

January 12th, 2015
Issue 5

The Panther Pride

Princess Anne Middle School

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JANUARY 13TH
RISING 6TH GRADE
INFORMATION NIGHT
6:00PM

JANUARY 14TH
NJHS GENERAL MEETING
3:40PM

JANUARY 19TH
SCHOOL CLOSED

Distributed by the Princess Anne Middle School PTA

“Success comes when we all pull together”

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER – JANUARY 2015

I would like to begin with a particularly bright spot in an exciting time of pending transition. Join me in congratulating Princess Anne Middle's 2015-16 Teacher of the Year, Mr. Jamie Arnett, a grade 6 mathematics and wrestling and football coach. Mr. Arnett was selected by his peers for his ability to inspire a love of learning, for his innovative instructional practices, for his dedication to the school and community, and for his contributions to the profession. Mr. Arnett is an outstanding teacher, worthy of the distinction of Teacher of the Year.

As we approach the end of the first semester, please reflect on your child's current academic progress and the pending release of report cards on February 2, 2015. Are you registered for Parent Portal and checking your child's academic progress daily? Do your child's grades reflect his/her abilities? Are you satisfied with the grades your child is earning? Are you looking for assistance for your child? It is important to me and the staff at Princess Anne Middle that your child meets with continued success, and we have dedicated ourselves to that purpose. To that end, we have put in place several programs to help students who need extra assistance:

AM Homework Center: Students may arrive early to school at 7:40 AM where a supervised environment conducive to sustained silent study is provided until 9:00 AM each morning.

PAMS Support Center: Tutoring is available after school Monday-Thursday from 4:00-5:40 PM. The tutoring schedule is sent out weekly through Myschool Mail.

PM Homework Center: As with the AM Homework Center, supervised homework time is available Monday-Thursday in computer lab 106 from 4:00 PM-5:30 PM. Activity buses are available to provide transportation home if necessary. Students who attend must arrive on time, and stay the entire time (unless picked up by a parent).

SOL Recovery: Students who are not meeting with success in the core classes of English and math are candidates for this program. With SOL Recovery students are removed from one of their two elective classes and meet instead with grade level

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER - CONTINUED

teachers for reinforcement of objectives studied in English and math. Parents who feel this program may benefit their child should contact the child's core teachers or counselor.

Independent Reading: Students who are below grade level in reading are assigned to this program which also takes the place of one of the elective classes. Teachers generally recommend students for this program; however, a parent may also recommend a student's participation by contacting the child's counselor.

Though it is only January, we have already begun to look ahead to next school year. Plans are underway for the launch of an interdisciplinary STEM team at 7th grade. This team will feature an innovative approach to teaching and learning, and will be open to all PAMS students to apply. We will hold an Open House for all rising 7th graders and their parents at the end of February to present details. Look for more information to come.

As always, I look for your child's continued success. Please do not hesitate to call on me or any member of my staff if we may be of assistance. You will find email links to all staff members on Princess Anne Middle's Website at www.princessannems.vbschools.com.

D. Alex Bergren
Principal, Princess Anne Middle School



*Search for
Princess Anne Middle
School PTA*

PAMS SPIRIT WEEK – JANUARY 12TH-16TH

Monday: Fake an Injury Day

Tuesday: Sandbridge vs Pungo (aka – Beach Vs Country)

Wednesday: Crazy Hair Day

Thursday: Twin Day

Friday: School Spirit Day - 8th graders wear navy, 7th graders wear gold, 6th graders wear white – the spirit stick will be awarded to the grade with the most participation – this will be determined at the Pep Rally on January 16th

2ND ANNUAL PANTHER PROWL 5K

PAMS was able to raise over **\$8,000.00** for the Wounded Warrior organization last year through our Lend-A-Hand and Panther Prowl 5K events! Well, we would like to do it again and I am seeking sponsors to ensure this year's race is a success! The proceeds from the 2015 5K charity race will benefit **the Virginia Beach SPCA**. The **2nd Annual PAMS Panther Prowl 5K** is set for **Sunday, April 26th, 2015** and will be the finale for our **PAMS Lend-A-Hand** weekend. We are so excited that this has become an annual event!

Sponsors who donate **\$200.00** will be featured on our race t-shirt that will be worn by all runners/walkers/volunteers and Panther Prowl team members. I hope you will consider joining us in our efforts to support the **Virginia Beach SPCA**.

If you have any questions, please contact Hunter Tynes (me) at 648-4963 or hunter.tynes@vbschools.com. Thank you again for your time and continued support!

SPELLING BEE

The Princess Anne Spelling Bee is Coming Soon!



When: Classroom spelling bees will begin the end of December/beginning of January.

The winners of the spelling bees will be invited to the PAMS Spelling Bee on **Thursday, January 15, 2015** at 2:00 P.M.

Where: In the Library

How do I prepare? There are practice words on Mrs. DeWitt's wikispace which can be accessed from our PAMS website under "About Us" and "Our Staff". You will see Mrs. DeWitt's name and then click on her website.

PAMS BUSINESS-RECYCLING CLUB

The Business-Recycling Club is now accepting SMALL BATTERIES for recycling!!! We are collecting throughout the school year the following items:

- Cell phones • Printer cartridges • GPS devices • iPods and other MP3 players • Digital cameras • E-readers • Tablet computers • Eye glasses •



All items can either be dropped off at the front desk or brought to room 308A.

Please note: we do not take batteries, printers, laptop or desktop computers

GIFTED PROGRAM INFORMATION

Virginia Beach City Public Schools has a comprehensive gifted education program K-12 that serves the needs of intellectually gifted students in home schools and in full-time magnet schools. Home schools use a cluster resource model in which the gifted resource teacher works with the regular classroom teacher to design and implement curriculum and instructional strategies to specifically meet the needs of the high-end learner. Princess Anne Middle School's Gifted Resource Teacher is Ms. Cathy Peterson. If you have questions about the gifted program, please contact her at Cathy.Peterson@vbschools.com or 648-4950 x59137.



To see what happens in cluster classes and to receive information about enrichment opportunities, parent workshops, and helpful details about the life of a middle school student, please subscribe to Ms. Peterson's blog: <http://blogs.vbschools.com/pamiddlegifted/>

Assessment for intellectually gifted identification will take place on the following dates at PAMS by a testing specialist:

- February 19, 2015 (Kemps Landing Magnet applicants) May 14, 2015

If you feel your child is a good candidate for the gifted program, please contact Ms. Peterson in order to initiate the referral process. There are several forms that need to be completed and teachers must have time to write their observations/recommendations.

Students interested in the one-day-a-week pull-out program for dance at Old Donation Center or the full-time visual arts program at Virginia Beach Middle School should contact Ms. Peterson in October for information about the audition/assessment process.

Applications for both arts programs are due to Ms. Peterson by February 2, 2015.

ACADEMY APPLICATIONS

Academy applications are available in guidance or on-line at <http://www.vbschools.com/curriculum/academyprog/appprocess.asp> Completed applications must be received in guidance by **Monday February 2, 2015**. Late applications will not be accepted.

Academy and Advanced Academic Programs Open House Schedule

<p>January 13, 2015 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Governor's STEM Academy and Technology Academy @ Landstown High School</p>	<p>January 14, 2015 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. International Baccalaureate Program @ Princess Anne High School</p>	<p>January 15, 2015 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Health Sciences Academy @ Bayside High School</p>
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GREEN RUN COLLEGIATE

Green Run Collegiate Open House and application: Applications for Green Run Collegiate are available in guidance. Completed applications must be returned to guidance by Thursday March 12, 2015. For more information: <http://www.greenruncollegiate.vbschools.com/>

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY



Service learning projects are an ideal way for middle school learners to combine their intellectual need for complexity and their affective need to make a difference in the world. Many students in the eighth grade are members of the **National Junior Honor Society** and will be instrumental in the success of the group's activities during the school year: a collection drive for personal products for Samaritan House; peer-tutoring; "Souper" Bowl of Caring to benefit the FoodBank of Southeastern Virginia; and sponsorship of the Eighth Grade Semi-Formal Dance in June. Students help to organize and lead the projects to improve their own leadership skills. Many sixth and seventh grade students have expressed interest in joining the NJHS. Here's the scoop on the application process:

- **Seventh and eighth grade students** may apply by invitation-only **after the third quarter grades are posted**.
- A **3.5 grade point average** for the **current** school year is required to be invited to apply.
- A complete application with teacher recommendations must be submitted by the due date in May.
- A selection committee composed of teachers and school counselors reviews the applications and makes the decision whether to extend an invitation to join the society. **Through the application process, applicants must show evidence of outstanding citizenship, character, leadership, and service to school and community. The advisors do not have a vote in the process.**

If students have any questions about NJHS, they may ask Mrs. Solheim or Ms. Peterson (NJHS advisors). Eighth grade students new to PAMS who were inducted into the NJHS chapter at their former school should see the PAMS advisors for information about joining the group now! The first general meeting for eighth graders inducted last spring is September 17.

Princess Anne Middle PTA Membership Form



Please remember that the Stress-Free Fundraiser option eliminates product sales with 100% of your donation going directly to the PTA so that we may bring great programs to our school for all students. Further the Stress Free donation is tax-deductible. We appreciate your support of the Princess Anne Middle PTA.

Member Only

Stress Free
w/Membership (\$25.00/ea.) (\$5.00/ea.)

Parent's Name _____ M ___ F ___

Parent's Name _____ M ___ F ___

Parent's Phone # (____) _____ - _____

Grand Total:

Parent's Email _____

\$ _____

Student Name _____ M ___ F ___

Grade _____ Teacher _____

Student Name _____ M ___ F ___

Grade _____ Teacher _____

Student Name _____ M ___ F ___

Grade _____ Teacher _____

Three ways to join: Cash, Check or Credit Card via PayPal!

Credit Card: You can pay in person at Open House on Sept 9th!

Membership with Stress Free: <http://tinyurl.com/PAMSPTACombo>

Membership Only: <http://tinyurl.com/PAMSPTAmembershiponly>

By check or cash:

Please make your check payable to: Princess Anne Middle PTA

Cash _____ Check# _____

You can drop this form at the school or mail it to: PTA at 2323 Holland Road, Virginia Beach 23453

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!!

Visit Princess Anne Middle School PTA's
new website for PTA News:
www.pamsptavb.com



LABELS FOR EDUCATION & FARM FRESH

We are collecting "Labels for Education" and Farm Fresh receipts!!! This program helps the school to purchase additional supplies that are used to help further the learning process of all students at Princess Anne Middle School.



Please make sure to save these items and send them to the office. Every receipt and label helps!

Thank you!



If you would like to volunteer in various areas of our school throughout the year and have not signed up yet, please send an e-mail to JoElla Beavers (Volunteer Coordinator) at jbeavers4@cox.net



**Stop SHOUTING your news!!
SHARE it in the PTA Newsletter!**

**Send your info to Tiffany Jones at
jonesfamilyfour@live.com**

**Next due date is:
February 9th!**

Princess Anne Middle School PTA

Principal
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