

Tabb Middle School Tiger Times

August 31, 2018

REMINDER FOR STUDENTS TO BRING SCHEDULES ON TUESDAY!

Please remind your student to bring their schedule and locker combination to school on Tuesday.

UPCOMING TMS EVENTS AND YCSD INFORMATION

Upcoming TMS events can be found on the calendar on the TMS website: <http://yorkcountyschools.org/TMS>

Visit the updated YCSD website for information and the Back to School Guide.

<http://yorkcountyschools.org/parents/studentInfo/backtoSchool/default.html>

A couple weeks before our team officially returned in August, staff came together to create a little video to get students excited for the new school year. It can be viewed at our newly updated website. Click here to check it out! <https://bit.ly/2MDCpGt> We hope your family enjoys it as much as we enjoyed making it.

Download the YCSD Mobile App

Information at your fingertips for school and sports calendars, bus schedules, news and more.

- Customize the app to view the info you want most.
- Follow the school(s) of your choice
- Receive push notifications in emergencies.

YCSD Student Portal at GO.YCSD.YORK.VA.US

- Live homework help from certified teachers
- One-click access to Microsoft Office 365 Suite
- Research Resources
- Interactive instructional sites

To access the portal, log in at go.ycsd.york.va.us using your student username and password

YCSD STUDENT HOTLINE

757-890-5000

Parent Contact Information

It is very important parents provide schools with their current contact information (to include home address, phones- home, cell, work and email address to ensure we can reach you to share important information. Student Enrollment Information and Health Update forms were provided to all parents in the Open House packet. These forms should be returned to student's 1st block teacher **immediately** to ensure school staff can reach you in an emergency.

UNABLE TO ATTEND OPEN HOUSE?

Schedules and Open House packets can be picked up in the main office on August 31 from 7:30-3:00. Otherwise, schedules and Open House packets can be picked up in front of the building on the 1st day of school.

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FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Tuesday, September 4.

The first bell rings at 7:50 and 2nd bell at 8:00. Students are expected to be in class by 8:00.

PARENT INFO NIGHT FOR HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT CLASSES (World Language Classes, Algebra & Advanced Geometry)

Thursday, September 6th in the TMS Cafeteria at 6:30 pm

TMS 2017-2018 BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

September 20th

6th Grade – 5:30pm -7:10pm

7th and 8th Grade - 7:45pm -9:10pm

ATTENDANCE

If your student is absent and the Attendance Secretary has not been notified, an automatic phone call will be sent at 10:15am to confirm your student's absence. All absences require a note from a parent or doctor to be excused. Please call 898-0321, and send a note to the office or email pkrewinghaus@ycsd.york.va.us

NEW ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Virginia Department of Education's public school accountability reporting system defines "chronic absenteeism" as students who miss 10 percent or more of the school year. According to the York County Public School's handbook, "To comply with the *Code of Virginia* § 22.1-254, students are expected to attend school every day and be on time unless there is illness or death in the immediate family. Doctor, dental, or personal appointments should be made on days off, half days, or after school hours when possible. Parents/Guardians are responsible for providing the school with a note (within 24 hours) indicating the reason(s) for the absence. Legitimate reasons for absences are: illness, death in immediate family, doctor or dental appointment (not possible to be scheduled on non-school time), and/or exceptional circumstances as determined by the building principal." **Proper documentation must be provided for late arrivals to school and early dismissals in order for it to be excused.** Please see the chart below in regards to attendance.

1-4 unexcused absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The parent will be notified by phone or email or any other electronic means to obtain an explanation
5 unexcused absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A parent conference will be scheduled Student will be referred to a school based multi-disciplinary team and an attendance contract will be developed.
6 unexcused absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A parent conference will be scheduled with the Coordinator of Enrollment and Attendance. An attendance plan will be developed
7 or more unexcused absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Coordinator of Enrollment and Attendance will meet with the York County Truancy Team and may contact the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.
10 or more absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proper documentation will be required for future absences to be excused.
15 days of consecutive absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Withdrawal of the student from the attendance roll.

If you have any questions about attendance, please email Brittany West, Assessment & Compliance Coordinator. An absence of three or more days must be approved by Mrs. Brittany West prior to the absence at bcherry@ycsd.york.va.us

Complete attendance information can be viewed in the Student Handbook.

TRANSPORTATION – BUS ROUTES

The York County School Division has a software system to manage school bus transportation.

The system is designed to improve bus routing efficiencies and bus tracking while a bus is on its assigned route.

Families can use the system to find regular bus routes, bus stops and bus stop times for the 2018-19 school at: <http://yorkcountyschools.org/parents/transportation/default.aspx>

The arrival time is an automated estimate for all regular full school days; actual arrival times are determined by school departure time, travel distance, traffic, route design and student needs.

Last school year, division activated the MyStop software that provide information about the child's bus while it is traveling the assigned route. The MyStop app includes notifications if a child's bus is running behind schedule. Bus Routes and MyStop can be accessed through the school division and all school websites as well as the new YCSD app.

<http://yorkcountyschools.org/parents/transportation/myStop.aspx>

NOTE: Runs are continually updated through the first month of school.

PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION- IMPORTANT NOTICE!

For the safety of our students and staff, students who are brought to school by private means of transportation should only be dropped off in the front of the building between the two safety crosswalks. Please refrain from parking and directing students to walk across the parking lot. This practice is not only dangerous but it also hinders the flow of traffic as families follow our arrival and departure procedures.

The side parking lot (near the trailer) will be roped off just before dismissal. **Those who park in the lot prior to the closure will not be permitted to leave the parking lot until all cars in the parent pick up line have departed.**

Those few families who are approved to use this lot due the needs of their student will be given a placard to place in their vehicle and will be permitted to load and unload in this lot. We understand your time is very valuable and try our best to expedite our dismissal process, but the safety of our students, parents and staff is our top priority.

As an additional reminder, drivers are asked to refrain from using cell phones during student drop off and pick up. We need drivers' complete attention to follow the directions of staff and the crossing guard. Thank you for helping us ensure a safe environment for our school community!

MORNING SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

School begins at 8:00am. The first bell rings at 7:50am and students are released from buses. For parents who are transporting students, drop-offs should also be around this same time. Staff supervision begins with the first bell. If students are planning to purchase breakfast, they should report to the cafeteria at the first bell. All students are expected to be in their classroom **no later than 8:00 to not be marked tardy.** The TMS Morning Student Drop-off and Afternoon Student Pick-up map has been attached to this Tiger Times.

FORGOTTEN SCHOOL ITEMS

Unfortunately, we notice a rising number of forgotten items being dropped off in the office each year- lunchboxes, instruments, completed assignments and athletic equipment among others. We recognize students may *occasionally* forget an item needed for school and we understand you mean well when delivering these items, but...

Each dropped off item (and each message that needs to be relayed to your student) impacts our learning environment, something we endeavor to protect. A call to the classroom disrupts the flow of instruction for all students and deprives your student of valuable instructional time. Next time your student forgets an item, consider it a powerful teachable moment.

Resist the urge to swoop in and save the day. Leave the forgotten item at home. Your student may receive a lowered grade on an assignment or may be less prepared for an after school activity. While it may make your student uncomfortable, he or she will likely learn from the natural consequence and adapt their behavior moving forward. As such, students will only be allowed to use the phone in the event of unusual circumstances. Parents are asked to limit requests for delivery of reminders/messages to students to only those of an urgent nature, as noted in the Student Handbook.

Thank you in advance for helping us prepare our middle schoolers for high school and beyond by promoting personal responsibility and organization- skills that will prepare them for lifelong success while helping us maintain a learning-focused environment. We appreciate your support!

TMS DRESS CODE

It is important that all students know how they are expected to dress for school. The Dress Code Policy can be reviewed on the TMS website: <http://yorkcountyschools.org/TMS>

FREE OR REDUCED MEALS APPLICATION

The Application for Free or Reduced Price Meals must be re-submitted every school year. An application was included in the Open House packet and can also be picked up in the main office.

SCHOOL LUNCH & BREAKFAST INFO

Sodexo

York County School Division contracts with [Sodexo](#) to manage the Food Service Program, which includes breakfast and lunch in all our schools.

- **Breakfast and Lunch Menus**

Students transferring to Tabb HS or within the YCSD will have their cafeteria account balance transferred to their new school. Students remaining at TMS will have their funds available from last school year.

Meal Prices for the 2018-2019 school year

Meal/Milk	Elementary	Middle/High School	Adult	Reduced Price
Breakfast	\$1.55	\$1.65	\$2.05	\$0.30
Lunch	\$2.65	\$2.75	\$3.40	\$0.40
Milk	\$0.60	\$0.60	\$0.60	

ON-LINE LUNCH ACCOUNT WEBSITE – MYSCHOOLBUCKS.COM

MySchoolbucks.com offers a convenient way for parents to make payments for student lunch accounts. Parents may use the service to monitor balances and set up email alerts when balances are low. Parents also can view what their children are purchasing each day. Is your child spending his lunch money quickly? Through MySchoolBucks.com parents can place restrictions on a la carte items to limit spending. If you have questions about MySchoolBucks.com download the Fact Sheet or visit their online frequently asked questions section from the School division's web page.

<http://yorkcountyschools.org/parents/studentInfo/lunchMenu.aspx>

TMS AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND ACTIVITY BUSES

Activity Buses

After school activity buses will begin on Tuesday, September 25th. This year, activity buses will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Thursday buses will not be used for clubs but will be strictly used for remediation and opportunities for extra academic assistance with select teachers. Students must make arrangements in advance with a teacher to stay after school and receive a bus pass from the teacher to ride the activity bus. Activity buses will leave Tabb Middle at 4:00 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. As a reminder, these bus routes are much longer and will require later drop-offs, particularly on Thursdays when we will have two buses making runs. The routes will be posted throughout the building and on the website.

After School Activities

Each Monday at the beginning of first block, students are shown a PowerPoint, which advertises upcoming clubs, activities and sports schedules. The students will also receive a club pamphlet with a description of clubs and activities in their PE class. Signed permission slips must be returned club sponsors on the first day the club meets. Students who do not have a signed permission slip may not stay after school. This information and permission slips are also available on the TMS website under *Activities*.

BRING YOUR OWN TECHNOLOGY – HELP US MAKE BYOT SUCCESSFUL!

In order to keep YCSD's "Bring Your Own Technology" initiative a productive part of Tabb's academic environment, we need to make sure everyone is aware and understands the guidelines and expectations for student use of technology in the classroom:

- Students should use devices for instructional purposes, only when directed by the teacher. When not in use in the classroom, devices should be stored, as directed by the teacher.
- Social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, etc.) should be used for instructional purposes, only when directed by the teacher. When not in use in the classroom, devices should be stored, as directed by the teacher.
- Students are not permitted to use electronic devices in the hallways, during restroom breaks, or in the cafeteria.

Students should not be receiving text messages during the school day. Electronic devices should be placed in the student's locker in the morning.

SECURING VALUABLES

It is unfortunate, but occasionally theft can occur at our school. As a result, we highly encourage students to leave valuables at home. If, however, students choose to bring valuable items to school, they are expected and encouraged to take the appropriate precautions. When participating in PE or after school activities, valuable items should be stored in students' lockers with the lock securely fastened and dial turned. While in the classroom, students should be mindful of their items and refrain from leaving them unattended. Let's all work together to prevent theft at our school by securing our property. Additionally, if students should find something that does not belong to them they should turn it over to an adult.

TMS CHERRYDALE FUNDRAISER

Please help our school during our Annual Fundraiser. The students will receive packets with catalogs and order forms on October 5th at the Kickoff Assembly. A flyer will be placed in the Open House packet.

PTA NEWS

TMS SPIRIT WEAR - ORDER YOUR CUSTOM SHIRTS & EARRINGS BY SEPT. 9!

The TMS PTA is very excited to partner with Ollie & Ro (formerly The Monogramming Teacher) to offer custom T-shirts & earrings! Shirts are \$15 for front design only, \$20 with optional back design. Front design options include a paw print with a monogram, T, name, or activity cut-out. Adorable paw print earrings are also available for just \$6! Be sure to visit www.ollieandro.com to place your order by Sept. 9. Orders will be ready for pickup at Back to School Night on Sept. 20.

Reflections

This year's theme is "*Heroes Around Me*"

Create an original work of:

Dance Choreography

Film Production

Literature

Music Composition

Photography

Visual Arts

Entry forms and official rules are attached to the Tiger Times and can be found online at <http://www.vapta.org/arts-and-education/reflections.html>

Use the above site to view prior winner's works of art and get inspired to make one of your own! Deadline to submit your entry is November 1. Winners will receive cash prizes and will go on to the county contest. Contact: Jennifer.lowe1@outlook.com with questions.

Membership

TMS has a dedicated and supportive PTA which shares the excitement of promoting PTA membership, increasing parental involvement, welcoming volunteer participation among parents, and supporting TMS staff with educational enrichment of our children.

Please visit the TMS website for contact information for the Board, the calendar of events and proposed budget. The PTA needs your support of the calendar events and celebrations throughout the year such as Teacher Appreciation Week, Administrator's Week, Nurse, Bus Drivers, and Custodian Appreciation Day. Please email tabbmiddlepta@hotmail.com to volunteer for PTA activities and events. Emails will be sent to solicit volunteers.

PTA Membership

BE YOUR KID'S BIGGEST FAN...JOIN THE TMS PTA!!

The PTA helps and supports many programs and events throughout the school year and we would LOVE for you to be a part of our amazing team of parent supporters. There truly is no better way to stay connected with what is going on at the school or to help suggest change than being a part of the PTA. Membership is only \$6 (per member) and membership forms can be found in the Open House packet and are located in the main office.

Free Fundraisers

Tabb Middle School is currently participating in several "Free Rebate" programs that cost you nothing but a little bit of your time. It's really simple—here are some of the ways you can help: cut out Box Tops from your favorite participating products earning 10 cents each and cut out the A+ label on Tyson Products earning 24 cents each.

Enter your coke rewards at <https://us.coca-cola.com/give/> and choose Tabb Middle School.

Link your Kroger Plus card each year to Tabb Middle School at <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/>. These programs earn our school free supplies, electronic equipment, and school and classroom accessories.