# THE BULL PEN

#### Tocoi Creek High School Weekly Newsletter



#### Toro Nation,

It's OFFICIAL...TCHS now has the following social media accounts for you to get all your Toro News! Please like or follow the links below to stay connected:

- <u>Instagram</u>
- <u>Facebook</u>
- <u>Twitter</u>

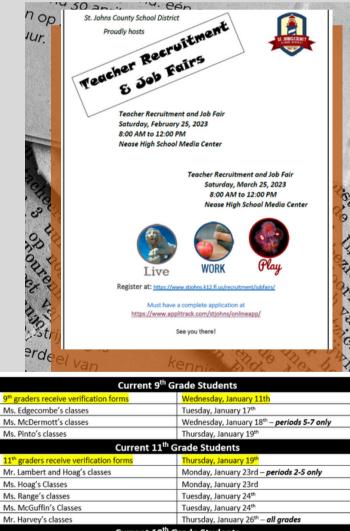
Please use the email for the Bull Pen to link to our pages! These links can also be found on the bottom of our school web page.

#### Here Comes Scheduling Season!

Tocoi Creek High School will be hosting their rising 9th Grade & Academy Night Open House on Wednesday January 18th from 6:00pm- 7:30pm. A registration FAQ presentation for rising 9th graders will start at 5:30 in the auditorium. At 6pm, all academy instructors are ready to invite you into their classrooms to learn more about their programs. A registration area and Q&A table will be available to assist families with the application process. Further information can be found here: https://wwwtchs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Map-for-Academy-Night-22-23.pdf

For all current TCHS grade level students, please review the attached schedule for specific grade level dates/teachers.





Current 10	0 <sup>m</sup> Grade Students	100
10 <sup>th</sup> graders receive verification forms t	Thursday, February 9th	100
Ms. Porcellini's Classes	Monday, February 13th	
Mr. Lambert's Classes	Monday, February 13th- periods 6-7 only	e
Ms Gauthier's Classes	Tuesday, February 14th	-
Ms. Cassano's Classes	Tuesday, February 14th	-1
Ms. Thomas' Classes	Friday, February 17th	
Ms. Thomas' Classes	Friday, February 17th	

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## **IMPORTANT DATES**

# TORO WEEK

Mon., Jan. 1	6th- No School (MLK Jr Day)		
Tues., Jan. 1	7th- FAST PM2 Testing Makeups	FAST PM2 Testing Makeups	
<b>Wed., Jan.</b> 1	8th- Report Cards Posted		
	TCHS Academy Night		
Thurs., Jan.	19th - Theater Parent Meeting @ 6	Theater Parent Meeting @ 6:30	
Fri., Jan. 20t	th- Character Chats	Character Chats	
Sat., Jan. 21s	st- HOSA Regional Competition	n	

## SAVE THE DATE

- FEBRUARY 6TH: HURRI
- FEBRUARY 10TH:

HURRICANE NICOLE MAKE-UP DAY (NO LONGER TEACHER INSERVICE) SPRING QUEEN OF HEARTS DANCE - <u>TICKET INFO COMING 1/20/23</u> SENIOR CAMPOUT

- MARCH 3-4TH: SENIO
- MARCH 29TH:
- APRIL 21ST:
- APRIL 22ND:
- MAY 23RD:
- TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND CAREER FAIR
- SENIOR/JUNIOR PROM @ THE RIVERHOUSE IN ST. AUGUSTINE
- SENIOR GRAD BASH @ UNIVERSAL STUDIOS
- **GRADUATION @ THE AMP (ST. AUGUSTINE AMPHITHEATER) 7:00PM**

# TORO ATHLETICS

Monday, 1/16/23 @ 5:30PM Basketball- Girls vs Vero Beach @ Vero Beach HS Tuesday, 1/17/23 @ 5:30/7:20PM Soccer-Girls vs Wolfson @ TCHS Tuesday, 1/17/23 @ 5:30/7:20PM Soccer- Boys vs Pedro Menendez @ PMHS Tuesday, 1/17/23 @ 6/7:30PM Basketball- Boys vs Episcopal @ Episcopal Tuesday, 1/17/23 @ 6:30PM Wrestling vs Ponte Vedra @ TCHS Tuesday, 1/17/23 @ TBA Basketball- Girls vs Sebastian @ Sebastian HS Wednesday, 1/18/23 @ 6PM Weightlifting- Girls vs Orange Park @ TCHS Thursday, 1/19/23 @ 6/7:30PM Basketball- Boys vs Bolles @ Bolles Thursday, 1/19/23 @ 5:30/7:20PM Soccer- Boys vs Bartram Trail @ TCHS Friday, 1/20/23 @ 5:30/7:20PM Soccer- Girls vs Seabreeze @ Seabreeze HS Friday, 1/20/23 @ 6/7:30PM Basketball- Girls vs Clay @ TCHS

## **COLLEGE PLANNING INFO**

## **SENIOR CHECKLIST:**



It's an exciting time for seniors! Applications should be submitted and decisions rolling in. Now is the time to enjoy the fruits of your labor and make sure all of the boxes are checked before graduation.

- College Admissions
  - Set up school based portal and confirm that all documents were received.
  - Receive admissions decision.
  - Follow enrollment steps (pay admissions deposit, submit residency documentation, signup for housing, meal plans, orientation, etc.)
- Apply for Financial Aid
  - Complete the FAFSA
- Apply for Bright Futures
  - Confirm that community service hours have been turned in to school counselor.
  - Send SAT/ACT scores to a Florida State University



#### **Seniors**:

- Bright Futures
- FAFSA (Financial ACT Practice Test Aid)
- Naviance Help

#### Juniors:

- ACT Test Prep
- ACT Phone App
- SAT Practice
- ACT/SAT Practice

## **UNIORS:**

The spring of junior year is one of the most critical in the college application process. Here are some things that you should be checking off your list:

- Take the ACT and/or SAT (All juniors will automatically be registered to take the ACT on March 28th at TCHS)
- Complete the "Find your Fit" activity in Naviance to narrow down your college list.
- Schedule college visits at schools that you are interested in.
- Finish junior year strong and select rigorous courses for senior year.

## **ALL GRADES:**

Make your plans with our helpful step by step Academic Handbook

How to choose ACT or SAT? How to Register? Information on pages 11 & 12 of the Academic Handbook

#### **Appointment with Guidance Links:**

#### **Rachel Blount**

D'Erica Gibbs

Linda Smith

<u>Elizabeth Wright</u>

# COLLEGE PLANNING INFO



#### Don't let finances be a barrier!

Each year, millions of financial aid dollars go unclaimed. This event provides qualified students with assistance in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is the first and most important step in applying for financial aid.

Potential students who intend to enroll in college during the 2023-24 academic year can increase their chances of receiving financial aid by applying early and meeting deadlines.

#### Join us to receive personalized assistance!

#### Monday, February 6

Palatka Campus Viking Center 6 - 8 P.M. Tuesday, Febraury 7

Orange Park Campus T Building 6-8 P.M.

#### Thursday, Febraury 9

St. Augustine Campus H Building 6 - 8 P.M.

#### To complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you will need:

Last session begins at 7:30 P.M.

- Your Social Security Number
- Your Driver's License Number
- Your Alien Registration Number (if you are not a U.S. citizen)
- 2021 federal income tax returns, applicable schedules, W-2s, and other records of money earned.
   (Note: You may be able to transfer your federal tax return)
- information to your FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.)
- Students can base their financial information on the previous year's tax return.
- Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable)
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable)
- An FSA ID to sign electronically (Can be completed online during the event)

If you are a dependent student, then you will also need the above information from your parent(s).



#### SJRstate.edu

SJR STATE COLLEGE NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT: St. Johns River State College, an equal access institution, prohibits discrimination in its employment, programs, activities, policies and procedures based on race, sex, gender, gender identity, age, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, pregnancy, sexual orientation, marital status, genetic information or veteran status. Questions pertaining to education equity, equal access or equal opportunity should be addressed to the College Title IX Coordinator/Equity Officer: Charles Romer, Room A0173, 5001 St. Johns Avenue, Palatka, FL 32177; (386) 312-4074; CharlesRomer@sijrstate, edu. Anonymous reporting is available at SJRstate.edu/report. Inquiries/complaints can be filed with the Title IX Coordinator/Equity Officer online, in person, via mail, via email or with the US Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, Atlanta Office, 61 Forsyth St. SW Suite 19T10, Atlanta, GA 30303-8927.

# GUIDANCE INFORMATION

#### **Technical College and Career Fair:**

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Tocoi Creek High School is hosting our first Technical College and Career Fair on March 29th from 9:20-2:50, and we are hoping that you are interested in participating. Our goal is to showcase careers for our traditionally non-college bound students. We would like to highlight Associate Degrees, Technical Certificates, Workforce Certificates, Apprenticeship Programs, careers that do not require a college degree, etc. We will run large groups of targeted students through the fair to meet with you and make it worth your while.

If you are a parent who is part of a program that would be interested in coming, please complete this survey link so that we can plan for you: <u>Registration Link</u>

As we get closer to the event, we will send out additional details for those that would like to attend the event as participants and vendors. Please make sure that any vendors who needs this information gets on the mailing list by completing the link above. St. Johns County School District requires that anyone on our campus during school hours complete a background check for the safety and security of our students. Anyone that plans to attend our Technical College and Career Fair should complete an <u>application</u>

#### VIRTUAL INFO SESSION

## 2023 Dual & Secondary Enrollment

Log on to learn about hands-on programs & how to apply for credits and certifications...it's simple.

Thursday, February 9th at 6 PM



Students who participate in the free and/or reduced lunch program are eligible for a standardized test waiver. Please see your school counselor for additional information.

> First Coast Technical College Your Future Comes First

## **INFOSession**

HOW TO ATTEND COLLEGE WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL AND GAIN INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

for High School Dual Enrollment, Secondary Electives and Early Career

#### **MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023**

AT 6 PM CULINARY THEATRE BUILDING C

> LEARN HOW TO APPLY MEET OUR STAFF VISIT YOUR CHOSEN PROGRAM

RSVP not required

FOR MORE INFO RECRUITER@FCTC.EDU

Please use the following contact points for your scheduling or registration needs: Registration, Schedule Questions, Schedule a Date/Time with a Counselor: o Kim Tabala - (904) 547 - 4278 Home Access Center (HAC), Registration Questions o Marvin Jenkins - (904) 547 - 4275

## Who is my counselor?

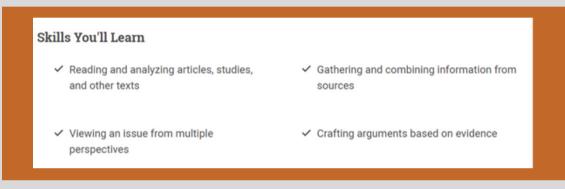
<u>Elizabeth Wright</u> - 9th and 10th last names A-L <u>Rachel Blount</u> - 9th and 10th last names M-Z <u>D'Erica Gibbs</u> - 11th and 12th last names A-L <u>Linda Smith</u> - 11th and 12th last names M-Z



## **ATTENTION RISING 11TH STUDENTS AND PARENTS:**

Do you want your student to have an extra edge when applying to colleges? Do you want your student to learn critical thinking, presentation and evaluation skills to help them in any academic course? Consider encouraging your student to take AP Seminar!

In AP Seminar, students develop and practice the skills in research, collaboration, and communication that they will need in any academic discipline. Students investigate topics in a variety of subject areas, write research-based essays, and design and give presentations both individually and as part of a team.



Tocoi Creek High School is unique because we offer the AP Capstone program. Through this program, you can earn either the AP Capstone Diploma<sup>™</sup> or the AP Seminar and Research Certificate<sup>™</sup>. When your student applies to college, they can denote these awards through the application process. Earning a Capstone Diploma makes students extremely competitive in the application process.

AP Capstone Awards are listed on AP score reports, and students who earn the diploma or certificate can view and print their award certificate from their online account. Awards are also included on any AP score report sent to colleges. Here are the requirements to earn an AP Capstone award:

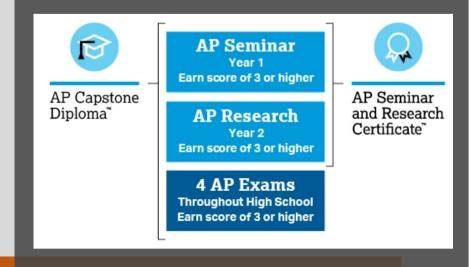
- The AP Capstone Diploma is granted to students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on 4 additional AP Exams of their choosing.
- The AP Seminar and Research Certificate is granted to students who earn scores of 3 or higher in both AP Seminar and AP Research.

This diagram (to the right) illustrates the requirements of each award:

If you believe your student would be interested in this course, please have them discuss this with their counselor during registration!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me:

Megan Young megan.young@stjohns.k12.fl.us



#### **Upcoming Events**:

- Jan. 14- First Tech Challenge Robotics Meet
- Jan 16- Deadline to Apply for the Citi Women in IT internship. See the January newsletter for more information
- Jan. 18- <u>TCHS Academy Night</u> (open-house for current and rising 9th graders)
- Jan 18- Guest Speaker- Fleet Readiness- Paid apprenticeship opportunity for all interested seniors- Presentation during Toro Time in room 01-020 (see flyer below)
- January 21st- HOSA Regional Competition
- Jan. 31- Academy Application window closes in HAC at 5pm
- January 31st- Summer internship application deadline (academy juniors)



This formal training program combines academics, trade theory, and on-the job experience with the vicinary opaid of becoming a pitrary level mechanic in various trades. All academic fullion and book expenses are paid by trand nur apprentibles recieve promotons every 26 weeks upon successful completion of program requirements. Come join the Navy's finest depot!

Start a rewarding career serving your country while earning college credits tuition free!

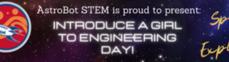
This is work/study program has a starting salary of \$15.95 or \$1200 per hour with potential wage increases every 26 weeks. Upon completion of the apprenticeship program, graduates will earn \$24.51 per hour or more. Skills will be learned through a combination of on-the-job learning and classroom uuraes of instruction.

Apprenticeships are available for: Aircraft Electrician - Electronics Mechanic Sheet Metal Mechanic - Painter Aircraft Engine Mechanic

#### Now accepting applications for 20231

Multi-Trade : https://www.usajobs.gov/job/691326200 Painters: https:https://www.usajobs.gov/job/622579200

FRCSE\_Apprentice\_Info@navy.mil 👎 frcsejax 🙆 frcsoutheast in frcsoutheast



January 21, 2023 EST In Person Event for Girls in Grades 7-12.

11 am- 3pm at Creekside High School with Creekside SWE Next and Creekside Robotics



Students in the Academy of Innovation in the Built Environment started work on the senior courtyard. Next week they will start building the 10x12 shed.

## TCHS CAREER ACADEMIES





Students in the Academy of Leadership in Emerging Technologies were able to get their hands on an industrial robot, courtesy of Roots Education.

Allied Health students in the Flagler Health + Academy of Future Healthcare Professionals went through their orientation and are ready to start clinical rotations next week!



Be sure to check out the new January edition of the <u>Academy Newsletter</u> to see everything your students are working on in the career academies. Important dates for joining a career academy (current and rising 9th graders) are included.

www.astrobotstem.org/events

## **STUDENT LIFE**

## ORDER A YEARBOOK!

THERE ARE STILL 200 COPIES OF THE 2022-2023 TCHS YEARBOOK LEFT! <u>CLICK HERE</u> TO PURCHASE FOR \$95. PRICE INCREASES TO \$100 ON FEB. 15TH.

## TC ARTS GEAR

TC ARTS BOOSTERS HAVE OPENED ANOTHER MERCHANDISE SHOP BASED ON THE DIGITAL ART SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST. A SPECIAL THANK YOU GOES OUT TO MRS. POST AND THE TWO FINALISTS, JANESSA MELENDEZ-FRONT OF T-SHIRT TC ARTS LOGO DESIGN AND VEE VORONTOSOVA- BACK OF T-SHIRT DESIGN. THEIR DESIGNS WERE COMBINED TO CREATE WHAT YOU SEE ON THE ONLINE STORE. ORDER HERE USING THE SALE CODE: FESP8

## NEW CLUB!

Holocaust History Club is a new student club at TCHS that promotes Holocaust Awareness and fights against Antisemitism. The primary purpose of this club is to enrich student's knowledge of the event, as well as to raise money for a yearly trip to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. After Winter Break, this club will meet weekly with Mr. Lankford in Rm 04-215 on Thursdays at 8:45 AM. Any student looking to join can contact Mr. Lankford at jake.lankford@stjohns.k12.fl.us



#### TUTORING

WEDNESDAYS DURING TORO TIME IN THE CAFETERIA

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR INDIVIDUAL TUTORING BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL



TUTORING PROVIDED BY. ATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY MEMBERS.

#### Need help in Math?? Want to bring up your grade before the end of the guarter?

Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society) is offering free

tutoring after school on Monday the 19th!

Bring your schoolwork, test review, remediation, etc. and get help!

Use the QR code below to sign up! Space is limited!!



## **SENIOR INFORMATION**

Attention SENIORS: spots are filling up for senior campout! This event is only open to the 1st 100 seniors, so move fast and get registered before spots run out. See Mr. Cabrera (2-017) for forms and event information.



#### GradBash

GradBash is a special ticketed event for seniors at Universal Studios. Seniors cannot use an annual pass for access to this event or drive themselves. All GradBash spots have been reserved, but we do offer a waiting list if spaces open up or a student who planned to go would like to sell their ticket. If we reach you on the waiting list, a senior sponsor will contact you with information on making a deposit, paying in full, or completing a transfer with another senior. You will have a limited amount of time to respond before we remove you from the waiting list and go to the next person on the list. You MUST have paid your senior dues to keep your spot in line on the waiting list. <u>Click Here</u> to join the Waiting List.

Helpful Links for Seniors: <u>FAFSA (Financial Aid)</u>

<u>Naviance Help</u>

<u>Senior Guidance Page</u> <u>Senior Info on TCHS Webpage</u> <u>Senior Dates/Deadlines</u>





# happenings d

## SNOW MANY BOOKS Instructions

Pick a wrapped book based on the clues.

 Bring your wrapped book to the checkout desk.

3. The book will be checked out to you and you will get a rating form.

4. Unwrap the book to see what awesome title you got.

5. Read the book.

6. Fill out the rating form and return it for a prize.
7. Repeat as many times as you'd like!

We have a new motivational reading activity taking place for the next few weeks in The Hub called "Snow Many Books." All students and staff are encouraged to participate!



## GENERAL SCHOOL INFO

## **UPCOMING TESTING DATES:**

- FAST Make-Ups: Jan. 17th
- Winter District Exam Make-Ups: Jan. 24th
- FSA/Alg. 1 Retake Window: Feb. 21st-March 9th

For more testing dates <u>click here</u>!

For more info on FAST Testing <u>Click Here</u>!



## Helpful Links:

**TCHS Yearbook** 

Lunch Applications

SJCSD Dress Code

**TCHS Clubs** 

<u>Absences and Early</u> <u>Dismissal</u>

Athletic Games Pass

<u>Cafeteria</u>

<u>Schoology</u>



## SAC MEETING

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH @ 8:10AM IN MR. CABRERA'S ROOM, BUIDLING 2

Want to get involved? Contact Mr. Joany Cabrera, SAC President, at <u>Joany.cabrera@stjohns.k12.fl.us</u> or 904-547-4260 ext. 8244

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT



- Interested in joining or donating to PTSO? • <u>Our Website</u>
  - Our FB Group
  - Our FB Page
  - <u>Our Email</u>

Join the Athletics Booster to hep with:

- Facility improvement
   Projects
- Fundraising
- Concession Stand
- Promoting the School If interested, contact: jeff.holland@stjohns.k12.fl.us



Please join us in supporting the fine arts at Tocoi Creek High School. The vision of the One Toro Arts Booster Organization is to ensure that ALL students at Tocoi Creek High School benefit from the collaborative support of our parent, community, and booster organization. Membership benefits includes two <u>tickets to the All-Arts Showcase, two</u> tickets to one theatre production of vour choice and a TC arts car decal. lt's worth it to join just for those benefits! You can join the <u>One Toro</u> Arts Booster Organization and follow us on Facebook

@OneToroArtsBoosters



## TCHS SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for information on how to document community service hours? How about existing opportunities available for all students? Please <u>click here</u> for the most up to date information from our Student Services Department. Horns Up!

"This country will not be a good place for any of us to live in unless we make it a good place for all of us to live in."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT



Join the CHARACTER COUNTS! Steering Committee for its 10th Annual CHARACTER COUNTS! 6K/3K Run/Walk on Saturday, February 4, 2023, at 9 a.m. and help us celebrate "10 Years Running!" The run/walk will begin and end at Palencia Elementary School, located at 355 Palencia Village Drive, St. Augustine.

Walkers and runners will enjoy a course running through the neighborhoods of Kensington and Las Calinas and can choose to participate in the 6K (3.73 miles) or 3K (1.86 miles) distance.

Registration fees are as follows:

6K: \$30 before January 1	\$35 January 1-February 2	\$40 on race day
3K: \$25 before January 1	\$30 January 1-February 2	\$35 on race day

Registration forms and more information are available online at https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/StAugustine/CHARACTERCOUNTSinStJohnsCountySixPillars <u>6K3KRunWalk</u>

Race proceeds support CHARACTER COUNTS! initiatives throughout the St. Johns County School District (SJCSD). The run/walk is open to all ages, and the top three winners will be awarded in each of the age categories as well as the overall male and female finishers. A cash donation will be awarded to the top three to five schools with the most registrants. In 2021, these schools were Otis A. Mason Elementary School, Pine Island Academy, Valley Ridge Academy, Ocean Palms Elementary School and Durbin Creek Elementary School. All racers registered by January 6 will receive a t-shirt and other giveaways from area businesses and organizations. At the finish line, each race participant will receive a finisher's medal.

This event is produced by the CHARACTER COUNTS! Steering Committee and is presented by Beaver Toyota with support from businesses and community groups. Action News Jax CBS47/FOX30 is the official media sponsor of this run/walk.





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