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. Faya for helping another teacher with emergency lesson plans.

★ STARS to our staff for the recognition as a TOP STEM HIGH SCHOOL by Newsweek.

★ STARS to our coaches for an outstanding fall season.

★ STARS to Mr. Cooke for his dedication to support students beyond the classroom.

★ STARS to Ms. Hancock for her consistent support of students.

★ STARS to Ms. Culbertson, Mr. Olson, Mr. Rhen, Ms. Richmond, Mr. Dalsimer, Ms. Schrader, Mr. Briggs, Ms. Valsing, Mr. Eastham, and Mr. Brotman for their efforts with Academic Planning Night.

★ STARS to our 5 STAR counselors for going above and beyond to support students.

★ STARS to Ms. Culbertson for her attention to detail with planning Academic Planning Night.
Library

What’s Happening in the Library?

The Library continues to be a busy learning center at Towson High School. The addition of some new furniture – tables on wheels and some casual seating – has made the library even more user friendly.

The new tables allow for easy grouping for everything from small group learning to large events like club events or faculty meetings. The new furniture is part of an ongoing facelift for the Library which, in recent years, includes the addition of high-top tables, new shelf lighting and colorful posters and student art work, among other improvements.

The Library is open daily from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm, houses over 11,000 books and also has a computer lab with 35 computers and a color printer.
New tables on wheels make the Library a more flexible learning space.

The past several weeks the Library hosted, as usual, a variety of classes using the space to work on a wide variety of lessons.

Students in English 12 work on a Halloween assignment about the Fall of the House of Usher by Edgar Allen Poe.
Ms. Ensor leads her Physical Education class through a lesson on goal setting.

English 10 student research a variety of psychological theories in order to examine the motivations and behavior of literary characters in the Theorist Café.
Towson High NEHS Chapter 5199 is sponsoring a book drive to benefit BCPS Prevention and Intervention Programs. Now through December 1, 2019, look for boxes around school, and donate used or new books. School-appropriate subject matter from all genres and grade levels is welcomed.

DONATE TODAY!

Reading can make a profound difference in someone’s life.
The following students qualified for the Baltimore County Public Schools Honors Band, Orchestra, or Chorus! The concert will be performed at the Murphy Fine Arts Center on the campus of Morgan State University on Monday, December 9, 2019 at 7:30 pm.

Logan Abaldo
Katie Bartram
Talia Bauland
Emma Bisson
Austin Black
Evan Black
Justin Brion
Juliana Bullis
Nathaniel Chen
Abigail Davenport
Emily Davis
Sam Denoncourt
Maria Dildine
Christian Dillard
Liam Emmons
Kendall Fragetta
May Fu
Katy Geimer
Matthew Gilbert
Amaya Greenberg
Daniel Guonjian-Petit
Luke Gutberlet
Lydia Hamilton
Laura Hemingway
Mackenzie Hoey
Maverick Irwin
Shawn Keely
Kordell Kemp
Sydney Lavin
Lydia Lee
Nathan Lessem
Yiyun Li
Abigail Longo
Alan Mao
Ben McLaughlin
Sofia Milliner-Angel
Elliott Morton
Kristina Nie
Grace Null
Olivia Osgood
Evelyn Parts
Kyla Perkins
Micah Polsky
Aaron Prem
Sarah Prem
Juliana Salehi
Yuma Sasaki
Caroline Seitz
Tehya Shapiro
Claire Shi
Aiden Shope
Michael Stamatos
Evelynne Stins
Reanna Talwar
James Turner
Grant Weih
Calvin Wonnell
Brandon Yoon
Tyler Yup
Isabelle Zhang
Bill Zhao
Recently, Mrs. DiMino received the following letter from Newsweek regarding our Towson High School students. Congratulations to our staff and students for being recognized as one of Newsweek’s stop STEM high schools!!

“Newsweek, with its long history of reporting on scientific breakthroughs, technological revolutions and societal challenges, partnered with STEM.org to rank America’s Best STEM High Schools. We found schools in every region of the country that offer skilled teachers who keep up with developments in these fields and who create dynamic learning environments to engage their students.

As I’m sure you agree, America is a nation of entrepreneurs and innovators, and our economic vitality and national security depend on our children being fluent in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The STEM skills that only specialists have today will be expected of virtually everyone in the American workforce tomorrow.

Your students are natural STEM students. We need to make sure that their innate drive, curiosity, and creativity aren’t lost along the way. And the best STEM schools are helping to ensure that America’s future in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics is in good hands.

In addition to the Top 500 STEM High Schools that appear in the November 8-15 double issue of Newsweek magazine, we’ll post the complete rankings of the Top 5,000 STEM High Schools on Newsweek.com on November 8—which is National STEM Day. We hope you’ll share the news on that day to enable everyone in your school community to recognize your remarkable achievement!
The badminton season concluded Saturday October 26th with the BCPS tournament finals to determine the best of the best birdie bashers in Baltimore County.

STARS to the following Towson Generals!

♦ Earning the gold medal in girls doubles were Towson’s own Elise Chang and partner Cindy Chen.

♦ Earning a silver medal in girls singles was Isabella Sabatino.

♦ Earning a bronze medal in girls singles was Joy Chen.

♦ The silver in mixed doubles went to Laura Reus and Nathan DeLuca.

♦ Bronze medals were presented to the boys doubles team of Yanjie Zhang and Bill Zhao.

Congratulations to one and all on a marvelous season!!
Our very own Towson Terminators won the first VEX Robotics Competition of the Year at the VRC Northwest Classic in Sykesville, MD, held Saturday, October 26, 2019. They defeated 27 other teams from all over Maryland, including some of our closest rivals.

Congratulations to team 934Z:

Anthony Granruth
Rakrish Dhakal
Isabelle Zhang
Chenjun Sun
IPC students were tasked with designing their own rockets using a variety of materials including index cards, rubber bands, and paperclips. Students recorded their data and then used their data to complete several calculations. These photos show the IPC students completing the force and distance tests for their designated rockets.
Science
Intro to Physics and Chemistry Honors
Students in Ms. Damon’s Aquatic Science class practiced dissection techniques and directional terminology on a banana. As part of our current classification unit, students will be performing four different dissections in the upcoming weeks to compare different animal phyla.
TOWSON HIGH THEATRE PRESENTS

Clue

ON STAGE

NOVEMBER 21 - 23
7PM

Content Advisory: This production contains mature content. Viewer discretion is advised.

Produced in special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc. (www.playscripts.com)
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Towson High School Class of 2020

PTSA Sponsored Senior (After Prom) Celebration

Friday, May 15th
11 PM – 2 AM
Orokawa, YMCA, Towson

Every year, it has been a tradition for the PTSA to hold an after-prom event, called the Senior Celebration. This FREE event provides students and their guests a SAFE alternative to “high risk” activities that can sometimes follow a prom. Our goal is to offer a MEMORABLE night filled with FUN ACTIVITIES and PRIZES.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE THIS EVENT A SUCCESS!

Please consider LEADING (or co-leading) A SUB-COMMITTEE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prizes</th>
<th>Donations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Decorations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact Jackie Burkhardt, Sr. Celebration Chair, jburkhardt1@msn.com for details.

ATTENTION: Parents/Guardians of 9th, 10th and 11th graders, please consider volunteering for a committee. When it is your senior’s turn, you will then be supported by the other classes for this FUN evening!

******************************************************************************

DONATIONS

CASH and PRIZE DONATIONS (such as gift cards) are also critical to make this event happen!
Cap and Gown order forms are in!!

Please pick one up from outside the main office or from room 113.

You must have a cap and gown to walk in the graduation ceremony. The current cost is $8.54. Remember to order **before** the end of January as the price goes up significantly. Remember to keep your receipt!!

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns at [cgreenberg@bcps.org](mailto:cgreenberg@bcps.org)
Do You Have Questions About College Applications?

Mr. Briggs and Ms. Wright are here to help!!

Every Wednesday, from 2:15 pm-3:15 pm, Mr. Briggs, School Counseling Department Chair, and Ms. Wright, LPP & College Counselor, will be in the library to assist students and parents with any questions about college applications. Please stop by if you need any assistance.
COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT

University of Maryland

Admissions Rep
Albert Clarke
aclarkev@umd.edu

Fact 1: Accepts Coalition
      Deadlines: Priority November 1, Regular January 20

Fact 2: If you go to the very top of the Maryland Stadium
        (football/lacrosse), you will be able to see the Washing-
        ton Monument from UMD’s campus.

Fact 3: Co-founder of Google, Sergey Brin, attended UMD and
        graduated with a BS in Computer Science in 1993.
Attendance Matters! #EveryDayCounts #BCPSRollCall

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 7:35 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 9:10 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. 5 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. If your student is absent for multiple days, please contact your student’s School Counselor and inform them of the absence. School Counselors will notify teachers and can collect missing work for your student.

• 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.

• Students who are under 16 and are applying for their Learner’s Permit must complete the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration Verification of School Attendance form. The form asks school officials to sign and seal that the student has not had more than 10 unexcused absences during the prior school semester.
Unexcused Lateness Procedures

Being in class on time gives your child the best chance at success. Our *lateness to class* policy was developed to encourage students to get to class on time so that teachers can fully utilize their time with each class. Accordingly, we will take the following interventions when students are late to class unexcused.

1\textsuperscript{st} Unexcused Lateness: Verbal warning to student  
2\textsuperscript{nd} Unexcused Lateness: Verbal warning to student  
3\textsuperscript{rd} Unexcused Lateness: Contact with the parent/guardian  
4\textsuperscript{th} Unexcused Lateness: Contact with guidance regarding reoccurring lateness  
5\textsuperscript{th} Unexcused Lateness: Administrative detention will be assigned

Thank you for supporting your students’ education and our teachers and by encouraging your student to arrive to class on time!
Selfies taken as part of this attendance awareness campaign can be uploaded to individual social media accounts and to school social media accounts using the hashtags found at the bottom of each poster: (#BCPSrollcall #everydaycounts #making2daymatter #present4class #a10ding).
Staff in the Office of Special Education will be offering workshops for staff and parents. Below is information on each workshop and when it will be presented. If you are interested in attending any of the workshops, you must register by calling 410-887-5443.

**Overcoming Depression: Functional Coping Skills for Teens and Tweens**, presented by Dr. Tana Hope from the Child and Family Therapy Clinic of the Department of Behavioral Psychology at Kennedy Krieger Institute.

This workshop is offered on the following dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 20, 2019</td>
<td>5:30 - 7:30 pm</td>
<td>North Point Library Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Presenters will share causes of depression, how to identify signs of depression versus naturally occurring teen moodiness, prevention strategies, and tips on how to assist children through depression.
Grace’s Law 2.0

Grace’s Law 2.0 was signed into law by Governor Larry Hogan on Thursday, April 18, 2019, and went into effect on Tuesday, October 1, 2019. By enacting Grace’s Law 2.0, Maryland is the first state in the nation to have legislation that increases penalties for cyberbullying.

Grace’s Law 2.0 enforces and ensures that cyberbullying is prohibited on all social media platforms. When any person, no matter their age, acts with malicious intent to cause emotional or physical harm to a child, the law provides substantial penalties to the perpetrator and allows victims and their parents to seek court orders to stop cyberbullying after a single incident. Victims of cyberbullying no longer must wait for several incidents of online abuse to report the incident to police; victims and their parent/guardian can now act immediately.

The expanded law increases penalties for cyber assaults on victims 18 and younger, to up to three years in prison and a $10,000 fine. With the enactment of Grace’s Law 2.0, any online incident done with malicious intent, as well as any behavior that intentionally attempts to intimidate or harass a minor, including bullying, suicide baiting and sextortion, would fall under the heading of cyberbullying. It is also important to note that perpetrators do not have to communicate directly with the victim. For example, actions such as subscribing a child to a pornographic Website, using electronic communications to try and entice the stalking of a minor, and maliciously tormenting a child by disseminating sexual information about them would subject the perpetrator(s) to up to three years in prison and a $10,000 fine.

Cyberbullying Definition (as defined by BCPS Policy and Rule 5580): A communication transmitted by means of an electronic device, including the use of social media sites, telephone, cellular phone, computer, tablet or any other electronic communication device.
The Maryland Seal of Biliteracy for High School Students

What is a Seal of Biliteracy? A Seal of Biliteracy is a state award that recognizes a student’s high level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing in one or more languages other than English. It is awarded to eligible high school students by participating public school systems in Maryland. Begun in California in 2011, the Seal of Biliteracy is now offered in 28 states and the District of Columbia. Maryland’s Seal of Biliteracy Bill was signed into law in 2016.

Eligibility: To be eligible for a Seal of Biliteracy, a student must fulfill the following requirements:  
- Pass the Maryland High School Assessment in English 10.
- Score Intermediate High Proficiency or equivalent on an approved world language assessment. Below is a partial list of assessments and their qualifying scores.

**Assessment:**

**Minimum Qualifying Score:**

- **Advanced Placement:** 4
- **International Baccalaureate:** 6 (Standard)
- **ACTFL Assessments:** (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages):
  - **Intermediate High**

For a complete list:

http://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/DCAA/World-Languages/Biliteracy/index.aspx

Why is Maryland Awarding a Seal of Biliteracy? High school graduates who can function in two or more languages are equipped with the knowledge and skills to
participate successfully in college, careers, and a diverse 21st century society. The purpose of the Seal of Biliteracy is to: “Recognize the value of language learning in public schools. “Encourage students to attain high proficiency levels in one or more languages in addition to English. ”Affirm native or heritage languages. ”Provide employers with a method of identifying individuals with language and biliteracy skills. ”Prepare students with the critical skills necessary to function in a global society. ”Strengthen cross-cultural communication, affirm the value of diversity and honor the multiple cultures and languages in our communities.

Heritage Languages in Maryland
Nearly 17% of Maryland’s students speak a language other than English at home. Some of these students take weekend classes in their heritage language for many years. These students will also be eligible to be recognized for their language proficiency with a Seal of Biliteracy in their heritage language. They must meet the same eligibility requirements listed in this brochure.

Cost There is no cost to the student to apply for the voluntary Seal of Biliteracy. However, students are responsible for any assessment fees not covered by their school or school system.
UPCOMING EVENTS

November, 2019

8 1st Marking Period Ends
11 Veterans Days
18-22 American Education Week
20 Parent Visitation Day (American Education Week)
15 First Day of Winter Sports
18 Fall Sports Awards Ceremony, 6:30 pm, Auditorium
21 Report Cards Made Available Through Homeroom (1st Marking Period)
21-23 Fall Play Production, 7:00 pm, Auditorium
26 Meet the Winter Coaches Night, 6:30 pm, Auditorium
28-29 Thanksgiving Holiday - Schools and Offices Closed

December, 2019

4 Club Photo Day, Auditorium
11 NAHS Celebration of Light, 6:00 pm, Art Wing
12 Winter Concert - Strings, 7:00 pm, Auditorium
14 Magnet Assessment
16-19 MCAP (PARCC) Fall Assessments
17 Winter Concert - Bands, 7:00 pm, Auditorium
19 Winter Concert - Choral, 7:00 pm, Auditorium
19 Interims Made Available Through Homeroom (2nd Marking Period)
20 Winter Break begins at the end of the school day
Class of 2019

Graduation

Thursday
May 28, 2020