



# PANTHER PRIDE

Volume 6, Issue 3 ~ March, 2013

## From The Desk Of The Superintendent

William Derringer

It is the month of March and we are all eagerly awaiting the return of warm weather. We have been fortunate that we have only had to use one calamity day and one two hour delay so far this winter. It is hard to believe that March 15<sup>th</sup> is the end of the third nine weeks and with all of the spring activities just around the corner, summer will be here before we realize.

In the midst of all of the horrible things that have happened over the past several years concerning school safety, I wanted to take an opportunity to share with you some changes that we believe will improve the security of our school. This summer, we have plans to renovate the middle school entryway and make it the main entrance to our school building. Currently, this entrance has three outer doors, a breezeway, and three internal doors. Our plan is to place an electronic door in the breezeway that would lead into the current middle school office and lock the internal doors for this entrance thus requiring a staff member from the inside to "buzz in" all visitors next year. All visitors will need to sign in if they are planning on entering the building and proceed through this office. This main entrance will also contain the attendance office, the athletic office, and an office for Chief McGee who has been board approved as our school resource officer for the past three years. We feel very fortunate that the Village of Lewisburg has allowed Chief McGee to work so closely with our school and that we can provide an additional office for him inside our facility near the main entrance. All other doors leading into the building will be locked during the course of the day and all parents and visitors will need to enter through the middle school entrance. I realize that entering the building through one entrance will be an inconvenience during the transition phase as many of our parents currently enter through the elementary or high school entrances when they visit our school. We believe that these improvements will provide a much needed accountability with who enters the building, thus adding an additional layer of security for our students and staff. I would greatly appreciate your cooperation and understanding during this transition period.

I would also like to congratulate our Elementary school for receiving the Ohio Department of Education's "School of Promise" Award for the second year in a row. This award would not be possible without a strong staff, great kids and a supportive community. As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns please feel free to give me a call at the District Office at 962-2671.

## TCN Elementary Earns "School of Promise" Award

In February, TCN Elementary was named a 2012 *School of Promise* for the second year. Our elementary is in a prestigious group of 163 schools in the state that achieved this honor on the local report card for the 2011-2012 school year. This recognition goes out to schools who strive to form strategies to close the mathematics and reading achievement gap for students who represent a range of socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) plans to spotlight TCNES as a strong example of what is possible when students, educators, parents and community members come together and believe that all students can succeed. TCNES will soon be receiving a banner, which will be proudly displayed in the elementary, from ODE to recognize our school for their efforts. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who helped TCNES achieve such an honor!



*Daylight Savings Time begins March 10, 2013!*



### TCNES Spelling Bee Winners

- 1st: Kaimee Knisely
- 2nd: Abigail Smeltzer
- 3rd: Josh Tucker

~Congratulations to all~

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## Elementary School

Denny Dyer

It is hard to believe that we are only a few weeks away from the end of the school year. However, the last three months are a very busy time of the year for us, and we are involved in planning for the upcoming 2013-14 school year as well. I have included a calendar of events and activities and also try to keep our website updated with current information.

Three of our staff will be retiring this year: Mr. Lear, Mrs. Hake and Mrs. Pieratt. They have been GREAT staff members and will certainly be missed next year and beyond, but we wish all three the very best in their retirement.

PLEASE note the testing and assessment dates for the second grade Terra Nova and the third and fourth grade Ohio Achievement Assessments! Second grade will be testing on March 4-8, while the third and fourth grades will be doing the social studies and science Terra Nova on March 12th.

Third and fourth graders will be taking the OAA in reading and math April 22-26th. Please note these dates on your calendars and DO NOT schedule appointments or vacations during those dates and times. ALL students must take the tests and any tests that are missed MUST be made up. Any tests not made up become a "0" in the records and cannot be changed, so please be sure you have these dates on your calendars. On testing days, be sure your child gets a good night's rest, eats a good breakfast, is here on time (late students will NOT be permitted to enter the testing once it begins and will need to go back home and return when the testing time is over that day), and gives their best effort.

We will also be adding some more activities to our calendar in the next couple of weeks. Thank you, again, for all of your continued support of our elementary school.

## Middle School

Joe Finkbine

I love winter and gathering around a 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 from April 23rd through May 2nd. 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 has worked diligently to prepare students for these tests and anticipate great results. Sixth and seventh grade students will be testing April 23rd and 25th, while the fifth and eighth grade students will be testing April 30th, May 1st and May 2nd. Parents, please avoid these dates when scheduling vacations or doctor's appointments to enable your child to do their best on the test!

**6th & 7th Grade Testing: April 23rd—Reading, April 25th—Math**

**5th & 8th Grade Testing: April 30th—Reading, May 1st—Math, May 2nd—Science**

## High School

Doug Dunham

TCNHS is in the process of registering students for classes for the 2013-2014 school year. The class registration booklets will be sent home soon, and we will be meeting with students to complete their schedule requests. We want to let you know of some of the outstanding course offerings that TCN can offer your child:

- 1) **Dual Enrollment in Partnership with Indiana University:** classes in which you can obtain college credit through IU by successfully completing the classes. TCN will offer English 12 (ACP Comp) and Geology, both 6 credit hours, and Personal Finance and Public Speaking, both 3 credit hours. A 6 credit hour class will cost \$150.00 and a 3 credit hour class will cost \$75.00.
- 2) **Advanced Placement English 11:** students who have
- 3) **Post-Secondary Educational Option:** students may choose to attend a local college during part or all of the school day during the school year. The minimum GPA in Ohio is 3.0. A parent meeting is held prior to March 1st each year and students must apply before March 31st each year.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Norris, Guidance Counselor, or Mr. Dunham, Principal.

# Spring Athletics

## March

- 23: Varsity SB @ Oakwood (scrimmage) —11:00 am  
Varsity BB @ Madison (scrimmage) —12 noon  
JVBB vs. Madison (scrimmage) —12 noon
- 26: Varsity BB vs. Greenville (scrimmage) - 4:30 pm  
JVBB @ Greenville (scrimmage) - 4:30 pm
- 27: Varsity SB @ Northeastern (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm  
JVSB vs. Northeastern (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm
- 28: Varsity BB vs. Eaton (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm  
JVBB @ Eaton (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm
- 30: Varsity BB @ Urbana—11:00 am & 1:00 pm  
JVBB vs. Urbana—11:00 am & 1:00 pm

## April

- 1: Varsity BB @ Milton-Union—5:00 pm  
JVBB vs. Milton-Union—5:00 pm
- 2: Varsity SB @ Northridge—5:00 pm  
JVSB vs. Northridge—5:00 pm
- 4: JVSB vs. Dixie—5:00 pm
- 8: Varsity SB @ Thurgood Marshall—5:00 pm
- 9: Varsity BB & SB @ Franklin-Monroe—5:00 pm  
JVBB vs. Franklin-Monroe—5:00 pm  
Varsity Track @ National Trail—4:30 pm
- 11: JH Track @ home (Tri-meet) - 4:30 pm  
Varsity BB & SB vs. Mississinawa—5:00 pm  
JVBB @ Mississinawa—5:00 pm
- 12: Varsity BB & SB @ Newton—5:00 pm
- 13: Varsity BB & SB vs. Carlisle—11:00 am & 1:00 pm  
JVBB @ Carlisle—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
- 15: JH Track @ Arcanum—4:30 pm  
Varsity SB vs. Stivers—5:00 pm  
JVBB vs. Vandalia Butler—5:00 pm
- 16: Varsity BB & SB vs. Tri-Village—5:00 pm  
JVBB @ Tri-Village—5:00 pm  
Varsity Track @ home (quad meet) - 4:30 pm
- 18: Varsity BB & SB @ Ansonia—5:00 pm  
JVSB vs. Ansonia—5:00 pm
- 19: Varsity BB & SB vs. Bethel—5:00 pm  
JVBB @ Bethel—5:00 pm  
Varsity Track @ TVS—4:30 pm
- 20: Varsity BB @ Carlisle—10:00 am & 12:30 pm  
Varsity SB @ Eaton—11:00 am & 1:30 pm  
JVBB vs. Carlisle—10:00 am & 12 noon  
JVSB @ Eaton—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
- 22: Varsity BB & SB vs. Bradford—5:00 pm  
JVBB & JVSB @ Bradford—5:00 pm  
JH Track @ Arcanum—4:30 pm
- 23: Varsity BB & SB vs. Covington—5:00 pm  
JVBB & JVSB @ Covington—5:00 pm

- 26: Varsity Track @ Ansonia—4:30 pm  
Varsity BB & SB @ National Trail—5:00 pm  
JVBB & JVSB vs. National Trail—5:00 pm
- 27: JH Track @ Franklin-Monroe—10:00 am
- 29: Varsity BB & SB @ Miami East—5:00 pm  
JVBB & JBSB vs. Miami East—5:00 pm
- 30: Varsity Track @ TVS—4:30 pm  
Varsity BB vs. Madison—5:00 pm  
JVBB @ Madison—5:00 pm

## May

- 1: JVBB vs. Dixie—5:00 pm
- 2: JH Track @ TVS—4:30 pm  
Varsity BB & SB vs. TVS—5:00 pm  
JVBB @ TVS—5:00 pm
- 3: Varsity BB & SB @ Arcanum—5:00 pm  
JVBB & JVSB vs. Arcanum—5:00 pm
- 4: Varsity Track @ Arcanum—9:00 am  
Varsity BB—Cody Holp Classic @ Home—10 am & 2 pm  
JVBB @ Brookville—12 noon & 2:00 pm
- 7: JH Track @ Preble County Meet @ Home—4:30 pm  
Varsity SB vs. Madison—5:00 pm  
JVSB @ Madison—5:00 pm  
JVBB @ Dixie—5:00 pm
- 8: JVBB @ Vandalia Butler—5:00 pm
- 9: Varsity BB & SB @ Preble Shawnee—5:00 pm  
JVBB & JVSB vs. Preble Shawnee—5:00 pm
- 10: JVBB & JVSB @ National Trail—5:00 pm
- 11: Varsity SB vs. Franklin-Monroe—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
- 13: Varsity Track @ Tri-Village—4:30 pm
- 14: JH Track @ Tri-Village—4:30 pm
- 16: Varsity Track @ TVS (CCC semi-finals) - 4:30 pm
- 17: JH Track @ TVS (CCC Meet) - 4:30 pm
- 18: Varsity Track @ TVS (CCC Finals) - 11:00 am

## Note From The Nurse

Attention 6th Grade Parents! Students are required to have a Tdap booster (DPT series booster) before starting 7th Grade. As with other immunization requirements, students who do not provide documentation of this immunization are subject to exclusion from school. To avoid exclusion, we encourage you to contact your family physician or the Preble County Health Department now to arrange to get the Tdap and turn in your documentation to the Middle School office before school starts in the Fall. If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse, Mrs. Stupp, RN, at 937-962-2631.



## HS Yearbooks For Sale

Yearbooks for the 2012-2013 school year are on sale now for \$55.00! Students and/or parents can go to [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) to preorder. Also, a limited number of old yearbooks can be purchased from the High School office by calling 937-962-2675. The prices are as follows:



|           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1998—\$15 | 1999—\$15 | 2000—\$15 |
| 2001—\$15 | 2002—\$15 | 2003—\$15 |
| 2004—\$20 | 2005—\$25 | 2006—\$30 |
| 2007—\$35 | 2008—\$40 | 2009—\$45 |
| 2010—\$50 | 2011—\$55 | 2012—\$64 |

## Box Tops Still Being Collected



TCN Elementary is continuing to collect BOX TOPS for our field day activities. The number of box tops collected will determine the variety of events the students will be able to participate in. So far, TCN Elementary has collected over 27,000 box tops with the help of our students, their families, staff, and members of our community. Thank you for your support!

Last year's field day was a huge success thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers. In order for this year's field day to be just as successful, we are in need of volunteers! We will be sending flyers home with information and specific details as the big even approaches.

This year, our field day will be held May 24th, rain or shine.

## Never. Lose. Hope.

TCN students have received annual depression awareness/suicide prevention programming in grades 6th through 12th, presented by school based mental health therapists from the Preble County ESC and the prevention coordinator from Marie Dwyer Recovery Center in Eaton. The objectives of the program are to educate students on the symptoms of depression, which is the biggest risk factor for suicidal behavior. The program also teaches students how to respond and where to go when faced with these issues. The program is presented with the overall goal of reducing student suicidal behaviors. This year, the Never. Lose. Hope. group, comprised of eight high school students, presented the message to the MS and HS students. They shared their presentation and learning materials, expressing that help is available.

## Financial Literacy Certified

Congratulations to the following students who have been certified in Financial Literacy:

Kyle Singleton, Jesse Applegate, Daryl Velasquez, Aaron Koenig, Brad Hornbeck, Madison Duffie, Carly Fink, TJ Tahmassebi and Luke Thies.



These students have successfully completed EverFi's Financial Literacy program sponsored by United Midwest Savings Bank. EverFi is a web-based program that covers such topics as credit scores, FAFSA, budgeting and investing. EverFi is the leading education technology company focused on teaching, assessing and certifying students in financial skills.

## 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 First Team

Megan Johnson

Austin Hutchins

### Special Mention Team

Jackie Marshall

Billy Derringer

Congratulations to all of the TCN athletes for being selected to the All-County Conference Teams!



# Think Spring!

## NHS Blood Drive

The National Honor Society is holding it's annual Blood Drive on Wednesday, March 20th, from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the high school gym. This year's goal is sixty viable pints! Please help support our drive by donating blood. Walk-ins, parents and students are welcome to donate. If anyone would like to sign up for a donation time, please contact Mrs. Lee in room 115. Anyone 16 or older can donate. The total process takes approximately 45-55 minutes.



## Archery At TCN

TCN is introducing Archery to students. The National Archery in the Schools Program, NASP, is fast becoming a great learning opportunity for students across the country. TCN has received grants from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Twin Valley Rod and Gun Club and the Lewisburg Trailriders to fund the materials needed, such as bows, arrows, targets and safety netting.

In order for TCN to receive the grants, training needed to occur prior to the submission for the funds. In early September, 2012, P.E. teachers, Sylvia Adams and Amy Kramer, along with Lewisburg Police Officer, Rick McGee, received archery training from an ODNR officer. All three became certified as "Basic Archery Instructors".

Students at TCN will receive instruction in archery and safety during their physical education classes in grades 4-12. TCN has also applied for a grant with the intention of starting an archery club next fall. The archery club would be eligible to participate in the ODNR sponsored statewide NASP competition in March along with the Arnold's Classic in March. There are over 1300 archers competing in this competition. We are excited about the opportunities this will open for our students at TCN!



## Invention Convention

This year, TCN Middle School hosted their first Invention Convention. Participants included 6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> grade and most presented their inventions as a team. The top teams for each room were: Ryan Combs & Morgan Croucher (7<sup>th</sup> grade), Paige Daugherty & Lindsay Owens (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Kevin Tomlin (7<sup>th</sup> grade), Clifton Conley & Zach Tincher (8<sup>th</sup> grade), John & Tim Stubblefield (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Austin Hutchison & Chandler Sproles (7<sup>th</sup> grade), Madison McIntosh & Hailey Thies (7<sup>th</sup> grade), Lauren Koenig & Megan Poling (7<sup>th</sup> grade), Anna Norris (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Ben Duffy (8<sup>th</sup> grade), and Kyle Sykes (8<sup>th</sup> grade).



Congratulations to all of the participants for doing such a nice job and the judges really enjoyed listening to all of the inventors. We have three inventions moving on to the Regional Invention Convention at Wright State University on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Those attending include Kevin Tomlin, John & Tim Stubblefield, and Brandon Parsons.

## "Kindergarten After Hours"

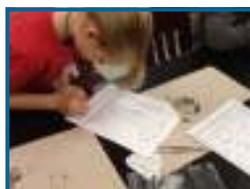
On February 5th, Mrs. Falldorf's kindergarten class had "Kindergarten After Hours". This was an opportunity for the students to bring in a parent or parents and share what we do at school. The children participated with their parents in a series of stations and activities followed by a slideshow and refreshments. A great time was had by all!



## Fifth Graders Dissect Owl Pellets



Once again, fifth grade science students had the opportunity to dissect owl pellets in class. In doing so, students learned what owl pellets are made of. They carefully picked out bones of the prey that the owl had consumed and used a bone chart to identify the unknown bones, sorting them by body parts. The fifth grade Owl Pellet Investigation was paid for through a grant from DonorsChoose.org. Starbucks of Ohio provided the donation that made it possible for our students to investigate food chains and food webs and the interactions between different organisms in ecosystems. A big thank you goes out to Starbucks from our students here at TCN Middle School!



## Tri-County North Schools

### District Office

436 N. Commerce Street  
PO Box 40  
Lewisburg, OH 45338

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

PRE-STD  
US POSTAGE  
PERMIT NUMBER 77  
BROOKVILLE, OH  
45309

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## Upcoming Events



### April

- 1-5: Spring Break—NO SCHOOL
- 11: Kindergarten Registration in District Office—1-4 pm
- 12: ES Spring Picture Day
- 15: TCN Board of Education Meeting—7:30 pm
- 18: ES Parent/Teacher Conferences—3:30-5:30 pm
- 22-26: 3rd & 4th Grade OAA Testing—9:00 am-12:00 pm
- 25: Preble County Honors Program @ TVS—6:00 pm
- 27: Prom @ Meadowbrook Country Club—7:00 pm

### May

- 3: Interims Sent Home With Students  
VIP Fling for Backpack
- 8-10: 4th Graders to Woodland Altars
- 9: 1st Grade to Indianapolis Zoo  
HS/MS Spring Band Concert—7:00 pm
- 12: Mother's Day
- 14: MVCTC Recognition Night @ WSU—7:00 pm
- 17: 3rd Grade to Caesar's Creek
- 20: TCN Board of Education Meeting—7:30 pm  
Senior Awards Program—HS Gym—6:30 pm
- 23: 2nd & 4th Grade Music Program—6:30 pm
- 24: Elementary Field Day  
Senior Picnic

- 27: Memorial Day—NO SCHOOL
- 29: Graduation Rehearsal—8:30 am
- 30: Last Day For Students!!!  
MS Field Day  
Grade Cards Sent Home With Students  
TCN Graduation @ Salem Church of God—7:00 pm
- 31: Teacher In-Service Day

### June

- 16: Father's Day
- 25: TCN Board of Education Meeting—7:30 pm



TCN 2nd Graders receiving swimming instruction from the Preble County YMCA. Each student attended four sessions. THANK YOU to the YMCA staff!

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