

## **Press Release**

102 S. Hickory Avenue, Bel Air, Maryland 21014 • Jillian V. Lader, Manager of Communications Office: 410-588-5203 • Jillian.Lader@hcps.org • www.hcps.org • Fax: 410-893-2478

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**April 9, 2024** 

## **Emmorton Elementary School Installs Harford County's First Public Peace Pole**

Peace Pole seen as a sign of welcome in this diverse school community

In Early April, Emmorton Elementary School installed Harford County's first Peace Pole on public property. This meaningful project was fully sponsored by the school's Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and is designed to serve as a symbol of caring, acceptance, and to offer a warm welcome to all families as they enter the school building.

Installed just outside the main entrance of the school, the Peace Pole features the message, "May Peace Prevail On Earth," in eight different languages; Arabic, English, Korean, Mandarin, Pashto, Persian, Spanish and Vietnamese. These languages were chosen based on data from the schools' English Learners and the languages available for production on the Peace Pole. This represents just a part of the diversity of the Emmorton Elementary School community, which has speakers of more than 19 different languages.

"The Peace Pole is a beautiful addition to our school, symbolizing our commitment to unity and peace," said Emmorton Elementary School Principal Zachary Greenbaum. "It serves as a powerful message to our community that all are welcome and accepted in our school!"

Emmorton Elementary School unveiled the Peace Pole during the International Night celebration in early April.

To honor the school's commitment to peace, and the installation of the Peace Pole, the Peace Pole Project is planting ten trees on the African continent in the school's honor.

To learn more about The Peace Pole Project, visit worldpeace.org.



Members of the Principal's Advisory Council, Left to Right: Max (5<sup>th</sup>), Olivia (1<sup>st</sup>), Camille (2<sup>nd</sup>), Olivia (3<sup>rd</sup>), Katie (2<sup>nd</sup>), Cooper (5<sup>th</sup>), Emma (3<sup>rd</sup>), Jason (4<sup>th</sup>), Aadarsh (K), Riley (4<sup>th</sup>)

Adults Left to Right: Jennie Varga (PTA President), Dr. Jennifer Vlangas (Assistant Principal), Mr. Zachary Greenbaum (Principal)

###