



# TOMAH MIDDLE SCHOOL



## *March 2024 Newsletter*

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As we near the middle of the 3rd quarter, we are eager to use the time we have left to help your child make a difference in their learning. Second quarter brought great success for our students with major gains in both ELA and Math. This has a lot to do with good attendance. Being in school all day, every day, helps your child get the most out of school.

Please help your child by encouraging good attendance. Point out there is no substitute for being in class. Your child needs to be present to get direct core instruction from their teacher to explain concepts, participate in group projects, class discussions, and to ask questions. Please try to avoid absences by checking our school calendar before scheduling appointments during school days.

In the upcoming weeks, your child will be participating in the Forward exam, which is our state assessment. Our testing window is from March 18th through April 26th. This assessment ensures that we are providing the instruction needed to make our students successful. An accurate score from each of our students is vital. Sleep is very important during this time. Please set reasonable bedtimes to allow your child to get eight to nine hours of sleep. For the best sleep, please have your child unplug electronically 30 minutes prior while keeping those devices in another room.

The state assessment for 8th grade students will focus in the areas of math, literacy, science and social studies. For 6th and 7th grade students it will focus on literacy and math. Just like any other day, it is very important for your child to be present during testing days. As mentioned above, we ask you to please refrain from making appointments to avoid your child from being absent during this window of opportunity so we may learn what your child has retained. Your child will not be testing in every class during this block of dates. Tests will be spread out during the days and weeks within this window allowing students the ability to have breaks between testing to get a true picture of what they have learned.

The month of March is officially designated as the month of the middle school student. This is the month when we take time to place extra focus on all that comes with being middle school students. As I'm sure many of you can attest to as parents, these tend to be some of the most challenging years for you and your children. These are the years they begin to explore their own way, find out where they fit in with their social group, voices change, physical changes, friends tend to be of the greatest importance to them, and so much more. "I don't know how you do it" is a common phrase I hear often from parents as they comment on how we work with middle school students every day! I have worked in the middle school for 20 years and there is no where else I would rather be. Our students bring excitement, silliness, and joy to our lives every day.

The month of March also brings with it multiple competitions. Our Quiz Bowl and Regional Spelling Bee teams will be competing against area schools. We have some incredible students achieving amazing accomplishments.

This is the time of the year our staff tackles twice the amount of planning. We look to make the rest of this year fantastic while starting to plan for next year. If you have not done so already, please make sure to mark your calendar for next year. Our Fall Rally date has been set for August 14th. Please stay tuned for more important information.

Thank you for all the support you have provided your child through the first half of the year, and we look forward to your ongoing support as we move forward. If you ever have a question regarding your child's success at TMS, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or our offices so we can assist.

Sincerely,

Amy Langner – Principal 608-374-7883

Amy King – Assistant Principal 608-374-7884

Jared Sasada – Dean of Students 608-374-7927

# Counselors' Corner

## March 2024

Hello TMS Student and Families,

We made it to March, and spring break is right around the corner. Stay strong and keep up all your good work.

As always, if you need any help with your classes, we are here for you. We can help you with studying skills, test taking skills, and communicating needs to teachers. We understand it is not always easy to advocate for ourselves when we need something. It is hard to have tough conversations with friends, families, and teachers. We are here to support you. .

Just a reminder to our 8<sup>th</sup> graders that you need to complete your 9<sup>th</sup> grade registration if you have not yet done so. If you don't know what classes to choose, or even where to start registration, please reach out to us.

Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade counseling connections class will complete a vision board as their end-of-the-year project. If you have any old and school-appropriate magazines you would like to donate, please have your student drop them off in the counseling office.

If you or someone you know needs extra support with school, a friend, or family related matters, please don't hesitate to reach out to either of us. We are to help anyway we can.

Be kind to yourself and others.

Mrs. King – [lisaking@tomah.education](mailto:lisaking@tomah.education) 608-347-7887

Mrs. Broughton- [briennabroughton@tomah.education](mailto:briennabroughton@tomah.education) 608-347-7943

# MARCH 2024 EVENTS

## Middle School Month

- Friday, March 1 Show Choir Concerts - THS Auditorium 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, March 4 Art Club 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
FFA Meeting – THS 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 5 Advanced Full Jazz Band Rehearsal 7:00-7:35 a.m.  
**Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:15-8:00 p.m.**  
*\*Please note new times*
- Wednesday, March 6 Beginning Jazz Band Rehearsal 7:00-7:35 a.m.  
Art Club 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
Student Council Meeting 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
Chess and Gaming Club 3:30-5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, March 7 Advanced Full Low Brass Sectional Jazz Band Rehearsal 7:00-7:35 a.m.  
District Spelling Bee – THS Auditorium 9:00 a.m.  
**Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:15-8:00 p.m.**  
*\*Please note new times*
- Friday, March 8 Band-O-Rama Concert - THS Auditorium 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Sunday, March 10 **Daylight Savings Time Begins**   
Set your clocks ahead one hour
- Monday, March 11 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Softball Player/Parent Meeting – THS Library 5:30 p.m.  
Boys' Tennis Player/Parent Meeting – Math Lab/Success Center 5:30 p.m.  
Track & Field Player/Parent Meeting – THS Cafeteria 5:45 p.m.
- Tuesday March 12 Advanced Full Jazz Band Rehearsal 7:00-7:35 a.m.
- Wednesday, March 13 Beginning Jazz Band Rehearsal 7:00-7:35 a.m.  
Chess and Gaming Club 3:30-5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, March 14 Advanced Saxophone Sectional Jazz Band Rehearsal 7:00-7:35 a.m.  
**5<sup>th</sup> grade Orientation 8:35-11:00 a.m.**
- Friday, March 15 **Middle School Month Assembly 1:45-3:15 p.m. – Early Dismissal Schedule**  
Spassabend (German Concert) @THS 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, March 17 
- Monday, March 18 8<sup>th</sup> grade English/Language Arts Forward Testing  
Lego Club 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 19

## HAPPY FIRST DAY OF SPRING



Advanced Full Jazz Band Rehearsal 7:00-7:35 a.m.  
6<sup>th</sup> grade English/Language Arts Forward Testing  
8<sup>th</sup> grade English/Language Arts Forward Testing  
Regional Spelling Bee in Westby

Wednesday, March 20

Beginning Jazz Band Rehearsal 7:00-7:35 a.m.  
7<sup>th</sup> grade English/Language Arts Forward Testing  
8<sup>th</sup> grade English/Language Arts Forward Testing  
Lego Club 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
Chess and Gaming Club 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 21

Advanced Trumpet Sectional Jazz Band Rehearsal 7:00-7:35 a.m.  
7<sup>th</sup> grade English/Language Arts Forward Testing  
8<sup>th</sup> grade English/Language Arts Forward Testing  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Softball practice begins 3:30 p.m.  
Track & Field practice begins 3:30 p.m.

Friday, March 22

**End of 4 ½ week classes – End of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter**  
8<sup>th</sup> grade English/Language Arts Forward Testing

Monday, March 25 -  
Monday, April 1

## No School – Spring Break



Sunday, March 31

## HAPPY EASTER School Resumes

Tuesday, April 2

Our Band-O-Rama concert will be held on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> in the Tomah High School large gym at 6:30 p.m. This will feature 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade bands as well as the high school concert band, high school wind ensemble and a band comprised of all the band students from both the middle school and the high school.

The Tomah Middle School Art Exhibition is now on display until Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at the Pump House in La Crosse. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from noon to 4:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. The Pump House is located at 119 King Street in La Crosse. The Pump House hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 9-5 p.m., Tuesday 9-7 p.m., Saturday 12-4 p.m. and closed on Sundays.