

A message from the Principal:

We have had a terrific week at TSES! Thank you for sharing your children with us as we started the second half of the 2019-2020 school year! I would like to thank our student ambassadors who recently welcomed new families to our school. These TSES students demonstrated both enthusiasm and grace as they shared all that is wonderful about our school family. Thank you to Paulette, Kayleigh, Julianna, Kellan, Emilie, Jewel, Bryson, Payton and Sophia for their time and inspiration! Congratulations to our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Spelling Bee Participants! This year's contest was very exciting! We are so proud of the following students for investing time practicing and for their brave participation in the Spelling Bee: Maddox, Rozelyn, Violet, Chandler, Jonathan, Dillon, Julissa, Sophia, Isabella, Cori, Ben, Story, Daniel, Collen, Aiden, Bryson, Hassan and Marlena. After some nail biting rounds, our Runner-Up was Daniel and our Winner was Cori! On Friday, we had 'Guest Readers' in our building to celebrate World Read Aloud Day! If you did not have a chance to read with your child's class, please contact your child's teacher(s) to find out another day that you can read in your child's classroom! We appreciate the both outpouring of support and your understanding if you did not have the opportunity to read this time around! Please remember that Tuesday February 4, 2020 is an Election Day and that school is closed for both staff and students as TSES is a polling place. Have a wonderful weekend!

Nancy Thompson

#### **NEW INFORMATION:**

**Parking Lot Safety:** The TSES Parking Lot is clearly marked with NO Parking areas. We are asking for the cooperation of every driver during both arrival and dismissal times with honoring the No Parking Zones. Drivers who drive across the marked cross walk zone in our parking lot to park or stand illegally in the NO PARKING zones have compromised the safety of both our staff and our students on several occasions. There is no acceptable reason to violate the parking regulations, especially when safety is compromised. In addition, those violating the clearly marked no parking zones breach the requirements of the Fire Department to keep fire zones clear.

#### **TSES RISE Challenge for February: Inspire Yourself to Self-Advocate:**

This month as Mrs. Sansone visits classrooms she will be focusing on sharing with students how they can **self-advocate**. Both now and in the future having initiative to use self-advocacy skills will help children have the power to know how to help themselves solve their problems and reach their goals.

#### **Think what can I do to help myself to reach my goals and solve my problems?**

- Use resources to help me get unstuck.
- Uses words to express what I want or need.
- Ask a classmate or adult for help.

#### **At home you could further discussion on self advocacy skills when talking with your child of any age. Some possible conversation starters:**

One time that I had to ask for help from another grown up was.....

When I was in school I remember having a hard time in \_\_\_\_\_ class, to help myself I.....

When I can't find something I'm looking for, first I.....

My favorite mistake I made was..... because I learned.....

**Screening for Students at Risk for Reading Difficulties:** In accordance with Maryland's Ready to Read Act (2019), all HCPSS kindergarten students will be administered a screener assessment that includes a battery of four one-minute reading measures (DIBELS 8th Edition) to examine their letter naming, decoding, and word reading skills. The assessments will occur throughout winter, 2020. Parents and guardians will be notified if assessment results indicate that your child would benefit from an intervention. This includes kindergarten students who do not have a current Individualized Education

Plan (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) with reading foundational skills goals. Each student will be assessed for a total of 15 to 20 minutes and that time will be broken up over days.

**TSES Wellness Committee** has challenged our students each month this school year to try 4 new things in various areas of health and wellness. Join us for our Family Wellness Night on February 27, 2020 as we continue to explore our FOUR IS MORE initiative. During this event, families will rotate through 4 stations: boot camp, mediation/yoga, reducing screen time and karate. The event will end with the kids in the cafeteria having a dance party and a healthy snack, while the parents meet with HCPSS nutritionist in the media center.

**From the TSES Health Room:** Please read the following link to HCPSS/the CDC's Health Guidelines to Help Prevent and Limit the Spread of Flu and Flu Like Illnesses. Following the guidelines helps us to work together to prevent the spread of flu and flu like illnesses at TSES. The link includes a section on Coronavirus. <https://news.hcpss.org/news-posts/2020/01/health-guidelines-help-prevent-flu/>

**February Parent Teacher Conference Sign Up is Open!** Please be sure to log into HCPSS Connect and select a time for your conference! Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Thursday February 13, 2020 and Friday February 14, 2020. Teaching staff may select to offer conference slots during the afternoon and evening February 13, 2020 and therefore will not have conferences during the afternoon of Friday February 14, 2020. If a staff member is unable to provide conference slots during the evening of February 13, 2020, he or she will offer conferences during the afternoon of February 14, 2020. Although parents can schedule a conference with any teacher, families in Kindergarten are encouraged to meet with their child's math teacher, 1<sup>st</sup> grade-ELA/Reading Teacher, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Math Teacher; 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades conference with the PM teachers. Related Arts and Intervention staff members welcome conferences as well! If you are unable to schedule a conference during the designated 'window', please contact your child's teacher to set up a phone or in person meeting for an alternate day. Parent teacher conferences provide valuable insight to both parents and teaching staff.

**The TSES Scholastic Book Fair** will return for ONE NIGHT ONLY on Thursday, February 13th from 1:00pm-7:15pm. Buy books at great prices and a portion of the sales will buy books for classrooms! Attached is a list of some of the books that are on sale this year. You may pay at school using cash, check or credit card. If you are unable to attend the Book Fair, you can still take advantage of these great prices. Just fill out the attached order form (INCLUDING 6% SALES TAX) and return the order form with your payment to school. When sending in your order to school, you may pay using cash or a check made out to Talbott Springs Elementary School. PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU ARE NOT ATTENDING THE BOOK FAIR YOUR PAPER ORDER MUST BE RECEIVED BY THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020. All books will be returned to the vendor the following day so make sure you get your orders in as soon as possible! Book orders will be filled during the day on February 13. If you have any questions about the Book Fair, please contact Laura Ciarrocchi at [laura\\_ciarrocchi@hcpss.org](mailto:laura_ciarrocchi@hcpss.org). Thank you so much for your support of Talbott Springs. We look forward to seeing you at the Book Fair!

#### **REPEATED INFORMATION:**

**Winter MAP Administration:** Please note these dates for the MAP administration for students in Grades 1 through 5:

- First Grade: Math-February 5; ELA February 10
- Second Grade: Math-February 12; ELA February 19
- Third Grade: Math-February 3; ELA February 13 (PM Classes) February 14 (AM Classes)
- Fourth Grade: ELA February 11; Math February 18
- Fifth Grade: ELA February 6; Math February 7

**Summer School Preview!** Yes, it is time to consider signing up for the HCPSS Comprehensive Summer School Programs. On-line and on-site enrollment begins on February 1, 2020. The flyer for these programs is at this [link](#).

**TSES PTA and the TSES PE Department Information:** We are pleased to announce that 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be participating in a highly interconnected African Dancing residency. The residency will take place over two weeks from March 2<sup>nd</sup> – March 13<sup>th</sup>. Students will be working with Ssuuna, a Young Audiences Artist, and learning dances and rhythms of traditional and modern East Africa. They will also learn how the Amagunju dance evolved as a way to soothe an infant king and how traditional values like respect and gratitude are passed on through song and story. Stay tuned for more information with the date and time for the final performance! Please view the link for more information! <https://www.yamd.org/artist/ssuuna/>

**TSES Super Singers!** Please look for this spot in our newsletter each week as we celebrate our Super Singers. We recognize students for RISE(ing) in music class by demonstrating participation and care during Music class that aligns with our TSES RISE expectations. Please join us in celebrating the following students for the week of 1/20/2020: Journee H., Kalaiyah C., Cameron L., Darnel A., Paradyxe A., Daniel C., Matteo F., Alex C., Alana A., Tyler W., Kaiden W., Chaynce C., Alaina G., Adepto M., Josiah G., Rania K., Reese D.L.R., Joanna S., Anaaya A., Lenssy G.M., Matteo I., Francisco M

**Upcoming Dates:**

Monday February 3, 2020  
**Tuesday February 4, 2020**  
Thursday February 13, 2020  
  
**Friday February 14, 2020**  
**Monday February 17, 2020**  
Thursday February 20, 2020  
Thursday February 27, 2020  
Monday March 2, 2020  
March 2-13, 2020  
Friday March 6, 2020

Q2 Report Cards Distributed to Students  
**Schools Closed for Election Day**  
School Closes at 12:10~Parent Teacher Conferences  
Scholastic Book Fair at TSES 1:00-7:15  
**School Closes at 12:10~Parent Teacher Conferences**  
**Schools and Offices Closed for Presidents' Day**  
TSES PTA Meeting @ 7:00 in the Media Center  
TSES Family Wellness Night (SAVE THE DATE!!)  
Kindergarten Speaker-Dr. Biederman, Dentist  
Ssuuna Artist in Residency with Grades 4 and 5  
Q3 Interim Reports Issued

Please visit the TSES WEBSITE [www.hcpss.org/tses](http://www.hcpss.org/tses) for additional calendar dates found in the 'calendar' tab.

*Please visit the HCPSS Community News and Programs web-page for all announcements of events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.*