DECEMBER, 2015

Panther Pride



Tri-County North Local Schools

Did You Know?

You can log onto MySchoolBucks.com to make payments for the cafeteria, school fees, athletic fees, field trip fees, cheerleading fees, FFA fees, yearbook fees and Latchkey fees. Please contact Brenda Lawson in the District Office at 962-2671 to obtain your student's ID number.



Spring FORWARD one hour! March 13, 2016

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FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT WILLIAM DERRINGER

So far it has been a mild winter and we have made it through the first semester without using any calamity days. As most of you know, we utilize the "One Call" notification system in the event of an emergency, a two hour delay or a school closing. If you have not provided a phone number for our database or if you experience any other issues or problems with our One Call system, please contact Noelle Warner at the District Office at 937-962-2671 and she can help you with your issue. Our goal is to try to provide you with the best communication possible when these situations occur. We will still place most information on the local TV and radio stations as well for those who have family and friends that may not be in our system.

As laws and issues concerning education are constantly changing, this year has been no different. On December 10th, President Obama signed into a law a bipartisan bill to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965. The new reauthorization legislation is known as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). ESEA was last reauthorized more than a decade ago as the NO Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). The new law reaffirms the importance of local governance, protects federal investments under Title I for disadvantaged students and prevents the diversion of public tax dollars for private use. The house passed the ESSA bill December 2nd, with the Senate approval coming December 9th. If you would like to know more about ESSA, we have included a synopsis, provided by the Ohio School Boards Association, on our website at www.tcnschools.org or www.tcnschools.org or www.tcnschools.org or www.tcnschools.org or

For the second year in a row, I would like to thank our friends at Cargill Incorporated who made another donation for our TCN Hot Meal Fund for students. The dollars that were donated will allow students who are not on free or reduced lunches, but who might be struggling at the time, to receive a tray lunch in our cafeteria. This provides the opportunity for all of our students to receive a healthy meal. This would not be possible without the donation from Cargill Incorporated.

One of the current goals of our school improvement plan is to increase family and community involvement. The last page of this newsletter is a brief survey that we would like for you complete and return (or complete online) which will provide us with some very important information about what types of activities that you currently attend at TCN and what types of additional activities that you would like to see us offer. Again, the information collected is important to us as we try to increase attendance at school sponsored activities and events.

I would like to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Our winter break is from December 21st through January 1st, with classes resuming on Monday, January 4th. As always, thank you for your support! I can be reached at 937-962-2671 if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

VETERANS HONORED

On November 13th, TCN honored all Veterans for their service to our country with a Veterans Day Program. The program saluted all branches of the military, including the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines and the Navy. The TCN High School Band and 2nd grade class participated in the program. Also participating was the Scout Troop 511 and several individual high school students. The Preble County Honor Guard performed the 21 Gun Salute. A reception to honor the Veterans was held in the high school cafeteria immediately following the ceremony. It was a spectacular event and many thanks go out to Mrs. Jacque Whitman, Mrs. Terra Moniaci, Mr. Don Kring, Mrs. Trisha Shields and many other assistant coordinators for all of their efforts in coordinating the program.











PANTHER PRIDE PAGE 2

K-5 NEWS JOE FINKBINE

Students at TCNES will have an opportunity to participate in an archery club this school year. While students receive instruction in archery and safety during their physical education classes in grades 3-5, we are going to start an after school club for students to extend their learning. Our archery club will be practicing after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays in January through February. Other local Preble County schools have started to teach archery in their physical education classes and we are hoping to have local competitions among the schools. The archery club would also be eligible to participate in the Ohio Department of Natural Resources sponsored statewide National Archery in the Schools Program competition in March that is held at the Arnold Sports Festival. There are over 1800 archers competing in this competition. Competition groups consist of grades $4^{th} - 6^{th}$. We are excited about the opportunities this will open for our students at TCN.

As 2016 arrives so does planning for the 2016-17 school year. April 11th – 15th will be the week Tri-County North registers incoming kindergartners for the 2016-17 school year. Registration can be done at the District Office with Noelle Warner, Secretary to the Superintendent. Early registration allows TCN to plan for our incoming kindergarteners and allows the kindergarten students to obtain some materials they can use all summer to prepare for kindergarten. More information will come soon, but if you know of anyone who will be of kindergartner age, please let them know they need to register. We hope to see all kindergarteners during the week of April 11th – 15th!

We will be pushing your children hard to continue to make the most of their learning experience here at TCNES. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us @ 962-2673 or 833-4330.



Our High School Computer Applications classes participated in the Hour of Code to promote Computer Science Education Week (December 7-13). The Hour of Code teaches students about computer science and computational thinking. The Hour of Code, organized by the nonprofit Code.org, encourages today's generation of students to learn critical skills for 21st century success. More than 100 million students worldwide have already tried an Hour of Code.

6-12 NEWS DOUG DUNHAM

As we finish up the first semester, the 2015-2016 school year is going by very quickly. The students will now be starting their second semester on January 4, 2016. This school year was the first year of the College Credit Plus (CCP) program where students in grades 7th-12th, if they met certain requirements, could take college courses while attending high school. At Tri-County North, we have 32 students taking college courses through Sinclair Community College or Indiana University. Some students attend on campus of the college or take on-line courses. We also offer courses taught by Tri-County North teachers who are adjunct college professors for the colleges. These classes are completely paid for by Tri-County North. If your son/daughter is interested in enrolling in the CCP program next school year, there will be a mandatory parent meeting (for students who have not previously taken CCP courses) on Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the lecture room.

In addition to the College Credit Plus program, Tri-County North Middle/High School offers students the opportunity to complete high school and middle school courses through an online program and they are monitored and assisted by a full-time teacher. This program is used for students who may have fallen behind in credits, could not get the course they needed in their schedule, or Tri-County North does not offer the class.

Currently, we have 10 students who are enrolled full-time in the on-line program, and 17 students who take at least one course on line during the school day. Our full-time teacher also monitors after school study table from 2:15 p.m.-3:00 p.m. each day for any student who may need tutoring, waiting for sports practice, or need to use a computer for assignments.

Our last new program to Tri-County North to highlight is the Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) program for the middle and high school. The middle school students are provided an introductory nine week course learning about the STEM program. At the high school, students can enroll in the semester course called Modeling/Simulation where they are understanding and working knowledge of live, virtual constructive simulation, as well as physical, mathematical and process modeling through the use of lab challenges and computer programming. We encourage high school students to enroll in this course next school year.



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WINTER & SPRING SPORTS (subject to change)

January

- 2: Freshman BB @ Carlisle—4:30 pm HSBB @ Carlisle—6:00 pm
- 4: JHGB @ Dixie—5:00 pm JHBB vs. Mississinawa—5:00 pm HSGB @ Mississinawa—5:30 pm
- 5: HSBB vs. Seton Catholic—6:00 pm
- 6: Varsity Wrestling @ TVS—6:00 pm
- 7: JHBB @ Newton—5:00 pm HSGB vs. Newton—5:30 pm
- 8: Freshman BB vs. Bethel—5:00 pm HSBB vs. Bethel—6:30 pm
- 9: JHGB @ TVS-10:00 am
- 11: JHGB vs. Arcanum—5:00 pm JHBB @ Eaton—5:00 pm
- 12: HSBB @ Ansonia—6:00 pm
- 13: HSGB @ Union County—6:00 pm Varsity Wrestling @ Dixie—6:00 pm
- 14: JHBB vs. Tri-Village—5:00 pm HSGB @ Tri-Village—5:30 pm
- 15: Freshman BB vs. Tri-Village—5:00 pm HSBB vs. Tri-Village—6:00 pm
- 16: JHGB @ Bradford—10:00 am (8th grade only)

 Varsity Wrestling—Panther Invitational @ Home—10:00 am
- JHGB vs. Franklin-Monroe—5:00 pm
 HSGB @ Preble Shawnee—6:00 pm
- 21: JHGB @ Bethel—5:00 pm JHBB @ Ansonia—5:00 pm HSBB vs. Ansonia—5:30 pm
- 22: HSBB @ Newton—6:00 pm
- 23: Varsity Wrestling @ Triad—9:00 am
 JHBB vs. Bethel—10:00 am
 HSGB @ Bethel—12:00 pm
 Freshman BB vs. Preble Shawnee—4:30 pm
 HSBB vs. Preble Shawnee—6:00 pm
- 25: JHGB @ Mississinawa—5:00 pm JHBB @ Preble Shawnee—5:00 pm HSGB vs. Dixie—5:30 pm
- 26: HSBB vs. Mississinawa—6:00 pm
- 28: Freshman BB @ TVS—5:00 pm JHBB vs. Covington—5:00 pm HSGB @ Covington—5:30 pm
- 29: Varsity Wrestling @ Lima Central Catholic—5:30 pm HSBB @ Franklin-Monroe—6:30 pm
- 30: Varsity Wrestling @ Lima Central Catholic—10:00 am JHGB CCC Tournament—TBA

February

1: JHBB @ Miami East—5:00 pm

- Freshman BB @ Eaton—6:30 pm
- 2: HSGB @ Stivers—5:30 pm
- 4: HSGB vs. Miami East—5:30 pm
- 5: HSBB vs. Bradford—6:00 pm
- 6: Varsity Wrestling @ Covington—10:00 am JHBB CCC Tournament—TBA HSGB vs. National Trail—4:30 pm HSBB vs. National Trail—6:00 pm
- 9: HSBB @ Arcanum—6:00 pm
- 10: Varsity Wrestling @ Milton Union—6:00 pm
- 12: HSBB vs. TVS-6:00 pm

March

- 24: Varsity BB vs. Carlisle (Scrimmage) 4:30 pm JV Baseball @ Carlisle (Scrimmage) 4:30 pm
- 26: Varsity Track @ home (quad meet) 10:00 am Varsity SB vs. Dixie—12:00 and 2:00 pm JVBB vs. Dixie—12:00 and 2:00 pm Varsity BB @ Dixie—12:00 and 2:00 pm JVSB @ Dixie—12:00 and 2:00 pm
- 29: Varsity BB & SB @ Bradford—5:00 pm JVBB & JVSB vs. Bradford—5:00 pm
- 31: Varsity BB & SB vs. Franklin-Monroe—5:00 pm JVBB @ Franklin-Monroe—5:00 pm

<u>April</u>

- 2: Varsity Track @ Franklin-Monroe—10:00 am Varsity BB vs. Versailles—11:00 am & 1:00 pm Varsity SB @ Union County—5:00 pm
- 5: Varsity Track @ National Trail—4:30 pm Varsity BB & SB @ Mississinawa—5:00 pm JVBB vs. Mississinawa—5:00 pm
- 7: JH Track @ home (quad meet) 4:30 pm Varsity BB & SB @ Valley View—5:00 pm
- 8: Varsity BB & SB @ Dayton Christian—5:00 pm
- 9: Varsity SB @ Troy Christian—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
- 12: JH & Varsity Track vs. TVS—4:30 pm Varsity BB & SB @ Tri-Village—5:00 pm JVBB @ TVS—5:00 pm
- 14: Varsity BB & SB vs. Ansonia—5:00 pm
- 15: Varsity Track @ TVS—4:30 pm Varsity BB & SB @ Bethel—5:00 pm JVBB vs. Bethel—5:00 pm
- 16: JH Track @ Milton Union—9:30 am Varsity BB @ Union County—10:00 am & 12:00 pm
- 18: Varsity BB & SB vs. Milton Union—5:00 pm
- 19: Varsity Track @ Dixie—4:30 pm Varsity BB & SB @ Covington—5:00 pm JVBB vs. Covington—5:00 pm

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WINTER & SPRING SPORTS

(subject to change)

- 22: Varsity Track @ Ansonia—4:30 pm Varsity BB & SB vs. Miami East—5:00 pm JVBB @ Miami East—5:00 pm
- 23: JH Track @ Franklin-Monroe—10:00 am
- 25: Varsity BB & SB vs. Newton—5:00 pm
- 26: Varsity Track @ Preble County Meet—4:30 pm Varsity BB & SB vs. National Trail—5:00 pm
- 27: Varsity BB vs. Greenville—5:00 pm JVBB @ Greenville—5:00 pm
- 28: JH Track @ TVS—4:30 pm
 Varsity BB & SB vs. Preble Shawnee—5:00 pm
 JVBB @ Preble Shawnee—5:00 pm
- Varsity Track @ Arcanum—4:30 pm
 Varsity SB @ Northridge—5:00 pm
- 30: Varsity BB vs. Anna—10:00 am (Cody Holp Classic) Varsity BB vs. Brookville—2:00 pm (Cody Holp Classic) Varsity SB @ Brookville—11:00 am & 1:00 pm



Zingertleg.com

FALL ALL-CCC TEAMS ANNOUNCED

The Fall Cross County Conference teams have been announced and are as follows:

Football: Tanner Booth Logan Elmore, Lane Gunder, Garrett Woodyard, Jordan Overcash and Gavin Overholtz

Volleyball: Allison Demorest Cross Country: Aidan Tomlin

Boys Soccer: Travis Rees, Ethan Cooley and Tyler Gray

Girls Soccer: Hailey Thies (CCC Player of the Year), Megan Hemp,

Chelsey Strawser and Jessica Koker

Congratulations to all of the fall athletes on their success in their respective sport. Thank you for representing TCN so well!

MINUTE TO WIN IT

Our TCN Physical Education department hosted a Minute To Win It challenge for grades 6-8 during their elective class periods the day before Thanksgiving Break. The students teamed up in groups of 6 or 7 to attempt to complete some pretty challenging tasks, using balance, coordination, and a lot of determination. A special thanks goes out to our staff and some of our high school students who helped to supervise this event. Also, congratulations to all of you that were successful in accomplishing some of these very trying tasks. We hope you all enjoyed the event!

May

- 2: Varsity SB @ Oakwood—5:00 pm
- 3: JH Track @ Preble County Meet—4:30 pm Varsity BB & SB @ TVS—5:00 pm JVBB vs. TVS—5:00 pm
- 4: JVSB vs. Union County—5:00 pm
- 5: Varsity BB & SB vs. Arcanum—5:00 pm JVBB @ Arcanum—5:00 pm
- 6: Varsity Track @ Madison—4:30 pm Varsity BB & SB vs. Eaton—5:00 pm JVBB & JVSB @ Eaton—5:00 pm
- 9: Varsity Track @ Tri-Village—4:30 pm
- 10: JH Track @ Tri-Village—4:30 pm
- 12: Varsity Track Semi-Finals CCC Meet @ TVS-4:30 pm
- 13: JH Track CCC Meet @ TVS-4:30 pm
- 14: Varsity Track Finals CCC Meet @ TVS—11:00 am

VIP IN ACTION

On October 27, 2015, thirty Middle School VIP students participated in a four hour citizenship project. The students and Ms. Pierson, their advisor, visited three area nursing homes: Brookhaven, Greenbriar and Heartland. While there, the students went room to room and gave the residents and visiting families regular and sugar free candy. They also treated the workers and volunteers to a holiday treat. The students then enjoyed dinner at McDonald's in Eaton. The students gladly donated four hours of their day on a school

night to brighten the day of the residents, workers and families.















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FIRST LEGO LEAGUE

Since the beginning of the school year, students on the 5th and 6th grade robotics teams have been meeting before, after, and during school to prepare for a Lego competition. The two teams, Dumpster Divers and Mega MECA Minions, entered into the FIRST Lego League this year to compete against other teams in the area. This year's theme was 'Trash Trek' so they had to solve a trash problem. They researched, collected data, and analyzed it to come up with their solutions. The Dumpster Divers realized that there is a major problem with pizza box waste since they are not recyclable due to the food and grease particles on them. The Mega MECA Minions came up with a solution for automatically sorting trash and recyclables. The teams had to develop their collaboration skills in order to develop their project and present it. They also had to design and build a robot that could navigate through a trash themed mission board. The teams competed on November 21, 2015, at the Versailles Regional Tournament. The Dumpster Divers won an award for the most innovative project, while the Mega MECA Minions won the judges' award for their overall team spirit, enthusiasm. and collaboration and presentation skills. Great job to both teams and they are already looking forward to next year!











"THE HARBOR"

Recently 27 students from grades 9-12 traveled to the University of Dayton to listen to an awesome speaker, Mr. Mike Smith, who is with a program called "The Harbor". The event was sponsored by Jostens and Mr. Smith travels around the world to inspire young people to leave behind a legacy and to help students understand that everyone matters. The students in attendance felt it was one of the most impactful and best field trips they have ever attended.

"Tever mistake knowledge for wisdom. One helps you make a living; the other helps you make a life" \sim 5andra Carey

SENIOR CITIZEN HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

On December 4th, TCN held their annual Senior Citizen Holiday Luncheon, open to any senior citizen in the Tri-County North school district. Approximately 50 seniors attended this year. Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by the TCN cafeteria staff, followed by musical performances by our middle school and high school bands and our 1st Grade music students. The TCN FFA students assisted in decorating, serving and clean up and, as usual, did a phenomenal job! Door prizes were also given away to the seniors throughout the event. TCN would like to acknowledge and thank all of the area businesses who graciously donated door prizes for the luncheon: Sarah's Pizza, Marion's Piazza, Dayton Dragons Organization, Loudy's Office Supplies, Subway, Rhonda Horn (Scentsy), LaRosa's Pizzeria, ACE Hardware, Lee's Famous Recipe Chicken, Gordon Food Service, Cracker Barrel, Today's Headlines Salon & Spa, Brookville Grille, Walmart, Meijer, Scottissue and Rob's Restaurant. Without the generosity of these area businesses, we wouldn't be able to pass out door prizes so we extend a great big THANK you to them!







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UPCOMING EVENTS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

January

1: NO SCHOOL—New Year's Day

4: Classes Resume

4-11: MAP Testing—grades K-5

8: Report Cards Sent Home With Students

18: NO SCHOOL—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

19: NO SCHOOL—Waiver Day

21: Preble County Spelling Bee

22: MS Winter Fling-6:00-9:00 pm

February

Interims Sent Home With Students
 MS Valentine's Day Dance—6:00-8:00 pm

8-11: Book Fair

9: Preble County Geography Bee

11: ES Parent/Teacher Conferences—3:30-7:30 pm MS/HS Parent/Teacher Conferences—2:30-8:30 pm College Credit Plus Program parent meeting—6:00 pm

12: NO SCHOOL—In Lieu of Conferences

15: NO SCHOOL—President's Day

March

3: Family Math & Literacy Night (w/ meal) - 5:00 pm

11: End of Third Quarter

13: Daylight Savings Time begins—Spring FORWARD one hour!

16-18: 4th Grade to Camp Kern

18: Reports Cards Sent Home With Students

25: NO SCHOOL—Good Friday

28-April 1: Spring Break—NO SCHOOL

April

4-15: MAP Testing—grades K-5

4-18: PTO Fundraiser

8: Elementary Spring Pictures

19: ES Parent/Teacher Conferences—3:30-5:30 pm

23: High School Prom @ Meadowbrook—7:00-10:30 pm

26: Spring Music Program—grades 3 & 4

29: Interims Sent Home With Students

May

5: 2nd Grade to Boonshoft Museum

8: Mother's Day

10: Full Throttle STEM @ Eldora Speedway

12-13: 6th Grade Dearborn, MI Trip

19: PTO Fundraiser Pick Up—3:30-6:30 pmES Talent Show—7:00 pm

17-20: Senior Exams

18: Senior Awards—6:00 pm

19-25: Book Fair

20: Senior Locker Slam—11:00 am

23-25: High School Exams

25: Senior Graduation Rehearsal—7:30 am

26: Last Student Day—Reports Cards Sent Home With Students Commencement Program @ Salem Church of God—7:00 pm

27: Teacher In-Service Day

30: Memorial Day

<u>June</u>

19: Father's Day

CURRICULUM CORNER

The mid-point of the school year is rapidly approaching and the curriculum initiatives at TCN are going strong. This fall, our teachers have been spending a dedicated amount of time each week meeting in teacher based teams. These grade level and departmentalized teams are dedicated to analyzing student's learning outcomes and then finding collaborative ways to enhance the teaching and learning opportunities of their collective students. Our focus this fall has been increasing student achievement through the use of reading and writing in all of our content areas. One of the 21st century skills that we are hoping to foster is more critical thinking and perseverance through difficult tasks. This is reflected in our students having to read, write, and be able to explain their thinking across our curriculum from kindergarten through high school.

This also connects to the new types of assessments that are being given to our students. Over the summer, the state of Ohio changed testing vendors from the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) to American Institutes for Research (AIR). AIR is the same vendor that had previously created the Ohio Achievement Assessments and the Ohio Graduation Tests. We are very pleased that the testing window has also been adjusted to lessen the test anxiety and over testing

BETH MANOR

of our students. At this time, we have successfully just completed the first round of AIR testing this year with our 3rd grade English Language Arts test. This test will serve as a baseline for our students having to meet the Third Grade Reading Guarantee. Students in grades 4-11 will be taking all the required Ohio Computer Based Assessments in late April through early May. Please look for further information coming out from your child's teacher or school as we get closer to the spring testing window.

While taking tests are an important skill as they progress through school, it's even more important for our children to develop the willingness to continue to grow and develop as lifelong learners.

If you have any questions about how we are supporting this goal, our curricular and instructional initiatives or the state assessments, please do not hesitate to contact me via the district office or via email: beth.manor@tcnschools.org













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Tri-County North Local Schools - Family & Community Survey 2015-2016

This survey is designed to help the Tri-County North district leadership team collect data to create a district-wide culture and climate that promotes family and community involvement through the increased percentage of attendance at school-sponsored activities and events. **Please answer ALL questions and RETURN questionnaire to the school.**

Sel	ect your main role for the purposes of this survey:	If you would prefer to complete this survey		
	Student	online, please go to:		
	Staff	7.1		
	Parent/Family member of a student	http://goo.gl/forms/vy2yk5euK7		
	Community member			
	Other			
Но	How long have you resided in the Tri-County North School District:			
	0-5 years			
	6-10 years			
	11-15 years			
	16+ years			
	I do not reside within the district			
Are you a former graduate of Twin Valley North / Tri-County North?				
	Yes			
	No			
During the 2014-2015 school year, your child(ren) attended (check all that apply):				
	□ K-5th grade			
	6-8th grade			
	9-12 grade			
	I had no children in school			
	My child(ren) are graduates of TCN			
	Grandparent / other family member of a child(ren)			
	Co-curricular Activities (band concerts, banquets, NHS assembly, Science Fair, Coschool Assembly (Veterans Day Program, Community-wide Pep Rally, Homeco Parent-Teacher Conference Night Open House Sporting Events Elementary Programs (Family Literacy/Math Night, WatchDOG Program) Evening Activities (Carnival, Mother/Son or Daddy/Daughter Dance) Other	Geography Bee, Academic Team match) ming Parade, Senior Citizen Luncheon)		
	ring the 2014-2015 school year, how many activities or events did you attend	at TCN:		
	0-5 events			
	6-10 events			
	11-15 events			
	16+ events			
What other school sponsored activities/events would you like to see offered at TCN?				
If you do not attend TCN school district events, what can the District Leadership Team do to encourage your involvement?				

In order to better suit your child's educational needs, please let us know if your family has internet capable technology

(desktop/laptop, tablet/iPad, smart phone or other handheld electronic device):

Yes No

Tri-County North Local Schools

District Office

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District Office: 937-962-2671 High School: 937-962-2675 Middle School: 937-962-2631 Elementary School: 937-962-2673

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