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Innovation"



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FOR THE PARENTS,
STUDENTS, AND COMMUNITY
OF TEAGUE MIDDLE SCHOOL





# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year!

The second semester has begun! What a great thing that we get to begin again.

Here are suggestions for our students for the New Year!

- Get More Sleep
- Don't Procrastinate
- Practice Healthy Habits
- Focus on Learning
- Study Better
- Be a Good Listener
- Ask for Feedback from your teacher

We are working hard to promote positive relationships, increase a sense of safety on our campus, and of course, increase academic achievement. Students and teachers are disaggregating data to determine where our focus should be. Please help us by ensuring your student comes prepared to take advantage of the amazing educational opportunities available to them here at Teague Middle School.

I want to invite you to think about Weekend Academic Academies and Spring Break Boost Camps. Shortly, we will send a survey out to our parents and students to determine which subjects we might offer additional support for on Saturdays and this coming Spring Break. We may also be able to offer some elective coursework if there is sufficient interest.

I invite your continued participation as a member of the Teague Middle School family. Hopefully by now you've found your calling as a supporting member of School Advisory Council, PTSA, or as a Dividend. Your support is critical in providing the level of services to our students necessary to ensure academic success.

Be sure to check out our School's website at https://teague.scps.k12.fl.us/. We also have a Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/TeagueMSTigers which is loaded with information about Teague activities.

As always, if there are concerns regarding your student, don't hesitate to contact me. Let us know if we can do more to support your student's achievement.

Thank you for the privilege of educating your child. It's our pleasure.

Respectfully, Connie E. Collins, Ed.D Principal

**Positive Behavior Support Mission Statement:** To institutionalize a consistent positive culture supported by the school community where expectations are clearly identified, communicated, and understood for positive behavior and mutual respect.

Please visit our website for more information about our school.

www.teague.scps.k12.fl.us





# COUNSELORS CORNER

What to Do (And Not Do) When Children Are Anxious How to respect feelings without empowering fears Clark Goldstein, PhD

According to the National Institutes of Health, nearly 1 in 3 of all adolescents ages 13-18 will experience an anxiety disorder. These numbers have been rising steadily. While we don't know for sure the reason for the rise, there are a number of factors that could be contributing, for example: genetics, brain chemistry, personality, and life events.

# So, what can parents, teachers, or anyone else who interacts with children and teens do?

- Be aware of the signs of anxiety:
  - Recurring fears and worries about routine parts of everyday life
  - Changes in behavior, such as irritability
  - · Avoiding activities, school, or social interactions
  - Dropping grades or school avoidance
  - Trouble sleeping or concentrating
  - Substance use or other risky behaviors
  - Chronic physical complaints, such as headaches, stomachaches, or fatigue

#### Tips for Helping Children escape the cycle of anxiety.

- 1. The goal isn't to eliminate anxiety, but to help a child manage it. It can be very difficult to watch a child struggle with anxiety, but the goal of the parent is to help the child learn to tolerate and cope with the feelings, not to try and remove all the potential triggers of anxiety. Learning to cope and manage these feelings promotes self-confidence.
- 2. Don't avoid doing things just because they make a child anxious. Helping children avoid the things they are afraid of will make them feel better in the short term, but it reinforces the anxiety over the long run. If a child in an uncomfortable situation gets upset, starts to cry, and the parents whisk them away, or removes the thing they are afraid of, then the child has learned that coping mechanism, and that cycle has the potential to repeat itself.
- 3. Express positive-but realistic-expectations. We can't promise a child that their fears are unrealistic- that he won't fail a test, that he'll have fun ice skating, or that another child won't laugh at him during class. But you can express confidence that he's going to be okay, he will be able to manage it, and that, as he faces his fears, the anxiety level will drop over

time. This gives him confidence that your expectations are realistic, and that you're not going to ask him to do something that he can't handle.

- 4. Respect his/her feelings, but don't empower them. It is important to validate the child's feelings. Validation doesn't always mean agreement. If your child is terrified about giving a presentation at school, you don't want to belittle the fears, but you also don't want to amplify them as well. Listen and be empathetic, help to understand what is causing them to feel anxious, and provide encouragement that they will be able to face their fear. "I know you're scared, and that's okay. I know you can do this and I am here to support you."
- 5. Avoid asking leading questions. Encourage your child to talk about their feelings by asking open ended questions rather than leading questions. Instead of asking, "Are you anxious about the big test?" try asking, "How do you feel about the upcoming test?"
- 6. Encourage the child to tolerate his/her anxiety. The goal is for your child engage in life and to let the anxiety take its natural curve. The anxiety will drop over time as he/she continues to have contact with the stressor. It might not drop to zero, it might not drop as quickly as you would like, but that's how we get over our fears.
- 7. Think things through with the child. Sometimes it helps to talk through what would happen if a child's fear came true-how would they handle it? Having a plan can reduce the uncertainty in a healthy, effective way.
- 8. Try to model healthy ways of handling anxiety. Kids are perceptive. Let them hear or see you managing your stress calmly, tolerating it, and feeling good about getting through it. Ways to manage and cope with anxiety may consist of: identifying and learning to manage triggers, deep breathing exercises, questioning your thought pattern, use aromatherapy (essential oils), exercising, and/or journaling.

Parenting an anxious child can be very difficult and exhausting. Your child needs you to remain calm and hopeful in the face of anxiety. It takes time and practice to learn to cope with anxiety. Parents can also seek outside help to help your child learn the tools he/she needs to cope.

Resources: https://www.psycom.net, https://healthychildren.org /English/health-issues/conditions/emotional-problems/Pages/Anxiety-Disorders.aspx







# PTSA

The PTSA Outreach Committee needs your help to Stock the Teague Food Pantry! Students can bring in nonperishable food items for our "Stack the Stage" competition! Items can be brought to the cafeteria stage from 9am-9:30am Wednesday, March 1st through Friday March 3rd where the PTSA will keep count of donations made by grade level! Whichever grade level brings in the most items by Friday will receive a special treat during Tiger Time on Wednesday March 8th! This Stock the Pantry event will conclude on Saturday March 4th with a community food drive at the bus loop from 9am-12pm.

#### Food Items Needed:

Individual packets Oatmeal, Pop Tarts, granola bars, individual bagged snacks of all kinds, mac & cheese, rice, pasta, pasta sauce, canned vegetables, soup, peanut butter, jelly, box mashed potatoes, applesauce, canned fruit, unrefrigerated liquid milk, canned tuna, canned chicken, vienna sausages, canned beans, spaghetti o's, all toiletries are also appreciated!

Tigers Care Continues to work toward meeting the needs of Teague students and families. Signing up as a contributor to Tigers Care will add you to the growing support system for these students and their families. Contributions can range from food donations, clothing, basic needs, as well as sponsorship for PE uniforms and more. Families in need will remain anonymous to contributors and volunteers of the Tigers Care program. School counselors and the social worker will work with Tigers Care to arrange for items that are needed as well as distribution information and pickup times. The volunteers

for Tigers Care are so excited to get this program off the ground and to work with contributors to make a difference for those families in need of support.

To sign up as a contributor or as a family in need of assistance, please scan the QR code below to fill out your information. *The Tigers Care Team* 

# Our PTSA is bringing Colorblast to Teague:

This fun event will begin on Feb 6th and run through Feb 17th. The event date for 7th grade will be Feb 15th, Wednesday, due to a field trip they have planned for Friday. 6th and 8th graders will have their event on Friday, Feb 17th. Look for information to be sent out beginning Feb 6th.

Papa John's Nifty 50 Cards will be sold beginning the end of March or early April. This fundraiser was changed due to the amazing opportunity of having Colorblast in February. Information will be sent out closer to the fundraiser dates.

### **PTSA Reflections:**

Congratulations to our 2022-2023 Reflections winner and participants!

Caroline Conway has won at the Seminole County level for middle school and we will see if she advances to the state level in the next few months! Thank you to all our participants who created art for the contest: Patrick Murello, Jocelyn Smith, Jillian Spitler and Faye Elduff.

Are you interested in being part of the PTSA next year? We would love to have more parents join us! Click the link and let us find the best match for your time and talents; https://forms.gle/T5zhvzfqV6ASvrPR6

See you at the meeting 4/19 6 p.m. in the Teague Cafeteria!







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# **SOCIAL STUDIES**

#### 6th Grade World History:

During the 3rd 9 Weeks the 6th grade students will explore two major ancient civilizations in Greece and Rome. With Greece we will focus on the development of the various city-states and the themes of Democracy. We will then trace these achievements to see how they impacted future civilizations. With Rome we will be focusing on the beginnings of the Roman Republic. We will analyze what life was like in the Republic and trace the impact of their achievements in the modern day. We will also compare the citizenship of Rome to that of Greece through a DBQ (Document Based Question) which will require students to defend their claims and use text evidence from the documents to support their answers.

If you have any questions please message Mr. Bastian (Michael\_Bastian@scps.k12.fl.us), Mr. Rish (James\_Rish@scps.k12.fl.us), Mr. Bailes (baileskj@myscps.us) or Mr. Fabris (fabrisrz@myscps.us).

#### 7th Grade Civics:

Seventh grade Civics students are currently learning about all their rights in regards to the Bill of Rights as well as the history of the 13th, 14th, 15th amendments and how the 19th, 24th, and 26th amendments expanded our democracy! We will be moving into the Landmark Supreme Court cases and how they shaped our society.

We will also be covering the Ocoee Massacre, prior to spring break. This is REQUIRED INSTRUCTION: According to HB 1213: Educational Instruction of Historical Events, the bill directs the history of the 1920 Election Day Riots (Massacre) to be included in required instruction.

Civics EOC is in early May this year. Tutoring has been available and will continue to be so leading up to the exam. Please contact guidance or Ms. Stein (steinaz@myscps.us) for more information.

Please check for this information in your child's eCampus pages to make sure that they are working on wrapping up the end of the year. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns: Ms. Stein (steinaz@myscps.us), Mr. Fabris (fabrisrz@myscps.us) or Ms. Cowan (djc@myscps.us)

#### 8th Grade U.S. History:

The 8th grade U.S. History teachers would like to thank all students and parents for a productive year of learning in U.S. History classes! Please continue to put forth the great effort, hard work, and respectful behavior that is necessary to be successful until the end of the school year. 8th grade students need to be prepared for the academic rigor and expectations of turning in all work in a timely manner to succeed

in high school. Please know that LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED DURING THE 4TH NINE WEEKS unless you have an excused absence or absences. Having a positive growth mindset and staying organized will help you reach your full potential!

During the 3rd 9 Weeks we are moving into the beginnings of our country and the contributions of our early presidents. We then will focus on how America expanded from sea to shining sea in a matter of decades through things like the Louisiana Purchase, Gadsden Purchase and the Mexican American war. We will take time to focus on Andrew Jackson and how he greatly changed our political systems. Finally, we will start to see the differences between the North and the South and how the actions of each set them on a collision course in the civil war.

During the 4th Nine Weeks Grading Period, the 8th grade students will be learning the following content in U.S. History: LESSON 21: "A DIVIDING NATION, 1848-1861," LESSON 22: "THE CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865," and LESSON 23: "THE RECONSTRUCTION ERA".

The last DBQ or "Document-Based Questions" Activity will be on The Civil War: "What Caused the Civil War?" during the Fourth Nine Weeks Grading Period. It is extremely beneficial for ALL students to learn how to analyze and make inferences from primary and secondary sources in U.S. History. ALL 8th grade students will be completing the DBQ on the Causes of the Civil War.

Please remember that the online textbook version of History Alive! is available in the PORTAL...simply click on the purple "TCI" tile.

Students will take the 4th Nine Weeks Benchmark Assessment in U.S. History (PRE-AP, ADV, and STANDARD classes) before the end of the school year. 8th grade teachers will help students prepare for the exam, which will cover the causes of the Civil War and the course and consequences of the Civil War.

ALL 8th grade students should have registered for LBHS classes for next year. Please contact the LBHS Guidance Department if you need any help, support, or assistance using the following link: https://www.lakebrantley.com/student-services/

IF you are NOT going to LBHS next year, please contact Teague's Guidance Department for help with registering for the high school that you will be attending at 407-320-1554. All 8th grade students should be registered for the high school that they plan to attend.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND SUPPORT! Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns: Mr. King (dave\_king @scps.k12.fl.us), Mr. Klump (tom\_klump@scps.k12.fl.us), and Ms. Manuel (melissa manuel@scps.k12.fl.us)









#### **MATH**

Students are doing well and progressing through the content. In the third quarter, we will concentrate on Quadratic Equations and Functions. Please encourage your child to stay focused on their learning and to complete all assignments on time. Additional practice, such as homework, can bring stability to students' academic achievement. Additionally, please refer to Skyward and eCampus regularly to obtain information regarding grades, assignments, announcements, additional resources, and other important information about your child's Algebra I Honors class.

### **TEAM MEMBERS WANTED**

Battle of the Books is an exciting opportunity for students to showcase their knowledge of the 2022-2023 Sunshine State Young Readers Award Books. The Battle of the Books takes place in the spring and is a fast-paced question and answer competition about the books between other SCPS middle schools. Students will be expected to read all 15 books and attend meetings to discuss the books and prepare for the competition throughout the school year.

An informational meeting will take place on Thursday, January 26 Afterschool in Room 6-108.

Students will need to have the permission slip signed by a parent or guardian to attend the meeting.

*If there are any questions, please email Mrs. Hester.* 



# FUTURE EVENTS EVENTS-MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Fuzzys Taco Shop PTSA Spirit Night February 9th 5pm to 8pm
- Color Blast PTSA Fundraiser February 6th to 17th
- PTSA Food Drive March 1st to 3rd and Saturday March 4th
- Brusters Spirit Night March 9th 6pm to 8 pm
- 7th Grade Field Trip to the Brevard Zoo February 17th
- Spring Break March 13th to 17th
- 8th Grade Dance May 19th 6:30 to 8:30

# **TMS Tigers**



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#### **SCIENCE**

### 6th grade Science

Happy Quarter 4 from the 6th grade Science team! 6th grade students will now study the following units: 6- Beyond our World and 7- Physics Box for the fourth quarter. Upcoming labs include gravity exploration activities, and two weeks of hands-on physics lab experiences.

Parents and guardians, please ensure your child is bringing their Interactive Science Notebook and a pencil every day, and that your student is studying their unit vocabulary every night for at least 5 minutes. The continuous practice will help prepare them for their weekly vocab quizzes, and unit assessments. There are links to premade Quizlets, which is a free resource, where students can study online. The links are posted on each teacher's eCampus.

A very fun field trip is coming up for all 6th grade students at Teague! We will be going to The Orlando Science Center! The field trip is set for April 5th, and is scheduled to leave campus promptly at 9:30 and arrive back before dismissal. Please keep an eye out for a permission slip and more information to be sent home with your student.

#### 8th Grade Science

Eighth graders are finishing up their 5th unit on the hierarchy and organization of organisms. As spring approaches, it's time to prepare for the SSA test in May. 8th grade Science teachers have planned many classroom activities to get ready! Please continue to check your child's science notebook and ask them about what they are learning. Asking them questions will help them to recall the information and use the vocabulary terms learned in class. Vocabulary development is a key component in helping them to succeed!

Sea World Forms and Payment through myschoolbucks are due by March 31. The field trip to Sea World will be held on Friday, April 21. Please email Mrs. Holloway if you have any questions regarding the trip at dicecl@myscps.us

# **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)**

Across all grade levels for English Language Arts (ELA), classes began the third quarter by resetting Teague's high expectations for behavior and academic focus. Students reviewed their progress on the semester benchmark by examining their scores, identifying strengths and opportunities for improvement while setting goals and action plans for the second semester. Students performed their second FL-FAST ELA Progress Monitoring as well as completed their second essay writing assessment through Write Score. As soon as scores are returned, this data will be analyzed to guide instruction and remediation at scaffolded levels to address the needs of all students ahead of the final testing season starting in April.

Eighth Grade is embarking on a new unit of study entitled: No Risk, No Reward. This unit is dedicated to informational texts focused on historical events, such as the sinking of the Titanic and the Challenger disaster to emphasize the overarching unit's theme. The informational text skills of emphasis will include text features, central idea with text evidence support and text structure.

Seveth grade is undertaking the unit of Love and Loss to determine what they can learn from such extreme emotions and life altering experiences. A majority of literary works will be poetry derived from the Romantic period. From Shakespeare to Poe, students will hone their ability to identify themes, the use of figurative language and how they both impact overall meaning.

Sixth grade is tackling the unit: Personal Best which poses the essential question: Which qualities of character matter most? Similar to eighth grade, the majority of selections are informational and include historical figures such as the Nobel Prize winner, Malala Yousafzai, and Harriett Tubman, a "Conductor" on the Underground Railroad. This unit's outlined goals are to identifying different types of rhetoric (logos, pathos, ethos), determine strong claims, identify supportive evidence and counterpoints as the reader traces the argument made by the authors.







### **6-8 PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Greetings parents and students,

Hope everyone enjoyed a restful holiday break, and all students are geared up and ready to go for our remaining semester. We are so excited to have you in our Physical Education classes and have a variety of learning activities planned to improve skill levels in several areas.

We truly want them to have a positive experience. Your student should have completed the following during the first week of classes:

- Brought in a combination lock and had a locker assigned (no key locks)
- Purchased or brought in a uniform
- Turned in the participation form to Mrs. Chalmers
- Have SNEAKERS available to wear. Per our SCPS dress code, sneakers are the ONLY shoe permitted in PE class
- Identified a pair of sweatpants and a sweatshirt or jacket to wear if the weather is cool Uniforms are sold year-round. They may be purchased using myschoolbucks. Purchase your uniform online and have your student bring in the receipt in order to pick up the uniform. Cost is 17\$ for a complete set. Problems with myschoolbucks? Call 1-855-832-5226 Mon-Fri from 7 AM -7 PM.

Additionally, the weather in Florida can be unpredictable and change at a moment's notice. Your student is still expected to dress out for physical education class if the weather is cold; however, we want them to be comfortable. They should still wear their PE shirt under their sweatshirt or jacket and bring sweatpants to change into for class instead of their PE shorts. Remember that they need to bring these pants to change into; they cannot just wear them to school.

Grades for students in physical education class are determined in four main areas: dressing out, participation, quizzes on ecampus, and physical skills tests. All teachers update their grades on Skyward regularly. Please check your student's grade periodically and let us know if you have any questions. A class syllabus, which detailed class expectations and our grading policy, was emailed home the first week of school. It is also on ecampus. Please email your teacher if you have questions regarding your student's grade in class.

Finally, here are a few tips to help your student be successful and have a positive experience in physical education class:

- Please remind your student to check their lock each day to make sure it is locked. Students should turn the dial and then pull down to make sure the lock is secure before walking away from it. All belongings should be locked in a large locker during PE class. Then, use your assigned small locker as your overnight locker.
- Students' last names should be written in the space provided on the outside of each piece of their physical education uniform. This helps reduce theft as well as aid the teachers in finding the owners of misplaced uniforms.
- Chilly weather is just around the corner. Students must bring something warm, like sweatpants, to change into in order to receive credit for dressing out. They may not wear their street clothes and receive credit. Start shopping around now to find some sweatpants and a sweatshirt or jacket for your student. It's a good idea to have these ready to go!
- In case the weather turns back to the "hotter" side, remind your student he or she may bring a water bottle to physical education class each day. It is important for students to stay hydrated in order to keep them safe.
- Dress out and participate to the best of your ability EVERY SINGLE DAY!! J Please feel free to call or email your student's teacher with any questions or concerns. Thank you!





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Please congratulate Teague's Jr. Thespian Troupe #89527 on a successful run at State Festival.

Teague took 8 events (performances and technical designs) and earned four excellents and four superiors!

- Emily Scroth
- Katie Freeburg
- Lillian Poulin
- Peyton Southerland
- Sammy Williams
- Thaomy Tran
- Cameron Hinson
- Samantha Hayford
- Kate Galante
- Megan McCarthy
- Landon Harrison
  - Matilda Hlavin Well done, troupe #89527! Way to make Teague proud!