A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear PWCS Families:

Multiple opportunities for students entering middle school are offered in Prince William County Public Schools. Students may choose among several middle school programs. Your son or daughter has the following options:

- Remain in the regular program in your base middle school;
- Apply for the specialty program in your base middle school;
- Transfer for a specialty program at another middle school; or
- Transfer for the Pennington or Porter Traditional Schools.

I hope you will consider these options as you begin planning with your child for middle school. If you choose to apply for a middle school specialty program, three types of programs are available. Sixth-grade students may attend a specialty program in mathematics and science, a specialty program in world languages, or an International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme.

Students may choose to apply to more than one program. If a program exceeds capacity, a lottery will be held to admit transfer students. Additional information on these programs has been included in this brochure.

In addition, fifth-grade students have the option of applying for a traditional school. Philip Michael Pennington School and Mary G. Porter School serve students in grades one through eight. Enrollment in both Pennington School and Porter School is limited. If more students apply than the school can admit, a lottery will be held. Additional information on these schools has been included in this brochure.

In order to attend a specialty program or traditional school, fifth-grade students must apply by February 1. All students must apply to be considered for such programs, even if they live in the attendance zone for the school where the specialty program is located.

Involved families are vital to student success in school. You are an important part of our school community.

Sincerely,

STEVEN L. WALTS
Superintendent of Schools
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GENERAL INFORMATION MEETINGS

Parents and fifth grade students are invited to attend one of two general information meetings on middle school and traditional school program opportunities. Both meetings are scheduled in the fall from 7 – 9 p.m. Representatives from the middle school specialty programs, as well as the traditional programs, will be present at each meeting. Parents and students may attend either of these two events. In addition, each middle school specialty program and both traditional schools will offer information presentations at their schools for interested parents and students. Please refer to the Specialty Program web page for dates and times for all meetings.

PRODUCED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR STUDENT LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme is authorized at Beville, Fred Lynn, Hampton, and Stonewall Middle Schools for grades six, seven, and eight. The Middle Years Programme offers a challenging, comprehensive, academic program for middle school students. The program connects the subject areas of language arts, humanities, mathematics, science, world language, technology, arts, and physical education through five Areas of Interaction.

The program continues in ninth and tenth grade. A Middle Years Programme Certificate can be earned at Gar-Field or Stonewall Jackson High Schools at the end of the tenth grade year. Limited express transportation is provided.

GENERAL INFORMATION
If a program exceeds capacity, a lottery will be held to admit transfer students.

BEVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
Serves students from the following schools zones:
- Lake Ridge
- Saunders

FRED LYNН MIDDLE SCHOOL
Serves students from the following schools zones:
- Rippon
- Woodbridge

HAMPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
Serves students from the following schools zones:
- Benton
- Graham Park
- Potomac

STONEWALL MIDDLE SCHOOL
Serves students from the following schools zones:
- Bull Run
- Gainesville
- Marsteller
- The Nokesville School
- Parkside
- Reagan
Programs in mathematics and science are offered at Graham Park, Marsteller, and Rippon Middle Schools for students in grades six, seven, and eight.

These programs provide students the opportunity to become engaged in an intensive program of study in mathematics and science. The programs designed to challenge and motivate students while developing their critical thinking skills through discovery and exploration. Limited express transportation is provided.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

*If a program exceeds capacity, a lottery will be held to admit transfer students.*

**GRAHAM PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL**

*Serves students from the following schools zones:*

- Benton
- Beville
- Hampton
- Saunders

**MARSTELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL**

*Serves students from the following schools zones:*

- Bull Run
- Gainesville
- The Nokesville School
- Parkside
- Reagan
- Stonewall

**RIPPON MIDDLE SCHOOL**

*Serves students from the following schools zones:*

- Fred Lynn
- Lake Ridge
- Potomac
- Woodbridge
World Language Programs are offered at Fred Lynn, Lake Ridge, and Parkside Middle Schools. These programs allow a student to receive one high school world language credit for work done in sixth and seventh grade and one high school credit for work done in eighth grade. The languages offered are French and Spanish.

Students entering grades seven and eight who wish to apply must contact the program coordinator for prior approval. Limited express transportation is provided.

GENERAL INFORMATION
If a program exceeds capacity, a lottery will be held to admit transfer students.

FRED LYNN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Serves students from the following schools zones:
- Graham Park
- Potomac
- Rippon
- Woodbridge

LAKE RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL
Serves students from the following schools zones:
- Beville
- Hampton
- Saunders

PARKSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL
Serves students from the following schools zones:
- Benton
- Bull Run
- Gainesville
- Marsteller
- The Nokesville School
- Reagan
- Stonewall
APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- All student must complete the online application to be considered for the programs they are interested in attending. The online application requires students to rank order their first, second, and third program choice.

- Students interested in Pennington or Porter Schools are required to submit a separate paper application.

- Applications are required for students residing within a school boundary and for students who transfer for a program.

- Students applying to a specialty program at a middle school other than their base school must submit a Student Transfer Request Form.

- Online applications must be submitted on or before February 1.

- Paper applications for Pennington and Porter Schools must be postmarked no later than February 1 or delivered in-person no later than 4 p.m. on February 1. If February 1 falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, paper applications are due by 4 p.m. on the last Friday in January.

- Students moving into Prince William County after January 1 who are interested in applying to a specialty program, should contact the Office of Student Learning at 703.791.7400 for additional information.

- Please review the guide for attendance areas for the middle school specialty programs and for the traditional programs.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Students living within the boundaries of the specialty program school may ride their regular bus to school. Transportation services for students who reside outside the boundaries of the specialty program school will be provided via a network of express bus stops. Transportation requests, including the selection of a specific express stop, must be returned to the school with the specialty program acceptance paperwork. The transportation request process must be repeated every year the student is enrolled in the specialty program. Parents are responsible for providing transportation to and from express bus stops.
TRADITIONAL SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Grades one through eight

PHILIP MICHAEL PENNINGTON SCHOOL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS SERVED

- Alvey
- Bennett
- Bristow Run
- Buckland Mills
- Cedar Point
- Chris Yung
- Coles
- Ellis
- Glenkirk
- Gravely
- Haymarket
- Loch Lomond
- Marshall
- Mountain View
- Mullen
- The Nokesville School
- Penn
- Piney Branch
- Signal Hill
- Sinclair
- Sudley
- T. Clay Wood
- Tyler
- Victory
- West Gate
- Yorkshire
MARY G. PORTER SCHOOL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS SERVED

- Antietam
- Ashland
- Bel Air
- Belmont
- Covington-Harper
- Dale City
- Dumfries
- Enterprise
- Featherstone
- Fitzgerald
- Henderson
- Kerrydale
- Kilby
- King
- Kyle Wilson
- Lake Ridge
- Leesylvania
- Marumsco Hills
- McAuliffe
- Minnieville
- Montclair
- Neabsco
- Occoquan
- Old Bridge
- Pattie
- Potomac View
- River Oaks
- Rockledge
- Rosa Parks
- Springwoods
- Swans Creek
- Triangle
- Vaughan
- Westridge
- Williams

To learn more about the Traditional Schools programs, please plan to attend one of the school’s information meetings.
SCHOOLS OF CHOICE
- All students transfer to attend these programs.
- The programs provide research-based innovative educational strategies within a traditional educational framework.
- Parents and students are involved in all facets of school life with parental and student contracts.
- Both parents and students are required to complete hours of school service.
- Students are required to wear school uniforms.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES
In order to be considered for Pennington School or Porter School, parents and students must complete an application. Applications will be available at all information presentations. Applications will also be available at Pennington School and at Porter School as well as at all elementary and middle schools in early December.

Enrollment at both Pennington and Porter Schools is limited. If the number of applications received exceeds enrollment capacity, a lottery is used to determine program participation.

All applications to Pennington School and Porter School must be postmarked by February 1 or delivered in person to the main office by 4 p.m., February 1. If February 1 falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, paper applications are due by 4 p.m. on the last Friday in January.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
Transportation services for students will be provided via a network of express bus stops. Transportation requests, including the selection of a specific express stop, must be returned to the school with the program application. The transportation request process must be repeated for every year the student is enrolled in a traditional program. Parents have the responsibility to provide transportation to and from express bus stops.
SAME GENDER PROGRAM

WOODBRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

The only program of its kind offered by Prince William County Public Schools, the Same Gender Program offers students the choice to be scheduled on an academic team that is either all-boy, all-girl, or coeducational. Students in the program participate in same gender classes for language arts, math, science, foreign language, and social studies. All other classes follow a traditional coeducation format. The program is open to transfers but transportation is not provided. This is an opt-in program, and enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis.