

Tucker Tiger Tidbits

Battling With Your Teen's Smartphone

You can use your student's smartphone powers for good. It's not as difficult as you might think.

I would not be surprised if a number of you wish you could make your child's cell phone disappear, to have an uninterrupted conversation with them. What if your kids could use their phones to benefit academically and they could use them for more than listening to music, texting, posting pictures or talking to their friends?

You can engage with your students at home or even in your car while they use their cell phones. It is easier than you think. Can you imagine listening, learning and having engaging conversations regularly with your child while she or he is actively on the cell phone?

How is this possible? It starts with changing your child's media diet, parent engagement and baby steps. To build new habits you will need to incorporate an edifying media menu. Once you have successfully altered your students' media diet, you will see an increase in their critical thinking skills, their global awareness, and you will see an increase in their recreational reading as well.

THS Parent Center is sharing the details on how to achieve this feat at their "**Literacy Lap**" event on **February 23 at 9:00 AM**. Join us for a full and hot breakfast buffet. This is a FREE opportunity to help your student to be media literate in 2019 and beyond. Watch them grow academically, socially, orally, and critically.

1

BATTLING YOUR TEENS SMARTPHONE

Using its powers for good.

2

EDGENUITY

Students can recover lost credits and graduate on time!

3

LITERACY LAP

A FREE breakfast event for Parents dedicated to developing voracious readers

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10 Facts About School Attendance*

1. Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half the students who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school.
2. Over 7 million (1 in 7) U.S. students miss nearly a month of school each year.
3. Absenteeism and its ill effects start early. One in 10 kindergarten and first grade students are chronically absent.
4. Poor attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by the end of third grade or be held back.
5. By 6th grade, chronic absence becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school.
6. Research shows that missing 10 percent of the school, or about 18 days in most school districts, negatively affects a student's academic performance. Although it is just two days a month it is known as chronic absence.
7. Students who live in communities with high levels of poverty are four times more likely to be chronically absent than others often for reasons beyond their control, such as unstable housing, unreliable transportation and a lack of access to health care.
8. When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating.
9. Attendance improves when schools engage students and parents in positive ways and when schools provide mentors for chronically absent students
10. Many school districts and states don't look at all the right data to improve school attendance. They track how many students show up every day and how many are skipping school without an excuse, but not how many are missing so many days in excused and unexcused absence that they are headed off track academically.



This information is on the website attendanceworks.org* to learn more go to www.attendanceworks.org/chronic-absence/the-problem/10-facts-about-school-attendance/

“...two days a month and that’s known as chronic absence.”

Edgenuity Courseware for Credit Recovery

Tucker High uses Edgenuity courseware to help students recover lost credits to graduate on time. Students who previously failed a class benefit from this self-paced learning and spend more time on what they need and less time on content they've already mastered.

Before each lesson, students take a pretest to assess mastery of the content. If students meet the district's passing threshold, they can place out of the content.

All content will be revisited on cumulative exams, for additional checks for mastery.

Real-time reports identify students who are falling behind or not mastering material, allowing educators to intervene quickly and get students back on track. For more information, contact your student's counselor.



*<https://www.edgenuity.com>

Tucker High's Best of the Best



Roberta "Robbie" Barber, Tucker High Schools Media Specialist, was recently honored for DeKalb County Schools District's Library Media Specialist of the Year! Ms. Barber has done an amazing job transforming Tucker's Media

Center into an inviting multi media space that welcomes all. Like any true educator, Mrs. Barber is always teaching students and staff alike.

Ms. Barber will represent DCSD in the Metro Regional Competition in the Spring. The State winner will be selected from among the district winners and be announced at the Annual State Library Conference.



Coach James Hartry has the distinct honor of receiving the DCSD 2019 Coach of the Year award. He is the THS Boys Varsity Basketball Head Coach. The team is competing in the 2019 GHSA State Basketball Tournament. Hartry has been a final four contestant five times, winning the 2007 state championship. Coach Hartry is not just a factor on the hardwoods, he has influenced the lives of countless students off the court as well.

Literacy is More Than Reading

Engage your student and help them reach the highest levels of literacy, with a 2019 style

Technology is changing what it means to be literate. Literacy now includes skills beyond reading books and writing with pen and paper. Students today must be able to navigate the online space for information and opportunities. Join us for breakfast and get strategies, tips, free technology info, fun, prizes, FREE books and more! Take a Literacy Lap around the track at Tucker High School after breakfast in commitment to increasing student literacy at Tucker High School and Middle School! Sign-up with the below link:

[#LiteracyLapSignUp](#)

TUCKER HIGH SCHOOL PARENT CENTER - REGION II EVENT

**LITERACY
LAP
RUN/WALK**

FREE BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

STARTS AT 9 AM

**Take a lap around
the buffet and a lap
around the track**

Literacy is **MORE**
than reading it's :

- Reading
- Writing
- Language
- Speaking
- Listening

Literate students:

- Think critically
about the world
around them.
- Effectively
communicate
their ideas.

What's your student's
Media Diet?
Learn new school tech &
innovative ways to
increase literacy



BREAKFAST IN THE TUCKER HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Sign up on Tucker High School's Website
<http://tuckerhs.dekalb.k12.ga.us>



Graduation Announcement Workshops

The Parent Center hosted two "Graduation Announcement Workshops" on February 5 with several more to come!



Parents can learn and improve upon their computer, graphic design and document editing skills. This event is a win-win! Parents take away tools to assist students on electronic/digital projects at home, and each parent is gifted with a set of color printed announcements for their future graduates. Two workshops are held each Tuesday for the month of February. If you are interested in attending, please email: Lisa_Humphrey@dekalbschools.ga.org



This is the last month to complete your survey!

Parents don't miss your opportunity to give feedback.

Tucker's survey is about many areas of the school and its operation. The results of these surveys help us make important decisions and frame our school improvement initiatives. Your input is vital to our continued growth and success! You are invited and encouraged to give us feedback by clicking on and participating in the following survey:

<http://gshs.gadoe.org/parents>



Dekalb County Schools High School Testing Dates

Jan. 14 - 18, 2019	Georgia Milestone End-of-Course (EOC) Mid-Month
Jan. 16 - Mar. 8, 2019	ACCESS for English Language Learners (ELLs)
Jan. 16 - Mar. 8, 2019	Alternate ACCESS for English Language Learners (ELLs)
Jan. 28 - Mar. 9, 2019	National Assessment of Educational Progress
Feb. 11 - 15, 2019	Georgia Milestone End-of-Course (EOC) Mid-Month
Mar. 18 - 22, 2019	Georgia Milestone End-of-Course (EOC) Mid-Month
Apr. 9 - 20, 2019	CTAE End of Pathway Exams
Apr. 23 - May 1, 2019	Georgia Milestone End-of Course (EOC) Spring Main
Apr. 17 - May. 23, 2019	MAP Assessment (Spring Universal Screener)
May 2 - May 24, 2019	International Baccalaureate (IB) Exams
May 6 - 17, 2019	Advanced Placement (AP) Exams
Jun. 24 - 27, 2019	Georgia Milestone End-of-Course (EOC) Summer Main



Every month we will give Kudos to a few of our awesome parents who give of their talents and time to Tucker High School. We want to put a spotlight on what you do to make Tucker one of the best schools in Dekalb County!

If you are aware of a parent who has been caught being GREAT, please send an email to lisa_humphrey@dekalbschoolsga.org

A special thanks to this month's Parent Volunteers! The following parents participated in our Parent Focus Group for Tucker High School's New Mentor Program. A special thanks to all of you for your time and input!

Cassandra Brooks

Stephen Clemons

Joe Duthie

Rhoda Duthie

Nona Guilford

Anne Thomas

Change the Narrative!

If you have a positive word to share about our students, faculty and/or staff, I dare you to tell me something good!

Send your good notes to your Parent Liaison, Lisa Humphrey at:

lisa_humphrey@dekalbschoolsga.org

CAUGHT! Teaching Something Good

Dr. Angela Jackson,

one of our THS

Assistant Principals who

is over Attendance and

Science also holds a

degree in Physics. Dr.

Jackson was caught

teaching a student who

was sent to her office

after being a little

disruptive. There will be

no missing instructional

time in her office!

Instruction is priority

number one and she will not hesitate to slap a flip chart on the wall and teach students!





CAUGHT! Taking Part in Something Good

Sean Hanford was selected as one of 100 high school students out of 10,000 nationwide to take part in the Disney Dreamers Academy! As an honoree, Hanford will take part in a four-day trip to the Walt Disney World

Resort in Orlando, Fla., in late March 2019. While there, he will have the opportunity to network with some of the country's top business leaders; hear from inspirational speakers; and take part in a wide array of career-oriented activities, including animation, journalism, zoology, entrepreneurship, culinary arts, and more. "It feels amazing; the opportunity to be selected out of 10,000 people is a really big deal," Hanford said. To read the entire story about Sean's accomplishment please go to the following website:

<https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/students/tucker-high-student-is-disney-dreamer/>

CAUGHT! Reading Something Good

Please congratulate the THS Reading Bowl Team who won Metro Regionals and moved on to Divisional competition! The Georgia Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl (HRRB) is open to students across Georgia in grades 4-12. Elementary and middle school students read and are quizzed on the 20 Georgia Book Award Nominees, while high school students read and are quizzed on the 20 Georgia Peach Teen Book Award Nominees. The reading bowl was named for a Helen Ruffin a retired, Library Media Specialist at Sky Haven Elementary School in DeKalb County.

CAUGHT! Writing Something Good

Student fueled and student led, The Collage Magazine is a must read! Ms.

Genevieve

Johnson the

Collage sponsor prides herself on allowing students to express themselves creatively on a variety of different topics from fashion

to fascism. She inspires her students to think

critically about the stories they put out to the world. The students efforts are to be commended for their dedication and extraordinary work .

Collage promises to be engaging, entertaining and informative. In addition to the monthly issue, students also publish an annual anthology of student submissions by a variety of authors. You will love it so much you will want to subscribe.

Visit their website at: <https://thscollage.weebly.com>

