



Panther Pride

Volume 4, Issue 3

March, 2011

TRI-COUNTY NORTH LOCAL SCHOOLS



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www.tcnschools.com

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Calamity Make Up Days:

March 28th

May 2nd

May 25th

(additional days may be added to the end of the year pending the state's decision on adding additional calamity days this year)

Attention Prom Goers!

Prom will be held April 30th at Meadowbrook Country Club from 6:30-11:00 p.m. Tickets will be on sale beginning April 2-15. The cost is \$30. There will be a pre-prom event at the Methodist Church on Rt. 40. This will be a red carpet event and a photographer will be taking pictures. All families are welcome to come as well. This will be held from 4-6. After Prom will be held at the Vandalia Rec Center from 11:00 p.m.—2:30 a.m.



From The Desk Of The Superintendent William Derringer

During the first week in February we had one of the worst ice storms that I can remember. The result of the storm ended with school being closed four consecutive days. We later had one additional day of an ice and snow mixture that resulted in another cancelled day on Friday, February 25th. All in all, we have missed a total of eight days this year. We knew last year that the State was only going to allow three calamity days for this school year so we built two makeup days into the calendar assuming that we would be out of school for at least five days as we have been in the past. Any additional days would be added onto the end of the school year if at all possible. The State has since made a recommendation, which I believe will pass, reinstating two additional calamity days for a total of five this year. This means that we will need to make up three of the days that we have missed. Just to the left of this article are the calamity make up dates. You will notice that the first two make up days are on Mondays, giving our students a normal five day school week. The final make up day will be May 25th, which will end up being the last day for students if the State does give us back the two additional calamity days that we are expecting. As bad as the winter has been, I believe that our school calendar has allowed for a very smooth transition for making up the missed days.

I am very excited to announce that we are currently implementing a reading intervention program to improve the reading skills of identified and at-risk elementary students called Project MORE (Mentoring in Ohio for Reading Excellence). This program allows mentors to work with elementary students for reading in thirty minute sessions four days per week. Some of you may have noticed a mention of the program in an article in the Register-Herald a few weeks ago. It is our goal to improve our students' reading, comprehension and phonemic awareness at an early age, thus improving their abilities as they progress into the middle and high school years and beyond.

It is a very uneasy time in education with all that is currently going on in Columbus. The Governor's Budget Bill will be announced on Tuesday March 14th. It is expected that this bill will include major cuts to public schools. What types of cuts and to what extent no one is sure of at this time. Regardless of what happens, I want everyone to know that our number one priority is to offer the children of the Tri-County North Community the best possible education that we can. Again, I want to thank each of you for your continual support of our students, our community, and our school. As always, please feel free to contact me at the District Office with any questions, comments, or concerns that you may have.

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TCN Fifth Grade Girls Take First Place!



Congratulations to the fifth grade Lady Junior Panthers Basketball Team! The team ended with an undefeated season! The girls continued their journey by winning their tournament, ending with a perfect 15-0 record. The girls represented Tri-County North with supreme sportsmanship and class. There is no age limit to Panther Pride! Congratulations on a job well done! The team was coached by Donnis Stinson, Mary Poling and JoAnn Weaver.



First row: Cassi Stinson, Megan Poling, Sydney Weaver, Lauren Koenig
Second row: Kaitlin Heindl, Hailey Thies, Morgan Helman, Maddie Prater, Elizabeth Free
Third row: Coach Stinson, Coach Poling, Coach Weaver

Elementary School



Denny Dyer

The next 2-3 months are some of the most active times during the year at the Elementary and we encourage you to keep updated on our webpage and calendar of events each week. Here are some of the highlights of upcoming activities:

Make Up Days: TCN will be in session on March 28th and May 2nd! Both of these days were designated as possible make up days. In addition, students will also be in session on May 25th.

Ohio Achievement Assessment (OAA): All 3rd and 4th graders will be taking the OAA tests April 25-29 from 9:00-11:45 a.m. Please be sure that you schedule any appointments, vacations, or other activities at times that do not conflict with the testing days or times. Our students have done very well with the OAA tests and we hope that this year will be no exception. Results will be available in late June or early July.

Elementary Family Fun Night: Our staff is having the second annual Elementary Family Fun Night on Friday, April 1st, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Games, raffles, prizes, food and an evening of fun will highlight the evening. The school will be open to ele-

mentary students and their parents and we hope to have a large crowd like last year's event.

4th Grade Trip to Woodland Altars: Our 4th graders will be making the trip to Woodland Altars on May 11-13. Students will enjoy a great outdoor education experience for 3 days and 2 nights. The cost of the trip is \$129 per student, but we are able to offset all but \$65 with the profits from our fall fundraiser. We are accepting donations from individuals and groups or anyone else that would like to sponsor a student(s) who cannot afford the cost of the trip. Please call the ES office if you would like to sponsor a student(s). All trip money and/or overdue fees or fines are due no later than Friday, April 8th!

2nd & 4th Grade Music Program: Our 2nd and 4th grade music program will be May 19th at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Lear, Mrs. Hake, Mrs. Shields and Mrs. Kramer, along with the 2nd and 4th Grade Teachers, have all worked hard to make the program entertaining and enjoyable for everyone! We hope that you can join us for another great performance!

Middle School



Joe Finkbine

TCNMS would like to congratulate Ethan Phelps and Cole Salisbury for placing first at the Preble County Science Fair on January 29th. We are so proud of both boys, who will go on to compete at the district level on March 12th. Best of luck to them!

On January 26th, our school's VIP group sent several 5th, 6th and 8th graders to St. Paul's Lutheran Church to work in the soup kitchen for the needy. Greg Beers, 8th grade Science teacher, a member of the church, assisted our students by showing them the history of the church itself through it's stained glass windows and old pipe organ. Students represented the TCNMS well and received many compliments on their good behavior and willingness to assist in any job. Students were able to help with set-up, service, and then clean-up before returning to the school.

I love winter and gathering around the fire, but I am anxiously awaiting the arrival of spring and warm weather. While warm weather feels good, with spring comes state testing for the middle school and a great opportunity for students to show what they know. TCNMS will be conducting the Ohio Achievement Assessment (OAA), formerly known as the Ohio Achievement Test, from April 25th through April 29th. The fifth and eighth grade students will be taking the Reading, Math, and Science tests and the sixth and seventh grade students will be taking Reading and Math tests. The TCNMS staff have worked diligently to prepare students for these tests and anticipate great results. The state department of education only gives two weeks to test the Ohio Achievement Assessment, therefore we will have only one week to test students due to our Spring Break falling on the first week schools are allowed to test. **It is imperative for students to be in school the week of April 25th through the 29th.**

High School



Jeff Parker

Ways your child can earn college credits while attending TCNHS:

Dual Enrollment with Indiana University: eligible TCN seniors are able to complete high school and college credits (at a reduced tuition rate) in select courses.

Sinclair On-line College Courses (during the day): all TCN sophomores and juniors take the Acuplacer College Placement test. Based on their results, qualifying students then have the opportunity to take college credit on-line courses during the school day.

Advanced Placement English 11: students who have shown success in language arts and who are willing to read extensively over the summer months can take AP English 11 during their junior year. The AP test is administered in May and depending on the results and the standards of the college/university the student decides to attend, the student may earn college credit. The cost to TCN students is \$20 to take the exam.

Foreign Language Proficiency Exam: Spanish and French III and IV students have the opportunity to take a proficiency exam through Sinclair Community College and earn up to 12 college credits. The college credits are transferable to any public university or college in the state of Ohio. Private and out of state colleges/universities determine their own criteria. Presently, the cost and college credits are FREE to TCN students.

Post-Secondary Educational Option Program: students may choose to attend a local college/university during part or all of the school day during the school year. Each college/university decides the criteria for entrance into their program. The minimum GPA is 3.0. Students must apply by March 31st each year.

Please do not hesitate to contact Cathy Norris, TCN HS Guidance Counselor, or myself if you have any questions regarding earning college credits while in high school. We can be reached at 937-962-2675 or by email at cathy_norris@tcn.k12.oh.us or jeff_parker@tcn.k12.oh.us.

TCN Spring Athletics

March

- 19: Varsity BB @ Greenville (scrimmage)—1:00 pm
JV BB @ home vs. Greenville (scrimmage)—1:00 pm
- 21: Varsity BB @ home vs. Madison (scrimmage)—5:00 pm
JV BB @ Madison (scrimmage)—5:00 pm
- 22: Varsity SB @ Troy (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm
JV SB @ home vs. Troy (scrimmage) - 5:00pm
- 23: Varsity BB & SB @ Oakwood (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm
JV BB & SB @ home vs. Oakwood (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm
- 24: Varsity BB & SB @ Northridge (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm
JV BB & SB @ home vs. Northridge (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm
- 28: Varsity BB & SB @ Northeastern—5:00 pm
JV BB & SB @ home vs. Northeastern—5:00 pm
- 29: Varsity BB @ Dixie—5:00 pm
Varsity SB @ home vs. Stivers—5:00 pm
JV BB @ home vs. Dixie—5:00 pm
JV SB @ Stivers—5:00 pm
HS Track @ Arcanum—4:30 pm
- 30: Varsity SB @ home vs. Dixie—5:00 pm
- 31: JV BB @ home vs. Wayne—5:00 pm
HS & JH Track @ home—4:30 pm



April

- 1: Varsity BB & SB @ Milton Union—5:00 pm
JV BB & SB @ home vs. Milton Union—5:00 pm
- 2: Varsity SB @ home vs. Dixie—11:00 am and 1:00 pm
JV BB @ home vs. TVS—12:00 pm and 2:00 pm
- 4: Varsity BB & SB @ Troy Christian—5:00 pm
JV BB @ home vs. Carlisle—5:00 pm
- 5: Varsity BB & SB @ home vs. Mississinawa—5:00 pm
JV BB @ Mississinawa—5:00 pm
HS Track @ National Trail—4:30 pm
- 6: JH Track @ Eaton—4:30 pm
- 7: Varsity SB @ Newton—5:00 pm
HS Track @ home—4:30 pm
- 8: Varsity BB & SB @ home vs. Tri-Village—5:00 pm
JV BB @ Tri-Village—5:00 pm
- 9: Varsity BB & SB @ home vs. Preble Shawnee—11 am & 1 pm
JV BB & SB @ Preble Shawnee—11 am & 1 pm



- 11: Varsity BB @ home vs. Valley View—5:00 pm
JV BB @ Valley View—5:00 pm
JH Track @ home—4:30 pm
- 12: Varsity BB & SB @ Ansonia—5:00 pm
JV BB @ home vs. Ansonia—5:00 pm
HS Track @ Brookville—4:30 pm
- 14: Varsity BB & SB @ home vs. Bethel—5:00 pm
JV BB @ Bethel—5:00 pm
- 15: Varsity BB & SB @ home vs. Covington—5:00 pm
JV BB @ Covington—5:00 pm
HS Track @ Fred Durkle Invitational—4:00 pm
JH Track @ Preble Shawnee—4:30 pm
- 16: Varsity BB @ Brookville—11:00 am
JV BB @ home vs. Brookville—11:00 am
- 19: Varsity BB & SB @ Miami East—5:00 pm
JV BB & SB @ home vs. Miami East—5:00 pm
- 21: Varsity BB & SB @ National Trail—5:00 pm
JV BB & SB @ home vs. National Trail—5:00 pm
- 23: Varsity BB @ Carlisle—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
JV BB & SB @ home vs. Benjamin Logan—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
- 25: Varsity BB & SB @ home vs. TVS—5:00 pm
JV BB @ TVS—5:00 pm
- 26: Varsity BB @ Fort Loramie—5:00 pm
JV BB @ home vs. Fort Loramie—5:00 pm
HS Track @ Preble County Meet @ Nat'l Trail—4:30 pm
JH Track @ Arcanum—4:30 pm
- 27: Varsity SB @ home vs. Eaton—5:00 pm
JV SB @ Eaton—5:00 pm
- 28: JH Track @ TVS (Relays) - 4:00 pm
- 29: Varsity BB & SB @ Arcanum—5:00 pm
JV SB @ home vs. Arcanum—5:00 pm
HS Track @ Preble Shawnee—4:30 pm
- 30: HS Track @ Arcanum—10:00 am
Varsity SB @ home vs. Carlisle—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
JV SB @ Carlisle—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
Varsity BB @ Newton—10:00 am



May sports continued on page 4

Think Spring!



Cell Phones For Education



Donate your old cell phones to TCN schools. They will raise much needed funds and 100% of the proceeds will go directly to our school. The drive will benefit your child, our school, and also our environment by keeping the harmful materials the phones contain out of landfills. Just send the phones with their batteries to the school to be placed in collection boxes found in each office. Ask friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to donate their used cell phones as well. Every phone helps!

Middle School Students Shine!

Congratulations to our MS Spelling Bee winners: Macey Dennison—1st place, Hunter Feustel—2nd place, and Arielle Feustel—3rd place. Macey and Hunter went on to compete at the County Spelling Bee at Twin Valley South schools.

And a big congratulations to our MS Geography Bee winners: Mason Helman—1st place, Luke Thies—2nd place, and Zach Tincher—3rd place. Mason and Luke went on to compete at the County Geography Bee in Eaton and although they did not advance, the represented TCN very well.

And finally, congratulations to Ethan Phelps and Cole Salisbury who recently participated in the Preble County Science Fair, where both boys took 1st place! Both boys invested a lot of time and effort into their respective projects and excelled in them. They advanced to the district level and we wish them much success!

2011/2012 Sports Physicals

Once again, sports physicals will be offered to all athletes at Good Samaritan North this spring. The date and cost have yet to be determined, but we will certainly share this information with you as soon as we hear. Physical forms can be picked up in the Athletic Office or the District Office. You must have your physical form with you at the time of the physical.



Do-It-Yourself 100-Calorie Snacks

Looking for a healthy, low calorie snack for your child that tastes good? Try one of these twenty ideas for a healthy do-it-yourself snack:

1 large celery stalk with 2 Tbsp. nut butter, 1 c. raw veggies with 1/4 c. fat-free ranch dressing, 28 grapes, 1/2 c. unsweetened apple sauce with a slice of toast cut in sticks for dipping, 10 cashews, 1 mozzarella string cheese with 2 wheat crackers, 6-8 oz. c. of low-fat yogurt, 2 Tbsp. hummus and 12 grape tomatoes, 1/2 c. plain oatmeal with 1/4 c. fresh berries, 1 medium banana, 1/2 c. 1% cottage cheese with 5 strawberries, 1 c. mango chunks, 8 corn tortilla chips with 1/4 c. salsa, 1/2 apple with 2 tsp. nut butter, 12 almonds, 1 c. blueberries, 6 wheat crackers with 2 tsp. almond butter, 1 medium apple with 1/2 oz. cheddar cheese, 3 Tbsp. raisins or 7 baby carrots with 2 tsp. nut butter.



Good nutrition is not just about the number of calories, but the quality of those calories. In other words, to eat well you must consider food choice (quality) as well as portion control (quantity) the great majority of the time.

Spring Athletics Continued

May

- 2: HS Track @ Eaton—4:30 pm
- 3: Varsity BB & SB @ home vs. Bradford—5:00 pm
JV SB @ Bradford—5:00 pm
JH Track @ home—Preble County Meet—4:00 pm
- 5: Varsity BB & SB @ Franklin-Monroe—5:00 pm
JV BB & SB @ home vs. Franklin-Monroe—5:00 pm
JH Track @ Tri-Village—4:30 pm
- 7: Varsity BB & SB @ PC Meet @ Nat'l Trail—TBA
- 9: JV BB @ Carlisle—5:00 pm
HS Track @ Tri-Village—4:30 pm
- 12: HS Track @ TVS (tournament—semi-finals) —4:30 pm
- 13: JH Track @ TVS (tournament)—4:30 pm
- 14: HS Track @ TVS (tournament—Finals) - 11:00 am



All-CCC Teams Announced

The Cross County Conference Teams have been selected. Those receiving special recognition for their hard work and dedication to basketball are:

All-Conference Team

Kindra Mullins

Special Mention

Josh McAdams

Mallorie Ullery

Honorable Mention

Josh Diehl

Sara Bierly

Congratulations to all on being selected to the All-County Conference Teams!



Just a reminder that all current 6th graders are required to have a Tdap booster prior to entering 7th Grade. Please turn in a copy of your updated immunization records to the MS office by August!



Varsity Football Gives Back To Community

On February 19th, the TCN Varsity Football Team gathered together to give back to their community. They walked the streets of Lewisburg, gathering limbs and branches from the yards of various homes and businesses. They accumulated over twenty trailer loads! This was the first of many activities that the high school football team will be participating in to give back to the community.



Mrs. Falldorf's class making indoor snowmen



Mrs. Falldorf's class celebrates 100th Day of School!

Fourth Grade Geography Bee

TCN's fourth grade class recently held it's own Geography Bee. This year's geography bee winners for were: Wyatt Hutchins- first place, Abbey Rupp- second place, and Tessah Knisely- third place. Wyatt and Abbey represented Tri County North Elementary at the County Geography Bee where they competed against other fourth and fifth graders from around the county. All of the students did a great job in the bee!



High School Students Participate

The Tri-County North High School business students will be taking the 2011 National Financial Capability Challenge this month. The challenge is sponsored by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the U.S. Department of Education, which runs from March 7 through April 8, 2011. The Challenge is a free, voluntary, online series of 40 financial questions for high school students to check their knowledge of earning, spending, savings, borrowing, risk protection, and more. The top 10% scoring students at TCN will earn a personalized award certificate and could be eligible for a drawing to receive one of twenty \$1,000 scholarships nationwide.



Annual TrigStar Exam

On March 24, students in the Trigonometry/PreCalculus and Calculus classes will be taking the TrigStar Exam. This is TCN's sixth year participating in the program under the guidance of Brad Kramer. Students here have done well in the contest through the years; we have had several place in the top 5 in the state. The first place winner will receive a \$200 savings bond. There are monetary prizes available for those who place in the state and national level as well. In addition, participants entering the field of surveying are eligible to apply for a scholarship through the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS). The TrigStar contest is an annual high school mathematics competition sponsored by the NSPS based on the practical application of Trigonometry. The program recognizes the best students from high schools throughout the nation. The purpose of the exam is to promote the study of trigonometry in high school, to acquaint the high school trigonometry students with the use and practical application of trigonometry in the surveying profession, and to build an awareness of surveying as a profession.

ES Family Fun Night!

The TCN Elementary School will be holding their annual Elementary Family Fun Night on Friday, April 1, 2011, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. The whole family can come and enjoy games, prizes, food and the auction. There will be new games for the elementary-aged kids



to play. The kids can turn their tickets in for bigger and better prizes. Also available for an additional cost will be hot dogs, chips and drinks. More information will be sent home with your student in the upcoming weeks. Hope to see everyone at this fun and friendly event!



Tri-County North Local Schools

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High School: 937-962-2675
Middle School: 937-962-2631
Elementary: 937-962-2673

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Upcoming Events



April

- 1: ES Family Fun Night—5:00-7:00 pm
- 8: All 4th Grade Woodland Altars Trip Money & Fees Due!!!
- 12: Kindergarten Registration—District Office—1-4 pm
- 13: STARS
- 15: Interims Go Home With Students and ES Spring Picture Day
- 18-22—Spring Break—NO SCHOOL
- 24: Easter
- 25: TCN Board of Education Meeting—7:30 pm
3rd & 4th Grade OAA Testing—9:00-11:45 am
- 26: OAA Testing—Grades 5-8—Reading
- 27: OAA Testing—Grades 5, 8—Math
- 28: OAA Testing—Grades 5, 8—Science, Grades 6, 7—Math
Preble Cty Honor Scholars Banquet @ TVS—6:00 pm
- 30: Prom at Meadowbrook Country Club—6:30 pm
After-Prom at Vandalia Rec Center—11:30 pm—3:00 am

May

- 2: Calamity Make Up Day—**School is in Session**
- 4: 7th Grade to Cincinnati Zoo
- 5: 7th Grade Earth Day
1st Grade to the Indianapolis Zoo—9 am to 5 pm

- 6: MS Spring Fling—6:00-8:00 pm
3rd Grade to Caesar's Creek—8 am to 2 pm
 - 8: Mother's Day
 - 9-13: Terra Nova Testing—Grades 5-8
 - 10: 2nd Grade to Boonshoft Museum—8:45 am to 2:15 pm
Sinclair Foreign Language Proficiency Exam @ Sinclair
TCN MS/HS Band Concert—7:00 pm
 - 11-13: 4th Graders to Woodland Altars
 - 12: TCN MS/HS Choir Concert—7:00 pm
 - 16: TCN Board of Education Meeting—7:30 pm
 - 17: Senior Awards Night—6:30 pm
 - 18: STARS
 - 19: 2nd & 4th Grade Music Program—6:30 pm
 - 23: ES Field Day
 - 25: Last Student Day
Baccalaurette—6:00 pm—Location TBA
 - 26: Graduation at Salem Church of God—7:00 pm
 - 30: Memorial Day
- ### June
- 19: Father's Day
 - 27: TCN Board of Education Meeting (in DO)—7:30 pm