

April 8, 2022

## Top News

### Hello, Spring Break!



Schools will be closed for Spring Break from Monday, April 11 through Monday, April 18. All PGCPS offices will be closed on Friday, April 15 and Monday, April 18. We wish you a safe and restorative break!

#### **Staff Covid Testing Updates**

PGCPS continues to require weekly COVID-19 testing for all unvaccinated employees. Please note, testing is canceled during spring break. Voluntary COVID-19 testing will be available on Tuesday, April 19 by Capital Diagnostics at Howard B. Owens Science Center and on Wednesday, April 20 by CIAN Diagnostics at Bonnie Johns Educational Media Center, Sasscer Administration Building, Green Valley Administrative Offices and Louis Wilson Sr. Facilities Administration Building.

**Thank You, Assistant Principals!**



PGCPS schools, staff and students are supported daily by an exceptional team of assistant principals. For National Assistant Principals Week, we thank these leaders for their hard work and dedication! (Pictured: Oxon Hill High School Principal and Assistant Principal team)

## Addressing Food Scarcity: Family Food Boxes



The [Community Schools](#) team has partnered with Bowie Produce to pilot a monthly distribution of Family Food Boxes at Samuel P. Massie Academy and G.

James Gholson and Nicholas Orem middle schools. The PGCPs Community Schools initiative provides equitable access to integrated support and services that promote academic, economic and social empowerment for schools and their communities.

Watch

## Empowering Students with Disabilities



Learn how PGCPs supports students with disabilities as they prepare for life after high school and [transitioning into adulthood](#) with workforce readiness, community participation and self advocacy skills and more. The goal: higher education, technical training, employment and/or independent living!

## #PGCPsGrads22: Help Us Highlight Seniors



Do you teach or work with high school seniors? Encourage them to upload a short video or photos on our website sharing their post-graduation plans.



Upload

## Spotlight

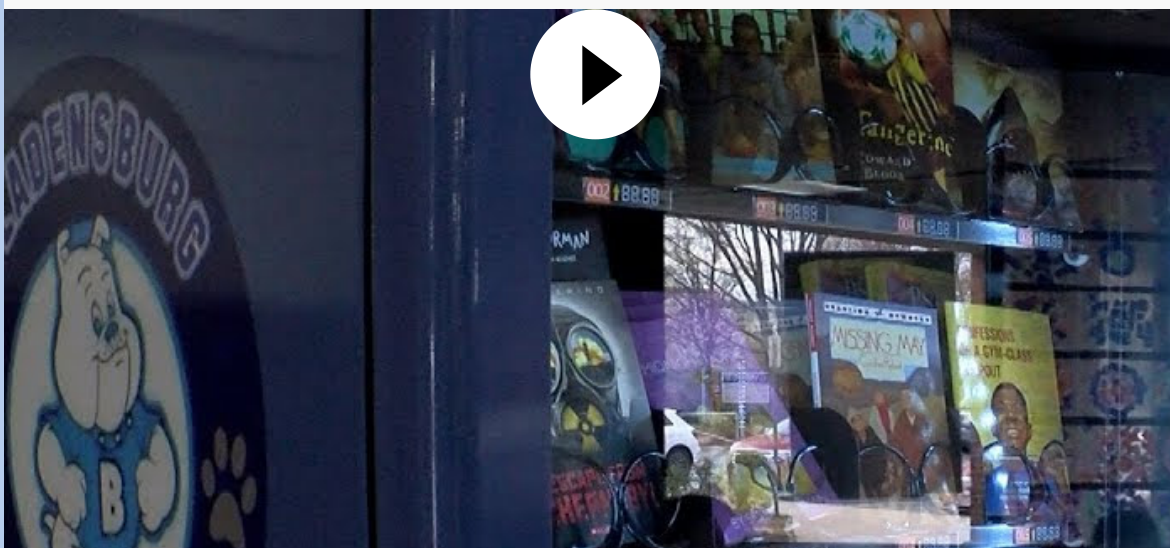
### Inside Chinese Language Immersion at Paint Branch Elementary



Paint Branch Elementary is one of 12 schools in the county with an [immersion program](#), and the only PGCPSS elementary school offering a Chinese program. Learn more about the program in a *Hyattsville Life & Times* article.

Read more

### Meet the Bladensburg Elementary Book Fairy!





While most fairies have a set of wings, a magic wand, and plenty of joy to spread around, Bladensburg Elementary School's "Book Fairy" has something even more wondrous: a vending machine that makes literary dreams come true!

### **#PGCPS Proud: Students Culminate Mentoring Program**

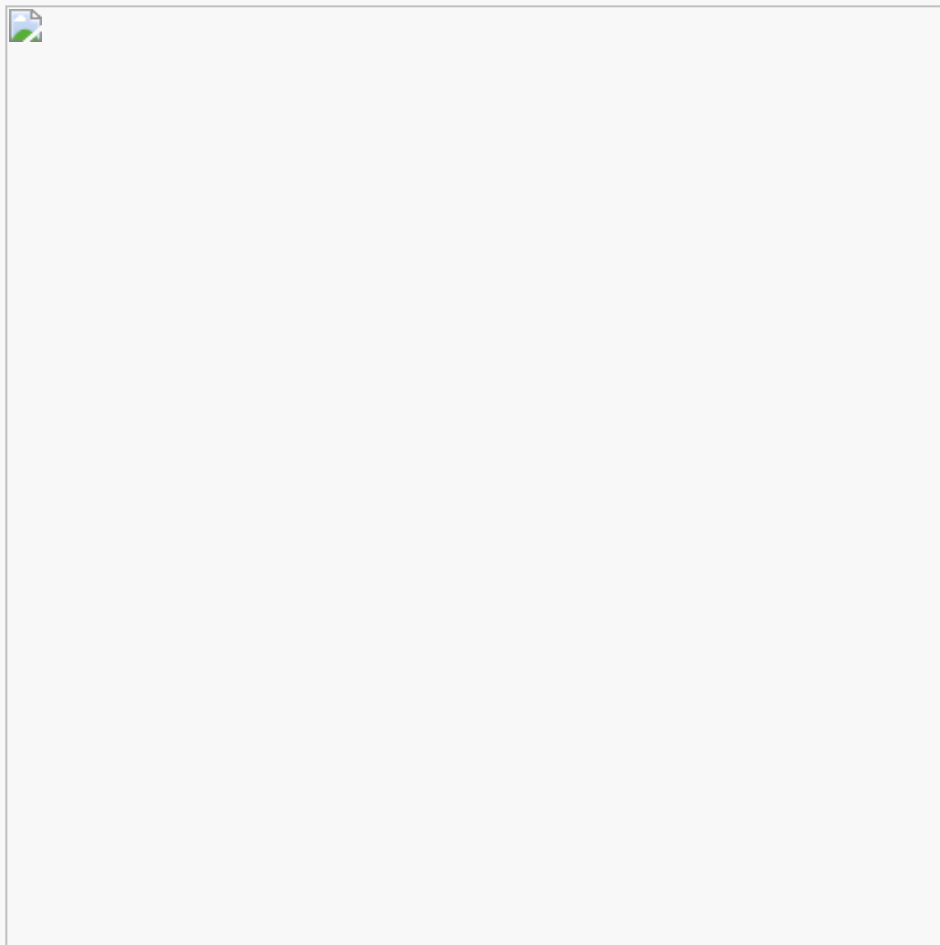


Catherine T. Reed Elementary School students recently completed a mentorship program as part of the Maryland State Department of Education's Achieving Academic Equity and Excellence for Black Boys initiative. Students received custom shirts, blazers and ties and celebrated with a jacket ceremony!

## Leadership Development Program: Apply Beginning May 2

Strong leaders build strong communities, and PGCPs believes by creating strong leaders, we advance the work in our Equity Strategic Plan. The Office of Professional Learning and Leadership **Aspiring Leaders Program for Student Success (ALPSS)** is designed to develop a diverse pipeline of emerging leaders to impact teaching and learning through transformational leadership. Session presenters will be members of the Executive Cabinet. The application window is May 2-13. Please contact Dr. Melissa Wilson at [Melissa.ellis@pgcps.org](mailto:Melissa.ellis@pgcps.org) with questions.

### Teacher Talk: “Creating a Pipeline from Subbing to Teaching”

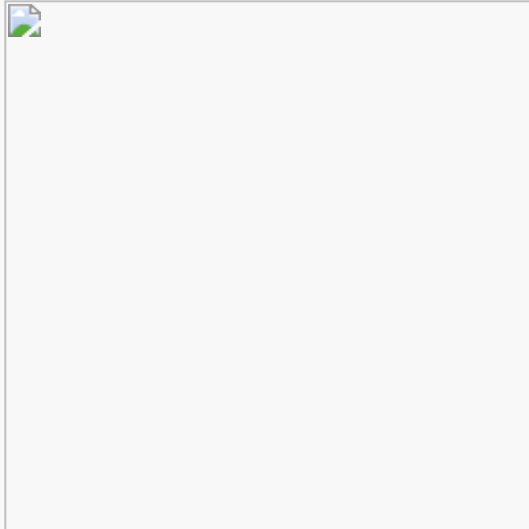


With the rapidly shifting landscape in education, hear from fellow educators on what is working with substituting, what can be changed and what the future of substituting can be!

Register

Explore Teaching STEM: University of Maryland (UMD)

## Summer Course (\$35) to Try Teaching



Join the University of Maryland (UMD) for an online, asynchronous course, "Step 1- Inquiry Approach to Teaching STEM," from May 18 - June 29. Paraprofessionals, career changers and high school students are invited to be a part of this experience. The course will provide an opportunity to explore teaching as a career, and plan and teach an inquiry-based science or mathematics lesson. The cost of the course is only \$35.

[Learn More](#)

## Home Buying Assistance for Staff



Landed helps essential professionals purchase homes by providing up to \$120,000 toward a down payment through a shared equity down payment program and by connecting employees to tailored homebuying resources. Join an upcoming info session to learn more.

Spring Info Sessions: Learn about Homebuying with Landed

April 6 | 5 - 6 p.m. | Register [here](#)

April 14 | 12 - 1 p.m. | Register [here](#)

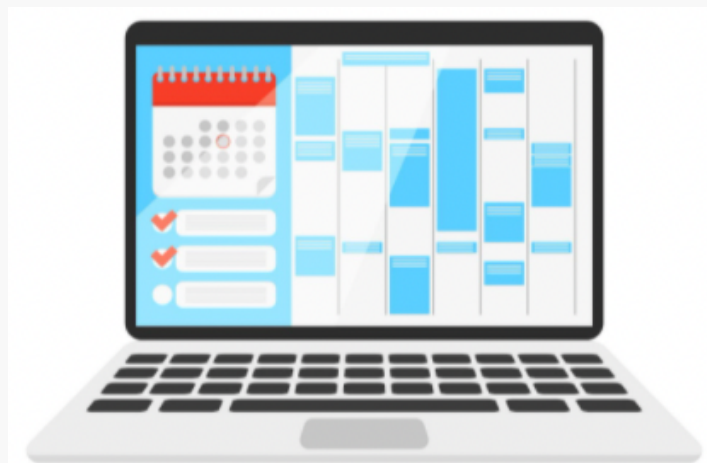
Landed will also be hosting two financial wellness webinars this month. These sessions are designed for individuals who want to learn strategies to get financially ready to buy, such as improving your credit score, savings tactics, and debt to income ratios.



If you are unable to attend an info session or if you would like to connect with a Landed teammate sooner, visit [landed.com/signup](https://landed.com/signup). An info session recorded in Spanish is available here.

## ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

### 2022-2023 Calendar Approved



The Board of Education has approved the 2022-2023 school year calendar. The first day for teachers is Friday, Aug. 19 and the first day of school for students is Monday, Aug. 29.

[More Info](#)

### University of Maryland Programs for Aspiring Leaders



#### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

The University of Maryland (UMD) is accepting applications for aspiring leaders in the **School Improvement Leadership Certificate** program (w/Admin 1 certification) and the **School Systems Leadership Ed.D.** program (w/Superintendency II certification). The application deadline for both programs is June 15. Candidates can learn more and view upcoming virtual info sessions here: UMD [Admin 1 program](#) and UMD [Ed.D. program](#).

For questions about the Admin 1 program, candidates may email Dr. Jean Snell at: [jsnell@umd.edu](mailto:jsnell@umd.edu). For questions about the Ed.D. program, candidates may email Dr. Doug Anthony at: [danthony@umd.edu](mailto:danthony@umd.edu).

### Apply for 2022 Summer School Positions





# PGCPS Summer Learning SPARK

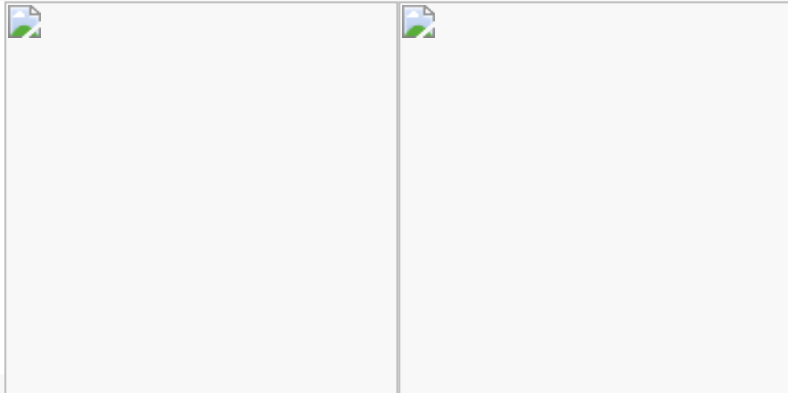
2022 summer school job opportunities are now available. Details on each summer school program can be found by visiting the [2022 Summer Programs Listing & Details](#). **The application deadline is Friday, April 22.** Please refer to Bulletin P-0-22 for more information. Questions? [summerschool@pgcps.org](mailto:summerschool@pgcps.org).

## #TeamPGCPS Paparazzi



Vicker McClain  
@vickermcclain

I changed careers 12 years ago! I also changed lives! Do you want to make an impact? Do you want to do work that's meaningful? Teach. Join us! @Joinpgcps @pgcps @OPLLpgcps #teachwithus #pgcpspride #mentorsmatter



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