



The Puma Blast



Short Pump Middle School: The School with P.R.I.D.E. and Heart
Vol. 3, Issue 7: October 22-26, 2018



This Week's Events

October 22

PTSA Reflections Contest Entries Due
TSA Parent Meeting @5:30 in Room 403
College and Career Awareness Week Starts
Tennis vs TMS (@ Deep Run), 4:45pm
VEX club parents please attend the TSA informational meeting Monday 10/22 from 5:30-6:30pm.

October 23

Basketball @ Moody, 4:45pm
Soccer @ Holman, 4:45pm
Tennis @ either Holman or Moody (depends on Monday's game)

October 24

Unity Day-Wear ORANGE to support standing together for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion
Wilder @ SPMS (football), 4:45pm

October 25

Picture Day through PE classes

October 26

Picture Day through PE classes
Book Club Meeting (all invited) @ 10:55am (Library)

Mr. McAuley's Selfie of the Week



Eighth grade students attended a Missions for Tomorrow field trip on Friday. Students were able to explore a wide range of careers through hands-on experiences.

Daily Announcements

Keep up-to-date with the daily school announcements! Click [HERE](#) to view them.

Looking to the Future

October 29: Spirit Week Starts
October 31: Author visit for sixth grade during school

School Counseling Notes

The Short Pump Middle School counseling team is offering a depression awareness and suicide prevention program entitled SOS (Signs of Suicide) to all students through Health & PE classes on October 22th (8th grade students), October 29th (7th grade students), and November 12th (6th grade students). This program has been developed by the highly regarded non-profit organization that created the SOS Signs of Suicide Program for high schools. To read more about it, click [HERE](#). Please contact the school counseling office (804-364-0837) if you have any questions.



Help Out Our School!

-Link your Kroger Card to SPMS to help SPMS help our students!

How to link your Kroger Plus Card: 1) Visit www.Kroger.com/CommunityRewards and click Sign In. 2) Once logged in, select I'm a Customer/View Details. 3) Search for Short Pump Middle School by name. 4) Select Short Pump Middle School and click Enroll.

-Help our school by saving those **BOX TOPS!!** It's quick; it's easy, and it gives our students some great tools for learning!
Click on [THIS](#) to learn how!



The Sports Authority

If inclement weather is forecasted, the following link will be updated by 2 P.M. each day:
<https://tinyurl.com/spmssportsupdates>

Let's Keep It Safe, Pumas!

For the month of October, there will be various safety drills.

There will be:

- one fire drill
- a bus evacuation drill
- a tornado drill
- an earthquake drill

Get Involved

Calling all families: help us build real and authentic learning connections from the classroom to our community. Please fill out the following form to help us build a list of contacts with our community businesses. Our goal is to provide this list to our teachers as points of contact to bridge and build active participation with our students and the community we serve. Please fill out [THIS](#) form if you are willing to help our students with a real-world learning experience.



and PowerSchool

Schoolology is the platform that Short Pump teachers use as their classroom management tool. Please visit the Short Pump website and click on the "Resources" tab to see the directions for the Schoolology Parent Portal.

You can now access your child's grades!

Be sure to keep abreast of all graded work. To create an account to view your child's grades, visit:

<http://henricoschools.us/powerschool/>

If you are not sure whether to go to PowerSchool or Schoolology, [CLICK HERE](#). If you need help with creating a parent Schoolology account, click [HERE](#).

Specialty Center Applications

It's that time of year! HCPS Specialty Center Applications for students entering 9th grade during the 2019-2020 school year (8th grade students) will be available online beginning November 19th!

For specific information, click [HERE](#).



PTA Corner

-Enter this year's Reflections contest. The theme is "Heroes Around Us." Submission categories include: Dance, Writing, Photography, Film, Music, and Visual Arts. It's open to all students at SPMS! Contest winners will be announced before the Specialty Center Applications are due. Every student that enters will receive a lunch pass to eat outdoors! To learn more, [CLICK HERE](#).

-When ordering pizzas, you can also help SPMS PTSA earn money by ordering from Papa Johns and using the promo code SPMS when you check out online.

-To join, volunteer, donate, and more, click [HERE](#).

College and Career Awareness Week!



October 22-26th is College and Career Awareness Week! Teachers will be posting about their college experiences and students will have a scavenger hunt to complete to be entered to win a Starbucks gift card! On Friday October 26th the staff and students will participate in a College gear spirit day! Wear your favorite college t-shirt or sweatshirt!

Workshop on Micro Aggressions

In partnership with the VCIC, Short Pump Middle School will be hosting an evening event for parents to learn more about micro-aggressions and implicit bias. Micro Aggressions and implicit bias are two areas of focus for our social and emotional lessons. We want to provide a workshop for parents who would like more information so we can work as a partnership in supporting our students. The workshop will take place November 13th (6:30-8:00PM).



VIRGINIA CENTER FOR
INCLUSIVE
COMMUNITIES

Maggie Walker Governor's School

The process for applying to the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School is the form of an online application. The one-page application form will be in the Rycor system through PowerSchool. On Thursday, October 11th and Friday, October 12th, School Counselors distributed letters inviting qualifying students to apply. If your student did not receive a letter or you do not see the MLWGS application as an option when you login to Powerschool/Rycor, please review the "Criteria for Applying" document on the web at <http://blogs.henrico.k12.va.us/mlwgs/maggie-l-walker-governor-school/> for further information. If your student does not meet the criteria listed but would like to be considered as an applicant, your student must come to school counseling to discuss this with Mrs. Mayo, School Counselor. Students wishing to apply that do not meet criteria will be required to write a letter and submit as soon as possible, as there will be a deadline determined. If you feel like your student met the requirements for Governor's School and did not receive a letter, please contact Mrs. Mayo, 8th grade School Counselor, as soon as possible at (804) 364-0837 or jcsmayo@henrico.k12.va.us. There will be an informational session held at Maggie Walker on November 12th from 6:30-8:30pm.