

THE WEEKLY REDLAND MS BULLDOG BLAST 2023-2024

Below are important reminders to help you stay involved and engaged with your student's upcoming events at Redland Middle School. The main office is open from 7:45am – 3:45pm (4:30pm on after school activity days).

As a reminder, we require the scanning of all IDs when a parent visits Redland MS. All visitors with an appointment who are attending meetings are required to check in at the main office with an ID. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

Bookmark our website: <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/redlandms/>

Attendance:

Attendance is important! We want to remind all our families to **PLEASE** keep students home if they are not feeling well or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or illness. You can report daily absences two ways:

1. Call the main office attendance line at 240-740-0905
2. Email our attendance secretary: Ms. Neidy P. Juarez: Neidy_P_Juarez@mcpsmd.org
3. Please follow this [link](#) to learn more specific information about when to keep your child home.

The Weather is Changing:

This is a reminder that students should dress in layers as the temperatures do vary from room to room and from morning to afternoon. Jackets and heavy clothing should be placed in lockers.

Charging Chromebooks:

It is an expectation that all students are ready for instruction every day with a fully charged chromebook. Please remember to charge those chromebooks nightly.

Our Email/Social Media:

If you need to get in touch with us throughout the day, please email the administration and we will respond to you within 24 hours via email or phone. Please remember, we are here to assist in any way possible:

Assistant Principal/Grade 6 Administrator: Ms. Range - Kristen_M_Range@mcpsmd.org / https://twitter.com/MsRange_AP

Assistant Principal/Grade 7 Administrator: Ms. Murray - Molly_B_Murray@mcpsmd.org / <https://twitter.com/>

Principal/Grade 8 Administrator: Mr. Niper - Matthew_T_Niper@mcpsmd.org / <https://twitter.com/RedlandPrin>

Our weekly email has six sections:

RMS Information and Weekly Calendar
Student Recognitions
RMS Reminders
Counseling Corner Updates
PTA News and Updates
MCPS Community News and Information

1. REDLAND INFORMATION and WEEKLY CALENDAR

After School Activities Site: [LINK](#)

[Spirit Week Flier](#)

Monday: 10/23 - PJ Day

Tuesday: 10/24 - Class Colors Day

Girls Softball Vs Farquhar MS at Home - 3:30 pm

XC and Boys Softball Practice Only

GOT - Room 168 - Mr. Garcia

Game Club - Ms. Romano

Soccer Club - Mr. Torres

Chess Club - Ms. Blanchard

STEM Club - Room 130 - Mr. Geddes

Wednesday: 10/25 - Wacky Tacky Day

Boys Softball at Rosa Parks MS - 3:30 pm

XC and Girls Softball HOME Vs Rosa Parks - 3:30 pm

Model UN - Room 221 - Ms. Fong

Jazz Band - Room 189 - Ms. Young

Yearbook Club - Ms. Pham

Lacrosse Club

Fitness Club

Thursday: 10/26 - Sports Day

Athletics - End of Season - Team Pictures & Celebrations, Jersey Turn in

Gardening Club

GOT - Room 168 - Mr. Garcia

GSA - Room 211 - Ms. Kibler

Latin Dance Club - Ms. Nocente

Soccer Club - Mr. Torres

Tennis Club

Friday: 10/27 - Halloween Costume Day

Saturday: 10/28

The Game Changer Conference

Join us for a transformative experience designed to reignite and build the social-emotional wellness, confidence, and values our young males need. Tailored for African American and minority students from 4th grade to college, this conference is a beacon of hope and empowerment.

Details:

- Date: Saturday, October 28, 2023
- Time: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Location: Seneca Valley High School,
19401 Crystal Rock Dr.,
Germantown, Maryland 20874
- Safety: Masks are optional but recommended for added protection.

If you are interested, please register here:

<https://form.jotform.com/sbherring/ucf-gc-registration-all-2023>

October Dates/Events:

Tuesday, October 31 - End of MP1

November Dates/Events:

Wednesday, November 1 - No School Students

Tuesday, November 14 - PTA Meeting (McTeacher Night at Derwood McDonalds)

Thursday, November 16 - Fall Drama Production

Friday, November 17 - Fall Drama Production

Monday, November 20 - Early Release Day and Parent Conferences

Tuesday, November 21 - Early Release Day and Parent Conferences

Wednesday, November 22 - Friday, November 24 - No School (Thanksgiving Break)

2. Student Recognitions:

Congratulations:

2024 MCPS Middle School Honors Chorus Students:

Lila Hasty

Emma Cella

Toni Soetan

Student of the Month:

Leader In Me Resources:

Register Here: <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy/>

7 Habits of Highly Effective Families (pt 1)

October 23, 6:00:- 7:00 pm

Leader in Me is built on the timeless universal principles and paradigms of the 7 Habits. This workshop invites families, caregivers, advocates and community leaders to share in the experience of their students and learn how the Habits can be applied at home. Presented by FranklinCovey Education.

Recommended for families of elementary, middle, and high school students.

7 Habits of Highly Effective Families (pt 2)

Nov. 27, 6:00:- 7:00 pm

Leader in Me is built on the timeless universal principles and paradigms of the 7 Habits. This workshop invites families, caregivers, advocates and community leaders to share in the experience of their students, and learn how the Habits can be applied at home. Presented by FranklinCovey Education. Recommended for families of elementary, middle, and high school students.

7 Habits Family Night

December 4, 6:00-7:00 pm

Leader in Me is built on the timeless universal principles and paradigms of the 7 Habits. Bring the family for a fun time! Write a family mission statement, play Leader in Me bingo, and enjoy time synergizing with other families. It is recommended that you attend the 7 Habits of Highly Effective Families workshop prior to attending this workshop. If you are unable to attend the workshop, the recording from 7 Habits of Highly Effective Families session will be made available in advance of this workshop.

Recommended for families of elementary, middle, and high school students.

3. Reminders:

Remind to 8th grade parents: Registration for Advanced High School Programs opened in ParentVUE on October 10th. Applications for these programs are due November 3rd.

Check out this link for more information on the types of programs:

MCPS High School Programs Website:

<https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/high> (English)

[Página web de programas de escuelas secundarias de MCPS](#) (Spanish)

High School Programs by Cluster:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EMSLiUPXIX4WzrKHGcfQId2JyF5_keN5-gc6lgwbBv0/preview
(English)

[Programas de escuela secundaria enumerados por grupo](#) (Spanish)

NEW... Registration for WINTER SPORTS - Girls and Boys Basketball - opens October 30th, 2023 and concludes Friday, December 1st. See the [Winter Athletics Handout](#) for more information (Also available in the Student Launch Pad).

Chromebook Information:

[Lost or Damaged Chromebook Procedures](#)

[Lost or Damaged Chromebook Procedures \(Spanish\)](#)

[Chromebook Agreement](#)

[Chromebook Agreement \(Spanish\)](#)

Personal Mobile Device Policy:

Students are expected to demonstrate Redland Respect regarding the use of their personal mobile devices. This includes cell phones, wireless earbuds (air pods), and smart watches.

At 8:15am, all devices MUST be silenced and out of sight. We are encouraging all students to place their devices in their lockers for the day. Headphones (wired only) are permitted for use throughout the school day on Chromebooks for instructional purposes.

Students should refrain from taking photographs or videos of other students AT ALL TIMES at Redland MS. Redland MS is not responsible for any lost or damaged personal mobile devices.

Students are permitted to use their personal mobile devices:

1. School bus to and from school,
2. Between 7:45am – 8:15am,
3. After the 3:00pm dismissal bell.

Students **ARE NOT** permitted to use cell phones, wireless earbuds, and cellular watches during the day. MCPS Regulation COG-RA was recently amended to reflect this change.

For safety purposes, students should remove headphones while in the hallways when traveling between classes.

Students who violate MCPS Regulation COG-RA and use personal mobile devices (PMDs) during the school day without permission, will be subject to disciplinary action and will have the device secured in the main office for a caregiver to pick up after 3:00pm.

Dress/Clothing Reminder:

Because the building is a learning-focused environment, students should express themselves through their wardrobe within these guidelines:

- No hoods, hats, or headwear inside the building (Religious headwear is welcomed)
- Clothing should be comfortable for learning and appropriate for the school environment:
 - Tops and bottom must cover all undergarments
 - Explicit content cannot be displayed on garments

This is also a reminder that students should dress in layers as the temperatures do vary from room to room and from morning to afternoon. Jackets and heavy clothing should be placed in lockers.

3. Counseling Corner Updates:

Counselor Contact Information- Office phone (240)740-0910

Mental Health Awareness Week Set for Oct. 30–Nov. 4

MCPS and the Montgomery County School Psychologists' Association (MCSPA) will host free events the week of Oct. 30–Nov. 4 to give youth and families the opportunity to hear from mental health experts on a variety of issues. A culminating virtual resource fair and expert panel will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4.

From 6–8 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 1 at Richard Montgomery High School, former professional football player turned mental health expert and advocate, Dr. Jay Barnett, will speak in-person to students about the importance of mental health, breaking down stigma and seeking help. [Read more.](#)

NEW...Holiday Giving Project

In need of Holiday Help? The Holiday Giving Project (HGP) has provided Thanksgiving and December holiday assistance to low-income households for over 30 years. Local non-profits, faith-based organizations and public agencies make it possible. Referral forms were mailed to families this past week. If you and your family are in need and would like to be referred, complete the form and return to Mr. Garcia in the Counseling Office by October 26, 2023. Please note completing the form does not guarantee assistance will be provided.

Mr. Megary- 6th grade and Department Head

Jay_Megary@mcpsmd.org

Mrs. Pulver- 7th grade

Caitlin_Pulver@mcpsmd.org

Mrs. Finch- 8th grade

Melissa_S_Finch@mcpsmd.org

4. PTA Notes:

Our November PTA meeting will be at McDonalds! Save the date - Nov. 14th.

PTA Membership:

redland.memberhub.com

Stay in the know with the PTA:

- 1) Look for the [PTA link](#) at the top of the RMS website
- 2) Find and like us on Facebook! - @RedlandPTA

5. MCPS Communication and Information:

The Congressional App Challenge

On behalf of Congress member Jamie Raskin, we are so excited to invite your students to participate in the [2023 Congressional App Challenge \(CAC\)](#). The Congressional App Challenge's mission is to inspire, include, and innovate efforts around stem, coding, and computer science education. Since its inception in 2015, participation in the challenge has grown exponentially. It is considered the most prestigious prize in student computer science.

For the Challenge, students create an app on just about any topic of interest to them on any platform they choose (web app, desktop/PC app, a web browser extension, robot, Ruby on Rails, mobile, etc.) using any programming language they prefer (C/C++, Objective C, C#, Java, JavaScript, Python, Ruby, PHP, Swift, "block code," etc.). The app must have some degree of functionality to be competitive. Then, students submit a short video of 1-3 minutes long explaining their app.

Students must be in middle school or high school on November 1st, 2023. They can compete as individuals, or in teams of up to four (4) students. At least half of teammates on any team must live or attend school in Rep. Raskin's 8th Congressional District.

The deadline for students to register and submit their app online is 12:00 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 1, 2023.

For your convenience, below, are several links to important information regarding the CAC:

- [Rep. Raskin's Congressional App Challenge Webpage](#)
- [Congressional App Challenge Website](#)
- [Congressional App Challenge Rules](#)
- [Congressional App Challenge Student Registration](#)
- [Congressional App Challenge Prizes](#)
- [Congressional App Challenge Past Winners](#)

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please contact us at (301) 354-1000 or nina.weisbroth@mail.house.gov and hailey.roh@mail.house.gov.

Virtual Q&A Session to be held Oct. 24 on End of Course Exams Policy for Students in Grade 9

The Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs will have a virtual parent/caregiver Q&A session on Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 6:00 p.m. to share information and answer any questions on the recently approved [End of Course exams policy](#) for ninth grade students. Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year for ninth grade students (Class of 2027), the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) End of Course (EOC) exams for life science and government will count as 20 percent of the student's final grade in the respective high school level biology and government courses (NSL).

Virtual Q&A Session

Date: Oct. 24 at 6 p.m.

Meeting Link:

<https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/87155024563?pwd=akRNU1VJQlFrZTZaakJxRE5JWU1KQT09>

Applications Open for Montgomery Virtual Academy

New this school year, students in Grades 2-12 can apply to the Montgomery Virtual Academy (MVA) during two admission periods in alignment with the MCPS Regional/Countywide School Application Programs. The first round will run from Tuesday, October 10 through Friday, November 3, 2023 and is for entry into the 2024–2025 school year, as well as the waitlist for Semester 2 of the current 2023–2024 school year. The second round, which will run from Friday, January 5 to February 9, 2024, is for the waitlist for the 2024–2025 school year.

The MVA is a full-time online learning environment that uses a blended instructional model that uses both synchronous (live) and asynchronous (independent) instruction

For more information, visit the [MVA webpage](#).

Direct Donation Campaign:

Redland MS wants to purchase 4 new outdoor tables for use during lunch and for classes to meet outside. If you wish to donate to RMS and support our project we would greatly appreciate it!

[Donate Here](#)

Schaeffer's Piano

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has an agreement with Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., to provide MCPS with new grand, upright, and digital pianos to be used in schools. Schaeffer's Piano Co. Inc., located in Rockville, Maryland, is the area's oldest piano store. This agreement also provides MCPS families and staff an opportunity to purchase these and other pianos for considerably reduced prices at an annual piano sales event. This year's liquidation sales event will take place November 11–19, 2023, at 105 North Stonestreet Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Sales will be by appointment only to provide an opportunity for you to purchase these pianos before they are offered for sale to the public. All pianos will carry a 15-year transferable warranty. Each piano will come with a bench and one free in-house tuning. For additional information, you may visit the Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., website at www.schaefferspiano.com. To make an appointment for the sale, between November 11–19, 2023, please call the Schaeffer's Piano Company appointment desk at 301-424-1147. We are grateful to be working with Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., to support our school music programs and help MCPS keep new and well-maintained instruments in our schools each year. If you have any questions, please contact Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., at 301-424-1144.