Tallmadge Curriculum

TALLMADGE CITY SCHOOLS
DIRECTIONAL SYSTEM

OUR MANTRA
Empower - Everyone, Everyday

OUR VISION
Tallmadge is a collaborative community that empowers every student.

OUR MISSION
Every Tallmadge graduate is successfully employed, enrolled or enlisted.

Newsletter Theme:
Welcome Back!

> "Authentic learning experiences have a deep-rooted relevance to the learner and to their current lives."
>
> ~ Dr. Simon Beames

Welcome back to a new school year! As we step into this fresh chapter, we want to extend our heartfelt appreciation for your dedication, resilience, and unwavering commitment to our students. Your efforts to inspire, nurture, and educate are the cornerstone of our community.

This year, we continue our journey of authentic and personalized learning. Our goal is to create an environment where each student's unique strengths, interests, and needs are recognized and fostered. Personalized learning is not just a method; it's a philosophy that acknowledges the individuality of every learner. By integrating their passions into our teaching, we can ignite a deeper love for learning and help them achieve their fullest potential.

Authentic learning experiences are equally important. These are the moments when students see the real-world relevance of their education. Let's strive to connect our curriculum to their lives, to the community, and to the broader world. Whether through project-based learning, community partnerships, or cross-disciplinary lesson design, let's aim to make education meaningful and impactful.

As we navigate this journey together, remember that you are not alone. Our District is a collaborative community where ideas, support, and resources are shared. Let's build a culture of innovation, where we learn from each other and grow together. Your creativity, insights, and passion are the driving forces that will make this vision a reality.

Please take the time to reflect on your own teaching practices and think about how you can incorporate more personalized and authentic learning experiences into your classroom. Share your ideas, seek feedback, and be open to trying new approaches. Our collective effort will create a dynamic learning environment for our students.

Thank you for your dedication and for the incredible work you do every day. Here's to a year filled with growth, discovery, and success!

State and District Assessment Windows

MAP – District Testing Windows
August 26-September 15
December 16-20/January 6-10
April 21-May 9

THS Fall MAP Testing (Freshmen Only)
Math: Tues., Sept. 3 & Weds., Sept. 4 *(make-up dates: Sept. 5-6)*
ELA: Mon., Sept. 9 & Tues., Sept. 10 *(make-up dates: Sept. 11-13)*

TES Third Grade Fall OST
October 22-23 *(Makeups on October 24, 25, 28)*

THS Fall OST
  Dec. 9 - U.S. Govt / ELA II, Pt. 1
  Dec. 10 - ELA II, Pt. 2 / Algebra, Pt. 1
  Dec. 11 - Algebra, Pt. 2 / Geometry
  Dec, 12 - American History
  Dec. 13 - Biology

ACT
February 25, 2025 (Juniors only)

AASCD
February 24-April 18

District Spring OST Testing Windows (including makeups)
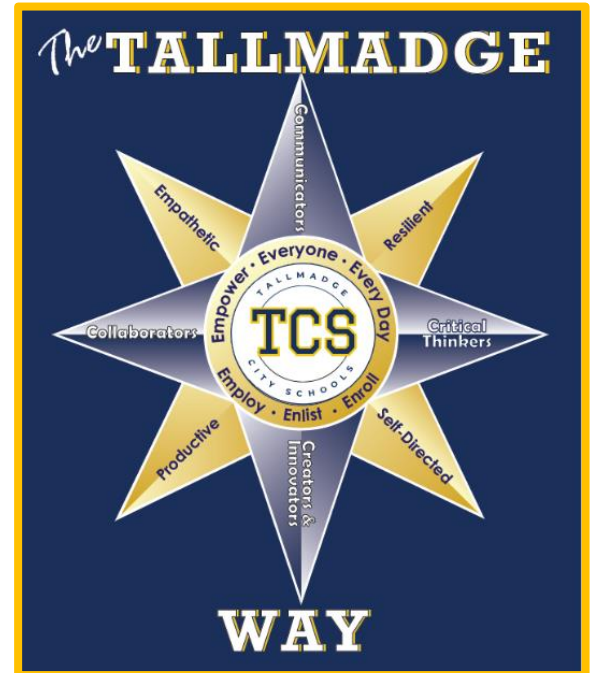ELA District Testing Window - April 7-25
Math/Science/Social Studies District Testing Window - April 14-May 2

OELPA - Ohio English Language Proficiency Tests
    Screener: Aug. 6, 2024-June 30, 2025
    Assessment: Feb. 3-March 28, 2025
    Alternate Assessment: Feb. 3-March 28. 2025

Empower Everyone, Every Day

Social Emotional Learning

This year, we will also continue to focus is on fostering Social Emotional Learning (SEL). We recognize that in order for our students to thrive academically, they must also develop the social and emotional skills necessary to navigate life's challenges. SEL is not just an add-on to our curriculum; it's a fundamental aspect of our educational mission.

Our aim is to create a safe and supportive environment where students can build strong relationships, understand and manage their emotions, set and achieve positive goals, and make responsible decisions. These skills are crucial for their success both inside and outside the classroom.

This includes:
1. **Building Strong Relationships:** Creating a classroom atmosphere where every student feels valued and connected. Taking time to know our students and fostering a sense of belonging.
2. **Emotional Regulation:** Teaching students strategies to manage their emotions and stress. Providing tools and resources that help them cope with challenges and maintain a positive outlook.
3. **Goal Setting and Achievement:** Encouraging students to set realistic and meaningful goals. Guiding them in developing the perseverance and resilience needed to reach those goals.
4. **Responsible Decision-Making:** Helping students understand the consequences of their actions and make thoughtful, informed choices.

Throughout the year, we will provide professional development opportunities focused on SEL strategies and best practices. We encourage you to share your experiences, successes, and challenges with your colleagues. By collaborating and learning from each other, we can create a robust SEL framework that benefits all our students.

The Tallmadge Way

Personalized Learning

This year, we continue our emphasis on personalized learning. Personalized learning is not just a buzzword; it is a transformative approach that tailors education to meet the unique needs, strengths, and interests of each student. By embracing personalized learning, we can ensure that every student feels valued, understood, and empowered to reach their full potential.

DISTRICT DEFINITIONS

CORE COMPETENCIES

- *Collaborators* actively engage and contribute insights in discussions that lead to possible outcomes. They understand roles and responsibilities while respecting group and leadership dynamics.

- *Creators and Innovators* problem-solve to achieve goals. They utilize imagination and reasoning to develop unique ideas and design products in the pursuit of success.

- *Communicators* actively share ideas, insights, and questions while being active listeners. They effectively express thoughts and ideas to diverse audiences.

- *Critical-Thinkers* analyze, synthesize, and respond to problems while actively reflecting on the process and product, seeking continuous improvement.

CHARACTER TRAITS

- **Productive** - able to complete purposeful tasks in an efficient manner
- **Empathetic** - able to understand feelings of others and demonstrate compassion
- **Resilient** - able to persevere through challenges with a growth mindset
- **Self-Directed** - able to take initiative to accomplish goals

The importance of personalized learning in our classrooms cannot be overstated. Here's why it matters:

1. **Student Engagement:** When learning is tailored to individual interests and learning styles, students become more engaged and motivated. They see the relevance of what they are learning and are more likely to take ownership of their education.
2. **Academic Growth:** Personalized learning allows us to meet students where they are and provide the appropriate challenges and supports. This ensures that every student can make meaningful academic progress, regardless of their starting point.
3. **Social and Emotional Development:** By recognizing and valuing each student's unique qualities, we foster a sense of belonging and self-worth. This helps students develop the confidence and resilience they need to navigate both academic and personal challenges.
4. **Preparation for the Future:** Personalized learning equips students with the skills they need to succeed in an ever-changing world. It promotes critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving, preparing them for future opportunities and challenges.

As we continue on this journey, we encourage you to share your ideas, successes, and challenges with your colleagues. Collaboration and continuous learning are key to our success in implementing personalized learning effectively.

Artificial Intelligence in K-12 Education

This year, we have an exciting opportunity to explore and integrate Artificial Intelligence (AI) into our classrooms. AI is a powerful tool that can enhance our teaching practices and provide personalized learning experiences for our students. By leveraging AI, we can better meet the diverse needs of our learners and prepare them for a rapidly evolving world.

Here are some ways AI can support and transform our educational practices:

1. **Personalized Learning:** AI can help us tailor instruction to individual student needs by analyzing data on their learning styles, strengths, and areas for improvement. This enables us to provide targeted support and enrichment, ensuring that every student can thrive.
2. **Adaptive Assessments:** AI-driven assessments can adjust in real-time based on student responses, offering a more accurate picture of their understanding and progress. This allows us to provide timely feedback and interventions.
3. **Enhanced Engagement:** AI-powered tools can create interactive and engaging learning experiences. From virtual tutors to gamified learning platforms, AI can make learning more dynamic and enjoyable for our students.
4. **Administrative Efficiency:** AI can streamline administrative tasks such as grading, attendance tracking, and scheduling, freeing up more time for us to focus on instruction and student support.
5. **Data-Driven Insights:** AI can help us analyze large sets of data to identify trends and patterns in student performance. This enables us to make informed decisions about curriculum adjustments and instructional strategies.

We encourage you to embrace the potential of AI to transform our classrooms and enrich our students' learning experiences.

English Learner Services

English Learner Family Toolkit

Interpreter Request Form

Website Information for EL Families

EL Newcomer Students Resources

Gifted Programming

High Quality Professional Development (HQPD) for Gifted Service in General Education Settings;

Professional Development in Gifted Education

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

Upcoming Trainings from Summit County ESC;

Summit County ESC Professional Development

Committee Meeting Schedule

- **Professional Development Committee Meeting** on Wednesday, September 4 from 12:00-3:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at the MEC.

- **EL Department Meeting** on Friday, September 6 at 1:15 p.m. in the Conference Room at the MEC.

- **District Lead Teacher Meeting** on Thursday, September 12 at 3:45 p.m. in Room 230 at TMS.

- **New Teacher Cohort Meeting** on Tuesday, September 17 from 12:00-3:00 p.m. in the community room at THS.

- **LPDC Meeting** on Thursday, September 19 at 3:15 p.m. in the Conference Room at the MEC.

- **Authentic Learning Steering Committee Meeting** on Tuesday, September 24 from 12:00-3:00 p.m. in the Community Room at THS.