THE BULL PEN

Toro Nation,

Tocoi Creek High School Weekly Newsletter

A fun week was had at TCHS with our Toros enjoying all the HOCO 23 activities and theme days. We welcome our FIRST Homecoming Toros back to TCHS, a first for our school! We hope to see you at the game and are excited for the 1368 dance attendees to boogie the night away on Saturday!

TCHS Homecoming "A Royal Affair" September 23, 2023 7:00pm-9:30pm

<u>Dress Code</u>: Semi-Formal, clear bags only (school dress code, no jeans, no costumes)

<u>Behavior Expectations</u>: All students will be held to the St. Johns County Code of Conduct for all school related events.

Parking: Any open parking spot

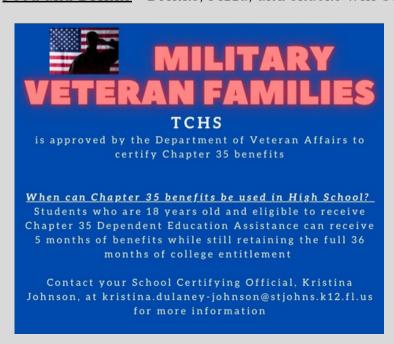
<u>Parent Drop-Off - Parents will enter the bus loop to drop-off/pick-up under the covered awnings</u>

<u>Security:</u> In addition to all administration and deans, TCHS will have 4 St. Johns County Sheiriff's Officers and 1 PSA to provide security and traffic assistance. ALL students entering will be screened by wand, bags inspected, and will need to show school ID with their Go Fan Ticket.

<u>Traffic:</u> Expect long lines, arrive early, encourage your Toros to meet you in the parking lot instead of waiting in line, drop-off/pick-up will be in the bus loop

Re-Entry - Once students are inside the dance, they may NOT exit to go to their vehicle. Once a student exits the event, they cannot return

Food and Drinks - Drinks, Pizza, and snacks will be provided at the event



PSAT Date is Wednesday, October 11th for all 10th graders and registered 11th graders. Students not testing will have a digital learning day at home. All students will be given an assignment from their teacher that will be submitted. If students not taking the PSAT come to school, they will complete assignments in a study hall in the cafeteria. If you would like your child to leave after testing at 12:45pm on October 11th, an early release form must be submitted and printed by October 11th for your child to leave campus. You can submit and print the form linked here.

IMPORTANT DATES

BACK TO SCHOOL

Monday, Sept. 25th-

Pickup Graduation Orders during Lunches

Tuesday, Sept. 26th-

Guiding Coalition 8:30 am Ms. Adair's Room

Wednesday, Sept. 27th- Junior Ring Presentation During Toro Time

Thursday, Sept. 28th-

Friday, Sept. 29th-

Last Day for Yearbooks sales at \$80 price.

SAVE THE DATE

SCHOOL PICTURES (HARD IDS ISSUED AFTER PICTURES) OCTOBER 3RD

Alg. 1 EOC Retakes

PSAT FOR ALL 10TH GRADERS (11TH GRADE PAID TESTS ONLY) OCTOBER 11TH

ALL OTHER STUDENTS WILL HAVE A DIGITAL LEARNING DAY AT HOME

APRIL 12TH: SENIOR GRADBASH @ UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

• APRIL 18TH: **JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM @ WGV RENAISSANCE RESORT (1000 TICKETS)**

GRADUATION AT THE ST. AUGUSTINE AMPHITHEATER @ 7PM • MAY 20TH:

TORO ATHLETICS

Mon., Sept. 25th @ 5:30/6:30pm Girls Volleyball vs Fleming Island HS @ TCHS Mon., Sept. 25th @ 6PM Football (JV) vs Oakleaf HS @ TCHS

Tues., Sept. 26th @ 5PM Swim/Dive vs Fleming Island HS @ Silverleaf Pool Tues., Sept. 26th @ 6/7PM Girls Volleyball vs Mandarin HS @ Mandarin HS

Wed., Sept. 27th @ 9am Boys & Girls Golf vs Creekside @ Deerwood

Thurs., Sept. 28th @ 4:30pm Girls Golf vs St. Augustine @ Slammer & Squire

Thurs., Sept. 28th @ TBA Boys Golf vs Nease @ St. Johns Golf Club

Thurs., Sept. 28th @ 5PM Swim/Dive vs Pedro Menendez @ Silverleaf Pool

Thurs., Sept. 28th @ 5:30/6:30PM Girls Volleyball vs Spruce Creek HS @ TCHS

Thurs., Sept. 28th @ 6pm JV Football v. Palatka HS @ Palatka HS

Fri., Sept. 29th @ 7pm Varsity Football v. Palatka HS @ TCHS

Fri. & Sat., Sept. 29-30th @ 6am Cross Country Pre-State @ Florida State University



PURCHASE A YEARBOOK!

YEARBOOKS ARE ON SALE NOW!! The TCHS 2023-2024 yearbook is on sale.
This is the last week to get one for \$80!!

To order, visit

<u>www.buytheyearbook.com</u> and enter in school id 715033. Yearbooks sold out last year, so please order early to guarantee that you will receive one.



CONTACT MR. CABRERA 2-017 FOR MORE INFO







NEW CLUB!

The 1st ever National Arts Honor Society is now forming for Tocoi Creek High. Please scan the QR to fill out the google form. Acceptance letters will be sent out after October 1st. Stop by or email Mrs. S. Smith with any questions, rm 2-016.



SENIOR INFORMATION

SENIOR DATES:

- April 12th: GradBash @ Universal Studios
- April 18th: Prom @ WGV Renaissance Resort
- May 20th: Graduation at St. Augustine Amphitheater







SENIOR TO-DO LIST:

- By October 21st: Order your Cap and Gown
- By December 1st: Order Senior Ads for Yearbook
- By December 1st: Pay Senior Dues: \$100
- By January 15th or until full: Pay Grad Bash Deposit 1: \$125.00 (Limited spots- please reserve early to guarantee a seat.) **must pay senior dues first

Yearbook ads for seniors are now open until sold out. To order an ad for your senior, please visit www.buytheyearbook.com and enter in school id 715033. There are a limited number of senior ad spaces available, and spaces will sell out.



We are here to help!

College Application/ Naviance Help Sessions

Where: 04-007 When: Sept. 13 and 20th during Toro Time!



FAFSA Parent Night



Coming in January!

The NEW FAFSA will open in December this year. Stay tuned for more information!

Complete your Bright Futures Application!

Where: 04-007

When: Oct. 4th and 18th during Toro Time!

Fall Tasks for Seniors

- Complete your college applications (deadlines are as early as October 15th!)
- Requests transcripts in Naviance if needed
- Complete your Bright Futures application (after October 1 and before the semester ends)







2023 FALL IN-PERSON

NACAC National College Fair –

Jacksonville

Saturday, September 23

9 a.m.-1 p.m.

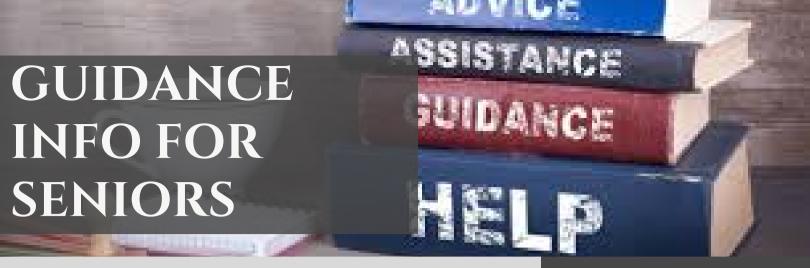
Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center (Jacksonville, FL)



National College Fairs



REGISTER NOW! nacacattend.org/fairs



Seniors!! Welcome to your senior year!

Believe it or not, it is time for you to decide where you want to apply to college!

Your counselors will be meeting with all the State of Florida Admissions Directors on September 7th to get updates on this year's admissions process. Afterwards, we will start calling in seniors individually to go over their graduation requirements and postsecondary plans.

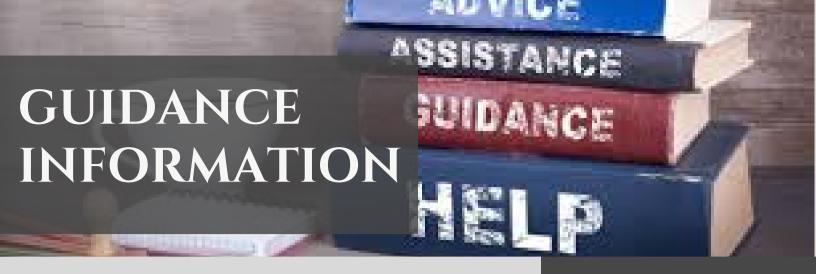
In the meantime, we have some great resources available for you on the website:

- Our Academic Handbook (good for all grade levels!)
- Information about SAT/ACT
- How to use Naviance to "Find your Fit" at the right school for you.
- How to request hard copy transcripts, electronic transcripts, match your Common App account to Naviance, and knowing which schools require self-reporting and how to complete the self-report
- We will talk more about <u>Bright Futures</u> and <u>Financial Aid</u> later in the school year, but feel free to get a head start here

Upcoming College Visits:

- Sept. 21st- Florida
 Atlantic University 10am- Hub
- <u>Sept. 26th</u>- Johns Hopkins University-2:00pm
- Oct. 3rd Florida
 Southern College
- Oct. 11th Jacksonville
 University

Sign up in the 1st floor guidance office to participate!



School Counselors attended our annual training with the State University Admission Directors, ACT/SAT/CLT representatives, and the Department of Education last week. There are a lot of updates this year that we are anxious to share with you and your students.

We will be dispersing this information in the following ways:

Individual Senior Meetings: Counselors will meet with every senior individually. The counselors will discuss graduation requirements and post-secondary planning with each student. These appointments are time consuming and will take the remainder of the nine weeks to complete so please be patient as your student waits for their turn. On campus students will receive a pass delivered by the guidance intern to one of their classes. Off campus students will be contacted to schedule an in person or virtual meeting.

Classroom Guidance:

School counselors will be visiting 9th and 10th grade English classes during the weeks of September 25th and October 2nd. A copy of the presentation will be posted on the school counseling webpage after the presentations. School counselors will be visiting 11th grade English classes during the week of October 17th. A copy of the presentation will be posted on the school counseling webpage after the presentation.

Who is my Counselor?

- Elizabeth Wright:
 - Early College Students & Last Name A
- Artina Coma:
 - Last Names B-Dh
- Laura Kuhel:
 - Last Names Di-I
- Alyssa Socket:
 - Last Names J-Ml
- Rachel Blount:
 - Last Names Mo-Sa
- Linda Smith:
 - Last Names Sc-Z

Website: The following sections of the website have received significant updates:

<u>Bright Futures</u>- Includes updated Bright Futures test score requirements for the class of 2024 and 2025. In addition, it specifies that community service hours and paid service hours can now be combined to reach the 100 hour requirement. Bright Futures has also extended the deadline to submit standardized test scores to the August 31st after graduation!

<u>Testing for College</u>- Includes an introduction to the Classic Learning Test (CLT) which is an online exam that can be taken from home and used for Bright Futures, College Admissions, and to meet high school graduation testing requirements! There is also additional information about the ACT, PERT, PSAT, and SAT exams.

<u>Graduation Requirements</u> - Includes notification that the on-line course requirement has been removed as a graduation requirement for all grade levels as well as NEW graduation requirements for students entering high school in the 23-24 school year and beyond.

<u>Counselor Videos</u>- Includes an updated Toro Academic Handbook which walks students 8-12th grade through navigating the high school and post-secondary process. It also has updated guides for both the Florida Private Schools and Florida State Universities which includes average accepted GPA's and test scores all in one place!

TOCOI CREEK HIGH SCHOOL



CAREER ACADEMIES

MEET YOUR ACADEMY TEACHERS





ACADEMY OF
Innovation in the
Built Environment
TOCOL CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

Special thank you to STG Contracting for the supply donation towards Built Environment levels 1-4 projects





UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 10- Health Science trip to University of St. Augustine
- October 24- Project Innovation School Competition
- November 7- Project Innovation District Competition

From left to right: Chris McKinney- Built Environment Levels 2-4, Dustin Turnbull- Healthcare Levels 1-2, Victoria Nemecek-Healthcare Levels 3-4, Charles Grudzinskas-Built Environment Level 1/Emerging Technologies- Level 2, Jeramy Brux- Emerging Technologies Level 1, 3-4 Not pictured: Megan Young- Teaching Professions Level 1

Check out the <u>September edition of</u> <u>the Academy</u> <u>Newsletter Here!</u>



MILITARY VETERAN FAMILIES

CHS

is approved by the Department of Veteran Affairs to certify Chapter 35 benefits

When can Chapter 35 benefits be used in High School?

Students who are 18 years old and eligible to receive
Chapter 35 Dependent Education Assistance can receive
5 months of benefits while still retaining the full 36

months of college entitlement

Contact your School Certifying Official, Kristina Johnson, at kristina.dulaney-johnson@stjohns.k12.fl.us for more information



TESTING DATES & INFORMATION

PSAT/NMSQT (10th & 11th Grade)

- · Wednesday, October 11th
- Tocoi Creek High School will administer the PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) to all 10th and 11th (paid only) grade students on Wednesday, October 11, 2023. The purpose of the test is to give all students an opportunity to experience taking a college readiness test. There is no need to register 10th grade students, as they will receive their test at no cost through state funding. Students will receive an Official Student Guide to the PSAT/ NMSQT® through their English classes. This guide contains valuable information as well as a full-length practice test with answer keys. Please visit www.collegeboard.org/psat for more information.
- Students in 11th grade wanting to take the test MUST register online. Deadline for 11th grade students to register and pay is Thursday, August 31st. Please click here to register and pay: PSAT SchoolPay. Your student's Score Report for the PSAT/NMSQT® will be available in mid-to-late November from College Board. The PSAT is the ONLY exam that is used for 11th graders to qualify for the National Merit Scholars Program. Click here for more information regarding the National Merit Scholarship Program. Additionally, a score of 430 on the PSAT Math qualifies as a concordant score for the Algebra I EOC.

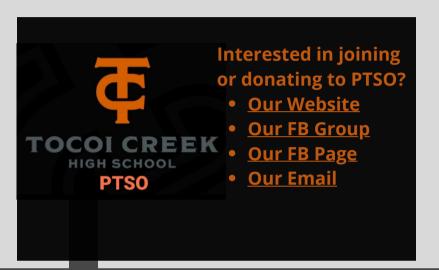
SAT-NCR (12th Grade ONLY)

- Wednesday, October 11th
- This test is for 12th grade students who have not met the FSA Grade 10 ELA and/or the Algebra 1 EOC graduation requirement. The cost of the SAT-NCR exam is \$60. Deadline for 12th grade students to register and pay is Sunday, September 10th. Please click here to register and pay: SAT-NCR SchoolPay.
- For more information, please visit the <u>TCHS Testing Website here</u>

ACT-NCR (11th and 12th Grade ONLY)

- Tuesday, October 17th
- This test is for 11th and 12th grade students who have not met the FSA Grade 10 ELA and/or the Algebra 1
 EOC graduation requirement. The cost of the ACT-NCR exam is \$38.50. Deadline for 11th and 12th grade
 students to register and pay is Monday, September 4th. Please click here to register and pay: ACT-NCR
 SchoolPay.
- For more information, please visit the TCHS Testing Website here





Join the Athletics Booster to help with:

- Facility improvement Projects
- Fundraising
- Concession Stand
- Promoting the School



If interested, contact: Billy Blackmon



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. Follow us on Facebook @OneToroArtsBoosters

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next SAC Meeting will be October 12th at 8:10AM in room 2-017



VISION OF ONE TORO ARTS

TO ENSURE ALL STUDENTS AT TOCOL CREEK HIGH SCHOOL BENEFIT FROM THE COLLABORATIVE SUPPORT OF OUR PARENTS, COMMUNITY, AND BOOSTER ORGANIZATIONS.



JOIN THE BOOSTERS! \$35



- 2 TICKETS TO ALL-ARTS SHOWCASE
- 2 TICKETS TO ANY THEATRE PRODUCTION VOTING PRIVILEGES AT THE
- APRIL 26TH GENERAL ELECTION MEETING FOR THE ONE TORO ARTS EXECUTIVE BOARD (1 VOTE PER FAMILY)

COMING UP:

9/22 - MARCHING TOROS PERFORM AT HOME: TCHS VS CLAY, 7PM (CHICK FILA FOR SALE AT VISITOR CONCESSIONS)

9/23 - SPIRIT NIGHT AT GATORS **MURABELLA 5-8PM**

9/23 - HOMECOMING DANCE @ TCHS, 7PM

9/30 - MARCHING TOROS PERFORM AT HOME: TCHS VS PALATKA, 7PM (CHICK FILA FOR SALE AT VISITOR CONCESSIONS)

FOLLOW US:

ONE TORO ARTS WEBSITE



FACEBOOK



EMAIL: ONETOROARTS@GMAIL.COM

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT HTTPS://ONETOROARTS.WIXSITE.COM/ONE-TORO-ARTS







YOU'RE INVITED TO A ROYAL SPIRIT NIGHT

Perfect for our Toros before during the

SATURDAY, 9/23 5-8PM

105 MURABELLA PKWY

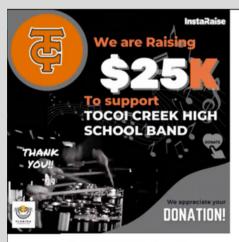
Celebrate TCHS Homecoming with us!







Buy Tickets Here Click Here for More Info!





Help Support Your **Marching Toros!**

Your help and support means the world to the entire Tocoi Creek High School band program. With your financial support, our program will continue to have all the resources that we need for student travel, new instruments, new equipment, new music and instrument repairs. Your support is so important and we are all so thankful that you are willing to help us have another fantastic year.

\$19,694 Raised 79% of goal

Goal \$25,000

Time remaining 8 days 14 hours 59 minutes

https://instaraise.com/tocoicreekhs/band?a=17#top



SAVE THE DATE



Join the PTSO Board for a general membership meeting next month. We will review what we have accomplished and what we have in store to celebrate and support our school.

10.17.2023

PTSO GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

IN THE MEDIA CENTER 6:30PM

Cotton Candy in the Courtyard

Friday,
September
22nd
during lunch
periods
DONATION OF \$1 TO
BENEFIT PTSO

Hey Toro Families interested in becoming a business partner with the PTSO?

Please send us an email.
We'd love to support
your business for our
upcoming events and
get the word out about
what you do!



onetoroptso@gmail.com

ANG BITS DEANS' DIRECTIVE

DRESS CODE POLICY

Expectation: Student clothing choices are both respectful of the school community and are appropriate for an educational environment.



Dress Code Standards:

- Clothing must cover areas from one ampit to the other ampit, down to mid-thigh. Tops must have shoulder straps.
 - Examples of Violations:
 - Garments worn on the upper half of the body that are low cut and revealing.
 - Tube top or tube top without arm cuffs
 - Undergarments do not count as "straps"
 - · Shirts short enough to expose midriff
 - · Sagging pants. All pants must be worn around the waist.
 - Garments worn on the lower half of the body must not be shorter than mid-thigh or have holes exposing skin above midthing.
- See-through of mesh garments must be worn with opaque clothing over it
 or underneath that meets the standards for clothing coverage.
- Shoes must be worn at all times and should be safe for travel around campus. Backless shoes are allowed; however, slippers are not permitted.
- · Hats/Hoods may not be worn inside the building.
- No clothing or accessory advertising alcohol, drugs, weapons, nudity, profanity, etc.

Students who violate the dress code will be asked to change and progressive discipline will follow. Level 2: defiance/disrespect

PHONE POLICY

Expectation: Upon entering a classroom, clinic, guidance/deans' office phones will be placed in a cell phone holder and earbuds will be removed to assist students in maintaining academic focus.



Student may NOT use phones when....

- In classrooms, gym/locker rooms
- •In bathrooms, clinic, deans/guidance office
- During summative, district, or state testing (this includes wearing smart watches)



Student may use phones when....

- •In the hallway during passing periods
- During designated lunch period
- In the classroom if using for educational purposes as directed by the teacher

Recording other students and teachers are PROHIBITED.

Failure to put phone is holder after teacher direction will result in discipline consequence – level 2: insubordination – refusing to follow school rules or directions from the staff. Consequences will follow progressive discipline.

TARDY POLICY

Expectation: Students are in class on time every period every day.



Violations:

3 Tardies: 1 Lunch Detention 6 Tardies: 3 Lunch Detention's

9 Tardies: 1 Afterschool Detention

12 Tardies: 2 Afterschool Detention's and Loss

of Privilege



**If a student driver shows a pattern of being tardy to school, they will lose their parking pass.

Tardies will **NOT** be removed or negotiated. Tardies will reset in Semester 2.



All Tocoi students recently received a Hub Media Center orientation. The orientation reviewed library rules, policies for borrowing materials, research strategies, reading award programs and Florida Teens Read, items available to borrow (books, eBooks, audiobooks, computers, games, Maker items), Hub hours, and what the Hub has to offer. Parents can view a video version of the orientation here.



- No food
- . No sitting on the floor
- •Be respectful of Hub property
- •Be respectful of others in The Hub
- Clean up after yourself
- Must have Hub pass during class



POICIES CTOCOL CTECK

- Students can borrow up to 4 items at a time. Items include books, eBooks, and audiobooks.
- Items are checked out for two weeks but can be renewed as many times as needed.
- · We do not charge fines for items returned after the due date.
- Students are responsible for paying for or replacing lost or damaged books. See Mrs. Rusnak if you lose or damage a book.
- The Hub has open access before school, between classes, and during lunch. Students may also come during class time with teacher permission and a HUB pass and during Toro Time with a signed planner. The Hub may also be open occasionally after school.

All St. Johns County parents can restrict access to specific titles or topics their child may checkout from the school library. The form used to do this is available on the school website and is also located here. If you would like to prevent your child from borrowing specific titles or topics from the Tocoi Creek library, please complete this form and return to Mrs. Rusnak in The Hub. <a href="https://example.com/parents-restriction-restricti

Parents can view the items in our media collection by going to the Tocoi Destiny page <u>here</u>.

All of this information and more is available <u>here</u> on our <u>TCHS Hub Media Center</u> <u>website</u>.



SCHOOLOGY PARENT ACCESS

Schoology Parent Access allows parents to easily see Schoology information for all of their children in one place.

If you have previously signed up for Schoology Parent Access for your child, you do not need to do so again. If you have not created a Schoology Parent Access Account or need to add a child to your account, please follow these instructions. Please note: If you forget your Schoology Parent Access Account password, you will need to follow the instructions provided on the Schoology.com site to reset or retrieve your password. The St Johns County School District does not have access to parent account passwords.

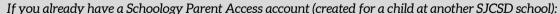
You will need to find the Schoology Parent Access Code for your Child. This is located in HAC under "Registration" and then "Additional Information"

If you have never used Schoology Parent Access:

- 1) Go to <u>www.schoology.com</u>
- 2) Click on "Sign Up"
- 3) Click on "Parent"
- 4) Type in the Schoology Parent Access Code from HAC
- 5) Click "Continue"
- 6) Type your information (not your child's information) in the boxes.
- 7) Check the appropriate boxes at that bottom of your information
- 8) Click "Register"
- 9) You are now logged into Schoology Parent Access.

To see your child's information, go to the right side of the screen and click on the down arrow near your name. Click on your child's name. You will now be able to see all of the information in Schoology related to your child including updates, discussion posts, tests and quizzes, and calendar items.

If you have another child at a St Johns County School District school that is using Schoology, you can easily add them to your parent access account by following these steps. Click on the down arrow near your name on the right of the screen. Scroll down and click "add child." Type in the access code for that child (provided to you by your child's school). Click "Use Code." You can now easily switch between your children's Schoology accounts.



- 1) Go to www.schoology.com
- 2) Login with the information you used to create the account
- 3) Click on the down arrow near your name on the right side of the screen
- 4) Click on "add child"
- 5) Type in the Schoology Parent Access Code that can be found in HAC
- 6) Click "Use Code"
- 7) You can now easily switch between your children's Schoology accounts by going to the drop down arrow and selecting the child's account you wish to view.







@TOCOI_CREEKHS



@TOCOI CREEK HIGH SCHOOL



@TOCOICREEK



Helpful Links:

SJCSD Dress Code

TCHS Clubs

Lunch Applications

TCHS Yearbook

Absences and Early
Dismissal

Athletic Tickets

<u>Cafeteria</u>

Clever



TCHS IS LOOKING FOR SOME OUTSTANDING STAFF MEMBERS TO WORK WITH OUR TOROS!
PLEASE EMAIL MR. WILLETS DIRECTLY AT JAY.WILLETS@STJOHNS.K12.FL.US FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

- MATH TEACHER GEOMETRY
- MATH TEACHER ALGEBRA
- ENGLISH ELA 11TH GRADE
- ESE TEACHER IND UNIT





St Johns County School District

Next Hiring for

GUEST TEACHER (Substitute)

Posting September 1, 2023

in AppliTrack Application System

SJCSD is ready to hire Guest Teachers who are ready to make a difference for students in

Pre-K - 12th grade. Daily hourly rate \$15.00.

The Guest Teacher role provides:

- · Opportunity to put your degree to work.
- . Flexibility you pick the days and schools.
- · An opportunity to work with diverse student populations.
- An opportunity to contribute to the learning and development of the students in our school district.

Come join our team.

Applicants who hold a minimum of an Associate degree or equivalent of 60 credits or higher and who are 20 years of age or older are eligible to apply. Preferences given to applicants that have graduated or are graduated ing from an Education program. All applicants will be reviewed for strong teaching potential, above average references, experience in critical need areas, and/or an education degree.

For full job description, requirements and to apply online, Visit: https://www.applitrack.com/stiohns/onlineapp/

Questions? Please call 904-547-7636 Smartfind Helpdesk or application questions call AppliTrack helpdesk 547-7631



DOWNLOAD TODAY

