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:
Creation and Innovation

"There is no doubt that creativity is the most important human resource of all. Without creativity, there would be no progress, and we would be forever repeating the same patterns."
~Edward DeBono

We can actively support and empower students to become creators and innovators:

- **Curriculum Design for Creativity:** By incorporating project-based learning, inquiry-driven approaches, and interdisciplinary studies, we can provide students with opportunities to explore their interests, collaborate on projects, and develop critical thinking skills.
- **Access to Technology and Resources:** Ensuring equitable access to technology and resources is crucial for fostering innovation. We should invest in providing students with the necessary tools, such as computers, software, and other STEM-related resources, to enable hands-on learning experiences and technological exploration.
- **Partnerships with Industry and Community:** Collaborating with local industries, businesses, and community organizations can expose students to real-world challenges and opportunities. We can facilitate partnerships that provide mentorship, internships, and project-based learning experiences, connecting students with professionals in various fields.
- **Entrepreneurship Programs:** We can introduce entrepreneurship programs that empower students to transform their ideas into tangible projects. These programs may include business competitions, and mentorship opportunities, fostering an entrepreneurial mindset and encouraging students to take initiative.
- **Flexible Learning Spaces:** Designing flexible and collaborative learning spaces can inspire creativity. We can invest in creating environments that support various learning modalities, allowing students to work individually or collaboratively on projects that encourage innovation and problem-solving.
- **Incorporating Social-Emotional Learning (SEL):** SEL programs can help students develop the emotional intelligence and interpersonal skills necessary for effective collaboration and communication. We can integrate SEL into the curriculum to foster a positive and supportive culture that nurtures creativity.
- **Student-Led Initiatives:** Encouraging and supporting student-led initiatives and clubs can provide a platform for creative expression. We can allocate resources and create frameworks that empower students to initiate and lead projects, fostering a sense of ownership and agency in their educational journey.

We hold the key to unlocking the creative potential of students. By actively promoting a culture of innovation through curriculum design, professional development, partnerships, and supportive environments, we can empower students to become creators and innovators who are prepared to thrive in an ever-changing world. The commitment to nurturing creativity not only shapes the educational experience but also contributes to the development of a generation poised to make meaningful contributions to society through their innovative ideas and solutions.

State and District Assessment Windows

MAP
WINTER: December 18-22/January 8-12
SPRING: April 15-May 3

OST
TES Spring;
ELA (3rd and 5th) – April 10 and 11
ELA (4th) – April 16-17
Math (3rd and 5th) – April 18-19
Math (4th) April 23-24
Science (5th only) – April 25 and 26

TMS Spring;
ELA - April 10 and 11
Math - April 17 and 18
Science - April 24 and 25

THS Spring;
April 15 - American History
April 16 - Biology
April 17 - Government. / ELA II, Pt. 1
April 18 - Algebra, Pt. 1 / ELA II, Pt. 2
April 19 - Algebra, Pt. 2 / Geometry

ACT
February 27, 2024 **(Juniors only)**

AASCD (Alternate Assessment)
February 26-April 19

EOC
November 27-January 12

OELPS (Screener)
Opens August 2

OELPA (Assessment)
January 29-March 22

Empower Everyone, Everyday

WE ARE TALLMADGE

MTSS

Fostering a Culture of Creation through MTSS:

- **Early Identification of Diverse Needs:** MTSS emphasizes early identification and intervention for students with diverse academic and behavioral needs. By identifying and addressing these needs at an early stage, educators create a foundation for a supportive learning environment that allows students to focus on creative exploration rather than struggling with unmet needs.
- **Individualized Support Plans:** The tiered structure of MTSS allows for the creation of individualized support plans. Educators can tailor interventions based on each student's unique strengths and challenges. This personalized approach enables students to receive targeted support, promoting a sense of agency and self-efficacy conducive to creative thinking.
- **Inclusive Practices:** MTSS encourages inclusive practices that embrace diversity in learning styles, abilities, and backgrounds. An inclusive environment fosters collaboration and the exchange of ideas among students with different perspectives, laying the groundwork for innovative thinking.

Driving Innovation through MTSS:

- **Data-Informed Decision-Making:** MTSS relies on continuous data collection and analysis to inform decision-making. This data-driven approach extends beyond academic performance to include behavioral and social-emotional data. Educators can use this information to identify patterns, assess the effectiveness of interventions, and make informed adjustments to support students' holistic development.
- **Collaborative Problem-Solving:** The MTSS process encourages collaboration among educators, support staff, and parents. Collaborative problem-solving becomes a cornerstone of the educational environment, fostering a culture of innovation. By working together to address challenges and optimize interventions, stakeholders contribute to a dynamic and responsive learning community.
- **Flexible Implementation:** MTSS is designed to be flexible, allowing educators to adapt interventions based on ongoing assessments of student progress. This adaptability not only ensures that students receive the appropriate support but also allows for the integration of innovative teaching strategies and interventions.

Social Emotional Learning

Fostering a Culture of Creation through SEL:

- **Self-Awareness:** SEL emphasizes self-awareness, helping students understand their own emotions, strengths, and areas for growth. When students have a deep understanding of themselves, they are better equipped to explore their interests, passions, and creative potential. Self-awareness lays the foundation for students to embark on a journey of self-discovery and innovation.
- **Emotional Regulation:** The ability to regulate emotions is crucial for creative thinking. SEL equips students with strategies to manage stress, anxiety, and other emotions that may act as barriers to innovation. Students who can navigate their emotions effectively are more likely to approach challenges with a clear and creative mindset.
- **Empathy and Collaboration:** SEL fosters empathy and interpersonal skills, encouraging students to understand and appreciate the perspectives of others. In a collaborative environment built on empathy, students can exchange ideas, work together on projects, and create innovative solutions that consider a variety of viewpoints. Collaboration becomes a catalyst for innovation.

Driving Innovation through SEL:

- **Problem-Solving Skills:** SEL provides students with problem-solving skills, teaching them to approach challenges with a positive and proactive mindset. These skills are essential for innovation, as students learn to analyze problems, generate creative solutions, and adapt to changing circumstances.
- **Resilience and Risk-Taking:** Innovation often involves taking risks and overcoming setbacks. SEL helps students develop resilience, enabling them to bounce back from failures and setbacks. When students feel supported in their social-emotional development, they are more likely to take creative risks and persevere in the face of challenges.
- **Intrinsic Motivation:** SEL contributes to the development of intrinsic motivation – the drive that comes from within. When students are motivated by a genuine interest in learning, exploration, and creativity, they are more likely to pursue innovative ideas and projects independently.

Personalized Learning

Fostering Creativity through Personalization:

- **Catering to Diverse Learning Styles:** Personalized learning allows educators to identify and accommodate diverse learning styles. By acknowledging that students have unique strengths and preferences, teachers can tailor instructional methods, ensuring that each student engages with the material in a way that resonates with them.
- **Choice and Autonomy:** Providing students with choices in their learning path empowers them to take ownership of their education. Allowing students to choose topics of interest or explore projects aligned with their passions fosters a sense of autonomy, motivating them to think creatively and critically.
- **Flexible Pacing:** Personalized learning enables students to progress at their own pace. Some students may need additional time to grasp a concept, while others may quickly move ahead. This flexibility allows for a more in-depth understanding of content, giving students the time and space to explore and apply their knowledge creatively.

Driving Innovation:

- **Project-Based Learning:** Personalized learning often incorporates project-based learning, where students engage in real-world, hands-on projects. This approach not only enhances understanding but also encourages creative problem-solving, collaboration, and innovation.
- **Integration of Technology:** Personalized learning leverages technology to provide tailored content and resources. Integrating digital tools and platforms not only makes learning more engaging but also prepares students for the technology-driven world, where innovation is paramount.
- **Collaborative Learning Communities:** Personalized learning fosters collaborative learning communities. Students can work together on projects, share ideas, and provide constructive feedback. This collaborative environment nurtures innovation by exposing students to diverse perspectives and approaches.

Artificial Intelligence in K-12 Education

AI can support and enhance a culture of creation and innovation in educational settings:

- **Personalized Learning:** AI-powered adaptive learning platforms can tailor educational content to individual student needs, pacing, and learning styles. By providing personalized learning experiences, AI enables students to explore topics aligned with their interests and strengths, fostering a sense of autonomy and creativity.
- **Data-Driven Decision-Making:** AI's ability to analyze vast amounts of data can inform educators about student progress, preferences, and areas for improvement. Data-driven insights empower educators to make informed decisions, implement targeted interventions, and create a responsive learning environment that nurtures creativity.
- **Automated Administrative Tasks:** By automating routine administrative tasks, AI frees up educators' time to focus on fostering creativity and innovation in the classroom. This includes tasks such as grading, attendance tracking, and lesson planning, allowing educators to dedicate more time to individualized instruction and innovative teaching methods.
- **Virtual and Augmented Reality:** AI-driven virtual and augmented reality applications provide immersive learning experiences. Students can explore virtual environments, conduct experiments, and engage in simulations, stimulating their curiosity and encouraging innovative thinking in a dynamic and interactive setting.
- **AI-Powered Feedback and Assessment:** AI can provide instant feedback on assignments and assessments, offering students timely insights into their performance. This immediate feedback loop not only supports learning but also encourages iterative thinking and creative problem-solving.
- **Collaborative AI Projects:** AI can facilitate collaborative projects by analyzing data, generating insights, and assisting students in their research endeavors. Collaborative AI projects encourage teamwork, communication, and the exploration of innovative solutions to real-world problems.
- **Predictive Analytics for Early Intervention:** AI's predictive analytics can identify students who may be at risk of falling behind academically. Early intervention strategies can then be implemented to address individual needs, ensuring that all students have the support required for creative and innovative learning.

English Learner Services

Challenges for English Language Learners

English Learner Family Toolkit

State Seal of Biliteracy Infographic

Interpreter Request Form

Website Information for EL Families

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

- **EL Department Meeting** on Friday, February 2 at 1:15 p.m. in the MEC Conference Room.
- **ELA Content Committee Resource Presentations** for grades 6-12 on Tuesday, February 6 (all-day) in the Community Room at THS.
- **District Lead Teacher Meeting** on Thursday, February 8 at 3:45 p.m. in Room 230 at TMS.
- **ELA Content Committee Resource Presentations** for grades K-5 on Tuesday, February 13 (all-day) in Room 109 at TES.
- **Staff PD Day and K-8 Safety Drill** on Friday, February 15 (all-day) in respective buildings.
- **Professional Development Committee Meeting** on Wednesday, February 21 from 12:00-3:00 p.m. in the MEC Conference Room.
- **Science Content Committee Resource Review** on Friday, February 23 (all-day) at the ESC.