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**Prince George's County Public Schools**  
ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS DEL CONDADO DE PRINCE GEORGE  
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## PGCPS Express: Going Above and Beyond to Support Our Students

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May 7, 2021

### Get the Scoop

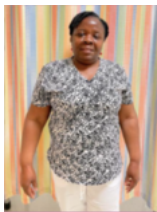
#### Teacher Appreciation Week: Above and Beyond

Administrators, PTA/PTOs, students and community partners went *above and beyond* for **Teacher Appreciation Week** to acknowledge our educators for all they do everyday and especially the past year to support our students and families. To highlight a few:

- The **Washington Football Team** sent lunch and team swag to Gholson Middle School.
- **Adelphi Elementary School** rolled out the red carpet and recognized teachers who have worked at the school for 10, 15, 20 and 25 plus years.
- **Rosa Parks Elementary School** treated teachers to breakfast from Chick-fil-A and lunch from Honey Baked Ham.

Special appreciation to **Kaiser Permanente and American College of Education** for partnering with PGCPS to provide a daily dose of self-care and Amazon gift card giveaway.

#### School Nurse Week: Championing the Whole Student



**School Nurse Week** kicked off Thursday, providing a special opportunity to recognize our healthcare heroes. Our school nurses played key roles in addressing the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, including assisting with employee vaccinations and preparing schools to reopen safely. On Wednesday, May 12, be sure to show our nurses how much we appreciate their dedication to "championing the whole student" for **School Nurse Day**.

#### School Lunch Hero Day: Celebrating Food Service Workers



**Food service workers** got special recognition from Gov. Larry Hogan with the proclamation of Friday, May 7 as **Maryland School and Community Nutrition Hero Day**. The designation is a tribute to the dedication and continuous efforts of Maryland's child nutrition programs staff, who have been on the frontline since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency. Let's give a round of applause to our PGCPs Food and Nutrition Services staff for working nonstop since the start of the pandemic to provide **millions of meals** to students!

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## New Middle Schools On the Way



years.

On Tuesday, PGCPs broke ground on two middle schools: a **new Glenridge Area Middle School in Landover Hills** and the **replacement William Wirt Middle School in Riverdale**. The projects are part of the school system's Capital Improvement Program to replace aging school buildings over the next 20

## In the Spotlight

### #PGCPSProud



**Food Service Assistant Jonathan Hodges** is a perfect example of a School Lunch Hero, according to Food and Nutrition Area Supervisor Cory Talbott.

Jonathan has been the go-to person to cover any school. His positive attitude and can-do spirit has made him invaluable resource since starting with PGCPs shortly before the pandemic. His home school is Dodge Park Elementary where he makes colleagues #PGCPSProud!



Congratulations to **Buck Lodge Middle School teacher Modupe Olafunmiloye** on being selected as a 2021 state science finalist for the Grades 7-12 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching! **Olafunmiloye** has been with PGCPs for nearly 13 years including nine at Buck Lodge.

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## Family Support Team Featured in MSDE Newsletter

The **Family Support Team** was featured in the latest MSDE newsletter on how they have embraced technology to meet the needs of families all while adapting to the challenges presented by the pandemic. The team has provided virtual family support training webinars in both English and Spanish.

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## PG13: "Back on the Field"



In [Episode 10](#) of high school sports series *PG13*, excitement is in the air as scholar-athletes return to the field and many teammates see each other in person for the first time in more than a year.

**Nominate a colleague** who makes you #PGCPS Proud by sending their name, office/school, photo and a brief description (100 words or less) to [communications@pgcps.org](mailto:communications@pgcps.org). Submissions may be edited for length, clarity or grammar.

## Benefits Services: Our Focus Is You

### #HealthyPGCPS: Digital Detox



Wellness 360 will host [Digital Detox](#) on Wednesday, May 19 beginning at 4 p.m. Technology is hard to avoid these days and is an integral part of our lives. This seminar will cover the impact digital devices have on our health and tips on how to “un-plug” to help the body and mind rejuvenate.

Visit [Wellness360](#) for more information.

## Announcements and Professional Development

### #ThankATeacher: Enter to Win!



#### Win a Teacher Care Crate

Walden University invites employees to [enter](#) to win a Teacher Care Crate subscription. When you enter, you can also nominate a colleague for the chance to win. By nominating a colleague, your name will be entered into the raffle twice.

Deadline to enter: May 9.



#### Gift Card Giveaway

Thanks to American College of Education (ACE), 10 educators will have a chance to win a **\$100 Amazon gift card!** Only one entry per educator will be considered. Winners will be notified on Friday, May 14. [Enter now!](#)

## Aspiring Leaders Program for Student Success (ALPSS) 2.0 Cohort 10

Strong leaders build strong communities! The Aspiring Leaders Program for Student Success (ALPSS) is for experienced Assistant Principals who desire to become Principals. ALPSS 2.0 is designed to develop a diverse pipeline of emerging leaders who impact teaching and learning through transformational leadership. Session presenters will be members of the Executive Leadership Team.

The application window will close on **Friday, May 14** and can be found on the staff portal. For more information, contact Dr. Melissa Ellis at [melissa.ellis@pgcps.org](mailto:melissa.ellis@pgcps.org).

## ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

### Class of 2021 Share College and Career Plans

Enjoy this [virtual #DecisionDay celebration of the PGCPS Class of 2021!](#) Hear from soon-to-be grads across our high schools about their plans for college, career & military



service — plus words of encouragement from local colleges and universities, military leadership and career partners!

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## Feedback Wanted: PGPCS Equity Strategic Plan



Share your thoughts on the [Emerging Strategic Framework \(ESF\)](#) that will guide development of the PGPCS Equity Strategic Plan! After viewing our short [introductory video](#), submit feedback either during an upcoming virtual [Open Mic session](#) or via a [short questionnaire](#).

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## Special Education: Webinars for Transitioning Youth

[Register](#) for a series of free webinars to support transitioning youth and their families! Students ages 16-21, their families, school staff and community partners will explore strategies and resources to improve outcomes for youth with disabilities.

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## #TeachWithUs: Spread the Word About PGPCS Careers!

#TeamPGCPS: It's time to get social! Here are three ways you can get involved as a #PGCPS Pride ambassador to help us spread the word about careers with PGCPS:

1. **DOWNLOAD & DISPLAY** a social media banner and Zoom background to [show](#) your #PGCPS Pride!
2. **SHARE** our [#TeachWithUs message](#) with your social media networks.
3. **REFER** a [teacher interested](#) in learning more about PGCPS careers for a chance to win!

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## Reminder: SafeSchools Trainings

Employees are encouraged to complete any outstanding [SafeSchools](#) training modules.

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