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 Austin Wiley - his artwork was chosen for the Towson High School Holiday Card.

★ STARS to Ramerra Allen, Randi Alston, and Tire’ Adedire for assisting a member of our community who was in medical distress.

★ STARS to Peter Sorenson for earning 2nd place in the Class 3A cross country state championship meet at Hereford High School.

★ STARS to our PTSA for their support of our staff. Thank you for the Holiday Truck!!

★ STARS to our Music Department for their talent and skill as they showcase our students.

★ STARS to our Music Boosters for their efforts with the fundraiser.

★ STARS to our Instructional Staff for their constant efforts to support students.

From Everyone at Towson High School, we wish you a Happy and Restful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!!
Dear Parents,

As we prepare for this winter holiday season, it is our sincere wish that each and every family will take the time to celebrate each other and enjoy this special time together. We have so much to be grateful for - sharing your gratitude is a powerful tool. Words of thankfulness lift you and others up and prepare the way for more success and prosperity to enter your life. Remember to speak words of gratitude to everyone you meet. Your words could change someone’s day or a person’s life!

On behalf of the staff and faculty of Towson High School, I wish you all a very Happy Holiday season!!

Mrs. DiMino
Principal
Winter Spirit Week

December 16 – December 20

Monday – Pajama Day
The day you have all been waiting for! Wear your favorite cozy PJs!

Tuesday – Twin Tuesday
Team up with your friends and dress alike!

Wednesday – Winter Wednesday
Wear your most festive winter apparel!

Thursday – Ugly Sweater Day
Wear your ugliest holiday sweater!

Friday – Flannel Friday
Wear your favorite flannel!
Happy Musical Holidays Towson!

The Music program at THS has been busy and productive as our enrollment has grown to 600+ students for the 2019-20 school year. The Marching Band season began with our annual band camp in August and concluded with the band taking 2nd place at the Hagerstown Parade! The show was called the “I Spy Towson High, International Band of Mystery” and featured spy theme music and even the Pink Panther and Perry the Platypus costumes and a student created dance routine. We had a record breaking 103 student in marching band this year! They will perform again at the Magic Kingdom at Disney World in 2020.

Visit this website to view our 2019 Marching Band Slide Show of highlights: https://youtu.be/07V'kr009t_w

The Music Boosters’ Fall “Friendraiser” Social Event, Citrus Sale, and Wreath Sale have all been a huge success for the Towson Community and also in raising money for the program. Thank you to all of the parents, students, 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!
Members of the THS Choral program participated in a “Major Works Concert” at the Brown Memorial Church on November 13. It was a spectacular concert combined with choirs from Perry Hall and Patapsco High Schools. Fifty-two (52) Towson High student musicians were selected through a rigorous audition process to participate in the Baltimore County Public Schools Honors Band, Orchestra, or Chorus. They will perform at Morgan State University on Monday, December 9th at 7:30 pm.

The following students qualified to perform with the Baltimore Symphony musicians at the annual Side By Side Concert on February 25th, 2020 at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.

MacKenzie Hoey
Maverick Irwin
Yiyun Li
Ben McLaughlin
Kyla Perkinson
Aaron Prem
Yuma Sasaki
Tehya Shapiro
Claire Shi
Michael Stamatos
Evelynne Stins
Brandon Yoon
Tyler Yup
Isabelle Zhang

Congratulations to these amazing students who are talented enough to qualify to perform at this event!

Five (5) members of the THS Honors Jazz Ensemble class performed for Mr. Dase’s retirement party on Tuesday, November 12 at the Eagle’s Nest Country Club. They sounded great as they performed in the lobby while guests were arriving and greeting each other before dinner.
The 2019 winter music concerts at Towson High School will be held on:
   December 12th: Orchestras
   December 17th: Bands and Percussion Ensembles
   December 19th: Choirs

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 Kenilworth Mall on Monday, December 16th from 7-8pm.

Save the Date for Basket Bingo (music boosters’ fundraiser) on Friday, February 21, 2020 from 6-10pm at the Tall Cedars of Lebanon in Parkville. More information about this event can be found here: https://sites.google.com/view/towsonhighmusic/basket-bingo
The school counselors are currently meeting with students to review courses for the 2020-2021 school year. We will be meeting with students through December 16th in their social studies classes. Students should be reviewing their registration forms and discussing their course selections with parents and teachers. Remember that students in rising grades 9, 10, and 11 should have 8 credits and 2 alternates on their registration forms. Students in rising grade 12 have several options for their senior year that will be discussed during the classroom visit.

Outside of our classroom visits, school counselors are available during every lunch. Mr. Briggs is available in the library on Wednesdays after school from 2:15 pm -3:00 pm. Parents and students can email department chairs and teachers for information.

Students should return their completed and signed registration forms to their social studies teacher as soon as possible, but no later than December 18, 2019.

Please visit this website to access online registration information: https://towsonhs.bcps.org/2020-2021_course_registration_information.

If you have any questions, please contact School Counseling at 443-809-3613.
PSAT

PSAT scores are available online!! For information about test scores and how to access your scores, please click visit this website: https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/scores/getting-scores

Our 9th grade school counselor, Ms. Sherrod has changed her name! Ms. Sherrod is now Mrs. Raley. That is pronounced Ray-Lee. Don’t worry, she will still respond to either name. Her name has already changed on Schoology, so be ready to search for Mrs. Raley if you need to message her. Her new email is: craley@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.
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:

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<tr>
<th>Prizes</th>
<th>Donations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Decorations</td>
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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
Congratulations to Anya Joseph

Congratulations to Anya Joseph!! She was recently selected to participate in the Student Artist Leader Workshop at Maryland Institute College of Art.

Towson High’s One Love Club has been recognized as a “Champion School” for our commitment to healthy relationship education through a combination of educational reach, student leadership and ongoing awareness-building activities. Towson is one of four BCPS schools that recently earned the “Champion School” title and was featured on BCPS’s website - https://www.bcps.org/news/
Ms. Damon's 4A Aquatic Science class recently dissected a crayfish. Students explored the features of arthropods by completing a crayfish dissection and analysis.
VOLUNTEER AT THE NATIONAL AQUARIUM!

Application deadline: January 31, 2020

WHO Interested high school students entering grades ten through twelve for the 2020-2021 school year.

WHAT Spend your summer sharing the National Aquarium’s mission and magic with guests from around the world while increasing your understanding of marine habitats, aquatic animals and conservation—a nd gaining valuable work experience and volunteer service hours.

WHEN Summer 2020 (late June through August)

APPLY TODAY! aqua.org/youth-exhibit-guide

To apply, go to: aqua.org/youth-exhibit-guide.
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.
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](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

December, 2019

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
23-31  Winter Break - Schools and Office Closed

January, 2020

1   Winter Break—Schools and Offices Closed
2   School Re-Opens
4   LPP Magnet Assessment “SNOW DATE”
8-13  MCAP (PARCC) Fall Assessments
  9   Parent-Teacher Conferences, 2:15 pm - 4:00 pm
14-17  Midterm Exams
20   Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday Observed—Schools and Offices Closed
Towson High School
69 Cedar Ave
Towson, MD 21286
PHONE: 443-43-809-4271

Graduation
Thursday
May 28, 2020