



# EXPRESS

A NEWSLETTER FOR PGCPS EMPLOYEES

## Top News

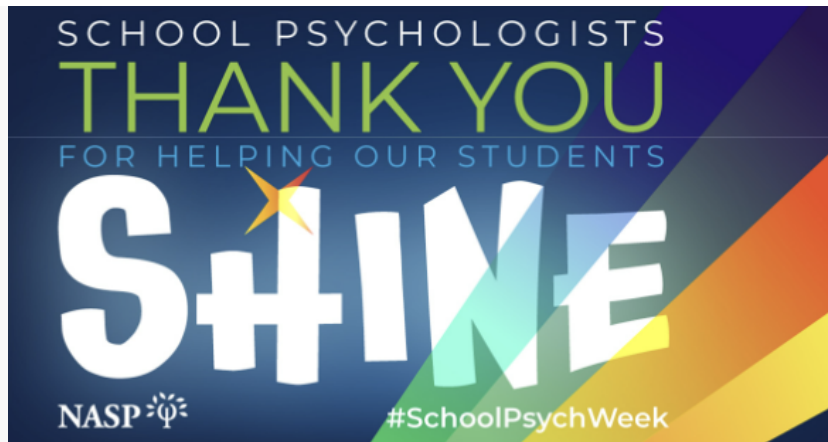
### Charles H. Flowers High School Teacher Wins National Award



Charles H. Flowers High School special education teacher LeAnn Holden-Martin [won first-place](#) in the national Voya Unsung Heroes program for her innovative Sonny House Job Skills Program! The program helps high school students with severe cognitive disabilities develop real-world job skills.

[Read more](#)

**#SchoolPsychWeek: Q&A with PGCPS Psychological Services**



School psychologists play an important role in helping students shine! For National School Psychology Week, PGCPs Psychological Services staff share how their team of nearly 100 state-certified school psychologists support schools — and why their work is so critical right now.

[Read more](#)

## Spread the Word! K-5 Literacy Tutoring



Kindergarten through fifth grade students can get an after school boost in reading with free, small-group virtual tutoring sessions with our partner BookNook! Help us serve more students by spreading the word to families and encouraging student participation.

[How to Sign Up](#)

## Next Week: America Recycles Day



Join us in celebrating America Recycles Day on Tuesday, Nov. 15! Our teacher toolkit has information on the PGCPS recycling program, ideas for activities with students of all grade levels and links to lesson plans.

[Download Toolkit](#)

## Spotlights

### PG13: Five Games to the Crown!



In this week's episode, state playoffs test the competitive stamina of all teams!

## Announcements & Professional Development

### Canvas Training for Families



The Department of Family and School Partnerships will host a [virtual session](#) for families on best practices to support students with Canvas on Monday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m.

## Tax Sheltered Annuity Plans Now Available



PGCPS employees can save for retirement by participating in both a 403(b) and or 457(b) plan. Roth investment options are now available!

### Why Save With one of these Plans?

Unlike the traditional pre-tax 403(b) and 457(b) options, Roth plans allow you to contribute after-tax dollars and then withdraw tax-free dollars from your account when you retire.

### How can I participate?

Prior to contribution you must open an account with an [investment provider participating](#) in the plan. You may then complete a [Salary Reduction agreement](#).

[Learn more](#)

**Wellness360 Health & Fitness Resources**





Heading into the holiday season, take time for your physical and mental wellbeing with Wellness360 fitness classes, cooking demos and webinars!

[Learn More](#)

## This Saturday: Donate New/Used Bikes

Drop off new or used bikes and spare parts to Charles H. Flowers High School on Saturday, Nov. 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the [Bikes for the World](#) event. Tricycles, children's scooters, frames lacking parts, rusted bikes or parts will not be accepted.

## In the News

### Top Board of Education News



### Highlights from the Thursday, November 10 meeting of the Board of Education:

Approval of Phase II of Blueprint Schools to build five new middle schools and a K-8 academy totaling more than 8,000 seats. View updates on schools presently under construction.

Approval of the CEO's School Boundary Initiative and aligning of sixth grade with middle schools.

Participate in a public hearing on House Bill (HB) 0355 which establishes a workgroup to study and make recommendations on implementation of an electoral process for an all-elected Board, compensation and phase-in period for changes to Board composition. [Learn More](#)

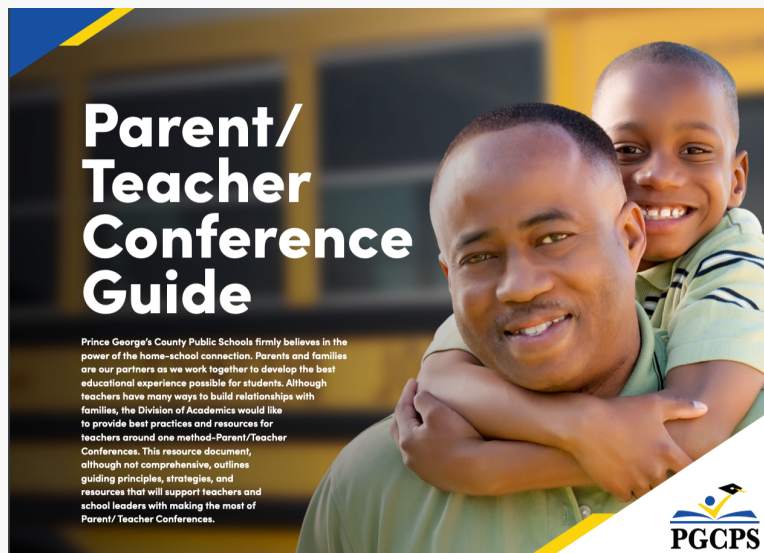
## Tips for Strong Community Schools



PGCPS Director of Community Schools Dr. Ingrid Williams-Horton is featured in a [Brookings article](#) on the collective approach of community schools to address the learning needs of the whole child.

## ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

### New! Parent-Teacher Conference Guide



Maximize the home and school connection with a new guide offering practical tips and best practices on how to make the most of parent-teacher conferences. There is also a [guide for parents!](#)

[Conference Guide for Teachers](#)

## Principal Application Window Open

Qualified candidates should **apply through Dec. 31** via iRecruitment. Interested applicants may visit the [PGCPS Careers](#) for more information and to review job announcements.

*Job announcements include:*

IRC183480 - Elementary/Secondary Principal

IRC183481 – Montessori

IRC183482 - Language Immersion

IRC183483 - Early Childhood Center

IRC183860 - Regional School Programs

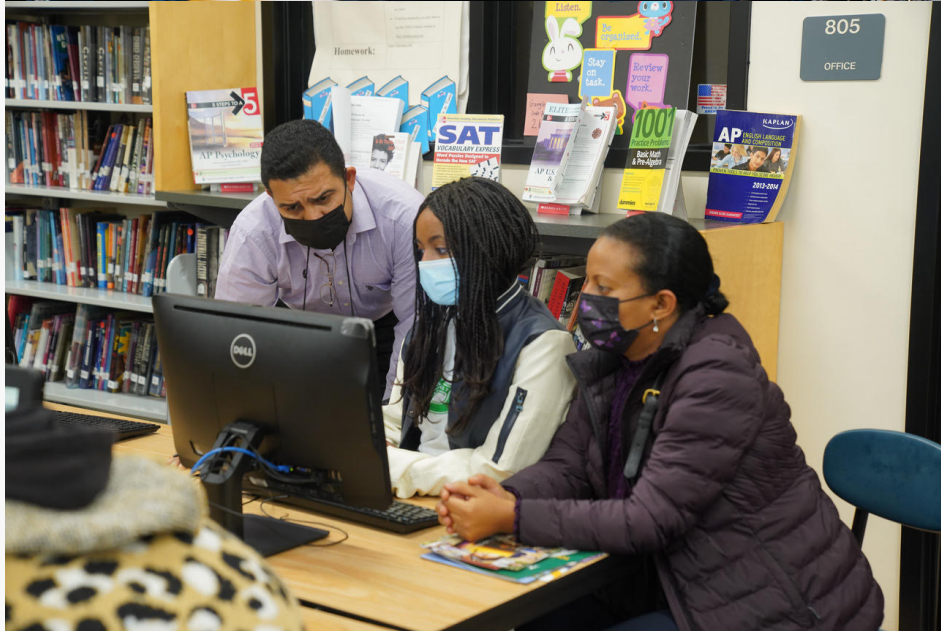
[Learn More](#)

## #TeamPGCPS Paparazzi

The [College Readiness](#) team's **College Application Night** was an opportunity for seniors to meet admissions counselors and receive resources to maximize the application process!









## STAY CONNECTED

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COMMENTS AND IDEAS:  [communications@pgcps.org](mailto:communications@pgcps.org)