

EASTON MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK 2018-2019



201 Peachblossom Rd.
Easton, MD 21601

Phone: (410) 822-2910
Fax: (410) 822 -7210

Principal's Welcome

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! We are thrilled for our school year to begin in just a few short weeks. Our goal at EMS is to ensure that every student is being challenged with rigorous instruction through high quality and culturally relevant instruction, which prepares all of our students to be college and career ready. This will happen through teachers delivering the highest quality of education in a safe, supportive and equitable learning environment. In addition, it is imperative that families and schools work together to achieve the most success! I am committed to helping each student achieve their very best! Every student is valued and worthy of our best effort.

The 2018-2019 year will be busy, exciting and very rewarding for each student. We at EMS want you to become a large part of our school community and join us in making this the very best experience for your children. We will be informing you throughout the year of the many opportunities to take part in. We have several committees and/or clubs that we will be asking for you to consider to become a part of throughout the school year. This includes our PBIS Committee, The Strategic Planning Committee, and Parent Advisory Committee. If you are interested in sponsoring an after-school club, please reach out to Mr. Tom Callahan. (tcallahan@talbotschools.org) These are just a few of the many opportunities to become a part of at Easton Middle School. Please make certain to update your email addresses on PowerSchool so you can receive our messages through School Messenger. We will also be posting various events on our Facebook Page, Twitter, and Instagram. This will give you a glimpse and snapshot of life at Easton Middle School. In addition, newsletters will be sent out to families with important information consistently throughout the school year.

We are looking so forward to our upcoming school year and encourage you to be involved as much as you can be. Students are our number one priority and through family and school collaboration, we can make this year the best year yet!

I am looking forward to getting to see all of our students who are returning and getting to know our new 6th graders and families! If there is anything I can do to make your child's experience or your experience any better, please feel free to let me know via phone, visit, or email.

Sincerely,

Jackie Valcik

Jackie Valcik

Principal

jvalcik@talbotschools.org

410-822-2910

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Talbot County Public Schools
School Year 2018/2019

September 4	Schools Open -- All students report to school
September 28	½ Day for Students
October 12	No School for Students
November 7	½ Day for Students
November 8	No School for Students- PM- Parent Conferences
November 9	Schools Closed- Waterfowl
November 21-23	Schools Closed – Thanksgiving
December 21	½ Day for Students
December 22-31	Schools Closed – Winter Break
January 1	Schools Closed – Winter Break
January 2	Schools Reopen
January 21	Schools Closed – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 28 *	No School for Students- Transition Day
February 15	½ Day for Students
February 18 *	Schools Closed – Presidents’ Day*
April 5	½ Day for Students
April 18-22	Schools Closed - Spring Break (18th *)
May 17	½ Day for Students
May 27	Schools Closed – Memorial Day
June 14**	½ Day for Students - Last Student Day

* Potential make up day for inclement weather.

** This date may change due to inclement weather.

Four snow days are built into this calendar.

Who's Who at Easton Middle School

Administration

Principal	Mrs. Jackie Valcik	jvalcik@talbotschools.org
Assistant Principal	Mrs. Carolanne Burkhardt	cburkhardt@talbotschools.org
Assistant Principal	Mr. Tom Callahan	tcallahan@talbotschools.org
Office Manager	Mrs. Victoria Jones	vjones@talbotschools.org
Secretary	Mrs. Angela Brooks	abrooks@talbotschools.org

Wellness Center (Room C147)

Nurse	Mrs. Patty Whitby	pwhitby@talbotschools.org
Health Tech	Mrs. Brenda Lopez	blopez@talbotschools.org

Special Education Office (Room C151)

Secretary	Ms. Stacie Rice	srice@talbotschools.org
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Guidance Office (Room C142)

6 th Grade Counselor	Ms. Kerry Brigerman	kbrigerman@talbotschools.org
7 th Grade Counselor	Ms. Beth Hall	bhall@talbotschools.org
8 th Grade Counselor	Ms. Kindel Kimball	kkimball@talbotschools.org
Secretary	Ms. Pam Burrows	pburrows@talbotschools.org

Security

Deputy Clint Bordley, School Resource Office

Mr. Donald Cooper dcooper@talbotschools.org

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Easton Middle School used PBIS, or Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports to support student through clear behavioral expectations. The goal of Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports at Easton Middle School is to provide an effective, safe and positive work environment for students and staff. Expectations for behaviors are set for each area of the school building from the classroom and hallways to the cafeteria and gymnasium. Throughout the year there will be school-wide PBIS incentives for reaching academic, behavioral and attendance goals.

Below are The 3 Rs - for which our students are held accountable.

	Classroom	Halls	Bathrooms	Cafeteria	Media Center	Assembly	Outside
Be Respectful	<p>Raise your hand and wait to be recognized before speaking.</p> <p>Use kind words.</p> <p>Keep hands to yourself.</p>	<p>Respect others' space.</p> <p>Take turns.</p> <p>Respect hallway decorations</p> <p>Hold the door for the person behind you.</p>	<p>Respect others' privacy.</p> <p>Keep bathrooms clean.</p>	<p>Address adults using Mr., Mrs. or Ms.</p> <p>Say please and thank you.</p> <p>Use inside voices.</p>	<p>Listen during the speaker's presentation.</p> <p>Keep your conversations on topic with a low volume.</p>	<p>Sit in one spot quietly during the presentation.</p> <p>Use appropriate applause.</p> <p>Listen and watch.</p>	<p>Use kind words.</p> <p>Include all who want to participate.</p>
Be Responsible	<p>Turn homework in on time.</p> <p>Complete classwork and try your best.</p> <p>Listen to the speaker.</p> <p>Work quietly.</p> <p>Do your part during group work.</p>	<p>Use quiet voices.</p> <p>Walk on the right side.</p> <p>Go directly where you are supposed to be going.</p> <p>Stand and wait patiently.</p> <p>Pick up litter.</p>	<p>Wash hands with soap and water.</p> <p>Use quiet voices.</p>	<p>Practice good table manners.</p> <p>Eat your own food.</p> <p>Clean up eating area.</p>	<p>Whisper.</p> <p>Return books on time.</p> <p>Treat books with care.</p> <p>Push in chairs.</p>	<p>Arrive on time.</p> <p>Sit on benches and keep your hands to yourself.</p> <p>Return all materials used during the assembly.</p>	<p>Return all outside materials.</p> <p>Behave safely.</p>
Be Ready	<p>Have all materials at all times.</p> <p>Turn in assignments on time.</p> <p>Study for tests.</p>	<p>Return directly to class.</p> <p>Be aware of others.</p> <p>Line up prior to walking in the halls.</p>	<p>Use the bathrooms between classes.</p> <p>Return promptly to class.</p>	<p>Have money ready.</p> <p>Use the bathroom before returning to class.</p>	<p>Check out books before the bell rings.</p> <p>Line up to be dismissed or return to class.</p>	<p>Bring any necessary materials.</p> <p>Be ready to be dismissed by teachers.</p>	<p>Line up promptly when directed.</p>

Easton Middle School's 3 Rs

STUDENT DRESS CODE- 10.15 AR (11/15/2017)

I. The following minimum standards of dress apply to all students:

A. Students may not wear attire that is disruptive to the school environment, that promotes illegal or harmful activities, or that endangers the health or safety of that student or others during school hours or school-related activities. Prohibited attire includes, but is not limited to:

1. Hats, toboggans, hoods, or other head coverings (bandanas, wraps, etc.) and sunglasses, which must be removed upon entering the school building and stored appropriately. Headwear is permitted only for health, safety, or religious reasons and must be approved by the school administrator.
2. Outerwear (jackets and coats made specifically for outdoor use), which must be removed upon entering the school building and stored appropriately. The school administrator may alter this requirement as necessary for the specific conditions within the school.
3. Clothing that depicts, implies, or promotes profanity, obscenity, vulgarity, violence, weapons, gang activity or gang affiliation, sexually suggestive material, or the use or distribution of illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or other harmful products. Clothing shall not convey establishments or products whose names can be reasonably interpreted or construed as carrying a "double meaning" involving gang activity or gang affiliation sexual activity, or any other type of prohibited subject identified in this policy.
4. Clothing that demeans or promotes sexual harassment or hatred toward an identifiable person or group based on a person's race, color, religion, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation or disability are not permitted. This includes, but is not limited to, clothing that depicts the Confederate flag or swastikas.
5. Clothing or items that are libelous.
6. Body art, whether permanent or temporary, which would otherwise violate this policy if depicted on attire. Such body art must be completely covered during the school day or at any school- sponsored or school-sanctioned event.
7. Jewelry and accessories (spikes, dog collars, etc.) that are deemed dangerous or that may be used as a weapon, or piercings that are deemed a safety hazard.
8. Clothing that is unduly revealing, extremely tight fitting, or that attracts undue attention may not be worn of a sexual nature. This includes clothing that exposes underwear or intimate parts of the body, including but not limited to: tops that reveal cleavage and the midriff, low rider pants, tops with spaghetti straps, strapless tops, halter tops, open back shirts or dresses, or tops that are unduly revealing (cut low at the neck or underarms, exposes bare midriff, pants worn below the hips exposing underwear or skin) are not to be worn.
9. See-through or mesh shirts, tops, dresses, slacks, or shorts, are not to be worn unless they are worn over other appropriate clothing.
10. Pants or shorts that contain holes or slits above the mid-thigh. are not to be worn.
11. Pajama bottoms, pajama tops, and/or slippers may not be worn.
12. Spandex pants, leggings, jeggings, yoga pants, and/or tights may not be if worn without an appropriate dress, sweater, or top that covers them to the mid-thigh.
13. Shorts, dresses, and/or skirts that are unduly revealing and/or shorter in length than the mid-thigh are not permitted.

B. Shoes must be worn at all times. (All footwear must have a back.)

Note: Administrative discretion will apply to the dress code policy and the administration reserves the right to

make the final decision on all clothing.

CODE OF CONDUCT - 10.14

I. Philosophy

Talbot County Public Schools is committed to ensuring and fostering a positive, respectful, nurturing, safe and orderly environment where all students will learn. Talbot County Public Schools believes that in order to provide this environment, clear expectations for appropriate behavior be communicated, appropriate behaviors be taught and reinforced, and consequences for appropriate behavior be communicated and administered.

II. Policy Statement

To realize this desired outcome, the Talbot County Board of Education recognizes the need to establish a discipline code of conduct that reflects a philosophy that acknowledges, promotes and teaches positive behavior. The code of conduct utilizes consequences, interventions and supports to teach students appropriate behavior, which is the shared responsibility of school staff, students, parents/guardians, and the community. All stakeholders' opinions are valued and all students are given the opportunity to succeed.

III. Implementation

The Superintendent shall develop Administrative Regulations to implement this policy.
(See [Student Code of Conduct AR](#))

IV. References

COMAR 13A.08.01.11

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICIES - TCPS

The following are a list of additional policies that govern student conduct. Next to each is an electronic link to the complete policy.

ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNET SAFETY

[Policy 10.32](#)

[Policy 10.32 AR](#)

ALCOHOL AND/OR DRUG USE BY STUDENTS

[Policy 10.17](#)

[Policy 10.17 AR](#)

ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS TO STUDENTS

[Policy 10.26](#)

[Policy 10.26 AR](#)

INTERROGATIONS AND SEARCHES

[Policy 10.18](#)

[Policy 10.18 AR](#)

POSSESSION OF PORTABLE COMMUNICATION DEVICES

[Policy 10.19](#)

[Policy 10.19 AR](#)

SALE OR USE OF TOBACCO ON SCHOOL PREMISES

[Policy 11.3](#)

[Policy 11.3 AR](#)

BULLYING, HARASSMENT OR INTIMIDATION

[Policy 10.16](#)

[Policy 10.16 AR](#)

Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting Forms may be obtained in the school's main office or counselor's office. A student, parent, close adult relative, or staff member may submit the forms to the school. Forms may also be completed online using the following link: <https://tcpsforms.org/TCPS/view.php?id=10956>

TEXT 2 STOP IT!

Text TCPS to 71441 to report bullying and other harmful behavior

SCHOOL COUNSELING OFFICE

The school counseling office offers services to students in the areas of scholastic counseling, career counseling, help with personal problems and crisis counseling. Other than during a crisis, students wishing to see a counselor should visit the counseling office before homeroom, during lunch or during dismissal to make an appointment. The counselor will then schedule an appointment and see the student at a designated time. Students must have a pass from their teacher to visit the counseling office during instructional time.

Each school counselor loops with his or her grade level. Each incoming sixth grade class will be assigned a school counselor.

Prior to the beginning of each school year, the school counselor and grade level administrator determine each student's class schedule. Many factors are used to establish schedules and determine the best fit for each student. All students are expected to maintain their schedules and to work with their school counselor and grade level administrator to resolve any problems. Questions or concerns about a student's schedule should be directed to the appropriate counselor.

When a student is absent from school for any amount of time, the teacher should be contacted to obtain make-up work. Contact a counselor if assistance is needed with obtaining make-up work. The school counseling office is also responsible assisting with chronic absences or tardies. Parent/guardians who have concerns about their child's attendance should contact the main office secretary, Ms. Angela Brooks, or their school counselor.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

TCPS Student Attendance Policy 10.2 AR

Who Must Attend: Each child who resides in Talbot County and is at least five years old by September 1 of the year of entry *or under eighteen (18)* shall attend a public school regularly during the entire school year unless the child is otherwise receiving regular, thorough instruction during the school year in the studies usually taught in the public schools to children of the same age.

Attendance Defined: Students shall be considered in attendance at school when participating in school-sponsored or approved activities during the school day. Such participation must be approved by the Superintendent of Schools or the school principal, or their designees.

Lawful Cause of Absence

Absence from school, including absence for any portion of the day, of students who are presently enrolled in public schools shall be considered lawful only under the following conditions:

- Death in the immediate family - Mother, father, guardian, grandparent, siblings, or other permanent household members.
- Illness of the student. The principal shall require a physician's certificate from the parent or guardian of a student reported continuously absent for illness. (See "Absence Criteria")
- Court summons.
- Hazardous Weather Conditions. Hazardous weather conditions shall be interpreted to mean weather conditions, which would endanger the health or safety of the student when in transit to and from school.
- Work approved or sponsored by the school, the local school system, or the State Department of Education, accepted by the local Superintendent of Schools or the school principal, or their designees as reason for excusing students.
- Observance of a religious holiday.
- State emergency.
- Other Emergency or set of circumstances which, in the judgment of the Principal, Superintendent or designee, constitutes a good and sufficient cause for absence from school.
- Health Exclusion.
- Suspension.
- Lack of authorized transportation. This does not include students denied authorized transportation for disciplinary reasons.

Unlawful Cause of Absence

An Absence for any reason other than those cited as lawful are presumed as unlawful and may constitute truancy.

Truant student is a student (K through 12th grade) who is absent without lawful cause as defined in from such attendance for more than:

- A. 8 days in any quarter
- B. 15 Days in any semester or
- C. 20 Days in a school year

Each truant student attending kindergarten through 12th grade shall immediately be referred to Student Services for active intervention.

Tardiness and Early Dismissal Definition

For the purpose of this policy, tardiness and early dismissal are defined as any absence

Absence Definitions

Present for a full day: student is in attendance four hours or more of the school day

Present for a half day: student is in attendance for at least two hours, but less than four hours

Absent whole day: present for 119 minutes or less of the school day

A student is considered absent from any classes when they arrive more than halfway through the period or leave before half of the class has been completed.

of a student at the time a given class begins, provided that the student is in attendance before the close of that class.

- Lawful and unlawful tardiness or early dismissals are determined by applying the same criteria as absence.
- ***Six (6) unlawful tardies or early dismissals less than 120 minutes equals 1 unlawful absence.***

Student Absences – Administrative Procedures

Written excuses for lawful absences by parent, guardian, medical, court, or social agency notes shall be required on the day the student returns to school. After 5 school days, any unlawful absence cannot be changed to a lawful absence. Notes from parents will be accepted up to the allowable limit of five (5) absences for a semester or 10 absences for a year. After which doctors' notes will be required. In addition, when a student exceeds 5 illegal absences for the year, a doctor's note is also required.

Students are to ***make up work missed*** for both lawful absences and for unlawful absences. It is the student's responsibility to make up work. The teacher shall provide the student with necessary information concerning makeup work. Students shall be allotted two (2) school days for each lawful or unlawful day absent. These make-up absence days will begin the second day after the student returns to school. This policy does not automatically extend due-dates for long-term assignments unless approved by the principal.

The school strongly discourages families scheduling ***vacations during the school year***. If a student will be absent due to a vacation, the principal must be notified of the dates in advance. While those absences will still be coded unlawful, prior notification will eliminate them from being counted towards potential court action.

Any student absent for a half or whole day shall be ineligible to participate in any ***extra-curricular activity*** scheduled on that day unless previously excused by the Principal or the Principal's designee.

START AND DISMISSAL TIMES

Doors Open for Students - 7:35am

School Day Begins - 7:55am

Regular Dismissal - 2:25pm

½ Day Dismissal - 11:15am
Inclement Weather Early Dismissal - 12:15pm

DROP OFF PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS

When dropping student car riders at the front of the building, drivers should pull all the way forward, closing the gap between cars before unloading. This will help relieve traffic congestion on Peachblossom Road.

PICK UP PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS

Should your child need to leave school during the school day for an appointment or an early dismissal, please provide a note for your child. Have your child bring the note to the main office on the way to homeroom and give it to Mrs. Brooks or Mrs. Jones. Your child will be given a pass to come to the main lobby five (5) minutes before the designated leave time.

The pick-up procedures for students at Easton Middle School *during the school day* are as follows:

- A student must be picked up by a parent, guardian or designated person and signed out in the main office.
- If someone other than the parent/guardian or designated person wishes to pick up a student, the parent or guardian is called to confirm this arrangement.
- All individuals, whether parent, guardian or a designated person, are required to show identification.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

6th Grade

Earbuds/Headphones
2” 3 Ring Binder
Pack of 8 dividers with
tabs
and pockets
2 packs of wide ruled

lined paper
4 glue sticks
pencils
dry erase markers and
eraser
2 pocket folders
Optional

tissues
paper towels
liquid hand soap
Clorox wipes

7th Grade

Earbuds/Headphones

pencils
glue sticks
2 packs of loose leaf paper
colored pencils
3 dry erase markers
2 composition books
2 folders
1 three subject notebook
2 one inch binders and 10
dividers
Optional

tissues
paper towels
hand sanitizer
Clorox wipes

8th Grade

Earbuds/Headphones
tissues
paper towels
hand sanitizer
pencils

pens
colored pencils
one 1.5" binder with 6
dividers/folders
highlighters
2 packs of notebook paper

BELL SCHEDULE

Regular Day Bell Schedule-1

Students Enter Bldg. 7:35
Breakfast and Homeroom 7:35-7:55
1st Period. (57) 7:55 - 8:51
2nd Period. (57) 8:55 - 9:51
3rd Period. (57) 9:55 -10:51
**8th grade are dismissed at 10:49 for lunch
4th Period. (72) 10:54-12:28
• 10:49-11:19 A lunch
• 11:22 8th grade late bell
• ***11:22-11:52 B lunch**
• 11:55 6th grade late bell
• ***11:55-12:25 C lunch**
• 12:28 7th grade late bell
5th Period. (56) 12:31-1:24
6th Period (56). 1:28 - 2:25

DO NOT DISMISS 6TH AND 7TH STUDENTS EARLY FOR LUNCH

90-Minute Delay-2

Students Enter Bldg. 9:05
9:05-9:25- Breakfast
1st Period (38) 9:25- 10:02
2nd Period (38) 10:06- 10:43
3rd Period (70) 10:47 – 12:20
**8th grade are dismissed at 10:41 for lunch
• 10:41-11:11 A lunch
• 11:14 8th grade late bell
• ***11:14-11:44 B lunch**
• 11:47 6th grade late bell
• ***11:47-12:17 C lunch**
• 12:20 7th grade late bell
4th Period (40) 12:24-1:00
5th Period. (40) 1:04–1:41
6th Period. (39) 1:45 - 2:25

2-Hour Delay

Students Enter Bldg.	9:35
9:35-9:55- Homeroom and Circle	
1 st Period (40)	9:55-10:35
2 nd Period (41)	10:39-11:19
3 rd Period (66)	11:23-12:56
**8 th grade are dismissed at 11:17 for lunch	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11:18-11:48 A lunch• 11:51 8th grade late bell• *11:51-12:21 B lunch• 12:23 6th grade late bell• *12:23-12:53 C lunch• 12:56 7th grade late bell	
4 th Period (46)	1:00-1:39
5 th Period (46)	1:43-2:25

DO NOT DISMISS 6TH AND 7TH STUDENTS EARLY FOR LUNCH

The scheduled for a 2-hour delay day will only have 5 periods. We will not have whatever block is last in rotation on the 2-hour delay day.

Half Day Schedule*

Students Enter Bldg.	7:35
Breakfast and Homeroom	7:35 -7:55
1 st Period(52)	7:55-8:45
2 nd Period(52)	8:49-9:41
3 rd Period(68)	9:45-11:15
**8 th grade are dismissed at 9:39 for lunch	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9:39-10:09 A lunch• 10:12 8th grade late bell• 10:12-10:42 B lunch• 10:45 6th grade late bell• 10:45-11:15 C lunch	
Dismissal	11:15

***The schedule for which blocks students will attend for half days will be provided ahead of time.**

7th grade stop at their locker on the way to lunch. They will be dismissed directly from the cafeteria.

Rotating Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	1	1	1	1
2	3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6	2
4	5	6	2	3
5	6	2	3	4
6	2	3	4	5

BLOCK 1
7:55-8:51

BLOCK 4
10:54-12:28

A LUNCH -8th
10:49-11:19
11:22- 8thgrade late Bell

BLOCK 2
8:55-9:51

BLOCK 5
12:31-1:24

B LUNCH- 6th
11:22-11:52
11:56- 6thgrade late Bell

BLOCK 3
10:51

BLOCK 6
1:28-2:25

C LUNCH- 7th 9:55-
11:55-12:25
12:28- 7thgrade late bell



INSTRUCTIONAL PROCESS [Policy 9.38 AR](#)

GRADING SYSTEM FOR MASTERY LEARNING

Letter grades will be used for interim and marking period reports for all courses in which a student is enrolled in grades 3-12. The letter grade will reflect the level of student achievement as outlined below:

<u>Standard of Learning</u>	<u>Percentage Range</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Excellent Learning	90% - 100%	A
Mastery Learning	80% - 89%	B
Acceptable Learning	70% - 79%	C
Minimal Learning	60% - 69%	D
Unsatisfactory Learning	59% and below	F

The following codes may be used to report progress:

I – Incomplete NM – No Mark WF – Withdrawn-Failed S – Satisfactory U – Unsatisfactory

Honor Roll

- A. Overall average of 85% or above and,
- B. One course average may be in the 75 – 79.4% range

Principal's Honor Roll

All course averages are 89.5% or above

Promotion/Retention

The Talbot County Public Schools have specific requirements that students must meet in order to be promoted from one grade to the next.

Students Must Pass:

- A. Mathematics with a 59.5 or above
- B. Language Arts with a 59.5 or above
- C. Science and Social Studies with a 59.5 above

Middle School students must:

- 1) Be functioning on grade level in both reading and math.
- 2) Have an average of 59.5% or higher in major subjects with no more than one average lower than 59.5% in a major subject. (English /Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies).

A review team will meet to decide whether the student is a candidate for:

- A. Promotion
- B. Assignment (with a plan)
- C. Retention

QUARTERLY AWARDS ASSEMBLIES

At the completion of each quarter, grade levels will hold separate awards assemblies to celebrate accomplishments. At the first three awards assemblies, students who earn honor roll and principal's honor roll will be recognized. Awards will also be given by the Related Arts teachers. At the quarter four awards assembly each teacher will give out two awards: an excellence award and a GRIT award. The excellence award is given to the student with the highest average. The student who has shown the greatest efforts and improvements and perseverance is awarded the GRIT award.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Easton Middle School is not responsible for a student's personal belongings. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. We recommend that students not bring valuables to school.

Bicycles/ Skateboards/ Scooters

Bicycles should be parked in the racks outside the building. Bicycles must be locked. The school is not responsible for any damage or theft which may occur. Skateboards and scooters may not be used on school property under any circumstances. Bicycles, skateboards, and scooters are not permitted in any TCPS school buses.

Book bags or Backpacks

As a result of concerns for the safety of all students, any type of bag, typically called a book bag or backpack, will not be allowed for carrying books or materials between classes. Students may use these bags to bring materials to and from school, but they must be stored in students' lockers throughout the school day. Book bags with wheels and large sports/athletic bags will not fit in student lockers and are not permitted.

Electronics

Students **are not** permitted to use personal electronic devices during the school day. This includes cell phones, headphones, tablets, electronic games and personal computers. It is recommended that students who choose to bring personal electronic devices for use before or after school store them in their locked locker. Easton Middle School is not responsible or liable for the loss, theft, damage or destruction of personal items.

Lockers

Locks and lockers are the property of Easton Middle School and are subject to inspection by authorized school personnel. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Lost locks will be replaced for a \$5.00 charge. **Students are not to share lockers. The student to whom a locker has been assigned will be held responsible for the contents of that locker, regardless of who actually owns those contents.**

Lost and Found

All books and clothing which are found within the building should go to the building's lost and found in the cafeteria. Students should look for their lost items as soon as possible after they discover something is missing. Pocketbooks, eyeglasses, jewelry and keys should be left with a secretary in the main office.

Water Bottles

Students who wish to drink water throughout the day may carry a transparent water bottle. Cans, glass, and all opaque receptacles are prohibited.

Food in Classrooms

Food is not permitted in classrooms without the specific permission of the teacher. Leftovers and trash must be disposed of properly.

DAMAGED SCHOOL PROPERTY

Any books or other school equipment assigned or issued to a student are to be returned to the school in good condition. Students and parents will be held responsible for repairing or replacing any school property which is damaged or broken. When any books, laptops or other school equipment are not returned when required, a Student Obligation Form will be completed, the family will be notified and billed for the replacement cost of the item not returned. (NOTE: Because of inflation, the replacement cost of an item may be higher than its original purchase price.)

All students will be issued a Talbot County Public Schools' laptop. It is the students' responsibility to return the laptop in the condition it was issued. In addition, it is the students' responsibility to notify the teacher they are with when any damage occurs. If damage occurs in the hallway, students are to notify their next teacher. When a student is responsible for damages to a laptop, an invoice and letter will be sent to the family. Payments are to be made in the school office.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Classroom procedures for responses to emergencies are posted in each classroom. The school regularly participates in fire evacuations and other drills in order to prepare all students and staff for emergency response. It is essential that all students respond appropriately during and following emergency drills. This includes moving promptly and quietly as directed by staff, and remaining orderly and attentive throughout the activity. In the case of an actual emergency situation, parent/guardians will be notified of procedures to follow via School Messenger.

If you are not currently receiving communication through School Messenger, please visit the link below to opt in.

[School Messenger Opt In Instructions](#)

Also, be sure your contact information is up to date in PowerSchool! If you feel there is an error, please email Mrs. Burrows pburrows@talbotschools.org

STUDENT CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Club/Activity	Description	Sponsor(s) 2018-19
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3-D Design Club		Mr. Sechrist
Art/Mural Club	Students will learn the process of creating murals. Students will create and present their design concepts for approval. Students will follow the stages necessary to create custom artwork for the school. All grades are welcome.	Mr. Enzor
Band		Ms. Ewing
Chess Club	Chess is a fun game that incorporates many aspects of the learner profile: knowledgeable, inquirer, thinker, communicator, risk-taker, caring, principled, open-minded, balanced, and reflective. This club fosters students' intellectual growth while having fun. Learn to play or improve skill level in playing chess. All levels are welcome.	Mr. Renaud
Chorus		Ms. Henry
Colorguard	Colorguard is a non-musical section of marching band that provides visual aspects to presentations during parades and other performances.	Ms. Ewing
Comic Art & Graphic Novel Club	The Comic Art and Graphic Novel Club will study the art of comic books, graphic novels, animated movies, video games, and other forms of illustration. (Zombies/Monsters, Marvel/DC, Star Wars/Sci-Fi, Fantasy Creatures, and more!) We will discuss examples of various artists, and then we will draw our own comic characters. We will analyze examples of storyboarding, and create our own comic stories. We will work in teams, and independently, having fun drawing different types of cool characters. We will save our artwork and publish it in many ways. Comic Book Movies, Drawing, Art, and having some fun is what this club is all about. We will watch movies based on these topics.	Mr. Brundige
Destination Imagination	The purpose of Destination Imagination is to inspire and equip students to become the next generation of innovators and leaders. Teams learn 21st century skills: creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, communication, citizenship and courage to build on their unique strengths.	Ms. Smith
Drama/Theater		Mr. Vitanovec
Drumline - Advanced	Students in Advanced Drumline use different percussion instruments as ensemble in order to perform in local parades and annual concerts. This ensemble is by audition.	Mrs. Ewing

Drumline - Training	Students in Training Drumline are in training to use different percussion instruments and prepare for Advanced Drumline.	Mrs. Ewing
FBLA	Future Business Leaders of America is a nationally recognized nonprofit educational association for students who are interested in learning more about the free enterprise system. The purpose of FBLA is to prepare members for careers in business and to assist them by becoming better employees and citizens. FBLA helps students develop leadership abilities, prepares them for entry into a business-related occupation, and offers a setting where members compete at regional, state and national levels in business and technology curriculum. The EMS Chapter is also responsible for operating the Panther Pride School Store.	Ms. Green/Ms. Rochester
Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)	FCA strives for Integrity, Serving, Teamwork and Excellence that flows out of a commitment to Jesus Christ and His Word. FCA focuses on serving local communities by equipping, empowering and encouraging young people to make a difference for Christ. All students are welcome to attend. You may visit fca.org for more information.	Mr. Joe Giles/Ms. Melanie Dressler/ Mr. Austin Basel
Gardening Club	Gardening Club is for students who love the outdoors and gardening. Students will assist in school beautification. Students will help grow and plant various types of plants.	Ms. Haas/Ms. Barry
GSA	Gay-Straight Alliance is a student-led and student-organized club that aims to create a safe, welcoming and accepting school environment for all youth, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity	Ms. Hall/Ms. Kimbell
Jazz Band	Jazz Band is for advanced instrumental students, by invitation to join. Students combine to play Jazz style music.	Ms. Ewing
Latin Club	For students who are interested in exploring learning more about the history and culture of Ancient Rome with members of the Easton High School chapter of the National Latin Honor Society.	Ms. Kunz
National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)	NJHS promotes service, leadership, scholarship, character, and citizenship. Students are invited to join after quarter 2 of their 7th or 8th grade year if they meet nationally recognized standards.	Ms. Stewart/Ms. Ryan/Ms. Jimenez

Panther News	Creates, produces and broadcasts daily school news programs.	Mr. Newberry & Mrs. Cook
Pixels	Pixels is a digital photography club, open to students grades 6, 7 and 8 with an interest in learning techniques for taking good pictures. This club is directed towards digital photography in the 21st century and students will need to provide their own mobile device (cell phone, tablet, iPods) for use in this club. This club will focus specifically on photography with mobile devices and NOT on the use of digital cameras. Students will learn the mechanics of their device camera, basic camera techniques, and begin to explore photography as an artistic medium. Throughout the year, students will create a portfolio of work, and prepare for a gallery presentation in the Spring.	Ms. Jimenez/Ms. Stewart
Running Club	The purpose of this club is for students to exercise and to learn healthy life habits. The goal is for students to train to jog/run/walk long distances. It will be a great opportunity for students to socialize after school in a productive way. The "running season" will continue until the weather no longer permits us to meet.	Ms. Ryan/Ms. Mohan/Ms. Haehnlen
SGA	Student Government Association offers leadership opportunities for students and focuses on student life.	Mr. Keeler
STEM Club	The STEM club has teams of students tasked with designing and building a robot to compete against other teams in a game-based engineering challenge, using Vex Robotics equipment.	Mr. Newberry
Talbot Goes Purple Club	Students will participate in school and local activities designed to support the goals of the Talbot Goes Purple project, combating the spread of opiate use in our community.	Ms. Talbott
Terrapin Club	Focused on raising diamondback terrapins, currently classified as a near-threatened species, for later release into the wild.	Ms. Brohawn/Ms. Ford
Volleyball Club	The purpose of the Volleyball Club is to get interested students and teachers together to play a fun game of volleyball!! Basic skills will be taught, but it will mostly consist of informal games.	Ms. Buchkoski
Yearbook Club	In Yearbook Club, students how to design the EMS yearbook, take and/or collect pictures, and advertise	Ms. Sorrell

	for sales.	
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STUDENT SERVICES AT EMS

Services and programs listed in this directory help students to achieve success in academic, emotional, physical and social arenas. Some programs have eligibility requirements based on test scores, staff recommendations, previous agency referral and/or other school data. For more information about the services and programs, contact persons and phone numbers are listed. Community agencies listed are approved by the Talbot County Board of Education. Communication with parents regarding referral to a community agency is highly desirable and may require a parental release of information.

SCHOOL BASED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

After School Clubs: Students may choose to participate in a variety of after-school activities. Staff or organizations interested in sponsoring a club should contact the administrative staff. Contact Person: Mr. Tom Callahan, Phone: 410-822-2910

Alternative Learning Academy (ALA): A middle school program that provides a short-term educational program for students as an alternative to expulsion from school. School administrators refer students to the Supervisor of Student Services at the Central Office for this program. Contact Person: Mrs. Darlene Spurrier, Student Services Coordinator, Phone: 410-822-0330

Character Counts: A school-wide program that focuses on character education. Sponsored by the Easton Rotary Club. Contact Person: Mrs. Connie Cook, Phone: 410-822-2910

Crisis Intervention Team: This team meets and plans interventions designed to restore the school community to normal functioning in the event of school or community disasters or a crisis situation. Contact Person: Ms. Vikki Jones, Phone: 410-822-2910

EFL: Additional instructional support and monitoring is provided to students who qualify for services as English Language Learners. Contact Person: Mr. Will Patton, Phone 410-822-2910

Food Services: Talbot County Public Schools provides a food and nutrition service for all students. Applications for the “Free or Reduced Price Meals Program” are sent home in the summer and can be requested throughout the school year. All TCPS students will receive an individual computer numbered account. In the My School Bucks program you can prepay any amount on this account for meals or a la carte items. Parents can restrict purchase of a la carte items. The amount of each day’s purchase will be deducted from the balance. All students at Easton Middle School receive a free breakfast during homeroom each day.

[Cafeteria Menus](#)

[Free & Reduced Meals](#)

[My School Bucks](#)

Guidance Program: Individual, small group and individual counseling supports are available to help address issues such as healthy relationships, study skills, school adjustments, self-esteem, changing families, death of loved ones, anger management and career options.

A counselor is assigned to each grade level. Ms. Kimball (8th grade) Ms. Hall (7th grade) and Ms. Brigerman

(6th grade). Phone: 410-822-2910

School Health Program/Wellness Center: A school nurse and health technician is available during school hours if students are ill, injured or have other health-related issues. In addition to these services, with completion of a parental consent form for treatment, a nurse practitioner is available in the Wellness Center to provide healthcare and education. A follow-up report is sent to the child's primary care physician and parents are informed when the child is treated. Contact Person: Ms. Patty Whitby Phone: 410-820-8078

School Safety Officers: Assist with building security, peer mediation and overall school safety. Contact Person: Mr. Cooper, Deputy Bordley

504 Plans: Students who may qualify for services under Section 504 are referred to the Student Services Team to review documentation to determine eligibility and the type of assistance needed.

Behavior Specialist: Assists with the development of 504 plans, provides consultation for behavioral management and conducts assessments for students at risk during a crisis. The Student Services Team, guidance counselor, teacher, and administrator or health staff may refer students. Contact the grade level school counselor for more information.

Special Education Program: Provides services for eligible students with disabilities. A combination of services can be received for needs such as learning difficulties, hearing, visual and/or mental impairments, speech services, educationally related occupational and/or physical therapy. Contact Persons: School administrators, school counselors, teachers, special education office.

Multi Level Intervention Plan (MLIP): A multidisciplinary school team that identifies and coordinates appropriate general education services to help increase school success. SST develops and monitors plans to help improve attendance, school adjustment, academic achievement, or eliminate unhealthy concerns. Any student can be referred to SST if he/she does not receive special education services for specific needs. Teachers, guidance counselors, administrators, and parents, outside agencies or physicians, may refer students to this team. Contact the grade level administrator for more information.

Supporting Community Programs & Services

Eastern Shore Psychological Services: Provides psychological services. Phone: 410-822-5007

Community Mental Health: Includes services from Peninsula Regional Mental Health (for victims of violence and abuse and a wide variety of mental health needs). Contact Person: Rob Schmidt, Phone: 410-822-0330

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA): Trained special advocates appointed by the county court system for children and youth. Contact: Robin Davenport, Phone: 410-822-2866

Interagency Coordination (IAC): Families who have established connections with one or more human service agencies can be referred to IAC to help coordinate needed supports. Among the participating agencies include Peninsula Regional Mental Health, Department of Social Services, Talbot Family Support Center, Department of Juvenile Justice, Health Department, and CASA and Talbot County Public Schools. Contact Person: Darlene Spurrier, Central Office Phone: 410-822-0330.

Maryland Youth Crisis Hotline- “It’s OK to Ask 4 Help!” (800) 442-0009

Talbot Mentors: Provides community volunteer mentors for students in grades prek-12. Contact Person: Diana Trams, Phone: 410-770-5999

Talbot Partnership: Works with community groups to help promote and develop healthy life styles and respect for cultural diversity within the community. Contact Person: Gary Pearce, Phone: 410-819-8067

Turn Around – Talbot County Health Department: A free service provided to parents who are trying to determine if their child is involved with drugs. Turn Around provides confidential drug screens, assessment and consultation with a counselor. Contact Person: Brighton Laznovsky, Phone: 410-819-5900.

PRIVACY - NOTICE OF PARENT/STUDENT FERPA RIGHTS
(Family Education Rights and Privacy Act)

In accordance with Federal and State law, parents and eligible students (18 years of age) are guaranteed the right to:

- A. Have full access to all official student records maintained by the school system.
- B. Examine and/or request to have removed from these records any information about the student, which is determined to be inaccurate or misleading.
- C. Enjoy confidentiality and privacy in regard to the disclosure of information contained in those records to outside agencies.
- D. Be informed as to what personally identifiable information within student records is non-confidential ("Directory Information"):
Student's legal name, Student's grade in school, Homeroom assignments, Honor roll/perfect attendance list, Date of attendance, Photograph, Degree/awards received, Participate in officially recognized activities and sports, Weight/height of members of athletic teams
- E. Refuse designation of any of the above or all categories of personally identifiable information as directory information by September 30 of each school year, by notifying the principal in writing.
- F. Enjoy efficient record management.
- G. Copies of the appropriate Talbot County Board of Education Policy, "JO" ("Student Records"), are available from the Supervisor of Student Services at Central Office. Parents or eligible students who feel that their FERPA rights have been violated may exercise an appeal right in accordance with Talbot County Board of Education Policy "KL" – "Public Complaints/Appeals".