# **THE LINK** Connecting TPA to the Community and Beyond

# 23-24 SY WHO ARE WE?

Turning Point Academy is the education program located within the Lynchburg Regional Juvenile Detention Center. We follow the Lynchburg City Schools academic calendar and academic pacing guides. The school day begins at 8:05 a.m. and ends at 2:50 p.m. Students are enrolled in a summer enrichment program two weeks after school ends and two weeks before school begins. Virginia SOL tests are administered during the fall and spring of each school year. In addition, ISAEP and GED services are available as well as IEP/504 assistance as deemed appropriate and required.



#### MISSION:

TURNING POINT ACADEMY ACKNOWLEDGES THE INTRINSIC WORTH OF EACH STUDENT AND TAILORS THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES ACCORDING TO EACH STUDENT'S INDIVIDUAL LEARNING STYLE AND ABILITY. THE SCHOOL PROVIDES EACH STUDENT THE OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD THE CHARACTER, CONFIDENCE, AND LIFE SKILLS NEEDED TO SUCCESSFULLY TRANSITION TO THE COMMUNITY. "For the long hours, endless dedication, and love for education – we appreciate you more than words can say. Happy Valentine's Day to an extraordinary teacher!"

#### -ANONYMOUS

### 23-24 SY

#### **PRINCIPALS CORNER**

#### Happy New Year!

Our education team is participating in a professional development book study with over 300 of our closest State Operated Program colleagues across Virginia. The author of the book, Suzanne Dailey,contends that small shifts bring big gifts: that is, small positive changes, practiced over time, will help you feel more balanced, content, aligned, and ultimately more effective.

As we are working with students daily, we try to share with them that simply making a small step in the right direction can bring about a greater, positive change for your future. **"Realizing the possibilities and promoting the change"** is not only our motto but essentially is what we strive to do here at TPA. Our primary focus is always on student success and growth. Through this year-long professional development opportunity, we are able to share and model what we are teaching to our students in a meaningful way. Using this approach has introduced our students to several soft skills that will facilitate a smoother transition upon release.

We are in need of a small shift in the community as it relates to our students. Please feel free to contact us at <u>turningpoint@lcsedu.net</u> for more information on how you can help and assist with promoting the change.

Thanks in advance! ~LC~



Motto "Realizing the Possibilities – Promoting the Change"





# CELEBRATING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

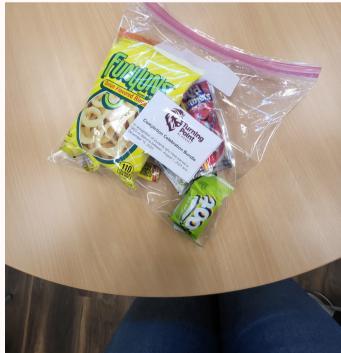
How many times do our students truly get positive recognition? Here at TPA we like to emphasize the *"promoting the change"* part of our motto in showing students that there is in fact positivity and achievement in change. With a most generous recent donation from the LCS Education Foundation's Tools 4 Schools, TPA's education team members were able to create student achievement snack grab-and-go bags to enjoy during a portion of planning and professional day.





Keep up the great work students of TPA!





### FLASHBACK: UNITY DAY AT TPA



October is National Bullying Prevention Month in the U.S. Every year on the third or fourth Wednesday in October, a very special event comes around — the Day of Unity, or Unity Day, as it is commonly called.

Unity Day is the signature event of National Bullying Prevention Month. Multiple anti-bullying campaigns — of which Unity Day is one of them, are organized during this period. The key message of this month, and this day, is to unite for kindness, courage, and inclusion, to prevent students from being bullied.

How can you look forward to planning ahead for this year? 1. Take the pledge 2. Wear Orange 3. Promote Positivity





#### WINTER WEATHER GOT YOUR SWEATER IN A BUNCH?

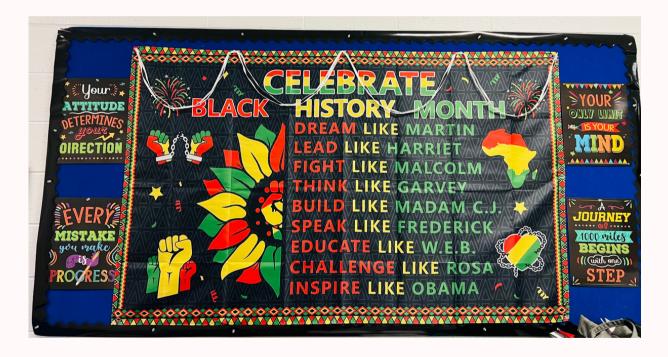
Prior to the Holiday Break, students were able to unwind with Holiday filled Enrichment Plans from TPA teachers/staff. Each enrichment teacher group provided educational based lessons with a fun twist! One particular highlighted lesson took students on VR tour to learn Holiday facts which was incorporated within a ThingLink! After the tour, students received the opportunity to decorate their own Holiday themed snack.



#### HONORING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Every February, the U.S. honors the contributions and sacrifices of African Americans who have helped shape the nation. Black History Month celebrates the rich cultural heritage, triumphs and adversities that are an indelible part of our country's history.

February was chosen primarily because the second week of the month coincides with the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. Lincoln was influential in the emancipation of slaves, and Douglass, a former slave, was a prominent leader in the abolitionist\_movement, which fought to end slavery.



BULLETIN BOARD DECORATED BY MR. FOREST, HISTORY TEACHER

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

While our events are not open to the public we do encourage school counselors, administrators, social workers, central office administrators, and probation/parole officers to join us. If you would like more information on attending an event, contact Principal Calloway.

#### No events scheduled at this time



SOL Testing Memo: As we gear back into the "New Year" (2024), our education program still remains steadfast with State assessment requirements. We encourage professional stakeholders to contact TPA prior to arrival to ensure their student is not testing should you need to conduct a visit with them.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

Jan 29 - Feb 16 - Winter Growth Assessments

Feb 19 - Parent/Teacher Conference Day (No School)

March 18 - Planning/Professional Day (No school)

April 1-5 - Spring Break (No School)



## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

As we are looking ahead into the next school year we need your help, support, and ideas on a couple items. Please complete a quick survey by scanning the QR Code .



Interested in keeping up with news & events at Turning Point Academy? Send us an email to <u>turningpoint@lcsedu.net</u> and request to be added to listserv.



## **CONTACT US**

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