



The **Bear Truth**



Tellico Plains High School
"Where Opportunity Meets Excellence"

Vol. 22 No. 5 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Accredited February 2017

Principal Notes....

Mr. Russell Harris

Even though January brought a cold start to a new semester, the teachers and students at Tellico Plains High School have been working exceedingly hard.

The school had an outstanding homecoming week. The students participated in dress up days and rocked the pep rally. Congratulations to our sophomore class on winning first place!

If you have any concerns about your child's grades or progress, please let your child's teacher or me know about them. All of

these teachers are here to help your child succeed!

Our spring semester Open House is set for Thursday, March 2, from 3:00 to 6:00. We encourage everyone to come and visit with your child's teachers. Over 200 students earned all A's and/or B's for the first semester. This is exceptional! For their hard work these students have received a maroon or white card, which is good for free admission into TPHS events including regular season sports events.

The administration and guidance department will be making preparations for next year's

class schedule; therefore, registration for the 2017-2018 school year begins in January. Mrs. Sarah Brown continues to meet with each underclassmen in order to pre-register for next year. With each student, she discusses his/her four-year plan and what options are available.

Both basketball teams will be competing in district tournaments very soon, and TPHS wishes them the best of luck! Since springtime is around the corner, be on the lookout for information about our spring sports! Come out and support the Lady Bears and Bears!

From the Assistant Principal

Mrs. Sharon McKinnon

Students, our goal at TPHS is for you to receive the very best education that will propel you into the next journey in your life. The mission and vision of TPHS is to establish a strong foundation in all curriculums and to provide an atmosphere where all students feel safe, expectations are high, and to establish that learning is a forever process. You hold the key to your success in the future. Please remember that one of the major keys to your future success is your presence at school each and every day. A daily presence in class allows you to more easily learn, form habits that are necessary in all aspects of life, and establish routines that will carry you successfully into your future. Employers and higher education institutions are looking for those individuals who are committed to making good choices to fill jobs and classroom seats. Be present daily and get ready for the future that awaits you and your dreams. Go Bears and Lady Bears! You are the best of the best! I believe in YOU and YOUR future successes!

Guidance Office Announcements

Mrs. Sarah Brown

The next mandatory Tennessee Promise meeting for seniors will be held March 2 at 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Every senior should have applied for FAFSA by now. If you have not, we can still assist with this process. There are many scholarship opportunities available in the guidance office. Seniors can pick up applications anytime during the school day.

All juniors will take the ACT test on Tuesday, March 21 at the school. The ACT is also given at Tellico Plains High School in April and June. Anyone wanting to take one of these tests can come by the guidance office and we will help you sign up for it. We will have a college fair on Tuesday, February 14 from 9:00 to 10:15 for all juniors. Now is the time to start choosing colleges that you want to apply to in the fall.

The guidance department has met with all students and completed schedules for the 2017-2018 school year. Next year's juniors and seniors planning on taking dual enrollment courses need to make sure that they have met the ACT requirements. Check with the guidance department for assistance with this information.



Academics



Math Department

Happy February to everyone! Algebra II and Algebra I students continue their quest toward the upcoming End of Course exams coming this spring. These exams will count as part of the second semester average, so everyone needs to work extra hard on this semester.

The new semester block math classes are settling into their curriculum this spring. With only eighteen weeks in this semester, students will need to really buckle down to get the material covered. We encourage all students to have good attendance and try not to miss any of their block classes.

Before and after school tutoring continues to be offered to students struggling with the new semester. If you have tutoring questions, please check out the school website or talk with any of the math teachers to get tutoring information.

Prom Tickets will soon be going on sale....In the meanwhile, check out the venue at www.HunterValleyFarms.com.

Social Studies Department

In the American Government classes, January studies included government types around the globe and how they were formed, with an emphasis on the formation of democracy. For February, seniors will delve into the types of governments held by the early colonists and the structure of the Articles of Confederation, with its strengths and weaknesses. The end of the month will lead to the formation of the U.S. Constitution.

U.S. History classes delved into the reconstruction era and industrialization period, in addition to the Indian Wars in January. In February, students will learn key facts about immigration in the United States, along with urbanization in the country from 1865-1914. This will be followed by a focus on the issues of the Gilded Age (1877-1900).

Just So You Know...

NO SCHOOL

February 17

Staff Development Day

February 20

Presidents' Day



Special Education Department...

During the month of February we are working to schedule all remaining annual IEP meetings. If you have not been contacted yet for your annual meeting this year, you will be receiving your invitation very soon. We appreciate all parents and students who have participated in our meetings so far this year, and we look forward to seeing everyone else this spring. If at any time you have any questions or concerns for your child please contact us, and we will do our best to help you.

Science Department

Science classes are getting started and working on various topics. Mr. Barry Carroll's Biology I classes are studying ecology, and Mr. Mitchel Witt's Biology I classes are beginning to examine organic chemistry. Chemistry I and II are getting into labs and bookwork in a big way. Biology II is doing anatomy and physiology. Please encourage your students to keep up.

Vocational Department

Mr. Kurt Harrill's Business Management classes are presently working on the first unit in the text book Business and its Environment. Computer Applications classes are currently still working in Microsoft Word and just finishing a unit on tables. Work Based Learning students should remember to bring paperwork to turn in to Mr. Harrill.



Academics



English Department

Coach Gary Tucker's English IV students will be studying William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and then present their PowerPoint projects. We will then study the "Metaphysical Poets" and the "Carolina Poets," including John Donne, Leo Tolstoy, and Ben Jonson.

Mrs. Cristal Harrill's English III classes are practicing their writing skills in anticipation of the writing assessment in February. We will next focus on grammar and other forms of writing.

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel's English II students will be finishing a short story unit and moving on to a unit over the Holocaust and reading the novel *Night* by Elie Wiesel. Dual Enrollment English IV students will continue to read a variety of literature including short stories and poetry.

Mr. Chris Hollinghead's English II students are in a literature unit of five major writers of the American Renaissance: Herman Melville, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar Allan Poe, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Henry David Thoreau.

Mrs. Brooke Evans and Mrs. Sheann Graham's English I students are reading the tragedy *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare. In addition, students continue with our preparation for the English TNReady exam, which will be here before we know it!

Fine Arts Department

Spanish I classes are continuing on their journey in Spanish language. The new students I have this semester seem eager to learn. They are great singers too. Their voices are beautiful as they are learning to sing the Days of Week song in Spanish. When they learn it by heart, we will then sing the song in rounds. I can't wait to hear them sing in rounds! Your children have great singing voices. I will encourage them to tape their songs so you can enjoy their wonderful sounds of music.

My Spanish I class that is a year-long class is so respectful and ready to pick up where we left off before Christmas break. I am excited to have them back this semester. We are going to have a great semester!

Spanish II classes are great! I am so glad that you parents have instilled in your children the desire to learn and be respectful. Your parental involvement and guidance makes teaching so much better. My Spanish II classes are just a blessing this semester. Thank you parents!



Athletic/Alumni Center Update

Mr. Shawn Yates



Basketball season is winding down. We will be finishing up our regular season by February 12. Both teams have competed well this season and have had some great victories. It has been fun to watch the improvements of both teams as I would consider them "young" teams with several inexperienced players stepping in to big roles. The district tournament will begin for the girls on February 16 and for the boys on February 17. These games will be played at the higher seeds home court. So if we are a 1-4 seed, we will host a game. If we are a 5-8 seed, we will have to go on the road for the first game. After that, the district tournament moves to a single location, and this year it is at Tellico Plains! This will actually be the first time in history that Tellico Plains has been able to host a district tournament for basketball.

The schedule for the district tournament will be as follows: Girls semifinal games on February 18 at

6:00 and 7:30. Boys semifinal games on February 20 at 6:00 and 7:30. Girls consolation and finals on February 21 at 6:00 and 7:30. Boys consolation and finals on February 22 at 6:00 and 7:30. Come out and enjoy the tournament and watch some great basketball without having to travel! Tickets will be \$6.00 for each tournament day. This is a district tournament, so student passes, season passes, and county employee badges will not get you admission to the tournament. The money has to be divided amongst all of the teams at the conclusion of the tournament after official fees and TSSAA fees and expenses are paid.

Spring sports will be starting practice the second week in February. Athletes must have all their physical paperwork completed before practicing, so see your coach and make sure you have everything needed to begin practice!



February 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Progress Reports Go Home Basketball (H) vs. Greenback	3 Basketball (H) vs. Sequoyah	4
5	6	7 Basketball (A) vs. Grace	8	9	10 Basketball (A) vs. Harriman	11 ACT Given at TPHS
12	13	14 College Fair Day Happy Valentine's Day 	15	16 Basketball District Tournament Begins at TPHS	17 NO SCHOOL Staff Development Day	18
19	20 NO SCHOOL Presidents' Day 	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	COMING SOON March 2 - OPEN HOUSE & TNPROMISE MEETING March 21 - ALL JUNIORS TAKE ACT March 27 - 31 - SPRING BREAK			