

TC TOCO CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

With the holiday season approaching, I would like to formally thank all our students, parents, guardians, volunteers and business partners for all that you have done to allow TCHS to have an amazing start! Please note that there WILL NOT be a Weekly Feed Newsletter the week of November 22nd. It is my honor to also recognize one of our “firsts” with the nominations of TCHS’s own Teacher of the Year, Rookie Teacher of the Year and School Related Employee of the year:



Timmy Lundquist
Support Related Employee of the Year

TCHS 2021-2022 Honorees



Jay Cabrera
Teacher of the Year



Courtney Haymaker
Rookie Teacher of the Year

In addition it is also my honor to recognize our innagural National Honor Society at TCHS, Congratulations Toros!:



Updates and Important Information:

2021 Midterms/Finals - Midterms and Finals will take place between December 16 – December 21. District-created midterms/finals cannot be taken early. You will either make-up the midterm Tuesday, December 21st after the 7th period exam or when we return from winter break. Please click the link below for the detailed midterm/finals schedule. [2021 Midterm Exam Schedule](#)

Junior Class Ring Presentation - During Toro Time on Wednesday November 10th, Jostens presented junior class ring information to all juniors. Information about costs, deadlines, and delivery was sent home with students. If your student attends classes at St Johns River or is not on campus on the 10th, please email shannon.welch@stjohns.k12.fl.us for more information.

Toys for Tots! - The Toys for Tots contest continues through December 3rd. We have over 20 gift cards/certificates to give away to the lucky raffle winners. Each item donated gets you a raffle ticket. Boys Basketball home opener on 11/23: Donate a toy and receive free admission and a raffle ticket for a half-time raffle at the game.



The poster features a teddy bear in a sailor suit holding a sign that says "TOYS FOR TOTS" at the top center. To the left is a holly wreath, and to the right is a Christmas tree. Below the bear, the text reads: "Help Toco! WIN the High School Toys for Tots Collection Competition! October 25 - December 3". It then lists rules: "Donate packaged toys to collection bins found in the Main Office or The Hub" and "Rules on Type of Toys: -Toys must be new and unwrapped -Clothing, food, and toy guns (including nerf guns) are not accepted". It also states: "Each packaged toy donated gives you one entry into the drawings for prizes. Simone's and Whit's will be catering lunch for the top donators." and "Free Ticket: Come out on Nov 23 to either the Home Basketball Opening Game, or Boys Soccer Game and receive FREE Admittance when a toy is donated!". At the bottom, there is a Toro mascot wearing a Santa hat, surrounded by wrapped gifts. A row of logos for local businesses is at the very bottom: Toco!, Chico de Mayo, DUNKIN' DONUTS, J&B, Simon's, WHIT'S, VIBE, MAELE HOUSE, and Toco!.

Help Toco! WIN the High School
Toys for Tots Collection Competition!
October 25 - December 3
Donate packaged toys to collection bins found
in the Main Office or The Hub

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guns) are not accepted

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lunch for the top donators.

Free Ticket:
Come out on Nov 23 to either the Home Basketball Opening
Game, or Boys Soccer Game and receive FREE Admittance
when a toy is donated!

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

Calling All Business Owners - Are you interested in getting your business name out to the TCHS community? Consider placing an advertisement in our first ever TCHS Yearbook! Your ad is tax deductible and goes to helping students learn journalism and photography. Please review the link for more information <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:b4d9cd4e-1ef0-4790-8298-0c9cf3fbe856> or contact shannon.welch@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Early Student Dismissal – Please review HOW TO CHECK YOUR STUDENT OUT EARLY

- Students are not to be picked up/checked out after 3:00 pm on M,T,TH,F and not after 2:00 pm on Wednesdays unless a Pre-Dismissal Form has been completed.
- **Completing the EARLY DISMISSAL FORM allows your student and teacher to be informed of the need for check-out AND makes the process fast and easy for all parents (especially when in a hurry) IMPORTANT – If you do not use the EARLY DISMISSAL FORM, then there will be a delay (at times 10-15 minutes) in getting your student from class.**
- **Dismissal at Lunch**- If you need to check your child out during their lunch time please be patient. You are welcome to text your student upon arrival to the school to help speed up the process. Please know that you will still need to come into the school to sign out your child and show proper identification.

If you have any questions about attendance, please use the link below.

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

Free Tutoring - National Honor Society tutoring is available during Toro Time beginning Nov. 17th, after school Wednesdays, and before school Thursdays.

Parent drop-off/pick-up - Locations will be shifting **on Monday, November 29th** to the middle of Buildings 1 and 5 as soon as our awnings and student entrance gates are installed. When this occurs, students will use this entry point (gates will open at 7:45am) when getting dropped off/picked up, waiting areas for loading/unloading will occur in front of the gym and the front doors of the school will be no longer be used during these times. We ask for your patience and understanding while this portion of our school opens, students learn new pathways and drivers learn new protocols. As always, cellphones should be off/not used while entering the drop-off/pick-up loop to allow for 100% focus on student and driver safety.

Save the Date

- Dec. 8th Winter Holiday Arts Spectacular 5:30pm-8:00pm @ TCHS
- Dec. 11th Midterms Begin [2021 Midterm Exam Schedule](#)
- Dec. 15 General Arts Booster Meeting 7:00 – 7:30 pm in the Hub
- Dec 16-21st Midterm Testing
- April 9th Sophomore/Junior Prom

Toro Week at a Glance

Monday 11-22

Tuesday 11-23

Toys for Tots – Free Admission into Basketball Game with Toy

Wednesday 11-24

Thanksgiving Holiday – No School

Thursday 11-25

Thanksgiving Holiday – No School

Friday 11-26

Thanksgiving Holiday – No School

Athletics Calendar

22	November, Monday	5:30 PM	Soccer, Girls	JV	Ponte Vedra	Toro Stadium	Non-District
22	November, Monday	6:00 PM	Basketball, Girls	VR	Middleburg	TCHS Gymnasium	Non-District
22	November, Monday	7:20 PM	Soccer, Girls	VR	Ponte Vedra	Toro Stadium	Non-District
23	November, Tuesday	5:30 PM	Soccer, Boys	JV	Palatka	TCHS Softball Complex	Non-District
23	November, Tuesday	6:00 PM	Basketball, Boys	JV	Interlachen		Non-District
23	November, Tuesday	6:30 PM	Basketball, Girls	VR	North Florida Educational (Jacksonville)		Non-District
23	November, Tuesday	7:20 PM	Soccer, Boys	VR	Palatka	TCHS Softball Complex	Non-District
23	November, Tuesday	7:30 PM	Basketball, Boys	VR	Interlachen		Non-District

Please review the following information and weekly reminders:

Picture Retakes - Leonard's was on campus November 15th for picture makeups/retakes. To order or view pictures, please use the following link

<https://new.leonards.com/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=/Codes.aspx>

Access code: C559724

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.

Yearbooks – TCHS Yearbooks are on sale! Order your inaugural yearbook at discounted pricing before we sell out.

- **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

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.

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.

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

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

PE Uniforms – **Our PE Department is in contact with Baker Sporting Goods to work through unexpected supply chain challenges.** 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 REQUIRED to use their digital/hard ID when checking out to assist with line movement.



Student Life

TCHS Arts News



Please see the attached for membership information and Arts Account registration [Click Here for Document](#)

Dec 8th Winter Arts Spectacular and Community Event

Dec. 15 General Arts Booster Meeting 7:00 – 7:30 pm in the Hub

Please follow us on Facebook @ Tocoi Creek Arts

Would you like to learn more about becoming a sponsor for your Toro Arts Programs? Please see the attached [sponsorship letter and form](#) .

Would you like to purchase ad space in the All Arts “One Toro” Playbill. Please complete the attached form along with your payment. This can be dropped off for Mrs. Lay at the front office, or with your student’s Arts teacher. [Play Bill Sponsorship Form](#)

<https://www-tchs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/arts/> You can reach us by emailing: TocoiArtsBooster@yahoo.com.

Happenings at The Hub

The Hub Hours:

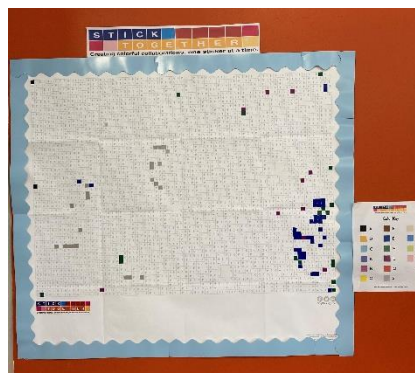
Did you know The Hub has open access? That means students can visit The Hub ANYTIME during the school day, with teacher permission! The Hub is also open for students before school beginning at 8:45, after school with varying hours, and during lunch, with no permission needed. Students are encouraged to stop by anytime they need a book, research help, technology troubleshooting, or even just to see a friendly face.

Battle of the Books Club:

The Battle of the Books club is forming. Students in this club will read the 2021-2022 Florida Teens Read books. The club will meet with other high school students in the county to discuss the books and compete, answering questions about the books. Students interesting in participating in the Battle of the Books club should see Ms. Badger, in The Hub. In order to participate students must read at least 1 of this year’s Florida Teens Read titles. The list of books and more information about Florida Teens Read can be found at [Florida Teens Read - FAME: FLORIDA ASSOCIATION FOR MEDIA IN EDUCATION \(floridamediaed.org\)](http://FloridaTeensRead-FAME:FLORIDAASSOCIATIONFORMEDIAINEDUCATION.floridamediaed.org)

Sticker Mosaic:

We have a new activity taking place in The Hub. It is a collaborative sticker mosaic! Students will receive a sticker for the mosaic for each book they checkout. They put the sticker on the mosaic to help complete the picture. It will take about 3000 stickers (book checkouts) to complete the mosaic. How soon can we get the picture completed and what will it be?



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.

School Advisory Council

Our second School Advisory Meeting (SAC) will be held on the first Tuesday of each month, in the TCHS Media Center “The Hub”.

Date: 12-7-21

Time: 8:10 AM

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

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

Guidance Corner

The School Counseling Department is excited to welcome a third counselor to our team! Mrs. Blount will be taking over students with the last names A-G. Mrs. Gibbs will shift her caseload slightly and take over working with students with the last names H-N. Mrs. Smith will continue working with students with the last names O-Z. All of the counselors contact information and appointments links are listed on the TCHS School Counseling website here: <https://www-tchs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/>

Students interested in Dual Enrollment should plan to attend our upcoming Dual Enrollment information sessions. Interested students are encouraged to check out the Dual Enrollment section of our website (<https://www-tchs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/dual-enrollment/>) prior to signing up. Student planning to attend the assembly should sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/r/4ScU9T5yXB>

Rachel Blount’s Tocoï Introduction:

Hi, my name is Rachel Blount and I joined TCHS on 10/18. I absolutely love it here! I have been a School Counselor for 7 years. Most recently I was at Gamble Rogers Middle School, here in St. Augustine. Before that I was at Gruening Middle in Eagle River, Alaska. I lived in Alaska for 27 years, and in North Carolina for 12. I moved to St. Augustine in 2019 and am looking forward to making Florida home. The winters here are the best! I have a 5-year-old daughter named Amina, and 4 stepchildren: three boys and one girl. Along with the two dogs and cat, it's kind of like the Brady Bunch in my home.

I look forward to meeting you all and being a Toro!

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

TCHS Café News

SJCSD Families,

Please be reminded that beginning Wednesday, December 1, 2021 Meal Prices will be:

		Breakfast	Lunch
Elementary:	Paid	\$1.25	\$2.80
	Reduced	\$0.30	0.40
Middle/High:	Paid	\$1.25	\$2.95
	Reduced	\$0.30	\$0.40

Prepayments into student lunch accounts can be made by using PayPAMS. The link to this service is located at <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/food/paypams/>

Online and printable Free/Reduced lunch applications can be located at <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/food/free/>

Sean Prevatt, RD, LD, SNS

Food & Nutrition Services

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