMS.

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## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade MSA Science Assessment**

Reminder, the MSA Science Assessment for 8<sup>th</sup> graders is coming soon. Your child will test on the following days: **March 8 & 9, during 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> periods.**

It is essential that all students come to school on testing days. We ask that you not schedule appointments, out of school visits, or other conflicts on those days to limit the time your child misses class to make up the assessment(s).

Please help your child receive a good breakfast as well as a good night's sleep the nights on the days of the test. Also, if your child wears eyeglasses or hearing aids, be sure that he/she comes to school with them during the days of testing. Encourage your child to feel relaxed and confident during the test.

As always, THANK YOU for your support and flexibility!

## **TVMS Student Artists Participate in Art Exhibition**

Two students will represent TVMS in the Youth Art Month Exhibition at the Howard County Public Library (Miller Branch). We are proud to announce that Casey Tluangi (6th grade) and Mang Iang (7th grade) have artwork on display at the library from February 29th to April 3rd. Please view the artwork, along with all the other submissions from HCPSS Art classes.

## **TVMS Student Musicians Receive High Honors**

Three TVMS students received a Superior rating at the county's solo/ensemble festival. Congratulations to Kendall Phillips (7th grade), Jadynd Howard (7th grade), and Tristan Stepniak (8th grade) for their musical accomplishments.

## **News from the GT Film Institute**

On Friday, February 19, 2016, twenty, sixth and seventh graders attended a field trip to American University. These students represented Thomas Viaduct's Film Institute seminar.

The students met with American University professors and graduate students in small groups to present their ideas, and receive feedback, as well and learn new filmmaking techniques. Following these sessions the students ate lunch in the University dining hall and took a tour of the campus.

The students had a great time and represented Thomas Viaduct Middle School well! Their final films will be showcased at the AFI Theater in Silver Spring on Friday, April 22, 2016.

## **Car Riders - Drop Off / Pick Up Zone**

To ensure an orderly and safe process for TVMS car riders, in the mornings and afternoons when you are dropping off or picking up your student, you will see staff directing you to the designated Car Rider drop off/pick up area. The area will be clearly marked for parents. Please follow staff direction to ease the flow of traffic. We appreciate your cooperation.

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual TVMS Talent Show

Join us on Thursday, April 14th at 6:30 p.m., for the first ever Thomas Viaduct Talent Show! Students from all three grades were encouraged to sign up so they could showcase their talents and strengths and shine on the TVMS Café stage.

Proceeds from this event will go directly to the Warrior Salute Veterans Services. The TVMS PTSA will run a concession stand during the evening as well. More information to come about this exciting event!

## 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, March 9th, 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).

## 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: **DISCOVERER**

People especially talented in the DISCOVERER theme tend to be very curious and like to ask "Why?" and "How?"

A thinker and learner, they are excited about exploring ideas and making connections. They like to ask the questions "How?" and "Why?" Questions are in their mind a lot. How does that work? Why did that happen? How did someone figure that out? They are excited to explore new ideas and ask questions so they understand the "how" and "why" of the things they choose to learn. They collect and connect information and ideas. It is fun to be an expert, and when they find a subject or idea they like, they can spend a lot of time exploring it. They might be bored doing things the same way everyone else does because they like to find new ways. Talking with creative thinkers is fun because it sparks even more ideas. People can benefit from their information and ideas when they share them.

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

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## PTSA Quarter Auction Fundraiser

The PTSA is holding their Quarter Auction Fundraiser on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Don't miss out on this fun event!!!! You can pre-order your paddle now via the website: [www.tvmsptsa.org/events/](http://www.tvmsptsa.org/events/). An adult must accompany all students. We hope you can join us.

## 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](#).

Congratulations to our newest Alpha Staff recipients:

Duaine Harding

Tanya Hicks

## Coffee and Conversation with the Board of Education

The Board of Education of Howard County regularly holds *Coffee & Conversation* sessions at schools throughout the county. These meetings provide citizens with an opportunity to share a cup of coffee and chat informally with Board members. The meetings are held in various regions of the county; however, interested persons from throughout the county are invited to attend any or all of the meetings.

**The next *Coffee & Conversation* with the Board of Education will be held:**

**Thursday, March 17, 2016, 7:30- 9 p.m.**

**Dunloggin MS Media Center**

**9129 Northfield Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042**

## 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)

## 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.

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## **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.

## **Guilford Elementary Tigers 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run**

Guilford Elementary Fifth Grade Team and PTA are sponsoring the First Annual Guilford Tigers 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run on March 19 at 9 a.m. The race will start and finish at Guilford Elementary School, 7335 Oakland Mills Road; Columbia, MD 21046. All children under 18 must register and be accompanied by an adult. Registration begins Monday, February 22, and closes Friday, March 11. For more information on registration, please visit the website at <http://ges.hcpss.org/messages/first-annual-guilford-tigers-5k-and-1-mile-fun-run>.

## **Musical Theater Camp – Slayton House Camp of the Arts**

The Slayton House Theatre Camp of the Arts is offering three musical theater camps this summer.

Session One: June 20 – July 8 (Broadway edition, 3 weeks)

Session Two: July 11 – July 22

Session Three: July 25 – August 5

For more information and registration forms, visit [www.Campofthearts.com](http://www.Campofthearts.com) or call 410-730-3987.

## **Tips for School Success – Designate a Study Area**

Help your child by providing a quiet, well-lit, low-traffic space for study time. Take it one step further and institute a “communications blackout” policy with no cell phones or instant messaging allowed until schoolwork is done. For more tips on school success, please visit <http://www.sylvanlearning.com/blog/index.php/10-good-study-habits-new-school-year/>.

## **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 not more than 45 days. A first battery II offense results in a suspension or 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 or expulsion.

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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 February

#### 8th Grade Students:

ELA – Omotola Akkinuski  
Math – Far Cuai  
Reading – Fernando Cortes  
Science – Krina Patel  
Social Studies – Emily Polimeni  
Art – Lanisha Hope-Glen  
FACS – Brian Coe  
Health – Hirti Patel  
Performing Arts – Tristan Stepniak  
Physical Education – Namia Portillo  
Technology Education – Shelby Kone  
World Language – Selena Reyna

#### 7th Grade Students:

ELA – Alisha Khan  
Math – Reine Njobe  
Reading – Zaria Hilliard  
Science – Biak Mang  
Social Studies – Tavell Lewis Jones  
Art – Layla Trammell  
FACS – Gaspara Cole  
Health – Kendall Phillips  
Performing Arts – NaShanna Hilliard  
Physical Education – Malachi Mayers  
Technology Education – Sean Wilson  
World Language – Amir Mixon

#### 6th Grade Students:

ELA – Avery VanOosten  
Math – Lily Lian  
Reading – Lyana Sok  
Science – Long Voung  
Social Studies – Laraib Fatima  
Art – Jasmine Munyui  
FACS – Sarah Al-Yaseri  
Health – Christian Anderson  
Performing Arts – Katja Bren  
Physical Education – Preston Logan  
Technology Education – Jaxen Frank  
World Language – Morgan Prater

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