



Panther Pride

Volume 7, Issue 3

March, 2014

TRI-COUNTY NORTH LOCAL SCHOOLS

From The Desk Of The Superintendent William Derringer

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**Election Day is May 6th!
Please make sure you get
to the polls and vote!**

Calamity Make Up Dates

**Per the state, we must
make up four days this
year and will do so on
the following days:**

**Friday, April 18th
Friday, May 30th
Monday, June 2nd
Tuesday, June 3rd**

I would like to thank the parents, grandparents, friends and relatives of all of our students who helped each of them get through one of the worst winters in the past twenty years. As many of you are aware, the State has traditionally allowed schools five calamity days each year that they were not required to make up due to inclement weather conditions. I am sure that many of you watched closely as the Governor, the House of Representatives and the Senate debated over the best course of action for calamity days for this year. The final decision agreed upon by the House and the Senate allows Ohio schools additional calamity days but only after they have made up days six through nine. As Tri-County North missed nine days of school this winter, we are responsible for making up these four days. The dates that we will be using as make up days are Friday April 18th, Friday May 30th, Monday June 2nd and Tuesday June 3rd. Graduation for our senior students will not change and will remain on Thursday, May 29th. The new legislation does not require our seniors to make up days after graduation but they will be responsible for making up a day on April 18th. I apologize for the inconvenience that this may cause some of you but I do want to thank you, in advance, for your cooperation and understanding in getting these days made up.

I'm sure that most of you are aware that Tri-County North has a 1% Earned Income tax levy (Issue 11) on the ballot at the election to be held on May 6, 2014. Issue 11 will be for a five year period of time and is projected to raise \$961,459 per year. "Earned Income" is defined as wages, salaries, tips, other employee compensation, and self-employment income from sole proprietorships and partnerships. Under this alternative tax base, each taxpayer in the EARNED INCOME ONLY tax base does NOT pay school district income tax on any other types of income such as retirement income, unemployment compensation, worker's compensation, interest, dividends, capital gains, alimony received, distributions from trusts and estates and all other types of income that are not earned income but that are part of Ohio adjusted gross income. School district income tax is paid to the school in which a person resides.

With Tri-County North currently only having property tax, the choice to place the earned income tax on the ballot was not an easy decision. If TCN were run this levy as an additional property tax, the equivalent property tax millage would be 8.03 mils in order to generate the \$961,459 based on the 2012 valuation. Currently Tri-County North is the only school in Preble County, as well as the entire Cross County Conference, without any type of school income tax.

If this levy does not pass, expenditures will be reduced in the amount of approximately \$941,000 effective July 1, 2014. Below is the list of programs and positions that would be eliminated to save this \$941,000:

9-12 bus routes and all transportation for grades K-8 within a two mile radius of TCN, all athletics, all co-curricular activities, all advisors and clubs, all field trips, cut Athletic Director, Transportation/Buildings and Ground Supervisor, and a Guidance Counselor positions and cut the Bus Mechanic position to half-time, cut Latchkey program, freeze textbook purchasing, reduce purchase of instructional supplies and supplemental teaching supplies and other savings due to not replacing employees who are retiring this year (staff reorganization)

The bottom line is that without the additional funds that this levy will generate, many of the programs and activities that our students and community have grown accustomed to will be eliminated as the district must reduce expenditures.

K-6 Principal News

Joe Finkbine

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 elementary and middle school and a great opportunity for students to show what they know. The fifth grade students will be taking the Reading, Math, and Science tests and the third, fourth, and sixth grade students will be taking Reading and Math tests. Both the elementary and middle school staffs have worked diligently to prepare students for these tests and anticipate great results. The state department of education has given us an additional week this year due to the amount of calamity days throughout the state, so we have three weeks to give the Ohio Achievement Assessment. Both the elementary and middle schools have chosen to push their assessment dates back by one week so we will use two weeks to test. It is imperative for students to be in school during their assigned testing dates. Please review below the dates for our students to be taking the OAA and avoid doctor appointments and vacations during these times.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4/28 Get a good night's sleep!	4/29 4 th & 6 th Reading	4/30	5/1 4 th & 6 th Math	5/2 Enjoy your weekend!
5/5 Get a good night's sleep!	5/6 3 rd & 5 th Reading	5/7 5 th Math	5/8 3 rd Math 5 th Science	5/9 Enjoy your weekend!

Kindergarten registration is just around the corner for Tri-County North. April 14th - 17th will be our week to register incoming kindergartners for the 2014-15 school year. Registration will take place from 9:00am—2:00pm each day and will be held in the district office with Noelle Murray, secretary to the superintendent. This is an open registration meaning no appointment is needed, simply show up to register on one of those days between that time frame. We will also be providing information to students during the Safe Communities Fair @ the Preble County YMCA on April 19th from 10am - 2pm. All incoming kindergartners will receive a "Beginnergarten Bag" at registration which includes a book, crayons, scissors, and glue stick. These items were donated to TCN by the Preble County ESC which obtained funds through the Early Literacy Grant from the state of Ohio. We will be putting yard signs around town and posters up in local businesses to remind parents of our registration campaign. Early registration allows TCN to plan for our incoming kindergartners and allows the kindergarten students to obtain some materials they can use all summer to prepare for kindergarten. We hope to see all kindergartners during the week of April 14th - 17th! If you have any questions regarding Kindergarten registration, please feel free to contact Noelle Murray in the District Office at 937-962-2671.



7-12 Principal News

Doug Dunham

Tri-County North High School is in the process of registering students for classes for the 2014-2015 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 Tri-County North can offer your son/daughter.

Dual Enrollment (HS and College Credit Courses) in Partnership with Indiana University: We will once again offer high school classes where you can obtain college credit through Indiana University by successfully completing the classes. Tri-County North will offer English 12 (ACP Comp) as a 6 credit hours and this is a block class allowing for more instructional time; Geology 6 credit hours; Personal Finance 3 credit hours; and Public Speaking 3 credit hours. A 6 hour credit hour class will cost \$150.00 and a 3 credit hour class will cost \$75.00. This is a great opportunity for your son/daughter to earn 18 hours of college credit before their freshmen year of college, and at a substantial cost savings from colleges/universities. The courses are taught by Tri-County North High School staff and they are certified to teach the class through Indiana University, and they can provide more individual instruction for your son/daughter. One student who completed ACP English 12 during her senior year said, "Mrs. Hough was so thorough that I had no problem understanding what my Miami University professors expected when it came to my research papers during my freshmen year."

Advanced Placement English 11: Students who have shown success in the language arts and who are willing to read extensively over the summer months can take AP English 11 during their junior year. The Advanced Placement (A.P.) 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. (The actual cost is \$84 per exam, but TCN uses grant money to off-set the cost for 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 in Ohio is 3.0. A mandatory parent meeting was held on February 27, 2014 if students were going to participate. PSEO grades do count as part of the student's overall grade point average.

Besides the above college/high school credit options, students can enroll in Psychology and Sociology classes. We are working with Sinclair Community College to offer a Dual Enrollment History class being taught by one of our teachers for juniors and seniors, and we will have more information on this later in March. We will once again offer a Project More Semester elective class where older students serve as mentors to younger students with the purpose of improving reading skills. Our Agricultural Education will have classes in Agriculture, Fiber & Natural Resources, Construction Technology, Plant Science, Animal Science, Agricultural Leadership and Ag-Business 400. Tri-County North High School's other elective classes are Band, Choir, Spanish I-IV, Computer Applications, Accounting, Yearbook, Media, Business Applications, Introduction to Business, Healthy and Safe Foods, Healthy Living, Child Development, Careers, Transitions, Art I-IV. Please discuss the class offerings with your son/daughter, and if you have any questions please contact Mrs. Norris, Guidance Counselor Cathy.Norris@tcn.k12.oh.us or Mr. Dunham, High School Principal, Doug.Dunham@tcn.k12.oh.us or call 937-962-2675.

Spring Athletics

March

- 26: Varsity BB @ Fairborn (scrimmage)—5:00 pm
JVBB vs. Fairborn (scrimmage)—5:00 pm
- 27: Varsity SB @ Oakwood (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm
JVSB vs. Oakwood (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm
- 29: Varsity BB vs. Urbana (scrimmage)—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
JVBB @ Urbana (scrimmage)—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
Varsity SB vs. Northeastern (scrimmage) - 2:00 & 4:00 pm
JVSB @ Northeastern (scrimmage) - 2:00 & 4:00 pm
- 31: JVBB @ Wayne (scrimmage) - 5:00 pm

April

- 1: Varsity BB vs. Milton Union—5:00 pm
- 2: Varsity SB vs. Northridge—5:00 pm
- 3: Varsity SB @ Dixie—5:00 pm
JVSB vs. Dixie—5:00 pm
- 7: Varsity SB vs. Newton—5:00 pm
- 8: Varsity BB & SB vs. Franklin-Monroe—5:00 pm
JVBB @ Franklin-Monroe—5:00 pm
Varsity Track @ National Trail—4:30 pm
- 9: JVBB vs. Wayne—5:00 pm
- 10: Varsity BB & SB @ Mississinawa—5:00 pm
JVBB vs. Mississinawa—5:00 pm
JH Track @ home—4:30 pm
- 11: Varsity BB vs. Newton—5:00 pm
- 12: Varsity BB vs. Washington Court House—10:00 am
Varsity BB vs. Eaton—2:00 pm
- 14: Varsity SB @ Stivers—5:00 pm
JH Track @ Arcanum—4:30 pm
- 15: Varsity BB & SB @ Tri-Village—5:00 pm
JVSB vs. Tri-Village—5:00 pm
- 17: Varsity BB & SB vs. Ansonia—5:00 pm
JVBB @ Ansonia—5:00 pm
- 19: Varsity BB @ Carlisle—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
Varsity SB vs. Preble Shawnee—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
- 21: JH Track @ Arcanum—4:30 pm
- 22: Varsity BB & SB @ Bethel—5:00 pm
JVBB vs. Bethel—5:00 pm
- 25: Varsity BB & SB vs. Miami East—5:00 pm
JVBB @ Miami East—5:00 pm

- 25: Varsity Track @ Ansonia—4:30 pm
JH Track @ Eaton—4:30 pm
- 26: JVBB vs. Madison—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
JVSB vs. Eaton—11:00 am & 1:00 pm
- 28: Varsity BB & SB @ Covington—5:00 pm
JVBB vs. Covington—5:00 pm
- 29: Varsity BB & SB vs. National Trail—5:00 pm
JVBB & JVSB @ National Trail—5:00 pm
Varsity Track @ Eaton—4:30 pm
- 30: JVBB vs. Tipp City—5:00 pm

May

- 1: JH Track @ TVS—4:30 pm
- 2: Varsity BB & SB @ TVS—5:00 pm
JVBB & JVSB vs. TVS—5:00 pm
Varsity Track @ Arcanum—4:30 pm
- 3: Varsity BB “Cody Holp Classic”—9:00 am & 2:00 pm
- 5: Varsity SB @ Valley View—5:00 pm
JVBB @ Tipp City—5:00 pm
JVSB vs. Valley View—5:00 pm
- 6: Varsity BB & SB vs. Arcanum—5:00 pm
JVBB & JVSB @ Arcanum—5:00 pm
JH Track @ Eaton—4:30 pm
- 8: Varsity BB & SB @ Bradford—5:00 pm
JVBB & JVSB vs. Bradford—5:00 pm
- 10: Varsity BB vs. Madison—12:00 pm
JVBB @ Madison—12:00 pm
- 12: Varsity Track @ Tri-Village—4:30 pm
- 13: JH Track @ Tri-Village—4:30 pm
- 15: Varsity Track Semi-Finals @ TVS—4:30 pm
- 16: JH Track CCC Meet @ TVS—4:30 pm
- 17: Varsity Track Finals @ TVS—11:00 am

Just A Reminder!

The 2014-2015 Kindergarten Registration will be held in the District Office beginning **Monday, April 14th, through Thursday, April 17th** from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. each day. This is an OPEN registration, meaning no appointment is needed. Please bring all of the required documentation with you (refer to our website for requirements). The child must be five years old on or before August 1, 2014. If you have any questions, please contact Noelle at the District Office at 937-962-2671.



ATI-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 Second Team: Austin Hutchins

Special Mention Team: Jackie Marshall, Hunter Gleadell

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



2013-2014 High School Yearbooks are on sale now! The cost is \$55 (or \$60 online). Please see Mrs. Carmean for an order form or visit www.jostens.com to order online. The yearbook order deadline is March 31, 2014.

Geography Bee Held Recently

Tri-County North Elementary School and Middle School recently held their annual School Geography Bees sponsored by the National Geographic Society. The winners for the elementary were: Hunter Pahl, first place; Joey Combs, second place. The winners for the middle school were: Brady Bateman, first place; Matthew O'Dell, second place. These students went on to compete against other Geography Bee winners from around the county at the County Geography Bee held at National Trail this year. Congratulations and great job representing TCN!



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LEGO Robotics at TCN

Student Robotic Engineers have been busy this year researching, designing and building prototype robots. Two of the most recent robotic challenges were the Toy Lego Bot Challenge and the Olympic Athlete Robot Challenge.

Recently students in the 7th and 8th grade MECA class were faced with the challenge of creating a new toy which they had to build and market to students in the 3rd and 4th grades. They had to research the toy market for nine and ten year olds, and then take the information and use it to design this year's hottest new toy. Students created robots that were hybrid action figures, ball launchers, a remote control battle type bot, and the winner- a remote control, toy crushing "Hammer Bot" which was designed by eighth graders Ethan Cooley and Nick Erbaugh.

In honor of the 2014 Winter Olympic Games, students in 5th through 8th grade MECA were challenged to design a winter Olympian based on their favorite winter Olympic sport. Again, students were required to gather background research about the Olympics, Sochi, and various winter sports. After building up their background knowledge, students selected one sport to learn a lot more about by focusing on the science behind the sport. Using their newfound knowledge, students designed and built robot athletes and the courses or tracks on which their athletes competed. Several students scaled down their courses based on the scale of their athlete in order to make their projects as realistic as possible. They then presented their projects to an audience of fellow students, teachers, and principals. These students worked hard as teams and persevered through failure in order to create their Olympic athletes.



Fifth Grade Sounds Off!

This year's fifth grade students created some homemade instruments for Science class. They had been studying the science of sound energy, so they used what they had learned about frequency, pitch and volume to make the instruments from recycled materials. The recyclables were collected at home, put together in a creative way, decorated, and then brought to school to present to their class. Each class had quite a 'jam session' after all of the demonstrations. All the students did a great job on their instruments!



Box Tops Needed



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. Our goal is to collect 40,000 box tops, so far TCN Elementary has collected over 28,000 box tops. We need 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 event 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 event approaches.

This year our field day will be held May 23rd, rain or shine.

Father/Daughter Dance Held Recently

The Tri-County North Education Association (TCNEA) recently hosted their first ever "Father/Daughter Dance" on Friday, February 28, 2014. The dance was open to all daughters and their fathers in grades K-6. Over 200 fathers and daughters attended the event. The theme was Frozen from the Disney film. While there, they enjoyed dancing to the music of a live DJ, refreshments provided by the FCCLA students and Mike Champine Photography provided 5x7 photos for purchase. Bobbie's Florals of Brookville also provided the corsages and boutonnieres for pre-order. Many fathers took their daughters out to dinner before the event and made a special evening out of it. The evening was magically enchanting and we look forward to hosting a similar event next year!



Ohio Stock Market Challenge

The dual enrollment Personal Finance class is, once again, competing in the Ohio Stock Market Challenge. The class has \$100,000 in "imaginary funds" to invest in stocks, bonds, and mutual funds listed on the major stock market exchanges. The challenge is a great way for students to be exposed to the stock market, without the fear of losing real money.



Cavendish Earns Service Award

Jesse Cavendish was recognized at The Dayton LaSertoma Club's 54th Annual Youth Service Awards Banquet on February 26 at the Presidential Banquet Center in Kettering. Jesse was one of twenty-seven seniors recognized throughout the Miami Valley for his volunteerism in his school and community. Congratulations, Jesse!



Tri-County North Local Schools

District Office

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

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

We're On The Web!

www.tcnschools.com

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Upcoming Events

April

- 1-4: Spring Break—NO SCHOOL
- 5: MVCTC Prom
- 11: Elementary Spring Pictures
Panther Pride Assembly (7th/8th grades)
- 14-17: Kindergarten Registration in DO—9 am—2 pm daily
- 14-18: Elementary Music Fundraiser
- 17: Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences—5:30-7:30 pm
- 18: CALAMITY MAKE UP DAY!**
- 20: Easter
- 21: TCN Board of Education Meeting—7:30 pm
- 22: Spring Music Program—2nd & 4th grades
Earth Day
- 24: Preble County Honors Scholars Banquet @ TVS—6:00 pm
- 25: TCNEA K-6 Mother/Son Magic Show—6:00-8:00 p.m.
- 26: TCN Prom at Meadowbrook Country Club—6:00 pm
- 29: NHS Inductions—9:30 am

May

- 2: MS Spring Fling (Grades 5-8)—6:00-8:00 pm
- 6: Election Day
- 7-9: 4th Graders to Camp Kern

- 9: 4th Quarter Interims Sent Home With Students
- 11: Mother's Day
- 13: Family Literacy Night—5:30 pm
- 14: Music Concert—7:00 pm
- 15-16: 6th Grade Dearborn, Michigan Trip
- 16: MVCTC Recognition at WSU—7:00 pm
- 19: TCN Board of Education Meeting—7:30 pm
- 21-23: Senior Exams
- 23: Senior Picnic
- 26: Memorial Day—NO SCHOOL
- 28: Graduation Practice—8:00 am
- 29: TCN Graduation @ Salem Church of God—7:00 pm
- 30: CALAMITY MAKE UP DAY!**

June

- 2: CALAMITY MAKE UP DAY!**
- 3: **Last Day For Students!!!!**
Grade Cards Sent Home With Students
- 4: Teacher In-Service Day
- 15: Father's Day
- 25: TCN Board of Education Meeting in the DO—7:30 pm