

CUMINGS'S

C
O
R
N
E
R



Thoughts from the Superintendent's desk

I would like to take a moment to thank our parents for your continued involvement in our schools. At last week's parent/teacher conferences we had over 91% attendance for MacNaughton and 90% for Sand Lake.

As we continue to work toward our goal of building a closer partnership with the community, I wanted to share with you some of the exciting events that are helping us to connect with the community.

I first want to start with the 2nd Annual TC Mini Relay for Life, which was a very large community event that raised over \$26,000 toward cancer research. We had teams from schools, businesses, and community come out and support this great event. We have also partnered with local businesses for our Community Based Vocational Training program, which currently involves about 9 of our high school students. Through this program, these students are learning and building skills to help them prepare for work after high school.

I also want to thank the Panhandle Chamber of Commerce for inviting 3 of our high school students to speak at their recent Annual Chamber Dinner. Abbie Wall and Kelsy Hackbardt spoke regarding how the high school Media class is using iMovie and Desktop Publishing to promote the high school. Rylee Gross then spoke on how students are using technology to create T-shirt designs. Rylee also spoke on how they take their design to print with local T-Shirt companies. It was a great opportunity for our students to learn valuable public speaking skills, as well as connect with businesses on how Tri County Area Schools may be able to partner and support our local businesses.

Again, thank you to our community for your support, and willingness to allow our students to learn valuable life and work skills.

TC Golf team season ends in success

The Tri County Girls' Varsity Golf team has completed yet another successful season. This season, the girls' golf team set the 18-hole school record with a 401 and the 9-hole school record with a 201. The team placed fourth in the Lakes 8 conference and sixth out of fourteen teams at the Regional Tournament. The girls also took third place out of eight teams at the Fruitport Invitational and ninth place out of eighteen teams at the Ludington Invitational. The team cut five strokes from both their 9-hole and 18-hole team averages from last year.

Lyndsae Kranz, Baylee Zemla, and Taylir Kral were all seniors on the team this year. Lyndsae has improved her 9-hole average by 15 strokes and her 18-hole average by 45 strokes over her four years on the golf team. She placed 32nd individually at the regional tournament this year. Overall, she has placed in the top three for our team every year and has been a great asset in the success the girls' golf team has experienced.

Baylee has also played an integral role in the success of the team. She has improved 9-hole average by 18 strokes and her 18-hole average by 40 strokes over her four years on the golf team. Baylee has placed in the top four for our team every year. She placed 42nd individually at the regional tournament. Not only did Baylee contribute to the team with her golf score, but also contributed to the team with her remarkable personality. She is well-known by everyone in our conference.

Taylir has played on the team for two remarkable years. She has placed in the top ten individuals for tournaments eleven times. She has taken first place in 9-hole matches nine times. Taylir has been awarded first-team all-conference honors both years she has played for the team. She qualified for the state finals both years as well. Last year she placed 27th in the state and this year she placed



26th in the state. Taylir has also played a very essential role in the success of the Tri County girls' golf team.

These three seniors will be immensely missed. Next year, Lauren Corwin will be leading the team as she played second on the team throughout this past season. Nikki Minard will be a fourth-year player next year and will also be leading the team. Hannah Drouin, Cierra Kargenian, Lilia Hauenstein, and Lakyn Piotrowski were all first-year players this year and will play an essential role in the success of the team next season.

Parent and Teacher Perform at Kent Theater

The acting bug has bitten the Tri County community as both a parent and a teacher are starring in the Rouge River Community Theater Company's (RRCTC) production of *A Carol for Tiny Tim*. David Holsworth, father of TCHS sophomore Aubrey Patterson-Holsworth and John Bagin, TCHS teacher are both involved in this holiday production. *A Carol for Tiny Tim* builds upon Charles Dickens' classic *A Christmas Carol* by looking at what happens to young Tiny Tim 20 years in the future. The play features many of the same characters as the original play including all three ghosts, Ebenezer Scrooge, Jacob Marley, and the

entire Cratchit family. David became involved with the theater last year when his daughter responded to an invitation from her history teacher and RRCTC veteran, Mr. Bagin, for actors to try out for roles in an upcoming play about the Titanic. Aubrey was cast in a role and David was 'stuck' transporting the car-less Freshman to play practices. After a few practices the cast of the play was still incomplete. David, realizing that he was attending all of the play practices, decided to help fill one of the roles. From that moment on he was hooked on acting. Aubrey became busy with other activities at TCHS but her father continued acting with the RRCTC,

having the lead character in last spring's *Sherlock Holmes* play. Once again, David has the lead in this production as the older Tiny Tim while Bagin appears as the Ghost of Christmas Present, who attempts to correct Tim in his ways. *A Carol for Tiny Tim* is an inspiring, holiday-themed play for the entire family and it runs on November 14, 15 and 16th at 7:30pm with a matinee performance at 2:00pm on the 16th at the Kent Theater in Cedar Springs. Tickets are \$10 for adults and kids under 18 get in for \$5.



Senior Composite Day

The Senior class will have a "senior day" in the high school media center on November 13th during 1st-3rd hour. Composite pictures will be taken at this time free of charge. This picture will be used for the composite and for local newspaper publications. Seniors, please DO NOT miss this day!! If you do not have your picture taken, you will not be included in the he class composite and newspaper publications.

Senior Photo Submission

Senior Photos are due January 22, but may be turned in during Composite day. All digital yearbook photos will be submitted through our Jostens photo site. EMAILED photos will not be accepted this year due to difficulties last year.

Go to www.replayit.com > Register as a Tri County Student > Log in and upload your photos.

Yearbooks are on Sale: Go to www.jostenyearbooks.com. Price is \$47 until November 4th---the lowest price of the year!

From The School Board

How fast the days go by simply amazes me. As the halfway mark of the first semester passes us by and the cool, autumn breezes sneak in, it's a great time to stop and reflect on how many great things we've seen at Tri County already this year.

Our students, hands-down, are the heartbeat of our TC community. From our early childhood groups to our senior Class of 2014, our award winning marching band to our hard-fighting sports teams, and our academic honors groups to our student council representatives, the spirit and leadership of our students is, in a word, outstanding.

Our staff has been a driving force for that heartbeat this year. Our teachers, administrative team, custodial staff, facilities crew, bus drivers, and volunteers seem to have created a literal buzz of excitement. It's exciting to be at Tri County, and that excitement is contagious.

Our community support has been awesome. We've seen our community come together to embrace not only our students, but what our district stands for and believes in: Our students' best future.

We are proud to serve such an outstanding school district and salute each of the students, staff, and community members that make it successful. The leaves may be falling, but the Tri County Viking spirit is rising!

Keven Hoisington, Secretary
Board of Education



Race Lengths
Kindergartners: 200 meters (half lap)
1st- and 2nd-graders: 400 meters (one lap)
3rd- and 4th-graders: 600 meters (1.5 laps)
5th-graders: 800 meters (2 laps)
Middle School: 1200 meters (3 laps)
High School/Adult: 1600 meters (4 laps)

**16th Annual
Tri County Turkey Trot
Tuesday, October 29th!**

All Tri County students and adults are invited to participate in the 16th annual Tri County Turkey Trot which will be under the lights at the high school track. Beginning at 6:30 pm, each grade level will have its own run, with kindergartners going first. There will be a boys' race and a girls' race for elementary students, and then there will be races for secondary students and adults.

All first-place winners receive a turkey!

Ice Cream for Everyone!

The Tri County High School staff is extremely proud of our students' attendance to start the school year. In the month of September our students set a new record for attendance with students showing up to school 94.99 percent of the time. To celebrate, our staff purchased ice cream bars to show the entire student body that we are proud of them for this wonderful accomplishment.

Junior high kicks up its heels

Relay for life was a huge success and lots of fun for the Middle School this year. Students this year raised money by donating their coins. Not only were they raising money for the cause, but each coin counted towards one of our male staff members running in a high-heel race. Lines were put on the huge water jug with certain staff members' names and if the students raised money up to that line then that male staff

member had to run in heels at the end of the week. If the water jug got filled up to the top, then all male staff members had to participate in the race in heels. The students overflowed the water jug and we had a fun afternoon watching the male staff participate in their high heel race. The school raised almost \$815 for Relay for Life. Both students and staff did a wonderful job.



Sand Lake Elementary grows green



Sand Lake students have been recycling for years. This year, we have added to our "Go Green" projects. Students in Miss Bolt's and Mrs. Schmidt's fourth grade classes planted seeds last month. The project is to grow a salad before a deep freeze puts an end to the growing season. A variety of lettuce plants and some radishes are growing in our school greenhouse and in a raised bed garden. Miss Bolt's students are keeping temperature records inside and outside the greenhouse as part of an experiment to see how long they can keep lettuce growing after it gets too cold outside. Some of the students are

working on a design for using water barrels to provide water for the plants. Fifth grade science classes are also using the greenhouse as an environment for growing mold spores. They are conducting an investigation using the scientific method. Students throughout the school are composting appropriate breakfast and lunch scraps. Third grade students have taken turns turning the Compost Tumbler to help the materials inside decompose. The composter, greenhouse, and garden are providing students at Sand Lake with many new learning opportunities.



HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS



Middle School Text Messages: If you would like instant daily messages from Mr. Johnson during the day please text: @de1c7 to (616) 347-6761.

This will allow you to get daily reminders of school activities, conferences, game changes and so on on your phone. This is different than the emails and robo calls you already get from the school.

Congratulations to the following students who were inducted into the National Honor Society for the 2013-2014 school year:

Seniors

Jordan Adkins, Alexandra Hershberger, Elijah Groendal

Juniors

Brenden Armstrong, Jessica Gardner, Natalie Osbourne, Lauren Baak, Rylee Gross, Madelyn Paulen, Ricki Batenburg, Kelsey Hackbardt, Emily Rienks, Megan Bean, Lilia Hauenstein, Nicole Smith, Krystal Bowden, Jesse Haywood, Melayna Staffen, Karly Drouin, Samantha Inman, Abigail Wall, Beth Evers, Tucker Martin, Alexis Whitlow, Morgan Fifield, Kelsey Miller, Morgan Zudweg, Ellicia Gabbard and Kaitlyn Moore

