

JOHN POOLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/poolems>

August 11, 2025

Dear John Poole Middle School Families,

On behalf of the staff of John Poole Middle School, I would like to welcome you to the 2025-2026 school year. We are so excited to get this school year started and to work with each of your children! As the principal of John Poole Middle School, I am truly looking forward to an amazing year of learning for our students. As we begin a new school year, we know communication is extremely important to the success of our school community. I will send out weekly Timberwolf updates every Sunday night through email.

As a reminder, there are optional summer math packets posted on our school website. Hard copies are also available in the main office from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

I encourage you to continually check our [school website](#) as well as the [Montgomery County Public Schools](#) (MCPS) website for the most up-to-date information. Please also view the [MCPS 2025-2026 school year calendar](#) to see closures and early release days. We encourage you to print this calendar.

I would like to start by introducing the new staff members that we have welcomed to John Poole Middle School. They are each amazing people who will contribute in positive ways to the work we are doing here at John Poole. Please join me in welcoming:

- **Elisabeth Bendo, Science Teacher**
- **Jami Earle, Special Education Teacher**
- **Henok Ejabo, Building Service Worker-ICB**
- **Joanna Hirsch, Autism Program Teacher**
- **Genevieve Loving, Counselor**
- **Keith May, Security Assistant**
- **Kristen Michela, Staff Development Teacher**

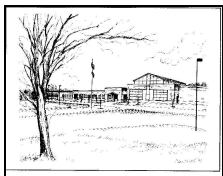
I know that we have put the right people in the right places, and I believe that we will have a great year this year for our Timberwolves!

In addition to this letter, you will find a great deal of information for you to review and use prior to the opening of the school year on our website. While we wait for further direction from the Board of Education, the [25-26 Back to School Resources](#) link on the school website will be updated. The [25-26 Back to School Resources](#) link provides information on the school supply list, bus route information, homeroom assignments, information on how to join the PTA, and so much more. If you cannot access the online resources, hard copies will be available by appointment only at the John Poole Middle School main office.

We will continue to use the student information system called Synergy. ParentVUE is a valuable tool to enable parents/guardians to monitor their children's progress throughout the school year. Information regarding optional parent sessions for ParentVue will be coming soon. Please be sure to update your contact information as this serves as a primary source of contact information during the school year. We will continue using myMCPS Classroom as our instructional platform for teachers. Please visit our [this MCPS webpage](#) for more information.

As you plan for the start of the school year here are some additional dates that you may want to mark on your calendar:

- **Monday, August 25** – ****New**** Student Transition Day. This is the first day for all 6th graders and those 7th and 8th graders who are new to John Poole Middle School. This full-day, non-instructional day is designed to support students entering a new school level, as well as any student new to the school due to a recent move or transfer. Our goal is to utilize this day to ensure that every student transitioning to a new learning environment begins the school year feeling connected, confident, and ready to learn.



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- **Tuesday, August 26** – First day of school for all students!
- **September 1** - No School- Labor Day
- **September 4** - Back-to-School Night, beginning at 5:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for parents to meet their child's teachers, learn more about our curriculum, and find out other important information about school procedures and expectations. A parent meeting to discuss the Family Life curriculum as well as ParentVue support sessions will take place at 5:00 p.m. Classroom visits will begin at 6:05 p.m.
- **September 1-8** – Scholastic Book Fair in the Media Center
- **September 10** – Student Picture Day
- **September 23** – Non-Instructional Day No School for Teachers and Students
- **September 26** – Early Release Day (dismissal begins at 12:10 p.m.)
- **October 2** – Non-Instructional Day – No school for students and teachers

Immunization Requirements for the 2025-2026 School Year: All students must have up-to-date immunization records prior to the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

Parents should contact their doctor to make sure their child is properly immunized and submit a copy of the documentation to the Health Room as soon as possible, but no later than **Tuesday, August 26, 2025**, the first day of the 2025-2026 school year. Immunizations for students new to MCPS and children in Kindergarten through Grade 12, are available Monday through Friday, by appointment, at locations in Rockville and Germantown.

Appointments are available at:

School Health Services Immunization Clinic at Rocking Horse Road: 4910 Macon Road. Rockville; Phone: 240-740-4430
Germantown Health Center: 12900 Middlebrook Rd. Germantown; Phone: 240-777-3380. [Here](#) is the full list of immunization requirements for students.

Remind Communication System

Remind is a messaging platform that will be used to communicate among MCPS schools, teachers, students, and parents. School staff, students, and parents will all have Remind accounts to enable them to send and/or receive messages using a preferred mode of communication, such as text message, email, or phone call and in their preferred language. Parents can log into their Remind account via the web or using the Remind app.

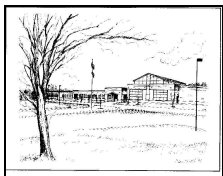
To get set up, download the Remind app from your Apple or Android provided store onto your mobile phone. Log in using your mobile phone number or personal email address, which should be the same ones listed in your parent record with ParentVUE. A code will be sent to the mobile phone or personal email address you used to log in to verify your account. Enter the code into the field provided. Create a password for your Remind account. Click [here](#) for further directions.

Revised MCPS Cell Phone Policy

MCPS [Regulation COG-RA, Personal Mobile Devices](#), was revised on May 9, 2025. This revised policy underscores MCPS's commitment to fostering a focused and productive learning environment while acknowledging the role of technology. The regulation seeks to create a learning environment that balances the benefits of technology with the need to minimize distractions and promote focused learning and classroom engagement.

MCPS revised guidelines for personal devices (cell phones, smart watches, AirPods, earbuds, headphones, and the like) include:

- **Before and After School:** Students in all grade levels may use their personal mobile devices before the school day begins and after it ends.



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- **During the School Day:** Students will need to keep their personal devices turned off and stored away (this includes during class time, lunch and transitions between periods)
 - **Device Storage:** Students are responsible for ensuring their devices are turned off and out of sight during times of unauthorized use and must ensure that they are secured at all times. All personal device items should be secured in their school locker. Lockers should be locked at all times and combinations should never be shared with other students. *(Please note: MCPS assumes no responsibility or liability for loss, damage or theft of a device or for the unauthorized use of any personal device.)*
- **On School Buses:** Students are permitted to use their personal devices while riding MCPS buses and charter buses.

Parents/guardians should call the school at 240-740-4200 to get a message to their child(ren) and/or should text their child(ren) before or after school with messages.

Chromebook/Technology Information: All students who are new to JPMS will receive a touch screen Lenovo Chromebook and charger signed out to them to use throughout the school year. Current JPMS students will continue to use the Chromebook that was provided to them last school year. Students will be expected to charge their device at home each evening and bring the device back to school every day for use in their classes. Chargers are to be left at home, so they are not lost/misplaced at school. [Here](#) is the link to the Chromebook Agreement that will be sent home with all students on the first day of school.

JPMS will only have a limited number of loaner Chromebooks and chargers this year available for students if they forget their device or it needs to be repaired, therefore it is very important for students to take excellent care of their device and remember to bring it to school each day. **Students should charge their device each night and keep their charger at home.** Students who no longer have their MCPS-issued Chromebook charger should purchase a replacement for home use. When searching for a replacement, use the terms "charger for Lenovo 300e Chromebook". Students will be responsible for any damage beyond the normal wear and tear of the Chromebook; more information will be shared regarding this and any fees.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at Jon.Green@mcpsmd.org. You can also call the school and leave a message at 240-740-4200. I value open communication as we work to provide your children with the highest level of education! I am looking forward to beginning our work together.

Sincerely,

Jon Green
Principal