Greetings Partners, Principals and Friends!

April is National Volunteer Month and we celebrate YOU!

Merriam-Webster dictionary defines appreciation as, “a feeling or expression of admiration, approval, or gratitude.” To all our 85 partners, we appreciate you! From the bottom of our hearts, we want to express our gratitude for all you do for our students, schools and communities. We are honored to have partners like you doing so much in enhancing the lives of our young people as they face this journey called life.

In this issue, we spotlight three of our community partners, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Iota Gamma Omega Chapter, and their 501(c)3, Ivy Community Charities of Prince George’s County; End Time Harvest Ministries and Heart of America Foundation. I would also like to recognize the hard work that my team members Ronald Wilson and Janice Cooke have exhibited in supporting our partners!

Last month, the Office of Community Partnerships, in collaboration with Heart of America, had the honor of surprising Mount Rainier Elementary School with a $100,000 in-kind check. Heart of America received this nondepartmental grant from the Prince George’s County Council in collaboration with Council Members Deni Taveras, District 2, and Dannielle Glaros, District 3. The grant would be used toward a project that supports Prince George’s County Public Schools. Awards like these are the many reasons our schools and students appreciate you, our partners.

Friendly reminder, please be sure to review the Partner Reminders in this month’s newsletter to see what opportunities and events are coming up. Please encourage your colleagues and friends to subscribe to our newsletter, which will keep them informed of our amazing community partners and how they support our students. In an effort to promote your activities and events that support our students and staff, please email your information to partnerships@pgcps.org.

Thank you for your continued partnership!

Yours in Service,

From the Desk of
Barbara Holt Streeter
Partnerships Officer

Let’s Get Social
Follow us on Twitter at @PGCPSPartners
Heart of America Foundation is a national nonprofit based in Prince George's County that specializes in renovating learning spaces and filling education resource gaps. For over 25 years, Heart of America's team has worked to build a more equitable education system in historically underinvested communities through their unique partnerships with school districts, community centers and sponsors. Heart of America Foundation has served more than 2 million students and community members.

On March 22, Heart of America Foundation presented Principal Jennifer Till of Mount Rainier Elementary School with a check of $100,000 to be used for the renovation of the school. This was Heart of America Foundation's fourth project with Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) and we are working with them to fund future school renovation projects. The following schools have been selected as finalists: Hillcrest Heights Elementary School, Ridgecrest Elementary School and Samuel Chase Elementary School. The winner will be announced before the end of the school year.

Heart of America Foundation has been in partnership with PGCPS for 25 years and since then has impacted 113,067 students and delivered 248,149 books. PGCPS is honored to have partners like Heart of America Foundation and looks forward to expanding our partnership to transform more spaces for a comfortable educational experience for our students.
On Saturday, March 19, 2022, in the cafeteria of Bladensburg High School (BHS), the 2021-2022 9th & 10th grade students with their parents were welcomed into End Time Harvest Ministries’ (ETHM) Pathways to Career Success (PTCS) / Wellness Ambassador Leadership Program (WALP) by staff and community officials. The parents and students were so happy to learn how the program prepares students (and parents) for college, careers, and the workforce. The Community of Care partners (state, county, municipal, and a nonprofit environmental educator) participate in the students' growth and development. Bautista Flores, the Port Towns Youth Council President, said that he saw a spark in the eyes of the students when they participated in the discovery of more than 150 career fields they could choose from, in addition to the stormwater management curriculum they were introduced to and will navigate through for the next three years as Wellness Ambassadors.

BHS Principal, Lisa Faulkner-Jones addressed the students along with Senator Malcolm Augustine, (47th Maryland State Legislative District); Prince George's County Council Member Jolene Ivey, (District 5); Mayor Tracy Gant (Edmonston); Mayor Sadara Barrow (Colmar Manor); and Commissioner Artis Amarche (Cottage City); addressed the audience filled with students and parents. We were also honored by Ms. Bambi Harman, an ETHM Board Member and a past PTYC/PTCS parent. Upper class Wellness Ambassadors, alumni, and a parent were workshop facilitators along with community leaders and staff inspired the students to work hard to achieve their academic, career, and health goals that will bring them to life success.

*Excerpt article from Rev. Gail A. Addison, President/CEO of End Time Harvest Ministries (ETHM), Inc.*
Recently, the PGCPS Office of College and Career Readiness contacted our department requesting assistance to help provide selected graduating seniors with the gift of a new laptop. A few days after the announcement, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Iota Gamma Omega Chapter, and their 501(c)3, Ivy Community Charities of Prince George's County surprised our department with five laptops!

From campuses to communities, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated has continued following its mission to be of service to all mankind. Founded in 1908 on the campus of Howard University as the first Black Greek-letter sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha to date has 320,000 college-trained members with 1,046 chapters in more than 55 nations and in all 50 states.

Iota Gamma Omega Chapter celebrates 52 years of service to Prince George's County and remains dedicated to support services and programs that enhance the social, economic and educational well-being of the local, national and international communities. PGCPS looks forward to having a continued partnership with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, as well as all of our other faithful and long-standing partners.

*Please note there is still an urgent need for more laptops.
To donate, contact Janice Cooke at 301-952-6380 or janice.cooke@pgcps.org
PARTNER REMINDERS

- All volunteers must sign up in the Volunteer Registration System (VRS). Visit www.pgcps.org/volunteer for more information.
- Mandatory SafeSchools Training must be completed every new school year.
- An updated Certificate of Insurance must be sent to the Office of Community Partnerships (OCP) when your current one expires.
- OCP must be informed when partners would like to add a school to their partnership agreement.
- All partner programs will remain virtual until further notice.

Upcoming Events
- The next PGCPS Community Partners Meeting is Wednesday, April 20 from 2-3 p.m.
- Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2-6.
- Teacher of the Year will be announced in May.

Special Notes
Let's promote the great things you are doing in our schools. Please email us your photos and details of events that you host to support our students and schools to partnerships@pgcps.org
JOIN THE
TOPTE
VIRTUAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
Transforming Outstanding People To Exceptional

MARCH 2ND TO APRIL 13TH
EVERY WEDNESDAY
6:45 PM - 8:15 PM
AGES 14-18

- Identify your personal leadership style.
- Recognize your weaknesses and strengths.
- Work on assertiveness and self-confidence.
- Enhance public speaking abilities.
- Develop a personal brand.
- Understand the concept of investing.

The TOPTE Leadership Academy will take you back to:

B..... Branding
A..... Association
S..... Study Skills
I..... Investing
C..... Character
S..... Success

If interested please visit
www.yknotinc.org/topte
for an application.

Prince George's County Public Schools is not sponsoring, endorsing, or recommending the activities announced in this material/flash.
**PARTNER EVENTS**

**Stay balanced with Mindful Mondays**

Mindful Mondays are monthly classes designed to help you combat stress and build resilience.

**Guided Meditation for Self-Compassion**
This meditation will focus on the three main elements of self-compassion.

**Guided Meditation for Mental Health**
Cultivating a mindfulness practice has been shown to be helpful as a treatment for some people who experience common mental health problems, such as stress, anxiety, and depression. In this session, we will learn and focus on the positive aspects of this practice and the brain.

**Guided Meditation for Focused Attention**
Here we’ll learn how focused attention meditation can help you grow your ability to better handle distractions and attend to the tasks at hand.

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**Stay healthy with Well-Being Wednesdays**

Well-Being Wednesdays are monthly health education classes designed to help you build your overall physical and emotional well-being.

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**Benefits of Movement in Nature**
Learn the physical and mental benefits of getting outside, ideas on ways to immerse yourself and exercise in nature, and safety tips to keep in mind.

**Food and Mood**
We’ll tune in to the body and mind and identify self-care practices to bring balance to eating and mood.

**Summer Safety**
Learn about preventive measures, and how to recognize the signs of heat-related illnesses, so you can protect yourself and others in summer.

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**Offices of Community Partnerships**

14201 School Lane Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
301-952-6380
https://www.pgcps.org/offices/community-partnerships
PARTNER EVENTS

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP SERIES

UMD-EDUCATIONAL TALENT SEARCH PRESENTS

COLLEGE AND CAREER PLANNING SERIES

FOR RISING SENIORS

ARE YOU A HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR WHO WILL BE APPLYING TO COLLEGES IN THE FALL?

MARCH 22 & 29 • APRIL 5, 19, & 26 • MAY 3 & 10, 2022

Series Kickoff: Foreside Chief: Featuring Dream College Author, Kaduguza Ezenye • Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 5:00 p.m.
College Research and Building Your College List • Tuesday, March 29, 2022, 5:00 p.m.
Writing Your Personal Statement • Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 5:00 p.m.
Creating Your Resume/ Making the Most of Your Summer • Tuesday, April 19, 2022, 5:00 p.m.
Scholarships and Financial Aid • Tuesday, April 26, 2022, 5:00 p.m.
Getting Started with the College Application Process • Tuesday, May 3, 2022, 5:00 p.m.
Getting Started with the College Application Process • Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 5:00 p.m.

REGISTER NOW!
https://bit.ly/3xL70jy

Contact Carla Porter at carolbw@umd.edu with any questions.

The workshop is free for Talent Search students. Students from target schools can register for Talent Search by visiting: https://talentsearch.umd.edu/talentsearch/apply.html

FOR MORE INFORMATION

PGCPS
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
14201 School Lane Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
301-952-6380
https://www.pgcps.org/offices/community-partnerships
Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts

CAAPA SPRING BREAK CAMP

Cultivating Artists, Musicians, and Performers

FREE!
Mon., April 11 to Fri., April 15, 2022
9:00 am to 4:00 pm daily
Grades K - 8
CAAPA Cultural Center (CCC)
(entrance @ Henson Valley Christian
Church, left side of building)
1900 Tucker Rd.
Fort Washington, MD 20744

FINAL SHOWCASE
Friday, April 15 @ 6pm
Registration is limited!
Based on first come, first served.

APPLY online
www.4caapa.org
caapacamp@4caapa.org
301-839-1444

At the CAAPA Spring Break
CAMP...seasoned instructors
and staff are committed to
helping cultivate artists,
musicians, and performers
while identifying and
encouraging talent.

Breakfast
Snacks daily

Music
Dance
Theatre
Opera
Visual Arts
Outdoor Fun
Creative Writing
Behind the Scenes
Piano
Multi-Media
Exercise
Acting
Crafts
Sports
Musical Theatre
Multi-Media
Scenery & Design
Book Nook

Build Self-Esteem
Literacy
Creative Problem Solving
Enriching Experiences
Encouraging activities
Motivational Programming

FINAL SHOWCASE &
Performance
For parents, family, & friends!

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301-952-6380
https://www.pgcps.org/offices/community-partnerships
PARTNER EVENTS

COALITION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING IN SCHOOLS, INC. and LINNEL DRIVING SCHOOL

sponsoring FREE Scholarship Program LINNEL DRIVING SCHOOL

2021 - 2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Prince George's County Public School Students who are Members of the Junior or Senior Class ages 16 to 18 years old.

REGISTER BEFORE May 20, 2022
CLASS BEGINS July 24, 2022

REGISTER NOW https://www.cpsts.org

If there are questions, please contact Mr. Nelson of the Linnel Driving School, at 301-341-1700 or Mr. Taylor of The Coalition for Public Safety Training in Schools, Inc. at (240) 508-4203