



EXPRESS

A NEWSLETTER FOR PGCPS EMPLOYEES

Power of One: Holiday Giveback!

Whether offering a hand up to others or inspiring generosity in the next generation, we recognize three educators who are winners of our Holiday Giveback! Winners will each receive a \$100 Amazon gift card courtesy of American College of Education.



Phyllis E. Williams Spanish Immersion teacher **Ms. Ybelices Gonzalez Lana** created several opportunities for her students to embrace the spirit of giving! Students donated non-perishable food items to Bowie Food Pantry, wrote uplifting words and phrases on donation boxes and created holiday cards for local families in need.

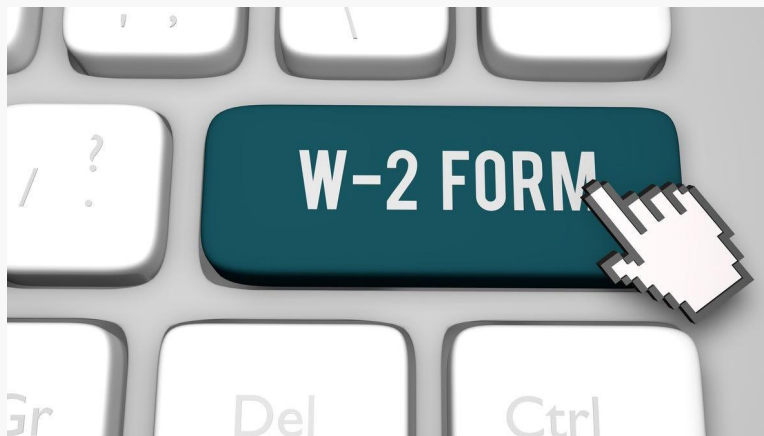


“My family and I work diligently to give back to the community. Our favorite way to give back is to ensure that families have food in their bellies. We purchase, donate and assemble bags of food for the homeless, then go out to deliver.” ~**Shirah Simmons, Instructional Lead Teacher at Fort Washington Forest Elementary School**



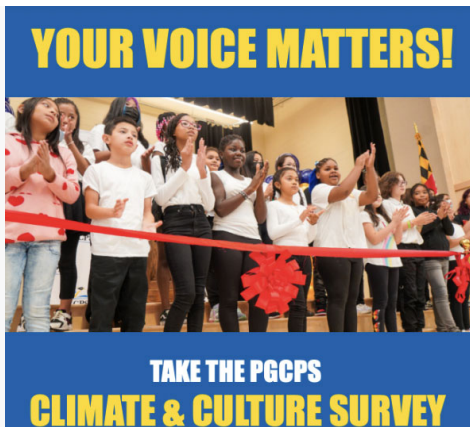
Substitute teacher Benjamin Robinson along with two generations of his family prepare and deliver meals to individuals experiencing homelessness in Washington D.C. at McPherson Square and other areas downtown and throughout the metropolitan area.

'Tis the Season for W-2s



Ensure you receive W-2 forms and other correspondence by checking that your personal information is up to date. Changes for this year should be made in [ORACLE Self-Service](#) by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 22. After this time, information on file will be used for year-end mailings.

Last Chance: School Climate & Culture Survey



Families, staff & students in grades 6-12 are invited to take our [Climate & Culture Survey](#)! Feedback will be used to ensure the district is meeting the needs of all stakeholders. Respondents can enter to win a \$50 gift card. The survey closes Dec. 16.

Spread the Word: Winter Recruitment



PGCPS will host a [district wide hiring event](#) for school based personnel on Saturday, Jan. 7. Candidates will have the opportunity to learn more about the application process and have access to apply onsite.

Spotlights

Division of Academics News



Check out highlights from the departments of Career and Technical Education, Creative and Performing Arts, Curriculum and Instruction, and Early Learning!

[Read More](#)

Global Education Teacher Summit



PGCPS teacher and Global Teacher of the Year Winner Keisha Thorpe invites colleagues to attend at the [U.S Elite International Global Education Teachers Summit](#) on Jan. 21. Top teachers from across the world will present best practices, focus on skilling, reskilling and upskilling, and have the opportunity to share, network, collaborate and build capacity.

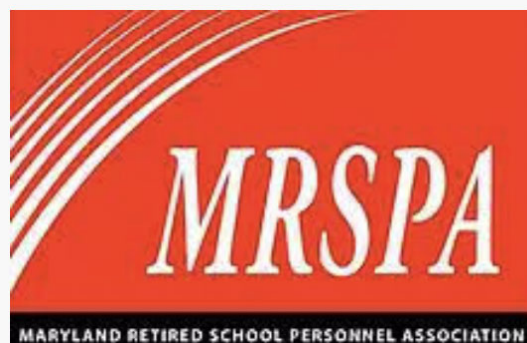
Announcements & Professional Development

United Way: Thank You



This year's United Way of the National Capital Area annual fundraising campaign raised more than \$20,000 from nearly 200 participants.

Scholarships Available



The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, is offering three \$2,000 scholarships to public school employees in Maryland who are enrolled in a program leading to teacher certification or certification as a school counselor, speech, and language pathologist, physical or occupational therapist, school social worker, administrator or supervisor, media specialist or school psychologist. Applications will be available online on Jan. 3.

Board Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Policies

On Dec. 8, the Board voted to approve the following policies for public comment before adoption:

Revised policy 0104 - Title IX

Click [here](#) to provide comments on draft policy 010

Revised policy 0108 - Code of Conduct

Click [here](#) to provide comments on draft policy 0108

In addition to the online comment forms, comments on the proposed policy can be submitted by email to testimony@pgcps.org. Comments are due by 5:00 pm on Friday, Dec. 23.

Suitland CVPA Visual Arts Winter Exhibition



The Center for Visual and Performing Arts at Suitland High School presents the "**Syntax**" Winter Exhibition! The exhibition will feature artwork created by students studying computer graphics, drawing, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture.

#PGCPS Proud: Remembering a Music Educator and Friend



A retired PGCPS educator since 1988, longtime music teacher J Otis Harris, Jr. taught choral music, general music, band and keyboard. He is also remembered for his after-school program, Kings and Queens at Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School.

ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

New PGCPS Perks Available

Check out an updated list of vendors.



PGCPS Perks

Give the Gift of Texas Roadhouse



Give the gift of [Texas Roadhouse](https://shopTXRH.myshopify.com) with personalized custom gift cards, virtual gift cards, legendary merchandise or the online butcher shop! Be sure to select the Bowie, MD, location

as your favorite store!

Questions? Email: 260Marketing@TexasRoadhouse.com

*Principals: inquire about unique fundraising opportunities for your school!

Nominate an Outstanding Educator/ Principal



Nominations for the annual *The Washington Post* principal and teacher of the year awards are open! Two nominees (one teacher and one principal) will be selected to represent PGCPs in the regional competition for [The Washington Post Principal and Teacher of the Year](#) awards.

Email nomination packets to communications@pgcps.org (the Office of Communications) by **Friday, Jan. 13, 2023**. Do not send packets directly to *The Washington Post*.

[Teacher of the Year Application](#)

[Principal of the Year Application](#)

Principal Application Window Open

Qualified candidates should **apply through Dec. 31** via iRecruitment. Interested applicants may visit the [PGCPS Careers](#) for more information and to review job announcements.

Job announcements include:

IRC183480 - Elementary/Secondary Principal

IRC183481 – Montessori

IRC183482 - Language Immersion

IRC183483 - Early Childhood Center

IRC183860 - Regional School Programs

[Learn More](#)

#TeamPGCPS Paparazzi

PGCPS alumni and students from American College of Education (ACE), enjoyed a fun-filled night reconnecting with ACE and networking with fellow alums.



STAY CONNECTED

SOCIAL MEDIA [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#)

PGCPS LINKS [Main Website](#) | [Human Resources](#) | [Payroll](#) | [Hotline](#)

COMMENTS AND IDEAS:  communications@pgcps.org

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SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.