

The background is a photograph of Patapsco Middle School, a brick building with a blue metal roof. The school's name is visible on the left side of the building. Overlaid on the image is a large, central teal circle containing the text 'Meet Your 6th Grade Teachers & Staff'. Surrounding this central circle are several smaller, semi-transparent circles in various colors (white, orange, yellow, red, pink) containing icons: a puzzle piece, a lightbulb, and a thumbs-up gesture. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

Meet Your 6th Grade Teachers & Staff

PATAPSCO 8885
MIDDLE SCHOOL



Mr. Babe

Principal

Dear Knights!

Welcome to Patapsco- where YOU are valued and important! This is my third year as the proud principal of Patapsco. I have two children: Liam and Connor, and my wife is also an educator in Howard County. When I am not at school, I enjoy running, spending time with my family, and watching the Ravens!! Please know I am here to support you and together as, #OnePatapsco- we can do **virtually** anything!!!



Mrs. Harmon

Assistant Principal

Students, Parents, & Guardians,

Welcome to Patapsco Middle School! This is my 30th year in education. Every year, I get excited about the start of a new school year: meeting new students & seeing returning students. I believe all students are AMAZING!

Things that I love to do: spending time with my husband & our 3 adult children, getting together with family & friends, planning celebration events, reading, and cooking.

I am here to support our students with having a successful middle school experience. We are going to have a wonderful school year!



Mr. Capecci

Health

This is my 8th year at Patapsco Middle but my first year teaching health! I am a HUGE Orioles and Ravens fan and enjoy building things, camping, road trips, and most anything PE and health related. I cannot wait to meet and teach you all this year.



Ms. DeBenedetti

P.E. and Health Teacher

I am so excited to be your PE or Health teacher this year! I have two children, Ryan(8) and Madison(6) and my favorite season of the year is summer! This summer, we spent a lot of the time at the pool, riding bikes, hiking, and exploring different parts of the Patapsco River to go for a swim. I look forward to seeing you in class!





Mr. Drake

Band



I'm the bald one with glasses!

Hello to all new Knights!

This is Mr. Drake's third year at Patapsco MS, but he's been teaching band for 22 years!

He's also a published composer, Star Wars fan, and enjoys road cycling from time to time!

He spends most of his time with his wife, two children (9 and 3) and new dog, Luna!





Ms. Eckert

Careers & Digital Citizenship

Welcome to Patapsco! I am so excited that you are here, and I am looking forward to getting to know you this year, and watching you learn and grow! This is my 24th year teaching and my 23rd year at Patapsco. I feel so lucky to work in such an amazing school with inspiring faculty and students. In my free time, I love spending time with my children who are 19 and 16. I also love reading, taking walks, and being outside as much as possible. I can't wait to meet you virtually, and I am looking forward to our new adventure together! We are going to have a terrific year together.



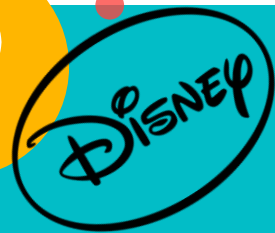


Mr. Eyes

Technology Education

This is my 22nd year at Patapsco. I was born and raised in Manchester, England. I am a big soccer fan. Manchester City is the team I support. My hobbies include photography, traveling, and hiking. I look forward to seeing and working with you all this year!





Ms. Glass

G/T Resource Teacher

This is my 8th year at Patapsco Middle School and I can't wait to get started! You will get to see me if you are in the research class, would like to complete National History Day (NHD) or want to participate in a seminar! When I am not in school, this year I am planning a wedding and preparing for a puppy! I can't wait to meet you!



Ms. Gudelsky

ELA



Hellooooo, 6th grade students and families! I'm so excited to meet you all. This is my 6th year teaching at Patapsco and I LOVE teaching ELA.

During our Google Meets, expect to see my two cats, Mr. Pants and Lilly Pickles! I love reading (surprise, surprise) and can't wait to travel to see more of the world soon.



Ms. Haight

Orchestra

Welcome 6th grade!

Mrs. Haight has been teaching orchestra at Patapsco for 15 years and plays violin in the Columbia Orchestra.

In addition to music, Mrs. Haight loves to cook, play disc golf, read, and spend time with her husband and cat.



Mrs. Harman

ELA Co-Teacher

Hi everyone, I am so excited to meet you this year! When I am not teaching I am playing with my adorable grandchildren, visiting my 4 children, gardening, entertaining or traveling with my husband. This is going to be a great year!

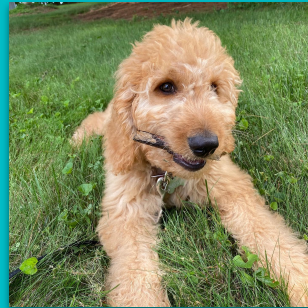


Ms. Harris

ESOL

Welcome 6th grade students! I am very excited to get to know you :) This is my 3rd year teaching at Patapsco Middle School. I love it!

In my free time, I love to go for walks with my new puppy and husband.



Ms. Healey

ESOL

Welcome 6th grade students and families!

We are excited to “meet” you and hope to see you in person in the not too distant future!

I have been teaching for fourteen years, and this is my sixth year at Patapsco. I have been enjoying hikes with my family while preparing for your arrival. It’s going to be a fantastic year!



Ms. Humm

FACS

Welcome 6th Grade! I am so excited to teach you about cooking this year! This is my 13th year teaching at Patapsco. In my spare time I love to cook, read, go to the beach, and walk with my puppy, Sadie! Looking forward to meeting you!

Happy Cooking!



Ms. Kempthorn

School Counselor (Last Names M-Z)

Hi Everyone! I look forward to meeting you all and supporting you throughout your middle school experience!

In my spare time, I love gardening, looking for antiques, and herding cats. I'll be sure to introduce you to the gang whenever they join our meetings!



Ms. Kim

International Achievement Liaison

Welcome! My job is to support International students and their families at Patapsco. I provide both academic and social/emotional support to students, as well as translated documents and interpreting services when needed. I serve as a cultural broker between school staff and International students, and their families, and facilitate the involvement of International families in the educational process.

I love supporting our international students for a smoother transition to PMS.

I can provide necessary school related assistances to international students and parents and connect them with appropriate community resources for a successful school life.





Ms. Kruger

Science

This is my sixth year at Patapsco Middle School, and my sixteenth year teaching science to sixth graders. I worked in science laboratories for nine years before I became a teacher and I'm proud to bring real world experience into the classroom. When I'm at home, I enjoy gardening, reading, fixing things, meeting new people, going to the beach and hiking with my 9-year-old twins.





Ms. Lee

School Counselor (Last Names A-L)

I am so excited to welcome the new Patapsco Knights. When I am not at school or doing after-school programs with my students, you can catch me watching sports or rooting for the Philadelphia Eagles on Sundays! Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, concerns, or just to say hi.



Ms. McNabb

Library Media Specialist

I am excited to meet each and every one of you. I love reading, of course. Patapsco has one of the best libraries in the county. We will begin curbside pickup for library books at the end of September. Stay tuned for more info! My favorite things are dogs, riding my bike, and Patapsco Middle School!!



Ms. Meikrantz

Math & Academic Seminar

This is my 4th year here at Patapsco and my 17th year teaching. I can't imagine doing anything else - I feel like I was born to teach! In my free time, I love to read, do puzzles, scrapbook, and spend time with my family and friends. I am also a proud dog mom to my 7-year old Weimaraner, Daisy, who I take to the dog park every day!



MATH

Mistakes
Allow
Thinking to
Happen!

YOU'RE GONNA
LOVE MATH

AFTER YOU MEET ME
I'M WARNING YOU





Ms. Mills

Chorus and General Music

I'm so excited to welcome you into our music-making community at Patapsco. Please reach out to me right away if you're interested in singing in Chorus this year! I was a Voice major in college and graduate school and play piano and guitar. The folks over in the grass are my husband Brian, and kids: Elliot (10), Nolan (7) and Liza (4). I can't wait to meet you and your families, too!





Ms. Mitchell

Art

My son blew my mind discussing a painting from “A History of Black Abstract Art” (2019) at the BMA in Baltimore.



Welcome to Art Class! This will be my 14th year at Patapsco. What a great place this is! I knew I was an artist at age nine, when a summer camp art teacher showed me a painting with a pink sky, blue trees and yellow grass. Freedom! Art taught me I could make any world I wanted to, and you can too.

I like to draw, garden, go to the forest, watch classic films, visit museums and read oh so many books. See you soon!



Dinosaurs!

Playing around at Up Yonda Farm in upstate New York. I was into it!



Mr. Ordovensky

Social Studies

Welcome 6th grade students and families! This is my 17th year teaching—ALL at Patapsco Middle School!

I look forward to exploring Geography with you this year!
I have 3 daughters and 2 grandkids—my grandson is starting 6th grade in Howard County, too.
I'll be “testing” my lessons on him! 😊

In my free time I like to play guitar 🎸 read, hike with my family (and pups!) and experiment with recipes 🔍 —I don't call it “cooking” just yet! 😊





Mr. Price

Science

Can't wait to see y'all in class! We'll do a bunch of fun experiments, learn from each other, and maybe flip a board game or two. Science is all about making things better, and making creative solutions to complicated problems. WHOOT WHOOT.



Ms. Ross

Reading Modules



Welcome to Middle School! Oh, the places you'll go throughout our virtual spaces! You will love it here. I teach Careers and Digital Citizenship. This is my 34th year at Patapsco and I am proud to be a Knight! I enjoy being out in nature, cooking and many crafts. I have 2 dogs that I enjoy training & 2 cats to hang out with.



Ms. Saks

Math

I am excited to begin my 11th year at Patapsco, and my 26th year of teaching. (How did that happen??!!) I have been teaching 6th grade math since I came to Patapsco, but have taught all grades from 3rd through 8th. This year I will be teaching 3 Math 6 classes and and 3 GT Pre-Algebra classes. When I am not teaching, I enjoy spending time with my husband and 12 year old son. We like to hike, go to the beach, and swim. I am looking forward to seeing many of you in my classes this year.





Ms. Schluter

Academic Seminar

Hello!

This is my sixth year teaching at Patapsco. I usually teach only math classes, but this year I'll be teaching an Academic seminar in the spring, too!

I have two crazy pups, Dobby and Luna, that keep me busy and this year we are expecting a baby boy to add to the craziness!

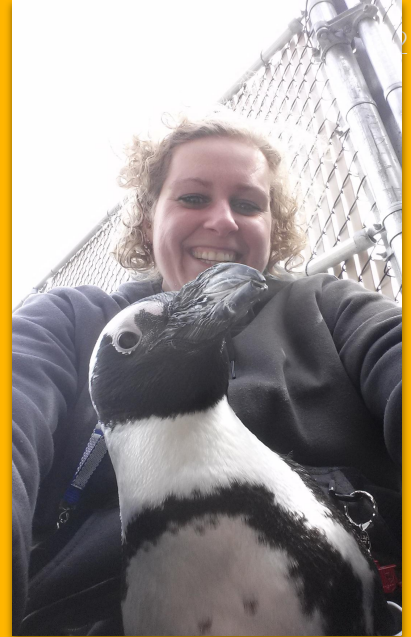




Ms. Shaw

ELA

This is my 19th year at Patapsco. I've lovingly and proudly taught all 19 years on the amazing Sixth Grade Team!! In my free time, I love reading and getting every penny's worth out of my Kindle Unlimited subscription. I garden for hours a day and also love reading in my butterfly garden. My best friends are my two pups, Pickle and Boo, but I also have six cats whom I adore. I've been rescuing and fostering cats and dogs for over twenty years. When I retire, I want to turn our home and yard into a proper animal rescue.



19



Ms. Shum

General Music

I am so excited to meet you! If you have me for music class we will be having lots of fun with Soundtrap (a digital audio workstation) to create and perform music! I went to James Madison University and was a percussion major in college. In the picture with me is my daughter Ella (who just turned 2 but is about one in the photo) and my husband Damon.



Ms. Smith

Reading Specialist & Academic Seminar

Welcome to Patapsco MS, 6th grade! I am so excited to meet each of you and to share my love of reading with you. In my free time, I enjoy working with nonprofit organizations, spending time with family and friends, and going on long hikes with my dog Ghost.

I look forward to creating a collaborative learning environment with you during virtual learning. See you soon! -Ms. Smith



Mr. Spliedt

Health & P.E.

Welcome 6th grade! This is my 5th year working at Patapsco MS and we've got a great staff. I am an avid outdoor lover and big fan of our local Baltimore area sport teams!

I look forward to getting to know you all over your time at here at Patapsco.





Ms. Stielper

Health

Hello! Welcome to 6th grade! This is my 13th year working at Patapsco. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, reading, and travelling. I am looking forward to meeting you!



Ms. Stubbleski

Math Co-Teacher

34

Hi!! Welcome to Patapsco! I'm so excited for a new school year!

I'm beginning my 9th year at Patapsco.

I really enjoy gardening, cooking, traveling, and spending time with husband and kids.





Mr. Weeks

Social Studies

35

This is my 7th year at Patapsco! Some of you will see me as your Geography/Social Studies teacher this year :)

I love all things outdoors including numerous sports, especially volleyball and tennis. I am married and have an 8-month old named Baizy (you may or may not see her in class sometimes). I am looking forward to having a great virtual year with you all!



Mrs. Whelan

Seminar Co-Teacher and Student Support



Hi there! This is my 14th year teaching. This year I will be co-teaching an academic seminar class, but I also work very closely with student services, parents, and teachers to offer students support and help them meet their goals.



I love middle school because every day is a new adventure. Same with my 18-month old!



Thanks!



We can't wait to meet you!

