



Pikesville High School

Pikesville High School Newsletter

7621 Labyrinth Road Baltimore MD 21208 PH 410-887-1217 Fax 410-486-8436

Principal: Edmund L. Mitzel, Jr.

Assistant Principals: Allen Brown, Joy O'Brien, Kevin Whatley

You will find this entire Newsletter at: www.phs.edu

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 24 – January 2

December 26 – January 1

January 5

January 6

January 7

January 10

January 10

January 12

January 14

January 17

January 19

January 20

January 21

January 24

Christmas/Winter Break

Kwanzaa

Boys' Basketball – 6:30

Varsity Wrestling – 5:30

Boys' Basketball – 7:00

Girls' Basketball – 3:45

Boys' Basketball – 5:15

Boys' Basketball – 6:30

Girls' Basketball – 7:00

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's

Birthday Observed

School Closed

Boys' Basketball – 6:30

Varsity Wrestling – 5:30

Girls' Basketball – 7:00

Professional Development

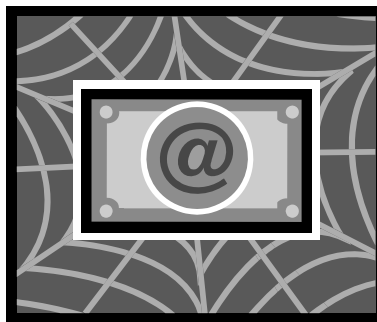
Schools closed for Students

January 24	Girls' Basketball – 4:00
January 24	Boys' Basketball – 5:45
January 25	CP-ED Varsity Track – 3:45
January 26	Boys' Basketball – 6:30
January 31	Boys' Basketball – 5:15
February 1	Varsity Wrestling – 5:30
February 2	Boys' Basketball – 6:30
February 4	Girls' Basketball – 7:00
February 7	Reports Cards Distributed
February 8	PTSA Meeting 7:00
February 9	Girls' Basketball – 6:30
February 11	Girls' Basketball – 7:00
February 14	St. Valentine's Day
February 16	Girls' Basketball – 6:30
February 21	President's Day Schools closed

Our Website is continually updated!!!

Find: Calendars, teacher pictures and contact information, ALL athletic news and calendars, PTSA news, Fundraising events and details, bell schedules, etc.

Never miss out on anything again! Check it out!





Principal's Message

Student Progress

We are moving towards the mid-point of the second quarter and now would be an excellent time for you to review your child's progress this school year. I encourage you to contact any of your son/daughter's teachers if you are not satisfied with their progress. Interim reports were issued to students the week ending on December 3. The purpose of this report is to give you an update of their progress while allowing students time to make a positive change to improve their grade. A parent/teacher conference, phone call or email is a great way for you to discuss their progress. The **Edline** program continues to be an excellent tool to allow you and your student access to their grades and information for each course. If you need account information, please visit the main office. I encourage you to stay involved in your child's education.

Seniors intending to graduate need to be enrolled in the correct classes to ensure that they graduate this spring. Taking and passing all 4 High School Assessments is a 2011 graduation requirement. Please make sure you are in contact with the school if you have any questions about graduation requirements. This is a crucial time to talk with your child about setting challenging goals and working hard to complete all school work and home assignments.

Parent Involvement

Our students benefit greatly from active, involved parents. Joining our **PTSA** is an excellent way to pledge your support of the home/school connection. The **PTSA** Executive Board meets on the second Tuesday of the month if you are able to share your time and talents with us. Please contact our PTSA President, Mrs. Lois Stern, for further details. (Pikesville.pts@gmail.com)

This edition of the newsletter is full of events and activities that you may select in order to partner with the school. Our school learning community is strengthened by your efforts and commitment to support your child. Please read the information about our upcoming schedule of events. We look forward to seeing you.

Announcements

We are continuing to electronically send parents a copy of our daily morning announcements. This is one additional way you are able to be connected to the events and activities of our school.

If you have not been receiving the announcements, you may email Mr. Johnson (kjohnson2@bcps.org) or Lois Stern (pikesville.pts@gmail.com) to be added to our contact list.

As the holiday season approaches I want to wish you and your family a joyous holiday season. Best wishes for a happy, healthy New Year!





On Wednesday, November 10th, 2010, Senior Michael Razumovsky was honored at the BCPS board of Education fall recognition ceremony for his outstanding performance and championship win in the 2010 MPSSAA Men's individual tennis championship.

The BCPS all-honor's ensembles performed a concert in the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall on Monday, November 15th, 2010. The group consisted of students who audition earlier in the fall and were selected because of their outstanding performance. This year, Pikesville High School was represented in the honors orchestra by Elizabeth Lavin (oboe), Ruth Hirsch (violin), and in the honors band by James Edwards (trumpet), Frank Starobin (French horn), and Andrew Layton (bass clarinet). In addition, James Edwards was selected to participate in the Maryland Music Education Association's All State Jazz Band and Elizabeth Lavin was selected as the BCPS concerto competition winner and will perform the first movement of Haydn's Oboe concerto with the Baltimore Symphony on January 6th.

Pikesville track star Sasha Smallwood was named the 2010 Outdoor Track 1A State Champion in the pole vault for 2010. Her winning jump was 11' 6", which broke the old 1A class record. This is her third consecutive outdoor track pole vault state title and her fifth state title overall with 2 indoor and three outdoor titles. Sasha also qualified and competed at the national championships last June.

Mykael Dixon was named the 2010 Outdoor Track 1A State Champion in the 100 meter hurdles. She was also runner-up in the 100 meter dash at the state championships last May. Mykael broke the school record in the 100 meter hurdles, 15.68 seconds and also holds the school record for the 100 meter dash, 12.54 seconds



GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Helicopter Parents:

This is a fairly new term that has come to describe parents who are **excessively** involved in the lives of their teenagers. Although the parent thinks he/she is helping, the helicopter parent actually does more harm than good. If a parent consistently tries to “carry the load” for a student, the student will never learn to “carry the load” for himself. The parent prevents the student from developing a sense of independence and responsibility for his own actions, characteristics which are absolutely necessary if the student is ever to function successfully as an adult. *“Anything good, when taken to an extreme, becomes bad.”*

You might be a helicopter parent if you do any of the following:

- You contact his counselor more often than he does.
- You regularly phone or text your teenager during the school day
- Your teenager regularly phones or texts you during the school day
- You are in excessive contact with your teen’s teachers.
- You select his courses, do his research, write his reports, do his projects, and/or fill out his college applications
- You deny him the opportunity to experience the consequences of his mistakes, so you prevent him from ever learning from those mistakes.

News for 4yr College-Bound SENIORS and Their Parents:

- Be sure to check the scholarships listed on the school’s website in the Guidance section. The internet address of the school’s website is pikesvillehs.bcps.org Do **not** include WWW

News for 4yr College-Bound JUNIORS and Their Parents:

- If you have not registered for either the SAT or the ACT yet, **now** is the time to do so. You need to register on-line.

If you hope to take **the SAT here at school on March 12**, it is especially important that you register **early**. Don’t wait until after the test center here is filled to capacity.

- Many students and parents think these college entrance exams are tests of intelligence. **They are not.** Instead, they have been very cleverly designed to test a student’s work ethic—to see how much time and effort the student puts into getting ready for them. You don’t have to be a genius to go to college, but you **do** have to have a strong work ethic, and this is why the colleges like these exams so much. They’ve both been designed to measure your willingness to do what has to be done since that is what will really determine whether or not you will be successful in college.
- **No one should ever take a college entrance exam without a great deal of practice, practice, practice!!!!**

To prepare for either exam, pay special attention to your PSAT results, and do much more than simply looking at the scores. Since you’ve been given your test booklet and the right answers, you want to spend the entire winter using them to go through your wrong answers one at a time to figure out why they’re wrong and why the right answers are right. This will do a huge amount to help you to prepare for the real exam.

- The reading section of these exams has been cleverly designed to find out how much you read as a hobby, so read as much as you can. You don't have to read "intellectual" topics. Just read topics that interest you, and be sure to do a great deal of it.
- The time to sign up for AP exams is coming soon, so be sure to talk with your teachers and your parents now about which exams you should and/or should not take. Each one will cost approximately \$86.
- Be sure to register for challenging courses in grade 12. Colleges are expecting you to take a full load of the hardest English and Social Studies you can handle, as many Math and Science classes as possible, and another year of World Language. And if you have any questions about which courses you must take in order to complete your graduation requirements, see your counselor.
- Be sure to use the "**11th Grade Guide for College-Bound Students**" that you were given . It's got lots of really good stuff in it that will do a great deal to help you. If you need another copy of it, see your counselor.
- Remember that scholarships are free. You and your parents need to be on guard against Ascam artists@ who will try to sell you their scholarship services.

Yearbook



The 2011 yearbook is on sale online at the Jostens publishing site. There is a link to the site on edline and the phs.edu home page. The cost of the book will increase on January 25.

Any senior who has not had a portrait taken, but would like to be in the yearbook must contact Lifetouch Photography and make an appointment as soon as possible. Call Lifetouch at 410-644-7700.

There is still time to recognize your child by purchasing a baby ad for the 2011 yearbook. All ads will be in full color. The form can be found under the parent tab on edline and on the phs.edu site. Please consider supporting the yearbook by purchasing an ad. Contact the yearbook adviser at rleiby@bcps.org if you have any questions.

Multimedia 2012

Multimedia applications for students registering for 10th grade next year will be available in early January. Applications will be distributed to students in their English classes during a special presentation of the program. If you have any questions please contact rwilson2@bcps.org or rleiby@bcps.org.



Rules and Regulations

No hats nor hoods for our security, please

In order to be safe in the building, staff must be able to identify all students. Hats and hoods interfere with our ability to do that because our surveillance system is mounted in our ceilings.

We cannot lock the building because of relocatable classrooms, so we are vigilant about this rule.

We catch students from other schools regularly because they enter with headgear so people won't see their faces.

We need our students to make our job easier by following this simple rule.



Cell Phones



According to the *Student Handbook*, cell phones or any other wireless communication device must be turned off during regular instruction hours and stored in a locker, book bag, purse, or automobile. MP3 players should not be used during the day, and earpieces should be stowed in backpacks unless needed for specific classes. Having a cell phone on your person is an immediate disqualification for state tests, A.P. tests, and S.A.T. tests. Unfortunately, we had a few students who had to learn this the hard way this year.

Inclement Weather

Please listen to your local radio station, check on <http://eschoolnewsletter.com/> or visit <http://www.bcps.org/> to check on school closings.

The teachers and administrators find out the same way you do, using these sources.



PTSA NEWS

Please support Pikesville High by purchasing **Giant gift cards** through the PTSA

The more we sell, the more our school benefits

Use them to purchase groceries, prescriptions, and retailer gift cards. Perfect for the upcoming holiday season!! You even earn points towards discounted Shell gasoline when you use your Giant gift cards. It's a win-win situation.

Giant gift cards come in denominations of \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, and \$100.

Email your order to **pikesville.ptsa@gmail.com** and we'll make arrangements to pick up your check (made payable to PHS PTSA) and give you your gift card order.

The Projection Screen has been installed in PHS auditorium!!

...be on the lookout for a MOVIE NIGHT in celebration



SAVE THE DATES

Tuesday February 8 *[tentative]* PHS Parent/Guardian Night OUT - Mt. Washington Tavern
Tuesday February 22 - College Prep Seminar – aimed at Freshman & Sophomores

Graduation 2011

Graduating seniors and their parents, relatives and friends should reserve Wednesday, June 1, 2011 to celebrate the Commencement for the Class of 2011. The day will begin with a mandatory rehearsal for all graduating seniors at the Towson Center Arena at 7:50 a.m. and will culminate with the Commencement ceremony at 7:30 p.m. that evening. Seniors will receive 7 complimentary tickets to the Commencement ceremony for their invited guests.

In preparation for graduation seniors will receive a diploma verification form from their English teacher when they return from winter break. Seniors should complete the form carefully and legibly using an ink pen to ensure that their name is correctly printed on their diploma. The form should be signed by a parent or guardian and returned to the student's English teacher within one week.

Seniors participating in the Commencement ceremony must wear a cap and gown. Cap and gown order forms will be distributed on January 27, 2011. Representatives from Balfour will be at PHS on February 3rd and 4th to assist seniors in ordering their caps and gowns. After February 4th orders should be placed directly with Balfour. Balfour recommends that orders be placed prior to March 1st to assure that they arrive on time. The cost of a cap and gown is expected to be \$28.00 prior to March 30th; after March 30th the price will increase.

Graduating seniors and their parents should plan to attend the Senior Class – PTSA – Administrative Meeting on Thursday March 17th to find out *all you ever wanted to know about the end-of-the year senior calendar*. The meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Look for additional updates and more specifics concerning graduation in future newsletters and on the school web page. Questions concerning graduation may be directed to Mrs. Susan Adess, the graduation coordinator at sadess@bcps.org.

Post Prom Party

The Prom is on Thursday, May 26th, and the Post Prom Party will take place immediately after, from Midnight until 3:30AM. P4C needs lots of helpers, divided into 3 main groups:

Entertainment This committee handles the venue, the food and the activities for the night. The venue is Timonium AMF Bowling Center again. Reasons: They worked with us before and were good to work with. The venue is huge allowing lots of room for activities in addition to the bowling. The price is reasonable for the size. The activities will be what makes this event NOT an exact repeat of last year's party. It's been suggested in earlier meetings that we try to set up a "Minute to Win It" game which will take some serious planning. If you are or know someone who is creative and able to work on that, please let us know ASAP. The sooner we begin planning, the easier this will all be. We're planning a DJ, karaoke, and are open to suggestions and ideas.

Fundraising - We expect this committee will need to be the largest. P4C needs a budget of nearly **\$10,000** to make the party happen. Several fundraising ideas were discussed. Already ongoing is the sale of **purple rubber bracelets** that say PHS with panther paw prints or PHS 2011 with panther paw prints for Seniors specifically. Thanks to personal donations, a **gift wrap event at Barnes and Noble** (there's another one today) and the sale of some bracelets, the P4C account has a current balance of approximately \$1,700. We have a volunteer, Lori Kurlander, who plans to sell bracelets at the basketball games. Another fundraiser we plan to do is to sell **blankets**, again with the year on them for seniors, otherwise just the school name for underclassmen, any leftovers of which we can sell to the junior class for their own fundraising next year. The group last night agreed we should go with whichever blanket design/manufacturer can get us the best price so we can make the most profit. We plan to sell the blankets for \$20. Another idea is an event called **March Madness**. For \$10 a student will get 31 raffle tickets, one for each day of March. Each day there will be a drawing for a prize. Students can buy an additional 31 tickets for \$10 more, and so on, increasing their chances of winning.

Donations (things like food, prizes and giveaway items for the night of the party) We need to solicit donations for the fundraising prizes...restaurant gift cards, free tuxedo rental, free corsage, actual gift items, etc... We need to be careful to solicit businesses that will either be able to donate to both the fundraiser and the giveaways for the actual night, or be sure we still have plenty of other donors for the giveaways. This reinforces the need for MANY volunteers to help with coordination/solicitation of donors. Donations committee members will need to be in communication with Fundraising Committee members. Please check now with any businesses you know to see if they are willing to donate something for us. There is a donation form they can fill out that will work for them for tax purposes. I'll send it as an attachment within a day or 2. Parents/families of Seniors are being asked to donate whatever amount they feel comfortable with to the cause. It is, after all, being done to ensure our kids' safety. The typical amount has been \$50 but more or less is still helpful. A request will be coming out after the first of the year.

Finally, it's been decided that the P4C meetings will take place on the first Tuesday of each month as follows:

January 4, 2011	February 1, 2011
March 1, 2011	April 5, 2011
May 3, 2011	

Meetings will be at 7pm in the PHS library.

If anything else happens worth reporting I'll send out a follow up email. Otherwise, I'm planning to just send an update after each monthly meeting. Please plan to join us in January and consider getting involved in this extremely important endeavor. I wish all of you a relaxing peaceful winter break! Ho! Ho! Ho!

Michelle Horodowicz
P4 Committee

Parents, this is a great opportunity for your child to participate in a sport even if they have



not played a sport before:

Join the PHS Bowling Team!

IT'S FREE! It's Co-ed!

No experience required! (We will have 3 weeks of practice before we play other High Schools)

Eligibility Requirements:

- Can NOT have played a varsity or JV sport
- must have no more than 1 E on 1st quarter report card

See Ms. Miller in Room 203A or Ms. Doyle in Room 4 (technology wing) for parent permission slip and medical form. Or contact kmiller12@bcps.org or rdoyle2@bcps.org

We will have PHS cheerleaders at some of the games!



Banquet at the end of the season!

Merry Christmas and



Happy New Year