



EXPRESS

A NEWSLETTER FOR PGCPS EMPLOYEES

Kenmoor Early Childhood Center Educator Named Teacher of the Year



Kenmoor Early Childhood Center educator Mary Truman is the 2023 Prince George's County Teacher of the Year! Truman, a 22-year veteran PGCPS educator, teaches preschoolers with autism.

Selected from a pool of more than 140 nominees, Truman will compete statewide for [Maryland Teacher of the Year](#), coordinated by the Maryland State Department of Education. She received a pre-paid lease on a new 2023 vehicle from sponsor Pohanka Honda.



International High School at Langley Park teacher Jeimy Amaya was named first runner-up for Teacher of the Year. Finalists include Dr. Terri Dove, Online Campus; Linda Henderson, Montpelier Elementary School; Elizabeth Martinez, Academy of Health Sciences at Prince George's Community College; and Ashley Shifflett, Nicholas Orem Middle School.

[Read more](#)

#ThankPGCPSTeachers Recap

As [Teacher Appreciation Week](#) comes to a close, we thank our educators for inspiring our students to be the best! Thank you to all who nominated a deserving colleague in our contest.

Grand prize winners awarded this week include:



Erin Lukomska-Schlauch, Charles H. Flowers High School 11th grade science teacher.



Gwanda Adams, Woodmore Elementary School kindergarten teacher



Maurice Moore, Oxon Hill Middle School 7th grade teacher

Thank you, Nurses and PPWs!

This week, we also honor school nurses, who are on the frontline daily ensuring the health and safety of students and staff.

Additionally, we celebrate the hard work of our Pupil Personnel Workers who support student rights, provide crisis support and work with stakeholders to resolve attendance, discipline and residency issues for students and families.

Spotlight

Staff Honored for Outstanding Performance



Twelve Department of Psychological Services employees received the Jean Phillips Award for stellar service in honor of a former department supervisor:

Honorees include:

Gabriela Gamez, Oxon Hill Elementary School
Dominique Jones, District Heights Elementary School
Kelly Snyder, Parkdale High School
Leah DeGuzman, District Heights, Elementary School
Francisco Peralta, Bonnie F. Johns Educational Media Center
Akemi Johnson, North Forestville Elementary School
Margaret Wallace, Glenarden Woods Elementary School
Danielle Young, Maya Angelou French Immersion IB World School
Tammy Little, Carrollton Elementary School
Chinenye Oparah, Oxon Hill High School
Andrea Livingston, Brandywine Elementary School
Raina Frye, Thomas Pullen Elementary School

Parent Engagement Assistant Featured



AFSCME recently featured **Rogers Heights Elementary School Parent Engagement Assistant Jeniffer Morales Jimenez** on its website to spotlight her work supporting students and families.

[Read more](#)

Unveiling of 46th Student Built House



This week, we unveiled the 46th Student Built House! Eighty-five percent of the home — including carpentry, masonry, electrical, plumbing and HVAC work — was built by students in Career and Technical Education programs.

[Learn more](#)

Announcements & Professional Development

Bowie State University Informational Session

Bowie State University will host a virtual informational session on Monday, May 15 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to learn about earning a master's degree in Reading/Literacy and a graduate pathway for ESOL certification.

Win a Mindfulness Zone for Your School!



Enter to win a mindfulness meditation zone in your classroom or school from Walden University through May 31.

Enter to win

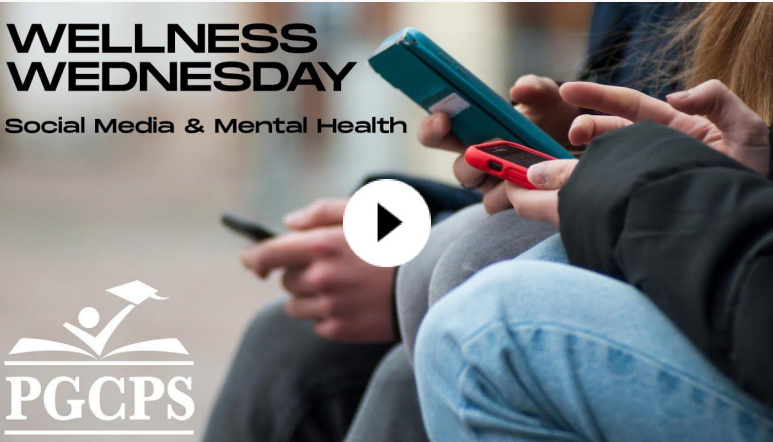
ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

Wellness Resources

Your wellness is a priority! Learn about wellness resources offered through the Department of Benefits Services. Principals can also offer school-level wellness events for staff. Explore individual and group wellness resources through [Wellness 360](#), [WellSet](#), and [more](#).

For questions about wellness resources or to schedule school-level activities, email wellness.benefits@pgcps.org.

Mental Health Awareness Month



May is Mental Health Awareness Month! Check out our recent [Wellness Wednesday session](#) on the connection between social media and student mental health.

For Teacher Appreciation Week, Walden University is giving away a mindfulness meditation zone for a classroom or school. [Enter to win](#) through May 31.

Update: Maryland Strategic Planning Survey

The final phase of the Strategic Plan will launch in June. Share your input with the State Board of Education and Maryland State Department of Education.

Survey

Retirement Celebration & Benefit



The Excellence in Education Foundation for PGCPs will host a retirement celebration and benefit in honor of CEO Dr. Monica Goldson on Friday, June 23. All proceeds from this event will support students through the foundation!

[Tickets](#)

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COMMENTS AND IDEAS: communications@pgcps.org