



# The Puma Blast

SPMS Vision: Every student has the Right to Achieve, and the Support to Succeed

Vol. 2, Issue 15: Jan 9-12, 2018



Mr. McAuley's Selfie of the Week:



Snow prevented a current week's selfie. This 'sunny and warm' selfie was taken after one of our PTSA Spirit Nights. Students who participated in the Spirit Night ate outside the next day.

### SPMS Administration

- Thomas McAuley  
Principal
- Meagan Tenia  
Associate Principal
- Lindsay Ingram  
Assistant Principal
- Doug Wright  
Administrative Aide
- Jerome Fleming  
Administrative Aide
- Rob Przybylski  
Administrative Aide

### Key Upcoming Dates

**Tuesday, Jan 9- Two Hour Delay.** Students should report to Block 1 between 10:05-10:35.  
 Order of periods for the day: Period 1, 3, 2, and 4.  
 \*\* Please note: Periods 3 and 2 are out of numerical order to preserve the consistency established during our 'regular-school hour' lunch period.

- Jan 15 → Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (No School)
- Jan 23-26 → Mid-term Exams
  - Jan 23: Blocks 1 & 3
  - Jan 24: Blocks 5 & 7
  - Jan 25: Blocks 2 & 4
  - \*Jan 26: Block 6 (end of MP2)



Short Pump Middle School  
 4701 Pouncey Tract Rd  
 Glen Allen, VA 23059  
 (804)360-0800



### Winter Semi-Formal Dance

Jan 18, 7-9pm

Theme: "A Night in the City"



Tickets are \$4.00. You may purchase tickets this week between 8:05 and 8:30AM. Please see Mr. Cross or Ms. Roman to purchase tickets.

#### Semi-Formal:

Guys: Dress pants, button down shirt, tie. Jacket preferred/not required.

Girls: Dress pants, dresses/skirts.

Light refreshments will be available (included in the \$4.00 ticket price)



## Attention Puma Girls: Exciting STEM Opportunity!

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math. According to the National Girls Collaborative Project, women make up half of the total U.S. college-educated workforce but only 29% of the science and engineering workforce. Beginning January 2018, Short Pump in partnership with GE Digital, will offer a monthly after school STEM opportunity for our female students. Each month, women from GE working in the above STEM fields will share information about their careers and provide our students hands on activities solving problems in these fields. If interested in learning more about this opportunity, students should attend an information session. **\*\*Due to snow, the Jan 5th info session has been re-scheduled for Wednesday, January 10th during Puma Den @ 2:45PM\* (A PA announcement will be made at approx. 2:40.)**





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## Specialty Center- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

### Attention 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students:

Information regarding Specialty Center Information Sessions, Open Houses, and the Application timeline can be found by visiting: <http://henricoschools.us/specialty-centers/>. Applications are due **January 12, 2018**. Please contact Mrs. Sharpe at [hssharp@henrico.k12.va.us](mailto:hssharp@henrico.k12.va.us) or 804-364-0837 if you have any questions.

## Winter Sports

\*All athletic contests begin at 4:45pm

### Tue, Jan 9

Boys Basketball @ Quioccasin  
Wrestling vs. Quioccasin (HOME)

### Thu, Jan 11

Boys Basketball @ Brookland  
Wrestling vs Brookland (HOME)

## Rolling Announcements

See what your students see on our rolling announcements shown everyday all day on our cafeteria monitors. It includes very useful and important information. These update often, so check them daily.

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/110k\\_qwPh2AauhkZ8idwqQjYKiS68ZrFsrADlIdbelS-E/pub?start=true&loop=true&delayms=15000](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/110k_qwPh2AauhkZ8idwqQjYKiS68ZrFsrADlIdbelS-E/pub?start=true&loop=true&delayms=15000)

Thank you for supporting our Pumas!



## From the Clinic...



If your student has emergency medications that are needed at school, such as an Epi Pen or an asthma inhaler, please provide the medication(s) and/or the health action plan(s) to the clinic ASAP. New forms and medicines are needed each school year. Forms for the parent and health care provider to sign can be found in the clinic and at [www.henricoschools.us](http://www.henricoschools.us) under the Health & Safety tab. Please call or stop by the clinic to discuss HCPS medication policies and procedures if you have questions.



## Spirit Night- Blaze Pizza

Where: Blaze Pizza, 4101 Dominion Blvd Suite 400  
When: Thurs, Jan 18, 4-9pm



Come join us at the new Blaze Pizza at the Innsbrook Shoppes (in the new building next to Noodles and Co.) for our spirit night! Come anytime between 4:00-9:00 and show them the flyer attached at the end of this newsletter to have 20% of your purchase go back to SPMS and the PTSA. Donations are for dine-in and take-out only (not available for online orders). Thank you for your support!



## IMPORTANT SPECIALTY CENTER INFORMATION

### Upcoming Dates:

Jan. 12, 2018 – Application deadline for students

Jan. 27, 2018 – Center for Spanish Language and Global Citizenship testing

Feb. 3, 2018 – Auditions for Center for the Arts

March 9, 2018 – Students provided online access to check application status/acceptance

March 23, 2018 – Deadline for applicants to declare intent or accept wait-list offers online.

Students may accept one center and one wait-list spot. Students may remain on one wait list until March 30.

March 30, 2018 – All students being offered a spot from the wait list must inform specialty center chairs of their intent to accept an offer of admission

### Important Steps/Reminders:

1. Parent/Guardian logs in to PowerSchool using their account and gives student parental consent to apply. After this occurs it will take 24 hours to sync with the specialty center application site so the student will not have access until after that.
2. Student logs on to the specialty center application site (<https://hcpsapps.henrico.k12.va.us/>) using the same log-in they use on their computer and completes the application. Students will select 2 teachers for recommendations, list activities, and choose the centers they wish to apply to. Once they choose the teachers to complete recommendations and submit the application they do not need to do anything else with the recommendations. The teachers complete the recommendations online and they are automatically submitted to Mrs. Sharpe.
3. Students then need to complete the projects for each center they apply to and then upload them to Schoology. Students are members of the course Short Pump MS Specialty Center Writing Samples: Section 1. Students go to the “Submit Specialty Center Projects Here!” folder and then upload each project to the corresponding center. Project descriptions and requirements are also on this site. Mrs. Sharpe does not receive any paper copies. Students must submit here.
4. **All of this is due by January 12th.** So, students should be starting their application well in advance of that date because the projects, application, and teacher recommendations are due that day. If students wait to begin the application it will not be enough to time to complete it.
5. For any questions, students can message Mrs. Sharpe on Schoology or parents can reach her via email at [hssharp@henrico.k12.va.us](mailto:hssharp@henrico.k12.va.us) or via phone at 804-364-0837.



## Important Dates: Rising 9<sup>th</sup> Grade DRHS Students

January 31<sup>st</sup> → Deep Run Elective/Curriculum Fair, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

April 12 → Deep Run Freshman Parent 101, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

## Attention Rising 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Students!

### Summer Online Health and Physical Education 2018

NOTE THAT SUMMER SCHOOL HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION IS CAPPED AT 500 STUDENTS. ALL STUDENTS WILL HAVE TO ENTER A LOTTERY TO BE SELECTED FOR THE COURSE THIS SUMMER. SEE DETAILS AT: <https://sites.google.com/a/henrico.k12.va.us/online-health-and-pe/home>

Open Houses: February, 2018 Glen Allen HS Auditorium February 6, 2018 7:00 PM Varina HS Auditorium February 7, 2018 7:00 PM

Courses are offered to students who will be enrolled in Henrico County Schools or HCPS students enrolled at Maggie Walker Governor's School during school year 2018-19.

Information: Information will be available in January in your school counseling office, the HCPS Website and the Summer Online Health & Physical Education page:  
<https://sites.google.com/a/henrico.k12.va.us/online-health-and-pe/home>

Lottery Dates: February 8, 2018 – March 2, 2018 (Online at <http://tinyurl.com/onlinehpe2018>) Sign up for the lottery (once per child) only if you are serious about taking the class.

Notification of Acceptance to Courses: Week of March 5, 2018

Registration & Payment Dates: March 12, 2018 – March 23, 2018 (4:00 pm) Register at attending home school counseling offices

Course Dates: May 29, 2018 – July 31, 2018

Mandatory Meetings: May 29 for everyone, June 26 for 9th grade HPE, June 27 for 10th grade HPE and July 31 for everyone; as well as twice-monthly meetings with instructor for heart monitor downloads

Cost: \$300.00 Henrico Resident Tuition



## Maggie L. Walker Governor's School- Testing

Students applying to MLWGS are required to attend a testing session from 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on January 27, 2018 at Maggie Walker Governor's School, 1000 North Lombardy Street, Richmond, VA 23220. Students unable to attend the January 27th testing session due to school/sports activity or religious reasons will be offered a make-up opportunity based on availability. This make-up test will be held February 13th at MLWGS from 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Written permission to attend the make-up test must be submitted in writing by December 8th to the Gifted Specialist, Gifted Education Programs, 3820 Nine Mile Road, Richmond, VA 23223. Note: If a student becomes ill or a family emergency occurs and is unable to attend the testing session on January 27th, the parent must notify the gifted program office no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, January 29th in order to reschedule testing.

## Box Tops



SPMS Parents & Students please save and share your box tops!

In addition to using the new box top app, don't forget to continue to cut out and save your box tops for the library. Please continue to send them in to the library with your student. Make sure their name is on the envelope or baggie. The money we receive from the box tops is used to purchase books, iPads along with cases and tripod adapters, games, puzzles and other supplies for students to use in the library. Thank you for your support!

## CodeRVA

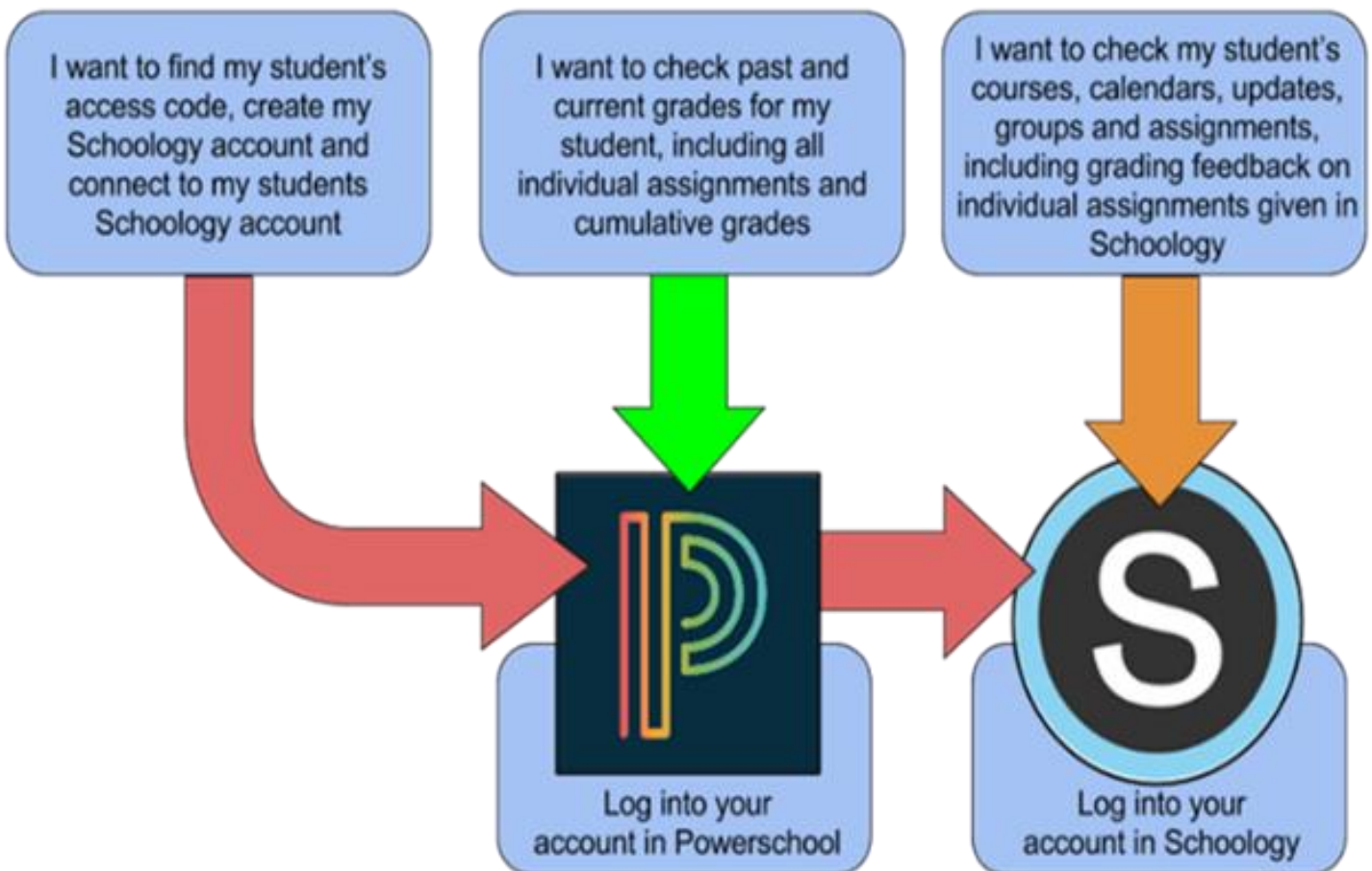
Information regarding CodeRVA can be found at: <http://coderva.org/>. CodeRVA applicants should have an interest in and passion for the study of computer science. Individual school divisions may have local requirements. Currently, Henrico County requires their applicants to have a least a C average (2.0 GPA). Application Timeline: the application window for the 2018-2019 school year will open on January 8, 2018 • The application window will close at 11:59 p.m. on February 23, 2018. • Selected students will be notified by email on March 9, 2018. • Selected students that accept the offer to attend must maintain residence in a CodeRVA partnering school division and their eligibility for enrollment in grade 9 during 2018-2019.



## Welcoming New Pumas to Our Pack

Although moving to a new area and school can be an exciting adventure, it can also be a challenging and overwhelming experience and we would like to provide our families with some neighborhood support. The School Counseling team would like to create a pool of people who are willing to help welcome new Puma families to SPMS and to our community. If you are interested in volunteering in this capacity, please complete this form: [www.tinyurl.com/pumawelcome](http://www.tinyurl.com/pumawelcome). We may use the information collected from the form to help match families in similar neighborhoods or with similar backgrounds. By completing the form, you are agreeing to allow the School Counseling team to share your personal contact information with newly enrolled families. Thank you for your willingness to support our Puma family!

### Where do I go as a parent if...





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*Thank you for being a valued member of  
Short Pump Middle School*



*Home of the Pumas*

# CAUSE A SCENE FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Enjoy yourself and support our cause at a special fundraising event for:

**Organization name:** Short Pump Middle School  
**Date:** 1/18/2018  
**Time:** 4:00PM-9:00PM  
**Location:** Blaze Pizza – Glen Allen  
4101 Dominion Blvd Suite 400

**Bring in this flyer or show it on your phone before paying.** Blaze Pizza will donate 20% of proceeds from your meal back to our organization.



**FAST-FIRE'D.**