



# Panther Pride

## From The Desk Of The Superintendent William Derringer



We have gotten off to an exciting start this school year. Many projects have been completed to maintain and upgrade our facilities over the past few months. New partitions have been installed in each of the downstairs bathrooms and when you enter our High School you will quickly notice how nice the hallways look as they have been painted gray with red trim. Refinishing the gym floors, resurfacing the blacktop on the kindergarten playground, adding security cameras at the bus garage, and replacing the old swings on the elementary playground are just a few other examples of maintenance projects that took place over this past summer.

We were very proud of our accomplishments on this year's State Report Card. As a District, we received an Effective rating for the sixth consecutive year. Our High School and Elementary School were both rated Excellent! We scored the highest performance index in the county at 96.6, an area where we have improved each of the past four years. We also met 24 of 30 state indicators this year which was an improvement of three indicators over last year's 21 of 30. Our value-added score showed that our students MET one year's worth of growth and we also met AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) this year, which we had not met in the past two years. All in all, this year's State Report Card shows that TCN has made some great improvements over the past year. I would like to thank each of our students, teachers and administrators for their hard work in making this happen. Our next goal is to achieve an Excellent Rating as a District. This is a goal that we are not far from achieving.

Most of you have probably heard of the many changes that House Bill One (HB1) has required of schools. The changes are much too numerous to mention in this newsletter. If you are interested, you can go to the Ohio Department of Education's website where there is a link ex-

plaining the entire bill. I did, however, want to mention one new requirement of the bill that might impact some of you. Tri-County North will no longer be permitted to collect school fees for any child who's parents have completed the "Sharing Information For School Fee Waiver" form and have been approved to receive free lunches. If this form has not been completed, school fees cannot be waived. Fees for field trips or extra-curricular activities, such as athletics, will still be required.

TCN has been granted three waiver days this year by the Ohio Department of Education for professional development for our teachers. We have selected the dates of October 13, 2009, January 19, 2010, and February 16, 2010, for these waiver days. Students **will not** be in school during this time. You will notice that these days are all on Tuesday's following an existing Monday holiday. This will allow parents to have four day weekends with their children just in case you might be planning an out of town activity. The building will be open on each of these days as our teachers will be receiving professional development.

Again I would like to thank each of you for your support and for what you do to make Tri-County North a better place for our students. As always, if you have questions, comments or concerns please feel free to call me at the district office at 937-962-2671.



TCN Homecoming  
is October 16th

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November 1, 2009



### Coming To Our Elementary School...

#### DESTINATION BOOK FAIR

#### "Read Around The World"

When: November 2nd through November 6th

Location: Elementary School Library

Students may buy during "specials" time

Family Nights: Nov. 2nd—3:30-6:30 pm

Nov. 5th—3:30-6:30 pm

All profits are used for the Library and to help defray costs for the Winter and Spring programs.

Thank you, in advance, for your support!

## Elementary School

**Denny Dyer**

TCNES kicks off a school wide fundraiser on September 25th and students can take orders through October 5th. All proceeds and profits from the fundraiser are used to help finance field trips, support student activities, purchase classroom supplies and equipment and supplement other costs associated with our students. Students do not collect money until the merchandise arrives on November 5th, with all money due on November 16th. There are several incentives for students and parents should be sure to scan the product brochures, as well as the prize incentives. Thank you for your continuing support and participation.

In addition, our 3rd and 4th graders will have the opportunity to reduce (or completely pay for) their cost of \$55 for the Woodland Altars trip with a McDonald's peeler program in mid-October. The peeler cards are \$10 each and \$4.50 of

each card will be applied to each individual student's cost. The program will last for a few weeks and allow students ample opportunity to take orders. The cost of the trip is \$110 per student, but we are able to reduce that cost significantly with our school-wide fundraiser that is held in late September. Our 3rd and 4th graders will also have the opportunity to reduce their Woodland Altars cost even further with a Market Day pie sale in November, as some of the profits from each of the pies that the students take orders for will be applied to the cost of the Woodland Altars trip. With the McDonald's peelers and the pie sale, each student could earn their entire \$55 for the trip. Any profits over \$55 will be applied to the overall cost of the trip.

Finally, TCNES is, once again, collecting box tops to finance our Field Day in May. Please keep sending in those box tops!

## Middle School

**Joe Finkbine**

The school year has gotten off to a great start and is going by fast. Interim reports have already been sent home. If you have any questions regarding your child's education, please feel free to contact the teacher via email listed on our website, [www.tcnschools.com](http://www.tcnschools.com), or by phone at 937-962-2631 or 937-833-3075. You are a critical part of your son or daughter's education.

Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for October 29, 2009, from 2:30—8:30 p.m. This gives you, the parent, another time to come in and see your child's

progress. Please don't hesitate to call and schedule an appointment.

Spirit Week in the Middle School was September 14-18th. We had a great turnout for participation from both the students and the staff. Monday was team jersey/shirt day. Tuesday was Panther Pride day. Wednesday was mix and match day. Thursday was career day and Friday was pajama day. We had a great mix of different outfits and great fun. On Tuesday, we held a pep rally for our fall sports and the students and staff had great enthusiasm and showed their

Panther Pride. It is exciting to see the enthusiasm and spirit held by our students and staff! In the Middle School, we like to say, "You Can't Hide Our Panther Pride!" How true that was for spirit week.



## High School

Forty Tri-County North High School students received their Academic "N" letters during a September 24, 2009, Academic Awards Assembly. Eighteen sophomores, nine juniors and thirteen seniors earned their "letters" based on their 2008-2009 school year academic performance. These students earned a 3.6 GPA in each of the four quarters of the 2008-09 school year. Included among the forty letter winners were eight TCN students who attend the Miami Valley Career Technology Center. The 2009-10 school year marks the fourth year the Academic "N" has been awarded.

Sophomores: Joe Askins, Thomas Bailey, Jesse Butcher, Bailey Cruse, Eli Davidson, Katie Gingery, Wes Hart, Ronnie Jacobs, Chris Johnson, Sam Judd, Hannah Krull, Matt Louthan, Nick Moore, Kindra Mullins, Adam Obringer, Morgan Silvers, Samantha Ward, Katie Whitaker.

Juniors: Emily Broughton\*, Makaya Conley\*, Rachel Fritz\*,

Jesse Garner\*, Aaron Patrick, Robby Plesk, Austin Schaar\*, Carly Schriever\*, David Smith.

Seniors: Heather Baker\*\*, Danielle Bennett\*\*, Cori Burnside, Cara Dickey, Cody Eakes, Cassie Earnst, Joe Gully\*, Ashley Harkins\*\*, Bailey Judd\*\*, Kyndal Reindel, Jessica Rudnicki, Abby Schlater\*\*, Robert Weist.



\* denotes second year, \*\* denotes third year

# Athletics



## October

- 1: Boys Varsity Soccer @ TVS—7:15 pm  
Girls Varsity Soccer @ TVS—5:30 pm  
Varsity/JV Volleyball @ home vs. Tri-Village—5:30 pm  
JH Volleyball @ Tri-Village—5:00 pm
- 2: Varsity Football @ home vs. Miami East—7:30 pm
- 3: HS Cross Country @ Eaton—9:00 am  
Varsity/JV Volleyball @ Brookville—10:00 am  
JV Football @ Miami East—10:00 am
- 5: Varsity/JV Volleyball @ Waynesville—5:30 pm  
Girls Varsity Soccer @ home vs. F-M—5:00 pm
- 5: JH Football @ National Trail—5:00 pm  
JH Volleyball @ home vs. West Carrollton—5:00 pm  
Varsity/JV Volleyball @ Newton—5:30 pm  
Boys Varsity Soccer @ Trotwood-Madison—5:30 pm
- 7: Varsity Cross Country @ Madison—4:30 pm
- 8: JH Volleyball @ Mississinawa—5:00 pm  
Girls Varsity Soccer @ Bethel—7:30 pm  
Boys Varsity Soccer @ home vs. Bethel—5:30 pm  
Varsity/JV Volleyball @ home vs. Mississinawa—5:30 pm
- 9: Varsity Football @ TVS—7:30 pm
- 10: JV Football @ home vs. TVS—10:00 am  
Girls Varsity Soccer @ home vs. Anna—1:00 pm
- 12: Varsity/JV Volleyball @ home vs. Preble Shawnee—5:30 pm  
Girls Varsity Soccer @ Xenia Christian—7:30 pm
- 13: Boys Varsity Soccer @ Southeastern—5:00 pm  
JH Football @ home vs. Arcanum—5:00 pm  
Varsity/JV Volleyball @ Franklin-Monroe—5:30 pm
- 15: Varsity/JV Volleyball @ home vs. Bradford—5:30 pm  
Boys Varsity Soccer @ Tri-Village—5:30 pm
- 16: Varsity Football @ home vs. N. Trail—7:30 pm (Homecoming)
- 17: JV Football @ National Trail—10:00 am  
Varsity & JH Cross Country CCC meet @ TCN—9:00 am
- 23: Varsity Football @ Ansonia—7:30 pm
- 24: JH Football CCC Tournament Game—TBA
- 30: Varsity Football @ home vs. Arcanum—7:30 pm (Sr. Night)

## November — None

Did you know?...earthworms have five hearts.

## December

- 1: Girls JH BB @ Bethel—5:00 pm  
Girls Varsity/JV BB @ home vs. Northeastern—5:30 pm
- 3: Girls Varsity/JV BB @ home vs. Arcanum—5:30 pm
- 4: Boys Varsity/JV BB @ home vs. Covington—6:30 pm
- 5: Varsity Wrestling @ Brookville—TBA  
Girls JH BB @ Covington—10:00 am  
Boys Varsity/JV BB @ Madison—6:00 pm
- 8: Girls JH BB @ home vs. Miami East—5:00 pm  
Boys JH BB @ Arcanum—5:00 pm
- 10: Boys JH BB @ home vs. Bradford—5:00 pm  
Girls Varsity/JV BB @ Bradford—5:30 pm
- 11: Boys Varsity/JV BB @ home vs. Bethel—6:30 pm
- 12: Girls JH BB @ home vs. National Trail—10:00 am  
Varsity Wrestling @ Edgewood—TBA  
Boys Varsity/JV BB @ home vs. Eaton—6:00 pm
- 15: Boys Varsity/JV BB @ Ansonia—5:30 pm  
Girls Varsity/JV BB @ home vs. Dixie—6:00 pm
- 17: Boys JH BB @ Franklin-Monroe—5:00 pm  
Girls Varsity/JV BB @ home vs. Franklin-Mon.—5:30 pm
- 18: Boys Varsity/JV BB @ home vs. Tri-Village—6:30 pm
- 19: Girls JH BB @ TVS—10:00 am  
Girls Varsity/JV BB @ Mississinawa—1:00 pm  
Boys Varsity/JV BB @ Dixie—6:00 pm
- 22: Boys Varsity/JV BB @ Newton—5:30 pm  
Girls Varsity/JV BB @ home vs. Eaton—7:00 pm
- 28: Girls Varsity/JV BB @ home vs. Newton—5:30 pm
- 29: Boys Varsity/JV BB @ Holiday Tournament—TBA
- 30: Boys Varsity/JV BB @ Holiday Tournament—TBA

## Cell Phones For Education



TCN is, once again, participating in a used cell phone fundraising drive. There is nothing to buy or sell; we simply ask that you donate your old cell phones to our drive. Please drop off your used cell phones in the drop boxes provided in the school and District offices. 100% of the proceeds will go directly to our school. This drive will benefit your child, our school and also the environment by keeping the harmful materials that phones contain out of our landfills (lead, beryllium, etc.). Ask friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to donate their used cell phones, too. Your support is very much appreciated!

## Kindergarten Classes Visit Brumbaugh's Fruit Farm



All four kindergarten classes took a field trip to Brumbaugh's Fruit Farm in Arcanum on Tuesday, September 22, 2009. There, the students learned about how apples are picked, how bees pollinate the trees and how apples are sorted. Each child got to pick their very own pumpkin from the pumpkin patch and select an apple to take home and then everyone went on a hayride around the farm. Students also saw chickens, ducks, goats and bunnies at the farm. After leaving the fruit farm, the entire class headed to Golden Gate Park in Brookville where they played on the playground and enjoyed a picnic lunch with their fellow classmates. It was a great day enjoyed by all!



Did you know?...apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.

## Metamorphosis



Mrs. Wysong's Meca 3rd-6th graders are watching fourteen Monarch caterpillars gathered from local milkweeds complete metamorphosis in our classroom. 4th graders shared their caterpillars and their research findings with Ms. Kauffman's 1st graders who, two weeks later, witnessed firsthand an adult butterfly eclosing (emerging) from his bright green chrysalis. Tagging the adults before we release them in our garden will help us track them online at <http://www.monarchwatch.org/tagmig/tag.htm> to see if they successfully complete the Fall migration to the oxymel fir tree groves in Mexico.



## Character Education At TCNES



This year our character education program at TCN Elementary will focus on the character trait areas of RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY. The monthly character trait will be presented to the students during library time with Mrs. Haman, Guidance Counselor, and Mrs. Kubik, Student Assistance Coordinator from Preble County ESC. This monthly program will include reading a story emphasizing the character word, group discussion, role playing, puppetry and craft making. A monthly newsletter will be sent home to inform families of the character word and ways to reinforce the word at home.

Students will also have an opportunity to receive our Panther Spirit Character Award Certificate as they are "caught being good" by our school staff. The student certificates are entered in a monthly drawing. If the student's name is drawn, that student receives a prize from Mrs. Haman.

Abbie Campbell, prevention educator from The Marie Dwyer Recovery Center in Eaton, will also visit our school this year to involve students in the following programs: Tobacco education, Life Skills and Bully Prevention. These programs are provided free of charge to the school through funding from the Mental

Health and Recovery Board in Preble County.

To round out our fall character education programs, our school will recognize Red Ribbon Week in late October with different school activities each day. Red Ribbon Week is a national event which focuses on educating students about making healthy choices including "saying No to Drugs".

Families are encouraged to talk with their children at home about making healthy choices. Together, we can continue to keep our students safe and drug-free in our school and our community.

## King Tut Exhibit



On September 14<sup>th</sup>, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students went on a field trip to the Indianapolis Children's Museum to see the King Tut Exhibit. Howard Carter uncovered this remarkably preserved tomb of Tutankhamen. It is the only tomb from its era to be found completely intact with remarkable treasures. King Tut was the most famous of all Egyptian pharaohs because of the rumors of his mysterious curse. It was very interesting for the students to see carvings and handwork made by the Egyptians over 3000 years ago. The cost for students was \$15 per student, but the Lilly Foundation covered the cost for our students, which saved our school and students over \$1530. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be attending the exhibit on October 5<sup>th</sup> with the Lilly Foundation covering the cost for them as well.

## Reporting A Student's Absence

If your child misses school for any reason, please call the school and notify Mrs. Fullmer, Attendance Secretary, of the reason for their absence. Please send a note in with your child upon their return to school. The notes are required by law and serve as documentation of all absences. While at an appointment with a physician, please request documentation from the office noting your appointment date and time. Parents are only allowed to excuse their children from school for a maximum of ten days per school year. After the ten excused parental absences, a physician's note is required for all future absences. All notes need to include the following information: student's first and last name, date of absence, reason for absence (ill, funeral, etc.), and parent's signature.

If you know that your child will be missing school for vacation, surgery, family matters, etc., please send the information in ahead of time. Please be sure to list all affected dates on the student's absence note. Thank you for your assistance!

## Box Tops Being Collected!

Once again the TCN Elementary is collecting box tops. The school receives 10 cents for every top.

Ten cents might not seem like much to some people but as we know here at TCN Elementary, it adds up fast!

Last year the elementary collected over 15,000 box tops making it possible to provide a fantastic field day event for our students. Our goal for this year is

## Panther Volleyball



TCN's Varsity Volleyball team is having a very successful season this year! Currently, they have a record of 11-1 overall, going 6-0 in the CCC. They are ranked fifth in the Dayton area coach's poll for Division 3/4.

The team had a big week last week, defeating Dixie, Covington and Bethel all at home in three sets each. Tri-County North is currently the only undefeated team left in the CCC. With approximately half the season completed, the girls are playing extremely well together and are focused on finishing out their season on top!

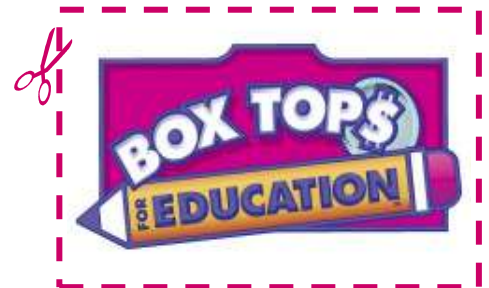


Did you know? ...Walt Disney was afraid of mice.

to collect 400,000. If every student brings in 3 box tops per week we will meet this goal!

We can also use help from the members of our community. There are many products we use every day that have the box tops on them. If you are willing to help, we have a box top collection containers in the office of the elementary, as well as local businesses for you to drop off any tops that you collect.

Official Coupon Example



## Tri-County North Local 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: 962-2673

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We're on the web!  
[www.tcnschools.com](http://www.tcnschools.com)


## Upcoming Events

### October


- 6: 3rd Grade Ohio Achievement Test (Reading)
- 9: 5th Grade to Air Force Museum
- 12: No School—Columbus Day 
- 13: No School—Teacher In-Service Day
- 15: 5th Grade to MVCTC—Ag For America Day
- 16: Homecoming Parade—6:00 pm
- 17: Ed of 1st Quarter  
Homecoming Dance—7:00-10:30 pm
- 20: TCN Board Meeting—Lecture Room—7:30 pm
- 23: Report Cards Sent Home With Students
- 24: ACT (various locations)
- 27: VIP to Trick or Treat at Local Nursing Homes  
Elementary Picture Day
- 29: MS Parent / Teacher Conferences—2:30—8:30 pm
- 30: Elementary Harvest Celebrations—2:00 pm

### November

- 1: Daylight Savings Tim Ends (clocks back one hour)
- 2 & 5: ES Parent/Teacher Conferences—3:30-6:30 pm

- 3-6: 8th Grade Washington D.C. Trip
- 9: Mobile Dentist 
- 11: Veteran's Day Assembly—12:45 pm
- 13: MS Fall Fling For Food (canned food drive)
- 16: TCN Board Meeting—Lecture Room—7:30 pm
- 19: Fall Athletic Banquet—6:30 pm
- 20: Interims Sent Home
- 24: HS Parent/Teacher Conferences—2:30-8:30 pm
- 25-27: Thanksgiving Break—No School

### December

- 3: Senior Citizens Luncheon — 12:30 pm
- 7: Band Concert
- 10: MVCTC Sophomore Visit Day
- 14: 1st & 3rd Grade Music Program—6:30 pm in HS Gym
- 15: VIP Christmas Caroling 
- 16: MS & HS Science Fair—3:00 pm
- 18: End of 2nd Quarter
- 21: TCN Board Meeting—Lecture Room—7:30 pm
- 21-Jan. 1: Winter Break—No School