



Titan Times Newsletter

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE, UNITY, AND THE FUTURE!

»»»» AUGUST 2024 EDITION ««««

Welcome to the Turner County Titans' First District Newsletter!

Dear Titan Nation,

We are thrilled to introduce the inaugural edition of our monthly district newsletter. As the Turner County Titans, our goal is to keep all stakeholders—students, parents, staff, and community members—well-informed about the exciting happenings within our district.

Each month, this newsletter will serve as a comprehensive source of updates, news, and highlights from Turner County Elementary School, Turner County Middle School, and Turner County High School. We are committed to fostering a strong sense of community and ensuring that everyone stays connected and engaged with our schools.



In this edition, we are excited to introduce several new sections:

- **Principal's Corner:** Messages and updates from the principals of each school.
- **Counselor's Corner:** Insights and advice from our school counselors.
- **Mental Health Matters:** Tips and resources to support mental well-being.

- **Social Worker Spotlight:** Highlighting the efforts of our dedicated social workers.
- **Community Events:** Upcoming events and activities in our community.
- **Celebrating Success:** Recognizing the achievements of our students and teachers.
- **Sports Highlights:** Updates and highlights from our sports teams.
- **Digital Citizenship Tips:** Guidance on navigating the digital world safely and responsibly.
- **Important Dates and Reminders:** Key dates and important information for everyone.

We are also excited to share some major updates:

- **New Middle-High School:** Construction is underway for our new middle-high school, which will provide state-of-the-art facilities for our students.
- **New Superintendent:** We welcomed our new superintendent, who brings a wealth of experience and a fresh vision for our district.
- **New District Employees:** We have many new district employees in positions designed to support student learning and help increase student achievement.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we will make this school year a remarkable one for all our students.

Go Titans! ♥♥♥

Warm regards,

Christy Wray

Superintendent, Turner County Schools



New Middle-High School: Construction is Underway!



We are also excited to share some major updates:

We're thrilled to share some exciting news about our school construction project! We're ahead of schedule and making significant strides toward completing our new facility.

Steel Framework Complete

We're pleased to announce that the steel framework for Phase One of the new building is now complete. This is a major milestone, as the steel framework provides the structural support for the entire building and sets the stage for the next phases of construction.



Front of the Building



Back of the Building



Back of the Building

Current Focus: Masonry Work

With the steel framework in place, our construction team has shifted focus to the masonry work. The laying of blocks is progressing smoothly, forming the walls and essential structural components of our new school. This phase is critical to shaping the building's form and ensuring its stability.



CTAE Wing



New Cafeteria

Looking Ahead

As we move forward, the next steps will include wiring, HVAC, and roofing. We remain optimistic about staying on track for our projected completion date and are excited about the progress we're making.



Principal's Corner

Welcome to the Principal's Corner!

In this section, you'll find messages from the principals of Turner County Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. Each principal shares important updates, highlights recent achievements, and provides insights into the exciting activities happening at their respective schools. We hope these messages keep you informed and connected with our school community.



Message from the Turner County Elementary School Principal

Greetings

To all the TCES parents, students, teachers, and other community stakeholders, I am humbled and grateful to have the opportunity to begin Year 3 as the principal of Turner County Elementary School. I am looking forward to an exciting school year and meeting all our TCES families, students, and community members. Turner County Elementary School is a school that is already equipped with great leadership, teachers, staff, systems and structures that are needed for the important work of educating our future leaders. With these components already in place, it is my



goal to provide the leadership that will help us continue to improve our educational practices, continue to strive for excellence, which will ultimately help us reach all of the educational and academic goals we set each year.

We know that we need to work diligently and intentionally to close learning gaps, accelerate the learning of others, and do this all while fostering a safe school filled with trust and love. One of our daily missions will be to always show that we care about each and

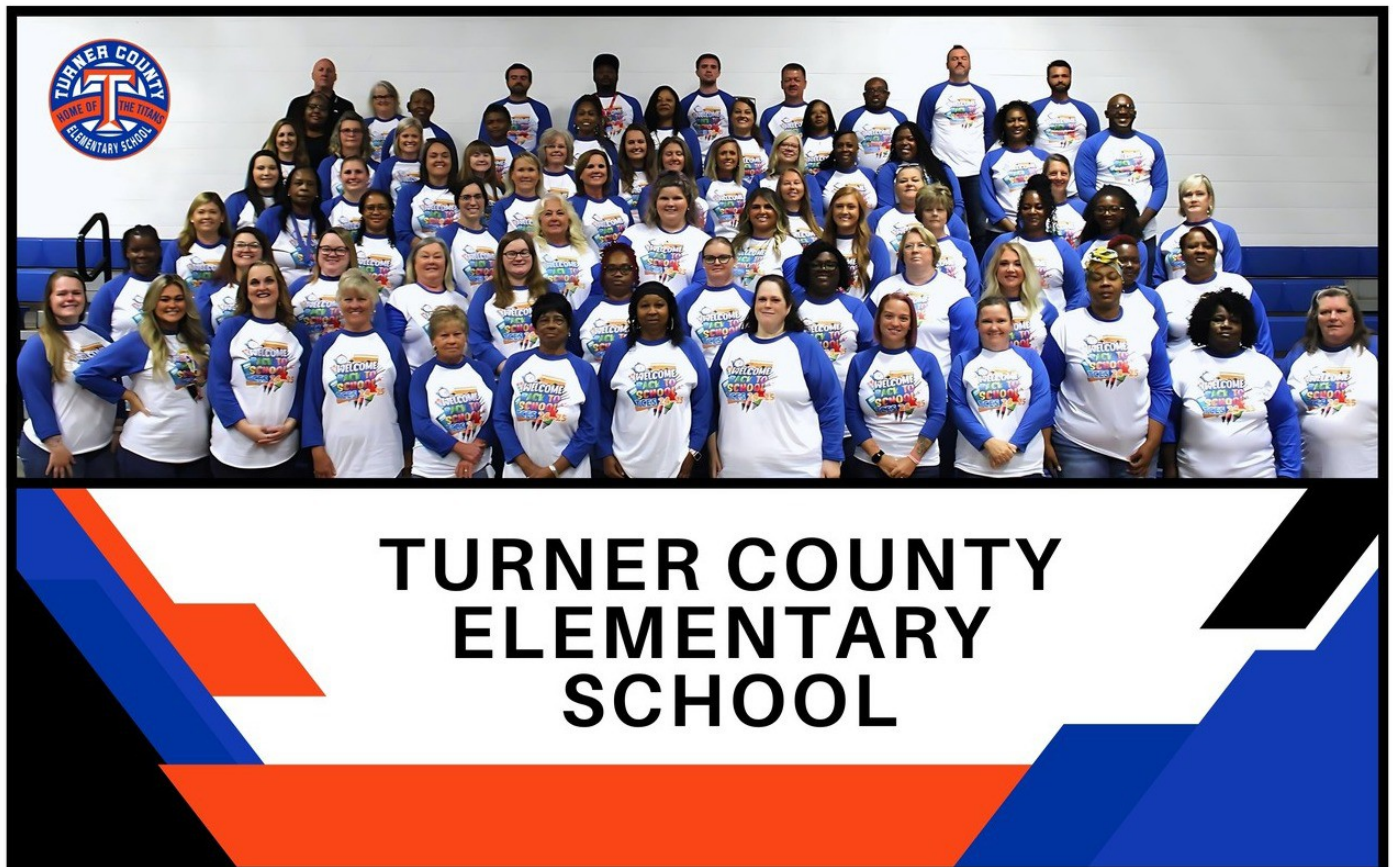
every student and are always striving to support their academic, social, and mental well-being regardless of the challenges we face. Additionally, we will continue to provide a high-quality educational experience for our students. As administrators, teachers, staff, and parents, we must ALL step up to the challenge of preparing our students for challenges they will face as they prepare for a life after graduation.

In closing, the faculty and staff at Turner County Elementary School ask you for continued support throughout the school year, invite you to come share in all the events we have prepared throughout the year, and understand that we are focused on addressing and meeting the needs of all the students and families of the Turner County community. The success of a student involves all school and community stakeholders because together we can ensure our students reach their greatest potential. We look forward to celebrating our collective successes with you all during the 2024-2025 school year.

We are the TITANS!!!

Laberton A. Sims

TCES Principal



Turner County Elementary School

Like our page on Facebook to stay up to date! □ □



Message from the Turner County Middle School Principal

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Welcome back to Turner County Middle School for the 2024-2025 school year! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break, filled with fun experiences and cherished moments.

As we gear up for another exciting year at Turner County Middle School, I want to take a moment to share my enthusiasm for the upcoming months. Our dedicated staff has been working diligently to prepare for the new school year, and we are eager to welcome our returning students and meet our new families. We are committed to providing a nurturing and engaging environment where each student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

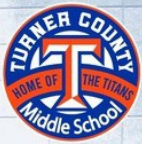
We value open communication between home and school. Please feel free to reach out to teachers or the school administration with any questions or concerns. Regular updates will be sent home through newsletters and our school's website. The health and safety of our students and staff remain our top priority. We will continue to follow all recommended guidelines and protocols to ensure a safe learning environment.

This year, we have several new initiatives and programs that we believe will enhance our students' learning experiences. From updated curriculum and extracurricular activities to new technology resources, we are excited to offer opportunities that will inspire curiosity and foster growth.

As we embark on this new school year, I encourage everyone to approach it with enthusiasm and an open mind. Together, we will create a supportive and dynamic learning environment where each student can reach their full potential.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership,

John C. West
Principal, Turner County Middle School



TURNER COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Turner County Middle School

Like our page on Facebook to stay up to date!  



Message from the Turner County High School Principal

Dear Turner County High School Family,

As the Principal of Turner County High School, I'm excited to embark on this new school year with you. Having been part of this community and being an alumnus myself, I feel a deep connection to our school.

Our mission for this year is to build strong relationships with every student and stakeholder. We believe that these connections are essential for a successful school experience. Our commitment is to create an environment where each student feels valued, supported, and empowered.

In addition to fostering relationships, we're focusing on improving achievement in our End of Course (EOC) tests. Our dedicated teachers and staff are providing high-quality instruction and resources to help every student reach their full potential. I encourage all students to take advantage of the available support and strive for excellence in their academic pursuits.

Inside our classrooms, we're creating a focused and productive learning environment. To achieve this, we'll be minimizing distractions, including limiting cell phone use during instructional time. Our goal is to ensure that every minute spent in class contributes to meaningful learning experiences that prepare our students for success both in school and beyond.

As we move forward, I invite each of you to actively participate in our school community. Together, we can make this school year exceptional. Let's continue to embrace the Titan spirit, where excellence is our standard and every student matters, every day.

TurnerUp
Jason Clark,
Turner County High School Principal



TURNER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Turner County High School Facebook

Like our page on Facebook to stay up to date!  



**Celebrating Our Academic Coaches: Empowering
Teacher Growth and Student Success**

Dear Turner County Community,

We are thrilled to share exciting news from the Turner County Schools! Our dedicated academic coaches have hit the ground running this school year, committed to supporting both teacher professional growth and student achievement.

Meet Our Academic Coaches

The Turner County Board of Education has provided each school with two exceptional academic coaches:

- **Math & Science Coach:** Bringing expertise in mathematics and scientific inquiry.
- **English Language Arts & Social Studies Coach:** Focused on literacy, language arts, and social studies.

Pictured from left to right: Tessa Wilson (K-5), Jennifer Harris (6-8), Michelle Taylor (K-5), Lacey Donahoo (6-8), Lashonda Williams (9-12), Darcy Rainey (K-12), Amber Stephens (9-12)



TURNER COUNTY ACADEMIC COACHES

Their Impact

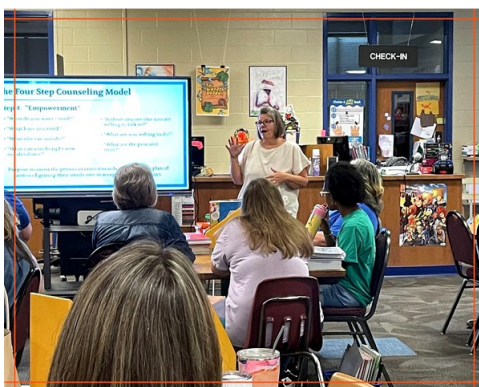
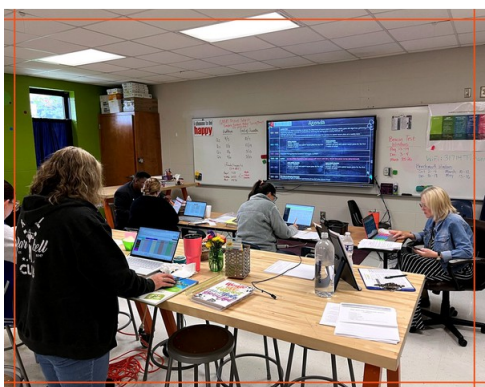
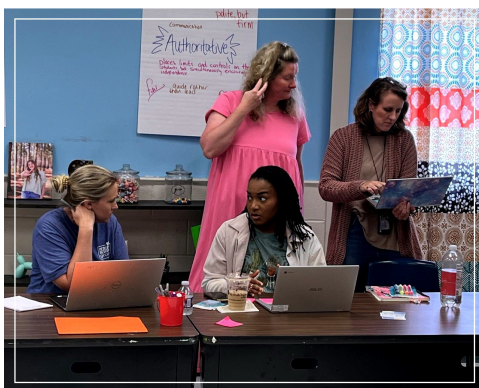
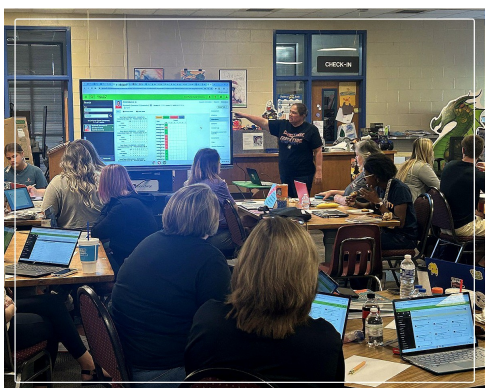
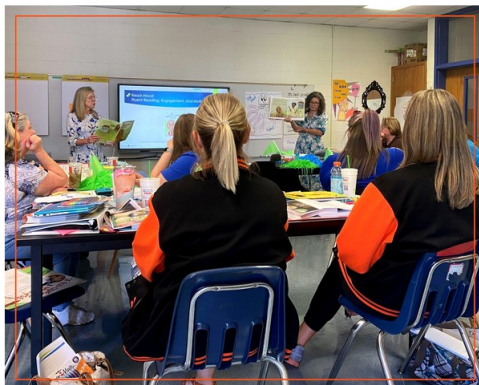
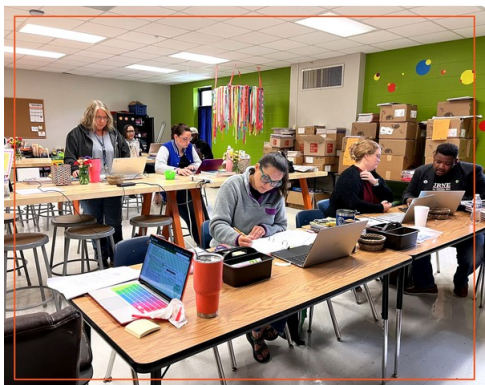
Our coaching team brings a wealth of experience, innovative strategies, and a passion for education.

Here's how they're making a difference:

- **Personalized Coaching Sessions:** Our coaches work closely with teachers, tailoring support to individual needs.
- **Collaborative Workshops:** They facilitate workshops where educators share best practices and learn from one another.



- **Resource Guidance:** From lesson planning to instructional materials, our coaches provide valuable resources.
- **Enhancing Teacher Effectiveness:** Their role is pivotal in elevating teaching quality across all grade levels.



Counselor's Corner

Turner County Student Services Team

This flowchart showcases the team responsible for student support in Turner County Schools.

Key Roles:

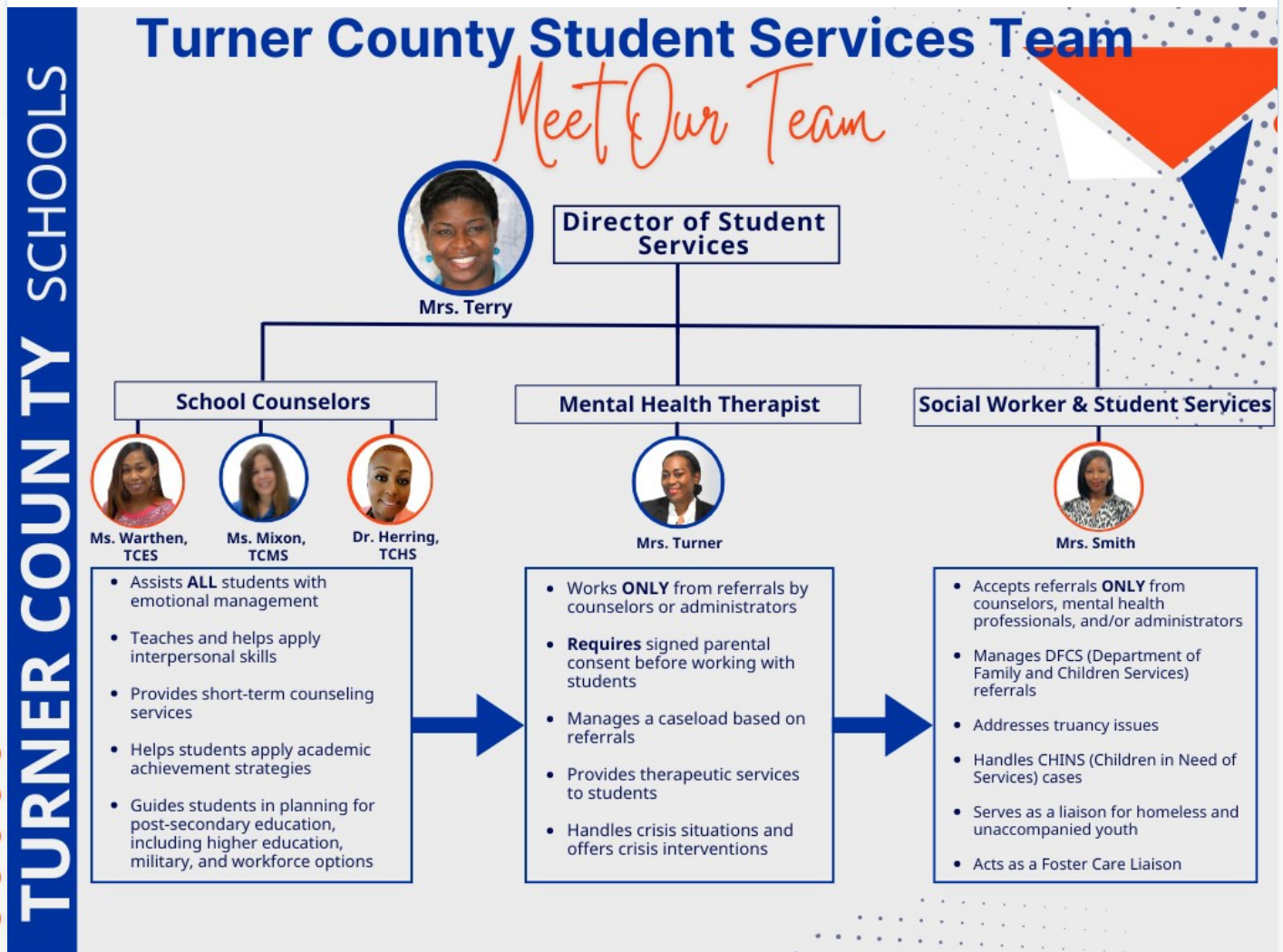
Director of Student Services: Oversees the team and ensures student well-being.

School Counselors: Assist students with emotional management, academic achievement, and post-secondary planning.

Mental Health Therapist: Provides short-term counseling and crisis interventions.

Social Worker & Student Services: Manages DFCS referrals, addresses truancy, and serves as a liaison for homeless and unaccompanied youth.

Homeless Liaison & Foster Care: Guides students in planning for higher education, military, and workforce options.



Mental Health Matters

Free Confidential Help for Your Mental Health is Available

Many free, valuable, and confidential services and resources are included in the **Georgia Public Education Employee Assistance Program (EAP)**, all of which are focused on building and maintaining your mental and emotional wellbeing. The EAP is available to ALL public-school, PreK-12 teachers and K-12 employees who work at least 29 hours a week.

Services and Resources

- Up to four free counseling sessions per issue, per year with a licensed counselor
- Free 30-minute consult with an experienced attorney; reduced fees for additional time and services
- Free 30-minute consult with a financial professional; reduced fees for additional time and services
- Referrals to available care and resources for your loved ones
- Assistance finding services for such daily life issues as home repairs, moving, pet care and travel planning

Important Facts to Know

- A master-level clinician is always available to help
- Assistance is offered 24 hours a day 7 days a week 365 days a year
- Household members and dependents up to the age of 26 are eligible for ALL services
- EAP is provided as a partnership with Georgia Department of Education and Acentra Health, formerly Kappa

Acentra HEALTH **Georgia Department of Education**

How to Contact:

- Call 866-278-5177 for services, referrals and questions
- Informative interactive website at www.eaphelpdesk.com code: GaDOE

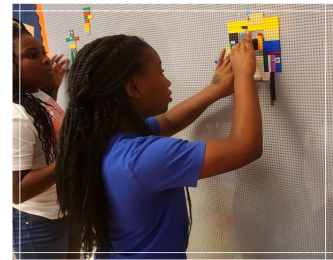
This month, we are highlighting the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) services available to all our staff.

These services offer free, confidential support for your mental and emotional well-being. Additionally, we have included a helpful flowchart to guide you through accessing these resources.

Each month, we will focus on a different theme, need, or subject related to mental health to ensure you have the resources and support you need.

Celebrating Success

First Days of School...



Turner County School Nutrition Program

The School Nutrition Program extends heartfelt thanks to all staff involved in the Seamless Summer Option. This summer, we provided 27,104 meals to children in the Turner County community, featuring fresh watermelons, cantaloupes, and blueberries from local farms.



TURNER COUNTY SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM

27,104

MEALS OFFERED TO
CHILDREN IN THE TURNER
COUNTY COMMUNITY!



As we kick off the new school year, we are excited to introduce **three new lunch entrees**: low country boil, meatball sandwiches, and chicken pot pie.

Additionally, we are thrilled to announce the addition of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), which will allow us to offer supper meals to our afterschool programs.



We remain committed to balancing nutritional needs with meal acceptance among our students. Go Titans! ♥♥♥



Student Safety: A Top Priority!

At Turner County Schools, the safety of our students is paramount. This past week, our students actively participated in safety briefings and practicing essential bus evacuation drills. Our dedicated School Resource Officers and Transportation Director, Mr. Michael Wiggins, ensured that our Titans are well-prepared for any situation.



Together, we create a secure environment where learning thrives.



TURNER COUNTY BUS DRIVERS

Digital Citizenship Tip

Digital Etiquette: Think Before You Post!

Our digital world is vibrant and interconnected, but with great power comes great responsibility. As we navigate the online landscape, let's remember this simple rule: **"ASK YOURSELF: IS IT TRUE? IS IT NECESSARY? IS IT KIND?"**

Before sharing anything online—whether it's a social media update, a comment, or a photo—pause and consider its potential impact.



ASK YOURSELF:
IS IT ACCURATE?
IS IT RELEVANT?
IS IT APPROPRIATE?

By practicing this simple rule, we contribute to a safer and more respectful digital environment. Let's be mindful digital citizens!



Think Before You Post:

- **Is It Accurate?:** Verify information before sharing.
- **Is It Relevant?:** Consider the context and audience.
- **Is It Appropriate?:** Choose words and images wisely.

By practicing this, we contribute to a safer and more respectful digital environment! Let's be mindful citizens.

Remember, our online presence matters. Go Titans!

[Click HERE for more digital citizenship resources](#)

Sports Highlights

TURNER COUNTY

TITANS OF SOUND



Titans of Sound Return

♪ Several Years in the Making ♪

After a long hiatus, the Turner County Titans of Sound are back on the field! It's been several years since their last performance, and this year, they've come back stronger than ever.

We're thrilled to have our band back, filling the air with music and lifting spirits. Whether you're a die-hard fan or a first-time listener, get ready for an unforgettable season!

Go Titans! 💖💖

From Drumline to Dance Line

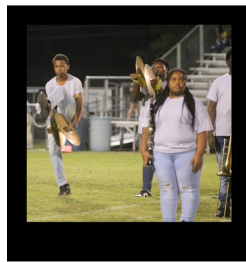
Last year, we had a small drumline, but now, we've expanded! Not only do we have a dynamic drumline, but we've also added a dance line to our ensemble. The energy and creativity they bring are unmatched.





Home Game Highlights

At the first two home games, our Titans of Sound took center stage. Their performance was nothing short of spectacular! The crowd cheered, toes tapped, and hearts swelled with pride.



Future Titan Cheer Camp: Cheers, Chants, and Unforgettable Moments!

On August 16, our Future Titan Cheer Camp brought together 12 enthusiastic participants. They learned motion placement, a cheer, a chant, and a dance routine. Their pregame performance during last week's game was fantastic! We're excited to host another camp in the future.

Go Titans! 📣💙💙



2024-2025 Lady Titans Softball Team

The Lady Titans softball team has kicked off their season with enthusiasm and determination! Our talented athletes are already showing tremendous growth both on and off the field. Their dedication to improvement is evident in every practice and game. As the season progresses, we're

excited to see how far their skills and teamwork will take them. Don't miss a chance to cheer on these rising stars – click the link below for the full schedule and come support our Lady Titans at their upcoming games!



TAP HERE FOR THE LADY TITANS SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

Upcoming Titan Athletic Events

Show your school spirit and support our amazing student-athletes this September! From the gridiron to the softball diamond, and across our cross-country courses, our TCMS and TCHS athletes are giving their all. Come cheer them on as they compete, grow, and represent our community with pride. Your presence in the stands means more than you know – it fuels their determination and celebrates their hard work. Let's pack the venues, wear our school colors, and create an atmosphere of enthusiasm that our students will remember for years to come. Together, we can make this season unforgettable!



Community Events

Turner County Recreation Department

Fall Registration is still going on! Don't forget to stop by Turner Parks and Rec to get your child registered today! Coed flag football(ages 4-6), tackle football(ages 6-12) and cheerleading(ages 4-12)! Spots are filling up fast!!! All practices will started August 13th at 6:00pm! It's not too late to register your child!

Turner County Recreation Department

Registration Fee
\$35
Due at time of Registration



Let's get ready
for Fall Sports!!!

Register in person

2529 HWY 41 N
Ashburn, Ga 31714

Ages 4-12

Turner County 4-H

Attention all **Turner County youth in grades 8-12** who are interested in learning more about agriculture technology, we'll have a new Ag Tech Team for the **2024-2025 program year** and would be excited to have you join our team.

This is a fantastic opportunity for leadership while being an advocate for agriculture. (A remarkable opportunity for scholarship and college applications).

There's a training **September 10-11 in Tifton, GA** to teach you what you need to know. Transportation to and from the training will be provided.

Registration Deadline: August 30, 2024 by 5:00pm.

For more information about the Turner County 4-H Office at 229-567-3448.

University of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Veteran, Disability Institution. If you need a reasonable accommodation or language access services, contact the Turner County Extension office at 229-567-3448 at least three weeks prior to the program date.

AG TECH TEAM

Grades: 8-12

If you are interested in learning more about the following, then come join the 4-H AG Tech Team!!

- ✓ Agriculture & Natural Resources
- ✓ Cutting edge agriculture methods, programs, and equipment
- ✓ Educate diverse audiences in our county on trends & technology

For more information, contact Lynn Davis at the 4-H Office 567-3448



Important Dates and Reminders

Titan Athletic Events Schedule

September 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	MS Football @ Dooly 5:00 PM	Lady Titans Softball VS Brooks 5:30	Titans Football @ Mitchell 7:30	Middle School Cross Country 2nd Annual Blake Smith Invitational Dooly 9:15 AM TCHS Cross Country Lee County Invitational 9:15 AM
8	9	10 Lady Titans Softball VS Irwin 5:30	MS Football home vs Pulaski Co 5:00 PM	Middle School Cross Country South Ga Middle School Invitational Thomasville 5:00 pm Lady Titans Softball @ Clinch 5:30	13 Titans Football @ Wilcox 7:30	14 TCHS Cross Country Red Devils Town Creek Invitational Hawkinsville
15	16	17 Lady Titans Softball @ Echols 5:30	MS Football home vs Wilcox 5:00 PM	19 Lady Titans Softball VS Lanier 5:30	20 Titans Football @ Dooly 7:30	21 Middle School Cross Country Ram Run Invitational Sylvester 9:30 AM TCHS Cross Country Ram Run Invitational Sylvester 9:30 AM
22	23	24 Lady Titans Softball @ ATCO 5:30	MS Football playoffs Round 1 5:00 PM	26 Middle School Cross Country Dodge Co. Invitational Eastman 4:30 PM Lady Titans Softball VS Charlton 5:30	27 Titans Football @ Brooks 7:30	28 TCHS Cross Country Tift Invitational Tifton, Ga (ABAC)
29	30					

[ACCESS TURNER COUNTY SCHOOLS WEBSITE HERE](#)



Smore Templates

Smore is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters