

Junior High Announcements

October 1, 2024



ALL TCA PARENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

October Count Day

This year, our count day is Tuesday October 1, 2024. Through this Count, TCA reports all students who are actively enrolled and attending classes. This Count helps the State determine funding eligibility for our students and is very important to our school, the district, and to the funding of our programs. Please make every effort to have your student in attendance and avoid scheduling appointments or vacation on that Tuesday. If your student is not in attendance on Count Day, the school must provide additional documentation to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) that your student attended with us both before and after their absence. *If you know your student will be gone from October 1st through October 8th, please contact your school's administration or the Registrar's office for an Intent to Return form.*

Titan Club – If you missed us at any of the Back-To-School nights – we'd still love to have your family join Titan Club for 2024-2025. Click [here](#) for more info

TCA ATHLETIC GAME SAFETY

All Elementary and Junior High students who attend TCA athletic events must sit with an adult during the event for supervision purposes. Unfortunately, we have noticed types of behavior that could lead to injury or students getting in trouble. We desire to promote a safe atmosphere for all spectators; thus, ***no personal sporting or toy ball of any kind will be allowed into events.*** We thank you for your partnership in this endeavor.

HEALTHY MEALS FOR ALL

Healthy Meals for All will begin in the 2023-24 school year. For more information, [Colorado Healthy School Meals for All program](#) .

Program Student Fees Assistance

For more information <https://www.asd20.org/nutrition-and-food-services/free-and-reduced/>.

TCA North Campus Carpool -This system works efficiently if we all do our part. Following these guidelines will make our peak traffic times both efficient and safe for all. For more information [click here](#)

TCA's Mental Health Resources Page

TCA realizes the importance of mental health and has created a page of resources for parents and students to utilize. [Click here to view the page.](#) This link can also be found under the "Helpful Links" at the bottom of each page on this website and under the "Family" tab at the top of the page.

The Palmarium:

The seventy-ninth volume of the [PALMARIUM](#) is provided for your review. This volume includes highlights on Titan of the Year, Ronald McDonald House, *Beyond the Book Club*, the Junior Year Hero Project, and a couple articles on our Educational Philosophy.

TCA SUBSTITUTES NEEDED:

Types of jobs available: Teacher, Tutor, Office/Kiosk/Health Room, Test Proctoring

Requirements:

TEACHER: Bachelor's degree in any subject **or** HS Diploma + CDE Substitute Teacher Authorization

PARAPROFESSIONAL: High School Diploma or GED

OFFICE/KIOSK/HEALTH ROOM: High School Diploma/GED and additional training in the specific area

PROCTORING: Bachelor's degree in any subject and additional training in the specific area

To apply, please visit TCA's employment site at <https://www.applitrack.com/tcad20/onlineapp/> and submit an application for Substitute

NAVY/CRIMSON A/B Rotation This Week

Monday: Crimson

Tuesday: Navy

Wednesday: Crimson

Thursday: Navy

Friday: Crimson

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Junior High Parent-Student Teacher Conferences

Thursday, October 10th from 12:00 Noon to 7:00 PM
and

Friday, October 11th from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Conferences are held in the TCA North Secondary Commons (Cafe)

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to you meeting with your child's teachers at our Parent- Child - Teacher Conferences in about two weeks. **We encourage all students to attend conferences with their parents.** Personal responsibility and ownership of their academic success is very important during the junior high years and beyond. As you prepare for conferences, the following procedures and scheduling information will help maximize the value.

Thursday and Friday Conferences: Arena Style Conference in-person meetings

To afford parents and their child the opportunity to meet with up to nine teachers, secondary conferences are conducted using the "arena" system rather than scheduling individual conferences as is the practice in our elementary schools. This means all teachers are available to all parents at all times during the conference sessions*. Parents do not sign up for conferences in advance. Junior High teachers will be located in the Student Commons / Secondary Café by the main entrance, so you can meet with them on a drop-in basis. As we cannot predict when the heaviest traffic will be, it is impossible to precisely estimate how much time you will need. It is reasonable to budget 15-20 minutes per teacher for both waiting time and a conference. Usually, you can gauge the line for each teacher and adjust accordingly to maximize your conference time and minimize your waiting time.

**Teachers who are unable to attend some or all of our pre-established conference times may notify their students and families of alternate conference dates and times.*

THE CONFERENCE: What to Expect:

Teachers will share a little about your child's academic success and involvement in their class. They will often ask some questions of your child (if they are attending with you) or you to get to

know them better. This is a great time for you to share something we would not otherwise know about (IE: they love the subject, they are nervous about being called on, they struggle with tests, ...). Typically ending the conference with any questions you or your child might have about the class, their assignments, or their assessments. Conferences typically take about five minutes, but teachers will need to end the conference after ten minutes to make sure that there is enough time for all our families to meet with them.

I have included a link to the Infinite Campus Parent Portal below for you to prepare for the conferences. Infinite Campus is a great resource throughout the year to keep up on your child's homework completion, grades, and attendance. Throughout the school year you can call or email your child's teacher when you have a question or concern.

Please call the Junior High Office at 719-484-0091 if you have any questions about Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Sincerely,

Hugh Di Pretore
Junior High Principal
The Classical Academy

INFINITE CAMPUS PARENT PORTAL:

[Campus Portal Login \(infinitecampus.org\)](https://infinitecampus.org)

NEW:

STARTS TODAY!

Library News: Junior High book club will begin October 1st (8th grade) and 2nd (7th grade). We will meet at lunch time in the library. Please see Mrs. St. Marie in the library for questions or information.

****If you are interested in Book Club, please stop by the library, and pick up your parent permission form. You can pick up your first book as soon as it is returned. Book discussions start this week. We look forward to seeing you.****

TOMORROW!

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA—CASUAL FOR A CAUSE OCT 2nd

For several years, TCA has purchased wreaths to lay at Veterans' gravesites at Memorial Gardens on Airport Road for National Wreaths Across America Day. [Home - Wreaths Across America](#)

TCA Junior High is supporting Wreaths Across America by hosting a "Casual for a Cause" day on Wednesday, October 2nd, where students may choose to donate \$5 to this effort, and they may wear casual clothing instead of their usual TCA school wear.

Naturally, students may wear their regular approved school wear if they choose not to participate in the Casual for a Cause day.

If students choose to participate in Casual for a Cause day, please select appropriate clothes for the day. As always, respect and modesty are our top priorities:

- Sweatpants and blue jeans are permitted, but they must not have rips or tears or holes in them.
- Clothing should be free of holes

- Clothing should not be tight or revealing.
- Leggings, "jeggings," "yoga pants," and tights are not appropriate as the outermost layer but may be worn under a skirt or shorts of appropriate length. A long sweater or sweatshirt is **not** an approved substitution for a skirt or shorts of appropriate length as a top layer over leggings.
- "Onesies", pajamas, robes, and other nighttime wear are not permitted.
- Shorts, dresses, and skirts must still meet dress code guidelines (dresses and skirts must touch the kneecap, and shorts may be up to four inches above the kneecap)
- Clothing must not have messages or imagery that are disrespectful, violent, or demeaning.
- Students may not wear hats during the school day.
- Students may wear their regular approved school-wear if they choose not to dress casually.

If students or parents have any questions about whether a particular casual item is overly casual or potentially unapproved, please contact Mr. Pollard or Mr. DiPretore.

7th Grade Soldiers who shared your shovels for Trench Day:

If you haven't picked up your shovel already, please go to Miss Connelly's room to find yours and take it home after school today.

Thanks for letting us borrow it!

ACTIVITIES:

Announcements:

- **October 2nd**
 - 6:00- JH Fall Sports Parent Meeting in the Elementary Cafe

Retake Picture Day is Thursday October 3 – 8:00-9:30am

Students who were absent for Picture Day should come to school prepared to have their picture taken.

If you purchased and were unhappy with your Picture Package, please send your Picture Package to school with your student on Retake Day. Your Retake Picture Package will be produced and shipped to the school four weeks after Retake Day. *Please note, if your child is photographed on the original and Retake Picture Days, the Retake picture will replace the original picture in certain products, like the yearbook.*

- Parents/guardians who have not ordered can place an order using the Retake Event Order Code, 89442DF at <https://inter-state.com/Order>. This Order Code is different from the original Event Order Code.

Yearbook UPDATE:

Yearbook Sales **AND 8th Grade Ads are LIVE!** To order, go to

<https://www.yearbookordercenter.com>. If you're prompted for a code, it is 16022. From now until October 1, you can take 15% off your order when you enter the code **EARLYBIRD** We have sold out for the last two years, so be sure to act fast to secure a book for your student. Space for 8th grade

ads is limited, so purchase your add early so that we can make sure we have room for you! Ads are filled in the order they are purchased.

Do you love taking photos?

Students, we would LOVE to feature your photographs in the yearbook! We will be using photographs taken by Junior High Students for our divider pages, and first up is the FALL DIVIDER!

Sometime outside of school, go out in nature and snap a photo of something that has FALL written all over it. We'll pick the best one and use it on the divider page! The photo should be a horizontal image and not have any people in it. It will be used as a background image. This photo can be taken on a cell phone, but if an actual camera can be used, that's best!

Once you've taken your photo, send it in via the eShare app, or www.hjeshare.com and use code tcajh (all lower case). Be sure to include the student's name as the submitter so that we can credit the selected winner. Thanks for participating!

As always, our yearbook staff would covet any photos you're willing to share with us (**especially softball, boys basketball, and things students do outside of school**)! The staff is made up of busy high school students, so we rely heavily on your contribution of photos to get the book produced! You can share photos by visiting: <https://hjeshare.com/eShare/home> Enter code: tcajh (case sensitive)

OR

Download the eShare app wherever you get your apps! Code is the same.

Since the staff is comprised of about 10 high school students, we also don't always know who is in the photos. So while we know filling in the blanks is time consuming, your time is SO appreciated when it's time to accurately identify students. Yearbook order info will be coming to your announcements in the next couple days, and early birds will get a little discount. Thanks so much for partnering with us!

REPEAT:

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday October 10th Noon-7pm

Friday October 11th 8am-11am

****Please see "From the Principal" notes above for more details****

JH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT:

It's that time of year again! The time has come for TCA Junior High to participate in a community service project for our local Hope and Home, foster care agency. We have a chance to fill decorated shoe boxes with small gifts, books, treats, and practical items for teenagers who are in the foster care system for the holiday season. We are asking each student to contribute a gift(s) to their flex class shoe box. Here are some ideas of items that you could contribute. We will be collecting these items from now until December 13th.

See attached list of ideas for our collection for care packages for Hope and Home:

[About Hope & Home - Reinventing Foster Care in Colorado \(hopeandhome.org\)](http://hopeandhome.org)

From Mr. Pollard:

If your padlock is giving you trouble, please check in with Mr. Pollard

These are some ideas of things you might fill your Team Hope Christmas Shoebox with:

WRITE



Pens/Pencils
Crayons
Paper/Copy Books
Colouring Books
Markers
Sharpeners
Erasers

WASH



Soap (wrapped)
Hairbrush
Comb
Toothbrush
Toothpaste
Facecloth

WEAR



Socks
Underwear
Flip Flops
Hat
Scarf
Gloves

WOW



Cuddly Toy
Skipping rope/Yo-yo
Sweets (in date until April next year)
Musical Instrument
Sunglasses
Toy Car
Doll
Ball

WHAT NOT TO INCLUDE:

Please do not send liquids (shampoo, bubbles), sharp objects, food/chocolate, books with lots of words, scary items (Halloween, war related, masks, toy snakes), breakables or medicines.

JR. HIGH AFTER SCHOOL LABS

After School Workshop: There are three workshops to assist students who are struggling to complete their homework or need extra support in English, mathematics, or organization. We provide free support in a workshop format with a teacher present four days a week. Please see the schedule below for the workshops available to your child each week.

In addition—the JH Library will be open Monday through Friday until 3:30pm. and all math teachers available in their classrooms until 3:20pm.

Afterschool Support Lab hours 3:05 PM - 4:00 PM

Monday

General Lab - ROOM 3329 Swiontek

Math - all math teachers available in their classrooms until 3:20

JH Library open until 3:30

Tuesday

General Lab - ROOM 3329 Swiontek

English Lab - ROOM 3308 King

Math - all math teachers available in their classrooms until 3:20

JH Library open until 3:30

Wednesday

General Lab - ROOM 3329 Swiontek

Math - all math teachers available in their classrooms until 3:20

JH Library open until 3:30

Thursday

General Lab - ROOM 3329 Swiontek

English Lab - ROOM 3316 Cai

Math - all math teachers available in their classrooms until 3:20

JH Library open until 3:30

Friday

NO WORKSHOPS

JH Library open until 3:30

Parents can call their child who is in workshop on their cell phone or call the General Workshop at 719-488-6222 to let them know that they are here to pick them up.

MONTH AT A GLANCE

October

Tuesday, October 1 -- October Count Day

Wednesday, October 2 – Casual for a Cause

Thursday, October 3 – North Campus Picture Retakes

Thursday and Friday, October 10-11 – Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences

Monday- Friday October 14-18 – Fall Break – NO STUDENTS

November

Friday, November 1 – NO STUDENTS – Teacher Inservice

November 25-November 29 – NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING BREAK

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Non-TCA Sponsored Events)

****CHECK THE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS ON THE COMMUNITY EVENTS BOARD TO SEE IF YOU ARE REGISTERED****

Here are some Reminders about the Fall Social:

You will need to register your child online by Tuesday October 1st, 2024. This is the LAST Day to register. We will not take any registrations at the door and your child will not be able to participate. There is still a big need for volunteers to put on this event. You can sign up to volunteer here:

<https://signup.com/go/BpOhCxj>

7th Grade Fall Social

***This is a Non-TCA Sponsored Event**

When: Thursday, October 10th, from 11:00am - 1:30 pm

(Teacher Inservice Day)

Check in will begin at 10:30am

Where: Main Event (Previously Summit Bowling)

[1180 Interquest Pkwy, Colorado Springs, CO 80921](#)

Cost: \$25.00 per student

(Fee includes pizza lunch, 2 hours of bowling, laser tag, & \$10 game card)

Payment/Sign-Up: <https://gofan.co/event/1690045?schoolId=CO68964>

Registration Deadline: Tickets must be purchased online by Tuesday, October 1, 2024

What to bring/wear: Students should wear their Boot Camp t-shirts and socks. All pants/shorts still need to be TCA appropriate. Please keep in mind that we will not be responsible for personal items.

*AN ADULT MUST COME IN AND CHECK YOUR STUDENT OUT TO LEAVE.

*If you need financial assistance, please email Mr. DiPretore at hdipretore@asd20.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Parent Volunteer/Chaperones are needed for this event. Please sign up through the link below:

<https://signup.com/go/BpOhCxj>

If you have questions please contact Sam Ciecalone at sciecalone@asd20.org



The Classical Academy Junior High

Support Hours:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Website: http://www.tcatitans.org/schools/junior_high

Location: [975 Stout Road, Colorado Springs, CO, USA](#)

Phone: [719-484-0091](tel:719-484-0091)



Junior High TCA

Junior is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters