

# SPARK Academy

## SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 13, 2023

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Thank you to everyone who came to our Open House last week. It was great to see all of you and we hope you enjoyed meeting your student's teachers and seeing their classrooms.

### SCHOOL PHOTOS MAKEUP DATE

The makeup date for photos is Friday, October 27. The photographers will arrive at 8:00 and should be set up by 8:30. Anyone who missed the original date should plan to have their photo taken between 8:30 and 9:30 on that day.



### TUBMAN COHORT TO ADVENTURELORE

Next Wednesday, First-Year cohort Tubman will be going to AdventureLore. Permission slips will go home on Monday and **must be returned on Tuesday!**

### IMPORTANT NOTICE RE: BUSING ON NOV. 7

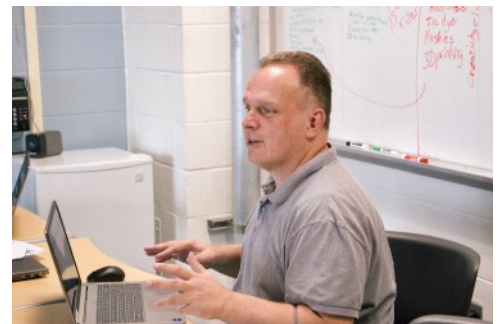
Our academic calendar indicates that there will be no busing available on Tuesday, 11/7 due to the MSD having no school for voting day. However, since we now utilize third parties for transportation, busing WILL BE AVAILABLE on that date.

### INFO NIGHT 10/24

Admissions are open for the 2024-25 school year! We will be holding our first Information Night for Prospective Families on Tuesday, 10/24 at 5:30 PM. If you know any motivated, hardworking eighth graders, please send them our way! Info Nights will be happening regularly for the rest of the year so please pass the word and have interested families check our website and Facebook page for upcoming dates.

### ALMA NEWS

This year we have begun using Alma, a software system to help us better manage school, classroom, and student information. Already it is helping us get a more complete view of students' progress. Alma is a secure, easy-to-use online system that brings important school information and tools together in one place. We will continue to use Canvas for grading purposes and the two programs will become more integrated going forward.





Other additional features in Alma will continue to roll out as the school year progresses.

Sometime in the next few weeks, you and your student(s) will receive an email from Alma with information about how to set up your account and log into the portal. Please keep an eye out for it.

## BAKE SALE

Student Council will be holding a Halloween-themed bake sale on Monday, 10/30 at lunchtime. Bring your sweet tooth (and your money!)

## CALENDAR WINNERS!

- Oct. 6 – Taylor McLeod (ticket sold by Oliver) \$20
- Oct. 7 – Jared Cassily (sold by Colin) \$20
- Oct. 8 – Yvette Scardera (sold by Aine) \$20
- Oct. 9 – Jamie Letelliere (sold by Taylor C.) \$20
- Oct. 10 – Courtney Riley (sold by Tristan) \$100
- Oct. 11 – Rosemarie Owens (sold by Skyler) \$20
- Oct. 12 – Hollie Christiansen (sold by Chase) \$20

Congratulations to all, and THANK YOU to Jared, Yvette, and Hollie for donating your cash prizes back to Spark!!

## REMINDER: PSATs & SATs ON 10/26

We would like to remind you that we will be administering standardized testing on Thursday, 10/26. Full details and instructions were given in last week's newsletter; please be sure to read (or reread) that section carefully and reach out with any questions.

## EXTRA HELP

Please remember that students can stay for extra help on any given week. Tuesday = Science & Technology; Wednesday = Math; Thursday = Humanities. All extra help sessions run until 4:00 PM.

## OUR NEEDS:

This week we could use more granola bars, cereal bars, and/or protein bars. We find that if our students are hungry, they cannot learn, so having healthy snacks available is helpful. Thank you!



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- ☑10/18 – Board meeting
- ☑10/26 – PSATs & SATs
- ☑10/27 – School photo makeup day
- ☑10/30 – Bake Sale!
- ☑11/09 – No Spark classes (staff workshop)

Photos in this week's edition were taken by our budding Yearbook staff.



## TUTTLE THOUGHTS

Happy Friday the 13th! Some people like this day and others have different feelings about it. We all see things in different ways and that is one thing that I find amazing and special. Here at Spark we continue to find what is special about each and every person. What they think and feel matters and how we create this safe place for all is part of the process.

Our Spark Values talk about Respect. This means many things and can be shown in many ways. Respect means that you accept somebody for who they are, even when they're different from you or you don't agree with them. Respect in your relationships builds feelings of trust, safety, and wellbeing. Respect doesn't have to come naturally – it is something you can learn.

Taking the time to talk about feelings and beliefs helps build respect when you are open to learn and grow. We are never always right and there are other ways for things to be. We should be open to others and show the respect needed to help everyone and everything grow to their/its full potential.

Hope you all have a great weekend and take some time to think about respect.

Sincerely,

John Tuttle

Director