THE PRIDE For the parents, students, and community supporters of TARPON SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL

TARPON MIDDLE ADMINISTRATION TEAM

Raquel Giles Principal

Mrs. Diane Dove 6th Grade Administrator Ms. Amber Nash 7th Grade Administrator Mrs. Felicia Moline 8th Grade Administrator

Ms. Laura Burge
6th Grade Guidance Counselor
Mr. Titus Dixon
7th Grade Guidance Counselor

Mrs. Elena Kharina-Sampson 8th Grade Guidance Counselor

Vision: Learning Gains for Every Student, Every Day

Mission: To provide challenging learning experiences in a safe learning environment so all students are prepared for continued education, career and life.

We will accomplish this mission through our core values: CREATE: We will use our imagination and ingenuity to bring the students' education to life in ways they will always remember.

INSPIRE: We will create classrooms that excite, motivate and prepare students to be lifelong learners

LEAD: We will guide them in developing skills needed to survive and thrive in education, career and life.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome Back!

A new school year presents opportunities for various beginnings- new classes, new faces, new clubs/ activities, and sometimes new courses. I hoped you are relaxed, energized and ready as we approach the opening day of a new school year.

I value your commitment and passion for our school and I look forward to working with you and your scholars. Our skilled and dedicated staff is already planning and preparing for your scholars. They have dedicated many hours of Professional Learning, in the areas of AVID Strategies, Restorative Practices, Equity Training and content specific trainings on differentiated instruction and rigorous and relevant instructional practices. We will evaluate our current practices, conduct data analysis and set school improvement goals for the 19-20 school year.

As we begin this year, we will continue to strive for our school's vision: "Learning Gains for Every Student, Every Day!" This is best accomplished through a team approach. When the school, the students, the parents and the community work together, with student success as their focus, GREAT things will happen. Our PTSA is gearing up to welcome families, provide volunteer opportunities and offer other exciting events.

There is no doubt that the teachers at TSMS are committed to the learning and development of every student, but, by itself, and without the commitment of each individual student, and parent success will be limited. We need your help in teaching every scholar to accept responsibility for his/her own learning and to set ambitious goals. Our students are 21st Century learners and we will use 21st Century tools and strategies to secure their success in a new and global economy.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email, call, or stop by. My door is always open.

Kind Regards Raquel P. Giles, Principal

TARPON SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL

501 N FLORIDA AVE.

TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689 | (727) 943-5511

AUGUST 2019 Volume 4 • Issue 3

ATTENDANCE

- All absences must have a note sent in within 48 hours of absence to be excused. (We cannot accept phone calls to excuse absences)
- 3 unexcused tardies count as a one-day unexcused absence
- If your student is out 3 or more days, a doctor's note will be required to excuse the absences
- Please make sure you send in a note asking for pre-approval if your student will be out of town
- It is a student's responsibility to get make up work from their teachers

SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Phone: (727) 943-5511 School Fax: (727) 943-5519 School Office Hours: 8:40 am - 5:00 pm School Student Hours: 9:40 am – 4:10 pm School Breakfast: 9:20 am - 9:35 am

(Students should not arrive to school before 9:20 am)

2019-20 BELL SCHEDULE

Warning Bell	9:25	
First Bell	9:32	
Period	First Lunch	Second Lunch
1	9:40 - 10:30	9:40 - 10:30
2	10:34 -11:21	10:34 -11:21
3	11:25 - 12:12	11:25 - 12:12
Lunch	1st LUNCH	12:16 – 1:03
	12:16 - 12:46	
Lunch	12:50 - 1:37	2nd LUNCH
		1:07 – 1:37
5	1:41 - 2:28	1:41 - 2:28
6	2:32 - 3:19	2:32 - 3:19
7	3:23 - 4:10	3:23 - 4:10

VISITORS

All visitors and parents are welcome and encouraged to visit the school, but everyone must report to the school office. These visits should not interrupt the regular classroom procedure in any way. Student and staff safety are of paramount importance. ALL VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL CAMPUS MUST ENTER THE BUILDING THROUGH THE MAIN OFFICE, SIGN IN USING OUR IDENTIFY SOFTWARE (with a copy of your driver's license) AND SECURE A VISITOR'S BADGE.

CUSTODY/LEGAL ISSUES

It is imperative that the school and home work together to ensure the safety of each child. If you have legal papers outlining custody issues, please be sure that the school has current copies. The school must act according to the legal papers contained in a student's cumulative file. If the school does not have copies of these papers, we must allow a child to leave with the requesting parent. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact the school. Additionally, if you wish to allow your child to leave the school with someone other than a parent, that person's name and telephone number must be listed on the student blue card and clinic card.

REPORT CARD INFORMATION FOR 2019- 2020 SCHOOL YEAR

End of Report Period:

October 11, 2019 - Friday December 20, 2019 – Friday March 13, 2020 - Friday May 29, 2020- Friday

Report Distributed No Later Than:

October 29, 2019 - Tuesday January 21, 2020 - Tuesday April 6, 2020 - Monday June 5, 2020 – Friday

IMPORTANT DATES

8/5/2019 Spartan Camp

8/14/2019 1st Day of School 9:40 a.m. 9/2/2019 No School - Holiday

9/12/2019 Open House

Grading Period Ends 10/11/2019 10/14/2019 No School for Students

10/29/2019 Report Cards





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Tarpon Springs Middle School

HOME OF THE SPARTANS

Front Office Team

Raquel P. Giles, Principal (Ext. 2003) Diana Toro, Secretary (Ext. 2002) Sharan McCord, Data Management Tech. (Ext. 2004) Wanda Hawkins, Bookkeeper (Ext. 2011) Susan Emmons, Family and Community Liaison (Ext. 2007) Officer Lang, School Resource Officer (Ext. 2008) gilesr@pcsb.org torod@pcsb.org mccords@pcsb.org hawkinsh@pcsb.org emmons@pcsb.org PCS.LANGK@pcsb.org

'The Spartan Pride'
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Pinellas County School Board
525 Pennsylvania Ave.
Palm Harbor, FL 34683-5223

for the Arts

6th Grade Team

Diane Dove, Assistant Principal (Ext. 2030) Laura Burge, School Counselor (Ext. 2012) Mary Scopelitis, Clerk (Ext. 2029)

7th Grade Team

Amber Nash, Assistant Principal (Ext. 2024) Titus Dixon, School Counselor (Ext. 2023) Brenda Hunter, Clerk (Ext. 2025)

8th Grade Team

Felicia Moline, Assistant Principal (Ext. 2027) Elena Kharina-Sampson, School Counselor (Ext. 2028) Dena Economos, Clerk (Ext. 2026) nasha@pcsb.org dixonti@pcsb.org hunterb@pcsb.org

doved@pcsb.org

burgel@pcsb.org

scopelitism@pcsb.org

molinef@pcsb.org kharinasampsone@pcsb.org economosc@pcsb.org



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Tarpon Springs Middle School

STUDENT CALENDAR 2019-2020

Aug. 14 - First Day of School

Sept. 2 - Labor Day Holiday - School and district offices closed

Oct. 11 – End of first quarter

Oct. 14 - No school for students

Nov. 23 – Dec. 1 – Thanksgiving Holiday week – No school for students

Dec. 20 - End of first semester

Dec 21 – Jan. 5 – Winter Holidays- No School for students

Jan. 6 - No school for students

Jan. 7 – Second Semester Begins

Jan. 20 - Martin Luther King Jr Holiday - No School for students

Feb. 17 – No school for students

Mar. 13 – End of third quarter

Mar. 14 – Mar. 22 – Spring Holidays – No school for students

Mar. 23 - No school for students

Mar. 24 – Schools reopen, and classes resume

Apr. 10 – No school for students

May 25- Memorial Day Holiday- School and district offices closed

May 29 - Last day for all students

EARLY RELEASE OF STUDENTS

- Plan ahead, turn in the blue emergency and clinic cards now
- Make sure we have updated information
- Be sure bring a valid driver's license or state ID to sign your child out
- You <u>must</u> be on the blue emergency card for us to dismiss the child
- <u>15 minutes to prior dismissal</u>, please wait for your child in the car circle
- Students will not be called up to the office until you are in the main office

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- Electronics are to be powered off and concealed from view while school is in session.
- This includes, but not limited to cell phones, headphones, ear buds, portable media players, electronic communication devices and other electronic devices.
- If a device is seen by a teacher, the teacher will ask for device and parents phone number

If there are incidents of noncompliance, we will implement the consequences as detailed on our Discipline Plan. They are as follows:

- 1st offense Warning & phone taken but returned to student at the end of the day
- 2nd offense Phone taken but returned to student at the end of the day
- 3rd offense & subsequent offenses parent will need to pick up the phone

I thank you in advance for your support & look forward to an amazing school year.

CLINIC

Our school clinic is for emergencies only and is staffed by a school nurse. In the event that your child becomes ill or is injured at school it is imperative that the school office have access to the parent(s) home and business telephone number(s) and a minimum of two emergency contact persons with telephone numbers. School Board policy prohibits school personnel from administering all but the most basic first aid, (i.e. ice and Band-Aids). In a situation where a student needs more involved treatment, and the parent(s) or emergency contact(s) cannot be reached, the school will contact 911 for assistance. MEDICATION POLICY: School personnel may assist students in the administration of prescribed medication only when an authorization form has been completed by the parent. The medication must be delivered by the parent to the school in the original container. Eye and ear drops will not be administered by school personnel. "Across the counter" medication (aspirin, cough drops, etc.) requires an authorization card (orange) completed by both the parent and a medical doctor or dentist.



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VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers play an important role in the daily school experience of our children. There are many ways to get involved in the volunteer program: through PTSA, SAC, assisting teachers and children with curriculum, field trips, dances and much more. Feel free to contact the school's Family and Community Liaison at (727) 943-5511 ext. 2007 for information regarding our volunteer opportunities. Volunteers must be registered at the school.

PTSA MEMBERSHIP

PTSA is an organization of parents, teachers and students working together to improve the quality of education in our school. Joining the Tarpon Springs Middle School PTSA makes you a member of both the state and national PTSA. Meetings, informative programs and fund raising activities are sponsored by PTSA throughout the year. General membership meetings are held in the evenings, usually in conjunction with a school activity. Board meetings are held monthly. In Middle School, the students can also join the general membership and/or participate on the board. Our PTSA is in need of a Treasurer, Membership Coordinator, and a Committees Chair. You may contact the PTSA president, Kathryn Meslin at TarponSpringsMSPTSA@gmail.com, if interested.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)

The School Advisory Council (SAC) provides the linkage between the school, parents and the community at large. The SAC plays a major role in determining the goals of the school and the means to achieve these goals. All parents and community members are invited to attend the monthly meetings and to consider active membership on the council. All meetings are open to interested parents and community members. Dates of the meetings are listed on the school marquee and published in the school newsletter. SAC meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Media Center at 6:00 pm. For more information , contact Tina Chagaris SAC Chair at chagarist@pcsb.org.

PRIVACY AND FAMILY RIGHTS

Privacy and family rights are protected under Federal Law. The intent of this law is to protect the accuracy and privacy of student records. Without your prior consent, only you and authorized individuals having legitimate educational interest will have access to your child's educational records. You have the right to review all of your child's records by making an appointment at least one working day in advance. Requests for copies of school records should be made in writing and allow one week's notice. An assessment of .10/per page will be made.

PARENT INFORMATION

- **Conferences:** Please contact your child's Guidance Counselor.
- Parent Portal: See our School's DMT to gain access. (A driver's license or state ID is required) You will have access to your child's attendance, grades, teachers email address, testing scores, discipline and more.
- Volunteering: Contact our Volunteer Coordinator to register for chaperoning, driving, field trips, mentoring, tutoring and volunteering.
- Medication: No school official or teacher shall dispense any type of medication to students unless we have a current Child's Care Plan on file. If your child requires prescription medication, over the counter medication, inhalers or any other required medication to keep at school, please see the clinic for the proper forms. The parent must bring in the medication, not the student. Students may not hold onto their own medication without proper completed paperwork.



Support **Tarpon Springs Middle School** by advertising in the **Spartan Pride!**

This is a wonderful way for your business to get community recognition and exposure, and at the *SAME TIME* help support your local schools!

727-943-5511
Tarpon Springs Middle School





Tarpon Springs Middle School has 4 interscholastic sports:

- Volleyball runs from August-October, with tryouts in August
- Basketball runs from November until February
- Track & Field runs from February until April
- Cheerleading run from August until February Intramural sports are also offered in the spring.

To try out for any sport, students must submit: a Middle School Activities Form, a current Sports Physical, and proof of Student Accident Insurance coverage. Athletic paperwork can be picked up and submitted to the 6th Grade Office.

We need lots of parent volunteers to help with sports! If you can provide expertise or help drive student-athletes to events, please become a Level 2 Certified Volunteer.

Requirements Prior to Tryouts

The following items must be properly completed and turned in to the 6th Grade Assistant Principal/Athletic Director's office before a student athlete is permitted to try out for the team. The deadline to submit paperwork is typically several days before the beginning of tryouts.

- 1. Completed Middle School Activities Participation Form
 - Must be submitted once per school year, form available in August in Grade Level Office

- 2. Mandatory Student Accident Insurance (Mandated by School Board Policy 8760)
 - This insurance must be purchased once per school year
 - The link to the Accident Insurance site can be found at: www. pcsb.org/athletics
- 3. Physical Forms (Either FHSAA forms or a form provided by the physician)
 - An athletic physical is good for 365 calendar days from the date given

Eligibility Requirements

Cumulative GPA is used to determine initial eligibility.

- 7th grade eligibility is based on 6th grade work.
- 8th grade eligibility is based on 6th and 7th grade work.
- Incoming 6th graders must have been regularly promoted to be eligible during the first semester. Thereafter, 9 week grades will be used to determine if a student maintains, regains, or loses eligibility.

Grades must stay above a 2.0, along with the cumulative GPA staying above 2.0. Eligibility is determined seven calendar days after the end of the grading period. Students may participate 1 year as a 6th grader, 1 year as a 7th grader, and 1 year as an 8th grader. Eligibility ends when a student reaches the age of 15 years, 9 months.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Our Tarpon Springs Middle School staff is committed to maintaining a safe school environment. Our PBS/CHAMPS Team has established interventions to recognize students as Character Students of the Month and Positive Behavior Referrals. Discipline standards are progressive in nature. Consequences for inappropriate behavior range from counseling, detention, lunch detention, in school suspension to suspension, reassignment or expulsion Tarpon Springs Middle School places a top priority on student safety. Verbal or physical threats, intimidation and bullying are considered serious misconduct and will not be accepted. Students are expected to report any incidence of intimidation to any member of the school team at the time of the incident. Students may also report incidents

anonymously by using the District Electronic Reporting Form or by calling the Campus Crime Stoppers Hotline at 1-800-873-8477. Incidents involving threats will be addressed according to district policy. Additionally, Pinellas County Schools has a strict policy regarding possession of guns, weapons, dangerous objects, illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, and harmful substances. Middle and high school students who violate this policy will be suspended for ten days and reassigned to an alternative program, for one or two semesters. Students may not possess alcohol /drugs or be under the influence of these on school property, on a school bus or at a bus stop, at any school activity, before they arrive on school grounds, before they arrive at any school activity or on any field trip.









GUARANTEED ADMISSION TO USF OR FAMU

programs at a University of South Florida System institution or Florida A&M University for eligible students who first complete an associate degree at St. Petersburg College.

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Tarpon Springs Middle School

COMPREHENSIVE STUDENT SUPPLY LIST

SIXTH GRADE

- 5 Composition Notebooks
- ☐ 2 Packs of # 2 Pencils or Mechanical Pencils
- ☐ 1 Pack of Blue or Black Pens
- ☐ 7 Folders with Prongs and Pockets
- ☐ 1 Handheld Pencil Sharpener
- ☐ 1 Three Ring Binders (3 inch)
- ☐ 2 Different Color Highlighters
- □ 116GB Flash Drive
- ☐ 4 Packs of Wide-Ruled Loose Leaf Notebook Paper
- ☐ 1 Composition Notebook W/Graph Paper
- ☐ 1 Pencil Pouch

SEVENTH GRADE

- 5 Composition Notebooks
- 2 Packs of # 2 Pencils or Mechanical Pencils
- ☐ 1 Pack of Blue or Black Pens
- ☐ 7 Folders with Prongs and Pockets
- 1 Handheld Pencil Sharpener
- ☐ 1 Three Ring Binders (3 inch)
- ☐ 3 Different Color Highlighters
- □ 1 Ruler with Centimeters and Inches Displayed
- ☐ 1 Protractor with Degree Markings
- ☐ 1 Scientific Calculator
- 1 Pencil Pouch
- □ 116GB Flash Drive
- ☐ 1 Pack of Subject Dividers
- ☐ 4 Packs of Wide-Ruled Loose Leaf Notebook Paper
- 2 Packs of Graph Paper

EIGHTH GRADE

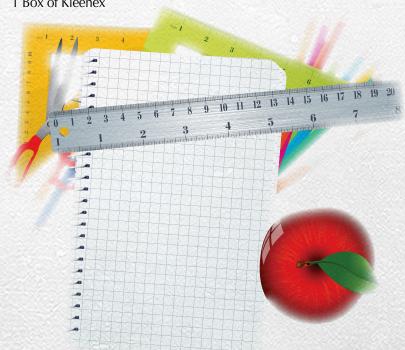
- 5 Composition Notebooks
- ☐ 2 Packs of # 2 Pencils or Mechanical Pencils
- ☐ 1 Pack of Blue or Black Pens
- ☐ 7 Folders with Prongs and Pockets
- ☐ 1 Handheld Pencil Sharpener
- ☐ 1 Pack of 3 X 5 white ruled index cards
- ☐ 1 Three Ring Binders (3 inch)
- ☐ 3 Different Color Highlighters
- 2 Packs of Graph Paper
- 1 Scientific Calculator
- ☐ 1 Pack of Binder Dividers
- □ 1 16GB Flash Drive
- 4 packages of loose leaf notebook paper

ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM ITEMS THAT MAY BE REQUESTED DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

- ☐ 1 Pair of Scissors
- 1 Set of Colored Pencils
- ☐ 1 Set of Red Pens
- ☐ 1 Roll of Scotch Tape
- 4 Glue Sticks
- ☐ 1 Pack of White Ruled Index Cards
- ☐ 1 Pack of Post-it Notes

CLASS DONATION ITEMS

- ☐ 1 pack of copy paper
- ☐ 1 hand sanitizer
- ☐ 1 Box of Kleenex







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