

Blurbs for School Newsletters, Websites, etc.

Don't Forget to Activate Your ParentVUE Account (English and Spanish)

ParentVUE is the brand new, powerful, single location for all information about how your child is doing in school. ParentVUE is also a new tool we use to stay connected with you.

When you are logged into ParentVUE you can:

- See your child's schedule;
- Check your child's grades (and report card);
- Check your child's assignments;
- Send a message to your child's teacher; and
- Update your contact information.

Soon, you will be able to see a report on Student Service Learning hours (SSL). If you haven't yet activated your account, you should have received an e-mail message and/or notification via U.S. mail. Once you've received your activation letter, simply visit www.MCPSParentVUE.org to activate your account.

No se olvide de activar su cuenta de ParentVue

ParentVue es un sitio nuevo y poderoso donde en un solo lugar encontrará toda la información sobre el progreso de su hijo en la escuela. ParentVUE también es una nueva herramienta que usamos para mantenernos conectados con usted.

Tras iniciar sesión en ParentVUE, usted puede:

- Ver el horario de su hijo;
- Revisar las calificaciones de su hijo (y el boletín de calificaciones)
- Revisar las tareas asignadas a su hijo;
- Enviar un mensaje al maestro de su hijo; y
- Actualizar su información de contacto.

Pronto, usted podrá ver un informe sobre las horas de aprendizaje mediante servicio estudiantil (Student Service Learning–SSL). Si todavía no ha activado su cuenta, debería haber recibido un mensaje de correo electrónico y/o una notificación a través del correo postal de los Estados Unidos. Una vez que haya recibido su carta de activación, simplemente visite www.MCPSParentVUE.org para activar su cuenta.

Newly Elected Board of Education Members Sworn In

Newly elected member of the Board of Education Lynne Harris (At-Large) and reelected members Shebra L. Evans (District 4) and Rebecca K. Smondrowski (District 2) were sworn on Tuesday, December 1, 2020. Mrs. Evans was elected to her first four-year term on the Board on November 8, 2016. Mrs. Smondrowski was elected to her second four-year term on November 8, 2016. Ms. Harris will succeed Ms. Jeanette E. Dixon, who did not seek reelection.

Update on December SAT/ACT (English and Spanish)

MCPS is moving forward with the Saturday, December 5 SAT and Saturday, December 12 ACT administrations at selected high school test centers. However, based on changing health and safety guidelines and prioritizing the health and safety of students and staff, capacity will be reduced at each test center. Unfortunately, this may result in some students becoming unregistered for the December 5 SAT by the College Board or for the December 12 test by ACT. When unregistering students, these organizations use their own processes for determining which students' registrations are cancelled, which typically is based on prioritizing seniors. The College Board or ACT will contact students directly via e-mail if there is a change to their registration status, as this is not managed by MCPS. MCPS will keep you updated on future testing opportunities in early 2021.

Actualización sobre SAT/ACT de diciembre

MCPS sigue adelante con el examen SAT del sábado, 5 de diciembre, y el examen ACT del sábado, 12 de diciembre, en centros de exámenes en escuelas secundarias seleccionadas. Sin embargo, basado en los cambios en las directrices sanitarias y de seguridad, y priorizando la salud y la seguridad de los estudiantes y el personal, se reducirá la capacidad en cada centro de exámenes. Lamentablemente, esto puede resultar en que se deba anular la inscripción de algunos estudiantes para el examen SAT del 5 de diciembre de College Board o para el examen ACT del 12 de diciembre. Al anular la inscripción de los estudiantes, estas organizaciones utilizan sus propios procesos para determinar qué inscripciones de estudiantes se cancelan, lo que normalmente se basa en dar prioridad a los estudiantes de último año de secundaria. College Board o ACT se pondrá en contacto directamente con los estudiantes por correo electrónico si hay algún cambio en el estado de su inscripción, ya que esto no lo gestiona MCPS. MCPS los mantendrá actualizados sobre futuras oportunidades de exámenes a principios de 2021.

REMINDER: Gift Card Campaign to Help Families in Need (English and Spanish)

The MCPS Educational Foundation, Inc.; the Montgomery County Council of Parent Teacher Associations' volunteer network; and MCPS still are seeking support for the Families Helping Families campaign. Grocery gift cards will be purchased with funds donated to the MCPS Educational Foundation, Inc.'s Crisis Relief Fund—COVID-19. Learn more about how to donate [here](#).

RECORDATORIO: Campaña de tarjetas de regalo para ayudar a las familias necesitadas

La Fundación Educativa de MCPS, Inc. (MCPS Educational Foundation, Inc.); la red de voluntarios del Concejo de Asociaciones de Padres y Maestros del Condado de Montgomery, Inc. (Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations, Inc.); y MCPS siguen pidiendo a la comunidad que apoye la campaña Familias Ayudando a Familias (Families Helping Families). Se comprarán tarjetas de regalo para comestibles con los fondos donados al fondo de ayuda para crisis de la Fundación Educativa de MCPS, Inc.—COVID-19. Obtenga más información sobre cómo donar [aquí](#).

Nominations Open for Staff Awards

Nominations are open several for awards to honor exceptional teachers and principals. They are:

Supporting Services Employee of the Year: This award recognizes a supporting services employee who extends himself or herself beyond their basic required duties and contributes to students and the school community by enhancing student learning, creating positive relationships, and making school or the office a better place. Nominees must be active support professionals with a minimum of three years of service with MCPS. Administrators, teachers, other support professionals, students and community members can nominate. Nominate [here](#). **Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 18, 2020.**

The Marian Greenblatt Excellence in Education Master Teacher Award: This award recognizes three full-time teachers in kindergarten through Grade 12 who have a demonstrated record of promoting student success, such as closing the achievement gap. One of the Master Teacher Award winners is chosen as the MCPS Teacher of the Year, goes on to represent the school district as a contender for the Maryland State Teacher of the Year award, and could become the National Teacher of the Year. One award winner will be named for each level: elementary, middle, and high school. Each will receive a \$2,000 monetary award. More information is available [here](#). **Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2021.**

The Marian Greenblatt Excellence in Education Rising Star Teacher Award: This award recognizes a first-, second-, third-, or fourth-year full-time teacher in kindergarten through Grade 12 who has a demonstrated record of promoting student success. The teacher contributes to a professional learning community of students, staff, parents/guardians, and the community. The winner will receive a \$1,000 monetary award. More information is available [here](#). **Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2021.**

[The Washington Post Teacher of the Year Award](#): This award recognizes a full-time teacher in prekindergarten through Grade 12 who instills in students a desire to learn and achieve. Each nominee must have a minimum of five years teaching experience, three of which must be in MCPS. This teacher also must understand the individual needs of students, encourage their talents and foster their self-esteem. He or she will demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the subject matter and possess the ability to share it effectively with students. The nominee fosters cooperative relationships with his/her colleagues and the community and demonstrates outstanding leadership qualities. **Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2021.**

[The Washington Post Principal of the Year Award](#): This award recognizes principals who go beyond the day-to-day demands of their position to create an exceptional educational environment. In presenting these awards, *The Washington Post* Company Educational Foundation hopes to encourage excellence in school leadership and contribute in a substantive way to the improvement of education in the Washington metropolitan area. Nominations may be submitted by teachers, students, former students, parents, administrators or the general public. **Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2021.**

[The Shirley J. Lowrie Thank You for Teaching Award](#): This award honors extraordinary elementary school teachers who have a deep dedication to the teaching profession. These elementary school teachers, prekindergarten through Grade 5, must

work directly with students in the classroom on a daily basis, demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the subject matter, and effectively communicate that subject matter to students. The nominee should be a teacher who goes the extra mile to ensure that students receive the support they need to succeed. **Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2021.**

The Superintendent's Annual Mark Mann Excellence and Harmony Award:

Established in 1991, this award honors MCPS principals who excel in promoting academic excellence, positive human relations and community outreach. These qualities were exemplified by Mark Mann, a former principal of Parkland Junior High School, who died in 1988. Nominations made in previous years may be resubmitted. **Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2021.**