



THE SPARTAN PRIDE

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

TARPON MIDDLE ADMINISTRATION TEAM

Raquel Giles
Principal

Mr. Eric Leopold
6th Grade Administrator
Ms. Joanne Wright
7th Grade Administrator
Mrs. Felicia Moline
8th Grade Administrator

Ms. Laura Burge
6th Grade Guidance Counselor
Mrs. Allison (Linstrum) Rice
7th Grade Guidance Counselor
Mrs. Elena Kharina-Sampson
8th Grade Guidance Counselor

Vision: Learning Gains for Every Student, Every Day

Mission: We will provide challenging learning experiences in a safe learning environment so all students are inspired to enhance our school community through character development and creativity.

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

As we begin the final quarter of the year, I want to emphasize the importance of finishing strong. Please work with your scholar to help them realize what happens in the last quarter of the school year may have an impact on next school year and their ability to get the classes and electives of their choice. I have included some good practices for studying that you may be able to use in support of your scholar's learning.

1. Plan specific times for studying.

Study time is any time you are doing something related to schoolwork. It can be completing assigned reading, working on a paper or project, or studying for a test. Schedule specific times throughout the week for your study time.

2. Set specific goals for studying

Goals help you stay focused and monitor progress. Simply sitting down to study has little value. Be clear about what you want to achieve during your study time.

3. Review notes before beginning an assignment

Reviewing notes can help you make sure you are doing an assignment correctly. Also, the notes may include information that will help in completing the assignment.

4. Review schoolwork over the weekend.

Look over or preview material for the coming week. This will help you be ready to go Monday morning when another school week begins.

Let's Stay focused and finish Strong!

TARPON SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL

501 N FLORIDA AVE.

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

MARCH 2019 Volume 4 • Issue 1

REGISTRATION

HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION NIGHT 2019

Dunedin High School

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

6:00 - 8:00 pm

For more information on registration contact DHS at (727) 469-4100

Palm Harbor University High

Monday, March 18, 2019

Last names A-M 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

Last names N-Z 5:00 - 7:00 pm

For more information on registration contact PHUH at (727) 669-1131

Tarpon Springs High School

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Magnet Academy in coming 9th grade only

6:00 - 8:00 pm

For more information on registration contact TSHS at (727) 943-4900

SUMMER BRIDGE- EXTENDED LEARNING

Scholars will have the opportunity to enrich or remediate skills during the summer bridge. For more information, please contact your scholar's guidance counselor.

When: June 11, 2019 to July 18, 2019

8:30 am to 12:30 pm

Where: Tarpon Springs Middle School

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE TSMS MEDIA CENTER!

THE SCHOLASTIC BOOKFAIR IS COMING!!!

- Click the link below to find out more information. The book fair dates will be from Friday, March 19th-March 27th in our Media Center.
- We will be open from 9:15 AM – 4:10 PM.
- Click the link below to find out more:
<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/tarponspringsmiddleschool>

CLEVER AT HOME

Clever@Home supports learning outside of the classroom anytime, anywhere. Students are encouraged to continue using the resources found within Clever before or after the school day from home.

What can I find in Clever?

- Online digital textbooks for student's core subjects if available
- Khan Academy
- IReady
- Read 180
- And much more

To get on to Clever go to our Tarpon Springs Middle School Website and under Announcements you will find the directions. Or access this link: https://youtu.be/ernchhNK3_U.



Framed, by James Ponti

Get to know the only kid on the FBI Director's speed dial and several international criminals' most wanted lists all because of his Theory of All Small Things in this hilarious start to a brand-new middle grade mystery series. This is such a great read and I look forward to reading the series. In our media center here at TSMS. Check it out!!



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- Depression, anxiety and self-esteem problems
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1007 E Boyer St., Tarpon Springs, FL 34683 • www.tarponspringspediatrics.com

PCS VOLUNTEER

PCS volunteer procedures review:

- **New Volunteers** complete a *volunteer registration form* and provide a photo gov't issued ID to the Family & Community Liaison at the school, who then processes it. When the applicant has been Level 1 approved, they will receive an email from PCS with their user ID and password. (*Not the same as the parent portal login.*)
- **Existing/Returning Volunteers** *do not* need to complete another registration form. The Liaison at every school you wish to volunteer for will associate you with their school if you are already in the volunteer database. Simply give them your legal name to search for your profile.
- **Level 2** volunteers are allowed to be *unsupervised* with students and require an additional level of screening. Background checks are done through the FBI/FDLE and there is a cost of approximately \$45.00. You are approved as a Level 2 volunteer for *five* years.

Volunteer registration forms, Background Screening Procedures, and other information relating to volunteering, are available in the front office and online.

Welcome new Business & Community Partners

- Tarpon Springs First United Methodist Church
- H & R Block, Tarpon Springs
- Community Tampa Bay
- Twistee Treat – USA

Guess what's coming?

ALL PRO DAD'S - (A program of Family First, with Spokesman, Tony Dungy)

"A game plan for connecting with your kids"

Great News and Thank You's!

We have 25 mentors meeting with over 40 students at least twice a month

We have more Adopt-A-Class partners:

- The Taylor Family
- The Seidler Family
- Rotary Club of Tarpon Springs
- H & R Block

We have field trip chaperones:

- Finance Park (50+)
- Museum of Fine Arts (30+)
- Universal Studios
- Music Performances

Contact Family & Community Liaison,
Susan Emmons

emmonss@pcsb.org
727-943-5511 Ext. 2008



TARPON SPRINGS
MIDDLE SCHOOL
LEADERSHIP CONSERVATORY
for the Arts

'The Spartan Pride'

March 2019 • Issue 1

Published Four Times Per Year

Tarpon Springs Middle School

Pinellas County School Board

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Palm Harbor, FL 34683-5223

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IMPORTANT DATES

Mar. 8, 2019	No school for students
Mar. 9, 2019 – Mar.17, 2019	Spring Holidays – No school for students
Mar. 18, 2019	School reopen and classes resume
Mar. 29, 2019	Report cards
Apr. 19, 2019	No school for students
May. 27, 2019	Memorial Day Holiday- School and district offices closed
May. 29, 2019	Last day for all students
June. 7, 2019	Report cards
June 6-July 18 2019	Summer Bridge

LCA ART

Congratulations to Brigitte Beuning for having her artwork selected to receive prestigious 2019 Scholastic Art Award/s for the Pinellas County Art Region.

Brigitte Beuning was honored at the Pinellas County Art Region of the Scholastic Art. **Every student** was recognized on stage and their artwork projected as they receive their award/s.

The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards are the nation's longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in grades 7-12. In their 94-year history, the Awards have recognized some of America's most celebrated artists such as Andy Warhol, Richard Avedon, Robert Indiana, Cy Twombly, Ken Burns, John Baldessari and Kay WalkingStick.

The Pinellas County Art Region is an affiliate of the Scholastic Art Awards National Awards.



*Pictured Left to right
Ms. Baucic and Brigitte Beuning*



*Brigitte Beuning
Artwork submission*

CERTIFICATIONS ARE CERTAINLY IMPRESSIVE

Students at Tarpon Springs Middle School are rocking their certification tests again this year! Students in sixth, seventh and eighth grade are showing off their skills passing Microsoft Office tests as well as IC3 certifications. The Digital Information Technology class (high school credit) has over 45 tests passed, and three students have even earned their Master Certification in Office which means not only have they passed their bundle (Word, PowerPoint and Excel) but the Expert tests as well. Pictured left to right Greyson Loucks, Jaari Moreno and Abigail Smith are leading the charge this year. Overall, our students have passed 311 tests and it is only February! Congratulations to all!



FBLA State Competitions on the Horizon

District competitions for Future Business Leaders of America were held in December at the St. Petersburg College Seminole Campus and our students outdid themselves. The following students placed districtwide and will be competing at States in Orlando in March.

- Natalie Arn: Spreadsheet Competition – 1st place
- Gavyn Thinnes: Elevator Speech – 2nd place
- Marina Morris: Spreadsheet Competition- 5th place
- Connor Meslin: Business Etiquette- 7th place
- Gabriel Daniel: FBLA Facts – 7th place

We are so proud of their achievements and are looking forward to the state competitions. Go Spartans!



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MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTION POLICY

The basic course requirements are listed below for middle school student progression. Students must pass all twelve of these courses or higher level courses:

- Language Arts: Grades 6, 7, 8—Three middle grade or higher courses in language arts.
- Mathematics: Grades 6, 7, 8—Three middle grades or higher courses in mathematics.
- Science: Grades 6, 7, 8—Three middle grade or higher courses in science.
- Social Studies: Grades 6, 7, 8—Three middle grade or higher courses in social studies.

If a sixth or seventh grade student fails more than three (3) basic courses within an academic year, the student will be retained. If a sixth or seventh grade student fail 2 courses within an academic year, the student will be in jeopardy of being retained and will need to complete Plato Course Recovery to recover the course failed. If an eight grade student fails one of the 12 core courses prior to completing the eighth grade year, the student will be retained in 8th grade without promotion to high school.

PTSA[®] *everychild.onevoice.[®]*

Check out the PTSA's new tab on our school's website. Go to the Get Engaged tab and click on PTSA. See all of the latest events and what is happening with the PTSA. You can also read the Spartan Spotlight, the PTSA's monthly newsletter, and sign up to receive the newsletter directly from there. The next PTSA meeting will be held on **Monday, April 8th at 6:00** in the Media Center. Please join us to find out all of the great things that the PTSA is doing. Volunteers are needed for various committees. PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING! A list of committees can be found on the PTSA website. Consider getting engaged and volunteering your time. Our AstroSkate fundraiser is being held Friday, March 8th from 6-8pm. The cost is \$8.00 per person and includes skate rental, a slice of pizza and a drink. Also included, is admission to the public skate that starts at 8pm. We hope to see you there.

TSMS 2019 FSA/NGSSS OVERALL TESTING SCHEDULE

Test Date	Test	Grade	Time
April 1	FSA Writing	6th Grade	9:30-12:10
April 2	FSA Writing	8th Grade	9:30-11:35
April 3	FSA Writing	7th Grade	9:30-11:35
April 4	FSA Writing Makeup	6th Grade	
May 1	FSA Reading Session 1	All Grades	All Day
May 2	FSA Reading Session 2	All Grades	All Day
May 3	Makeup Testing	8th Grade	
May 6	FSA Math Session 1	6th/8th Grade	9:30-11:11
May 7	FSA Math Session 2 & 3	6th/8th Grade	9:30-12:10
May 8	Makeup Testing		
May 9	NGSSS Science Session 1 & 2	8th Grade	9:30-11:11
May 9	Civics EOC	7th Grade	All Day
May 10	Makeup Testing	8th Grade	
May 13	FSA Math Session 1	7th Grade	9:30-12:10
May 14	FSA Math Session 2 & 3	7th Grade	9:30-11:40
May 15	Alg/Geo EOC Session 1	7th/8th Grade	9:30-11:40
May 16	Alg/Geo EOC Session 2	7th/8th Grade	9:30-12:53

Note: All tests have at least 40 minutes built in for directions and late busses. FSA Makeups to be done in empty seats in existing sessions or on Fridays. Groups smaller than 25 will be scheduled and cannot be scheduled with the rest of the grade level.

Additional Schoolwide Testing/Schedule Modifications

May 22	PCS Final Exams	All Grades	Period 7
May 23	PCS Final Exams	All Grades	Period 1/4
May 24	PCS Final Exams	All Grades	Period 2/5
May 28	PCS Final Exams	All Grades	Period 3/6
May 29	Last Day of School	All Grades	



We need spots filled...



...Can YOU help?

**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

AVID

Our AVID students are diligently working towards excellence. With the focus on collaboration, we have practiced the idea of "having conversations to understand, rather than having conversations to respond". This takes place in our tutorials, philosophical chairs, and Socratic seminars.

PBIS

TSMS students are lined up patiently awaiting to get something from the PBIS store. Our students enjoy the PBIS school store where they can purchase with their PBIS points a variety of items. Students receive points for showing Responsibility, Accountability and Trustworthiness and Productivity. If you would like to donate items to our PBIS store, please contact Mrs. Fonner.



NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY HUMANE SOCIETY DRIVE

The National Junior Honor Society's Annual Humane Society Drive is going on for the month of March. Please help the NJHS fill the bin with donations for our pawed friends and make this the best year yet for the Humane Society Drive.

Thank you to all the students, staff and families for your help with this project.



STUDENTS POETRY PUBLISHED IN SPRING 2019

By Abigail Smith and Jaari Moreno

Many of Ms. Mathews' sixth and eighth grade students have been accepted into two national poetry anthologies- Anthology of Poetry for Young Americans and Creative Communication. In May 2019, the pieces selected will be published for all to enjoy. We are honored to support students in their authentic writing endeavors.

Grade 6

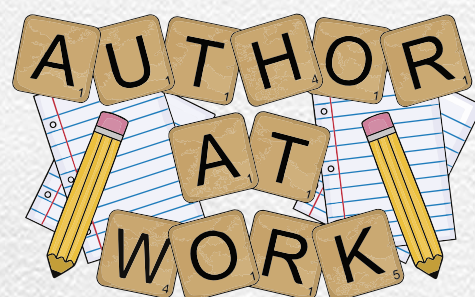
Bailey Aliberto
Dasia Alston
Henry Badurek
Justin Baillargeon
Leila Barron-Nunez
Brody Beuning
Jayla Blackshear
Ava Bond
Jenna Bright
Kiriakos Christou
Ashlynn Cole
Hailey Coslop
Aiden Crisp
Akhim Dale
Holly Dexter
Christian Diaz
Jacob Dodgin
James Dowdy
Alexander Echeverria
Kaitlyn Facchini
Paige Ferguson
Sofia Filomeno
Coquina Filor
Zaniya Fort
Addison Gardner
Brooklin Gianaros
Tessa Golden
Emely Garcia-Ortega
Evelyn Gomez-Perez
Evangeline Guzman
Ariana Hooker
Ryan Holthaus

Olivia Johnson
Arabella Kingsbury
Olivia Kotary
Nicholas Koursiotis
Andrew Lakey
Vivian Lunsway
Theofilos Maglis
Joey Matera
Hayden McGee
Tristan Natale
Mia Nater
Delilah Nelson
Gianna Pierre-Louis
Damian Pumo
Hosanna Reddick
Ricki Reddick
Braelyn Richardson
Kevin Rivera
Xavier Segobin
Izabella Sprenger
Kylie Summers
Nicholas Suriano
Bree Tindell
Andrew Tran
Tracy Tran
Landon Turner
Emma Wells
Ayden Zadorozny
Athanasia Zagorianos
Logan Zengolewicz
Domonick Zoidis

Grade 8

Alyssa Abraham
Madison Abrams
Jasmine Alimonos
Brigitte Beuning
Noland Bulmer
Vanessa Capestany
Isabella Cruz
Christopher D'aleo
Cara DeCan
Camila De Vincenti
Aidan Gause
Anthony Hamati
Ryan Hite
Ciniya Holland
Lauren Holthaus
Michael Jones
Ismael Kabir
Austin Karp
Katerina Lecourezos
George Lekkas
Greyson Loucks
Olivia Markowich
Aidan Martinez

Ethan Martinez
Matthew Matos
Morgan May
Steven Monokandilos
Jaari Moreno
Marina Morris
Phoebe Muller
Ben Nguyen
Luke Ostrowsky
Mason Ramey
Katelyn Ramsey
Lauren Reese
Aysia Renaud
Ella Richardson
Jacob Schreech
Jake Sinnott
Giana Skeen
Abigail Smith
Lauren Staunton
Nickolaos Trikilis
Grace Walker
John Wisner





TALK WITH YOUR TEEN ABOUT E-CIGARETTES

A Tip Sheet for Parents

BEFORE THE TALK

KNOW THE FACTS

- Get credible information about e-cigarettes and young people at E-Cigarettes.SurgeonGeneral.gov

BE PATIENT & READY TO LISTEN

- Avoid criticism and encourage open dialogue.
- Remember, your goal is to have a conversation, not deliver a lecture.
- It's OK for your conversation to take place over time, in bits and pieces.

SET A POSITIVE EXAMPLE BY BEING TOBACCO-FREE

- If you use tobacco, it's never too late to quit. For free help, visit smokefree.gov or call 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

START THE CONVERSATION

FIND THE RIGHT MOMENT

- A more natural discussion will increase the likelihood that your teen will listen. Rather than saying "we need to talk", you might ask your teen what he or she thinks about a situation you witness together, such as:
 - » Seeing someone use an e-cigarette in person or on video.
 - » Passing an e-cigarette shop when you are walking or driving.
 - » Seeing an e-cigarette advertisement in a store, magazine or online.

ASK FOR SUPPORT

- Not sure where to begin? Ask your healthcare provider to talk to your teen about the risks of e-cigarettes.
- You might also suggest that your teen talk with other trusted adults, such as relatives, teachers, faith leaders, coaches or counselors whom you know are aware of the risks of e-cigarettes.
- These supportive adults can help reinforce your message as a parent.

ANSWER THEIR QUESTIONS

- Here are some questions and comments you might get from your teen about e-cigarettes and some ideas about how can answer them.

Why don't you want me to use e-cigarettes?

○ Science shows that e-cigarettes contain ingredients that are addictive and could harm different parts of your body.

○ Right now, your brain is still developing, which means you are more vulnerable to addiction. Many e-cigarettes contain nicotine, and using nicotine can change your brain to make you crave more. It can also affect your memory and concentration. I don't want that for you!

○ E-cigarettes contain chemicals that are harmful. When people use e-cigarettes, they breathe in tiny particles that can harm their lungs.

○ The cloud that people exhale from e-cigarettes can expose you to chemicals that are not safe to breathe.

What's the big deal about nicotine?

- Your brain is still developing until about age 25. The Surgeon General reported that nicotine is addictive and can harm your brain development.
- Using nicotine at your age may make it harder for you to concentrate, learn or control your impulses.
- Nicotine can even train your brain to be more easily addicted to other drugs like meth and cocaine.
- I don't say this to scare you, but I want you to have the facts because nothing is more important to me than your health and safety.

Aren't e-cigarettes safer than conventional cigarettes?

- Because your brain is still developing, scientific studies show that it isn't safe for you to use any tobacco product that contains nicotine, including e-cigarettes.

Aren't e-cigarettes safer than conventional cigarettes? (con'td)

- Whether you get nicotine from an e-cigarette or a cigarette, it's still risky.
- Some e-cigarette batteries have even exploded and hurt people.

I (or my friends) have tried e-cigarettes and it's no big deal

- I appreciate your honesty. In the future, I hope you (or your friends) will stay away from e-cigarettes and other tobacco products, including cigarettes. Science shows that e-cigarettes contain ingredients that are addictive and could harm different parts of your body.
- Next time we go to the doctor, let's ask about the risks of nicotine, e-cigarettes and other tobacco products.

You used tobacco, so why shouldn't I?

- If I could change my life over again, I never would have started smoking. I learned that people who smoke cigarettes are much more likely to develop, and die from, certain diseases than people who don't smoke. This was really scary, so I quit smoking.
- Quitting was really hard, and I don't want you to go through that. The best thing is to not start.

I thought e-cigarettes didn't have nicotine - just water and flavoring?

- I used to think that too. But may e-cigarettes have nicotine. There are also other chemicals in them that can be harmful.
- Let's look at the Surgeon General's website on e-cigarettes (e-cigarettes.SurgeonGeneral.gov) together so you can see for yourself.

KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR

JUUL device

"Juuling" is a common term used for a specific brand of vaping device. It resembles a piece of computer equipment or device and very easy to conceal.

- E-cigarettes and vaping devices are available in many different configurations. You may or may not even suspect your child is vaping or using e-cigarettes.
- These devices can look like a fake cigarette, a computer thumb drive, a fancy box or an ink pen.

JUUL refill cartridges

JUUL charging device

COMMON FORMS OF E-CIGARETTES



ASSORTMENT OF VARIOUS DEVICES



- The liquid used in e-cigarettes come in various forms and containers also. A recent trend has also been the introduction of liquid THC (aka marijuana) used for vaping. It has the odor of marijuana and is illegal just like marijuana but it is considered an extract concentrate and is a felony to possess in Florida.



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THE PRIDE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Tarpon Springs Middle School is proud to announce the 2018-2019 Pride Award Recipients for the following subjects:

- Social Studies: Drake Shannon-Sonderman
- Math: Patrick Sweeney
- Science: Noland Bulmer
- Spanish: Georgios Glynatsis
- Writing: Greyson Loucks

Congratulations to the above recipients their hard work and determination has taken them to new heights.



Pictured Left to Right: Drake Shannon-Sonderman, Georgios Glynatsis, Greyson Loucks, Patrick Sweeney and Noland Bulmer

NORTH PINELLAS BAND CAMP

The 2019 North Pinellas Band Camp will be taking place on June 3-7, 2019 at Tarpon Springs Middle School! This is a 1-week summer program that offers students the opportunity to begin or extend their training on a band instrument. Our camp offers a variety of experiences to help your student grow as a musician. This includes concert band, master classes for all instruments, music fundamental training and free music resources.

Students are given the highest quality instruction from professional teachers and musicians. They will build their skills as musicians and prepare for continued development in their own school band programs. **No prior band experience is necessary.** Our camp has a beginning band program that will train and outfit students with everything they need to have success!

The North Pinellas Band Camp is unique in other ways as well. We offer students the opportunity to expand their musical horizons through the idiom of jazz, the percussive arts, guitar class or get an introduction to marching band "fun"amentals. NPBC also offers students leadership training during the camp day. Our focus is to provide the campers with opportunities to learn about their own leadership qualities, team building, character values and apply them through planned daily activities.

The camp is open to students ages 9 – 15 years old. The hours are 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$140.00 per student. Visit the website to register at www.northpinellasbandcamp.com. If you have any questions, contact Mr. Chris Touchton, NPBC administrator at northpinellasbandcamp@gmail.com.

NPBC is great place for beginners to get a head start before entering middle school, preparations for all-state and all-county auditions or students learning new instruments. Join us for a musical adventure this summer!