

TOP STORIES

Winter Break To-Do List



Take note of these three things ahead of winter break:

Check in on Academics

With winter break approaching, it's a good time to check in on student grades. Second quarter progress reports can be viewed online beginning Friday, Dec. 16.

Have a Healthy Holiday

As the presence of common respiratory viruses, flu, and COVID-19 converge, help us keep all students safe by making smart health decisions. Vaccinations continue to be the best defense against COVID-19. When children are sick, please keep them home. Remember: Masks are another tool to reduce the spread of illness.

Don't Miss Important Updates

Winter means the potential for weather-related delays or closures. Take a moment to ensure you are signed up to receive school system notifications by text message, phone and

email. **Tip: Messages from PGCPSS come from 675-87; save that number as a contact in your phone to avoid missing an alert.**

Chat with the CEO: Student Safety

CHAT WITH THE CEO STUDENT SAFETY

Dec. 13, 6 p.m.



Dr. Monica Goldson
Chief Executive Officer



Aisha Braveboy
State's Attorney



Gary Cunningham
Director, PGCPSS Safety &
Security Services

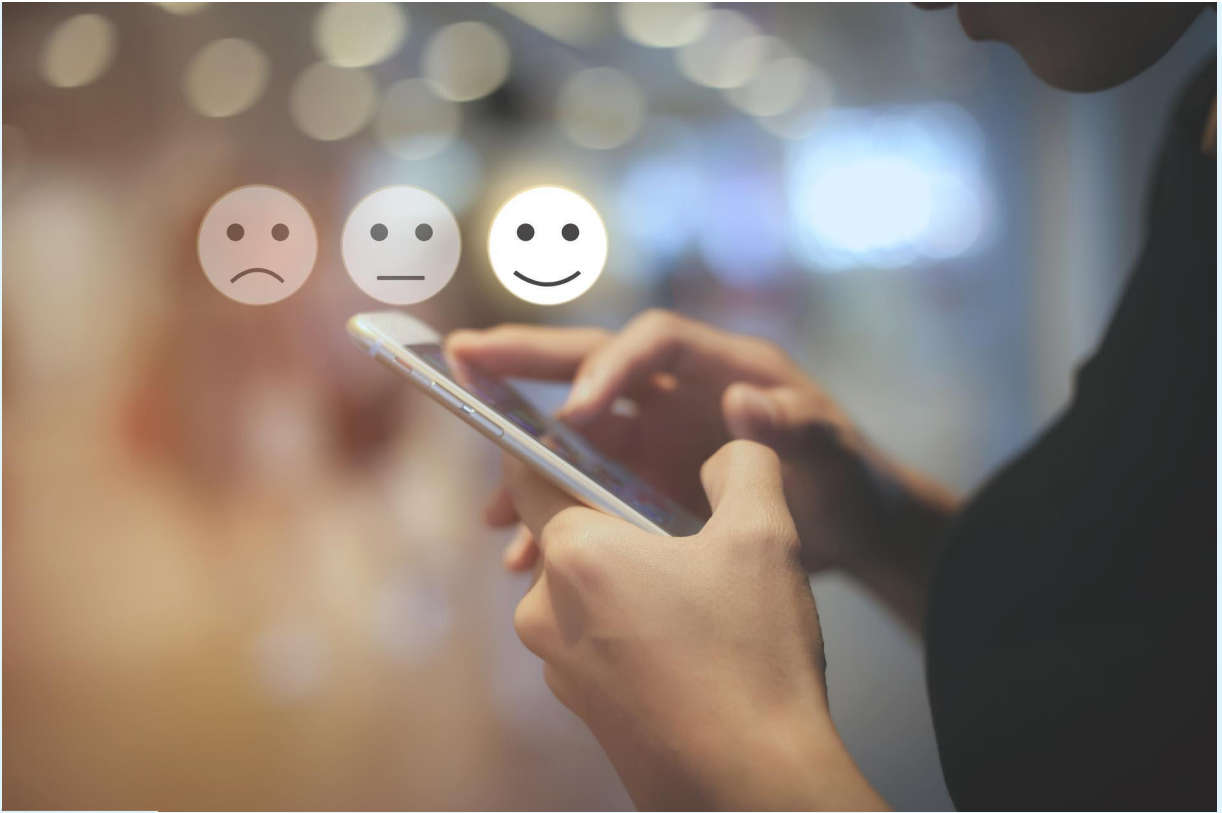


Dr. Elizabeth Faison
Associate Superintendent,
PGCPSS Student Services

CEO Dr. Monica Goldson will discuss student safety issues on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 6 p.m. Families will receive a phone call or can dial-in at 844-734-8766. The Spanish simultaneous interpretation line is 508-924-5155.

If you missed last week's presentation on the dangers of fentanyl, you may view it [here](#).

School Culture & Climate Survey



Students in grades 6-12, families and staff are encouraged to share their school experience, perceptions and ideas through the Culture & Climate Survey. The survey will be open from Dec. 5-16 and all survey takers will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card. For more information, please contact strategicplanning@pgcps.org.

Take the Survey

Hazel Mental Health Services Roll Out In High Schools This Week

hazel.co

Connect your child or teen to virtual mental health support

With Hazel Health, your child can get the mental health support they need, at school or at home, **at no cost to you.**



Through continued partnership with Hazel Health and the Prince George's County Health Department, all students can now get teletherapy sessions from home. In-school visits

launched on Dec. 5 for middle school and academy students and launch this week to high schoolers.

Online therapy sessions are available in multiple languages and designed to help students cope with anxiety, depression, grief/loss, low self-esteem, bullying, academic stress and more. There is no cost to families for these services.

[Learn More and Sign the Consent Form](#)

Deadline Friday! K–5 Literacy Tutoring



Give your child a literacy boost with BookNook's free, small-group [virtual tutoring sessions](#) with BookNook! The deadline to register for the first tutoring session is Friday, Dec. 16.

[Register Now](#)

WHAT TO KNOW THIS WEEK



Check out top news this week including a chat with the CEO on Student Safety, updates on school construction, progress reports and the Culture & Climate Survey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

School Construction Update Meetings



There will be virtual updates this week on the following Phase II Blueprint Schools construction projects:

James E. Duckworth Elementary

Monday, Dec. 12 | 6 p.m.

[Webinar Registration Link](#)

Springhill Lake Elementary

Monday, Dec. 12 | 7 p.m.

[Webinar Registration Link](#)

Brandywine K-8 School*

Monday, Dec. 12 | 8 p.m.

[Webinar Registration Link](#)

Margaret Brent Elementary*

Thursday, Dec. 15 | 6 p.m.

[Webinar Registration Link](#)

Hyattsville Elementary

Thursday, Dec. 15 | 7 p.m.

[Webinar Registration Link](#)

Robert Frost K-8 School*

Thursday, Dec. 15 | 8 p.m.

[Webinar Registration Link](#)

*School name pending confirmation

Download the Flyer

Learn More

Nominate a School for Green Efforts!

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

**WASTE DIVERSION
AND RECYCLING
AWARDS**

2022

Prince George's County Proud

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MARYLAND
Angela D. Alsbrooks
County Executive

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
Prince George's County
Andrea Crooms | Director

Keep Prince George's County Beautiful

Submit your nominations!

Deadline:
January 9, 2023

For forms and more information,
visit bit.ly/KPGCB

Nominations have been extended through Jan. 9 for the Prince George's County Department of the Environment (DoE) and [Keep Prince George's County Beautiful \(KPGCB\) 2022 Waste Diversion and Recycling Virtual Awards](#).

The awards recognize commercial businesses, schools and other entities who have demonstrated exceptional achievements in recycling and waste diversion to advance the mission of DoE and KPGCB. A virtual awards ceremony will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 18 to recognize award winners.

[Nomination Form](#)

Wellness Wednesday Winter Session



Save the date! The next Wellness Wednesday for parents and guardians will be on Dec. 14 from 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.

The session, *The Struggle is Real - Navigating the Winter/Holiday Blues*, will focus on depression associated with this time of year and provide strategies, resources and tips for families struggling with the loss of loved ones.

ZOOM MEETING LINK: <https://pgcps-org.zoom.us/j/85205834605>

MEETING ID: 852 0583 4605

**Nominate an Outstanding Educator for The Washington Post
Principal and Teacher of the Year Awards**



TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL
OF THE YEAR
A W A R D S

The Washington Post

Each year, *The Washington Post* recognizes an outstanding principal and teacher from the Washington region. The Principal of the Year Award recognizes principals who go above and beyond to create exceptional academic environments in their schools. The Teacher of the Year Award recognizes teachers who exemplify excellence in their profession.

PGCPS selects one nominee to represent the school district in the regional competition to be named finalist for The Washington Post Principal of the Year and The Washington Post Teacher of the Year awards. Winners will be announced in mid-April. For details, visit [The Washington Post's awards webpage](#).

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*.**

Principal of the Year Application

Teacher of the Year Application

BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS

Board of Education Members Take Office



The Prince George's County Board of Education welcomed three new members: Jonathan Briggs (District 2), Brandon Jackson (District 6) and Lolita Walker (District 9). District 3 incumbent Pamela Boozer-Strother also began a new term.

Board of Education Receives CEO's FY2024 Proposed Operating Budget

During the Dec. 9 Board of Education meeting, Chief Executive Officer Dr. Monica Goldson shared her \$2.8B FY 2024 Proposed Operative Budget, an \$94.4 million or 3.6% increase.

[Learn More](#)

FAMILY RESOURCES

Operation Warm: Free Coats for Kids

OPERATION[®] warm | more than a coat[®]



Saturday, December 17
10 am - 12 pm

Oxon Hill Branch Library
6200 Oxon Hill Rd, Oxon Hill, MD 20745

A free coat for kids who need one this winter.

Limit 2 coats per family, while supplies last.

First come, first served.

Children must be present to receive coat.

Sizes 2T-size 18



 Special thanks to Operation Warm supported by Wawa for this donation. 





The Prince George's County Memorial Library System and PGCMLS Foundation offer a free coat for kids who need one this winter. Limited to one coat per child, two coats per family while supplies last. Children must be present to receive a coat. Sizes 2T-18.

[Saturday, December 17, 10 am-12 pm - Oxon Hill Branch Library](#)

[Saturday, January 7, 10 am-12 pm - Laurel Branch Library](#)

[Read More](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 15 – [Family Institute: The Balancing Act: Healthy Media Habits at Home and in School](#)

December 16 – [Second Quarter Progress Reports released online](#)

December 23 - January 2 – Winter Break – Schools and Offices Closed

QUICK LINKS

[2022-2023 School Calendar](#)

[School Meals](#)

[SchoolMAX Family Portal](#)

[Fall Learning Information](#)

[School Violence Resources and Support](#)

[Bus Info/Finder](#)

[Registration/Enrollment](#)

[PGCPS TV](#)

[Vendor Managed Child Care](#)

STAY CONNECTED



Prince George's County Public Schools would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Prince George's County Public Schools directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

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.