

Tabb Middle School Tiger Times
February 1, 2019

UPCOMING TMS EVENTS AND YCSD INFORMATION

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

Follow TMS on Social Media!!

Tabb Middle School has a Facebook & Instagram page

Like TMS on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Tabbmiddleschool/>

Follow TMS on Instagram: TabbMSfamily

Follow TMS on Twitter: @TabbMSfamily

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

STUDENT HOLIDAYS AND EVENTS

Feb 1	Report Cards
Feb 8	TMS Social 7-9
Feb 18	School and offices closed for President's Day

YCSD NEWS

EngageIN YCSD

The York County School Division has launched a new program to strengthen our business and community partnerships in the area of career awareness, exploration, and preparedness. The EngagedIN YCSD program seeks to connect local businesses, parents, and community members to share their experiences and expertise with students to help them understand the connection between school and real-world work and careers. If you would like to become involved, please complete the EngagedIN registration form via the link below to provide your contact information, career field information, engagement interests and availability. <https://yorkcountyschools.org/community/careerConnections/EngagedIN/>

SCHOOL NEWS

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

Tabb Middle School is working hard to find the best ways we can engage with our families and community. Please let us know how we are doing by completing the short survey linked below for each of your students at TMS. The survey should take just 3-4 minutes to complete. Paper copies of the survey are available at school. Your opinion is valuable and will help us shape future communications and events at Tabb Middle School. This survey will be open through February 14, 2019. We appreciate your feedback! Survey Link: <http://bit.ly/TMSengage>

PTA BOX TOPS COMPETITION

The next Box Top collection contest ends Friday, February 15th. Turn in box tops to your 1A class. The top two classes will receive Krispy Kreme Doughnuts!

TMS Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Pennies for Patients Fundraiser

TMS has decided to take on blood cancers!

We are raising funds to help The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society fund life-saving research. You can help our efforts by donating today:

<https://events.ils.org/pages/va/TabbMiddleSchool-2019!>

Share our online donation page with your friends and family near and far! Together we can help fund life-saving research. Every penny counts, please support us in this fight.

By working together we change cancer. Don't forget to get your Hero Squad wristbands by donating \$10 online.

Earn your Hero Squad Power Ring by sharing with friends and family! If people donate \$5 in to your coin box you will receive an official Hero Squad ring!

SCHOOL COUNSELING NEWS – Please “save these dates.”

It's almost course registration time for the 2019-2020 school year!

We invite all of our parents to join us for a one-hour session to learn about/refresh your understanding of academics, electives, special programs, etc.

Tuesday, February 19th at 6:30 p.m. - Tabb High School Auditorium

Rising 9th Grade Course Registration Information Night for Parents

Thursday, February 21st - Tabb Middle School Cafeteria

*Thursday, Feb 28th will be the inclement weather make-up date

6:00-7:00 p.m. - **Rising** 6th Grade Course Registration Information Night for Parents

7:30-8:30 p.m. - **Rising** 7th & 8th Grade Course Registration Information Night for Parents

NAEP Testing

Some of our 8th grade students will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on February 14, 2019. You should have received an email if your child has been selected to participate in NAEP testing. NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subjects. NAEP is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from our state assessments because it is a common measure of achievement across the country. The results are released as The Nation's Report

Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public. The information collected is used for statistical purposes only. There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP, but please encourage your child to do his or her best. Contact Brittany West, Assessment & Compliance Coordinator, at 867-4879 or at bwest@ycsd.york.va.us if you have any questions.

Order Your Yearbook!

Orders must have been placed by January 31, 2019 to receive the early bird special cost of \$40 plus an additional \$5.00 for personalization. Online orders will continue until March 28 but after January 31 yearbooks will cost \$45 and yearbooks can no longer be personalized. Please contact Candid Color at 703-590-0187 with any questions.

TMS Behavior Expectations

TMS takes a positive and proactive approach to promoting good behavior. This information is shared to our school community through our ROAR Matrix (see ROAR Matrix attached). When students are not exhibiting their best ROAR behaviors, staff will conference with student, call and/or email parent(s), change students seat or location, give warnings (if appropriate), refer student the ROAR Matrix to reset expectations, and in some cases, submit a referral to school administration followed by a call home to discuss behavior, and work together to improve behavior to promote success.

TMS ATTENDANCE

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. 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, at bcherry@ycsd.york.va.us

Relay For Life

TMS Tigers For a Cure is the TMS Relay For Life team. We are made up of students, staff, and family members. This is our 8th year with a team at TMS. We invite students and any other members of the TMS community to join our team.

Our team Relay page link is

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY19SER?team_id=2358987&pg=team&fr_id=92731

You can use this link to join the team or make a donation. If you need more information about the team or are interested in joining, please contact Mrs. Reynolds with any questions

CLINIC NEWS

Students who do not feel well are to report to the clinic to be evaluated by TMS Nurse, Mrs. Borders. Students may not call or text their parents to ask to be picked up for any reason.

Parents please do not send your students to school if they have a fever, severe cough or flu symptoms. They need to be fever free, no vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours prior to returning to school. Always consult your student's doctor if you are concerned about his or her condition. When the clinic calls for you to pick up your student, please come as soon as possible.

The following information may help decrease the spread of illness:

Talk to your physician about your child getting a flu shot/mist

GOOD HANDWASHING

Encourage fluids and rest. Student may bring in water bottle.

Keep tissues and antibacterial waterless soap in your child's backpack.

Have your child cough into their elbow.

Avoid touching their eyes, nose and mouth.

Don't share drinks or drink bottles.

Students may bring in cough drops (non-medicated) WITH A NOTE from parent giving them permission to take as needed throughout the school day. The student should keep the note with them and show the teacher/staff member if requested. PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN MEDICATION WITH YOUR CHILD if medication is needed at school. All medication must be brought to the clinic by a Parent/Guardian with completed Medication Form.

TMS appreciates your help in keeping sick students at home.

TMS AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND ACTIVITY BUSES

After school activity buses have begun and will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

All students are expected to notify their parents if they are staying after school. Please confirm with your student if they are taking the activity bus home or have parent pick up.

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.

Each Monday at the beginning of first block, students are shown a PowerPoint, which advertises upcoming clubs, activities and sports schedules. Last week the students received 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*. <https://ycsd.yorkcountyschools.org/domain/698>

TMS CLOTHING TO CASH RECYCLING PROGRAM

A large white collection bin has been placed in the parking lot near the bus parking lot and we are excited to get started. Tabb Middle School will be paid for every pound that is collected. All materials will be reworn, repurposed or, as a last resort, recycled. A flyer has been attached to this Tiger Times which explains the items that are collected.

All collected clothing in:

- good or better condition is given a second life at thrift stores here in the U.S.
- less than good condition will be repurposed (i.e. worn out items could be turned into rags)
- poor condition will be processed for recycling

Recycling happens as the final option. This program accepts ALL Clothing, in ALL Conditions, this is what makes Clothing to Cash® unique.

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.

The MyStop app provides 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>

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 and picked up 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.

If you are entering the parking lot from Hampton Hwy. and the first entrance is backed up to Yorktown Road, please proceed to the second entrance across from Villa Way. This allows us to keep traffic on Yorktown Road moving and helps our buses to enter the parking lot.

The side parking lot (near the trailer) is 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 have been given a placard to place in their vehicle and are permitted to load and unload in this lot.

As an additional reminder, state law prohibits passing a stopped school bus when the red lights are flashing and the stop-arm is extended. This includes when buses are loading or unloading students on school property. 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.

Finally, 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!

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 strive 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: <https://ycsd.yorkcountyschools.org/domain/703>

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**

ON-LINE LUNCH ACCOUNT WEBSITE – MYSCHOOLSBUCKS.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>

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.

PTA NEWS

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.

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.

Shoparoo - Just shop, snap, earn!

We are excited to be partnering with a fun, free, and truly easy fundraiser called Shoparoo! Schools nationwide are already earning hundreds and even thousands every year through Shoparoo and it's a great opportunity for us to really make a difference this year!

Shoparoo is school fundraising made easy: the free app turns pictures of your everyday shopping receipts into cash donations and sweepstakes entries for our school! Yep, it's that simple. No more cutting labels, selling door to door, or time-consuming coordinating. All you have to do is shop as you normally do, snap pictures of your receipts with the app, and voila!

Get started today:

1. Download the free Shoparoo app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.
2. Select our school from the list and start taking pictures of your receipts - shop anywhere, buy anything!
3. You can even select a grade to support and have fun with grade competitions!

There's no limit to how much money we can raise with Shoparoo - the more supporters, the more we will raise for our school. Schools with just 40 supporters are earning an average of \$1,000 every year. That's free, easy money that we could be fundraising too. Check out shoparoo.com to learn more about this awesome app!

Amazon Smile Program

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1290448> Will take you directly to adding Tabb Middle PTA as your organization to receive 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases OR

1. On your first visit to smile.amazon.com you will be prompted to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases.
2. Select: Tabb Middle PTA
3. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make on Amazon Smile will result in a donation.