



The Bear Truth



Tellico Plains High School
"Where Opportunity Meets Excellence"

Vol. 21 No. 1 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Accredited September 2015

Principal Notes....

Mr. Russell Harris

This school year has gotten off to a great start! I would like to commend our students, parents, faculty, and staff on their positive attitudes and willingness as we continue to be the best high school in Monroe County. For the fourth year in a row, Tellico Plains High School received a Bronze Award in *U. S. News and World Report* as one of the 2015 Best High Schools for our academic achievements. Congratulations to our students and faculty!

Our school and community are working to get our newcomers ready for high school so that they experience a great success throughout their four years here. We want each

class to work as a team, to support and encourage each other, and work hard to get their diplomas in order to have successful lives in college or the workplace.

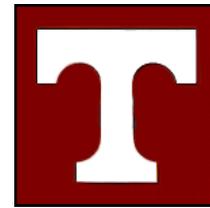
TPHS welcomes two new faculty members this year: Mrs. Sheann Graham, English and volleyball coach; and Mr. Andy Cooper, physical education and boys basketball coach.

As principal at TPHP, school safety is my primary concern. If you or your child have any concerns involving his/her safety, bullying, or harassment while here at school, please contact me, and we will deal with these concerns.

The TN Promise Scholarship application deadline is November 1. All seniors are encouraged to apply.

This application is available online at www.tnpromise.gov.

Graduation rate is also a high priority here at TPHP. I want all students to succeed in their classes and better themselves throughout the four years with us. We believe that each student can learn, and we strive to continue to lay the foundation in each content area that is offered at TPHP. Let's have a great year!



From the Assistant Principal...

Mrs. Sharon McKinnon

A new school year is again upon us. At TPHP, we should consider ourselves very fortunate to be living in a country where we can have schools that provide a quality education to everyone, regardless of status in society! What a blessing! This school year can open the possibilities for goals to be met and for dreams to be fulfilled. Do you have a dream for your life? Education is the key. TPHP is here to help each of you obtain this key! Therefore, let's begin this year with positive attitudes for success. Let's begin this year by setting goals we want to achieve. TPHP offers many opportunities for success in academics, in athletics, in personal growth as young men and women, and in positive interaction with others. Utilize what is available to you every day.

As the administrator in charge of attendance, I encourage you to be here everyday. Come eager to learn. Come eager to be a part of the great "maroon and white" nation. TPHP has a long history of excellence. Come prepared to take your place. Welcome to year 2015-2016. We are very glad to have you!

Guidance Office Announcements

Mrs. Sarah Brown

The class of 2016 can now apply for the Tennessee Promise online at www.TNPromise.gov. This is a last dollar scholarship that allows any senior to attend a Tennessee community college or a Tennessee College of Applied Technology tuition free regardless of their GPA, income, or ACT score. However, there are certain requirements that must be fulfilled throughout the school year in order to be eligible for the scholarship. Seniors can drop by the guidance department at any time and we will be happy to help them apply for this scholarship. The first meeting will be held in November during the school day. Seniors are required to attend so that they can receive the information necessary to stay eligible for this wonderful opportunity. The deadline is November 1.

The ACT test will be given at TPHP on Saturday, September 21. If you missed the opportunity to take this test the next one will be given on Saturday, October 24. If you need more information or assistance in registering to take the ACT drop by the guidance office.

Seniors need to start applying to colleges now. The deadline for some schools, such as the University of Tennessee, is November 1. We will provide all seniors with a packet that includes financial aid information, scholarships, college application deadlines, and other important information by the end of August.

Any time that you have questions or concerns, please feel free to call or come by the guidance office.



Academics



English Department

A new year with a new course load has already begun. Preparation, organization, and attitude are key elements for success, so come to class not only ready to learn, but also WANTING to learn. We desire the best for each of you! As you begin each school day, simply say, "No regrets today!" Translated, this means do your very best so at the end of the day, you leave with a good feeling inside knowing that you truly tried. If at any time you find yourself struggling, let us help. There is simply no excuse for poor performance.

A few changes have been made in our English Department this year. Our beloved Mrs. Childress has retired. We wish her all the best as she enjoys more time with grandbabies! We would like to welcome one new faculty member: Mrs. Sheann Graham, teaching English I and ACT Prep. We have an excellent English Department, and we are looking forward to a great year!

August/September areas of study are as fol-

lows: **English IV - Coach Tucker:** grammar review and writing; **English IV – Lisa McDaniel: (Composition I):** Research project over careers and article summaries; **English III – Cristal Harrill:** Read. Think. Write. Read critically and write informative essays; **English II - Lisa McDaniel:** Daily oral language as a grammar review and analyzing parts of an essay; **English II – Chris Hollinghead:** Short story unit – focus on elements of the short story, analyzing articles and making connections while tying them into our writing, Common Core vocabulary emphasis, writing practices; “Trying to foster the love of reading!”; **English I – Sheann Graham:** Grammar review, TN Ready preparation, reading and analyzing, POW TIDE writing model, essay writing, and library orientation/research report; **English I – Brooke Evans:** Grammar review, TN Ready preparation, reading and analyzing, and POW TIDE writing model; and **Drama – Cristal Harrill:** Learning about history of theatre and working on a variety of speech and speaking skills.

Math Department

September brings about COOL EVENINGS, FOOTBALL, AND LOTS, LOTS OF MATH! We are rolling through the objectives and concepts in the algebra, geometry, and other math classes here at Tellico Plains High School. The TPHS Mathematics Crew includes: Mrs. Donna Lynn, Mr. Steven Patton, Mr. Lance Hamilton, Mr. Kyle Parks, and Mrs. Kayla Adams.

As each student settles into their math routine, we would like to encourage parents and students to take a look at the new TNReady website designed to help teachers, parents, and students with the new upcoming testing environment in math and English classes. TNReady will test a deeper level of student knowledge than previous TCAP tests in math and English language arts. In reading and writing, students will read from texts and provide some written responses to support their answers. In math, students will solve multi-step problems, many without using a calculator, to show what they know. Similar to how teachers assess student learning in a variety of ways during the school year (e.g., writing assignments, visual projects, multiple-choice questions, etc.), TNReady will give students a variety of ways to show what they can do. The link is at www.tn.gov/education/topic/tnready.

The math department is always willing to help in any way they can. Tutoring is available at 7:15 in the morning with Mrs. Lynn in room 12. If you have any questions, concerns, or need extra support for you or your child, please do not hesitate to call the school for assistance.

* SENIORS *

Be sure to sign up for

TEXT ALERTS.

(See Mrs. Watson)

Senior Make-Up Pictures

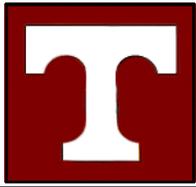
September 16 @ 8:00 a.m.

Formal, Cap/Gown,
and Casual

All needed for the Yearbook!

Proofs will be sent
home for purchases.

* SENIORS *



Academics



Science Department

Chemistry classes will be studying the periodic table. They will not only look at the history of the table but also why it has the particular shape it has. Biology classes are studying cellular structure and the main differences between an animal cell and a plant cell. Students will be required to create a cell model over one of these cells. They will be graded over content and appearance. Be creative!

Students and parents are reminded to take advantage of Mrs. Brown's website. It contains the schedule for the week and also contains links to her classroom notes. This website can be accessed through the school's website. If a parent has any concerns, or questions about their child's performance in their science class, please don't hesitate to email, call, or schedule a meeting time.

Fun Science Facts: If you could drive to the sun at 55mph it would take about 193 years. It is impossible to sneeze with your eyes open. The human eye blinks an average of 4,200,000 times a year. Only female mosquitoes bite. The average human produces a quart of saliva a day, about 10,000 gallons in a lifetime. Sharks are immune to cancer. Each person sheds 40 pounds of skin in his or her lifetime.

Social Studies

Department

Mr. Mitchel Witt and Coach Shawn Yates are teaching economics this year. This department is ecstatic to have these fine men added to the social studies department. Please make sure your students keep up because they will be moving through the subject quickly since only one semester of the subject is required. Thank you for your help. Please call the school if you have any concerns about your student's social studies classes.

**NO SCHOOL
LABOR DAY
September 7**

***** JOSTENS *****

MEETS with **Seniors** (Graduation) and **Sophomores** (Class Rings) - **September 16**, AM Activity
COLLECTS ALL Senior and Sophomore Orders - **September 23** during Lunch

Vocational Department

FACS students kick off the year with some amazing projects. Fashion design students are designing their fashion line. Students commence their capstone project by developing a story board, business name, and logo. You can hear more about each of these designers on our class blog at tellicoplainsfashion.wordpress.com.

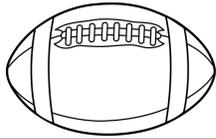
We look forward to highlighting each designer at the Fashion Show. We are currently searching for any corporate sponsors interested in donating supplies and/or funds for the next fashion show. Please email leah@whimsicalgatherings.com if you are interested.

Mr. Kurt Harrill would like to welcome everyone back and hopes every student is off to a good start. Anyone interested in joining FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) this year needs to attend next month's meeting. The only requirement is that you are currently enrolled in or have taken a business class in

the past. Mrs. Sheann Graham will be helping me this year with FBLA.

Computer applications class is currently working on the alphabet keys to prepare for Microsoft Word. Business communications class is learning the breakdown of the communication process example: message, sender, receiver etc. Students have already given one speech and growing more confident everyday in speaking to an audience. Personal finance classes are learning basic fundamentals of personal finance and working everyday math problems that we face as consumers.

The TVA&I Fair field trip money is due to Mrs. Kathy Ingram by Thursday, August 27. The State FFA Livestock and TVA&I Fair is Monday, September 14. The State Horse Judging will take place on Tuesday, September 15. District soil judging is on Tuesday, September 29. Finally, the regional soil judging is on Tuesday, October 6.



Sports News



Athletic/Alumni Center Update
Mr. Shawn Yates



Thank you to all of our coaches who are working with our fall sports teams and have their seasons under way. All of the coaches and players have put in a lot of time in the offseason and are excited to get to test themselves against their opponents. We want to encourage all of our students to come out and support our athletes who are participating in sports this fall. Schedules are posted on the website, schedules are available on the TSSAA website, and we have copies in the main office.

The Athletic Department welcomes our new boys basketball coach, Mr. Andy Cooper to our coaching staff. This year's team is certainly going to give opponents some competition.

All senior and junior athletes need to stop by the

guidance office as soon as possible in order to complete their NCAA checklist. This is a requirement for all athletes during these last two years of high school.

Season tickets are on sale in the main office.

You may purchase a season ticket for all sports or for individual sports if you would like. Season tickets will save you a little money for the season and will keep you from having to wait in line at the gate on game day. Stop by the main office of the school if you are interested. By the way, football tickets at the gate have increased to \$6.00 per person. Football season tickets are still \$25.00.

If anyone needs to schedule an event at the Alumni Center, please contact the Athletic Department at 423.253.2530.

LADY BEARS VOLLEYBALL

- 8/17 - Loudon (A)
- 8/18 - McMinn Central (A)
- 8/20 - Alcoa (A)
- 8/25 - Grace (A)
- 8/27 - Harriman (A)
- 9/1 - Concord (H)
- 9/8 - Polk Co. (A)
- 9/10 - Grace (H)
- 9/14 - Polk Co. (H)
- 9/15 - Sequoyah (H)
- 9/21 - Harriman
- 9/22 - Polk Co. (H)
- 9/29 - McMinn Central (H)
- 9/30 - Sequoyah (A)
- 10/1 - Loudon (H)
- 10/5 - Polk Co. (H)



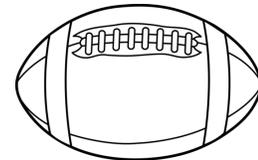
LADY BEARS SOCCER

- 8/24 - Rockwood (H)
- 8/25 - Greenback (H)
- 9/1 - Pigeon Forge (A)
- 9/15 - Harriman (H)
- 9/17 - Austin East (H)
- 9/22 - Polk Co (H)
- 9/28 - Grace Christian (H)
- 10/6 - Sequoyah (A)

FOOTBALL HOMECOMING

Begins September 21

- Monday - Hat Day
- Tuesday - Camo or Western Day
- Wednesday - Super Hero/Disney Day
- Thursday - Team Shirt Day
- Friday - Maroon/White Day



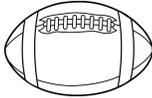
BEARS FOOTBALL

- 8/14 - Jamboree @ SQHS
- 8/21 - Sequoyah (A)
- 8/28 - Andrews, NC (A)
- 9/4 - Austin East (H)
- 9/11 - Copper Basin (H)
- 9/18 - OPEN
- 9/25 - TN Christian (HC)
- 10/2 - Wartburg (A)
- 10/9 - Sweetwater (H)
- 10/16 - Oliver Springs (A)
- 10/23 - Grace Christian (H)
- 10/30 - Rockwood (A)





SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 AM Activity - Freshman/Club Meetings Soccer @ Pigeon Forge Volleyball vs. Concord	2 MEDIC BLOOD DRIVE 	3	4 PM Activity - Pep Rally Football vs. Austin East	5
6	7 NO SCHOOL 	8 Jr/Sr Talent Search Field Trip to TN Wesleyan Volleyball @ Polk	9	10 Volleyball vs. Grace Golf at Kahite	11 Football vs. Copper Basin 	12
13	14 Volleyball @ Polk TVA&I Fair	15 Soccer vs. Harri-man Volleyball vs. Sequoyah	16 AM - <u>JOSTENS</u> meets with Sr/Soph Senior Makeup Pictures 	17 Freshman Talent Search Field Trip to Hiwassee Soccer vs. Austin East	18 OPEN	19
20	21 Progress Reports Sent Home Homecoming Week Begins Hat Day Volleyball vs. Harri-man	22 Camo/Western Day Soccer @ Polk Co. Volleyball vs. Polk	23 <u>JOSTENS</u> Sr/Soph Orders Taken During Lunch Super Hero/Disney Day	24 Homecoming Parade Team Shirt Day	25 Underclassman Pics Maroon/White Day Football Homecoming vs. TN Christian	26
27	28 Soccer vs. Grace 	29 OPEN HOUSE 3:00 - 6:00 Volleyball vs. McMinn Central	30 Volleyball @ Sequoyah 			