

THE BULL PEN

Tocoi Creek High School Weekly Newsletter

Toro Nation,

It is that time of the year where we celebrate some of our Top Toros who, like their peers, make a difference on our campus each and every day! It is my pleasure to announce the following TCHS Employees of the Year:

- **Ms. Rachel Bishop - Teacher of the Year** - Ms. Bishop is our Math Department Team Lead and Geometry lead. Ms. Bishop brings an amazing amount of energy, professional guidance, and passion to her classroom, team, and school each day!
- **Ms. Aimee Money - Rookie Teacher of the Year** - Ms. Money is one of our amazing Chemistry teachers and is an active member of multiple clubs and is happy to give out "mom hugs" daily to our Toros!
- **Ms. Cindy Flores - Support Employee of the Year** - Ms. Flores is our TCHS Bookkeeper and resident superstar to many of our students and staff members. Ms. Flores brings amazing energy and tremendous dedication to supporting our learning community!

Important Reminders/Updates to the Toro Nation

- **School Picture Day** - Oct 3rd - visit to order - <https://new.leonards.com/>
- **Yearbook** prices go up Saturday! Visit pg 4 now to get 20% off your book
- **Bright Futures** help next Wednesday during Toro Time for any senior
- **Marching Toros** - THANK YOU for your support of our Band Fundraiser for our trip to Alabama...100% of our fundraising goal was met!
- **Junior Class Ring Ceremony** - Juniors were presented with class ring information, see pg 5 for more information on ordering...deadline coming soon.
- **Blood Mobile** - October 12th - Parent permission forms required, see pg 4 for more information.

Picture day for grades 9-11 is on Tuesday October 3rd in the TCHS gym. Students will take pictures through their English classes. If a student does not have an English class, they can take their picture starting at 9am in the gym. Makeups for picture day will be on November 16th.



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

at a Glance

- Monday, Oct. 2nd- Sources of Strength Week Begins
- Tuesday, Oct. 3rd- Picture Day for Grades 9-12
- Wednesday, Oct. 4th- Guidance Bright Futures Help during Toro Time
- Thursday, Oct. 5th-
- Friday, Oct. 6th- Art Exhibition in Building 2 Gallery
- Saturday, Oct. 7th- Band Competition @ TCHS

BACK TO SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE

- **OCTOBER 3RD** SCHOOL PICTURES (HARD IDS ISSUED AFTER PICTURES)
- **OCTOBER 11TH** PSAT FOR ALL 10TH GRADERS (11TH GRADE PAID TESTS ONLY)
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)
- **MAY 20TH:** GRADUATION AT THE ST. AUGUSTINE AMPHITHEATER @ 7PM

TORO ATHLETICS

at a Glance

- Mon., Oct. 2nd @ 5:30/6:30pm Girls Volleyball vs Atlantic Coast HS @ Atlantic Coast HS
- Mon., Oct. 2nd @ TBA Boys Golf vs Nease @ Ponte Vedra Inn & Club
- Tues., Oct. 3rd @ 4pm Girls Golf vs Beachside/Palatka HS @ Royal St. Augustine
- Tues., Oct. 3rd @ 5:30/6:30PM Girls Volleyball vs Ponte Vedra @ PVHS
- Wed., Oct. 4th @ 4pm Girls Golf vs Nease/Matanzas HS @ Slammer & Squire
- Wed., Oct. 4th @ 4pm Boys Golf vs Atlantic Coast HS @ Slammer & Squire
- Thurs., Oct. 5th @ 5PM Swim/Dive vs Fernandina Beach HS @ Silverleaf Pool **Senior Night
- Thurs., Oct. 5th @ 6/7PM Girls Volleyball vs Episcopal School of Jax @ Episcopal School
- Thurs., Oct. 5th @ 6pm JV Football v. Pedro Menendez @ PMHS
- Fri., Oct. 6th @ 7pm Varsity Football v. Pedro Menendez @ TCHS
- Sat., Oct. 7th @ 5am Cross Country Alligator Lake Invitational @ Alligator Lake Park



STUDENT LIFE



October 2nd – 6th

Sources of Strength Week

Students and staff are encouraged to wear a different color each day to represent a color on the wheel.

- Monday students will wear blue to represent physical health and healthy activities.
- Tuesday students will wear red to represent mental health.
- Wednesday students will wear green to represent mentors.
- Thursday students will wear orange to represent family support.
- Friday students will wear yellow to represent positive friends.

ALL 4 ONE

TRACK AND FIELD CONDITIONING

WEIGHTROOM 4-5PM, COURTYARD 5-5:30
STARTING SEPTEMBER 18
MON. TUES. THURS.

ALL ATHLETES MUST HAVE ATHLETIC CLEARANCE
[HTTPS://WWW-TCHS.STJOHNS.K12.FL.US/ATHLETICS/CLEARANCE/](https://www-tchs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/athletics/clearance/)

2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

NAHS NEW CHAPTER

Tocoi

OPEN TO RISING JUNIOR AND SENIOR ART STUDENTS THAT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- 3.5 AVG IN HONORS OR AP VISUAL ARTS CLASS
- 3.0 AVG OVERALL GPA
- JUNIORS - 10HRS. COMMUNITY SERVICE
- SENIORS - 15HRS. COMMUNITY SERVICE

*** SEE MS. S.SMITH FOR MORE DETAILS - RM 02-016

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.



STUDENT LIFE

PURCHASE A YEARBOOK!

YEARBOOKS ARE ON SALE NOW!!
The TCHS yearbook has reached the halfway point for selling out of yearbooks for the 2023-2024 school year. To guarantee a copy, please purchase soon at www.buytheyearbook.com

DONATE BLOOD

Tocoi Creek High School
Thursday, October 12
9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Donors Receive

REFRESHMENTS

- PLUS -


All donors will receive*:
- Refreshments
- Halloween T-shirt
- Wellness Checkup including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening.

All students must have a signed parental consent form, and an appointment prior to the drive. Appointments cannot be scheduled during core classes.

Appointments are encouraged, please visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use sponsor code #68419.

ID REQUIRED

*One offer per donor, per donation. No cash value. Not transferable. Gifts may vary. For more information please visit oneblood.org/donate.




**DINNER
GAMES
MOVIE...
AND MUCH MORE**



**MARCH
22-23
2024**
6:30PM-9:00AM

JUNIOR / SENIOR CAMP OUT

THIS EVENT AIMS TO CELEBRATE AND ENERGIZE OUR JUNIORS AND SENIORS AS THEY HEAD INTO THE LAST GRADING QUARTER OF THE YEAR.

CONTACT MR. CABRERA 2-017 FOR MORE INFO



SENIORS

STRESSED ABOUT

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS AND FINANCIAL AID?



We are here to help!

College Application/ Naviance Help Sessions

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

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!)

FAFSA Parent Night



Coming in January!

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

Get tagged for Toro Time sessions in 1st floor guidance office.



JUNIORS!

Jostens®



TOCOI CREEK

HS

CLASS OF 2025

ORDER NOW

DEADLINE TO ORDER!

OCT. 16

RING CEREMONY

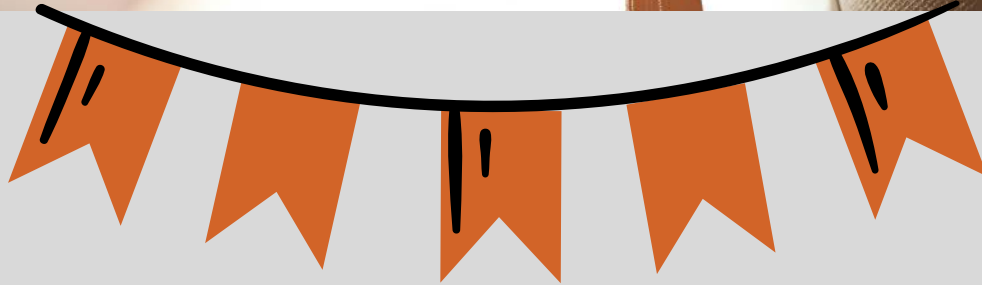
FEB. 8

Visit

JOSTENS.COM

to design your ring and place your order.

SENIOR INFORMATION



SENIOR DATES:

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



Grad Bash tickets are going fast! We currently have 90 seats left to attend the senior class overnight event at Universal Studios/Islands of Adventures on April 12th. To purchase tickets, you need to pay senior dues and select the first deposit for Grad Bash available in School Pay.

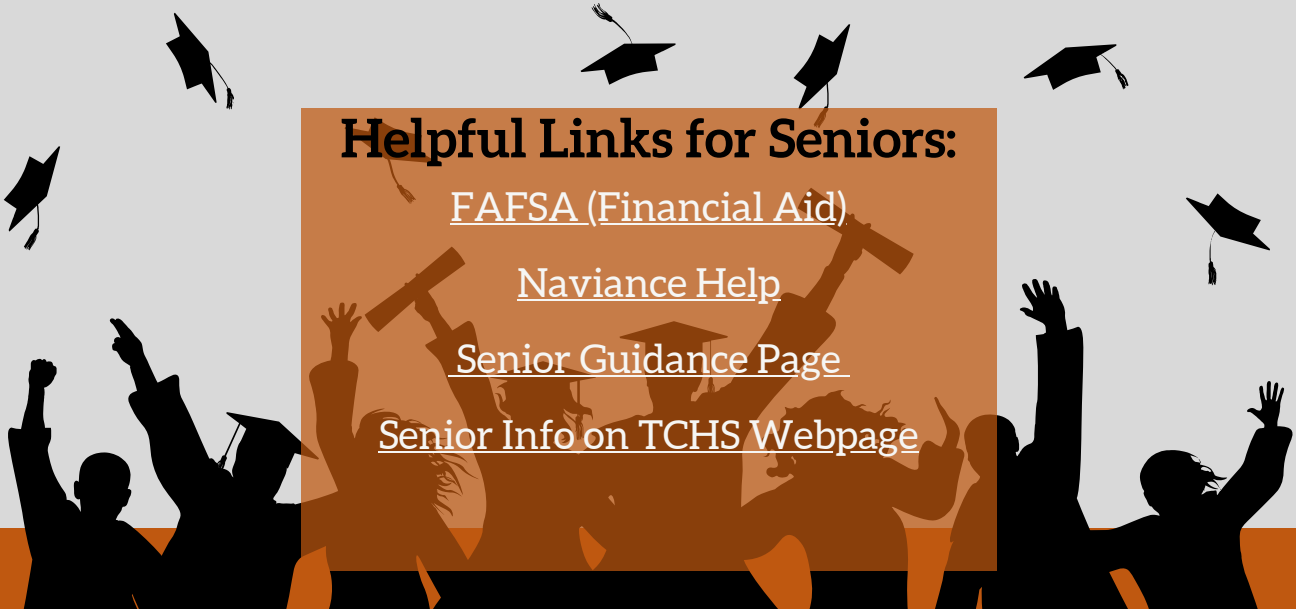
Helpful Links for Seniors:

[FAFSA \(Financial Aid\)](#)

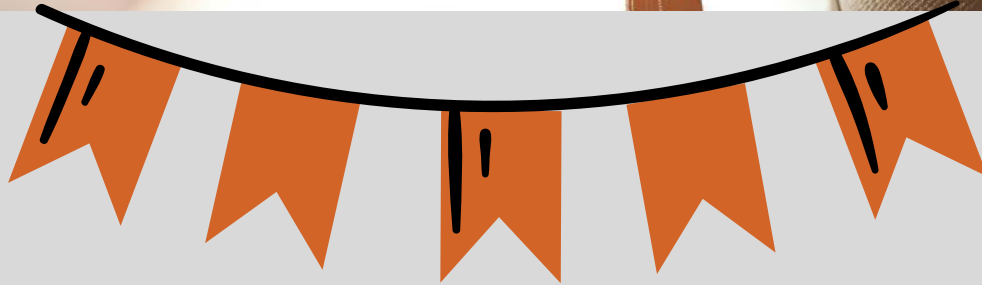
[Naviance Help](#)

[Senior Guidance Page](#)

[Senior Info on TCHS Webpage](#)



SENIOR INFORMATION



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.



GUIDANCE INFO FOR SENIORS



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 post-secondary 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 [Bright Futures](#) and [Financial Aid](#) later in the school year, but feel free to get a head start here

Upcoming College Visits:

- [Oct. 3rd](#)- Florida Southern College
- [Oct. 11th](#)- Jacksonville University

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

GUIDANCE INFORMATION

ADVICE
ASSISTANCE

GUIDANCE

HELP

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.

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

Bright Futures- 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!

Testing for College- 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.

Graduation Requirements - 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.

Counselor Videos- 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!

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



TRINITY CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL
12115 W. BAYVIEW
TALLahassee, FL 32310
850.291.1234

TOCOI CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

CAREER ACADEMIES

DONATE BLOOD

Tocoi Creek High School
Thursday, October 12
9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

All donors will receive*:
- Refreshments
- Halloween T-shirt
- Wellness Checkup including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening.

All students must have a signed parental consent form, and an appointment prior to the drive. Appointments cannot be scheduled during core classes.

Appointments are encouraged; please visit oneblood.org/locations/new and call sponsor code # 80438.

ID REQUIRED

oneblood

OneBlood drive will be held on October 12. Sign-up online (see link below) or during lunches next week.

Requirements are listed below:

- Donors must be at least 16 years old
- Donors must have a signed parent permission form
- Donors can only donate during their lunch or elective classes

[CLICK HERE](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 10- Health Science trip to University of St. Augustine
- October 12- OneBlood Drive
- October 24- Project Innovation School Competition
- November 7- Project Innovation District Competition

Check out the September edition of the Academy Newsletter Here!



MILITARY VETERAN FAMILIES

TCHS

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 CORNER

TESTING DATES & INFORMATION

PSAT/NMSQT (10th & 11th Grade)

- Wednesday, October 11th
- Toco 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 [TCHS Testing Website here](#)

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](#)



PARENT INVOLVEMENT



Please join us in supporting the fine arts at Toco Creek High School. The vision of the One Toro Arts Booster Organization is to ensure that ALL students at Toco Creek High School benefit from the collaborative support of our parent, community, and booster organization. Follow us on Facebook @OneToroArtsBoosters

Interested in joining or donating to PTSO?

- [Our Website](#)
- [Our FB Group](#)
- [Our FB Page](#)
- [Our Email](#)



Join the Athletics Booster to help with:

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



If interested, contact: [Billy Blackmon](#)

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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



ONETORO ARTS

VISION OF ONE TORO ARTS

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



JOIN THE BOOSTERS!
\$35



INCLUDES

- 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:

9/29 - MARCHING TOROS PERFORM AT HOME: TCHS VS PALATKA, 7PM (CHICK FILA FOR SALE AT VISITOR CONCESSIONS)

10/3 - SPIRIT NIGHT AT WILLIE JEWELL'S 5:30-8PM

10/6 - ARTS GALLERY NIGHT, 5:30-7PM, BUILDING 2, GALLERY SPACE

10/6 - MARCHING TOROS PERFORM AT HOME: TCHS VS MENENDEZ, 7PM (CHICK FILA FOR SALE AT VISITOR CONCESSIONS)

10/7 - TOCOI CREEK OUTDOOR HOME SHOW, TCHS, 3PM

FOLLOW US:

[ONE TORO ARTS WEBSITE](#)



[FACEBOOK](#)



EMAIL: ONETOROARTS@GMAIL.COM

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

[HTTPS://ONETOROARTS.WIXSITE.COM/ONE-TORO-ARTS](https://onetoroarts.wixsite.com/one-toro-arts)

SPIRIT NIGHT
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3
5:30-8PM



MUST MENTION TCHS
CAN BE TO-GO OR DINE-IN
NO PRE-ORDERS BEFORE 5:30
PHONE OR ONLINE ORDERS MUST NOTE TCHS

A PORTION OF SELECT SALES WILL
BENEFIT ONE TORO ARTS BOOSTERS



ONETORO ARTS



Tocoi Creek Marching Invitational

WHEN: OCTOBER 7, 3:30PM

WHERE: TCHS

TICKETS: \$15*

+ service fee, 6 and under FREE

SEE YOUR MARCHING TOROS UNDER THE LIGHTS ALONG WITH 13 INCREDIBLE BANDS IN THE 2023 SEASON OPENING SHOW!



Buy Tickets for TCM I [Here](#)
[Click Here](#) for TCM I Info!
To Volunteer, [Click Here!](#)

InstaRaise
We are Raising
\$25K
To support
TOCOI CREEK HIGH SCHOOL BAND
THANK YOU!!
We appreciate your DONATION!



WE DID IT!

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.

Thank You

\$25,345 Raised 101% of goal

Goal **\$25,000**



Time remaining **1** days **6** hours **52** minutes **11** seconds as of 9/28, 5:09PM

<https://instaraise.com/tocoi creekhs/band?a=17#top>



PTSO



Tocoi Creek Families and Community

**Help us Fill the Fence With Your
Business Banners**

1 Ft X 3 Ft Banner - \$150

2 Ft X 4 Ft Banner - \$300

Your banner will be prominently displayed within the Tocoi Creek High School fence line showing your support for our students, staff, and teachers while providing advertising for your business throughout the 2023-2024 school year

All proceeds go to the Tocoi Creek High School PTSO to support students, teachers, and staff

To show your support, please e-mail the Tocoi Creek High PTSO at OneToroPTSO@gmail.com and include a copy of your business card, logo, and/or any camera ready artwork to be used on your banner



PTSO

TCHS PTSO PRESENTS

Your student's name in lights!

Do you want to let Toro Nation know about your student's birthday or achievement? You can! We will be running announcements on the front marquis for the months of October & November!

**\$10 FOR THE DAY
\$40 FOR THE WEEK**

USE THE SIGN UP GENIUS LINK TO SELECT YOUR DATE.

Last Chance! **TCHS PARKING SPOT AUCTION!**



\$100 Opening Bid




**Auction Open
October 1-9**

Follow us on
 
for the link!

*Must meet Eligibility requirements of the school. Parking space in Lot C



GENERAL SCHOOL INFO



@TOCOI_CREEKHS



@TOCOI CREEK HIGH SCHOOL



@TOCOICREEK



Helpful Links:

[SJCSD Dress Code](#)

[TCHS Clubs](#)

[Lunch Applications](#)

[TCHS Yearbook](#)

[Absences and Early
Dismissal](#)

[Athletic Tickets](#)

[Cafeteria](#)

[Clever](#)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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
- 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 graduating 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/stjohns/onlineapp/>

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



DOWNLOAD TODAY



FORTIFYFL

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

#FORTIFYFL

GETFORTIFYFL.COM



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

