

Dear Toro Students, Parents and Guardians,

Our Toros charged through week 6 in style! Student clubs, government campaigns, athletic events, winter sports orientations and homecoming plans all took center stage as our student life activities begins to catch a normal high school rhythm. TCHS facility improvements included an extension to our main courtyard, audio enhancement to building 5 (gym), grass being placed throughout our athletic fields and sidewalk improvements. We are pleased to announce that building 2 (performing arts) is scheduled to have classroom space available towards the beginning of October.

Please read below for important updates:

- **PSAT** - The PSAT exam is an important upcoming assessment for high school students on Wednesday, October 13th. As a reminder, the PSAT is for ALL 10th grade students as well as 9th or 11th grade students who have registered and paid to take the exam.
 - Due to COVID-19, the number of students we can place in our large group spaces is significantly reduced. This makes it difficult to provide a learning space for students who are not participating in the PSAT. To ensure both student safety and the optimal testing environment, we will allow flexibility to students on this day. High school students who are not participating in the PSAT may complete assigned work from home or at school on this day. Assigned work will be due on Thursday, October 14th.
- **Athletic Fields** – Due to the heavy amounts of rain over the past few weeks/months, our athletic field grass deliveries and installation have been delayed. We are optimistic that our final home football game of the season (Pedro Menendez on November 5th) will be played at TCHS, however we have prepared for the possibility of holding this game at PMHS. We are expecting to begin all winter (after winter holiday break) and spring sporting events to be held at TCHS.
- **COVID-19 Protocols** – With the adjustments in COVID-19 protocols for students and staff, please review the information listed at the bottom of this newsletter for reminders and contact directives.
- **Open House** – ***Date Change*** TCHS will offer a VIRTUAL Open House on October 5th, this is a change in date. Parents and guests will have the opportunity to view messages from teachers and other school personnel.
- **Yearbooks** – TCHS Yearbooks are on sale! Order your inaugural yearbook at discounted pricing before we sell out. **Price increase begins next week!**
 - **08/01/21 – 09/30/21 \$60.00**
 - **10/01/21 - 11/30/21 \$70.00**
 - **12/01/21 --02/14/21 \$80.00**
 - **02/15/21 - Sold Out \$100.00**
 - Order at: <https://buytheyearbook.pictavo.com/PictavoSchool/FindSchool> School ID: 700659
- **ACT/SAT** - TCHS will be partnering with local test-prep businesses to offer a variety of fee-based and free resources for students to prepare for these examinations. Continue to utilize the [TCHS Student Services Department](#) webpage for the most up-to-date information on testing dates, resources and information for your Toro's planning needs.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Respectfully,

Jay Willets



Please review the following information and weekly reminders:

TCHS Clubs – Virtual Club Rush week has officially ended, and activities will begin soon. Please be sure to have your Toro get dates, times, and locations of their selected club to put on family calendars. If your Toro is still interested in joining a club, click on the [Clubs-Tocoi Creek High School-2021-2022.pdf](#) to find out more about each club, talk to the sponsor or look for announcement posters around the school.

Parent Drop-Off/Pick-Up – When dropping off/picking up students in the front of the school, we ask that all drivers fill in the gap in front of your vehicle to allow all available loading/unloading space to be used. **If you are passing a vehicle in front of you, please use your blinker to indicate a lane change.** The front of the line begins at the edge of Building 5 (Gym) where the Toro Student Drop-Off sign is placed. Thank you in advance for pulling forward to help our line move more efficiently.

Drivers Education Courses – TCHS is pleased to collaborate with The St. Johns County Tax Collectors Office to provide drivers education courses to our students. Please visit [SJCTC DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM – St. Johns County Tax Collector \(sjctax.us\)](#) or <https://sjctax.us/student-driver-education/> for more information.

Open House – TCHS will host a Virtual Open House on October 5th, 2021. Teachers will present a pre-recorded message regarding their class for all parents to view. More information to follow...Go Toros!

Attendance - We are excited to share that our TCHS Attendance Page is now available on our website. This page will allow you to upload all early dismissal and absentee information digitally, including doctor's notes, so there is no need to turn in any documents to the front office due to an absence. This is the "one stop shop" for everything attendance and is compatible with any computer or phone.

[Please Click Here to Access the TCHS Attendance Information Page on our School Website](#)

After turning in information to the TCHS attendance page, please allow 48 hours for us to process information in HAC. We sincerely appreciate your patience as we work to help you and your student. As always, please do not hesitate to contact the front office at (904) 547-4260 if there is anything that you need.

Tardies – Students who are late to school (not in 1st period by 9:20am), or in their scheduled classroom after the warning bell and class start signal, then they are to report to offices in Bld 1 (first floor) and Bld 4 (first, second and third floor) tardy kiosks where they enter their student ID or scan their digital/hard ID to receive a tardy slip to class, this tardy will automatically be uploaded to HAC attendance.

Registration/Scheduling Updates - Thank you Toro families for your patience as we have continued to adjust classes and schedules during the first two weeks of school. Our increased enrollment at the last minute had our registrar, Ms. Johnson, working overtime. Our classes are balanced at this point and any other schedule adjustments will be discussed with student and parent prior to making any needed changes. Please continue to reach out to your guidance counselor for any scheduling concerns.

Lockers and Textbooks – If your Toro did not select a locker yet, please have them report to the Deans Office with their selections.

TCHS Gear – Visit the OFFICIAL [TCHS Toro Team Shop](#) to purchase your spirit gear! Go Toros!

COVID Protocols – TCHS has implemented all COVID mitigation protocols that are standard at all SJCS D school sites. For more information please review the [SJCS D Health and Safety](#) updates.

PE Uniforms – ****UPDATE**** Uniforms are in and coaches will begin distribution to students who have ordered on-line. Distribution will continue as orders come in along with in-person sales, online sales are currently open on SchoolPay.com or students can bring in cash/check directly to their PE/HOPE. *What if the uniform doesn't fit?* Coaches will assist in sizing/swapping uniforms as needed and if a specific size is not available, a student may bring in a pair of shorts/t-shirt until orders are fulfilled.

Breakfast and Lunch Services – Want to know what your Toro is eating throughout the day? PayPams will be used to load your student's lunch account, view balances and check to see what type of "feed" your Toro is eating. Students are HIGHLY encouraged to use their digital/hard ID when checking out to assist with line movement.

Save the Date

- Yearbooks on Sale (Price Increase) October 1, 2021
- Virtual Open House ***Date Change*** October 5th, 2021
- Student Fall Photo Day October 11, 2021
- PSAT (all 10th Graders) October 13, 2021
- Homecoming Dance October 30, 2021



Toro Week at a Glance

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <u>Monday 9-27</u> | NHS Candy Sales (all week) |
| <u>Tuesday 9-28</u> | FSA Reading/Math Retakes (as needed) |
| Wednesday 9-29 | Arts Booster Meeting 6:00pm (Café) |
| Thursday 9-30 | FSA Reading/Math Retakes (as needed) |
| <u>Friday 10-1</u> | Pink-Out Breast Cancer Awareness Day! |

**FOOTBALL
HOME GAME THEMES**

OCTOBER 1
PINK-OUT

OCTOBER 29 HOMECOMING
OUT OF THIS WORLD

NOVEMBER 5
CAMO

Athletics Calendar

27	September, Monday	5:30 PM	Volleyball, Girls	JV	University Christian (Jacksonville)	University Christian (Jacksonville)	Non-District
27	September, Monday	6:30 PM	Volleyball, Girls	VR	University Christian (Jacksonville)	University Christian (Jacksonville)	Non-District
28	September, Tuesday	3:30 PM	Golf, Boys	VR	Mandarin (Jacksonville)	Deercreek Country Club	Non-District
28	September, Tuesday	4:15 PM	Golf, Girls	VR	Menendez (St. Augustine)		Non-District
28	September, Tuesday	5:30 PM	Volleyball, Girls	JV	St. Augustine	St. Augustine	District
28	September, Tuesday	6:30 PM	Volleyball, Girls	VR	St. Augustine	St. Augustine	District
30	September, Thursday	4:15 PM	Golf, Boys	VR	Menendez (St. Augustine)	King and the Bear Golf Complex	Non-District
30	September, Thursday	4:15 PM	Golf, Girls	VR	Matanzas (Palm Coast)		Non-District
30	September, Thursday	4:30 PM	Swimming, Boys	VR	Creekside (St. Johns)	Julington Creek Plantation Aquatic Complex	Non-District
30	September, Thursday	4:30 PM	Swimming, Girls	VR	Creekside (St. Johns)	Julington Creek Plantation Aquatic Complex	Non-District
30	September, Thursday	5:30 PM	Volleyball, Girls	JV	Orange Park	TCHS Gymnasium	Non-District
30	September, Thursday	6:15 PM	Football (11 man)	JV	Bishop Kenny (Jacksonville)	Bishop Kenny (Jacksonville)	Non-District
30	September, Thursday	6:30 PM	Volleyball, Girls	VR	Orange Park	TCHS Gymnasium	Non-District
1	October, Friday	7:00 PM	Football (11 man)	VR	Providence (Jacksonville)	TCHS Stadium	Non-District
2	October, Saturday	6:30 AM	Cross Country, Boys	VR	Ponte Vedra - Running with the Sharks		Non-District
2	October, Saturday	6:30 AM	Cross Country, Girls	VR	Multiple Opponents - New World Classic	Cecil Field Golf Course	Non-District



Student Life

Academy News

[Tocoi Creek's First Cuts - Career and Technical Education \(CTE\) of St. Johns County \(stjohns.k12.fl.us\)](http://stjohns.k12.fl.us)



[Tocoi Creek's First Cuts - Career and Technical Education \(CTE\) of St. Johns County](#)

Students in Tocoi Creek High School's Academy of Innovation in the Built Environment made their first cuts this week using a miter saw. Students have been diligently working to earn their OSHA 10 certification which opens the door to operating the power tools here on campus. Presently 25 students have already earned this certification, with ... [Tocoi Creek's First Cuts Read More »](#)

cte.stjohns.k12.fl.us

Happenings at The Hub

The Hub Updates:

The Hub has been bustling since we opened a few weeks ago!!! Students are coming in to borrow books, get coffee, meet up with peers, study, play games, and more! Thank you to everyone who donated to help us get our coffee bar up and running- your support means the world to us!!!

Did you know that ALL TCHS students have access to eBooks and digital audiobooks through our library?

[Click here to learn how!](#)

The Hub website has a lot of helpful information and more is being added each day. Please visit it at:

<https://www-tchs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/>

Toros Read:

TCHS students and staff are encouraged to read this year's Florida Teens Read books! The Florida Teens Read Program is a student choice reading program for students in grades 9 - 12. The books cover a variety of genres and interests and are written to encourage and excite teens to read! TCHS students who read the books will receive prizes and recognition for reading them. Prizes include free drinks from The Hub coffee bar, stickers, author visits, invitation to participate or attend the Battle of the Books, pizza parties, and more!

The books are available in The Hub and digitally through The Hub website. (Students could even listen to the audiobook!) Books can also be purchased at any book retailer or borrowed from the public library. Staff members are also reading the books which will help create conversations about books and build a culture of reading at Toco!

The 2021-2022 Florida Teens Read books are:

Black Flamingo by Dean Atta

Date Me, Bryson Keller by Kevin Van Whye

Fable by Adrienne Young

Grown by Tiffany D. Jackson

The Hive by Barry Lyga and Morgan Baden

Legendborn by Tracy Deonn

Not So Pure and Simple by Lamar Giles

Rules for Vanishing by Kate Alice Marshall

Stamped by Jason Reynolds

They Went Left by Monica Hesse

This is My America by Kim Johnson

Today, Tonight, Tomorrow by Rachel Lynn Solomon

War and Speech by Don Zolidis

We are Not From Here by Jenny Sanchez

What I Carry by Jennifer Longo

Please note:

An important note from the Florida Teens Read Committee: This program is designed to entice teens to read. In order to engage their interest and to provide a spur to critical thinking, the book selections include those that involve sensitive issues. The content of some of the titles may be more mature than younger students may have previously encountered. Please recognize that this is a voluntary reading program. Not every book selected will suit every student. In a democratic society, a variety of ideas must find voice. As readers, teens have the choice to read the more mature titles or to close the book

For more information about the Florida Teens Read Program and books please visit:

<https://www.floridamediaed.org/florida-teens-read.html>

Toro Athletics

Are you wondering how you can purchase tickets for any athletic event, bookmark our [TCHS Athletics Page](#) for future game schedules, purchases and specific sport information.

**INTERESTED IN TRYING OUT FOR
TCHS WINTER SPORTS?
DATES ARE BELOW**

Girl's Weightlifting	10/11	7:30 am	TCHS
Competitive Cheer	10/13	3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	TCHS Gym
Girl's Soccer	10/18	4:00 pm	Mill Creek
Boy's Soccer	10/18	4:00 pm	Mill Creek
Girl's Basketball	10/25	4:00 pm	TCHS
Boy's Basketball	11/1	4:00 pm	TCHS
Wrestling	11/8	4:00 pm	TCHS



**ALL student athletes are required to complete the Athletic Clearance process prior to any participation. Instructions are available by visiting the following link:
<https://www-tchs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/athletics/clearance/>*

School Advisory Council

TCHS parents and potential parent representatives for SAC

Thank you to all those who already voted, however we will need for you to vote again. I was using Survey Monkey which capped me at 40 responses. I apologize for the mistake and inconvenience. Below is the new link with the ability of checking multiple responses. Please check off 4 choices.

[Click HERE for SAC Parent Representative Ballot](#)

Thank you for your support!

Our second School Advisory Meeting (SAC) will be held on October 5th, in the TCHS Media Center “The Hub”.

Date: 10/5/21

Time: 8:10 AM

Facilitators: Mr. R. Bruns & Mr. J. Cabrera

Location: TCHS Media Center, 2nd floor of Building 1

Guidance Corner

Guidance – Visit our [Guidance Services](#) page to find out how to connect with our school counselors about schedules, college planning or counseling services.

Bright Futures – New rules regarding [Bright Futures Scholarship Service Forms/Rules](#) are posted on the District Web Site and will be available in the TCHS Guidance Services office.

Additional School and District Information

FSA and EOC Scores

[HAC Test Scores Quick Start Guide](#)

As we received the state assessment data late in the summer, we had to delay the final report card for the 2020-2021 school year and the availability of FSA / EOC scores for parents. All scores are now available for parents through the Home Access Center (HAC) by logging onto the SJCS D website and clicking on the HAC icon at the top right side of the webpage. The scores are sorted by name and then test date so for many students, the most recent FSA scores are in the middle of the screen. Attached is a quick start guide for reference and assistance. At this point all spring assessment results that we've received from the FLDOE have been entered into HAC/Student Test History, including; FSA ELA, FSA Math, EOC (Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, Civics, US History), FSAA, & Grades 5/8 science. i-Ready has also been loaded into the system Your school will communicate with you when hard copies of the test scores are available. We are so proud of the hard work done by students, teachers, and parents and the flexibility and patience shown by all last year. These scores will also be used to determine school grades for last year.

If you have questions relative to your student's data, you should connect with the school.

TCHS Café News

What qualifies as a free lunch?

- * You must choose 3 components of the five food groups- Protein, Grain, Fruit, Vegetable, Dairy- to qualify for a free lunch
- * One of the choices must be a fruit or a vegetable
- * We have 100% fruit Juice boxes that can be a fruit substitute if desired to compose a free lunch
- * Milk or chocolate milk is the only item considered a Dairy and can be used as a component but is not required to qualify for a free lunch.
- * The only outside vendor that qualifies as a free lunch component is one slice of papa John's pizza, slices after the first will be charged a-la-cart
- * There are Posters posted on the wall behind the serving line that instruct students to choose three components
- * On the serving line we will post a daily menu with options and examples of free lunch availability each day until we attain some stability with our supply chain and can solidify a set menu.
- * Each day we will offer multiple hot and cold entrée items as well as multiple rotating fruit and veggie options to choose from

What are the ala-carte prices and options?

In addition to our daily lunch entrees we will have multiple fresh vegetables, various fresh fruits, and fruit cups as side options. Also Keep an eye out for our rotating Fresh Deli Sandwich, Salad, and Wrap options:

*Turkey Pesto & Provolone Ciabattas	*Turkey Bacon Ranch Wraps
*Turkey & Cheddar Subs	*Buffalo Chicken Wraps
*BLT Croissants	*Caesar Chicken Wraps
*Turkey & Pepperjack Croissants	*Southwest Chicken Wraps
*Chicken Salad Pitas	*Asian Chicken Wraps
*Chicken Salad Croissants	*Garden Salad W/ Grilled Chicken
*Chicken Salad Stuffed Tomatoes	*Garden Salad W/ Buffalo Chicken

Free Lunch Requirements

*You must choose three components of the five food groups- Protein, Grain, Fruit, Vegetable, Dairy- At least one component must be a fruit or vegetable.

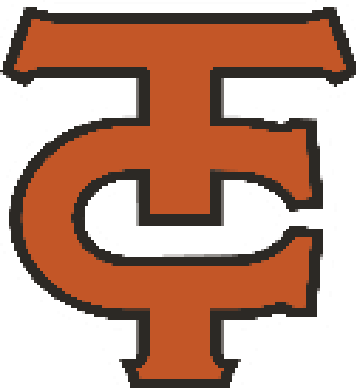
*Two of the small Fruit or Veggie Cups equal one Component

*Most Main Lunch Entrees are two components and only require one additional component to qualify for free lunch

*Milk can be a third component or in addition to three other components, but is not required for free lunch.

*Small Juice Cartons count as a Fruit substitute

*French Fries count as a Vegetable



Menu / Price List							
Lunch Entrees			Breakfast				
Monday-	Marinara		*Bacon, Egg, & Cheese Croissant	\$	3.75		
	Cheeseburgers		*Chicken Biscuits	\$	1.50		
	Baskets		*Bacon, Egg, & Cheese Biscuit	\$	2.25		
Tuesday-	Mini Corndogs		*Sausage & Cheese Biscuits	\$	1.50		
	Chicken Sandwiches		*Sausage & Cheese Frittatas	\$	1.00		
	Chicken & French Fry Baskets		*Cheesy Scrambled Eggs	\$	1.00		
Wednesday-	Grilled Burritos, Quesadillas, & Chicken		*Crispy Hash Browns	\$	1.00		
	Cheeseburgers		*Grape, Cheese, & Carrot Parfait	\$	2.50		
	Chicken & French Fry Baskets		*Yogurt, Honey, & Granola Parfait	\$	2.50		
Thursday-	Flame Grilled Hotdogs		*Fresh Orange Slices	\$	0.75		
	Mac N' Cheese		*Strawberry Pancakes	\$	1.00		
	Chicken Nugget & Waffle Fry Baskets		*French Toast Sticks	\$	1.00		
Friday-	Cheese Sticks & Marinara or Egg		*Cinnamon Rolls	\$	1.25		
	Pasta Bowl or Teriyaki Chicken		*Assorted Danish	\$	1.00		
	Chicken & French Fry Baskets		*Assorted Muffins	\$	1.25-\$2.50		
Outside Vendors			*Assorted Cereals	\$	1.00		
Wednesday/Friday	Papa John's - 1 Slice for a component of free Lunch.		*Assorted NutriGrain Bars	\$	0.80		
	\$2.50 a slice A-La-Carte		*Assorted Pop tarts	\$	0.80		
Thursday-	Chick-Fil-A- \$5.25		*Orange Slices	\$	0.75		
Tuesday-	Zaxby's w/ Chips- \$5.00		*Apples	\$	0.75		
Main Dishes, Sides, and Snacks			Drinks				
Lunch	FREE	String Cheese	\$	0.75	Gatorade	\$	2.00
Lunch Entrée	\$ 2.50	Ice Cream	\$	1.00	Propel	\$	2.50
Breakfast	FREE	Premium Ice Cream	\$	2.25	Kickstart	\$	1.85
Breakfast Entrée	\$ 1.00	Big M&M Cookie	\$	2.50	Water 20oz	\$	1.50
Vegetable	\$ 0.75	Scratch Baked Bro	\$	2.50	Flavored Water 20oz	\$	1.50
Fruit	\$ 0.75	Rice Crispy Treat	\$	0.80	Soda	\$	1.00
Premium Salad	\$ 4.50	Craisins	\$	0.75	Tea 20oz	\$	1.50
Dill Chicken Sandwich	\$ 2.75	Fruit Roll-Up	\$	0.80	Coffee	\$	1.50
Tenders & Fries	\$ 3.75	Welch's Fruit Snacks	\$	1.00	Starbucks	\$	3.50
Pasta Dish	\$ 4.00	Kettle Chips	\$	1.50	Apple Juice 10oz	\$	1.50
Teriyaki Chicken	\$ 4.00	Baked Chips	\$	1.00	Fruit Punch	\$	1.00
Combo Special	\$ 3.75	Cheez-Its	\$	0.75	Tropicana Premium	\$	2.80
Burger Basket	\$ 5.25	Gold Fish	\$	0.75	Juice 6oz	\$	0.75
Premium Sandwich	\$ 4.25	Smart Food Popcorn	\$	1.50	Milk	\$	0.60
Papa John's Slice	\$ 2.50	Cheetos	\$	1.00	Faculty Staff		
Chick-Fil-A	\$ 5.25	Doritos	\$	1.00	Adult Breakfast	\$	1.60
Zaxby's	\$ 5.00	Muffins	\$	1.25	Adult Entrée	\$	2.75
Fries	\$ 1.50	Big Muffins	\$	2.50	Adult Lunch	\$	4.00
Eggroll	\$ 1.75	Parfait	\$	2.50			
Garlic Bread	\$ 0.75	Extra Condiment	\$	0.50			

School and District COVID Protocols

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The DOH has adjusted the student quarantine guidelines as of yesterday. There has been information sent out via the news stations but I wanted to communicate it clearly to you so that you understand your choices if you are notified that your child is a close contact of a positive COVID individual.

On 9/22/2021, the Department of Health has updated their emergency rule (64DER21-15) to include student quarantines.

1. *Student quarantines: (3)(a) Parents or legal guardians of students who are known to have been in direct contact with an individual who received a positive diagnostic test for COVID-19 **may choose one of the following options:***
 - a. *Allow the student to attend school, school-sponsored activities, or be on school property, without restrictions or disparate treatment, so long as the student remains asymptomatic; or*
 - b. *Quarantine the student for a period of time not to exceed seven days from the date of last direct contact with an individual that is positive for COVID-19.*

Based on this new ruling, you have a choice whether to quarantine your child or not, if they have no symptoms. Below is the new email communication that you will receive notifying you of your choices if your child is a close contact:

We have been advised that your child, [student name], has potentially been exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual on [exposure date]. In accordance with the FL DOH Emergency Rule, you may choose to keep your child home to quarantine for a period of time not to exceed seven days. Your child does not need to seek COVID-19 testing or produce a negative test result to return to school tomorrow if he/she is without any symptoms.

If you choose to keep your child home to quarantine, please call the District COVID Support Team at 904-547-8230 to report your child on quarantine.

If you have health-related quarantine questions, we have set up a quarantine call line at 904-819-1101.

To be clear, if your child has NO symptoms and is on quarantine, they may return to school if you choose. This begins today. If you choose to quarantine, you need to contact the District COVID support team and report that you are opting to quarantine your child. This also begins today.

Due to this change in policy, it is more important than ever to monitor your child for symptoms and keep them home if they are not well. We want students to be in school learning and we also want children healthy and safe. We are in this together and will continue to work together to navigate this new normal.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. If you have any questions, please call 904-547-8230 for further clarification.

Sincerely,

SJCSD Administration