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. Jackson and the members of our chorus that attended the County Executive’s Inauguration.

★ STARS to Ms. Miller, Lyla Kline, Drew Conboy, Kun Feng, and Huy Nguyen for participating in the Maryland Department of the Environment “Rethink, Recycling” competition this Friday.

★ STARS to the parents of our Music Boosters, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Olin, and Mr. Rhen for their efforts with a seasonal fundraiser.

★ STARS to Mr. Briglio, Mr. Nash, and Mr. Parts for all of their efforts with preparing for additional bleachers.

★ STARS to Mr. Buick, Mr. Marx, Mr. Olson, and Ms. Parsons for opening their classrooms for colleagues to observe responsive instruction in action!

★ STARS to the staff of Towson High School for all of their daily efforts to support students and ensure that our students remain focused on making academic gains.

★ STARS to Mr. Esbrandt and the members of our custodial team for their collective efforts to maintain a clean environment for our school and staff.

★ STARS to Ms. McClenathan for demonstrating excellence.

★ STARS to all of our coaches as we begin our winter season.

★ STARS to our parents of the Theater Boosters, Music Boosters, and PTSA for their contributions to our enhanced sound system.

★ STARS to Ms. Marks, Mr. Palumbi, and all of our students involved with the Fall Production. Outstanding!!

★ STARS to Ms. Samuels for her attention to detail.

★ STARS to Ms. Bridges, Mr. Ickes, and all of our staff involved with testing.

★ STARS to Ms. Cannon for sprucing up our bulletin boards.
The date for the presentation of the High School Capacity Study to the Board of Education has changed.

The report will now be presented at the December 11th Board of Education meeting.

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Reminder

No students are permitted to be in the building without adult supervision beyond 2:20 pm. Any student in the building after 2:20 pm must be supervised by the sponsor of his/her club or organization.

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Please be advised that students are not permitted to have lunch delivered by local restaurants and/or food delivery services.

In addition, students are not permitted to leave school property during lunch hours.
Attendance Matters!

Research has shown that attendance is a leading predictor of academic achievement and adult success. Students who find attending school important are more likely to attain goals like attending trade school, college, or getting a job. By showing up to school every day, students develop a positive work ethic and prepare for future success by developing healthy and productive habits.

Our goal is for students to attend school at least 94% of the time. By missing just 2 days a month, students will end up missing 10% of the school year. Below are some tips and reminders to help your student attend school regularly. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in ensuring that all of our Towson Generals become life-long learners and productive global citizens.

Student attendance records are available to review in real-time on BCPSOne. Follow these directions to access student attendance records. To create a BCPSOne account, access this portal. If you notice a discrepancy in your student’s attendance record, please contact the Main Office.

The school day begins at 7:40 AM. If students arrive late to school during 1st period, they are to report directly to first period, and their homeroom teachers will record their attendance as tardy but present for the day. If students arrive to school after 1st period (after 9:15 AM), they are to report directly to the front office. If the lateness is excused, please send an excuse note to school with your student so the lateness can be marked as excused. Multiple unexcused latenesses will result in administrative action.

After an excused absence, please send an excuse note to school with your student so the absence can be marked as excused.

Attendance is reported on your student’s high school transcript. Colleges and future employers that receive the student’s transcript will be able to see the number of absences that were accrued each school year.
Happy Musical Holidays Towson!

The Music program at THS has been busy and productive as our enrollment has grown to 600+ students for the 2018-19 school year! Thankfully we welcomed Ms. Ferrell to a full time position here in August. In addition to being the percussion specialist for marching band, she is teaching percussion, guitar, and our newest course offering: class piano.

Marching Band
The Marching Band season began with our annual band camp during a scorching hot week in August and concluded with the band taking 1st place at the Hagerstown Parade! The show was called the “Kings and Queens of Rock and Roll” and featured rock music from the 60’s to the present. Bohemian Rhapsody was one of the epic tunes enjoyed by the marching band and audiences alike. Go to this website to view our 2018 Marching Band Slide Show: https://youtu.be/m2UbphPXSeI.

Music Boosters
The Music Boosters’ Fall “Friendraiser” Social Event, Citrus Sale, and Wreath Sale have all been huge successes for the Towson Community and also in raising money for the program. Thank you to all of the parents and family members who assist the directors in building and maintaining this amazing program! Join us from 7:00 -8:00 PM on the first Wednesday of each month in Room 157 for our Music Booster Club meetings!

Music Boosters currently has two active fundraisers that parents and community members are welcome to give donations to:
2. Percussion Ensemble Five Octave Marimba: https://www.gofundme.com/6b34xxk

Percussion
Speaking of percussion, there is a new extra-curricular group at Towson called the “Percussion Coalition” which meets Wednesdays after school. They are an advanced group of percussionists lead by Ms. Ferrell. They are trying to raise funds to purchase a 5 octave marimba which is an instrument that is used in the advanced literature they are attempting to study and perform. If you wish to donate, you may contribute through the THS Music Boosters.
BCPS Honors Band, Orchestra and Chorus

Sixty-four Towson High student musicians were selected through a rigorous audition process to participate in the Baltimore County Public Schools Honors Band, Orchestra, or Chorus. Unfortunately the event was postponed due to bad weather in early November. The event is tentatively rescheduled for April 25th (rehearsal), April 27th (all day rehearsal with guest conductors), and April 28th for the BCPS All Honors Concert. All events will take place at Perry Hall High School if approved and finalized at the County level.

The following students qualified for Maryland All State Band, Orchestra, or Chorus.

- Shuming (Alan) Mao (piano)  
- Yiyun Li (clarinet)  
- Geoffrey Parsons (trombone)  
- Isabelle Zhang (bassoon)  
- Liam Jones (vocal)  
- Julianna Bullis (vocal)  
- Grace Heinlein (vocal)  
- Amelia Glikin (vocal)  
- Grace Null (vocal)  
- Lydia Hamilton (vocal)  
- Liam Emmons (vocal)

Congratulations to these amazing students who are talented enough to qualify to perform at the All State level!

Winter Music Concerts

2018 Winter music concerts at Towson High School are as follows:

- December 11: Orchestra  
- December 13: Bands  
- December 18: Choir

All concerts begin at 7pm in the Towson High School Auditorium. Admission is free and tickets are not required. Come hear our amazing students perform!!

Additionally, the THS Jazz Ensemble will perform at Kennilworth Mall on Monday, December 17th from 5-6pm.

Save the Date for Basket Bingo (music booster fundraiser) on Friday, February 15th from 6-10pm at the Tall Cedars of Lebanon in Parkville. More information about this event can be found here:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f4cae2a23a02-basket

Congratulations to the committee winners.

**Honorable Mentions for Best Delegate:** Jordan Van Doren, Laura Reus, & Noureen Badwi

**Verbal Commentary for Best Delegate:** Nic Oke, Macie Hakim, Grace Parcover, Kyle Reser, & Helen Wang
Delegates weathered the snow and attended Princeton Model Congress 11/15-18. Congratulations to the team for winning 14/28 awards, a record amount.

**Winning a Gavel for Best Delegate in committee:** Eric Derr, Carl Feibusch, Taylor Brumagin, and Kojo Baidoo

**Winning Honorable Mentions for Best Delegate in committee:** Sofia Grose, Bekah Platzke, Noureen Badwi, Piper Jackson, Jamal Oakman, Sophie Rubenfeld, Eric Gorner, Anna Frey, Alexander Faraday, and Akaolisa Nwadiogbu.

Way to go Generals!
Congratulations to the gold and silver debate teams from the Speech & Debate tournament held Saturday, November 17, 2018.
This year, the American Education Week was celebrated from November 12 through 16, 2018. Parent visitation day at Towson High School was Wednesday, November 14, 2018. We are so grateful for all the parents and visitors who came out to celebrate and honor teachers and staff.

Parents were able to visit their student(s)’s classrooms as well as attend optional sessions that were held in the library. The sessions were designed to address topics that are very important to parents, such as Understanding Schoology, Understanding our Instructional Focus, Understanding how we Support our Students, and Planning Your High School Career and Beyond.

Listed below are comments that parents had about our American Education Week Visitation Day.

- “The classes were quiet and emphasized learning.”
- “The feeling from the staff and students is upbeat, vibrant, true and real.”
- “The event went well, with the teachers very welcoming.”
- “I was so happy and invigorated by the classes. Wow! Kudos to all!”
- “Great math class!”

Thank you to everyone who came out to visit and thanks to our teachers and staff members for all you do every day.

The School Counseling office runs a variety of programs and groups to support our students to promote mental health and school success.

We offer student support groups on healthy relationships, stress and anxiety, meditation, promoting self-awareness, gender identity, after school organization help, and first generation college students. If you would like to join a group, please contact your school counselor for more information.

We are open to suggestions from our school community for new support groups for students and welcome your input and feedback.
Congratulations to Huy Nguyen and Kun Feng on their awards at the 2018 Rethink Recycling exhibition sponsored by the Maryland Department of the Environment.

Towson High School (Teacher: Lindsay Miller)
Creativity Award 1st Place: Huy Nguyen “Face of Hoy”
Workmanship Award 2nd Place: Kun Feng “Cardboard Phoenix”

First Lady Yumi Hogan brought greetings to the event and spoke highly of the work of our BCPS artists. Here is the link to the full album from the event. https://www.flickr.com/photos/mdenvironment/albums/72157698287724950

Since 2001, MDE has celebrated America Recycles Day by hosting the annual “Rethink Recycling” Sculpture Contest. High school students from across Maryland are invited to participate by creating sculptures made of recycled and reusable materials. Participants have created innovative and artistic sculptures using records, plastic bags, old shoes, playing cards, computer parts and more.

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 login 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.
Graduation

Thursday, May 30, 2019

7:00 pm

Towson University
UPCOMING EVENTS

December

11  Winter Concert - Strings, 7:00 pm, Auditorium
13  Winter Concert - Bands, 7:00 pm, Auditorium
15  LPP Magnet Assessment
18  Winter Concert - Choral, 7:00 pm, Auditorium
20  Interims Made Available Through Homeroom (2nd Marking Period)
21  Winter Break begins at the end of the school day
24-31 Winter Break - Schools and Offices CLOSED

January

1    Winter Break—Schools and Offices CLOSED
2    School Re-Opens
3    Parent-Teacher Conferences, 2:15 pm - 4:15 pm
5    LPP Magnet Assessment “SNOW DATE”
16-22 Midterm Exams
21   Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday Observed—Schools and Offices CLOSED