



# The Puma Blast



Short Pump Middle School: The School with P.R.I.D.E. and Heart  
Vol. 3, Issue 8: October 29-November 2, 2018



## This Week's Events

October 29

Wacky Tacky Day (Spirit Week)  
Hermitage HS College and Career Night 6-8pm (Click [HERE](#) for info)

October 30

Twin Day (Spirit Week)

October 31

Halloween-Follow School Dress Code (Spirit Week)  
Author Alyssa Hollingsworth visits Sixth Grade

November 1

Pajamas Day (Spirit Week)  
Girls STEAM Club Meets @ 3:15pm

November 2

Pep Rally (wear your grade colors: 6<sup>th</sup>=white; 7<sup>th</sup>=red; 8<sup>th</sup>=black)  
School Dance (Neon Dance!)-Buy tickets in advance!

## Mr. McAuley's Selfie of the Week



What a wonderful Unity Day rally. It was student led, and our cheerleaders, and essay readers were fantastic. Most wonderful is the reflection and recognition of what this day represents. Proud to be a Puma!

## Daily Announcements

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

## Looking to the Future

November 5: Day 1 (Have only blocks 1, 2, 3, 4)  
November 6: Election Day- Student Holiday; Parent Conferences (sign up link will be emailed separately)  
November 9: Veteran's Day Assembly; Fundraiser Show (Rick Scott Jr.) for those who sold enough items

## 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 (6<sup>th</sup> graders already received this) through Health & PE classes on October 29th (7<sup>th</sup> grade students), and November 12th (6<sup>th</sup> 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.

## The Sports Authority

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



## 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](http://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!



# Let's Keep It Safe, Pumas!

For the month of October, there will 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 9<sup>th</sup> grade during the 2019-2020 school year (8<sup>th</sup> grade students) will be available online beginning November 19<sup>th</sup>! 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](#).

## Support Schoology Issues at Home

Want to help support your child with their schoology issues from home but not sure where to begin. Show your student how to click on the Help Center link found at the bottom of the Schoolgoy site. They can type in their probelm and find how to solve it.

Bottom of Schoology

Help Center

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## 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 13<sup>th</sup> (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 in the form of an online application in the Rycor system through Powerschool. School Counselors distributed letters inviting qualifying students to apply. Letters were distributed in World Language classes. 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 [HERE](#) for further information. If your student does not meet the criteria listed, but would like to be considered as an applicant, parents are required to write a letter and submit it as soon as possible, as there will be a deadline determined. If you feel like your student met the requirements 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](mailto:jcsmayo@henrico.k12.va.us). There will also be an info session at Maggie Walker on 11/12 from 6:30-8:30pm.

## Code RVA Regional High School

Are you an 8th grader interested in computer science or a STEM- related field? Consider applying to the CODE RVA Regional high school! For more information, visit the following links: [Outreach](#) and [Postcard](#).