

# TPS SUPERINTENDENT BULLETIN

Here for you 860-335-2455



## UPDATE FOR SUMMER 8-18-2017

### BUDGET UPDATE 8-18-17

I am writing this afternoon to make you aware of a press conference that occurred today, [click here for more information](#). Given what was conveyed, I need to ask for your help as school and community members. Though I am not a resident of Tolland, I went into education because I care about children, and communities. It is my life's purpose. My own community grapples with these impacts as well. We have to demand together as citizens in affected communities that the State stop using our most vulnerable as a pawn. There **can be reorganization without recklessness**. Tolland is 49<sup>th</sup> in equalized Mill rate, and 16<sup>th</sup> from the **bottom** in Per Pupil Expenditure. It has a limited commercial and retail base. It is absolutely unacceptable to suggest that Tolland should sustain what could be a \$8.5-million-dollar loss in ECS alone in one year. It is not acceptable to instigate fear and desperation in the community of Tolland to achieve a political end; it tears apart a community, burns out its volunteers in local government, and wrecks the social fabric required for productive change.

The Governor's proposal appears to be another attempt to compel the legislature to act by imposing severe impacts. Equity is vital to our State's future, and that has to be understood and supported, but rhetoric is made reality when communities have to interpret what "could be" because the State takes little perceivable action and threatens to impose draconian solutions. Any plan that hurts our most vulnerable, be it children, or those in need of emergency services, is not the right plan. The State legislature is actually taking action by its inaction. It is facilitating the disintegration of relationships

that are the backbone of your community. Please, call your legislators every day, and ask them what they have done *today* to find a better way forward. Locally, let us not accept the role of a pawn. Let us not let the rhetoric ruin our reality. Let us do what we have to do to weather the storm – and foster responsible change.

## **BUDGET LINKS**

Budget Overview Page:

[http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/board\\_of\\_education/budget](http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/board_of_education/budget)

Budget FAQ

[http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/board\\_of\\_education/budget/budget\\_f\\_a\\_q\\_and\\_info\\_page/](http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/board_of_education/budget/budget_f_a_q_and_info_page/)

### **STATE REPRESENTATIVE CONTACT INFORMATION**

State Representative Tim Ackert 800-842-1423 or 860-240-8700 300 Capitol Ave., Hartford <a href="mailto:tim.ackert@housegop.ct.gov">tim.ackert@housegop.ct.gov</a>
State Representative Sam Belsito 800-842-1423 or 860-240-8700 300 Capitol Ave., Hartford <a href="mailto:sam.belsito@housegop.ct.gov">sam.belsito@housegop.ct.gov</a>
<b>State Senator Tony Guglielmo</b> Legislative Office Building Room 3400 Hartford, CT 06106 Phone: 1-800-842-1421 <a href="mailto:anthony.guglielmo@cga.ct.gov">anthony.guglielmo@cga.ct.gov</a>
Office of the Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman State Capitol 210 Capitol Avenue, Room 304 Hartford CT 06106 Phone Number: (860) 524-7384 TDD: (860) 524-7397 <a href="mailto:Ltgovernor.Wyman@ct.gov">Ltgovernor.Wyman@ct.gov</a>
Speaker of the House Joe Aresimowicz Legislative Office Building, Room 4105 Hartford, CT 06106-1591 860-240-8500   800-842-8267 <a href="mailto:Joe.Aresimowicz@cga.ct.gov">Joe.Aresimowicz@cga.ct.gov</a>

## **IMPORTANT UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**Board of Education - 2 and 4 Wednesday of the month –**  
**Typical location: 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Council Chambers, Hicks Building**

August 23  
September 13  
September 27  
October 25

**Town Council- 2 and 4 Tuesday of the month**  
**Typical location: 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Council Chambers, Hicks Building**

August 22  
September 12  
September 26  
October 24

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**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – AUGUST 30, 2017- FULL DAY OF SCHOOL**

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**2017- 2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

**[Click Here](#)**

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**BIRCH GROVE MEET AND GREET 2017-2018**

Tuesday, August 29, 2017

Preschool AM- 9:00-10:00

Preschool PM-10:00-11:00

Kindergarten- 8:30-9:30

Grade 2- 9:30-10:30

Grade 1- 10:30-11:30

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**WEB-SITE Superintendent Features**

A "Contact Me" page

<http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=891651&pageId=28670698>

E-blast sign up

Note: parents/guardians are typically registered through the beginning of year cards but this allows you to add additional addresses, and/or provides other community members an easier way of registering for school e-messages)

<http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=891651&pageId=28683449>

**TOLLAND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL MEET AND GREET**

Our annual Meet and Greet Open House provides an opportunity for children to meet their teacher and see their new classroom. Meet and Greet will be held on Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at the following times:

Grade 3 - 12:00-1:00  
Grade 4 - 1:00-2:00  
Grade 5 - 2:00-3:00

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**TOLLAND INTERMEDIATE BUILDING CLOSED DURING CONSTRUCTION**

Due to summer construction projects, the building will be closed to the general public until approximately on August 15. Registration information for incoming students is available at the Board of Education Office.

While construction is in process, the office may be reached by phone between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

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**FROM THE BUS COMPANY**

There will be a bus representative at the Meet and Greet for Birch Grove Primary School and Tolland Intermediate school to help with questions and concerns.

Please note that bus routes will be changing this year so please check the bus lists when they come out in late August.

For any bus questions, please contact the bus company at 860-875-6378.

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## INFORMATION FROM TOLLAND HIGH SCHOOL

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

August 29 – Freshmen Orientation 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

***August 30– First Day of School***

September 4 – Labor Day – No School

September 5 - Student & Staff I.D.s 7:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

September 6 – 8 – Senior Portraits 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

September 8 – Welcome Back Dance 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

September 14 – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Program 5:45 p.m. THS Library

September 14 – Open House – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

September 16 – Project Graduation Bottle Drive – Birch Grove

September 18 – Booster Club Meeting 7:00 p.m.

### **SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

The main office is open 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office will begin regular hours of 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. The Counseling office will be reopen on Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **FRESHMEN ORIENTATION**

All incoming freshmen will be mailed home an invitation to the orientation that will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. in the gymnasium. It will end with a BBQ. Students can be picked up at 12:15 p.m.

### **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**

This is a full day of school. Students should report to their Advisory classroom to begin their day. Schedules will be mailed out before the start of school.

### **STUDENT PARKING**

Students may drive to school on the first day. They will receive information on how to obtain a parking pass during their Advisory on the first day of school. They can apply for their parking pass on the second day of school.

### **STUDENT AND STAFF I.D.s**

Underclassmen yearbook photos, along with student IDs, will be taken on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>.

Seniors who were NOT photographed over the summer have only a few more opportunities to have their senior portrait taken for the yearbook. The photographer will be in the auditorium from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. on September 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> and then again on October 18<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup>. Seniors should have received a notice with the date and time of the portrait session. If you have any questions, please feel free to send an email to Sue Fontaine at [sfontaine@tolland.k12.ct.us](mailto:sfontaine@tolland.k12.ct.us).

## **OPEN HOUSE**

Our first Parent Open House for the 2017-2018 school year is scheduled for **Thursday, September 14, 2017** from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. On that evening, we run an abbreviated schedule of your child's classes from 7:00 p.m. to 7:55 p.m. At Parent Open House, you will have an opportunity to meet each of your child's teachers, gain an understanding of the curricula, and hear the teachers' expectations.

Since the event is usually well attended, we encourage parents/guardians to arrive early. Student volunteers from both our Student Council and National Honor Society will be available at 6:15 p.m. in the cafeteria to distribute students' schedules. In the auditorium at 6:30 p.m., there will be a brief presentation regarding important information about Tolland High School.

Representatives from the Tolland High School Booster Club and Project Graduation will be present for both sign-ups and questions.

## **BOOSTER CLUB**

The first meeting of the year will be held on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the THS main office conference room. Please join us and learn more about the exciting events planned for the year. If you have any questions, ideas, or comments, please contact Co-Presidents Diane Clokey at [dbclokey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dbclokey@sbcglobal.net) or Jenn Dineen at [jneccidineen@yahoo.com](mailto:jneccidineen@yahoo.com).

## **TOLLAND PROJECT GRADUATION**

Tolland Project Graduation Bottle/Clothing Drive will be held **September 16<sup>th</sup>**, accepting items from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Drop-offs can be made at Birch Grove Primary at 147 Rhodes Rd in Tolland. Community service hours are available for students and help from adults is appreciated 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., give an hour, two, or more. Thank you for your continued support of Tolland Project Graduation! Please email [tpg.bottledrive@gmail.com](mailto:tpg.bottledrive@gmail.com) if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

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# **Positions Available**

## **Events Coordinator**

### **Need something to do part-time! Great opportunity, flexible schedule.**

DATE: July 2017- June 2018

SCHOOL: District Events

Pay \$7,500.00 per year stipend

CONTACT: Suzanne Waterhouse Via email at [swaterhouse@tolland.k12.ct.us](mailto:swaterhouse@tolland.k12.ct.us)

Position Description:

Responsibility for organizing and ensuring the physical space is set up as requested by the presenter (contact with custodians, confirmation with individuals tasked with the preparation of the space)

Responsible for setting up and break down of the technology and audio-visual needs of the presenter

Utilize and maintain the AV Tech Equipment Case (A-TEC)

Work with Human Resources to maintain and manage people that can work hourly for A/V event needs

Qualifications: Knowledge and experience using audio visual equipment such as projectors and sound systems. Flexible schedule to attend events at various afterschool afternoon, daytime while school is not in session night and weekend hours.

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## 2017 – 2018 SUPERINTENDENT MEETINGS

Superintendent/Board of Education Budget Workshops – 7:30 pm THS	Superintendent Community Workshops 7:30 pm – THS – Topics TBA
October 18, 2017	October 23, 2017
November 15, 2017	December 6, 2017
December 20, 2017	February 6, 2018
January 17, 2018	May 2, 2018
January 31, 2018	

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## 2017 – 2018 BREAKFAST WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT 10:00 AM AT THE TOLLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 2, 2017  
November 6, 2017  
December 4, 2017  
February 5, 2018  
March 5, 2018  
April 2, 2018  
May 7, 2018  
June 4, 2018

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## 2017- 2018 SCHOOL YEAR ATHLETIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

4:00 pm at Tolland High School

September 19, 2017  
November 7, 2017  
January 9, 2018  
March 6, 2018  
June 5, 2018

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## **VOLUNTEERING**

The BOE will now do background checks every three years. If you will be volunteering for the first time in the upcoming school year, please complete the online form under Quick Links. After you have submitted your application, please call 860-870-6850 extension 1 to provide your social security number. You can check with the school secretaries to verify your status.

Thank you for all you do for the Tolland Public Schools. Please contact the Central Office with any questions.

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## **CURRICULUM NIGHT/OPEN HOUSE**

<b>Birch Grove – Curriculum Night – 6:30 pm</b>
Kindergarten – September 19, 2017
Grade 1 – September 28, 2017
Grade 2 – October 4, 2017

  

<b>Tolland Intermediate School – Curriculum Night – 6:30 pm</b>
Grade 3 – September 13, 2017
Grade 4 – September 27, 2017
Grade 5 – October 5, 2017

  

<b>Tolland Middle School – Open House – 6:30 pm</b>
Grade 6 – September 7, 2017
Grade 7 – September 12, 2017
Grade 8 – September 12, 2017

  

<b>Tolland High School – Open House – 6:30 pm</b>
September 14, 2017
February 8, 2018 (Snow Date – February 15, 2018)

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[www.facebook.com/tollandpublicschools](http://www.facebook.com/tollandpublicschools)

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**FOLLOW SUPERINTENDENT WILLETT ON TWITTER:**



Search for:

[TPS Sup Willett](#)

Or

[Superint. Willett](#)

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**LINKS AND OTHER ARTICLES OF INTEREST**

[Town Wide Photo Contest](#)

**Florida's Education System — The One Betsy DeVos Cites As a Model — Is in Chaos**

*July 22, The Washington Post*

U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, the School "choice" advocate, has frequently called Florida a national model for its range of school choices — including voucherlike programs that use public money for religious and private school tuition — though she doesn't talk about the consequences of expanding these choices on the schools that educate the vast majority of schoolchildren, public schools. [washingtonpost.com](http://washingtonpost.com)

➔ **The History of School Vouchers Isn't Flattering**

*July 19, U.S. News*

A new report from the Center for American Progress details the racist origins of private school vouchers. [usnews.com](http://usnews.com)

➔ **Where Are All of the Teachers Going?**

*July 16, The Huffington Post*

A new study shows fewer young people are interested in becoming teachers, and that's a problem because school enrollment is projected to increase by roughly three million students in the next decade. [huffingtonpost.com](http://huffingtonpost.com)