



The Howler

September 2017

From the Principal

Dear TTCS Parents and community:

The first month of school is complete and we are having a very good year at TTCS. Student behavior school wide has improved, and our teachers report students are very engaged in our efforts to implement higher expectations with a more rigorous academic curriculum.

The initial testing with a new “short-cycle” exam has been completed and with PARCC results finally in hand and last years I-station reading results, parents should start asking their child’s teacher how the formal assessments look for their child. “Is my child at grade level?” “Is my child above grade level?” Teachers have this information now and in this school accountability era, parents need to know if there is additional work and additional help to get their child moving faster to get up to grade level. If you are concerned about or don’t know how your child is doing in relationship to other students, contact your teacher NOW and schedule a meeting. Do not wait until October 23 for conferences. The sooner you start the additional work at home the better chance your child has to “catch-up”. We are now required by the state to inform all parents if their child is below grade level in reading. One consequence of being behind academically is a discussion about grade level retention. There is a full year ahead to have students improve and not have this discussion with teachers.

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Save the Date

The Halloween Carnival will be sneaking up on us fast. It is scheduled for October 27th, 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

We will be finishing plans and the timeline at the next PTO meeting on Thursday, September 28th after school.

You can also contact the PTO at ptc@ttschool.org or talk to Tammi Padilla about volunteering.

Calendar

September/October

M	T	W	Th	F	Sa/Su
11	12	13	14 Back to School Night 5:30-7:30	15	16/17
18	19	20	21 GC meeting 5:30pm	22	23/24
25	26 Tasty Tuesday	27	28 PTO Meeting 3pm	29	30/1
2	3	4	5 GC meeting 5:30pm	6 No school for Students	7/8
9 No school	10	11	12	13	14/15
16	17	18	19 GC meeting 5:30pm	20 P/T Conferences	21/22

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At Back to School Night on Thursday, September 14, 2017 from 5:30 to 7:00, our parents will hear more about how parents can be active partners in their child's academic progress. We have several free online enrichment programs where parents can monitor their child's work and you can give your child necessary or enrichment work at home. If you don't know how to access these tools, ask your child's teacher immediately.

This Fall Turquoise Trail received a school grade just 1 point short of an A, signifying that our students are progressing at a very high rate, but we still have way too many students below grade level. Lets work together as a unified team and we can quickly become a school where a MAJORITY of our students are above grade level. Our teachers are working hard this year to create individualized plans for below grade level students to work hard and significantly improve their academic achievement.

Our academic goal continues to be that we want to be the highest performing Title I school in New Mexico. Parents, teachers and students can make this a reality. Please talk to your teachers and ask what parents and families can do to help students at home.

The Nurses Corner

PRE-K Screenings will start soon. I will do hearing tests, dental checks, height and weight. The Lions Club will be doing a digital vision screening later in October. If parents have any questions or concerns please call me!

DROPPING Off Prescription Medications: When you drop off prescription medications such as eye drops, ear drops, and antibiotics at the front office in the morning, MAKE SURE you write a note including instructions, parent name and phone number or Amber will ask you to fill out a medication form. I will call parents to confirm before administering the medication. Also remember NO NURSE on Thursdays. No one is available to administer the medication. If your student needs non routine medication, you or a family member will have to come to school and give it to them.

HUNGRY Students: Some teachers have expressed concern that students are hungry particularly in the afternoon. Many classes have snack in the morning and I'm always preaching about a healthy breakfast, however some students don't eat all their lunch because they play around or don't like what is served. Teachers cannot supply afternoon snacks in the classroom and it takes time away from academic work.

Please review the cafeteria menu with your child and encourage them to eat! It's amazing how much food we see being thrown away!

THANK YOU for all the physician injury reports, doctor/dental excuses, and phone calls! It really helps me do my job and check up on your children while they are here at school.

Jennie Farquhar BSN RN
Turquoise Trail School Nurse

PTO News

Events and Info from your PTO

The Day of Music event was great fun as always. A special thanks goes to all of the volunteers who helped out in a variety of ways. Especially those who could not make the actual event, but still managed to sell tickets, promote the event, even getting their own friends, family and acquaintances to come, or simply donated what they could. Every little bit helps and is greatly appreciated. Unfortunately we did not make enough money to give scholarships for clubs that have already started and will only be able to give out a few for the next sessions.

Our first Tasty Tuesday and Pop N Toss went really well! Be sure to thank these ladies for the amazing job they do every month.

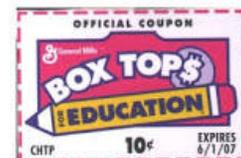
Help us make a new school t shirt! Keep the design simple and three colors or less. Submit designs to ptc@ttschool.org or to Francesca at the front office.

Our next event is the Halloween Carnival coming up at the end of October. If you help your teacher run a booth, you could earn \$50 for the classroom! This event is a tradition here at TTCS. The kids have so much fun playing all the different carnival style games, getting some yummy food and bringing home prizes.

Also, this will be the last year for the PTO president and the PTO treasurer. If you are interested in doing either one of these jobs, please contact the PTO through email at ptc@ttschool.org or come to our meetings, the next one is Thursday September 28th after school.

BoxTops!

Yes these little squares that you find on cereal boxes, soup cans, school supplies and more; do make the school some money if you turn them in. So please be sure to turn in your Box Tops; keep your eyes open for the next competition.



From our Parent Volunteer Coordinator

Tammi Padilla, 986 4054

Tammie Padilla

Volunteer Coordinator tpadilla@ttschool.org

I'm still in need of a few volunteers:

- **Classroom Helper**- assist teacher with copy projects, work with small reading and math groups. Recess and lunch monitor...
- **Lunchroom Monitor**- Assist staff with students lunch periods (10:40-1pm). Assist with the flow of meal services. Help control students behavior during meal services.
- **"On Call" Volunteer**- If you are not sure right now how you can help, but would like to be involved in the future your name can go on our "on call" list.
- **Halloween Carnival** – October 27th, 5:30pm. Teachers will be running booths for this event and will need help.

Remind APP

Now you can sign up to receive automatic texts or emails when I need volunteers. All you have to do is text the message @tammiepa to the number 81010 to sign up!

Other ways to help: - Snacks: classrooms need snacks for students.

Ideas: Animal Crackers, Applesauce, Goldfish Crackers, Granola Bars Cheese sticks, Pre-cut Fruit, Cups, Spoons, forks.