The Towson Pride

STARS to our Staff, Parents and Students

Each week, individuals will be recognized for their contributions to the school. Staff members are encouraged to submit accolades that are worthy of the General’s Star.

Our staff and students strive for excellence on a daily basis. The comments listed below represent some of the recognition for our staff and students.

★ STARS to all of our fall athletes, coaches, and athletic director for an outstanding season.

★ STARS to Aislinn Bratt for speaking at the monthly leadership development for principals.

★ STARS to Mr. Briggs and our school counseling department for hosting the FASA night.

★ STARS to Karen Prem and Zach Caplan for receiving the Optimist Award.

★ STARS to all of our faculty and staff for their daily efforts.

★ STARS to all of our parents that assisted or attended American Education Week.

The Towson High School Music Boosters Spirit Wear Online Store is open until December 2nd at midnight. Place your order today and receive your music spirit wear before the holiday break!!

http://tinyurl.com/towsonmusic

Magnet Assessment
December 10, 2016
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Inclement Weather Date:
January 7, 2017
The School to Career/College Transition Department is dedicated to fostering maturity in our students to prepare them for life on their own. Our programs support students earning credits by interning or securing a job in many varied fields. We’re focusing on scholarships this month—so email bgray@bcps.org if you’d like more info on $$$…

But, rather than hear us prattle on (more) we thought you’d like to hear from one of our interns.

What’s it really like to be an intern, you ask? Zach Caplan shares his…

Internship Reflection: A Day in the Life
My typical day at my internship starts with me taking five minutes to find parking in the Baltimore County Government parking garage. Then once I flash my security badge to the security guards and get up to my office, I typically begin the day by sitting down and talking to Councilwoman Almond’s two staff members. There is always plenty to do in the office, but I always make sure to not get in the way of the Councilwoman or her staff. I am relatively new to my internship so I haven’t created a real routine, but I find it incredibly boring when I just sit in the office. Thankfully, that doesn’t happen all too often and when it does I have the opportunity to observe how they interact with constituents calling in, so then I know how to properly interact while conversing on the phone. Even though I’m complaining, I’ve probably learned the most just from observing. Lucky enough for me, one of the staff members is usually out and about in the second district, which gives me the opportunity to sit at one of the two desks and do some work.

While I am at the desk my job typically includes conducting research on upcoming pieces of legislation. This has been surprisingly difficult for me since data like how much Howard County spends on tourism every year or what district three is doing with solar energy isn’t easily accessible infor-
mation on the internet. This has required a lot of patience, a lot of failed research attempts, and a lot of commitment. I also enjoy being able to help handle the Councilwoman’s social media presence. I will soon begin the daunting task of organizing the file cabinet, so there will more likely than not be updates on that in a later reflection.

My absolute favorite part of the experience has been interacting with the people. I am thankful that I was able to get this internship because of the level of communication that comes along with it. The Councilwoman’s office has been very kind, funny, and helpful. The other six districts have their offices in here as well, so I have also had the chance to interact with many local representatives and learn about issues in Baltimore County. All in all I am optimistic about the future of this internship. The people are friendly, the work is interesting, and the environment is energizing.

After the Baltimore County Council had just finished a workshop, a mother of a freshman at THS came up to me and introduced herself. She works for a member of the county council as part of their staff and is a very kind person. Our conversation was quite lengthy and was about a multitude of topics. To summarize, she began by congratulating me on my speech at Back to School Night and asked me many questions about Student Government at THS. I gave the mother a rundown of different opportunities her son has as a student at THS and about the overall prestige of the school. This led us to discussing the internship program and how it was possible I was missing class for the workshop. I explained to her the career to transition office and how students can actually receive credit for interning. We shared many stories that we both had about the Baltimore County Council and she gave me a tour of her office.

This interaction in particular stands out to me because I found it pretty funny that on the first day of my internship someone outside of Councilwoman Almond’s office already knew who I was. I am excited to represent Towson High School in the county government and am eager to learn more about public service.
Giving Thanks

Thanksgiving presents us with the opportunity to reflect on the value of our friends and family.

As a community, Towson High School has so many outstanding accomplishments. Each of you dedicates your commitment and time to sustaining and enhancing the excellence of Towson High School. I am fortunate to work with an outstanding group of dedicated professionals!

Our parents excel at taking an active role in education. Our teachers share their time and talents and work diligently to engage and challenge our students. Our students bring smiles to our faces everyday and truly represent the future of America!

Thank you for representing Towson High School’s Excellence! Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Charlene DiMino
Be Thankful

Be thankful that you don’t already have everything you desire,
   If you did, what would there be to look forward to?
   Be thankful when you don’t know something
      For it gives you the opportunity to learn.
   Be thankful for the difficult times.
      During those times you grow.
   Be thankful for your limitations
      Because they give you opportunities for improvement.
   Be thankful for each new challenge
      Because it will build your strength and character.
   Be thankful for your mistakes
      They will teach you valuable lessons.
   Be thankful when you’re tired and weary
      Because it means you’ve made a difference.
   It is easy to be thankful for the good things.
A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are
   also thankful for the setbacks.
GRATITUDE can turn a negative into a positive.
   Find a way to be thankful for your troubles
      and they can become your blessings.

Author Unknown
Do you have a November 15 and/or a December 1 college application deadline? If you do, you should have listed the colleges you are applying to and requested your transcripts in Naviance. Also, don’t forget to speak with your teachers about letters of recommendation. Once you have spoken with your teachers, add your recommendation requests in Naviance. You should request your test scores from the College Board and ACT. Go to www.collegeboard.org for the SAT and www.actstudent.org for the ACT. If you are applying Early Decision, please speak with your counselor.

You should be completing the FAFSA for your college financial aid. To access the FAFSA, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov. The counseling office would like to invite you to our FAFSA night on Tuesday, November 15 at 630pm in the school library. Once you have completed your college applications, you should be researching scholarships. Naviance has a large list of scholarships and we send out emails regarding scholarships. Take a look at these websites: www.fastweb.org, www.goodcall.com and https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search. The school counseling office will send out the local scholarship form in February. Please contact your counselor if you have questions.

This spring CCBC will offer English 101 at Towson High School. Students who are interested in taking English 101 should sign up on Naviance for a meeting on December 7 at 9am. Please see Mr. Briggs if you have any questions.

Interested in learning more about career fields like medicine, engineering, marketing and education? Come to Towson High’s School to Career Internship preregistration meeting where you can find out how a senior year internship at THS can improve college acceptance rates and will provide insights into future career choices. Let our School to career team answer any questions you may have at our meeting which is scheduled for Thursday December 1st, 2nd period at 9:25 in the Senior Cafeteria. Those interested should sign up in the guidance office, or on Naviance.

Looking for real world work experience during your senior year? Could you use three articulated credits for CCBC then maybe Towson’s Career Research and Development program might be just the thing to provide direction when it comes to senior year and beyond. Come to our preregistration meeting where you can learn about our program, the potential for college credit and the possibility of making money while at the same time earning credit toward high school AND college graduation. The meeting will be held on Monday December 5, 4th period 12:50 in the senior cafeteria. Those interested can sign up in the guidance office, or on Naviance.
School Happenings

Girls Varsity Volleyball Team

Please congratulate the varsity volleyball team on a 3-0 victory at Poly on Friday for the 3A North Regional Championship. Thanks to Joslyn, Justin, Erika, Sam (athletic trainer), Matt, Sarah, and Shayna for the support during a very stressful match.

The girls played Atholton at 8pm at Ritchie Coliseum in College Park Monday evening, November 14th for the state semi-finals.
School Happenings

American Education Week

A great big THANK YOU!! to all the parents who visited Towson High School during American Education Week! Thursday, November 17th was our parent visitation day.

One hundred percent (100%) of our visitors expressed agreement with the following statements:

- My child was challenged during his/her classes today.
- The school provides a safe and orderly learning environment.
- Students were active participants in the classes that I visited today.
- Overall, I enjoyed visiting classes today.
- The students were provided with multiple opportunities to demonstrate their learning.

Listen to their Comments:

- “I enjoyed Mrs. Bissell’s class. I felt that she actively engaged and challenged her students to grasp content for mastery. Ms. Waters encouraged ‘critical thinking’ and seemed to highlight aspects of content that could be reflected in AP test.”
- “I really enjoyed visiting Chorus today. Mr. Jackson is a wonderful teacher and great inspiration for my child.”
- “Good group discussion with alternating class discussion. Enjoyed the technology used in class (smart boards) (live announcements).”
- “I enjoyed the class participation parts of the classes. Kids were actively engaged in both Spanish and AP Human Geography.”
- “I only visited the grading policy session. I thought it was well organized and questions were answered clearly. Thanks to Ms. Travis.”
- “This class was great! (Very interesting.) The teacher was very encouraging to the students. All the students appeared to enjoy the weight training class.”
- “Thank you!”
School Happenings

PTSA Provides Important Resource for Government Students

Thanks to a classroom enrichment grant from the Towson High PTSA, all of Mr. Sonneborn's ninth grade government students were provided with their own "Pocket Constitution" to assist in their studies for the remainder of the year.

Fishing Club

Towson has a new club, the fishing club. We will be having monthly meetings to review gear, techniques, methods and types of fishing. There will also be guest speakers, and meet ups. If you are interested contact Mr. Skeels at pskeels@bcps.org or in room 111.

Optimist Award Recipients

Karen Prem and Zach Caplan were honored recipients of the Optimist Award.
For the Math Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta (MA\(\theta\)), the recreational math season has begun. So far this year there have been three competitions.

The Maryland Math league October competition had 29 competitors from Towson. Our top scorers were Vicente I., Ian S., Aaron N., Alex H., Mason MB., Crystal C., Vincent I., Mofeed N., and Miguel I. The team score was good enough rank us 2\(^{nd}\) in the region and 7\(^{th}\) in the state. Mr. Dalsimer and Mr. Skeels wish to thank all members who participated. The second competition results were not available in time for publishing.

The annual University of Maryland contest was taken on October 26\(^{th}\), by 24 members or participants. This is a high level exam and we are waiting to hear who qualified for the second part which will be administered on November 30\(^{th}\). Fingers Crossed!

On November 3\(^{rd}\) a student representative from the University of Maryland Clark School of Engineering, made a presentation and had a short Q&A with the group. The meeting was very informative, and students were able to see some of the opportunities available to them. We hope to continue having speakers of interest present to the group.

Towson MA\(\theta\) members and candidates meet monthly, participate in recreational mathematics competitions, help with after school tutoring, and enjoy other activities. If you are interested in joining MA\(\theta\), see Mr. Dalsimer in room 111, or Mr. Skeels in room 111.
School Happenings

Aquatics Students

Ms. Schrader’s aquatics students dissecting starfish.
School Happenings

Princeton Model Congress

The Towson’s PMC Club attended the annual Princeton Model Congress Conference in Washington D.C. which took place from November 17th to 20th. Under the strong leadership of Zach Caplan, Britton Tait, and Maddie Smith, Towson won 10 individual Delegate Awards which marks Towson High School’s most impressive performance ever! 1/3 of Towson’s delegation won an award. Celia Parts, Britton Tait, Devon Leslie, and Morgan Hylton won the Gavel Award and Akosa Nwadiogbu, Jack Morgan, Bronwyn Masters, Bekah Platzke, Cormac Masters, and Gus Wachhaus won honorable mentions for their Committee Leadership. Way to go Generals!
School Happenings

Mark Your Calendar!!

Towson High School Graduation
Saturday, June 3, 2017
Towson University
2:30 PM
School Happenings

Words of thanks from some of our students!

“I am thankful for my mom.” - Kyle

“I am thankful for my support system, my family and friends.” - Tayla

“I am thankful for my mother, grandmother and grandfather.” - Zaire

“I am thankful for my family.” - Bryan

“I am thankful for my siblings, family and the friends we consider family.” - Erin

“I am thankful for being alive and for the strong support of me and my family.” - Andre

“I am thankful for my family and all the support they give me” - Xavier

“I am thankful for the support I get and my family “ - Ta’Nira

“I am thankful for getting a new bike even though I don’t have one yet.” - Keion

“I am thankful for food and videogames.” - Keyo

“I am thankful for good books and good poems.” - Adjoa

What are YOU Thankful For?

health  home  family  friends  food
THS alumni Emily Barone is now Staff Sergeant Barone!

She is now a fifer in the United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps. This is the elite corps that travels to other countries with the President!

Congratulations Emily!!!

Bill Jones, long-time BCPS and Towson High School English and Creative Writing teacher, recently had a collection of poetry published by Apprentice House of Loyola University Maryland.

The collection, At Sunset, Facing East, is a memoir and is available free at your Towson High School Library.
School Happenings

How would you like a way to help Towson High School earn cash that is completely painless and almost effortless? You can register your My Giant grocery card and then use your registered card each time you shop at Giant. Your purchase earns points that are later converted into cash for the school! Towson will receive one CASH award at the end of the program and can use the money for any of our educational needs.

All you need to do to register your card is:

- Visit www.giantfood.com/aplus and scroll down to the center, select Register Your Card from the red box on the right marked For Customers; or
- Call the A+ School Rewards Hotline at 1-877-275-2758 for assistance; or,
- Email the A+ Hotline. Please include the last name associated with your Giant Card, your 12-digit Giant Card number and our school name and school ID number** (or the name, city and state in which the school is located) to: askaplus@cranecom munications.com.

Then all you have to do is use your registered Giant Card each time you shop!! Easy, right? Please encourage your friends, family and neighbors to also register their cards for Towson High School. This could result in every more Cash rewards!!

**TOWSON’S SCHOOL ID NUMBER: 01245

For more information, contact Nancy N. Paulis at thsmusicboosters@gmail.com
The SGA is sponsoring a Canned Food Drive for the Maryland Food Bank. The food drive will begin Monday, October 31st and will conclude right before Thanksgiving.

We will be collecting and keeping track by A day homerooms. There will be a competition with prizes for the top three (3) homerooms that bring in the most cans.

EXTENDED Until: December 9th!!
# Math Help

## December 2016

### MATH HELP CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
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<td><strong>NO MATH HELP</strong>-TEACHERS @ MEETINGS</td>
<td>Mr. Blair</td>
<td>Mr. Miller</td>
<td>Mr. Seergae</td>
<td>Ms. Needer</td>
<td>Enjoy your weekend!</td>
<td>Enjoy your weekend!</td>
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<td>Trailer 6</td>
<td>Trailer 4</td>
<td>Trailer 2</td>
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<td><strong>NO MATH HELP</strong>-TEACHERS @ MEETINGS</td>
<td>Ms. Santavenere</td>
<td>Mr. Dalsimer</td>
<td>Mr. Miller</td>
<td>Mr. Skeels</td>
<td>Enjoy your weekend!</td>
<td>Enjoy your weekend!</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rm 101</td>
<td>Rm 131</td>
<td>Trailer 4</td>
<td>Rm 111</td>
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<td>Ms. Boyd</td>
<td>Ms. Terodemos</td>
<td><strong>NO MATH HELP</strong>-PARENT CONFERENCES</td>
<td>Ms. Krotchta</td>
<td>Enjoy your weekend!</td>
<td>Enjoy your weekend!</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rm 109</td>
<td>Rm 103</td>
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<td>Trailer 3</td>
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<td><strong>NO MATH HELP</strong>-TEACHERS @ MEETINGS</td>
<td>Ms. Needer</td>
<td>Ms. Kromsky</td>
<td>Mr. Seergae</td>
<td><strong>NO MATH HELP</strong>-START OF WINTER BREAK</td>
<td>NO SCHOOL - Winter Break</td>
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<td>NO SCHOOL - Winter Break</td>
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<td>Notes:</td>
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<tr>
<td>NO SCHOOL - Winter Break</td>
<td>Mr. Cohen</td>
<td></td>
<td>No need to sign up in advance! Attend math help with any questions or assignments that you need help to complete/understand. The teacher and Math Honor Society students will be happy to help! Math Help is open to all! Morning math help is available by appointment with Ms. Bisell-Harris in Rm 113.</td>
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**THE TOWSON PRIDE**
UPCOMING EVENTS

November

24, 25  Thanksgiving Holiday—Schools and Offices Closed
29  Meet the Winter Coaches Night (6:30 pm, Auditorium)

December

7  Club Photo Day (Auditorium)
8  Interims Distributed (2nd Marking Period)
13  Winter Concert - Strings (7:00 pm, Auditorium)
15  Parent-Teacher Conferences (2:15 pm - 4:00 pm)
15  Winter Concert - Bands (7:00 pm, Auditorium)
20  Winter Concert - Choral (7:00 pm, Auditorium)
23-31  Winter Break—Schools and Offices CLOSED