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PGCPS Express: Tap Into Teacher Appreciation Week! 🍷

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April 30, 2021

Get the Scoop

Tap Into Teacher Appreciation Week!



For Teacher Appreciation Week (May 3-7), we are recognizing our educators for going "Above and Beyond" during this unprecedented school year of virtual and hybrid learning! Don't miss several opportunities for some well-deserved self-care courtesy of PGCPS and partners Kaiser Permanente, American College of Education and Walden University!

#ThankATeacher: Enter to Win!



Win a Teacher Care Crate

Walden University invites employees to [enter](#) to win a Teacher Care Crate subscription. When you enter, you can also nominate a colleague for the chance to win. By nominating a colleague, your name will be entered into the raffle twice.

Deadline to enter: May 9.



Gift Card Giveaway

Thanks to American College of Education (ACE), 10 educators will have a chance to win a **\$100 Amazon gift card!** Only one entry per educator will be considered. Winners will be notified on Friday, May 14. [Enter now!](#)

#ThankATeacher: Virtual Wellness Sessions



Get your daily dose of self-care by taking advantage of Kaiser Permanente's virtual wellness classes. Sessions range from 30 minutes to one hour.

Monday, May 3: Stress Management | 11:30 a.m. to noon

Learn how to identify, manage and prevent stress using relaxation, breathing and exercise. Click [here](#) to register

Tuesday, May 4: Chair Yoga | noon to 12:30 p.m.

Chair yoga is one of the gentlest forms of yoga and includes standing, seated, and prone postures. Click [here](#) to register

Wednesday, May 5: Transformational Thinking/Mindful Meditation | 11:30 a.m. to noon

Increase whole body awareness and manage stress leveraging meditation and breathing techniques to expand your awareness and refine your mind. Click [here](#) to register

Thursday, May 6: Virtual Dance Party | noon

Get ready to dance to the biggest hits virtually! Note: Please turn your camera off if you do not wish to be featured in event screenshots. Click [here](#) to register

Friday, May 7: Reflective Journaling | noon to 1 p.m.

Learn journal entry tips and techniques to help document evolving feelings, emotions and reactions to stressful situations. Click [here](#) to register

All sessions with the exception of chair yoga will be recorded for viewing on demand.

2021 Green Schools: Margaret Brent Regional School, Potomac High School and William Paca Elementary



PGCPS continues to lead the state with the most [Maryland Green School certifications](#). Congratulations to Margaret Brent Regional School, Potomac High School and William Paca Elementary School for earning first-time certification, and to the 23 schools that were recertified!

Mental Health Series May 5-8



PGCPS will host the **2021 Mental Health Series: *Wellness Inside and Out!*** on **Wednesday, May 5 through Saturday, May 8**. Open to parents, students, employees and community members, the event promises to be interacting and engaging, featuring certified corporate wellness specialist/best-selling author [Mike Veny](#) and WNBA Dallas Wings player [Imani McGee Stafford](#). Join us for an amazing lineup!

Show Your Spirit! College & Career Signing Day — May 6



Help us kick off graduation season by joining the Departments of Student Services and Career and Technical Education for [College & Career Signing Day](#) on Thursday, May 6 as high school seniors across PGPCS share post-graduation plans – whether heading to college, the military or the workforce. Get social by sharing photos of your team in college/career gear: #PGCPSSigningDay!

Feedback Wanted: PGPCS Equity Strategic Plan



Share your thoughts on the [Emerging Strategic Framework \(ESF\)](#) that will guide development of the PGPCS Equity Strategic Plan! After viewing our short [introductory video](#), submit feedback either during an upcoming virtual [Open Mic session](#) or via a [short questionnaire](#).

#PGCPS Proud: In the Spotlight

Teacher Tech Tip!



[Watch](#) how Mary Harris "Mother" Jones Elementary fifth-grade teacher Yeama Sow leverages technology to keep both her "Zoomies" (virtual students) and "Roomies" (in-class students) engaged!

Former NFL Player Sponsors New Gwynn Park HS Weight Room



[See](#) Gwynn Park High School's weight room renovation — a project sponsored by Evolve, a non-profit co-founded by former NFL cornerback and Gwynn Park alum Kyle Arrington!

PG13: Knowing Your 'Why'



In [Episode 9](#) of high school sports series *PG13*, momentum builds for a return to in-person learning, school administrators take the lead in getting vaccinations and Coach Dameon Powell reflects on what drives him and his staff to do what they do.

Nominate a colleague who makes you #PGCPSproud by sending their name, office/school, photo and a brief description (100 words or less) to communications@pgcps.org. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity or grammar.

Announcements and Professional Development

2021-2022 School Calendar Approved

The Prince George's County Board of Education approved the 2021-2022 School Calendar during the April 29 Board meeting. The first day of school for students will be September 8, 2021. View the calendar [online](#) or [download a printable calendar](#). For more information on the calendar development process, [visit the website](#).

Special Education: Webinars for Transitioning Youth

[Register](#) for a series of free webinars to support transitioning youth and their families! Students ages 16-21, their families, school staff and community partners will explore strategies and resources to improve outcomes for youth with disabilities.

#TeachWithUs: Spread the Word About PGCPSCareers!

#TeamPGCPS: It's time to get social! Here are three ways you can get involved as a #PGCPSpride ambassador to help us spread the word about careers with PGCPS:

1. **DOWNLOAD & DISPLAY** a social media banner and Zoom background to [show](#) your #PGCPSpride!
2. **SHARE** our [#TeachWithUs message](#) with your social media networks.
3. **REFER** a [teacher interested](#) in learning more about PGCPS careers for a chance to win!

Aspiring Leaders Program for Student Success (ALPSS) 2.0 Cohort 10

Strong leaders build strong communities! The application window for our Aspiring Leaders Program for Student Success (ALPSS) is **Monday, May 3 through Friday, May 14**. ALPSS 2.0 is designed to develop a diverse pipeline of emerging leaders who impact teaching and learning through transformational leadership. Session presenters will be members of the Executive Leadership Team. For more information, contact Dr. Melissa Ellis at melissa.ellis@pgcps.org.

ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

Last Day of School for Teachers & Students

The [last day of school](#) for students is Tuesday, June 15, with a two-hour early dismissal. There is also an early dismissal Monday, June 14. **The last day for teachers will be Wednesday, June 16.** The final days allow time for teacher activities outlined in their negotiated agreement. Ten- and 11-month employees should confirm their last days with their immediate supervisor.

Reminder: SafeSchools Trainings

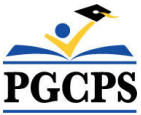
Employees are encouraged to complete any outstanding [SafeSchools](#) training modules.

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COMMENTS AND IDEAS: communications@pgcps.org



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