



# EXPRESS

A NEWSLETTER FOR PGCPS EMPLOYEES

## Students Speak Out on Dangers of Fentanyl: "Don't Do It!"



**Did you know** that 6 out of 10 fake prescription pills contain a potentially lethal dose of fentanyl? Overdoses are on the rise because teens don't know what is going into their bodies. Help us share this important message in the words of students!

Attend a community meeting at Surrattsville High School Monday, March 13 at 6 p.m. to learn about the [dangers of fentanyl](#) and other illicit drugs, along with strategies to lower the risk of overdose. Narcan kits will be available while quantities last.

## Read! Learn! Explore!



*Educational Systems Federal Credit Union staff read to Greenbelt Elementary School students.*

**For Read Across America** this week, we celebrated the power of great stories to instill a love of reading in students!

**Did you know** that the [PGCPS Professional Library](#) offers 6,000 free books and other resources for teachers and staff to borrow? Explore titles by and about women for **Women's History Month!**

[Professional Library](#)

## BookNook: Reading Across PGCPS

BookNook tutoring is underway! Congratulations to the team at **Dora Kennedy French Immersion School** who have the highest number of BookNook tutoring registrations this school year!

**Calverton Elementary School, Phyllis E. Williams Spanish Immersion and Chesapeake Math and IT South Public Charter School** registered the most students for tutoring in February. Thank you for your partnership in spreading the word about this tutoring opportunity for students!

## Reminder: Professional Development Monday

Our second systemic professional learning for this school year is Monday, March 6 and there is no school for students.

## Next Week: New School Updates



Join us for a [Steering Committee Meeting](#) for updates on the Blueprint Schools program on Wednesday, March 8 at 6 p.m.

[Learn More](#)

## Special Education College and Career Fair



The Department of Special Education will host its annual College and Career Fair on **Wednesday, April 12** at Fairmont Heights High School. The fair is open to all high school students with IEPs and 504 plans.

[Learn More](#)

## Spotlight

### Hands on Learning in Our State Capital



See students working alongside elected delegates and senators in the Maryland General Assembly, receiving lessons in legislation and a head start on ideas of political careers of their own!

### #TeamPGCPS Named PBS Invention Education Fellow



Online Campus teacher Dr. Terri Dove has been named a [PBS Invention Education Fellow](#)! Through Invention Education, students engage in project-based learning to practice natural problem-solving abilities.

[Learn More](#)

## In the News

### Art Exhibit Explores Pandemic Impact





NBC4 visited Charles H. Flowers High School to view an art project that explores how high school special needs and regular education students felt during the pandemic. The exhibit was coordinated by award-winning educator LeAnn Holden-Martin.

Watch

## Announcements & Professional Development

### MCAP Info for Families

**PGCPS Stars Awarded by Total Points Percentage**

- ★★★★★ 5 stars when a school has earned at least 75% of total possible points
- ★★★★☆ 4 stars when a school has earned at least 60% but less than 75% of total possible points
- ★★★☆☆ 3 stars when a school has earned at least 45% but less than 60% of total possible points
- ★★☆☆☆ 2 stars when a school has earned at least 30% but less than 45% of total possible points
- ★☆☆☆☆ 1 star when a school has earned less than 30% of total possible points

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Learn about the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP), Maryland School Report Card star ratings, and Individual Student Reports.

**Thursday, March 16 | 6 p.m.**

#### **A Guide to Individual Student Reports**

Learn how to interpret and best use the MCAP Individual Student Report to improve your child's academic performance.

The session will be live-streamed on the [PGCPS YouTube channel](#) and recorded for viewing on-demand following the event.

### Spring Pre-Retirement Webinar

The 2023 [Spring Pre-Retirement virtual conference](#) for employees within 3 to 5 years of retirement is March 25. Space is limited and registration is required.

### Touchdown for Teachers



The Baltimore Ravens and M&T Bank are seeking nominations for their 10th Annual Touchdown for Teachers program, which recognizes local teachers who provide outstanding service for their schools and communities.

## New Self Care Benefit



Through our new WellSet program, staff can access hundreds of live and on-demand classes taught by leading experts in holistic therapies such as breath work, acupuncture, guided journaling, yoga and more! Questions: [wellness.benefits@pgcps.org](mailto:wellness.benefits@pgcps.org).

[Sign Up](#)

## High School Journalism Camp



High school students with strong interest in all forms of journalism may apply to an all-expense paid multicultural summer camp at American University. [The deadline to apply](#) is March 17.

## Share Feedback on Proposed Board Policies

The Board voted to approve the following policies for public comment before adoption. Comments are due by Friday, March 10.

[New policy](#) - Heroin and Opioid Education and Use of Naloxone or Other Overdose-Reversing Medication

[Revised policy 3506](#) - Public Charter Schools

[Revised policy 0122](#) - Data Dashboards

[Revised\\_policy\\_2214](#) - Trespass Warnings

[Revised\\_policy\\_8100](#) - Board Of Education Standing Committee and Focus Work Groups

## Board Ethics Advisory Panel

The Board of Education seeks members of the community with experience reviewing ethical matters or providing advice on administrative and legal matters to serve on its five-member [Ethics Advisory Panel](#). Panel members are appointed by the Board Chair with Board approval to a three-year term.

## Deadline Soon: Scholarships for 2023 Seniors



Scholarship are available for PGPCS Class of 2023 seniors!

### Excellence in Education Foundation Scholarships

The Excellence in Education Foundation will award \$125,000 in scholarships to 34 deserving PGPCS graduating seniors in various categories.

### MGM Local Development Council Scholarship Program

Additionally, the Prince George's County Local Development Council will award \$200,000 in scholarships to 40 graduating PGPCS seniors who best personify an ongoing commitment to "having a positive impact on others." For the [MGM scholarship](#), seniors *must* attend an eligible high school within the vicinity of the MGM complex: Crossland High School, Friendly High School, Oxon Hill High School and Potomac High School students may apply.

The deadline to apply to all scholarships is March 17.

[Learn More/Apply](#)

## ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

### Save a Life: CPR/First Aid Certification



Attend a CPR class hosted by the Prince George's County Office of Homeland Security to learn how to recognize a cardiac emergency, handle an unconscious person, give rescue breaths and perform CPR.

[Learn more](#)

## 2023 Summer AI Camp Scholarship

Students can apply for a scholarship to attend the 2023 Summer Artificial Intelligence (AI) Camp to gain real-world experience, and get internships at top companies.

[Learn more](#)

## Summer Learning at Bowie State

Bowie State University is offering a summer institute for Conditional License Teachers to earn up to 15 graduate credits. Attend an upcoming virtual information session to learn more.

[More Information](#)

## PGCPS Paparazzi

Northwestern High School closes out Black History Month with an art exhibit honoring the legacy of its African American educators and staff!



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COMMENTS AND IDEAS: [sepcommunications@pgcps.org](mailto:sepcommunications@pgcps.org)