On a bi-weekly basis, we acknowledge the outstanding efforts of our staff and students. We encourage our staff to submit accolades for recognizing the dedication of others. The accolades appear on the first pages of our newsletter. As contributing members to Towson High School, we represent 5 STAR Generals.

We appreciate our staff and students for demonstrating leadership, citizenship, scholarship, and integrity. If you would like to submit an accolade for one of our students/staff members for the great work that they do within our community, please submit the information to cdmino@bcps.org and cc dlauten@bcps.org. Help us recognize the outstanding efforts of our students and staff.

★ STARS to Mrs. Lindsay Karsos for her work and dedication to ensure THS was acknowledged as a 2021 Urban Garden Grant recipient.

★ STARS to Ms. Hancock for her support of students.

★ STARS to LPP Senior Nicholas Oke for being selected as a 2022 Maryland Assembly Page. Nick will serve the General Assembly during weeks 3 and 9 of the 2022 session.

★ STARS to Mr. Allen and his Mod 2A class for demonstrating leadership, ownership, responsibility, and a commitment to teaching and learning.

★ STARS to Ms. Lambert and Ms. Jacobs for their leadership.

★ STARS to Mr. Seergae for his communication and support of a student.

★ STARS to Mr. Skeels for his consideration of others.

★ STARS to Mr. Eastham and Mr. Olson for their collaboration.

★ STARS to Sam Kamdin for his thoughtfulness.

★ STARS to Ms. Monacelli and Ms. Valsing for their leadership.

★ STARS to Ms. Brotzman for her communication.
The Towson High School Theatre Program is proud to announce the opening of our first virtual production!

Link to the THS Production of *The Bullying Collection*

Friday, January 29 - Sunday, January 31

FREE Streaming for 72 Hours!

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Thank you so much for your continued support & enjoy the show!

It was a pleasure to see some of our parents this week during the drive through service for COVID test kits. As we continue to support each other during this challenging time, we commend our students and staff for adhering to safety guidelines with masks. We remind all Towson Generals that masks should cover the nose and mouth. Let’s do our part to protect ourselves and others!

During this week, Advisory Teachers provided students with the option of receiving a KN95 mask. Our students in grades 9-11 also continued with registering for classes for next school year. Parents, please know that you will have an opportunity to sign off on student registration soon.

We also participated in a discussion related to the observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Day. Advisory Teachers were provided with the option of quotes to review to engage students in a discussion.

**Quote 1:**

‘Now I realize that there are those all over who are telling us that we must slow up. ... But we cannot afford to slow up. We have a moral obligation to press on. We have our self-respect to maintain. But even more we can’t afford to slow up because of our love for America and our love for the democratic way of life. ... We must keep moving. We must keep going.”

—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

From "The Montgomery Story," an address to the 47th annual NAACP Convention, San Francisco, June 27, 1956

• Why did Dr. King believe people involved in the Civil Rights Movement had to "press on"?

• Do you agree that standing up against racism and injustice is a moral obligation? A matter of self-respect?
• What would have happened if Dr. King and other activists had "slowed up" during the Movement? If they hadn't "kept moving," how would your life be different today? How would our "democratic way of life" be different?

• How did King’s leadership — and the outcomes of the Civil Rights Movement — expand the meaning of the "democratic way of life" in the U.S.?

• Describe one way racism remains a problem in the U.S. today. Do you have a "moral obligation to press on"? Why?

Quote 2:
"What good is having the right to sit at a lunch counter if you can’t afford to buy a hamburger?" — Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Through his leadership, Dr. King connected racial justice to other issues especially the disadvantages of poor people in society. Consider the many individual issues facing our world today. How are they connected?

Martin Luther King Day is often celebrated through volunteering or participating in service activities. How does this connect with Dr. King’s mission and vision? What kinds of service work have you done in the past? What could you plan to do this year, while being mindful of community safety during the pandemic?

Quote 3:
"The time is always right to do what is right." - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

• How does this advice connect with your own choices in life?

• What are some of your personal values that align with work of the Civil Rights Movement?

• Is it always easy to do what is right? What are some ways you know you are doing what is right?

Special thanks to Ms. Monacelli, Ms. Valsing, the instructional leaders of the Social Emotional Support Community of Practice, and our Advisory teachers that are committed to supporting the social- emotional and academic needs of our students.
This month, the Health and Physical Education Department is preparing for Midterm and Final Exams for semester courses. We are finishing up our basketball unit and will be moving into our volleyball unit. Mr. Eastham and Mr. Gavin's classes have completed a weight room experience with their Fitness classes while Ms. Ensor and Ms. McClenathan's classes will be having their experience in the weight room at the start of next semester. The fitness classes will also be doing a variety of activities such as yoga, matball, and handball in the activity room in the next month.

The Team Sports classes are finishing up their basketball units as well. They have been doing team related activities in the activity room that promote cooperation, sportsmanship and conflict resolution. The Team Sports students have been enjoying competition, class MVP and championship honors all semester long. We will be welcoming new students who are taking Team Sports for the 2nd semester in a couple of weeks.

The Weight Training classes have been working very hard improving muscular strength throughout the entire semester. We are just finishing up with our winter 1RM testing. The students are seeing tremendous gains in upper and lower body strength as a product of our Bigger, Faster, Stronger program. Students have been learning new concepts related to weight training and will be ready to succeed on the Midterm/Final Exam.

As the semester finishes up with our health classes, the students have learned a wide range of valuable knowledge about overall health and wellness. Our health teachers have guided our students through topics including health skills, mental and emotional health and wellness, substance abuse prevention, healthy eating, human sexuality, disease prevention and control, as well as safety and injury pre-
vention. This month we are finishing up with lessons specific to distracted driving, and CPR.

The semester is over on January 21st. We are looking forward to working with a new group of students at the semester change for the PE elective courses and Health. Fitness students will have an opportunity to retest their strength and endurance and focus on improvement from the Fall. Upcoming units in all PE classes include volleyball, floor hockey, yoga, handball, matball, softball, badminton, and tennis. The weight training students will continue to improve muscular fitness and work on perfecting proper form, technique and safety as we finish out the school year in order to be a well educated exerciser outside of school.

The Physical Education Department is especially happy that we have the freedom to use all facilities, and equipment since we have returned to in-person learning from the beginning of the pandemic. The students are able to have a much more profound physical education experience. We are particularly proud of all the efforts of our teachers and students as we navigate through these difficult times.

A special thank you to the central office of Health, Phys. Ed. & Dance and Sonya Synkowski. Ms. Synkowski is a dance resource teacher who spent two days with us just before the Thanksgiving break to lead our fitness classes in a dance experience. The students enjoyed this new experience and self expression in a safe environment. See the attached pictures of the students in action!
Thank you to our Families!

Thank you to our families that came out to pick up their child’s COVID test kit during the drive-through service on Tuesday, 1-11-22.

Each child is permitted one (1) test kit. We also gave out test kits to students on Wednesday, 1-12-22 during the lunch shifts.

If you were unable to pick up your child’s test kit on Tuesday, you or your child may come by the front office during regular school hours to pick up a kit. Students may stop by until Wednesday, January 19, 2022.
Students are not allowed to have outside food delivered to school.

If the food is intercepted, it will be held in the front office until the end of the day. At that time, the student may come and pick up the food.

Please remind your students not to order food from local restaurants, Door Dash or any other delivery service.
PSAT Scores

PSAT Scores are now available on the College Board website. To access your scores, log on to your College Board account. Click here for the College Board website www.collegeboard.org

Students in grades 10 and 11, please click the link for information about your score report: https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/psat-nmsqt-understanding-scores.pdf

Students in grade 9, please click here for information about your score report: https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/understanding-psat-8-9-results-parent-tutorial.pdf

What are the next steps? Students can access SAT prep on the Kahn Academy website. Please click here for more information: https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/steps-linking-college-board-khan-academy-accounts.pdf
Testing Dates

2022

Mid-Term Exams
1B and 3B January 14th or January 21st (Half day, plan accordingly)
1A and 3A Tuesday, January 18th
2B and 4B Wednesday, January 19th
2A and 4A Thursday, January 20th

MISA
Science January 26th & 27th
Make-Ups January 28th

Algebra 1
Math February 2nd & 3rd
Make-Ups February 4th

ELA
English February 7th & 8th
Make-Ups February 9th
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THE TOWSON PRIDE

BCPS has a new Entertainment Blvd Episode Featuring Reed Spaulding, his band, the Adirondacks and the Tributary Festival. Reed Spaulding is a Junior at Towson HS and Camryn Townsend from Towson HS is one of the hosts. Please forward this to friends, staff and family and feel free to share. I hope you enjoy.

Ent Blvd - Reed Spaulding & The Adirondacks 2021 on Vimeo
Attendance Matters! #EveryDayCounts #BCPSRollCall

Research has shown that attendance is a leading predictor of academic achievement and adult success. Students who find attending school important are more likely to attain goals like attending trade school, college, or getting a job. By showing up to school every day, students develop a positive work ethic and prepare for future success by developing healthy and productive habits.

Our goal is for students to attend school at least 94% of the time. By missing just 2 days a month, students will end up missing 10% of the school year. Below are some tips and reminders to help your student attend school regularly. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in ensuring that all of our Towson Generals become life-long learners and productive global citizens.

Student attendance records are available to review in real-time on FOCUS. Follow the directions on our website to access your student’s information in the FOCUS Parent Portal. Go to https://towsonhs.bcps.org, hover over “Parent Resources,” and select “Parent/Guardian FOCUS Account Access.” If you notice a discrepancy in your student’s attendance record, please contact the Main Office.

The school day begins at 7:35 AM. If a student arrives late to school during 1st period, they are to report directly to first period, and their 1st period teacher will record their attendance as tardy but present for the day. If a student arrives to school after 1st period (after 9:00 AM), they are to report directly to the Main Office. If the lateness is excused, the student should bring an excuse note from their parent/guardian.

After an excused absence, students should bring an excuse note from their parent/guardian so the absence can be marked as excused. Excuse notes should be dropped off in the bin outside of the Main Office. If your student is absent for multiple days, please contact your student’s School Counselor and inform them of the absence. School Counselors will notify teachers and can collect missing work for your student.

Attendance is reported on students’ high school transcripts. Colleges and future employers that receive students’ transcript will be able to see the number of absences that were accrued each school year.

Students who are under 16 and are applying for their Learner’s Permit must complete the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration Verification of School Attendance form. The form asks school officials to sign and seal that the student has not had more than 10 unexcused absences during the prior school semester.

*Press CTRL & click to access*
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T H E   T O W S O N   P R I D E
Baltimore County Public Schools

Teacher Academy of Maryland

Eastern Technical HS, Franklin HS, Loch Raven HS, Owings Mills HS, Parkville HS, Perry Hall HS, Towson HS, Woodlawn HS  (Sites are subject to change; please consult school for more information)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS (continued)

TAM Foundations of Curriculum and Instruction (6609204)
This course explores curriculum delivery models in response to the developmental needs of all children. Emphasis is placed on the development of varied instructional materials and activities to promote learning, classroom management strategies, and a supportive classroom environment. Students will explore basic theories of motivation that increase learning. Students will participate in guided observations and field experiences to critique classroom lessons in preparation for developing and implementing their own. Students will continue to develop the components of a working portfolio.

TAM Education Academy Internship (6609305—1 credit, 6609705—2 credits)
The internship is the culminating course of the Education Academy Program. Students will have an opportunity to integrate content and pedagogical knowledge in an educational area of interest. They will have an opportunity to extend and apply their knowledge about teaching in a classroom setting under the supervision of a mentor teacher. The students will complete their working portfolio and present it for critique.

Value-Added Outcomes
Upon completing the four-course sequence and passing the Praxis Core or ParaPro test, high school graduates are ready for entry-level employment in an educational support position.

TAM students are eligible to join Educators Rising, a national membership organization for aspiring educators. Educators Rising connects students with peers and experts around the country who are focusing on issues and challenges facing education.

TAM is a CTE instructional program that aligns with the Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (InTASC) and the Maryland Essential Dimensions of Teaching (EoTs).

This program is based on the outcomes of the Maryland Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) degree, which aligns with the National Council for the Accreditation for Teacher Education (NCATE) standards.

Post-Secondary Options
TAM has statewide articulation agreements and scholarships for students available. Consult each institution for specific details.

Current participating higher-education partners include the following:

- Bowie State University
- Community College of Baltimore County
- Coppin State University
- Frostburg State University
- Hood College
- Morgan State University
- Notre Dame of Maryland University
- St. Mary's College of Maryland
- Salisbury University
- Stevenson University Towson University
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**COVID-19 INFORMATION & UPDATES**

Please review the reminders below so we can all do our best to keep the Towson High community safe and healthy!

**DO NOT** allow your child to attend school if they are not feeling well. Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Fever of 100°F or higher
- Sore throat
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- New onset of severe headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Any of these symptoms that are a change from child’s usually symptoms related to a chronic condition (such as seasonal allergies or asthma)

➤ Students will be excluded from school for at least 10 days if they have any of the above symptoms, **UNLESS**:

- They receive a negative COVID test and feel better, or
- They are diagnosed by a healthcare provider with another specific diagnosis (such as strep throat), or
- Healthcare provider documents that symptoms are related to a pre-existing condition.

All students should be feeling better and fever-free for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication prior to returning to school.
**DO NOT** send your child to school to be tested for COVID.

- We are not able to provide screening tests for students, and those with Covid-like symptoms should never report to school, as this potentially exposes other students and staff to illness.
- Testing resources:
  - https://www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/community-based-testing-sites/index.html#md

**DO** always ensure your child has a mask before leaving for school, and an extra mask in case it is needed.

- Masks should always be worn on buses.
- We have extra masks in case a mask is broken or soiled while at school, or for the occasional forgotten mask.
- We do not have a supply of masks to provide to students or staff on a daily basis.

**DO** notify us of your child tests positive for COVID, has been exposed to a person with COVID, or with any questions regarding quarantine or isolation.

**DO** always feel free to contact the school nurse, Ms. Russo, at 443-809-4261, or lrusso2@bcps.org for any questions or concerns. Questions may also be directed to the Office of Health Services at 443-809-6368.
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AP Bio Students Instruct Living Systems Students

After manipulating and analyzing DNA samples in the lab, AP Biology students, Mary Durgan and Emily Jensen, teach 9th grade Living Systems students the ins and outs of DNA electrophoresis. They sure made their AP Biology teacher, (Susan Drake) proud!
Students in Mr. Geckle's Chemistry class completed a "Types of Reactions" lab where they moved from one station to another to observe and categorize different reactions.
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Integrated Physics & Chemistry

Students in Mrs. Kemper's IPC class tested their scientific design practices by completing the Egg Drop lab where they were asked to design a vessel that would allow for an egg to "survive" a crash landing! Check out their designs!
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Congratulations to Ms. Lindsay Karsos!
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AP Human Geographers are introduced to borders, boundaries, and disputes. Using old school Nystrom dry-erase world maps, students identify borders. Then using cell-phones or laptops they research what created the man-made lines on the map, physical geographic features and/or man-made lines of longitude and latitude.
THS COVID Exclusion Tutoring

Tuesday-Thursday
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM
Meets Code: Towsontutoring

Schedule

Tuesday-Brotzman (English)/Raley (Organization)
Wednesday-Blair (Math)
Thursday-Social Studies/Science (Geifuss/Schrader)
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Science NHS Tutoring

Tuesday/Thursday
Room 123
All Science Subjects!
SNHS Giving Season Fundraiser

Donate today using the QR code below to support children with cancer!
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Listed below are links to our Winter Concerts from December, 2021:

Winter Chorus Concert Video: [https://youtu.be/JI5RIn5ozzI](https://youtu.be/JI5RIn5ozzI)

Winter Band Concert Video: [https://youtu.be/v0R0ZHxAGfA](https://youtu.be/v0R0ZHxAGfA)

Winter Orchestra Concert Video: [https://youtu.be/zhjhNbFmXE4](https://youtu.be/zhjhNbFmXE4)
Local Scholarship Application
Now Open!

Please take a few minutes to complete the local scholarship application to be considered for more than 10+ scholarships. All seniors are encouraged to apply.

**Deadline:**  February 4, 2022

QR to Application:
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CAP AND GOWN ORDERS

Order your Cap and Gown now for only $8.05! Beat the price increase of February 1st. See page 29 for more information.

COLLEGE INFORMATION

As you begin to hear from colleges, please update Naviance with your college decisions. You can enter this information on the 'colleges I am applying to' page of Naviance. Also, please bring your acceptance letter to Ms. Pachilis in the School Counseling Office.

COLLEGE AND FINANCIAL AID NEWSLETTER

Please check out the link for the December College and Financial Aid Newsletter: https://www.smore.com/xwgip. (Info also on page 19.)

Contact your counselor with any questions.
Ms. Wright has created a “senior/junior college newsletter” on Smore with lots of links and info for seniors and juniors.

This is a great resource for the college application process and support. Check it out!

Use this link for the December College and Financial Aid Newsletter:
https://www.smore.com/nad8g
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Towson High School Graduation

Thursday
June 2, 2022

7:00 pm

SECU Arena

Class of 2022
Order your Cap and Gown TODAY!

Price increases to $45 after February 1st

It’s time to order your cap and gown for graduation. Click on this link to access the order platform for Josten’s.

Link: https://www.jostens.com/apps/catalog/gradProducts.mvc?customerName=Towson+High+School&customerId=1066479

You only need the Cap, Gown, and Tassel bundle for $8.05. They will be delivered to the school and distributed at graduation practice in late April/early May. Make sure to order yours before February 1st and avoid the price increase!

Please see Ms. Greenberg in room 113 if you have any questions.
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Please use this website to access the Hand In Hand newsletter: https://www.smore.com/stgm5.

For the SERC Parent Webinars, please visit this link: https://files.constantcontact.com/obb37973601/2d383e36-825b-43ed-a14a-69cbe2bb8c30.pdf
SECAC Meeting Schedule for the 2021-2022 School Year

Our areas of focus continue to be education and advocacy. Our voices will continue to be used in a positive, organized effort to help parents and professionals convey information and experiences to leadership, to support the Department of Special Education in their goals, and to advise the Board of Education and top-level decision makers in Baltimore County Public Schools.

We hope you will consider joining us for any or all the scheduled SECAC meetings below. Registration is not required. All meetings are open to the public.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 4, 2021</td>
<td>BCPS Department of Special Education Updates &amp; Initiatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1, 2021</td>
<td>SECAC Stakeholder Feedback &amp; Goal Setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 6, 2021</td>
<td>Superintendent Dr. Darryl Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January, 2022</td>
<td>NO MEETING SCHEDULED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7, 2022</td>
<td>Help My Child is Anxious! Dr. Tana Hope, The Child and Family Therapy Clinic, Kennedy Krieger Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 7, 2022</td>
<td>Autism</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2022 (TBD)</td>
<td>Joint Meeting with the GTCAC: Twice Exceptional (2E) Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2, 2022</td>
<td>Transition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 6, 2022</td>
<td>General Stakeholder Feedback: What worked this year? What are our concerns for next year?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meetings are from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Location: Initially meetings will be held virtually via Google Meets using the join code:  [https://meet.google.com/fak-czqa-dv](https://meet.google.com/fak-czqa-dv). We hope to transition to in-person offerings. If you need to call in or have difficulty joining email egalvez@bcps.org.

If Baltimore County Public Schools are closed, or close early for any reason the SECAC meeting will be cancelled.

To join the SECAC email contact list for updates on meetings and events please complete our online form: [http://bit.ly/secnewsignup](http://bit.ly/secnewsignup)
UPCOMING EVENTS

January, 2022

17  Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Schools and Offices CLOSED
20  Tri-M Coffeehouse, 4:00 pm, Cafeteria
21  Second Marking Period Ends - Schools Close 3 Hours Early for All Students

February, 2022

  7   Second Marking Period Report Cards Distributed
  11  Bus Evacuation Drill
  18  Schools and Offices Close 3 Hours Early
  21  President’s Day - Schools and Offices CLOSED
  24  Third Marking Period Begins
  25  Maryland Day

Please see page 7 for Testing Dates
Towson High School
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Towson, MD 21286
PHONE: 443-809-3608