

## Mr. Levine's Message

Greetings Bulldog Families,

I hope this message finds you well.

Congratulations to the students who earned a place on the Honor Rolls for Marking Period 1! We look forward to recognizing our students' academic achievements in the coming weeks!

**Parent Conferences** will be held **Monday, November 25, 2024**. Conferences will take place in the cafeteria and gym. Additional information on this year's conference format was shared in a separate communication.

Please note that this is just one opportunity for parent/guardian conferences and that you may contact a teacher, counselor, or administrator to request a conference at any time.

**November 25 and 26 are early release days for students.** We will dismiss students at 12:30 p.m. on both days. **Schools and offices will be closed November 27–29 for Thanksgiving break.**



*Happy Thanksgiving*

On behalf of the staff here at Baker Middle School, we wish all our families a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. We are all so thankful to be a part of *your* family!

*"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."*

~ John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Thanksgiving Day Proclamation 3560  
November 5, 1963

Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can be of assistance in any way.

Thank you for your support and partnership.

Best,  
Sam Levine

## SCB/LFI Fundraiser

Organized by SGA

**GET READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS~  
BUY \$2 BRACELETS IN THE MORNINGS OF  
DECEMBER 16-20**

CONTACT  
ANGELA.E.BLANKENSHIP2@MCPSMD.NET  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



## Looking Ahead

**No Paw Prints  
December 1, 2024**

- November —**
- Nat'l Native American Heritage Month**
- Lung Cancer Awareness Month**
- Monday, November 25**
- Early Release Day for Students
- Baker dismisses at 12:30 p.m.
- Parent Conferences
- Tuesday, November 26**
- Early Release Day for Students
- Baker dismisses at 12:30 p.m.
- November 27–29**
- Systemwide closure and Thanksgiving Break; Schools and offices closed
- December 2–6 — 6th Grade Outdoor Ed**
- Mr. Haren's Science classes attend December 2–December 4.
- Mr. Pekar's Science classes attend December 4–December 6
- Tuesday, December 3 — Activity Buses**
- Basketball – Co-Ed, Mr. Smith, Gym
- eSports Club – *7th and 8th graders only*, Mr. Maddox, Room 134
- Wed, December 4 — Activity Buses**
- Basketball – Co-Ed, Mr. Smith, Gym
- Thursday, December 5 — Activity Buses**
- Basketball – Co-Ed, Mr. Smith, Gym
- Jazz Band, Ms. Fell, Room 107
- Kraft Club, Ms. Ross, Room 101
- Feedback needed for the FY26 School Calendar!**
- MCPS continues to develop the 2025–2026 Traditional School Year Calendar. The district is seeking additional feedback from staff, families, students and the community. Take a moment to give us your feedback on [Round 2 of the survey](#). The survey will close on Sunday, December 1.

## Pillars of Character

“Character – the willingness to accept responsibility for one’s own life – is the source from which self-respect springs.” *Joan Didion*

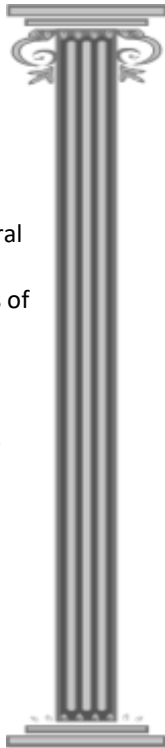
Character education is an integral part of the instructional program at Baker Middle School. A person of good character is ethical and has moral strength. Baker Middle School will recognize students who exemplify the core universal values of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.

### November Character Trait – Trustworthiness

Trustworthiness is being honest, telling the truth, keeping promises, and being loyal. Trustworthy people do not lie, cheat, or steal. They have the moral courage to do the right thing, even when it is hard to do.

### November Students of the Month

Odyssey – Julia Civillico, Dale Kumar  
Terrapins – Elisabeth Heitzler, Owen Schmidt  
Champions – Kyla Amoako, Xavier Mohammed  
Explorers – Esther-Joy Lutz, Mason Pinnock



## Time to Bundle Up

With the cold temperatures in the morning we want to remind you that our doors open for students at 7:50 a.m. on regular school days and 9:50 a.m. on days when there is a two-hour delay. Staff are not on duty until those times and, thus, there is no one to supervise your child or let them in to the building. Please make sure students come bundled warmly in preparation for the cold temperatures outside. Thank you!



## From the SGA

### Friendship Dance

Parents/Guardians — the annual Friendship Dance takes place on **February 7, 2025**. Please help make this event a success by purchasing any of the decorations on this [wishlist](#) and dropping them off at the Main Office.

### Book Collection

Baker MS Community — please donate new and gently used books for MCPS Foster Care students. Drop off in the Media Center **now through April 24 at 3:00 p.m.**

## C-SPAN STUDENTCAM2025

Students in 6th through 12th grades are invited to participate in C-SPAN’s annual national video documentary StudentCam competition, which encourages them to think critically about issues that affect our communities.

This year, students are being asked to create a five-to-six-minute video documentary on a topic that relates to the competition theme, “Your Message to the President.” Students may compete individually or in groups.

**Monday, January 20, 2025, Inauguration Day, is the submission deadline.** C-SPAN awards cash prizes to the top 150 student documentaries. [FAQs](#) [Getting Started](#)

## Winter Weather Is Coming: Are You Ready?

Winter is coming, and MCPS has your back with information on how to Stay Connected to get the latest information on weather delays and closures.

Keep your contact information up-to-date: Visit the ParentVUE link on the [MCPS Community Tech Support website](#)

### Know the Color-Coded Statuses:

- **Green:** Normal Operations
- **Yellow:** Delayed Opening
- **Blue:** Early Dismissal
- **Red:** Closed
- **Orange:** Modified Virtual Instruction

### [Learn more about Color Codes](#)

**Why it Matters:** Decisions are made with expert input and local assessments to keep everyone safe.

**How to Know:** Check the MCPS website and social media for real-time updates.

### Don’t Miss the Superintendent’s Video

Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/ugfu7nIDpuk>

## Inclement Weather and Emergency Closures

The safety of our MCPS community is critical, and being able to communicate with students, staff, and families during severe weather or other emergencies is of the utmost importance. Use this [link](#) to find the ways you can connect with MCPS to receive emergency operational information from the school system. The current operating status options for the school district appear on the MCPS website and on individual school websites. In the event of a change in operational status, this [link](#) will provide more information about the MCPS Operating Status options.



### STAY CONNECTED

- **VISIT** the [MCPS homepage](#).
- **CALL** 240-740-3000. Staff take calls from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays thru Fridays, in English and Spanish (240-740-2845)
- **READ** news and information sent via email and text message and on the [MCPS News](#) page.
- **FOLLOW** the MCPS social media pages on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram in English and Spanish.
- <http://twitter.com/mcps>  
<https://www.facebook.com/mcpsmd>  
[https://www.instagram.com/mcps\\_md](https://www.instagram.com/mcps_md)
- <https://www.facebook.com/mcpsespanol>  
<https://twitter.com/MCPSEspanol>  
<https://www.instagram.com/mcpsenespanol/>
- **SIGN UP** for [emails and text alerts](#) and make sure your [ParentVue](#) information is up to date.
- **WATCH** the MCPS cable channels Comcast 34 (1071 HD), Verizon 36 or RCN 89

## PTA Dates & Contacts

### UPCOMING PTA MEETING DATES:

**Tuesday, December 10**

6 pm – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee

7 pm – PTA Meeting

**Tuesday, January 14**

6 pm – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee

7 pm – PTA Meeting

**Wednesday, February 12**

6 pm – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee

7 pm – PTA Meeting

### PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Amy Bartosch, President –

[BakerPTA@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTA@yahoo.com)

Kalihah Barber, Vice President –

[BakerPTAVP@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTAVP@yahoo.com)

Shannon West, Treasurer –

[BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com)

Stacy Smith, Secretary –

[BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com)

Jaime Kemp, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee –

[BakerPTA8thGrade@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTA8thGrade@yahoo.com)

Visit our webpage!



Visit our Facebook Page!



## Hello from the PTA!

The Baker SGA is hosting their annual Friendship Dance on 2/07 and is looking for donations to make the dance a success. Please check out their wishlist & drop any donations in the main office! (Wishlist is linked on the PTA Facebook page.)

**DATE CHANGE – December PTA meeting has been moved to Tuesday, 12/10 – please update your calendars!**



Want to become a member?  
Scan the QR code to link to our online membership form!

## Upcoming Events & Volunteer Opportunities!

**Tuesday, December 10th**

**Ledo Pizza Spirit Night**

- ❖ All day (11 am to 9 pm)
- ❖ Use code "Fundraiser" online or mention the Baker PTA fundraiser if dining in or calling ahead for carryout.

**Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, 20th**

**Staff Appreciation Week**

- ❖ PTA will be providing grab & go breakfast items each day
- ❖ PTA will be hosting a Baked Potato & Chili Bar on Thursday, 12/19
- ❖ Please check our website or Facebook page for the SignUp Genius links for both events!



Want more information? Scan the QR Code!

## Fechas y Contactors de la PTA:

### PRÓXIMAS FECHAS DE REUNIONES DE LA PTA:

**Martes 10 de diciembre**  
6 pm – comité de octavo grado  
7 pm – reunión de la PTA

**Martes 14 de enero**  
6 pm – comité de octavo grado  
7 pm – reunión de la PTA

**Miércoles 12 de febrero**  
6 pm – comité de octavo grado  
7 pm – reunión de la PTA

### JUNTA EJECUTIVA DE LA PTA:

Amy Bartosch, Presidenta –  
[BakerPTA@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTA@yahoo.com)

Kalihah Barber, Vicepresidenta –  
[BakerPTAVP@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTAVP@yahoo.com)

Shannon West, Tesorera –  
[BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTATreasurer@yahoo.com)

Stacy Smith, Secretaria –  
[BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTASecr@yahoo.com)

Jaime Kemp, comité de 8 grado –  
[BakerPTA8thGrade@yahoo.com](mailto:BakerPTA8thGrade@yahoo.com)

Visita nuestra página web!



Visita nuestra página de Facebook!



## Hola de la PTA!

Baker SGA organizará su Baile de la Amistad anual el 2/07 y está buscando donaciones para que el baile sea un éxito. ¡Consulte su lista de deseos y deje cualquier donación en la oficina principal! (La lista de deseos está vinculada en la página de Facebook de la PTA).

**CAMBIO DE FECHA: la reunión de la PTA de diciembre se trasladó al martes 10/12. ¡Actualice sus calendarios!**



¿Quieres ser miembro?  
¡Escanee el código QR para vincularlo a su formulario de membresía en línea!

### ¡Próximos eventos!

#### Martes 10 de diciembre

##### Noche de espíritu de Ledo Pizza

- ❖ Todo el día (de 11:00 a 21:00)
- ❖ Utilice el código "Recaudación de fondos" cuando haga su pedido en línea o mencione la recaudación de fondos de la PTA de Baker si cena o llama con anticipación para pedir comida para llevar.

#### Del 16 al 20 de diciembre

- ❖ La PTA proporcionará productos de desayuno para llevar todos los días.
- ❖ La PTA organizará una barra de papas al horno y chile el jueves 19/12.
- ❖ ¡Consulte nuestro sitio web o página de Facebook para ver los enlaces SignUp Genius para ambos eventos!



¿Quieres más información? ¡Escanea el código QR!