

Parent
Orientation
Night



Wednesday,
February 18

Turlock Junior High School is about increasing student achievement and preparing students academically and socially in a safe environment through teacher collaboration and effectiveness.

MEET OUR TEAM



Team of School Administrators

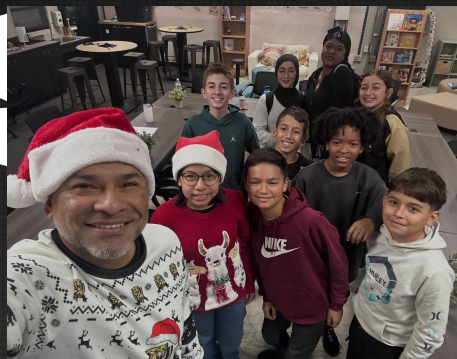


Community Liaison



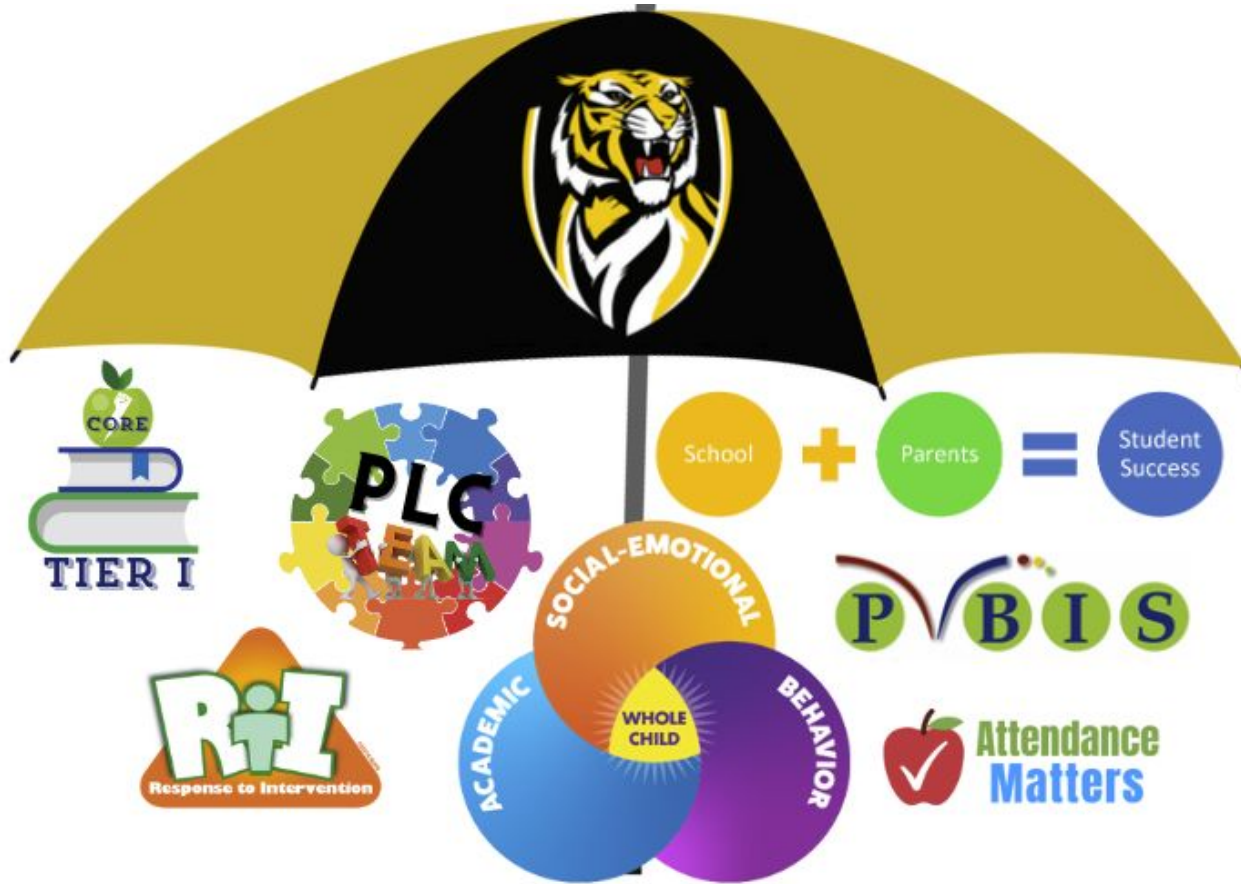
We are committed to fostering strong parent partnerships and providing comprehensive student support through open communication, inclusive family engagement, and programs that promote academic success, well-being, and a positive school culture.

OUR



Turlock Junior High School is about increasing student achievement and preparing students academically and socially in a safe environment through teacher collaboration and effectiveness.

MTSS



ALL MEANS
ALL

Turlock Junior High School is about increasing student achievement and preparing students academically and socially in a safe environment through teacher collaboration and effectiveness.

About TJHS

- *Staff committed to transitioning students to Junior High setting and preparing every scholar for High School*
- Approximately 1300 students
 - Separate lunches for 7th & 8th
- Approximately 76 certificated staff and a total of about 120 staff members.



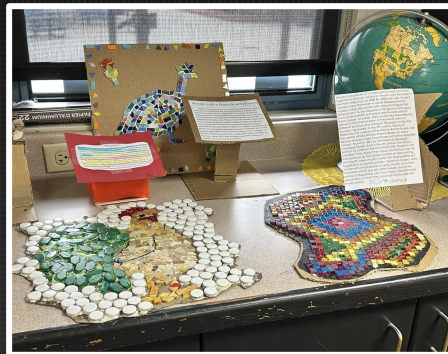
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About TJHS

Class Schedule

- ☐ English Language Arts
- ☐ Mathematics
- ☐ History
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Physical Education
- ☐ *Elective or Support Class*
- ☐ Lunch (38-minutes)

Students are enrolled in 6 classes per day
Each class period is 54 minutes



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About TJHS - School Day

- *Campus Opens - 7:45AM*
 - Zero Period starts at 7:16AM
- Breakfast – 7:45 to 8:10
- First School Bell – 8:10 AM
- School Starts – 8:15AM
 - Tardy Policy
- **7th Grade Lunch - 11:15 to 11:53**
- 8th Grade Lunch - 12:15 to 12:53
- School Day Ends - 2:50 PM
 - Wednesdays – 2:00PM



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About TJHS

Technology

- TJHS is 1:1 with student devices
- Dell 2 in 1 touchscreen chromebooks
- Students will be assigned a chromebook to take home at *Round Up*
- Students are responsible for taking the device home daily to charge and bring back to school next day
- Insurance is available and encouraged

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**SCHOOL DEVICE
COVERAGE**
Turlock Unified School District

Protect Your School Device!
Covering Damage, Loss and Theft.
Unlimited Claims, Full Transferability, with No Deductible and No Hidden Fees!



Sign Up Online Now at www.schooldevicecoverage.com Or Complete The Form Below

Get your Student Device Insurance Coverage in June or Extend your Current Insurance through June 2022 School Year

Device	Coverage	Deductible	Yearly Premium
Dell 3100 2 in 1 Touch Screen	Full Coverage*	\$0	\$29
Dell 3100 2 in 1 Touch Screen with Charger Coverage	Full Coverage*	\$0	\$40

*Does not cover accessories, unless applicable. In order to take advantage of this opportunity, coverage must be purchased within 30 days of receiving your device.
**Coverage includes known damage/losses which are present at the time of purchase.

Without this insurance you could be liable for costly repairs and the replacement cost of the device.



About TJHS - School Safety

- **SRO & Supervision Team**
- Closed secure campus
- Bell to Bell proactive supervision
- Build trusting supportive relationships → *See Something, Say Something*



Site Priority



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OUR GOAL



CULTURE &
SAFETY



PARENT
OUTREACH



ACADEMIC
PROGRESS

**SET THE CONDITIONS FOR
HIGH LEVELS OF LEARNING**

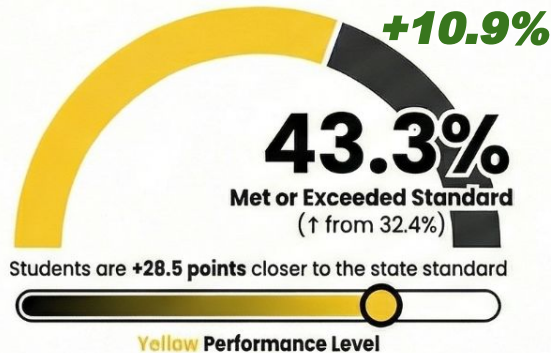


TJHS Tigers 2025 Dashboard Results

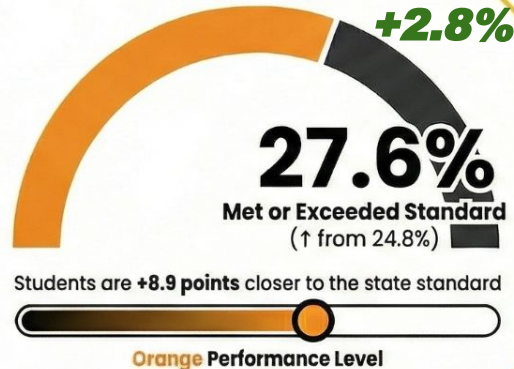
Reflecting Our Progress – Tigers on the Move

ACADEMIC & STUDENT PROGRESS

**Strong Growth in
English Language Arts**



Solid Progress in Math



Small Gains for English Learners



43% of English Learners are making progress toward proficiency

SCHOOL CLIMATE & CONDITIONS



**Safer Environment:
Suspensions Are Down**

6.6%
(↓ 1.8%)
Green Performance Level



Attendance is Still a Challenge

25.0%
Chronic Absenteeism
(↓ 0.4%)
Red Performance Level

OUR MISSION & PATH FORWARD

Celebrate Our Progress: We've made great strides in core academics and school climate.

Focus on Key Challenges: We will concentrate on attendance, English learner progress, and supporting all students.

Tiger Pride with Every Stride: Let's align our team efforts to maintain this positive momentum.

PRIDE WITH EVERY STRIDE



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Department Chairs



Susan Perry, **ELA 7**

Laura Bates, **ELA 8**

Tanya Rock, **Math**

Jenae Worsham, **Science**

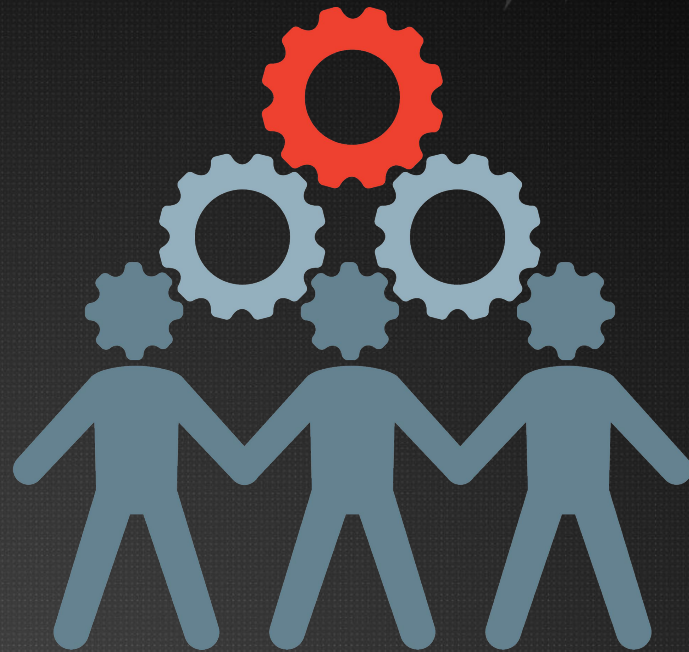
Kayla Amador, **History**

Verek Visaraga, **PE**

Bob Thomas, **Electives**

Elizabeth Slatton, **Special Education**

Diana Aldama & Alejandra Ramirez, **Counselors**



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Academic Opportunities



- STEM Pathway- based on lottery. Must apply. Must meet eligibility criteria.
- GATE/Honors English Language Arts
- Mathematics
 - Math 7- General Math
 - Math 7e- Enrichment Math- *Based on SBAC scores and/or iReady*
- Opportunity for 0 period (7:16 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.)
 - This allows students to take 2 electives
 - Link will open tonight
 - First come-first serve

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Supports at TJHS





TIGER SPOTLIGHT Tier II Team



Our Tier 2 MTSS Team meets weekly to review schoolwide and individual student data, developing targeted action steps to support student academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs.

Intervention Team



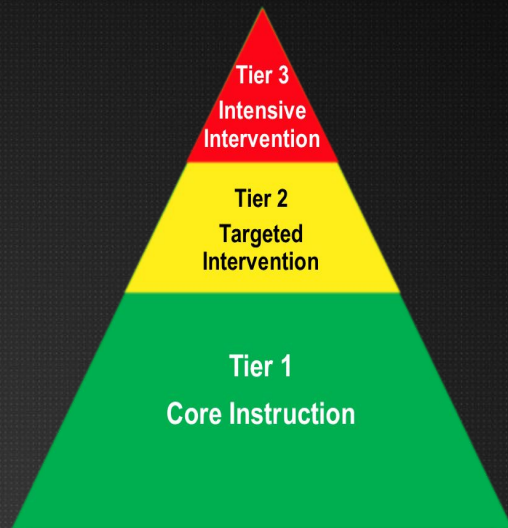
GOLD LEVEL PBIS TEAM





THANK YOU "PBIS TIGER PRIDE TEAM" FOR YOUR ONGOING DEDICATION TO OUR TJHS STUDENTS AND TO CREATING AND MAINTAINING A POSITIVE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT FOR EVERY STUDENT.

Gold Level PBIS Team



Fluid MTSS

Turlock Junior High School is about increasing student achievement and preparing students academically and socially in a safe environment through teacher collaboration and effectiveness.

Electives at TJHS

TJHS offers a variety of engaging electives designed to enrich student's learning experiences and explore their interests. These courses provide hands-on opportunities in academics, arts, technology, and leadership, helping students develop valuable skills for high school and beyond.

School Year
2026-2027

TJHS ELECTIVES



TJHS is proud to offer a wide range of elective options for students. Listed below are general outlines for the courses that are offered. Course offerings, scheduling, curriculum, and scheduling are subject to change.

YEAR-LONG ELECTIVE OPTIONS

ART

This course introduces students to various art mediums and techniques while exploring the elements of art and principles of design. Through hands-on projects and art history connections, students develop a strong foundation and appreciation for their work using materials like pencils, colored pencils, and watercolors.

Drama

This course introduces students to theater fundamentals, including history, terminology, improv, and scene work. Students build confidence performing monologues and group scenes while developing acting skills. Emphasizing creativity and collaboration, the course culminates in a full play production, providing hands-on stage performance experience.

Intro to Photo

This course introduces photography basics, including composition, lighting, and camera functions. Students explore creative techniques, digital editing, and visual storytelling while capturing compelling images. Through hands-on projects and critiques, they develop technical skills, artistic expression, and an understanding of photography as a visual art.

Food & Nutrition

In this course, students learn basic food preparation through written and lab assignments. Key topics include nutrition, kitchen safety, tool use, measuring, and reading recipes. Students apply their skills by preparing various dishes using the stove, oven, and microwave.

Heritage Spanish

Spanish for Heritage Speakers is designed to develop the language and literacy skills of Heritage Learners—those students who speak and understand Spanish in the home with some fluency and have some or limited skills in reading and writing Spanish.

Media Arts

This course introduces students to digital media creation, including graphic design, photography, video production, and basic animation. Students explore storytelling, editing, and visual communication through hands-on projects. Emphasizing creativity and technical skills, the course provides a foundation for media production and digital expression.

STEM Shop

This course introduces wood and metal construction, focusing on drafting, tool use, measuring, and shop safety. Students create and follow project plans while developing essential skills. Competency is tested in safety and tool use.

WEB Leadership

WEB Leadership II is a yearlong elective for 8th graders that uses the Boomerang Project's curriculum to develop confident, service-minded leaders. Following a selective application process, students receive training in empathy, communication, and peer support to foster a diverse and inclusive school culture. As official WEB Leaders, they mentor 7th graders and lead campus activities that strengthen student engagement and community connection.

Yearbook

This course is for students who enjoy writing, photography, and creating the school yearbook. Students must be motivated, dependable, and willing to participate in school activities. Responsibilities include photography, interviewing, editing, and advertising. Participation requires teacher approval, a signed contract, and taking photos during lunch or after school.

For full details, review our TJHS Course Directory (available on our website)

Elective Options



Art

Drama

Foods

Heritage Spanish (8th)

Intro to Photography

Media Arts

Yearbook

WEB Leadership (8th)

Woodshop

Music Options

Beginner Guitar

Choir

Concert Band/Jazz

Band/Symphonic Band

Mariachi*

Orchestra

Two-year program:

STEM Pathway
(drawing – must meet criteria)

STEM Hybrid
(elective only)

Spanish 1 & 2

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Getting Ready for the New Year



- Students will create a **STUDENT AERIES** account at school.
- Students will choose electives in AERIES the week of March 30th-April 2nd at school.
- If you are a **current TUSD 6th Grade student**, you will automatically roll over to TJHS or Dutcher (if you are selected in their lottery.)
NO ONLINE ENROLLMENT NEEDED.



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Additional Supports at TJHS



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Additional Supports at TJHS



- **4 Counselors for students to address academic and social needs**
- **Site Based Mental Health Counseling Services**
- **Campus Supervisors/Crossing Guards/Paraprofessionals**
- **Community Liaison: Mary Olvera**
- **Jessica's House partnership**
- **ASES- After School Program through City of Turlock**
- **CSUS Partnerships- i.e. Mentors**
- **Health tech and LVN on campus daily; nurse throughout week**
- **Various Clubs- both after school and at lunch**

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A Message from our Athletic Director *Todd Feldman*

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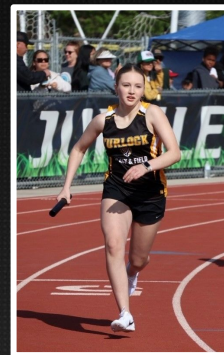
Athletics

Fall - Soccer, Girls Volleyball

Winter - Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Wrestling

Spring - Track and Field, Girls Softball, Boys Volleyball

Our PE department offers intramural sports during lunch time throughout the year.



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Other Athletic Information



- All students need a **current physical** (within one year of date) on file with the school in order to try out and participate
- Student Eligibility requirements for sports participation
- We offer A and B sports in Girl's Volleyball and Boys' Basketball to accommodate our large numbers of students to provide as many an opportunity for success

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Involvement Opportunities



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Clubs

Clubs held either at lunch or after school- Varies by club



- **CJSF-California Junior Scholarship Foundation**
- Ag-Farm Club
- Woodshop Club
- Tiger Pride-Intramural Sports
- Math Club
- **Where Everybody Belongs**
(WEB)

- Art Club
- STEM Club
- Peacekeepers
- **National History Day**
- Peace Ambassadors
- PHAST JV.
- Mariachi Club
- Crochet Club



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Cubs-flyer on parent info. table



TJHS CLUBS 2025-2026

AG

Club's Purpose: Manages the TJHS School Garden, learn about agriculture and agriculture related topics, also work with the TUSD school farm and High School FFA Programs.

Who can join: 7th and 8th grade students interested in Agriculture.

Meeting times, days and location: Twice per month after school on Tuesdays or Thursdays

Advisor: Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Ferretti

ART

Club's Purpose: Art club is for students who love to create art.

Who can join: Be a TJHS student who loves to create Art.

Meeting times, days and location: 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 2:50-3:50 PM.

Advisor: Ms. Vallejos

ASB/TIGER PRIDE

Club's Purpose: Provide knowledge and experience for students interested in decision making regarding school activities.

Who can join: Elected 8th Grade Officers & Representatives, and elected 7th Grade Representatives.

Meeting times, days and location: 1st & 3rd Tuesday during lunch in room D103.

Advisor: Mrs. Baker

BAND

Club's Purpose: Provide knowledge and experience for students interested in performing instrumental music.

Who can join: TJHS Students

Meeting times, days and location: During periods 6-5th, daily in room M102.

Advisor: Mrs. Speckman

BASKETBALL

Club's Purpose: Students will learn the basic fundamentals of basketball and will learn how to set up the gym for home games.

Who can join: 8th graders for now, 7th grade info will come later

Meeting times, days and location: 1800 some lunches and after school

Advisor: Mr. Sandhwa

BOOK

Club's Purpose: Students will be able to read and discuss their favorite books.

Who can join: 7th grade students

Meeting times, days and location: Fridays during 7th grade lunch

Advisor: Ms. Washington

CHESS

Club's Purpose: The club's purpose is to create a community where students can learn and play chess.

Who can join: 8th graders.

Meeting times, days and location: Wednesday during 8th grade lunch in room D107

Advisor: Mr. Ramirez

CHICKEN

Club's Purpose: Students will learn about how to raise and show chickens.

Who can join: 7th graders.

Meeting times, days and location: 1st and 3rd Tuesday during 7th grade lunch.

Advisor: Ms. Kenney

CHOIR

Club's Purpose: Provide knowledge and experience for students interested in musicianship, vocal singing and vocal performance.

Who can join: Students in 6th period Choir Class.

Meeting times, days and location: During 1st period in room M103.

Advisor: Mr. Stillman

CJSP

Club's Purpose: Recognizes and encourages academic achievement and community service in middle school.

Who can join: 8th grade students

Meeting times, days and location: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays during 8th grade lunch, one Friday after school

Advisor: Mrs. LeBerson

CREATIVE WRITING & READING

Club's Purpose: Love writing and/or reading? Love discussing the shows and movies you watch? Come join us. We will be reading books of your choice, discussing the latest shows/movies you watch, and writing creatively together.

Who can join: 8th grade TJHS Students

Meeting times, days and location: Tuesdays during 8th grade lunch

Advisor: Mrs. LeBerson

CROCHETING

Club's Purpose: To learn how to make blankets, and other items.

Who can join: 7th grade TJHS Students

Meeting times, days and location: Every Wednesday during 7th grade lunch in D108.

Advisor: Ms. Kenney

DRAMA

Club's Purpose: A club to celebrate everything drama and theater related, and act, sing, and dance with your friends.

Who can join: 8th grade TJHS Students

Meeting times, days and location: Every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the Month, 8th Grade lunch, D105

Advisor: Ms. Bates

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

Club's Purpose: Students come together to play Dungeons and Dragons

Who can join: 8th grade TJHS Students

Meeting times, days and location: Fridays during 8th grade lunch

Advisor: Ms. DePriest

FIRST PRIORITY CLUB

Club's Purpose: This is a student run club with a place to discuss spiritual faith on the HOPE cycle.

Who can join: Anyone 7th and 8th graders

Meeting times, days and location: Thursdays during lunches

Advisor: Mrs. Wornham & Mr. Erickson

TJHS CLUBS 2025-2026

MARIACHI LOS TIGRES

Club's Purpose: The club's purpose is to gain an appreciation for multicultural music and to play traditional mariachi styles using your instruments (for voice).

Who can join: Anyone with experience on the instruments needed: voice, violin, viola, string bass, guitar, trumpet, trombone, tuba, clarinet, fluke, whisks, guatem.

Meeting times, days and location: Tuesdays, 3:00-3:20

Advisor: Mrs. Machado and Mrs. Speckman

ORCHESTRA

Club's Purpose: For Orchestra students to discuss our music, concerts, budget, fundraising, Spring Trip and current events.

Who can join: 8th grade students who meet eligibility requirements

Meeting times, days and location: Everyday during 5th/6th period in room M102.

Advisor: Mrs. Machado

PEACE AMBASSADORS

Club's Purpose: As part of SAIVI Promise Clubs, Peace Ambassadors will help create a positive school climate. Students will help plan and manage lunchtime games and activities. Peace Ambassadors will also help welcome new students to our school.

Who can join: 8th grade students who meet eligibility requirements

Meeting times, days and location: 1st & 3rd Mondays during lunchtime in room C106.

Advisors: Mrs. Ortega Ramos

PEACE KEEPERS

Club's Purpose: Peace Keepers will help welcome new students to our school. As part of the SAIVI Promise Clubs, Peace Keepers will also work to create a positive school climate by helping with lunchtime games and activities.

Who can join: 7th grade students who meet eligibility requirements

Meeting times, days and location: 1st & 3rd Mondays during lunchtime in room A103

Advisor: Ms. Ramirez

PHAST JV

Club's Purpose: The PHAST JV Youth Council is dedicated to fostering greater public awareness of the dangers of tobacco use while also providing an opportunity for members to participate in school and community activities designed to promote healthy lifestyles.

Who can join: TJHS students who wish to learn about tobacco awareness and prevention.

Meeting times, days and location: 2nd & 4th Mondays during lunchtime, occasional Tuesday

Advisor: Mr. Villapackula

SPORTS

Club's Purpose: Provide knowledge and experience for students interested in participating in inter-school athletics.

Who can join: Be a TJHS student and meet eligibility requirements

Meeting times, days and location: varies by sports.

Advisor: Mr. Feldman

STEM

Club's Purpose: Social interaction for students who are interested in STEM and opportunities to interview STEM professionals.

Who can join: Be an 8th grader.

Meeting times, days and location: Friday 12:14 - 12:52 in 503

Advisor: Mrs. Creighton

TIGERS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Club's Purpose: Students will learn how to conduct historical research and create a display for the Stanislaus County National History Day.

Who can join: 7th and 8th graders with history teacher and parent approval.

Meeting times, days and location: Tuesdays after school 3-4PM

Advisors: Mr. Ramirez

TIGER CUBS INTRAMURAL SPORTS

Club's Purpose: Club Members will assist with organizing, score keeping, referee for other students to be able to participate in lunchtime sports.

Who can join: 7th grade Students who meet the eligibility requirement and referred by their teacher will be our Lunchtime Sports Leaders; other students who pay Tiger Bucks may be eligible to play sports.

Meeting times, days and location: Tuesdays & Thursdays during lunch. Thursdays on the field or gym during lunchtime

Advisor: Mr. Pats & Ms. Whinnepoth

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Meeting times, days and location: Tuesdays & Thursdays during lunch. Thursdays on the field or gym during lunchtime

Advisor: Mr. Pats & Ms. Whinnepoth

TURNING PAGES

Club's Purpose: Student will have an opportunity to read and learn, discussing, learn about photography and create the School's yearbook.

Who can join: Students in ELD 2, ELA and ELA Support

Meeting times, days and location: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays during lunchtime

Advisor: Mrs. Aldama

YEARBOOK

Club's Purpose: To learn about photography and create the School's yearbook.

Who can join: Students who are enrolled in yearbook class.

Meeting times, days and location: Everyday during 2nd period in room B204

Advisor: Mrs. Baker

Example of Activities

- ASB-Student Government
- Spirit Weeks
 - RRW, Unity Day, Kindness Week, See Something-Say Something, College Day, Go Green Week, Career Day
- Lunch Time Activities/Music
- Intramural Sports/Open Gym
- Various assemblies/Rallies
- Dances
- Tiger Vision Live
- District Music Festival-FOG
- *and much more!*



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Celebrating Student Success



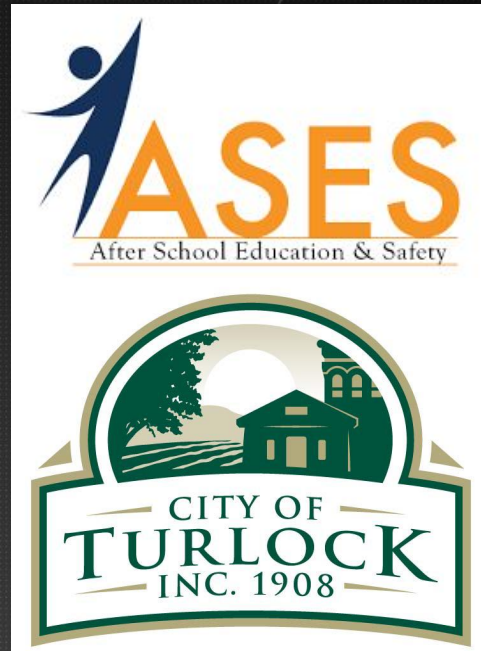
- Tiger Bucks
 - Fun Friday Tiger Buck Drawings, Student Store, Intramural Sports, Monthly Incentive Reward Days
- Rotary Student of the Month
- Honor Roll Recognition
- Perfect Attendance Awards & Campaigns
- iReady Incentives and Certificates
- End of the Year Awards (7th & 8th Grade)

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After School Programs



- **Through City of Turlock** (Limited space, typically 140 spots)
- **Monday – Friday after school until 6:00 p.m.**
 - Required attendance daily for at least 1 hour to maintain spot
- **Academic support available from credentialed teachers**
- **Homework time**
- **Enrichment activities and/or sports**
- **4:30 p.m. late bus for eligible bus riders**
- **Register through City of Turlock- Parks and Recreation**



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Reminder: Immunization



- Be sure to get your 6th grader's TDAP (7th grade immunization) *before August*
 - Your child will not be able to start school without it.
 - Either turn it in to your current school or bring it to the TJHS office



TDAP is required for 7th Grade

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STEM PATHWAY AT TJHS



SCIENCE



TECHNOLOGY



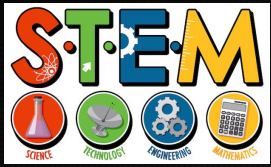
ENGINEERING



MATHEMATICS



Turlock Junior High School is about increasing student achievement and preparing students academically and socially in a safe environment through teacher collaboration and effectiveness.



What is a **STEM** Pathway?



A learning experience that...

- Combines **Science**, **Technology**, **Engineering**, and **Math** with real-world applications
- Integrates **STEM** into all CORE subjects: English Language Arts, Math, Science, History, & Electives
- Builds foundational skills for college and **STEM** related careers through collaboration, problem-solving, and critical thinking

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STEM Pathway criteria



Criteria: Students must meet at least two of the following:

- **Academic Performance in Core Subjects**

- Students earn at least a 2 overall in all core areas (Math, Science, Reading, Writing and Social Studies) on their 6th-grade trimester 2 report card.

OR

- **iReady Assessment Scores from Diagnostic #2**

- Students must meet grade-level scale scores in both ELA and Math, defined as:
 - ELA: Early 6th grade and above (minimum scale score of 598) AND
 - Math: Early 6th grade and above (minimum scale score of 495)

OR

- **CAASPP Scores from 5th Grade Year**

- Students must achieve Standard Met or higher on the CAASPP assessments in both:
 - ELA: Standard Met or Exceeded AND
 - Math: Standard Met or Exceeded

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STEM Application Process



2/18/26

**STEM
Application
Opens**

2/27/26

**STEM
Application
Closes
DUE by 4pm***

**STEM Pathway
criteria
reviewed &
parent
notification of
lottery
qualification**

3/11/26

**STEM
Lottery
Night
6pm****

3/20/26

**STEM
acceptance
contract
Due by 4pm**

*No late applications will be accepted

**Do not need to be present. Acceptance and waitlist letters will be mailed out. 125 spaces. All others waitlisted.

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Next Steps

- Fill out the Google Form for STEM Pathway Lottery Application by 4pm on 2/27/2026
- *Make sure immunizations are up to date*
- Option to attend Lottery Night on March 11
- Recommended to attend TJHS Open House on April 1 at 5:30pm
- If your child is selected in the STEM Lottery, parents will be asked to attend a STEM Commitment Night, Thursday, April 30th 5:30 pm
- Attend 7th grade Round Up on August 4th to pick up schedule, tour campus, get supplies



THANK YOU

