

MCPS Coronavirus Info at <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/coronavirus/>

## Dr. Worthington's Message

Twitter: DrLouise Worthington@BAKERprincipal

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! Whether this is your first child at Baker Middle School, or you are a veteran parent at Baker, having a child in middle school can be both an exciting and challenging time, especially now. We recognize that the culture and environment at Baker Middle School will have a big impact on your child's growth. At the same time, we know that you will continue to be a critical supporter of your child's learning and development and we look forward to finding ways to partner with you to ensure your child's success.

This year, **Ms. Yvonne Sanya** welcomes the **6th grade** students as their administrator, **Ms. Melanie Pique** is the **7th grade** administrator, and **Dr. Louise Worthington** is the **8th grade** administrator.



Left to right: **Dr. Worthington**, Principal; **Ms. Pique**, Assistant Principal; **Ms. Sanya**, Assistant Principal

We are delighted to have several new staff members joining the Baker Middle School community. Please join us in welcoming:

- Ms. Valerie Bartel**, LAD Teacher
- Ms. Janete Brandao**, Paraeducator
- Ms. Stephanie Gawlinski**, SCB Teacher
- Ms. Kimberly Lechliger**, LAD Teacher
- Ms. Yvonne Sanya**, Assistant Principal
- Ms. Mary Slotkowski**, Counselor

On behalf of all the staff of Baker Middle School, we wish them and their families much success and friendship this coming year!

We also welcome the **PTA Officers** for the 2020-2021 year:

**President (acting) – Ms. Aimee Ibacache**  
[aimee1000@yahoo.com](mailto:aimee1000@yahoo.com), 240-606-5582

**Secretary (acting) – Ms. Aimee Ibacache**  
[aimee1000@yahoo.com](mailto:aimee1000@yahoo.com), 240-606-5582

**Treasurer – Ms. Kim Kamensky**  
[nutterandpickle@aol.com](mailto:nutterandpickle@aol.com), 301-233-9596



### LOOKING AHEAD ...

- Wednesday, August 26**  
Distribution of Technology and Instructional Materials (see pp 3-6)
- Thursday, August 27**  
Distribution of Technology and Instructional Materials (see pp 3-6)
- Friday, August 28**  
Student Orientation, 12:30 p.m.
- Monday, August 31 — Day 1**  
First day of school for students
- Tuesday, September 1 — Day 2**
- Wednesday, September 2 — Day 3**
- Thursday, September 3 — Day 4**
- Friday, September 4 — Day 5**  
Early-release day
- Monday, September 7**  
Labor Day Holiday — schools and offices closed.

### Synergy ParentVUE Replaces Parent Portal

This school year, **Synergy ParentVUE** will replace Parent Portal as the primary home-to-school communication vehicle for schools to share information regarding grades, attendance, scheduling, and more.

**ParentVUE Instructions**  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ukuv45XQeE3h0LWv815rRee5Eo\\_e7dmlkifpwPZdvy0/view](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ukuv45XQeE3h0LWv815rRee5Eo_e7dmlkifpwPZdvy0/view)

Our summer was filled with preparations to make this challenging school year the best we can for our students. We would like to thank **Ms. Ann Pluchino**, with assistance from **Ms. Sanya**, for creating the Sixth Grade Virtual Orientation.

We would also like to thank **Ms. Paredes**, and all of our summer school teachers and paraeducators for providing various opportunities for our students: **Ms. Broadus, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Dupré, Ms. Friedman, Ms. Kamuf, Ms. Kelley, Mr. Moore, Ms. Pressel, Mr. Sprinkle, and Ms. Wells.**

Parents frequently ask how they can support the school — the best things they can do is make sure their children are attending classes, on time, and well rested. If they are participating, they will learn. If parents have trouble getting their children to participate due to chronic illness or school phobia, they should immediately contact me so that I can put resources into place to help those families.

Another way parents can support the school is by helping our staff to create a learning environment at Baker that is free of bullying, harassment, or intimidation. This includes online classes. Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and John T. Baker Middle School have a standing commitment to take the necessary steps to investigate and address instances of bullying, harassment, or intimidation among students. Our goal is to create a school environment where kindness, caring, and respect are present among our students. Together we can make Baker Middle School a great place to be for all of our students — both online and, later on, in the building.

## **The George B. Thomas Sr. Learning Academy, Inc. Continues the Learning Academy Online**

Over the last 35 years, The George B. Thomas Sr. Learning Academy, Inc. has been supporting Montgomery County students and families in nurturing confident learners and helping students meet grade level skills toward college and career readiness. Each year, we employ certified teachers to tutor students on Saturday mornings for mastery of grade level content in reading and math. Our curriculum will continue to be aligned with the MCPS curriculum, so, what students learn Monday through Friday, we support and extend on Saturday mornings. Each year, approximately 3000 students benefit from our programming. This year, our program will begin on Saturday, September 26th. You can register at [www.saturdayschool.org](http://www.saturdayschool.org)

The George B. Thomas Sr. Learning Academy, Inc., Saturday School has started online registration for the first semester of our 2020-2021 VIRTUAL Learning Academy Online for students in grades K-12. As one of MCPS's strategic partners, we are excited to offer academic support for students in math and English/Language Arts.

In accordance with Maryland's Safe Schools Reporting Act of 2005, we at Baker Middle School will investigate any alleged instances brought to our attention by students, parents, or staff members. It is important that any cases of perceived bullying, harassment, or intimidation be reported so that they can be investigated and dealt with before they escalate. Students are encouraged to speak with a teacher, their grade level counselor, or their grade level administrator, and to complete MCPS Form 230-35 — *Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting Form*. All reports will be reviewed and investigated fully by school administration in accordance with MCPS Regulation JHF-RA which addresses the topic of Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation and may be found at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/policy/pdf/jhfra.pdf>.

Actual or suspected incidents of gang-related activity should be reported as above but using MCPS Form 230-37 *Gang-Related Incident Reporting Form*. MCPS Regulation JHG-RA addresses the topic of Gangs, Gang Activity, or Other Similar Destructive or Illegal Group Behavior Prevention — <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/policy/pdf/jhgra.pdf>.

Both forms are available on the Baker website in the PARENTS section, and on the MCPS website (search for 230-35 or 230-7 on the MCPS home page). Turn in forms to a counselor or administrator. As the year progresses, the challenges and rigors of school life will continue to grow. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or counselor with questions or concerns.

On what we consider the 6th day of learning, certified teachers will serve as tutors for students and families that are looking for a competitive edge in this age of digital learning. Our elementary students will work on mastery of common core skills necessary for college and career readiness in Eureka Math and Benchmarks Advanced curriculum. **Our middle school and high school students will have access to math and English tutorials that will assess learning gaps in common core standards.**

In addition to our Saturday School programming for English Language Arts and math, we will also offer specialized **robotics and CODING** courses on Saturday mornings for families that are looking for acceleration. You can register for these special programs at [www.saturdayschool.org](http://www.saturdayschool.org).

We look forward to working with your students this year as we navigate this virtual platform together.

Khadija F. Barkley, Executive Director  
The George B. Thomas Sr. Learning Academy, Inc.

Hello Baker Middle School families:

MCPS is preparing to distribute technology and instructional materials to all students for the 2020-2021 school year. Each student will be assigned a Chromebook. Many of our students already have a MCPS device they can continue to use for the school year. Some students are eligible for an upgrade as we phase out our older-model Chromebooks.

**Our school will offer curbside pickup of devices and available instructional materials on Wednesday August 26th and Thursday August 27th. On these dates, we will provide curbside service to families from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. We ask you to follow the schedule provided on page 4 to limit crowds, wait times, and risks to the community.** We have scheduled this time to distribute technology for students who may still need a device, need to exchange a device, or to provide an upgrade (see chart below for identification and upgrade eligibility). Please rest assured that there will be a device for every student.

**Any school materials that were not returned at the end of last school year can also be returned at this time.**

**There will be additional curbside stations for:**

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Elective - Art	<u>Art</u> Supplies	<u>Art</u> Supplies	<u>Art</u> Supplies
Social Studies	<u>Global Humanities</u> Novel		
English (all students)	Workbook	Workbook	Workbook
Reading	<u>Read 180</u> books	<u>Read 180</u> books	<u>Read 180</u> books
Math	<u>Math 180</u> workbook	<u>Math 180</u> workbook	<u>Math 180</u> workbook
	<u>Math 6</u> workbooks and instructional materials	<u>Math 7</u> workbook and instructional materials	<u>Math 8</u> workbook and instructional materials
	<u>Applied IM 6</u> instructional packet	<u>Algebra 1</u> workbook Ti-83 rentals	<u>Algebra 1</u> workbook Ti-83 rentals
			<u>Geometry</u> instructional packet and materials, Ti-83
School Community Based Program	Instructional Materials	Instructional Materials	Instructional Materials
Yearbooks	Pre-ordered 2019-2020 yearbooks not picked up in July	Pre-ordered 2019-2020 yearbooks not picked up in July	Pre-ordered 2019-2020 yearbooks not picked up in July
Media Center	Return <u>library books</u> from 2019-2020 school year	Return <u>library books</u> from 2019-2020 school year	Return <u>library books</u> from 2019-2020 school year
Chromebooks	Pick up new device, trade in older device	Pick up new device, trade in older device	Pick up new device, trade in older device
	<small>Students who will not be returning to a MCPS school should return their Chromebooks, chargers, and any other materials.</small>	<small>Students who will not be returning to a MCPS school should return their Chromebooks, chargers, and any other materials.</small>	<small>Students who will not be returning to a MCPS school should return their Chromebooks, chargers, and any other materials.</small>

**Baker's Suggested School Supplies for home to support Virtual Learning Success:**

- quality headphones with microphone included
- pens/pencils next to Chromebook workspace
- post-it notes and/or notepad to write down assigned homework or notes from class
- planner or calendar for keeping track of assignments
- established workspace for student that limits distractions

**Device Upgrade Eligibility:**

Grade Level	What device is available for SY 2020 - 2021
Pre-K to Grade 5	One Touchscreen Lenovo 300e is assigned to each student and ready for pickup*
Grade 6 to Grade 8	Acer C740 available for pickup* or continued use
Grade 9	Lenovo 771 available for pickup*
Grade 10 to Grade 12	Acer C740 available for pickup* or continued use
VILs Schools	A different device will be made available

**\* all old devices will need to be turned in when picking up a new device**

**For Middle Schools and High Schools:**

If your student has an Acer C720 device, they are encouraged to pick up an Acer C740. A C720 keyboard looks slightly different than a C740. Pictures are shown below to help identify if your student’s device is a C720 or C740. If a student is in grades 6 - 8 or 10 - 12 and they already have an Acer C740, they are not eligible for an upgrade and do not need to pick up a different device. However, they may have other instructional materials to pick up.



**Designated pickup times to help manage crowds:**

Last Name Begins With	Designated Pickup Time
A - E	9 a.m. - 10 a.m.
F - J	10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
K - O	11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
P - T	12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
U - Z or missed time above	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

If you are not able to visit the school on these dates, please contact Ms. Pique at [Melanie\\_M\\_Pique@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Melanie_M_Pique@mcpsmd.org) to make other arrangements.

Schools will contact families to provide information for subsequent opportunities to pick up additional materials as inventory arrives and individual class or student needs are identified.

### **Curbside Pickup & Delivery Procedures:**

- All visitors must wear a face covering and have a **VISIBLE SIGN** with **child's first and last name, grade level, and student ID #**. Please see examples below.
- MCPS staff will follow the CDC guidelines, maintain physical distancing, and wear face coverings.
- Drivers and occupants are not permitted to exit the vehicle unless asked by staff to meet the needs of the student.
- Accommodations will be made for walk ups.

### **Student login information and passwords:**

Login and passwords will not be changed for the start of the school year. Later this fall, more information will be provided to families regarding the required password changes for students.

Student login information will be provided to all families via an email to the email address on record for the students' guardians. If you need additional assistance with login information, please contact the school at 240-207-2440.

### **MCPS issued MiFi for internet connection:**

Due to limited supply, internet MiFis will not be available during school distributions. The device distribution team will take note of requests. Pick up arrangements will be made once inventory is received. As a reminder, the MiFis are intended for families who do not have home internet options. Those with weak or problematic internet connections should contact their service provider to ensure they are receiving the service for which they are entitled. Other issues may be solved by moving the home router to a more central location. Each MiFi device can support multiple connections.

### **Obligations:**

MCPS will be enforcing user responsibility; the Chromebook login screen will be updated to reflect the expectations and costs associated with repair should a device be physically damaged by neglect, accident, or intent. Acceptance of the MCPS device implies consent of the policy which can also be [viewed online](#) . The login screen and MCPS website outline the process for return and repair.

We look forward to a wonderful school year and want you to know that we are here for the students and families of Baker Middle School where "If You Believe, You Can Achieve!"

**SAMPLE CAR SIGNS ON NEXT PAGE**

**STUDENT NAME: Sally Student**

**MCPS ID: 123456**

**GRADE: 7**

(below list courses/stations from chart above)

**ART**

**ENGLISH: Grade 7**

**Math: ALGEBRA — NEED CALCULATOR**

**PICK UP YEARBOOK**

**NEED TO TRADE/UPGRADE CHROMEBOOK**

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**STUDENT NAME: Sam Student**

**MCPS ID: 654321**

**GRADE: 6**

(below list courses/stations from chart above)

**ENGLISH: Grade 6**

**READ 180: Grade 6**

**Math: APPLIED IM 6**

**NEED TO GET A CHROMEBOOK**



**Vaccine Requirements For Children**  
**Enrolled in Preschool Programs and in Schools — Per DHMH COMAR 10.06.04.03**  
**Maryland School Year 2020 - 2021 (Valid 9/1/20 - 8/31/21)**

Required cumulative number of doses for each vaccine for PRESCHOOL aged children enrolled in educational programs								
Child's Current Age	Vaccine	DTaP/DTP/DT <sup>1</sup>	Polio <sup>2</sup>	Hib <sup>3</sup>	Measles, <sup>2,4</sup> Mumps, Rubella	Varicella <sup>2,4,5</sup> (Chickenpox)	Hepatitis B <sup>2</sup>	PCV <sup>3</sup> (Pprevnar <sup>TM</sup> )
Less than 2 months		0	0	0	0	0	1	0
2 - 3 months		1	1	1	0	0	1	1
4 - 5 months		2	2	2	0	0	2	2
6 - 11 months		3	3	2	0	0	3	2
12 - 14 months		3	3	At least 1 dose given after 12 months of age	1	1	3	2
15 - 23 months		4	3	At least 1 dose given after 12 months of age	1	1	3	2
24—59 months		4	3	At least 1 dose given after 12 months of age	1	1	3	1
60 - 71 months		4	3	0	2	1	3	0

Required cumulative number of doses for each vaccine for children enrolled in KINDERGARTEN - 12 <sup>th</sup> grade								
Grade Level	Grade	DTaP/DTP/Tdap/DT/Td <sup>1,5</sup>	Tdap <sup>6</sup>	Polio <sup>2</sup>	Measles, <sup>2,4</sup> Mumps, Rubella	Varicella <sup>2,4,5</sup> (Chickenpox)	Hepatitis B <sup>2</sup>	Meningococcal (MCV4)
Kindergarten, Grade 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6	(5 -10 yrs)	4 or 3	0	3	2	2	3	0
Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12	(12 - 18 yrs)	3	1	3	2	1 or 2	3	1

**Vaccine Requirements For Children**  
**Enrolled in Preschool Programs and in Schools**  
**Maryland School Year 2020 - 2021 (Valid 9/1/20 - 8/31/21)**

**FOOTNOTES**

**Requirements for the 2020-21 school year are:**

- 2 doses of Varicella vaccine for entry into Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> AND 6<sup>th</sup> grades
- 1 dose of Tdap vaccine for entry into 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> AND 12<sup>th</sup> grades
- 1 dose of Meningococcal (MCV4) vaccine for entry into 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> AND 12<sup>th</sup> grades

**Instructions:** On the chart locate the student's age or grade and read from left to right on the chart to determine the NUMBER of required vaccinations by age or grade. Dosing or spacing intervals should not be considered when determining if the requirement is met, only count the number of doses needed. MMR and Varicella vaccination dates should be evaluated (See footnote #4).

1. If DT vaccine is given in place of DTP or DTaP, a physician documented medical contraindication is required.
2. Proof of immunity by positive blood test is acceptable in lieu of vaccine history for hepatitis B, polio and measles, mumps, rubella and varicella, **but revaccination may be more expedient.**
3. Hib and PCV(Pprevnar<sup>TM</sup>) are not required for children older than 59 months (5 years) of age.
4. All doses of measles, mumps, rubella and varicella vaccines should be given on or after the first birthday. However, upon record review for students in preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, a preschool or school may count as valid vaccine doses administered less than or equal to four (4) days before the first birthday.
5. One dose of varicella (chickenpox) is required for a student younger than 13 years of age. Two doses of varicella vaccine are required for students entering Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grades and for previously unvaccinated students 13 years of age or older. Medical diagnosis of varicella disease is acceptable in lieu of vaccination. Medical diagnosis is documented history of disease provided by a health care provider. Documentation must include month and year.
6. Four (4) doses of DTP/DTaP are required for children less than 7 years old. Three (3) doses of tetanus and diphtheria containing vaccine (any combination of the following — DTP, DTaP, Tdap, DT or Td) are required for children 7 years of age and older. One dose of Tdap vaccine received prior to entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade is acceptable and should be counted as a dose that fulfills the Tdap requirement.
7. Polio vaccine is not required for persons 18 years of age and older.



## Frequently Asked Questions: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and Childhood Vaccinations

Updated May 28, 2020

### **What is the concern about childhood vaccinations now?**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, parents have done everything they can to keep their children safe. As a result, pediatric visits have been missed, along with important vaccinations. While there is no vaccine for COVID-19 yet, there are many vaccinations available to keep your child safe from many other serious illnesses.

### **Should I be concerned about taking my child to get a vaccination?**

Health care providers are doing many things to make their offices as safe as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. If you want to know what your child's provider is doing to keep you and your child safe during a visit to their office, you can call them to find out and ask any questions you may have.

### **How can I know what vaccinations my child needs?**

You can check your child's vaccination records by contacting your health care provider. You can also view your child's vaccination records at [MD.MyIR.net](https://www.mdmyir.net), Maryland's free and secure online portal for vaccination records.

### **How important is it for me to get my child's vaccinations now? Can't it wait?**

Vaccinations are a vital part of maintaining your child's health and well-being. Without up-to-date vaccinations, your child could get sick from serious diseases like measles, rubella, pertussis (whooping cough) and many others. Many children have missed their vaccinations due to concerns about COVID-19. Children need to be vaccinated before they are potentially exposed. Now is the right time to bring your child's vaccinations up to date to protect your child.

### **What if my child does not have a regular health care provider or insurance?**

There are several ways you can find a health care provider or insurance for your child.

1. To learn about resources in your community, contact the local health department in your county <https://health.maryland.gov/Pages/health-departments.aspx>
2. To locate a community health center near you, visit <https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/>
3. If you need insurance, visit <https://www.marylandhealthconnection.gov/> for assistance.
4. To find a pediatrician near you, visit <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/tips-tools/find-pediatrician/Pages/Pediatrician-Referral-Service.aspx>