

ViewPoint

September 18, 2009

IN THIS ISSUE ...

- » [Letter from the Principal](#)
- » [Student Absences](#)
- » [G/T Resource News](#)
- » [School Pictures](#)
- » [Back To School Night](#)
- » [Magazine Update](#)
- » [Box Tops](#)
- » [Intramurals](#)
- » [Forgotten Items](#)
- » [Early Dismissals](#)
- » [Skills Inventory for Parents/Neighbors](#)
- » [Community News](#)

Letter from the Principal:

Dear MVMS Community,

The upcoming week is a BIG week at school and we will need your help and your participation.

Monday, September 21st is our first PTA meeting. Please take time to sign up as a PTA volunteer and please join as a PTA member. Also, in our effort to limit our middle school community to only one fundraiser, we hope that everyone can support the magazine drive with new subscriptions, renewals, or even cash donations. The next turn-in day is September 22nd.

Wednesday, September 23rd is Picture Day. Every student will have his/her picture taken since these portraits are to be included in our Memory Book. You can select a color background if you are planning to purchase school pictures, but the poses will be the standard portrait shot for the Memory Book; we will only be offering the posed portraits in our spring pictures.

Also, on the 23rd, we're hosting Back to School Night. Mrs. Parsons will hold a Family Life information session at 6:00 pm and we will begin our Back to School presentations at 6:30 pm. All parents are encouraged to arrive on time (or a little early due to the Homecoming Powder Puff Football Game at MRHS) and to be in your child's Falcon Time by 6:30. Since Mount View Middle is working towards being a green school, an initiative our students are taking very seriously, we would like to save paper. You can

help by checking your child's schedule at home and bringing it with you to Back to School Night. (Most of the children have a paper copy in their notebooks and each child should have copied the schedule into his/her Agenda Book as well.) You can check out the school map on our website so that you can easily find the classrooms. Remember, this is an opportunity for you to meet the teacher and hear about the year's curriculum; there just simply is not time for individual conferencing, but you can always email or call a teacher with specific questions or needs. During your "lunch period" you are invited to visit Related Arts classrooms to meet teachers your child will have later in the school year, visit the Media Center or the GT Resource Room, check with Mr. Frankle to sign up for Teacher Ease, or take the time to join PTA.

Friday, September 25th is the first day that Teacher Ease will be updated. Please make sure you have registered; you can still check our website for the TeacherEase Parent brochure and email [Richard Frankle](#) with your information. We will update the online grades at minimum bi-weekly and we'll publish those dates for you as they approach. It is important to understand that teachers are also busy planning, teaching, and grading, so it is not likely that grades can be posted the same day as assignments are completed. Your first line of communication for assignment completion and student grades is your student! Believe me when I tell you that they do know this information and just may need a little encouragement from you to communicate it.

Lastly, autumn begins on September 22nd. So, enjoy the last weekend of summer with your family.

Kathryn S. McKinley

Kathryn S. McKinley, Principal

School Calendar:

Sept. 21

✓ PTA Meeting - 7:00 PM - FACS Room

Sept. 22

✓ Magazine Turn In Day

Sept. 23

✓ School Pictures

✓ Family Life Meeting - 6:00 PM - Media Center

✓ Back-to-School Night - 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Sept. 24

✓ Magazine Prize Day

Upcoming Dates:

STUDENT ABSENCES

This year, in addition to monitoring student attendance, schools are being asked to collect more information about the student illness. As part of the Health Department's tracking of Influenza Like Illness in Howard County, schools are required to report numbers of student illness and symptoms.

When your student will be absent from school, please notify the school by 8:00 AM on the first day of the absence and provide the following information:

- Your child's name and grade
- The date of absence
- Reason for absence or late arrival
- If symptoms of influenza like illness: i.e. fever greater than 100° F, cough sore throat
- Parent/Guardian name and phone number where you may be reached during school hours.

By taking the initiative and notifying the school, you will help eliminate the need for MVMS to contact you regarding the student's absence. You may contact the school using one of the following options:

email: mvmsabsence@hcpss.org (please note this is a NEW email address)
telephone: 410-313-5545 (leave a voice message between the hours of 3:30 PM and 7:30 AM)
contact the Health Room at 410-313-5550 during the school day (7:30 AM - 2:30 PM)

Sept. 28
✓ SCHOOL CLOSED - Yom
Kippur

Sept. 29
✓ Magazine Turn In Day

Oct. 9
✓ Interims Issued

For our attendance reporting purposes a signed parent/guardian note will still be required upon the student's return to school. If you have elected to notify the school via email, we suggest that you simply print out the email, sign and send it to school with your child upon his/her return. At MVMS this note should be taken to Student Services.

Parents are reminded Falcon Time begins at the 7:35 AM bell and will be marked tardy at 7:40 AM. Students arriving in the building at 7:40 or later, must be signed in through the Front Office with a parent signature.

G/T RESOURCE NEWS

The MVMS Debate Team is looking for new members. It is a group of motivated students who engage in meaningful, persuasive discourse about contemporary issues, thereby strengthening their leadership, critical thinking, and presentation skills. Students use research skills to develop logical arguments supported with evidence to be applied to debates following a prescribed format. If you are interested in being a part of this seminar, please see Mrs. Stout during Falcon Time or CORE.

SCHOOL PICTURES

School pictures will be taken on September 23rd. You will have a choice of all options EXCEPT the pose option because these pictures will be in our MVMS Yearbook (spring school pictures will offer the optional poses). The Lifetouch order form will be coming home with your child on Friday or Monday. Please ask your child for the envelope. If you do not receive a payment envelope, additional copies are available in the front office and order forms can be [downloaded](#) from the Mount View website. Payment is due on picture day, September 23rd. Do NOT send payment before September 23rd. Payments can be cash, check or credit card. All payments must be exact. Make checks payable to Lifetouch. If you prefer to pay with credit card, go to www.payments.Lifetouch.com and follow the instructions. All students will be photographed for Yearbook purposes but only those making payments will receive a portrait package. If you have any questions, call 410-313-5545.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Please join us on September 23rd at 6:30 PM for Back-to-School Night. Have you marked your calendar and checked your child's schedule in his/her Agenda Book? Please plan to attend and bring your child's Agenda Book. Prior to Back to School the Family Life Meeting will be held at 6:00 PM in the MVMS Media Center.

MAGAZINE UPDATE

The magazine drive has begun and we need EVERYONE'S help to make it a success!! Our next turn in day is Tuesday, September 22nd. Students can earn a chance to reach into the Good, Better, Best Bags of Cash. If your family does not wish to sell magazines the PTA will gladly accept DONATIONS. For each \$10 donated, students will be credited one order towards that week's prizes. Questions? Contact Linda at rafferty14@msn.com or Donna at augustino5@verizon.net.

BOX TOPS

What's the easiest way to earn money for Mount View Middle School? BOX TOPS!!!!

Before you recycle those boxes of cereal, clip off the small box tops symbol and turn them in to school. What could be easier? BOX TOPS are on so many products and brands: Pillsbury, Bisquick, Hamburger Helper, Betty Crocker, General Mills, Kleenex, Scott, Hefty, Even Avery school supplies!

Clip those BOX TOPS! It's easy, it's quick, it's free and it helps our Mount View students! BOX TOPS Collection boxes are located in the front office.

SPECIAL BOX TOPS COLLECTION BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

BOX TOPS collection boxes will be set up at the entrance of the school at BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT. Please drop off all of the box tops that you clipped over the summer!

INTRAMURALS

Any students interested in participating in the Flag Football or Cross Country intramurals should see Mr. Blum or Ms. Kenney to pick up a permission slip. Flag football permission slips are also on Mr. Blum's school website: web.hcps.org/~cblum. Intramurals are from 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM on scheduled days. Please pick up your child promptly at 3:30 PM.

FORGOTTEN ITEMS

On those occasions when a book, project or other required item is forgotten and the front office calls home, your child will be responsible for checking the front office between classes to pick up items. Classes will NOT be interrupted in order to give messages or materials, unless it is an emergency. Forgotten lunches and money will be placed in our office lunch box and distributed to the student during his/her lunch period. Phone messages, when received early, can be delivered to students during lunch; otherwise, students will be called to the front office before the end of the day.

EARLY DISMISSALS

If you have to pick up your child for an early dismissal, he/she should bring a note to Student Services before Falcon Time in the morning. To inform teachers, the child's name will be placed on the daily attendance bulletin and on the TV "ticker". A parent/guardian must sign the child out and present identification when picking up. Your child will be released from class at the stated dismissal time.

SKILLS INVENTORY FOR PARENTS/NEIGHBORS

Every year Howard County Schools completes a comprehensive emergency response plan. As part of our readiness, we have surveyed staff for emergency skills. We are also posting on the school website, ([09-10neighbors.pdf](#)) a parent survey. If you have specific skills and would be able to volunteer in the event of a serious emergency, please complete the online survey so that we can compile an EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER LIST. Deadline: September 24th.

COMMUNITY NEWS

MRHS Pasta Dinner: Mark your calendar's for Friday, September 25th for the 4th annual MRHS Pasta Dinner, to support the PTSA AfterProm event. The Pasta Buffet dinner will be served from 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Tickets are available through MRHS or at the door: \$10 for adults, \$8 for students and \$5 for children 3-12. Ticket stubs will be entered into a raffle to win great prizes!

Stressless Tests announces the Middle School Fall Study Skills Classes are open for registration just in time to support students for the new semester. Classes help students who don't test well, despite doing well in class, who are easily distracted and frequently bored, who have never learned how to study, and who think outside the box. They may be gifted learners, or they may be struggling. Middle school classes start Mondays, September 21st, October 26th, and November 30th. The sliding scale fee ranges from \$135 to \$160, depending on the take home materials selected. Registration includes a copy of the new What's My Style? Test and Study Secrets for Procrastinating Teens, An Owner's Manual for Your Brain, by Betty Caldwell. To register, go to www.Stresslesstests.org. For more information, contact Betty Caldwell at 410 740-4659, or Bcaldwell@comcast.net.

Autism Speaks will hold their 2009 Walk Now for Autism on Saturday, October 31st, on the National Mall in Washington D.C. Registration will begin at 9:00 AM and the walk will start at 10:00 AM. All event proceeds support Autism Speaks, whose mission is to increase awareness about the growing autism epidemic, raise funds for research, provide family services and advocacy in local communities and nationwide. Register for the 2009 Walk Now for Autism at www.NationalAutismWalk.org. In addition to raising critically needed funds for autism research, walkers can enjoy family-friendly activities such as trick-or-treating, face painting, arts and crafts, stage performances and an autism resource fair. Students can earn community service hours volunteering the day of the event or by creating and holding their own fundraisers in their communities. A companion walk will be held at Towson University on October 10th: details are at .

Capitol Debate will host fall after-school classes in Debate and Mock Trial starting the week of September 21st. Introduction to Debate (grades 6 - 8), at Bonnie Branch Middle School on Mondays, Marriotts Ridge High School on Wednesdays and River Hill High School on Thursdays. Introduction to Mock Trial will be offered on Thursdays at River Hill High School (grades 6 - 8). The cost is \$200. For more details/times and to apply, go to: www.capitol-debate.com/fall2009.asp or contact Ronald Bratt, 443-538-4992, Bratt@capitol-debate.com

The Columbia Association's Dia de la Familia event will be held on Saturday, September 19th from 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM at the Columbia SportsPark. Dia de la Familia is an annual event that commemorates Hispanic Heritage Month. The free event features fun and games for the entire family, including miniature golf, batting cages, a moonbounce, ethnic music from DJ Bobby Nyk, a salsa dance competition and food from Zapata's restaurant.

Join the Columbia Teen Center for the 7th annual "Hear My Voice" Teen Idol Competition at the Columbia Lakefront on Sunday, October 11th, from 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM! This fun-filled evening will include a talent competition, exciting raffle prizes, and a \$300 cash prize for the Columbia Teen Idol winner. Auditions are being held September 21st, 23rd, 29th and October 1st at the Columbia Teen Center in the Oakland Mills Village Center. Please call 410-992-3726 to register for the audition.

Check out the Glenwood Community Center's Teen Zone, an

after-school program for teens ages 12 and up. Activities will take place in the center Gymnasium and Game Room, which was designed for teens by teens. The room features a pool table, ping-pong, bumper pool, and video game area around a big screen television. Bring your friends, Monday - Friday, 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM. Center ID required. Call 410-313-4840 for additional after-school activities and Teen programs.

Howard County is now offering a community-sponsored, affordable, comprehensive health plan for its residents. If you are a US citizen or legal permanent resident between the ages of 19 and 63, are currently uninsured and your household income meets the requirements specified on our website, you are eligible to join the Healthy Howard Health Plan. Benefits include 6 visits to a primary care physician per year, emergency care at the Howard County General Hospital, and access to our network of specialists. For more information visit www.HealthyHowardPlan.org or call 410-988-3737.

The Howard County Autism Society and AMC Theatres at Columbia Mall will have a special needs movie showing of Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs on Saturday, September 19th. Doors will open at 9:30 AM and the movie will begin promptly at 10:00 AM with no trailers. The volume will be kept down and the lights will be kept up. Sensory breaks are encouraged. All families and friends with special needs are welcome. For further information, contact Marianne Ross at rossfda@hotmail.com.

HoCoPoLitSo, the Howard County Poetry and Literature Society, will open its 36th season with An Afternoon with Donald Hall, on October 4th from 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM, in the Monteabaro Recital Hall, the Horowitz Performing & Visual Arts Center on the campus of Howard Community College. Donald Hall, former Poet Laureate of the United States, will read and discuss his work. A question and answer session will follow the reading along with a reception and book signing. The cost for the ticketed event is \$15/\$10 with a valid student ID. For more information visit www.hocopolitso.org, phone 410-772-4568 or email information@hocopolitso.org.

Howard County Recreation & Parks registration. Flyers available at MVMS.

Volleyball Skills Development for 11-14 year olds beginning October 1. Cost is \$80 for 6 weeks. To register, call 410-313-7275 or online www.howardcountymd.gov/RAP. For more information contact Julija Sajauskas, 410-131-2765 or jsajauskas@howardcountymd.gov.

Boys & Girls Recreational Basketball Leagues for 11014 year olds beginning September 20th. The cost is \$99 for 8 weeks. To register, call 410-313-7275 or online www.howardcountymd.gov/RAP. For more information contact Julija Sajauskas, 410-131-2765 or jsajauskas@howardcountymd.gov.

Recreational Basketball Instructional Clinic for 11-14 year olds beginning September 16th. The cost is \$80 for 8 weeks. . To register, call 410-313-7275 or online www.howardcountymd.gov/RAP. For more information contact Derek Ludlow, 410-313-4716 or dludlwo@howardcountymd.gov.

Instructional Field Hockey League for grades 5-8 beginning September 16th. The cost is \$87 for 6 weeks. To register, call 410-313-7275 or online www.howardcountymd.gov/RAP. For more information contact Susan Markovitz, 410-313-4674 or samarkovitz@howardcountymd.gov.

HCYP is registering for the 2009 - 2010 Basketball Season. For more information or to register for immediate placement, go online at www.hcyp.org. Flyers are available at MVMS.

12101 Woodford Drive
Marriottsville, Maryland 21104
410.313.5545
FAX 410.313.5551

» [ViewPoint Feedback](#)

» [HCPSS NEWS](#)

MOUNT VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL
Built On A Foundation Of Academic Excellence