

Tallmadge Curriculum

November, 2023

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.



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The Importance of Authentic Learning and Real-World Connection:

Authentic learning experiences are at the core of what we do, and they play a crucial role in shaping not only our students' academic growth but also their ability to thrive in the complex world beyond our school walls.

So, why is it so important?

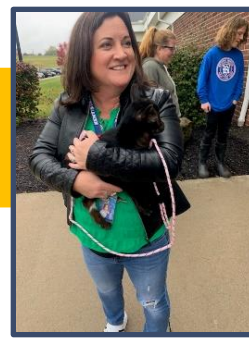
- **Relevance:** Authentic learning connects classroom content to real-world situations, making it more meaningful to students. When they see how what they're learning can be applied in their lives, they become more engaged and motivated to learn.
- **Critical Thinking:** Authentic learning encourages students to think critically and solve problems. They have to grapple with complexity, make decisions, and adapt to different situations, which is precisely what they'll need in their future careers.
- **Collaboration:** In the real world, few tasks are accomplished in isolation. Authentic learning often involves teamwork and cooperation, fostering social and interpersonal skills that are invaluable for life.
- **Innovation:** By engaging in authentic projects, students learn to be innovative and creative. They have the opportunity to experiment, fail, and iterate – an essential skill in a world where innovation is key.
- **Preparation for the Future:** The modern job market values adaptable, resourceful individuals. Authentic learning helps students develop these qualities, preparing them for the unknown challenges of tomorrow.

To promote authentic learning, we can:

- **Encourage project-based learning:** Assigning projects that require students to solve real problems or create tangible products.
- **Foster real-world connections:** Invite guest speakers, organize field trips, and make use of technology to bring experts and experiences into our classrooms.
- **Support inquiry-based learning:** Allow students to ask questions, investigate, and find answers on their own, promoting curiosity and a love for learning.
- **Provide opportunities for reflection:** Encourage students to think about what they've learned, how it applies to their lives, and what they want to explore next.

Let's work together to ensure that authentic learning remains at the heart of our educational mission. As we strive to empower our students with knowledge, skills, and a passion for lifelong learning, we are also preparing them for a world filled with opportunity and challenge.

“Only 15% of job success comes from technical skills and knowledge. The other 85% comes from well-developed soft skills.”



State and District Assessment Windows

MAP

WINTER: December 18-22/January 8-12

SPRING: April 15-May 3

OST

SPRING:

ELA April 8-26

Math/Science/Social Studies April 15- May 3

FALL 2023 TEST ADMINISTRATION WINDOWS

- » **Fall Grade 3 English language arts:** Oct. 16-Nov. 3, 2023
 - Five consecutive school days, including makeups
- » **Fall high school end-of-course:** Nov. 27, 2023-Jan. 12, 2024
 - 15 consecutive school days, including makeups

SPRING 2024 TEST ADMINISTRATION WINDOWS

- » **Spring English language arts:** March 25-April 26, 2024
 - 15 consecutive school days, including makeups
- » **Spring math/science/social studies:** April 1-May 10, 2024
 - 15 consecutive school days, including makeups

SUMMER 2024 TEST ADMINISTRATION WINDOWS

- » **Summer Grade 3 English language arts:** June 24-28, 2024
- » **Summer high school end-of-course:** June 24-July 5, 2024

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



MTSS

Sustainability Plan for MTSS Implementation;

- Leadership and Commitment:
 - Designate a leadership team responsible for overseeing the sustainability of MTSS.
 - Ensure that there is a clear, ongoing commitment from the administration and staff to the principles and practices of MTSS.
- Professional Development:
 - Offer regular, high-quality professional development for educators, including training on MTSS principles, data analysis, and effective intervention strategies.
 - Encourage educators to pursue ongoing learning and professional growth related to MTSS.
- Data-Driven Decision-Making:
 - Maintain a data team or committee responsible for the collection, analysis, and utilization of student performance, behavior, and attendance data.
 - Regularly review data trends and make informed decisions to improve student outcomes.
- Tier 1 Supports:
 - Ensure that Tier 1 instruction is engaging, rigorous, and aligned with standards.
 - Support teachers in their efforts to continuously enhance their teaching practices.
- Tier 2 and Tier 3 Interventions:
 - Establish and maintain intervention teams responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring Tier 2 and Tier 3 supports.
 - Regularly evaluate the effectiveness of these interventions and make adjustments as needed.
- Family and Community Involvement:
 - Maintain open communication with families about MTSS principles and practices.
 - Involve families in the MTSS process and provide resources to support their children's learning.
 - Strengthen partnerships with community organizations and agencies to provide additional resources and support.
- Evaluation and Adaptation:
 - Continuously assess the effectiveness of MTSS practices through data analysis.
 - Use the data to inform decisions and make improvements to the MTSS framework.



Social Emotional Learning

Ways to incorporate SEL into a personalized learning setting:

How Can We Foster Soft Skills in Our Students?

- **Incorporate Group Projects:** Encourage collaboration by assigning group projects that require students to work together, communicate, and problem-solve.
- **Critical Thinking Exercises:** Design activities that challenge students to analyze information, draw conclusions, and defend their viewpoints.
- **Extracurricular Activities:** Support extracurricular clubs and activities that develop leadership, teamwork, and creative thinking.
- **Classroom Discussions:** Create an open and respectful classroom environment where students can express their thoughts and listen to others.
- **Peer Mentoring:** Encourage older students to mentor younger ones, promoting empathy, responsibility, and leadership.
- **Social-Emotional Learning (SEL):** Implement SEL programs to explicitly teach skills like self-awareness, self-regulation, and relationship-building.

By nurturing soft skills in our students, we are not only preparing them for academic success but also helping them become well-rounded individuals who can thrive in a complex and interconnected world.

Personalized Learning

Personalized Learning is a Transformative Movement:

Why Is Personalized Learning Important in K-12 Education?

- **Meeting Individual Needs:** Every student is unique, with different strengths, interests, and areas for growth. Personalized Learning ensures that no one is left behind and all have the opportunity to excel.
- **Improved Engagement:** When students have a say in their learning, they become more engaged and motivated to achieve their goals, leading to better retention and comprehension.
- **Preparation for the Future:** In a rapidly changing world, adaptability and self-directed learning are critical skills. Personalized Learning fosters these skills and prepares students for lifelong learning.
- **Closing Achievement Gaps:** By addressing individual learning needs, Personalized Learning has the potential to reduce achievement gaps and improve equity in education.
- **Enhanced Teacher-Student Relationships:** Educators can focus on building deeper, one-on-one relationships with students, providing more targeted support and guidance.

As we move forward in embracing Personalized Learning, we will consider the following steps:

- **Professional Development:** Provide training and resources for teachers to effectively implement Personalized Learning strategies.
- **Use of Technology:** Invest in and leverage technology to create personalized pathways and gather data for informed decision-making.
- **Continuous Assessment:** Implement ongoing assessment and feedback mechanisms to monitor and adjust student progress.
- **Student Support Systems:** Develop structures to support students' individualized learning needs, including counseling, special education, and enrichment programs.
- **Communication and Involvement:** Involve parents, students, and the community in the Personalized Learning journey, ensuring a collaborative approach.
- **Flexibility in Curriculum:** Adapt the curriculum to allow for more choices and pathways to meet the diverse needs of our students.

Personalized Learning is a philosophy that embraces the individuality of each student. It's an exciting path forward in K-12 education, one that holds great promise for transforming our educational system to better serve our students.





Artificial Intelligence in K-12 Education

Why Embrace AI in K-12 Education?

- **Personalized Learning:** AI can create tailored learning experiences, catering to each student's strengths and weaknesses. This approach can improve engagement and academic performance.
- **Efficiency:** AI can handle administrative tasks, such as grading, and free up teachers' time for more meaningful interactions with students.
- **Data-Driven Insights:** AI can analyze data to identify trends, learning gaps, and areas for improvement. This data can inform teaching strategies and student support.
- **Accessibility:** AI can provide additional support for students with special needs or those requiring extra attention, helping to bridge the gap in educational equity.
- **Globalization of Education:** AI can help facilitate global collaborations and provide access to high-quality educational resources and expertise from around the world.

English Learner Services

[Five Short and simple reading tips for teacher EL students](#)

[Interpreter Request Form](#)

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

- **Authentic Learning Steering Committee Meeting** on Wednesday, November 1 from 12:00-3:00 p.m. in the Library at THS.
- **ELA Content Committee Meeting** from 12:00-3:00 p.m. in the Library at THS.
- **EL Department Meeting** on Friday, November 3 at 1:15 p.m. in the Conference Room at the MEC.
- **Science Content Committee (9-12) Meeting** (all-day) at the Summit County ESC.
- **District Lead Teacher Meeting** on Thursday, November 9 at 3:45 p.m. in Room 230 at TMS.
- **Personalized Learning LAUNCH Inquiry Lab** in Applied Exploration Course at THS on Thursday, November 16.
- **LPDC Meeting** on Thursday, November 16 at 3:15 p.m. in the Conference Room at the MEC.