

News From Twality

09.24.2021

A PDF copy of this newsletter is attached at the bottom of this email.



Figard-Tualatin School District is an Equal Opportunity School District. If you need interpretation of this document, please call our English Language Learner Department at 503-431-4123.

Need Translation? / ¿Necesita Traducir?

If you need this email translated to your preferred language, please click on the link above to open this email in your web browser. Once open, on the right you will see a Translate Newsletter link where you can pick your preferred language.

Si necesita traducir este correo a su idioma preferido, por favor haga click en el enlace de arriba para abrir este correo en su navegador web. Una vez abierto, a la derecha verá un enlace Traducir Boletín informativo donde puede elegir su idioma preferido.

District COVID resources

Please click [HERE](#) to access community resources.



Message from Principal Kearn

Dear Twality Families,

We have had a lot of fun getting to know students this week and it seems like everyone is getting really settled into their routines. Our After School Activities got off the ground this week and I have enjoyed watching students play dodgeball and soccer and learn photography. It's so great to see students socializing and returning to a more normal way of being an adolescent despite the safety procedures that are in place.

As you might know, from September 15th to October 15th, we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. We have found some meaningful ways to celebrate our Hispanic students and staff members here at Twality. We are creating a video with Hispanic voices in our community that shares how we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month or what our Hispanic community likes most about their culture. We are also getting together MEChA students from Tigard High to meet our MEChA students and work together on researching famous Hispanic/Latine people to add to our murals at our school. Also, Mrs. Bonebrake's class is researching famous Hispanic/Latine important people in history.

This week, I wanted to provide an update on our Virtual Back to School plans, which will provide a virtual way to get to know our teachers better as well as some reminders about rainy weather and safety protocols.

Virtual Back to School

In lieu of hosting an in-person Back to School Night event (which we cannot wait to do), our teachers will be working to create back to school videos to introduce themselves, their classes, what they are excited about, as well as ways you can support students in their learning. Our plan is to send out

these videos the week of October 11th. Please be on the lookout for these videos in the next few weeks.

Bus Behavior

I want to reinforce the message shared by Dr. Sue Rieke Smith regarding the community spread of Covid 19. It is so important that students are wearing masks and maintaining distance so we can keep kids in school learning where they belong. This week, we are going to reinforce our expectations about students on the bus and how they need to be wearing masks, following their assigned seating chart, and not eating or drinking.

Winter is Still Coming...

As I mentioned last week, we know that rainy weather is going to come and our outdoor spaces are going to be wet. Monday and Tuesday already have rain in the forecast. Due to Covid-19, **students will be going outside to get fresh air every day during lunchtime activity.** We are encouraging students to wear weather appropriate clothing (waterproof jackets, hats, umbrellas that fit in backpacks, and sturdy shoes are encouraged).

Lockers

We know that students are chomping at the bit to receive their lockers. Coordinating this is challenging in a new building as we are learning the ways students are navigating our campus. We want students to be able to access their lockers AND get to class on time. We are also waiting for schedule changes and new enrollments to settle down. We know that there are some heavy backpacks and we encourage you to see if there are items that don't need to come to school. We are hoping to have lockers available starting early in October and we will update you soon.

Affinity Group Morning Meetings--Final Call for Sign Up

Twality's affinity group morning meetings are for students who identify as being a part of or supportive of a particular cultural group. Joining an affinity group is OPTIONAL. Twality hosts an Asian Student Union, a Black Student Union, an LGBTQIA+ Alliance, an MEChA for Latine Students, SANAME Middle Eastern Affinity Group, and Pacific Islander Pride. If this is something that interests your student, please have them fill out the following form and submit by Friday, September 26: [Twality Affinity Group Morning Meeting Form](#). [Form in Spanish](#).

Have a great week!

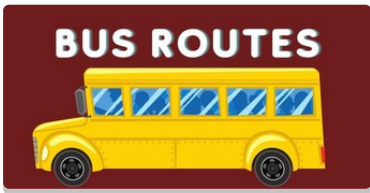
Andrew Kearn, Principal

Picture Day Updates & Reminders

Did you miss the picture packet to purchase photos of your student yesterday? You can still purchase pictures online at dorianstudio.com. Search for Twality Middle School, and proceed with your student's information. Please use your student's morning meeting teacher when the form asks for Teacher Name. **Photos can be purchased online until Monday, September 27th** and will be delivered to Twality for free, or you can purchase any time after that but you will have to pay a shipping fee.



Picture Re-Take Day is Wednesday, November 3rd, 8:30am-10:30am.



Updated Bus Routes, Effective Monday 9/27

Route 25 has been added to Route 28 starting 9/28. Please check the attached document of routes to see what time the bus will pick up your student on Monday.

Donations of Sports Equipment and Backpacks

Thank you to our PSO for getting the word out about our need for backpacks and playground equipment for activity time. We appreciate the donations!



PSO Fundraiser - Spirit Gear!

Shirts, Hoodies, Hats/Beanies, and Masks...oh my! The PSO spirit store is live at this link: <https://myshirtbin.com/collections/twality-middle-school>

Orders will be accepted until 10/10, and items will be sent home with students in early November.

Do you have a shout out or appreciation for a staff member at Twality?

Our teachers and staff would love to hear the ways they are supporting your children. Please take a moment to share an appreciation [here](#).



IMPORTANT DATES

Oct 8

No School

Oct 28 & Oct 29

No School - Fall Conferences

Nov 3

Picture Re-Take Day

Message from Tualatin High School Packbackers

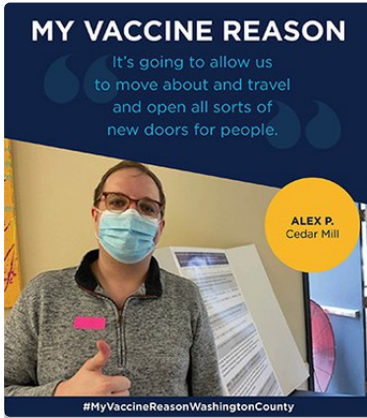
Hello Twality and Tualatin Families, There will be no concessions at upcoming TuHS sporting events. We are coming soon, but we need to make sure we comply with all state and TTSD District Policies. Thank you for your continued support and patience as we work through these unusual times.

Thank you, The Tualatin Packbackers

Free and Reduced Meals - Application needs to be filled out every year!

This year our district will be offering Free meals for all children 18 years and under through the Summer Seamless Food Program. The Free and Reduced Meals Applications are good for so much more than just free meals. With an approval Letter of Eligibility families can get discounted internet, waived fees at the high school level and other scholarship opportunities outside of the district. ***IF there is future funding for P-EBT our families in need could benefit from this greatly...but you need to apply!!!***

Please fill out the [online application](#) in order to be approved for free and reduced meals. You can also pick up a paper copy of the application in our Main Office.



Where can I get a COVID-19 vaccine?

Every Oregonian age 12 and up is eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine. Click [HERE](#) to find a vaccine clinic near you.

Washington County Crisis Line (503) 291-9111

This line is answered 24/7




Connect with us!

 Facebook

 @twality_ms

 (503) 431-5200

 ttsdschools.org/twality