

ALL
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The Talk at Teays

NEWS FROM THE TEAYS VALLEY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



IMPORTANT DATES

December

- 20** End of 2nd 9 Weeks
23 Winter Break Begins, No School Dec 23-Jan 3

January

- 3** No School - Teacher Work Day
6 Classes Resume
15 TV Parent U - Dealing with Disobedience
20 No School
22 TV Parent U - Recovering from Loss

February

- 4** Parent/Teacher Conferences @ Elementaries
6 Parent/Teacher Conferences @ HS & MS
7 Two Hour Early Release Day
11 Parent/Teacher Conferences @ HS & MS
13 Parent/Teacher Conferences @ Elementaries
17 No School
26 TV Parent U - Diet and Mental Health

March

- 16** Spring Break Begins - No School March 16-20

TVHS Tours Showcase many Offerings

In the fall of 2018, Pickaway WORKS began to host educator tours of local business and industry. The purpose of the business tours was to provide teachers experience outside of the classroom so they could help students make real connections between what was happening in business and industry and what they were learning in school. We wanted instruction to be relevant. At the same time this was taking place, we began to realize there was a gap between what business and industry thought was happening in our schools and what was actually occurring. It became clear that many in the business sector pictured high school the way it was when they were in school.

After coming to that realization, we brainstormed ideas to offer opportunities to business leaders and community members to learn more about our schools and what we offer. We came up with the idea to provide tours to them while students are busy working in their classrooms. We have completed four school tours that have included a mix of business partners, parent group leaders (e.g., PTO & boosters) and TVEF and school board members. We hope to capture how the high school experience is different from the one they may remember from 20-30 years ago and gather their feedback on how we can continue to grow and improve.

We make it a point to show how we can meet the needs of our students who want to take advantage of advanced opportunities. We highlight the study lab in our freshman building where we always see groups of students working on their college level coursework. TV students can complete more than eight of their college general education requirements right here on our campus before their high school graduation. We tour the Teays Valley Digital Academy (TVDA) where students can take classes that are written and taught by TV teachers that are completely online. Students in the TVDA usually mention how it has allowed them to finish high school while working full-time or how the TVDA has allowed them to complete courses in order to graduate early affording them the opportunity to travel abroad, start college early or fit additional courses into their high school schedule. We tour four of the sixteen courses in our five career pathways. Students in our engineering, ag, health, business and computer science and IT courses always impress visitors with the technical skills they are acquiring within our walls. It becomes obvious that career tech education is alive and well here. We see students working on advanced certifications in Comptia A+ and Microsoft applications, designing solutions to energy efficiency challenges in engineering classes, using band saws and drills to create toys for Nationwide Children's Hospital, perfecting their MIG and TIG welding skills and putting their biology skills to the test getting hands-on experience in labs where they test outcomes in the human body in relation to diabetes.

It has been a pleasure to provide these tours to business partners, community leaders and parents. Those who have taken the tours are always impressed with all the opportunities that our students have access to in the high school. We will continue to work with the business and industry community to monitor their ever-changing needs and provide the pathways for our students to enter the workforce fully prepared.

If you would like to take part in the next tour, contact Julie DeLisio at jdelisio@tvstd.us. It will be held on January 22, from 8-9:30 a.m. All community members and parents are invited to attend.

Robin Halley, *Superintendent*

Board of Education

Charles D. Morrison, *President*
Kevin Archer, *Vice President*
Jimmy Gloyd, *Board Member*
Karen Karshner, *Board Member*
Bill McGowan, *Board Member*

The 2020-2021 district calendar was approved by the Board of Education during the November board meeting. School will begin on August 12, 2020, and end on May 26, 2021. To see the full calendar, go to http://www.tvstd.us/Downloads/calendar_20-21.pdf.

ASHVILLE ELEMENTARY

Classes collaborate with students around the World



Students in Megan Hamilton's 1st grade class and Sam Sisley's 4th grade class got the opportunity to collaborate with students from other countries to create stories through a program known as Travelling Tales. According to its website, "Travelling Tales is a digital storytelling project that supports global collaboration and student voice among schools around the world." TV technology integration specialist Emily Schillig introduced this program to the staff and Hamilton and Sisley were excited to get their students involved. They signed their students up through the Traveling Tales website by entering their location, which goals they were interested in tackling and which language they would be writing in. They were then assigned schools from around the world according to age, language and interest and connected via email. The schools worked together to write and illustrate either the beginning, middle or end of the story. They then narrated their part and the sections were combined and published as a single book on YouTube. They worked with students from China, Fiji, Germany, Vietnam and India.

"The project helped enhance the basics on writing a story with a beginning, middle and end and using proper punctuation and spelling so everyone reading your story can understand it. It provided context as to why these things are important, especially when you are only in control of one part of the story," Hamilton said. "We did the beginning of our story, so we focused on character development and setting, but more importantly, it gave them an authentic opportunity to interact with people all over the world and learn about different cultures."

"It is important to introduce unique opportunities like this because it shows students that what we are learning uses real world skills like communication, using technology, collaboration and being a global citizen. Students can also use technology to create products that couldn't be done, with the same quality, without technology," Sisley said.

The students wrapped up the project by getting together to watch their stories and sample foods from the countries they worked with.

SCIOTO ELEMENTARY

STEM Flex Days introduced to Students

STEM education, which stands for science, technology, engineering and math, has become more prevalent in schools in all grade levels. Over the past few years, students and staff expressed interest in increasing STEM opportunities at Scioto, so that led to the addition of STEM Flex Days this quarter. Throughout the second nine weeks, they partnered with more than 25 organizations locally and across central Ohio to provide STEM-related presentations and activities to students. Presentation topics have included digital topographic mapping, plant life cycles, financial literacy, medical technology/equipment, science experiments, pollinators, prototyping, design, architecture and many others. In addition, groups have shared a wide variety of career options and fields of study. They focused on how science, technology, engineering and math are a part of their every day work.



"Skills such as collaboration, communication and problem solving have also come out of many of the presentations. Inspired by our kiddos and through the support of many organizations, STEM has been a highlight of this second quarter," principal Devin Anderson said.

Their goal was to have a balance of organizations that are local as well as from across central Ohio. They strive to bring in groups that represent different aspects of STEM, including medical, financial and agricultural areas, among others.

"Our hope is that they are broadening their concept of STEM and who does it, as well as seeing the value of STEM across many fields of study and careers," Anderson said. "Students have reacted with curiosity and have asked many great questions."

"Early exposure to careers is important because it creates more opportunities for students to learn about themselves as they consider their goals, aspirations and possible careers," school counselor Rebekah Radcliff said. "STEM days connect school and careers, which helps students understand that what they are learning in school is relevant and important. This is especially important at the elementary level because when students make this connection it increases motivation and inspires students to dream big."

SOUTH BLOOMFIELD ELEMENTARY

Students focus on regulating emotions through Zones of Regulations



The term Zones of Regulations may be foreign to many adults, but if you ask Teays Valley elementary students what zone they are in, they would instantly give you a color. Zones of Regulation is a registered trademark curriculum that has been designed to foster self-regulation and emotional control. All TV elementary schools have been promoting this with students and using it to help students regulate their feelings.

"We like to look at it more as a concept or mindset that is used as a teaching tool and thinking framework to nurture development and offer positive supports to our students," school counselor Brooke Adkins said. "There are four zones used to describe how our brain and body feel. Students learn the different feelings, emotions, behaviors, facial expressions and which zone they fit in."

Through the zones, Adkins strives to let students know that all their feelings are OK and provide them ways to calm down and move on to a more positive zone. They have learned coping skills and self calming techniques.

"The ultimate goal is for us to empower our students to be their best self, to grow successful as the whole child and to become resilient, lifelong learners. I hope for students to expand their emotional vocabulary, recognize emotions in themselves and others, understand how their state affects those around them and vice versa and increase their awareness of triggers that lead to less regulated states," Adkins said. "Most importantly, I hope students are learning that their behavior does not determine their zone. Our zones are determined by the way we feel on the inside, not the behavior on the outside. Therefore, I hope students become more self aware of their triggers and then stop, think and choose safe, healthy coping skills to manage their strong feelings to bring them back to a place of peace, resilience, understanding and focused attention, aka the green zone."

Adkins spends time in each classroom working on social emotional lessons and reviewing the zones. Teachers promote them as well, such as through check-ins throughout the day and displaying posters about the zones as reminders. To learn more about each zone and about this concept, go to <https://zonesofregulation.com/index.html>.

WALNUT ELEMENTARY

Students learn from veteran Classmates

It is no secret that many kids would say that recess is their favorite time of the day. Because of this, it is extra special that a group of 4th graders give up their recess once a week to work with 1st grade students on math activities. First grade teacher Amy Happenny reached out to 4th grade teacher Nicole Miles with the idea, and the 4th graders were excited to be a part of it.

"The fourth graders are loving coming to help the students. They remind me many Wednesdays that it is time to go help our buddies," Miles said. "It says a lot when a child chooses to miss recess to help another child."

This day has become a day that the 1st grade students look forward to as well.

"The first graders absolutely love when our fourth grade friends come to help us. They look forward to it every Wednesday," Happenny said. "During our morning meeting on Wednesday they always remind me that our fourth grade friends are coming today."

While the students are together, the 4th grade students help the younger ones with their math home links book and assist with their math learning stations.

While the 4th graders are the "teachers," Miles said it has been a learning experience for them as well.

"Students say they never knew how hard it can be to help someone with math and have learned that it can be difficult because if they get distracted then they get off task," Miles said. "They also express how much they love it and it has opened their eyes to how they were at that age."

"I think some of the fourth graders may grow up to be teachers," Happenny said. "It has been a great experience for all involved."



EAST MIDDLE

Band Students joined by elite Musicians and Director



The East and West 8th grade band students had a unique opportunity last month when they got the chance to play with the Grove City Community Winds under the direction of James Swearingen, who is one of the most awarded and published wind band composers of our time. In addition to his work as a composer, Swearingen was recently given the title of Professor Emeritus at Capital University. He also serves as an arranger for The Ohio State University marching band and is an active guest conductor, adjudicator and educational clinician all over the world.

East/West Band director Taylor Marino was a student of Swearingen's at Capital University and was a member of the Grove City Community Winds for more than six years. She contacted him to discuss the potential to bring his band to play with the students and was elated when it worked out for this school year.

"I hope that our students recognized and appreciated the incredible opportunity of working with James Swearingen and the Grove City Community Winds," Marino said. "The musicians demonstrated to our students that involvement in music is truly a lifelong journey."

Not only did the students get the opportunity to play with and be directed by elite musicians, they also got unique experience of playing with future classmates from West and with one of their teachers. Sixth grade teacher Alexandria Sandwisch is a trumpet player with the Winds.

"Being a member of a musical ensemble such as band is an experience unlike any other," Marino said. "Learning a musical instrument is challenging as it takes dedication, time and responsibility. More importantly, every student makes a difference. Each member creates an individual sound that is an important piece to the musical puzzle and together we can create incredible music."

WEST MIDDLE

Hands-on Lesson provided by Pickaway SWCD

A lesson came to life for 6th grade science teacher Sarah Smith's students when they enjoyed a visit from the Pickaway County Soil and Water Conservation District. Under the guidance of Katerina Sharp, the students collected a variety of soil samples from the school grounds. A few days later, she returned to lead the students in conducting several tests on their soil samples. Each group was eventually able to identify the pH of their soil, along with levels of nitrogen, potassium and phosphorous.

"Pickaway SWCD does an excellent job promoting collaboration with the schools in our county," Smith said. "When I saw that this program was available, I was excited for the opportunity to bring in their expertise while providing a hands-on experience for my students that ties directly with our unit of study."

According to Smith, this was an excellent way to take a topic and make a real life connection.

"It is always special when students can move beyond what to know and shift toward why it's important and how it applies to them in real life. As they move through experiences like this, they not only gain knowledge, but life skills as well. They work together as a team to conduct their tests, produce their results and reflect about the meaning of their activity," she said.

Not only did students benefit from learning from an outside group, they also got the opportunity to take part in hands-on lessons.

"All students learn differently. Any time we can reinforce learning through student-led, hands-on activities, I feel that we are reaching a variety of learners in different ways. Usually, it helps to reinforce prior knowledge, encourage teamwork and promote critical thinking. Plus, it's fun," Smith said. "Having people from the community who can tie learning to real life experiences is an invaluable opportunity. Students get to not only experience the content in a different way, but it also gives them a chance to see career paths in different fields. If a student enjoys the activity, they may consider pursuing that path in the future."



+ FROM THE NURSES Avoiding Frostbite and Frostnip

Frostbite is a serious condition where the skin's appearance is white, waxy, hard and numb. You should remove all wet clothes and replace them with dry ones. Provide a warm, not HOT, environment while transporting to the nearest emergency room. Do not apply direct heat (like a heating pad), rub or try to thaw the affected area (especially if there is a chance of refreezing). While the area is rewarming there may be a burning sensation, the skin may blister and swell or the skin may turn different shades, such as blue, purple or red.

Frostnip is a condition that can be treated at home. Frostnip is when exposed areas of skin become numb and reddish. The most common areas exposed include cheeks, ears, noses, fingers and toes. If this condition occurs bring the person inside and remove all wet clothing. Immerse the chilled body part in WARM water for 20-30 minutes. If the sensation does not return call your doctor.

Reference: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/staysafe/index.asp>

HIGH SCHOOL

Biomedical Science Pathway brings health education to Life



As the high school continues to expand course offerings for students, one of the goals is to expose students to potential career opportunities. It is the hope that after taking certain courses, students may learn whether or not it is a career path they are interested in considering in the future, whether that means going straight to the workforce or continuing their education to pursue a degree in that field. The high school introduced career pathways during the 2017-18 school year, through which students can focus on various courses geared toward a certain career opportunity, such as computer science, business and engineering. This year, students were introduced to the biomedical science pathway.

According to science teacher Bob DeLong, the Principles of Biomedical Science pathway is a great choice for students that think they want to pursue a career in the medical or healthcare fields or would like to work in a lab setting after high school. The pathway, when completed, will consist of three high school classes and CCP classes taught on campus by TV teachers.

"This pathway is designed for the hardworking student that can work well in a team to solve problems and search for answers," he said. "When students first start in the biomedical pathway they have a little culture shock because we don't spend all of our time together just listening to the teacher and taking notes. They are being presented with a problem or task and then set on the path to discover the answer."

They take an in-depth look at diabetes, heart disease and heart dysfunction, sickle cell disease and infectious disease. The goal is for students to see the application of the concepts that they are learning in biology and develop skills in the classroom that can be used in their lives beyond Teays Valley. Through this pathway, DeLong has seen students learn facts about their own medical conditions that they were not aware of prior to taking the class.

"We hope students are able to mesh the skills they learn in biology and apply them to the real life scenarios they learn about in regards to Anna Garcia, who is our fictional patient we follow throughout the course," DeLong said. "What makes this so interesting to the students is as we move through Anna's medical history we touch on topics students already have experience with either personally or in their families, such as high cholesterol, diabetes and sickle cell disease. The best part of this course is how hands on it is and how it requires students to think critically through problems rather than completing labs where the procedures are outlined step by step."

~If you have questions about "The Talk at Teays" or if you would like to submit information for the next edition, contact Julie DeLisio, Director of Communications, at **740.983.5048** or at jdellisio@tvsd.us.

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