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 dlausen@bcps.org. Help us recognize the outstanding efforts of our students and staff.

STARS to all staff who stepped up to cover for their co-workers.

STARS to the Music Department for their generosity and thoughtfulness.

STARS to the Music Department for the preparation for the Winter Concerts.

STARS to Mr. Hobbs for his patience.

STARS to Mr. Blair for his professionalism.

STARS to Ms. Richmond for her dedication.

STARS to Ms. Williams for her dedication.

STARS to Alex Schofield and Christian Osmeyer for taking initiative.

★ STARS to Ms. Hancock for her efforts with the Leaderize group.

★ STARS to Ms. McClenathan and Mr. Gavin for their concern for others.

★ STARS to Mr. Buick for his leadership and professionalism.

★ STARS to Ms. Grabowski for supporting colleagues in preparing quality instruction for students.

★ STARS to Ms. Carter for creating a safe, welcoming environment in her classroom.

★ STARS to Ms. Lauver and Mr. Clark for building strong connections with their art students.

★ STARS to Mr. Faya for his active involvement in the hallways.

★ STARS to Markeith Cofield for earning a full scholarship.

★ STARS to the Seniors for their many acceptances into Colleges.

★ STARS to Mason Dunn for stepping up in his science class and showing leadership.

★ STARS to the members of the administration, front office staff, safety assistants, and SROs for their collaborative efforts.

★ STARS to Mr. Allen, Mr. Brotman, Ms. Lambert, Ms. McCusker, Ms. Miller, Ms. Monacelli, Ms. Richmond, and Mr. Tormey for their leadership as Community of Practice Team Leaders.

★ STARS to Ms. Morris and Mr. Muneses for their ongoing support of students.
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!

More than forty THS students have been involved in the creation of a trio of student-directed, student-produced, and student-led short plays from The Bullying Collection. These plays range from the tragic to the co-medical, but they all reveal a new perspective on a common problem.

The show will stream exclusively on Broadway On Demand Friday, January 29 through Sunday, January 31. You can stream the show for free at any point during that 72-hour period. Share the link with your friends and family! After this weekend, the show will no longer be available for viewing, so catch it while you can!

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

The Towson High Music & Theatre Department is alive and well in 2022! We are very lucky to have such talented students at Towson High School.

We want to invite you to please attend our winter concerts! All concerts begin at 7:00 pm.

**Strings Concert**
Tuesday, December 13th, 2022

**Bands, Percussion, & Jazz Band Concert**
Thursday, December 15th, 2022

**Choral Concert**
Tuesday, December 20th, 2022

Following are some of the Music & Theatre Department highlights from the summer and fall of 2022.
Rising Stars

TEHYA SHAPIRO

As a senior in high school, Tehya Shapiro is extremely active in the music community. She is a member of the GT Wind Ensemble Class and all extra-curricular music opportunities at Towson High. She regularly plays in the Baltimore Symphony Youth Orchestra and the Maryland Classic Youth Orchestra. For the MCYO, she travels almost 3 hours a week to attend this talented group, where she has been awarded the Music Director’s full scholarship award. This past summer, Tehya attended the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, a festival composed of the top young-rising artists in the country, located in Tanglewood, the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. She performed in the Young Artist Orchestra playing some of the toughest classical repertoire as well as playing in a top Brass Quintet. In this group, she traveled to different audiences for acts of community engagement projects. Recently, she was invited back to return as a member of the Young Artist Orchestra, without the need for an audition. Moving toward the next big step in her life, Tehya plans to continue her love of performing next year in college and is excited to see where the path will lead.
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RUNA MATSUSHITA

Runa Matsushita, Towson High junior violin student, performed Vivaldi’s Summer in numerous concerts with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra during their Fourth of July series this past summer. Pictured is Runa with the CEO of the Baltimore Symphony, Jonathan Rush (conductor), Wordsmith, and the mayor.

Runa also took part in the Heifetz International Music Institute in Staunton Virginia this past summer. Over the course of six weeks, she performed numerous solo and quartet works in their concert series. Pictured is Runa opening one of the concerts with Bach’s second partita in D minor.

WILLIAM GENTLE & CALLUM HOWARD

William Gentle and Callum Howard participated in the All-National Honors Ensembles performances at the National Harbor this past November. Selection to participate in these ensembles is extremely competitive and only the very best in the United States are chosen through an audition process. Congratulations to these two THS sophomores!
THE TOWSON HIGH MARCHING GENERALS

The Towson High Marching Generals recently wrapped up another successful season led by senior drum majors Noah Webb and Sol Fitzgerald. The show theme was “Abracadabra” and featured songs about magic. Our season began with our annual band camp at Camp Ramblewood in Darlington, MD. The band performed at several home football games, the Reisterstown Festival parade, the BCPS Marching Band Showcase, the THS pep rally, and the Hagerstown Halloween parade.

Follow this link for a video of the field show! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZFtz1DOvElw

Follow this link for a video recap of this year’s season! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jLZiNKWTv9k&t=995s
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Theatre Highlights

Congratulations to the cast, crew, and directors, Ms. Marks and Zareiff for our fall production “Little Women”. We enjoyed three amazing performances by a talented cast and crew. Everyone worked very hard to bring this show to life, and it left a lasting impression!

Coming this spring...

On Thursday, November 10th there were 9 Towson students who qualified for BCPS Honors Jazz Band and Chorus. The concert was held at Carver Center, and it was fantastic! The instrumentalists are pictured below with their guest conductor, David Kauffman. The students are: Sol Fitzgerald (12), Evan Black (12), Joshua Morgan (12), Jeremiah Johnson (11), Ella D’Ambrosio (10), Charlie Mingo (10), and William Gentle (10). The Jazz Chorus included Towson students: Oceanne Saidi (10) and Prakriti Dhamala (10).
The GT Jazz Ensemble performed at The Shops at Kenilworth on Tuesday, December 6th. The group sounded great, and the community was so supportive and happy to hear them!
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It is Mock Trial season. On Tuesday, December 6th, the Towson High Mock Trial squad hosted a tenacious team from The Park School for a scrimmage. The students had the opportunity to role play both the prosecution and defense as the trial was held in two different courtrooms. It was an excellent display of knowledge, skills, and acting and will provide both teams a chance to hone their skills for the actual matches that begin in January.
Academic Planning for the 2023-2024 School Year

Grade 9, 10, and 11 students have started the registration process for their courses for the 2023-2024 school year. Students are currently participating in pre-registration lessons in Advisory, and they will meet with a counselor in their ELA classes between December 7th-January 13th to review their 2023-2024 course selections.

To assist your student in the registration process for the 2023-2024 school year, please visit our academic planning website. Materials on the academic planning website include:

- Grade-level presentations and 4-year plan templates to learn about courses and graduation requirements that are specific to your students’ grade level next year.
- Grade-level course planning guides to assist in course selection.
- Department-based presentations, handouts, and videos to acquaint you with our course offerings and course progressions.

Contact information for our School Counselors and Department Chairs who are available to answer any academic planning questions that you have.

All academic planning materials can be accessed by visiting our website, https://towsonhs.bcps.org, and selecting ‘Academic Planning Materials for the 2023-2024 School Year’ under ‘Announcements’ on the homepage.

Academic planning and student registration are pivotal processes in helping us to achieve our vision of preparing our students to become lifelong learners and productive global citizens, and we thank you for partnering with us in these processes.
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**Registering for Art Classes 2023-2024!**

Students are registering for classes for the next school year. Now is a great time to think about how art can be part of your schedule next year.

Fundamentals of Art is the only fine arts class that acts as a graduation credit. After Fundamentals of Art, the possibilities for art making are endless!

If you have any questions about the art program, contact lmiller19@bcps.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>FINE ARTS</th>
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<th>SCULPTURE</th>
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<td>AP Studio Art: 3D Design</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alyssa Cobb

Quinn Bately

Ben Hough
ART PATHWAY PERSONALITY QUIZ!

Which intermediate art elective should you take next year? Answer the following questions with the answer that best matches your interests!

1. The part of the art projects I enjoyed most so far were
   a. When I got to use different materials all at once
   b. When I got to slow down and focus on the details
   c. When I got to document my artwork and see my final image all together

2. The kind of artwork I like to look at is
   a. Something I can walk around or hold
   b. Something on a wall where I can see the artist’s interpretation of something familiar
   c. Something that represents everyday life

3. When I make art I like to
   a. Get my hands dirty and experiment
   b. Look closely and explore different ways of using materials
   c. Document my environment from my perspective

4. I like to make art by
   a. Building things out of different materials
   b. Using paint, charcoal, and collage
   c. Capturing images of scenarios that I find or create

5. I like when there is
   a. A sense of mystery to how my art will come out
   b. A range of possible interpretations of the same thing
   c. A specific process for making my artwork

6. I like to make work that
   a. Is functional
   b. Can beautify a space
   c. Can be reprinted and shared

7. When celebrating a friend's birthday, I like to
   a. Make the cake
   b. Create the party banner/decorations
   c. Run the photo booth

8. On a sunny Saturday outside, I would rather
   a. Construct a tree fort
   b. Draw with sidewalk chalk outside my house
   c. Explore nature and record my hike

Find out your pathway on the next page!
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FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

CHOOSING AN ART CLASS

Use this chart to plan your pathway in Fine Arts, Photography, or Sculpture. Students may choose to take more than one pathway. For instance, a senior could take Studio Art II (AP) and Photo Studio Advanced (AP).

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Art Pathway Personality Quiz RESULTS

Add up your total points based on your letter answers:
A = 4 points
B = 3 points
C = 2 points

Based on your final total, this is the pathway you could take:

- 28-32 points Sculpture Pathway
- 22-27 points Fine Arts Pathway
- 16-21 points Photography Pathway

Are you right on the border of 2 pathways? Take both!

YOU SHOULD DEFINITELY TAKE ART NEXT YEAR!

Art and Technology

Art and technology is a ½ credit course that can be selected after completing Fundamentals of Art. This course will introduce students to design through professional software.

- This course is ideal for students interested in developing visual products like presentations, posters, logos, and webpages

Advanced Art Students...

- Go on field trips to local museums and NYC/Philly
- Can be part of the National Art Honor Society (in 9th grade too!)
- Get a studio/display space
- Become part of a big art community
- Meet practicing artists in various art fields
- Get help with art college applications
- Are entered into local, state and national competitions (sometimes for scholarships!)
- Develop a portfolio that explores personal ideas and artistic voice

@towsonhsart @towsonhsart

For more info about the THS art program email: lmler19@bcps.org
NAHS Art Making Event

Members of the National Art Honor Society worked together to create one of a kind greeting cards for the NAHS fundraiser. We explored mono-printing which is a form of printmaking where the image can only be made once. Students used stamps, collage and gelli mats to create these unique designs.

We have a few unsold sets available!
You can purchase them online on the Towson HS online Payment System starting Wednesday 12/14.
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**Intermediate Art: Fine Arts**

Using visual artifacts in a self-portrait can help an artist better communicate their personal story. Students in Intermediate Art experimented with compositional choices to further develop a personal narrative that they applied to their self-portraits created from observation. To help visualize their personal narrative, students referenced portrait artist mentors such as Kehinde Wiley, Vincent Van Gogh, Gustav Klimt, Frida Kahlo, and several others in order to emulate either texture, symbols, or spaces to represent their interior thoughts, feelings, or experiences as visual artifacts.

From top left:

Simeon Taylor-Thomas
Ray Aoki
Mink Zingo
Lizzie Corvera
Cinnamon Kornick
Intermediate Art: Photography

Students in Photo 1 are creating images using cameras they made! A pinhole camera is a simple camera without a lens but with a tiny aperture —effectively a light-proof box with a small hole in one side. Students are using dark room techniques to produce the images from their handmade pinhole cameras.

Pinhole cameras can be made from anything from puzzle boxes to tea tins. The key is to make sure the camera is complete lightproof!
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**Intermediate Art: Design in Clay**

Students in Design in Clay are learning coil building techniques. They are using these new skills to explore more personal ideas. Students had a choice to create a sculpture inspired by their favorite song OR their favorite place.

From top left: Owen Molter, Weiya Carter, Avary Grady, Sophia Ragaza, Rylan Greenberg, Lori Bridges
In search of...

We are looking for some items that will help our students make art!

For Photo:
If you have a 35mm film camera that you no longer use, maybe you’d like to donate it to the Art Department! Our photography students learn to process and print 35mm film. Cameras with manual settings are most helpful for them (especially Pentax K100s because they are the most basic and easy to learn). Camera donations we’d appreciate:
• will have manual control of the shutter speed and aperture
• will have a working light meter
• will be functioning and have no broken or missing parts

For Fundamentals of Art and Drawing and Painting courses:
Unique everyday objects that would be interesting to draw (lots of details, parts, asymmetrical) and can be held in one hand.
Example- game controllers that don’t work, old over the ear headphones, small tools, kitchen gadgets or electronics, small toys

Questions? Email lmillner19@bcps.org
You can drop off these items or send these items to school with your student to room 310
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THE TOWSON PRIDE
PTSA NEWS
November 18, 2022

CAN YOUR BIZ DONATE TO SUPPORT OUR DRIVE?
PTSA needs gift card as prizes to boost our membership drive. Can you help? Need 501C3 info?
Contact Jack Missry @ jmissry@comcast.net

November is the PTSA Membership and Donation Drive month

CLASS OF 2023 PTSA NEWS

Holiday Shopping Soirée
JOIN US...SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD
TO BENEFIT: SENIOR CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE
TOWSON HIGH SCHOOL—CLASS OF 2023
20% OF SALES WILL BE DONATED TO THE CLASS OF 2023
SHOP IN STORE OR ONLINE WWW.KARMAFASHIONBOUTIQUE.COM
ONLINE CODE: SHOPTH52023
KARMA
1500 HIBERWOOD DRIVE LUTHERVILLE MD 21093
410-832-3650
Ms. Valian has created a monthly newsletter providing important information for seniors regarding upcoming scholarships, events, and resources.

The newsletter is posted on the Grade 12 THS School Counseling Schoology page at the beginning of each month.

You can also access it by clicking this link https://www.smore.com/pnsdu
Towson's Got Talent!

Auditions:
Tuesday 12/13; Friday 12/16
2:30-5:30pm
THS Auditorium

Auditions open to Seniors!

Talent Show:
January 26th
6:30-8pm
THS Auditorium

Sign up here!
INTERNSHIPS
Applications for our internship program (for rising seniors) are available on Schoology. Students should swing by room 201 to scan the internship QR code on the door or make an appointment to speak directly with Mr. Brotman. The application, program requirements, and expectations are outlined in the Schoology group, but feel free to email Mr. Brotman with questions at jbrotman@bcps.org.

PARTNERSHIPS
Our internship department is always looking to partner with organizations, firms, and businesses, who might be interested in hosting a Towson High student as an intern. Should you, or someone you know be interested in providing an authentic experience in a professional field of interest like law, medicine, or business, to name a few, please reach out to Mr. Brotman at jbrotman@bcps.org.

INTERVIEW DAY
Our interview day is scheduled for April of 2023. Seemingly a long time from now, however in preparation, we are making an early call for anyone in our community who may be interested in being a part of this rewarding experience. All juniors will be interviewed that day, and we want to ensure that we provide them with an authentic interviewing experience. If you would like to volunteer as one of our interviewers, or have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mr. Brotman at jbrotman@bcps.org.

LOOKING FOR A JOB? INTERESTED IN POSTING A POSITION YOU NEED FILLED?
For students interested in looking for a job, or curious about how to go about doing so, swing by room 201 to make an appointment to discuss the finer points of finding a part time job. Mr. Brotman can help with resumes, what to expect, and how to find a job. Additionally, we have a jobs board available on Schoology for anyone who is ready to work. Join the Schoology group by scanning the QR code on the door of 201. Additionally, Mr. Brotman is open to posting for legitimate part-time positions in the community. If you are a local business in need of a part-time employee, please contact Mr. Brotman at jbrotman@bcps.org. (ALL positions will need to be vetted prior to posting)
One Love has partnered with David Ross Orthodontics to provide cups and lanyards as give-a-ways at dedication games. The One Love Officers, along with TAM students also designed a Towson High One Love/TAM affirmation tree. Students may "take what they need" from the tree. There are various items like lanyards, cups, stress balls, cell phone wallets, stickers, and affirmations.
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The Child & Adolescent Development class is participating in the annual baby projects. Students become moms or dads for 5 days needing to give care to an infant simulator. They are part of the Teacher Academy of Maryland curricula for BCPS.

A little background info:
This smart baby adds meaning and accountability by using wireless programming to track and report on caregiver behaviors. Tracked behaviors include care events, mishandling actions, time in a car seat as well as clothing changes. Baby includes four sets of curriculum and activities to help instructors create relevant and career-driven learning experiences.

During a simulation experience, users:
• Determine whether Baby needs feeding, burping, rocking or changing
• Dress Baby appropriately for weather/temperature
• Handle Baby correctly and respond to Baby’s cries for care

Baby’s software can:
• Track care events, abuse, surrounding temperatures, time in a car seat and clothing changes
• Customize simulations using schedules based on real infants
• Receive and print detailed assessment reports
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www.MySchoolBucks.com

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BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MySchoolBucks.com DOWNLOAD GET SOCIAL
Would you like to be more involved with your student’s spending in the cafeteria? Would you like to pay off your negative balance and prevent future ones? Sign up for www.MySchoolBucks.com! By creating your free MySchoolBucks account, you can conveniently view your student’s cafeteria purchases, check their balance, limit their spending, set automatic notifications, set up automatic payments, and make secure payments! There is a fee to fund the account online. However, you can take advantage of all these features, and fund your account for free, with cash or a check at your student’s school.

If you haven’t already, please complete the Free and Reduced Meal Application, to qualify for free meals. MySchoolApps - Getting Started.

**Apply NOW for Free and Reduced-Priced Meals!**

The online application is NOW OPEN for 2022-2023

www.MySchoolApps.com
(Translations Available)
**APPLY TODAY!**

*Students of Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Schools need NOT apply (School Meals are FREE to the students at CEP Schools)*

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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**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)*

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Nationally, over two million teachers will be needed in the next decade. Teacher Academy of MD (TAM) supports the goal of inspiring students to become teachers, creating a pipeline of employment into careers in education. BCPS is committed to reaching a diverse candidate pool in order to foster environments in which students and staff feel connected, engaged, and supported.

TAM is a state-approved Career and Technical Education (CTE) completer program, designed to prepare high school students for future careers in the education profession.

Coursework in the TAM program is designed to articulate to a Maryland post-secondary teacher education program. Students develop an InTASC portfolio and participate in a field experience.

**TAM** prepares student for the following fields and careers:

- Child welfare social worker
- Childcare services
- Children's book author
- Coach
- College instructor
- Community organization leader
- Counselor
- Education administrator
- Industry facilitator/trainer
- Librarian/media specialist
- Preschool/elementary/secondary teacher
- Recreation leader
- Researcher
- Sociologist

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**TAM Teaching as a Profession** (6609104)

This course focuses on the profession of teaching – its history, purposes, issues, ethics, laws and regulations, roles, and qualifications. Emphasis is placed on identifying the current, historical, philosophical and social perspectives of American education, including trends and issues. Students will explore major approaches to human learning. Students will participate in activities to help them assess their personal interest in pursuing careers in this field and to identify effective learning environments. Students will begin to develop the components of a working portfolio to be assembled upon completion of the internship.

**TAM Child and Adolescent Development** (6609004)

This course focuses on human development from birth through adolescence. Emphasis is placed on theories of physical, cognitive, and psychosocial development, the effect of heredity and the environment, the role of caregivers and the family, health and safety concerns, and contemporary issues. Students explore special challenges to growth and development. Students will have opportunities for guided observation of children from birth through adolescence in a variety of settings to help students further understand theories of human development. Students will continue to develop the components of a working portfolio to be assembled upon completion of the internship.

*(see back 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 (EdOTs).

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
SECAC Meeting Schedule for the 2022-2023 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 3, 2022</td>
<td>BCPS Department of Special Education Updates &amp; SECAC Stakeholder Feedback and Goal Setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 7, 2022</td>
<td>Superintendent Dr. Darryl Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 5, 2022</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January, 2023</td>
<td>NO MEETING SCHEDULED</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 6, 2023</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 6, 2023</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17, 2023</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1, 2023</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 5, 2023</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: Meetings will be held virtually via Google Meets using the join code: [https://meet.google.com/fak-czqt-dvf](https://meet.google.com/fak-czqt-dvf). We hope to schedule and in-person meeting during the second semester. 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/secnewssignup](http://bit.ly/secnewssignup)
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.

“Weekly Attendance Reports” are emailed to each custodial contact on Friday afternoon. Please review this report with your student. Please contact your student’s teacher(s) with any concerns.

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.
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

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UPCOMING EVENTS

December, 2022

9 Interims Distributed
13 Winter Concert - Strings, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm
15 Winter Concert - Band, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm
20 Winter Concert - Choral, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm
22 Winter Holiday begins at the end of the day - Schools & Offices Close 3 Hours Early

January, 2023

3 School Re-Opens
16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday - Schools & Offices Closed
17 2nd Marking Period Ends - Schools Close 3 Hours Early
23 Systemwide Professional Day - Schools Closed for Students
25 Report Cards Distributed

February, 2023

20 President’s Day - Schools & Offices Closed