



T.I.S. Digital Backpack

January 11, 2021



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE:

District Issued Student Chromebook Initiative

Tolland Public Schools is moving to a one-to-one technology initiative. The initiative will require **all** students to have a school issued Chromebook. The only initial cost for the Chromebooks is a nominal fee for insurance and an optional protective case.

These district issued Chromebooks will be necessary to access many school-related educational applications. As Chromebooks shipments arrive, we will distribute them to fifth grade students, followed by fourth then third graders. The initiative will require all students to have a school issued Chromebook for the following reasons:

Software: There are many applications and extensions that students will be expected to have on their devices during class. The district is able to automatically install and update these apps and extensions by having student devices enrolled in the district's online device management tools. Students with personal devices may not be able to receive all of the apps that will be required for their use. Some apps, such as the state's secure testing app, only work with specific versions of ChromeOS. The district is able to ensure that student devices enrolled in its management tools stay on supported versions of ChromeOS. Update control is something the district is unable to do with personally owned devices.

Much of the software the district deploys is licensed per device. By using device management tools, the district is able to install software and license keys to devices, then remove them when they are no longer in use. On personally owned devices, the district can't verify that software has been uninstalled.

Web filtering: When students use a district device, they are required to sign in with a district-provided username and password. This information is forwarded to our web filter and allows us to easily identify which sites students are browsing.

Personal devices can be logged in with non-district accounts which makes it more difficult for the district to track where students are browsing.

Once Chromebooks have arrived at the Tolland Public Schools Information Technology Department, and are readied for distribution, a communication will be sent out with additional information.

At-Home Student Expectations

Students are regularly reminded of the importance of treating at-home learning the same as a typical day in school. Below is a list of expectations that staff regularly share with their students.

- Students should treat virtual class the same as they would attending class in the school building.
- Join the video conference on time, dress appropriately- as if attending school in person
- Student cameras should be on, unless the student chooses to turn it off during recorded portions of lessons, and students should remain muted unless prompted by the teacher.
- Students are encouraged to participate via a location that is quiet and free of distraction, to the extent possible.
- Please be mindful of what is in view on the camera behind the participant and take care to choose a location with an appropriate background.
- Use of the chat feature comment section should only be to comments made to the teacher.
- Be kind and respectful to others.

To see a full description of remote learning expectations, please visit the Tolland Public Schools Pandemic Continuity of Learning site Remote Learning Expectations page:

<https://sites.google.com/tolland.k12.ct.us/familyandstudenttechnologyres/remote-learning-expectations>

T.I.S. CALENDAR



January

- 18 Martin Luther King Day/NO SCHOOL
- 20 Hawk Nests
- 20 Coffee with the Principal, 10:15 (see flyer below)
- 29 Sports Team Day

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS:

Grade 3

Third grade teachers would like to start by saying a big Thank You to all of the students and families that have made a smooth transition from in-person learning to remote learning quickly before vacation. We know that adjusting schedules and helping your children with this quick change is not an easy task. Thank you for all of your help and support.

We are moving right along in our curriculum this year despite all of the changes. In the Journeys Reading program, we have been reading stories about Thomas Edison, how technology has improved sports, and a trickster tale called Top and Bottoms. We will be moving on to a Cherokee Legend called Yonder Mountain. Third graders have been learning about idioms, homophones, verb tenses, and quotation marks.

In math we are working on multiplication, telling time, 2D shapes, and various other topics in the three programs third grader teachers are using. Practicing math facts is still one of the best ways for you to help your child succeed in math.

Please make sure that you keep your child reading books as much as possible while we aren't in school. You can read with your child, to your child, or they can read on their own.

Thank you for everything and enjoy the new year!

Grade 4

Happy New Year!!! Fourth Grade is off to a great start in 2021. Teachers and students have made an excellent transition to the "12 Days of Remote Learning"! The fourth grade teachers are looking forward to having students in class again soon.

Fourth grade students are working diligently to master division, using various strategies to solve real world problems. We continue to use IXL and Reflex Math to strengthen our skills.

In LA, we are expanding our reading skills by focusing on story structure, fact and opinion, understanding characters, conclusions and generalizations, and author's purpose. The students will be working on informational writing.

Students have explored the world atlas, focusing on continents and oceans, as well as various other map skills. Soon we will begin our next science unit on biomimicry.

The students have been remarkably engaged and flexible this school year. We are very proud of them!!!

Grade 5

In language arts fifth-grade students are reading the “Phantom Tollbooth,” by Norton Juster. It is a fun and entertaining book that focuses on word play. They are learning the difference between literal and figurative language. Students will be assigned a writing task after novel to show their knowledge of the skills they learned. Students enjoyed learning about wordplay while listening to “Who’s on First” skit by Abbott and Costello. Be sure to ask your child about it.

Fifth-grade students began the second part of Social Studies Unit 2 "Colonization" and continue to investigate the essential question,

"How have American conceptions of Freedom and Equality changed from Prior to Colonization to American Revolution?"

Currently, they are comparing and contrasting the three regions of the English colonies (New England, Middle, Southern) during the 1600s. They are also practicing their skills using IXL that connects to this unit. Finally, there are making historical connections from this time period to current events with the Presidential election and electoral college vote. An independent research project for this unit, that integrates technology, will start soon.

Fifth grade mathematicians are beginning their unit on operations with decimals. The unit includes students solving real-world style problems. These problems are fairly complex, but the students will be using their bar modeling strategies to solve them. Their effort and perseverance is to be commended.

Students are finishing the Earth, Moon, and Sun unit. The 5th grade scientists are getting ready to start a unit on Habitats. It is always one of the favorite science units.

We understand that this is an unusual and difficult experience for many families and some students may struggle more than others. Please know we are here to help. We appreciate your continued support with your child at home.

FROM THE NURSES' OFFICE:

The nursing office is looking for donations of unisex sweatpants or athletic pants. Elastic waist is best. Child sizes 8 to 16 are welcome!



WINDHAM-TOLLAND 4-H CAMP

326 Taft Pond Rd Pomfret, CT 06259

www.4hcampct.org



PUT SOME FUN IN YOUR 2021 SUMMER!

June 20 to August 13, 2021

Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp, located in Pomfret Center, Connecticut, has provided summer camp experiences for thousands of youngsters for over 60 years. The camp has both overnight and day camp programs for boys and girls 6-15 years of age. The camp is located on 270 acres containing woodlands, cabins, recreation areas and scenic lakes. The Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp maintains a state license and ACA accreditation. Campers need not be 4-H members.

Our caring, camper-centered, college-aged and trained staff is committed to providing a safe, educational, and fun experience for every child.

All campers have the opportunity to participate in a variety of programs each week including:

- Arts & crafts
- Low and Mid High Ropes courses & Horizontal Climbing wall
- Swimming
- Self-defense
- Fishing
- Sports
- Drama
- Dance
- Archery
- Outdoor Education
- Zip-line
- Canoeing & Kayaking
- Knitting

4-H Camp offers a variety of specialty programs also available on a weekly basis for an additional cost.

Horseback riding, farm camp and cow camp

CAMP PRICING 2021

- Day Camp (ages 6-15) \$325 per week (Lunch & Snacks Included)
- Resident Camp (ages 9-15) \$525 per week
- Teen Leadership Program (ages 15-17) Starts at \$525
- Overnight Clover Camp (ages 7-8) \$275 per session (3-day Sessions)

THEME WEEKS FOR 2021

A **stayover weekend** (July 10th-July 12th) includes a **TRIP** New England Aquarium, Imax and Duck Tours for campers who attend both weeks 3 & 4.

- **Week 1 – June 20-25 – Scooby Dooooo Week**
- **Week 2 – June 27-July 2 – Medieval Week**
- **Week 3 – July 4-9 – Carnival Week**
- **Week 4 – July 11-16 – Game Show Mania Week**
- **Week 5 – July 18-23 – International Week**
- **Week 6 – July 25-30 – Decades Week**
- **Week 7 – August 1-6 – Water Splash Week**
- **Week 8 – August 9-13 – Capture the Flag! (Day Camp Only)**

Visit our **website** at **www.4hcampct.org** for Online Registration

E-mail us at registrar@4hcampct.org for a camp brochure or additional information or

Call the Camp Registrar at (860) 974-3379



OPEN HOUSES

Sunday January 31 & Sunday, February 21

Sunday March 14 & Saturday April 18

From 2:00 to 4:00 PM Each Day

OPEN HOUSE EXTRA – April 17

Please join us April 18 - 12:30 PM for an informational parent panel on the benefits of Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp for you and your child.



Call or email to request a brochure (860) 974-3379 ~ registrar@4hcampct.org

An Equal Opportunity Program Provider and Employer

TIS SPIRIT DAYS!

November 20TH
HAT DAY



April 30th College Spirit Day



December 22nd Crazy/Silly
Sweater Day



May 21st Patriotic Day



January 29th Sports Team
Day



June 11th Wacky Tacky Day



March 12th PI Day



News from the Cafeteria



DID YOU KNOW...

BGP & TIS serves breakfast every day that lunch is served at school?

Both Breakfast & Lunch are Free to All students at this time?

You can order both meals on all remote learning days?



MAKE MORNINGS EASY!

Please see the Free School Meal Flyer for more information.

If you ever have a question regarding meals in Tolland Schools, please contact, Abby Kassman-Harned, Food Service Director at 860-870-6854 or aharned@tolland.k12.ct.us



**FREE SCHOOL MEALS
FOR ALL CHILDREN
UP TO AGE 18
through June 30, 2021**



REASONS TO GET SCHOOL MEALS

***Supports our school district and keeps staff working* Saves you time & money*Includes fresh fruits, vegetables, milk and whole grains*Is prepared by Food Service professionals trained in food safety*Extends your household food budget* Great tasting, nutritious, kid-friendly choices**

**REMOTE MEAL ORDERING
INFORMATION**

THERE ARE TWO DIFFERENT ORDER FORMS:

Remote meal menu available on each form

Note that this menu is different than the in-school menus

**For Tolland Public School Students
and their siblings [click here](#)**

You must have an account set up in "[myschoolaccount](#)"

**For all other children in the
community [click here](#)**

This is a google form

**ALL PREORDERED MEALS MUST BE PICKED
UP DAILY AT TOLLAND HIGH SCHOOL
BETWEEN 11:30 – 12:30**

**How will my children
get their free meals?**

In School:

K-5 students will come through the service line. All food will be placed on trays by the kitchen staff; students will touch only their own tray.

6-12 students will sign-up in the morning for a grab & go meal to pick up on their way out of the building at the end of the day.

Breakfast is now be offered at all schools each morning.

Remote Meals:

Available with a preorder.

NEW - Weekend meals now available – Must order by Monday for Wednesday pick-up.

Daily Breakfast & lunch orders may be placed by a parent or guardian the day before or up until 7am the day of pick-up.

**Please see Ordering
Information**



Questions?

Food Service Office

860-870-6854

aharned@tolland.k12.ct.us

kmecteau@tolland.k12.ct.us

We are here to help!

You Are Cordially Invited To:



COFFEE WITH THE PRINCIPAL
2020-2021

T.I.S. Coffee with the Principal will be VIRTUAL this year.

September 23, 2020

February 18, 2021 (Thurs. mtg.)

October 21, 2020

March 17, 2021

November 18, 2020

April 14, 2021

No December meeting

May 19, 2021 (which is a

January 20, 2021

special Math meeting)

(all meetings begin at 10:15 a.m.)

Please RSVP

*to Pam Babey (pbabey@tolland.k12.ct.us) by the day
before the meeting date you would like to attend. You will
then receive a link to the meeting.*



Join
Mrs. Webster, K-12 Math Supervisor
and
the TIS Principal, Mr. Dineen

to learn about math placement for incoming 6th graders.

Current 5th Graders

Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2021
(Coffee with the Principal Meeting)
Time: 10:15am - 11:15am

Google Meet information:
<https://meet.google.com/vnz-qfee-wbr>

Join by phone
(US) +1 252-843-1044 PIN: 914 453 207#

You can find more detailed information on our Tolland Public Schools Middle School Math Placement website. It can be accessed directly with this link:

<http://tps.sharpschool.net/cms/One.aspx?portalId=891651&pageId=47149004> or by following the pathway on the Tolland Public Schools website: Departments, Curriculum, and Mathematics.

Tolland Intermediate School

Photo Release Form

2020-2021

**Please do not release any photos of my child in the
following media**

(check all that apply):

_____ Yearbook

_____ Outside Media Sources

_____ Tolland Public Schools Superintendent's Bulletin/**T.I.S. Digital Backpack**

_____ Tolland Intermediate School Website

*****This form does not need to be returned if photos
can be used in all of the above media areas.**

Name_____

Parent/Guardian Signature_____

Teacher_____



The End

