

## Good evening, Catonsville Middle School Families!

*This is the Monday Message for Happy New Year January 2, 2024!*

*Tomorrow is an A Day!*

### Upcoming Dates:

- January 10 – PTSA Meeting, 6:30 (Link in attachment below)
- January 15 – Schools Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 19 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter ends; Blood Drive

### Home Basketball Games:

Our first home basketball games will be on Thursday, January 4. The boys' team plays at 4:00 pm followed by the girls team at 5:00 pm. We will be limiting the number of tickets sold. You will need a code to purchase the tickets on [ticketspicket.com](https://ticketspicket.com). The home team code will be released to the basketball and cheerleading team parents the day prior to the game. If there are any remaining tickets, they will be opened up to other spectators the day of the game starting at 8:00 am. The code will be posted outside the gym door for the first game.

**IMPORTANT:** BCPS spectator and game policies along with the season schedule are available on the CMS website. Students are NOT allowed to stay after school on game days unless they are a player or cheerleader. Students must return to CMS for the game with adult supervision. Adults MUST sit with students in the stands and stay for the entire game.

**BAG POLICY:** No backpacks or large purses are permitted in the facility. Bags must be no larger than 4.5" x 6.5" (this is a BCPS policy). Anyone who does not have a valid ticket and adult supervision will be turned away at the door. Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to having you cheer on our Cougars!

### Cost:

Student tickets \$2

Adult tickets \$4

Please contact Mrs. Bates, Athletic Advisor, if you have any questions. [bbates@bcps.org](mailto:bbates@bcps.org)

### PTSA Newsletter and Meeting:

Join us on January 10<sup>th</sup> for our next PTSA meeting. See the flyer below for additional updates.

[Catonsville Middle School PTSA January Newsletter.pdf](#)

### Marking Period 2 Interims and grades:

As we come closer to the second half of the school year, Baltimore County Public Schools and Catonsville Middle School has already started planning for summer learning in 2024. As we work toward our core purpose of increasing achievement for all students by providing a variety of pathways to prepare students for college and careers, students who require additional learning at the end of the 2023-2024 school year may need to attend a summer program to help them be successful in the next grade level. Students receiving a 'D' or 'E' in courses during this marking period are encouraged to meet with their teacher(s) for academic support and speak with their guidance counselor about other resources that may be available. Below is a list of resources and supports that your student should consider accessing in the next two marking periods (MP3 and MP4) in order to maximize their academic success in the 2023-2024 school year.

Set up daily or weekly "Parent Digest" notifications from Schoology to monitor your student's activity in each class. Directions for setting up notifications can be found [here](#).

### 7th and 8th Grade GT/Advanced Academics Art

Students who are interested in GT Art for the 2024-2025 school year are invited to submit a portfolio to be considered for the classes. Interested students should submit their artwork, a sketchbook, and a Permission

Sheet to Mrs. Liberto in room 10 no later than January 12th to be considered for the courses. Students who received a GT Art letter do not need to submit a portfolio.

Please contact Mrs. Liberto at [sliberto@bcps.org](mailto:sliberto@bcps.org) with any questions.

[GTArt Letter and Requirements.docx](#)

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Only**

PLTW requests for 9<sup>th</sup> grade should be submitted by January 12 to the Counseling Office.

[PLTW Application 24.25 .docx](#)

This week all 8th graders will complete course requests for Catonsville High School. This includes students that plan on moving, attending private schools, and are awaiting decisions for magnet school. This is going to take place on Thursday and Friday in their math classes.

### **Act Store**

The ACT Store is looking for donations of items to keep our shelves stocked with prizes. If you would like to donate something, please click the link to our [ACT store wish list](#)! We are also looking for Wal Mart and Five Below gift cards in any denominations for our “upper tier” prizes! Gift cards can be dropped off at the main office to the attention of Ms. Tucci or Ms. Psenicka.

Thank you for supporting our students who ACT for Excellence!

### **Request from the MakerStudio:**

The MakerStudio is in need of shoe boxes! Please save any shoe boxes or similarly sized boxes for us! Thank you!

### **Kindness for Paws:**

Current seventh grade art students are participating in the Kindness for Paws art show. Students who complete the unit work **and** send in a signed consent form will earn 10 service-learning hours that will be credited to the fourth quarter report card. There are several students who have not yet submitted their parent consent form. Parents, please ask your art students and/or check Schoology to see if the Consent Form has been submitted. The date of the art show has not yet been advertised, but we will let you know as soon as that information is shared with us. Students taking art second semester will also be participating.

[KFP Consent Form 2023.pdf](#)

### **CMS Annual Blood Drive – January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

[Click here to make an appointment!](#)

### **Signup Genius Link for Volunteers (not donors):**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0948A4A82AA6F58-44913520-catonsville>

### **Tutoring Supported by NJHS**

The National Junior Honor Society is offering individual and group tutoring sessions during Advisory on Monday's. During these sessions, students can get assistance from one of our many tutors in any subject area and for any grade level. Students can sign up weekly using the following link. Once students have signed up, they will use the completed form as their pass to Room 30 for tutoring.

[Tutoring Weekly Sign-Up](#)

### **Camp Invention LIT:**

Summer camp opportunities are coming up please see the attached flyer - [Camp Invention LIT.pdf](#)

## **Buses**

You can use the link below to determine whether your child's bus is running on time!

[https://www.bcps.org/parents/transportation\\_status](https://www.bcps.org/parents/transportation_status)

## **COVID Tests:**

We have MANY Covid test kits and would be more than happy to distribute these to our families. Please email Mrs. Palacios at [kpacios@bcps.org](mailto:kpacios@bcps.org) if you would like us to send a test home for you!

FYI - the tests that we have to send home have an expiration date of 2/12/23 on them, however, the FDA has authorized shelf-life extensions of many At-Home OTC COVID-19 tests. [These tests now have an expiration date of 5/12/24.](#)

