



Tiger Academy Newsletter

APRIL 2021

School Update

Tiger Takes Over MOSH!

On March 31st Tiger Academy took over the MOSH. Students in grades K-5, as well as all teachers, support staff and administrators spent a full day at MOSH exploring the museum. It was a great day and we all enjoyed going on a field trip again!



Staff Update

We would like to welcome **Ms. Shermanne Reynolds** to Tiger Academy! Ms. Reynolds is our new School Manager. She has been a part of the YMCA for the past ten years with varied experiences with students and operations. We feel so fortunate to have Ms. Reynolds on our team.

We are excited to announce that Tiger Academy has its first school nurse! **Ms. Lori Dobler** joined Tiger this month. She is a retired nurse and will be on campus ten hours a week.

Board Update

The next Board and Committee meetings will be held on **Tuesday, June 1, 2021** at Tiger Academy. We will continue to adhere to mask policies and social distancing. The Governance Committee will meet at 10:00 A.M. followed by Finance at 10:30 A.M. and the Board at 11:00. Lunch will be served.



Congratulations




Special congratulations are in order for Shelly Boynton! Shelly is a Tiger Academy and First Coast YMCA Metro Board member who was awarded the Volunteer of the Year award at this year's Virtual Y-BASH. Congratulations Shelly!

Student Incentive Updates

Board member, John Lock, generously provided funds for student and teacher incentives. The incentives are used to motivate students and teachers as we finish out the school year. The Tiger lead teachers (Ms. Butler, Ms. Davis and Ms. Hughes) helped to create a list of goals and incentives for students. We are on our seventh week of student incentives and have given 296 student rewards. Student goals have included: IReady pass rates, homework completion, random acts of kindness, attendance at Spring Break Camp, and students who use their Zones of Regulation strategies. Incentives have included McDonald's with Mr. McWhite, pizza party, popsicles, extra recess, dress down day, lunch upgrades and a Tiger Store "shopping spree".

Legislative Updates

On April 9, 2021 The FLDOE issued Emergency Order 20120-EO-02. The emergency order allows charter schools to make local decisions on whether to opt-in to school grades and improvement ratings. Here are a few highlights that directly impact Tiger:

-  A student may still be promoted to the fourth grade regardless of their score on the ELA assessment provided that the student is performing at least at a Level 2 through the good cause exemption process or other local assessments. Students will be encouraged to participate in summer learning programs to further mitigate any learning loss experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic.
-  Any school that tests 90 percent or more of eligible students can, within 30 days after the release of state testing data (July 31, 2021), apply to the department to opt-in to receive a school grade or school improvement rating.
-  Schools will retain their pre-COVID statutory designations. The list will not change for schools designated as schools of excellence, schools identified for school improvement, 300 lowest-performing schools, persistently low-performing schools, and high-performing charter schools UNLESS a district or charter schools opts-in for a school grade.



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🐾 Student Update

Family Fit Night

On April 1st, families were able to login to our virtual family fit night hosted by PE Teacher, Mr. Norman and AmeriCorps Health Teacher, Ms. Kimberly. Mr. Norman led a fitness workout for the first half. For the second half, Ms. Kimberly shared a video of her scholars teaching us how to make a few healthy snacks! Fun was had by all who attended!

5th Grade Transition

Any parent who applied to a DCPS dedicated magnet or special transfer school was notified as to their scholar's status (accepted or waitlisted) mid-April. Last month, 5 scholars were accepted to Bolles or Episcopal. Three of those scholars were accepted to Episcopal. Two were accepted to Bolles, who offered our families nearly full tuition as long as it is financially needed.

Family STEAM Night

Family STEAM night combined Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. The night started with an Art walk that displayed projects completed by Tiger Scholars. The projects incorporated all of the STEAM components. This year parents were able to view the entire school's science fair projects through a power point presentation. Students were invited to complete a hands on project at home using supplies provided by their teachers. Grade level science teachers led the Scholars through the assembly and test of their STEAM projects. Families were encouraged to work together and continue to improve their designs even after the night was over. Students were encouraged to keep trying even after initial attempts may have been unsuccessful. This is one of the most important components of the engineering and design process!

Student Assessments/Progress Monitoring

Third grade students took the FSA reading on April 6th and 7th. Fourth and fifth grade students took the FSA Writing on April 8th. A makeup option was offered to Virtual students the week of April 12th to accommodate smaller groups based on individual families comfort levels. Historically, third grade scores help determine promotion, but due to an emergency order signed by Governor DeSantis, third graders will be promoted regardless of their score and good cause exemption criteria.

The remaining tests will resume the first week in May. Makeup options for Virtual students will be conducted the second week in May. We are so proud of how hard our students are working during testing, we can't wait to see their progress!

🐾 Fundraising Updates

Community First Cares Foundation has committed a total of \$40,000 in support of a partnership with the YMCA. The goal is to enhance the before & after school experience with \$10,000 each at four schools: Tiger Academy, Ramona Elementary, Rufus Payne Elementary and Kings Trail Elementary. These dollars will fund additional materials, tutors and programmatic enhancements for the children and families in the heart of NW Jacksonville. The Y currently provides the Team Up program, funded by KHA, at eight locations throughout Duval County. As the funding exists through KHA, it allows us to provide before and after school programming at no cost to the families and provides just enough resources for staff and minimal supplies. Community First has offered to provide volunteers, financial literacy education, STEM programming and more as an additional way to contribute to the partnership. These sites will serve as a pilot and if the partnership works they hope to expand the work in the future.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

4/24~ Saturday School
4/26~ Vision Screening
4/27 & 28~ Strategic Planning Meeting
4/28~ Early Release Day
4/28~ Leadership Team Meeting
5/1~ Saturday School & Ground's Beautification Day
5/3-5/7~ Teacher Appreciation Week
5/3-5/6~ FSA Testing
5/6~ Virtual Family Night
5/12~ 5th grade FSA Science
5/12~ Leadership Team Meeting
5/19~ Early Release Day
5/20~ K-2nd Field Day
5/20~ National Honor Society Induction
5/20~ New to Tiger Teacher Meeting
5/21~ 3rd-5th Grade Field Day
5/25~ Strategic Planning Meeting
5/26~ Leadership Team Meeting
5/26~ DCPS Virtual Site Visit
5/28~ Kindergarten Drive-Thru Promotion Ceremony
5/27~ Career Day
6/1~ Tiger Board Meeting
6/4~5th Grade Virtual Promotion Ceremony
6/11~Pre-K Drive-Thru Promotion Ceremony