In our STARS section, 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 Mr. Bill Yosca (a former teacher and THS coach) for being inducted into the Maryland State Association of Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame.

⭐ STARS to Mr. Eastham for nominating Mr. Yosca for his induction into the Hall of Fame.

⭐ STARS to Noah Belt for graduating from Towson University with a M.Ed in Educational Technology on December 21 with Library Media BCPS Cohort 15.

⭐ STARS to Alan Mao on being selected as the 2019 Young Soloist. Alan will perform Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue on February 14, 2019 at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.

⭐ STARS to Mr. Brotman for covering a class for another colleague at the last minute.

⭐ STARS to Mr. Nash for his communication with stakeholders.

⭐ STARS to Ting Cui as featured in the Baltimore Sun for completing in the U.S. Figure Skating Championship.
The Physical Education Department has been very busy and productive as we draw near the end of the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year. This year, our department was asked to set a goal to support literacy as a school wide initiative. Our department literacy goal is to have students build content knowledge through domain specific vocabulary use, digital media resources, and personal reflection.

Teachers in the department are addressing this goal by creating lessons or activities that focus on determining the use of vocabulary in various PE related content or context. Also, there is specific focus on PE specific vocabulary through all our chapter reviews and physical units including a specific focus on biomechanical principles. It is important to understand that literacy is not only defined as how you can understand the written word, but also the words you choose to use verbally.

Another major change that our department is going through is converting our chapter reviews to an electronic version, by adding all assignments to Schoology. The Central Office of Physical Education has mandated that the students use the electronic text that was purchased for our district. This text is the most updated version of the *Fitness for Life* text that we have been using. This is a significant update because it allows the students to access all our content both in and out of school. This allows the teachers to efficiently deliver the content and evaluate student performance. Students had the opportunity to complete seven (7) chapter reviews that cover eight (8) chapters in our textbook, as well as being evaluated with a quiz to see how much information they have retained from the readings, chapter reviews, and class discussions. The topics of the chapter reviews covered information about basic fitness; health and wellness information; health and skill related fitness components; healthy lifestyles; self management skills; goal setting; program planning; FITT formula; principles of exercise; cardiorespiratory endurance; and, muscle fitness basics.

We have accomplished a wide variety of physical activities so far this year. Students experienced individual, dual, and team sport activities including: flag football; soccer; flag rugby; ultimate Frisbee; archery; mat ball; wrestling; dance; fitness stations circuit; basketball; speedbal; and, a weight training circuit. The literacy initiative of our department has also been supported by the task cards and log sheets the students are required to refer to and complete during those activities. Every Fitness student has been able to evaluate her or his own fitness level by completing the standardized FITNESSGRAM test which measures most of the health related fitness components.

Students were encouraged to develop short term and long term goals mid-way through this semester in order to gain improvement in muscular strength, muscular endurance and cardiorespiratory endurance. We are happy to report that most of our...
Fitness students achieved their goals. Furthermore, our gymnasium features a “FITNESSGRAM CHAMPS” wall that displays the picture of every student who has the highest FITNESSGRAM test score for pushups, curl-ups, and PACER for each teacher. The students love seeing this, and the wall serves as an extrinsic motivator for them.

As we begin 2019 and the second semester, students are preparing for the midterm exams. The Fitness classes will be able to use their notes and readings for reference during the test. This allows the hard work during the first semester to pay off. We are excited for new students to join us in the second semester for our elective sections, and we hope that the students who are moving on have enjoyed their time in PE this year. Some of the new activities that the students can look forward to next semester are volleyball; floor hockey; yoga; adventure/cooperative games and activities; tennis; softball; and, badminton. All of the Fitness students will have one more opportunity to do the FITNESSGRAM test so that they can continue to improve their fitness. We will also review seven (7) more chapters from our required text book. Topics that the remaining chapters will cover include: flexibility; body composition; injury prevention; consumer choices; the science of active living; as well as, life management and social skills.

Another bit of exciting news concerning our school, athletic department and physical education department is that Bill Yosca, former Physical Education teacher and coach from the late 80s through the early 2000s, has been inducted into the Maryland State Association of Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame. The ceremony will be held at the end of January. Coach Yosca had a profound impact on many students both in the classroom and on the athletic field. We are extremely proud of his accomplishments and we honor him for his induction into the MSABC Hall of Fame.
Paper copies of PSAT scores will be distributed shortly via home-rooms. Please click here to watch a video about your PSAT scores: https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/scores/understanding-scores

You can access your PSAT score on the College Board website. To access your score report, go to https://studentscores.collegeboard.org/home In addition, you should register with the Khan Academy at www.khanacademy.org with the access code available on your score report to get personalized test prep.
From the Counseling Office

College Shirt Friday
Many of our staff and students attended a service for Dr. James Fragetta this past Friday, January 11, 2019. Dr. Fragetta was a Towson parent and a huge supporter of our students and staff. Below are comments from Mrs. Charlene DiMino, Towson High School Principal.

"Dr. Fragetta was one of the most incredible parents that I ever had the pleasure to work with in my entire career. I will never forget his unselfish nature and compassion. He did whatever was necessary to enhance Towson High School and the surrounding community. Beyond his willingness to take initiative, lend a helping hand, and his belief that anything could result from hard work and determination, ......he was the ultimate representation of integrity.

We are reminded of Dr. Fragetta’s self-sacrificing nature everywhere we look at Towson High School. He worked tirelessly to enhance our facility. His efforts were always focused on making the student's life at their home away from home an enjoyable experience. Often found on our grounds in his off hours, he spray painted the Towson High School logo on trash cans, painted benches that needed repairs, hung banners and volunteered at the concession stands. As a former THS Volunteer of the Year Recipient, he was instrumental in bringing the dream of a turf field to reality. Dr. Fragetta never expected anything in return. I believe he lived by the motto, “Live for Others.”

Throughout Dr. Fragetta’s battle with cancer, one would never assume that he was ill. At our final home football game, Dr. Fragetta cooked burgers on the grill. He also spoke at our recent Athletic Awards Ceremony. He shared words of encouragement with our audience, reminding us once again of his influence on our students, coaches, and families. Our school was reminded of his unwavering, unselfish nature to serve others.

Committed to his family, he was also dedicated to making a difference for all of mankind. We are so incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have known Dr. Fragetta! His influence will live forever in the hearts and minds of many."

- Charlene DiMino
Dr. Fragetta speaking to students, staff and parents at our most recent Winter Athletic Recognition Ceremony.
AVID had a special guest panel of THS AVID graduates who are now in college or graduated from a 4 year university. Students who returned to speak were from all different colleges and at different stages in their college experience. Two students have graduated from college and moved on to full time employment. The alumni returned to talk about their college experiences with current AVID students. Alumnus and new Towson University graduate Kalia Green now works for BCPS TV and will be putting together a show based on this morning’s talk.
On December 7th, the LPP Juniors became Lords & Ladies at a Medieval Times educational show to enhance their studies of this time era.
Students attended a local Educator’s Rising Conference with Mrs. Nash at Towson University.
What’s Happening?

Educator’s Rising Conference
At Towson University
Congratulations to Maya Williams!  Maya, a senior LPP magnet student, has been named a Questbridge Scholar and offered a full scholarship to Bowdoin College in Brunswick Maine.  She participates in a law internship at the Law Offices of Spence Brierley.  At Towson High, she is a member of JHU Model United Nations club, NHS & Key club.  Maya was selected to participate in the WOW event – Women of the World for her leadership qualities.  Maya finds time to volunteer at Parkville Library in their Reading Buddies program.  Maya always has a positive and friendly attitude along with a beautiful smile.  We are so very proud of her accomplishment and are excited to see what her future brings.

Maya Williams
The Towson GSA club is holding a winter clothing drive to support the Youth Empowered Society (YES) in Baltimore.

The YES organization is a drop-in center for homeless youth, many of which are members of the LGBTQ community.

We are collecting new or gently used adolescent and adult size clothing and winter wear.

Please drop off any donations to Mr. Dalsimer in Trailer 7 or Ms. Hanley in the School Counseling Department before January 31st.

Thank you so much for supporting this drive and club!
Congratulations to David Wittenberg for being selected to be included in the 2018 Drexel University High School Photo Contest exhibition. Winners will be announced January 15th. The work will be exhibited from February 9 through March 3, 2019 at the Photography Gallery on the 4th floor of the Academic Building.
Baltimore County Public Schools

Cafeteria Workers NEEDED!

Come Join Our Team!

HOW TO APPLY - VISIT OUR JOB BOARD!
- Visit https://applitrack.com/bcps/onlineapp/
- Click on categories under vacancies.
- Click on the job to which you would like to apply.
- Read the complete job description and then click “apply” in the upper right-hand corner.
- Follow the instructions to create your online application.
- Please be sure to “finish and submit” the application.

Starting cafeteria worker pay is $10.72/hour.
Substitute cafeteria positions available as well at $10.10/hour
Must be able to pass a background check and pre-employment physical. Opportunities to advance. Regular positions offer benefits including medical, dental, vision and tuition reimbursement.

- Build your career
- Make a difference in a child’s life
- Training provided
- Part-time regular and substitute positions available now

For more information, contact the Office of Staffing, Baltimore County Public Schools, 443-809-7872.
College Visits
Don’t forget to sign up for college visits on Naviance. College representatives are visiting Towson High School every day and you can find out more about colleges that you’re interested in!

To sign up for visits, go to https://student.naviance.com/towson and enter your log in information. You can also access Naviance through BCPS One.

When you’re on the site, click on ‘colleges’ in the top right hand corner of the screen and click on ‘college visits’ to sign up to meet with a college representative.

Scholarships
Check the scholarship page on Naviance for the latest scholarship information. The school counseling office will be distributing the local scholarship form to all seniors shortly. We encourage every senior to apply for local scholarships.

FAFSA Frenzy
Seniors and parents/guardians, do you need help completing the FAFSA? Our FAFSA Frenzy day will be on February 14. If you need help completing the FAFSA, please stop by and school counselors will be on hand to help you. More information will be sent out in the next few weeks.
Graduation

Thursday, May 30, 2019

7:00 pm

Towson University
UPCOMING EVENTS

January

16-22  Midterm Exams
21    Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday Observed—Schools and Offices CLOSED
22    General Nathan Towson’s Birthday
24    Tri-M Coffeehouse, 4:00 pm, Cafeteria)
23, 24 Midterm, Exam Make-ups
25    2nd Marking Period Ends
25    Schools close 3 hours early
30    Tri-M Coffeehouse *SNOw DATE,* 4:00 pm, Cafeteria

February

Black History Month

7    Report Cards Made Available Through Homeroom (2nd Marking Period)
12    Lincoln’s Birthday)
15    Music Boosters Basket Bingo
18    President’s Day - Schools and Offices CLOSED
19    Edible Art 25th Anniversary Exhibit, 6:00 pm, Cafeteria
20    Spring Blood Drive, Auditorium
22    LPP Freshmen Mentoring, 7:45 am, Cafeteria
22    Washington’s Birthday