

# Talawanda Middle School

*4030 Oxford-Reily Road -- 513.273.3300*

February 1, 2010

Welcome to the shortest month of the year that can sometimes feel like the longest month of the year! I am sure many of you are hoping Punxsutawney Phil doesn't see his shadow so there will be an early spring. We have many events happening at TMS this month.

We have nearly 100 students participating in our ENCORE! program after school on Tuesdays. We are partnering with Miami University's School of Engineering to provide extension activities for 20 eighth grade girls who have expressed an interest in furthering their math and science skills. Look for more information, highlighting their outstanding projects!

Our second quarter Straight A breakfast is Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:45AM. Dr. Phil Cagwin, our superintendent, will be the featured speaker and will share information about the new high school. We have over 80 students who earned straight A's this quarter. We look forward to celebrating their successes.

Student Council will sponsor a Valentine's dance on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 2:45PM-4:15PM. Tickets go on sale the week of February 8<sup>th</sup> for \$3. All students are encouraged to attend!

The eighth graders will be visiting Butler Tech on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> (Miami) and Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> (Shawnee). The purpose of the trip is to learn about the career and training options available at Butler Tech as well as to begin to explore interests as they prepare for high school course registration.

We have a sixth grade Chorus concert on Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7PM. Come and hear our large sixth grade Chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Larissa Smith, share their talents.

There is no school on Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> in observance of President's Day.

As you can see, we have many great things happening at TMS. We appreciate your support of our students! Look for information in early March about student-led conferences which will be held before spring break. Enjoy the last month of winter!

Dee Lancaster  
Principal



## Glen Helen Outdoor Education Program

Excitement is building as the sixth grade Glen Helen trip rapidly approaches. The Ottawa Tribe will be attending Glen Helen Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> thru Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. The Mingo Tribe will attend from Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> thru Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendars for pick up on the appropriate Friday at 2 p.m. Students will be released from the bus to you for pickup and do not need to enter the school building.

A packet of information will be coming home with all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students soon. Please read the packet thoroughly and complete the necessary paperwork. Papers should be turned in as early as possible. No applications to attend will be accepted after Monday, Feb. 22 (Ottawa) or Monday, March 1 (Mingo). Keep the packet in a safe place.

An orientation meeting will be held **Thursday, Feb. 11 at 6:30** in the TMS cafeteria. The meeting will feature a slide show of Glen Helen, background information, packing tips, and a question/answer session.

The total cost of the Glen Helen program is \$140 per student. If your child participated in our fall fundraiser, brought in donations during the fundraiser, or sold pies their individual cost has been reduced. You'll find the total amount due included with the Glen Helen packet. In the past, Glen Helen's transportation costs have been paid by the school district. This year we did not receive this support, which necessitated creative fund raising by the 6<sup>th</sup> grade staff to preserve the Glen Helen tradition. All of this expense is being paid for by individual donations and grants. We are optimistic that this funding will be reinstated in the future but would appreciate your support in keeping Glen Helen Outdoor Education a part of our 6<sup>th</sup> grade program! Monetary donations may be made at TMS. To express program support please contact your school board members. Thank you so much to Ms. Lease and Mrs. Smith for helping us practice. Thank you to Mrs. Shahin, Mrs. Burns, and Mrs. Lancaster, along with her family, for being there to support us at the competition.



## **8th Grade Parent Orientation Meeting for Talawanda High School**

Talawanda High School will host information meetings for parents of current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. The morning session on Wednesday February 3 will begin at 9:00 a.m. (general session) and 10:00 a.m. (honors session) in the Talawanda High School auditoria. On Thursday February 4, the evening session will be held in the Talawanda High School auditoria at 7:00 p.m. (general session) and 8:00 p.m. (honors session).

Parents are asked to attend one of these very important meetings. During the general session scheduling guides, registration forms and information about course offerings will be passed out and discussed. Parents interested in remaining for the honors session will receive information about the honors program in English, science, social studies and math.

Any parent whose student is currently attending private schools in the Oxford-Hamilton area and is thinking of having their student attend Talawanda High School as a freshman in the fall of 2010 is urged to attend one of these meetings.

Questions should be directed to the Talawanda High School Guidance Office by calling 273-3218.



## HCC Corner

### ***“Healthy Learners are Better Learners”***

We have all heard the saying that “breakfast is the most important meal of the day.” In reality, there is a lot of truth to this statement. Not only does it provide nutrients to refuel the body after resting all night, but numerous studies have recently been conducted that connect eating breakfast to academic performance. According to the Dairy Council of California, eating breakfast can provide the following benefits for students:

- ∞ Improved attention
- ∞ Better working memory
- ∞ Less errors in problem solving activities
- ∞ Improved concentration

(Source: <http://www.dairycouncilofca.org/Educators/ClassroomPrograms/ProgramsBHMBreakfast.aspx>)

We learned from a recent survey conducted at Talawanda Middle School that by 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> period, several students begin feeling sluggish, tired, and hungry if they have not had breakfast that morning. Several others shared comments such as being “more awake and focused in class”, “not complaining of stomach aches”, and the specific comment was made that “I feel better about myself” when students eat a morning meal. In order for students to be at their best, eating breakfast makes a difference!

Some students prefer to eat at home, while others take advantage of the school breakfast program. All schools offer breakfast for students for \$1.00, \$.30 for reduced, and those who qualify for free lunches can receive breakfast at no cost. No matter where your student eats breakfast, the most important thing is that they do. Eating a nutritious, well-balanced breakfast can start off a child’s day in a positive way!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amy Macechko, Health & Wellness Coordinator, at 513.273.3390 or at [macechkoa@talawanda.org](mailto:macechkoa@talawanda.org).

TMS FEBRUARY 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7 BREAKFAST AVAILABLE DAILY AT 7:00 A.M. BAGEL, CEREAL OR BREAD ITEM JUICE MILK	1 HOT HAM/CHEESE SANDWICH SWEET POTATOES CELERY FRUIT/MILK	2 CINNATI CHILI SPAGHETTI SALAD BREADSTICKS FRUIT MILK	3 FRENCH TOAST EGGS JUICE FRUIT MILK	4 BARBEQUE SANDWICH BAKED BEANS FRUIT MILK	5 CHICKEN PATTY SANDWICH CORN FRUIT MILK	6 SALAD BAR, PIZZA AND CHEESEBURGERS AVAILABLE DAILY
8 BISCUIT/GRAVY EGGS TATER TOTS JUICE FRUIT/MILK	9 SPAGHETTI MEAT SAUCE SALAD BREADSTICKS FRUIT/MILK	10 SUB SANDWICH CARROTS FRUIT MILK	11 ROAST BEEF GREEN BEANS MASHED POTATO ROLL FRUIT/MILK	12 MINI CORN DOG BAKED BEANS SOFT PRETZEL FRUIT MILK	13	
14	15 NO SCHOOL	16 RIBEQUE SANDWICH MIXED VEGETABL FRUIT MILK	17 GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH TOMATOE SOUP PICKLES FRUIT/MILK	18 TACO'S REFRIED BEANS MEXICAN RICE FRUIT MILK	19 FISH SANDWICH MAC/CHEESE FRUIT MILK	20
21	22 CHICKEN NUGGET CARROTS ROLL FRUIT MILK	23 ROTINI MEAT SAUCE SALAD BREADSTICK FRUIT/MILK	24 SLOPPY JOE SANDWICH AU GRATIN POTATOES FRUIT/MILK	25 MEAT LOAF GREEN BEANS MASHED POTATO ROLL FRUIT/MILK	26 NACHO'S REFRIED BEANS FRUIT MILK	27
28						

# Using Your Head While Searching the Web Talawanda District Library Media Centers February 2010

## INTERNET TIP:

The web site listed below just came to my attention. It is a resourceful website primarily for parents from Common Sense Media. There are times when we are too cavalier about our children/students getting online. Teachers tell students to just google their topic, parents aren't paying attention to where their child gets information from or what sites s/he gets on for "research". There is a lot of helpful information and advice for parents, teachers, and librarians on this site that can make us think, such as:

Even if you're clueless, you're still your kid's teacher.

Our kids learn from us -- not from what we say, but from what we do.

Good, safe online behavior begins at home.

## WEB SITES:

Unfortunately, the web site address is lengthy. If you prefer, you can search for it by typing "Managing Kids' Search Queries" in your browser.

### **Managing Kids' Search Queries: What Parents Need to Know**

[http://www.commonsensemedia.org/managing-kids-search-queries-what-parents-need-know?utm\\_source=newsletter01.14.10&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=feature2](http://www.commonsensemedia.org/managing-kids-search-queries-what-parents-need-know?utm_source=newsletter01.14.10&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=feature2)

Don't lose your head - use it - to research wisely on the web!!

Carol Morison

THS Library Media Specialist

TCS District Media Center Coordinator

National Board Certified Librarian

[morisonc@talawanda.org](mailto:morisonc@talawanda.org)

273-3262