

TES January Newsletter 2011-2012
A Targeted Assistance School

Mission: "To engage students in the learning process and to provide a challenging and nurturing environment"

January 2012! Here we are again stunned at how quickly our school year is moving along! Please note the following notices for your information.

Free Port Discovery Passes!

The Maryland State Department of Education Division of Special Education and Early Intervention Services is providing free passes for up to 6 people to experience all the fun activities at Port Discovery Children's Museum in Baltimore through March, 2012. These are laminated passes that can be checked out for a specific date and returned. Please contact Carol at 410-820-6940 or czinser@tcps.k12.md.us to reserve the passes.

Special Education Citizen's Advisory Committee (SECAC) Meeting

Tuesday, January 24 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Talbot County Education Center at 12 Magnolia Street in Easton

Light refreshments and childcare provided!

If you would like to have a part in making a difference in the education of students with disabilities, join us. For more information or to request childcare, contact Carol at 410-820-6940 or czinser@tcps.k12.md.us

January Highlights to Remember:

- Jan. 3: School in session for 2012
- Jan. 4: Title 1 Parent Meeting at 6 p.m.
- Jan. 6: Assembly: Diane Macklin, Master Storyteller 1:00 p.m.
- Jan. 16: No School—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Jan. 18: Bd. Of Ed. Mtg. at SMMHS 7 p.m. (work session 6 p.m.)
- Jan. 24: End of second marking term
- Jan. 25: No School—Teacher inservice and planning day
- Jan. 26: Third marking term begins 1-26 to 3-30

The class winner for raising the highest amount for the "Pennies for Polio" campaign was the fifth/sixth grade. On December 9th, the class enjoyed the "pizza party" that was supplied by the Rotary Club.

Lost and Found! We are accumulating "a lot" of lost items! Since the students don't claim the clothing, please help us out by writing the child's name somewhere on clothing tags. If your child has lost some clothing, check out the boxes at school.

"An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest."—Benjamin Franklin
K-12 Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools

From the principal's desk:

The Lesole Dance assembly scheduled for December 8th had to be cancelled. The assembly will be rescheduled for sometime after January. The cultural arts programs are scheduled in September and at times, programs are cancelled due to various reasons. Thank you for your understanding. Hopefully, winter programs will not be interrupted due to inclement weather.

I would like to thank all those individuals who in the spirit of generosity made the holiday time a brighter one for others. Our community has continued to stock the food pantry, as well as help with gifts for others. Helen Keller said, "The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves." Thank you to everyone who has given unselfishly in these economic times of hardship.

The fifth grade students had a wonderful time at Echo Hill. The two night and three day learning experience was awesome, "using students' words". In fact, students requested to return next year as sixth graders!

January 28th and 29th, TES will once again host the "Winterfest" for the Maryland Emergency Services. The University of Maryland sponsors this annual recertification conference providing quality education for emergency personnel and first responders. Winterfest attendance has ranged from 200 to 400 people. So, don't be alarmed should you see our school parking lot filled with rescue, fire, and police vehicles.

School Improvement: The third marking term begins on January 26th and will end on March 30th. The academic school year is moving so quickly. Looking ahead to March, the MSA will be administered to grades three through six. Interims went home with students on December 13th. Parent conferences were requested by teachers as noted in the comment boxes, please call the school or teacher for the conference. The interim report serves to inform you of the child's progress or lack of half way through the marking term. Grades less than 70% are not passing. Our collective goal is for student improvement and achievement. Talk with the teacher to discuss specifics relating to your child.

In January, we will be administering Reading benchmark 2 as part of the assessments given to grades three through six. Using the results from benchmark 2, student progress is compared to the results of benchmark 1. Comprehension is a critical aspect of reading. At home, talk with your child about the books he or she is reading. Main idea, characters, problem, solution, and reading for details are all areas to begin conversations. Ask the classroom teacher for more suggestions to help build comprehension. Reading is more than saying words, it is making connections and reading for meaning.

There is no school for students on January 25th. This is a high school transition day and for the elementary school, this day is used for inservices and planning.

Attendance Update: At the present time, our overall attendance average is EXCELLENT with 96%. Congratulations to Mrs. McKelvey and the Kindergarten class for achieving the highest class attendance for November—98.6%.

Title 1 Update: A Title 1 parent meeting will be held on January 4th at 6 p.m. Parents will have the opportunity to hear more about the program, view the materials used, as well as watch a presentation using the Smartboard. Mrs. Whelan continues to meet with the classroom teacher to discuss individual student progress.



Parent Support Meeting

“Help for the Child who is Sensory Sensitive”

- ◆ Especially helpful for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

∞ **Oral Hygiene Tips**

Judy Gaston, Program Coordinator, Office of Oral Health, Eastern Shore

Jeanie Holtz, RDH, Coordinator, Children’s Regional

Oral Health Consortium,
Eastern Shore

Tips to help children with teeth brushing, flossing, and visiting the dentist

∞ **Using Social Stories to Overcome Sensory Sensitive Situations**

Kim Gibbons-Neff, Speech/Language Pathologist, Talbot County Public

Schools

Suggestions for making such activities as getting a haircut, trying new foods, going to a restaurant, etc. . . . a more positive experience!

Thursday, January 26, 2012

6:00 – 7:30 PM

Talbot County Education Center

12 Magnolia Street, Easton

Light refreshments & FREE childcare

*Preregister and request childcare by January 25

to Carol Zinser at:

czinser@tcps.k12.md.us or 410-820-6940

Parent Support Meeting

My



“How Can I Help
Child with a
Learning Disability?”

- ∞ Overview of the Characteristics of
a
Learning Disability
- ∞ Strategies for Parents to Help with Skills to
include Homework
- ∞ Positive Advocacy Strategies for Parents of Children with
a Learning Disability

Jean Carrion, Special Education Teacher Mentor
Christine Redman, Special Education Facilitator
Dr. Kelly Lane, School Psychologist

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

6:00 – 7:30 PM

Talbot County Education Center

12 Magnolia Street, Easton

Light refreshments & FREE childcare

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