# Tiny Trojan Update

Home of the Tiny Trojans!!

### **PRINCIPALS CORNER**

By Jennifer Berg Dear Trojans,

We are approaching the end of Q1 (October 14th). The elementary playground is being put to great use by our students. The additional sidewalk is a nice feature as well. The track looks beautiful and we are excited to have this new addition to our school campus.

All students in K-11th were tested in literacy, mathematics, and SEL through Fastbridge for the Fall. Fast testing occurs in the Fall, Winter, and Spring. The school wide goals are listed:

- All students in grades K-12th will be at 70% or above on reading assessment scores.
- All students in grades K-12th will be at 65% or above on mathematical assessment scores.
- All students in grades K-12 will show 10% improvement on Fastbridge assessments from Fall to Winter and Winter to Spring.
- All special education students will show 10% growth on reading, mathematical, and behavioral goals each quarter.

The preschool uses IGDI's (Indicators of Individual Growth and Development) as their assessment tool. Assessment reports will be shared out throughout the school year.

A few upcoming dates are:

- October 5th: 2:00 p.m. dismissals with PLCs.
- October 12th: 2:00 p.m. dismissals with PLCs.
- School Conferences will be held on October 20th and October 22nd. Students will be dismissed at 2:00 p.m. with conferences being held from 3:45 p.m.-7:45 p.m. There will be no school on Friday, October 23rd.
- Birthday lunches for K-12th will be held on October 13th. Preschool birthday lunches will be held on October 17th.

Please make sure your child is bringing a jacket or coat for the Fall weather. Happy Fall!

Yours in education, ~Ms. Jennifer Berg jennifer.berg@tri-countyschools.com #tcpride







## What is the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program? By: Jill Hall

Did you know that Tri-County Elementary participates in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program? This will be our second year participating and we have had a lot of positive feedback! Let me tell you a little about what our goals are and how we utilize our grant money. The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) is a grant opportunity for schools to provide children with free fresh fruits and vegetables during the school day, but not as part of breakfast or lunch. It is an effective and creative way of introducing fresh fruits and vegetables as healthy snack options.

The goal of the FFVP is to:

- Create healthier school environments by providing healthier food choices.
- Expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience.
- Increase children's fruit and vegetable consumption.
- Make a difference in children's diet to impact their present and future health.

This program helps teach students where fruits and vegetables come from and allows them to try some they may not have heard about before! This is one great way for schools to help combat childhood obesity by teaching children healthful eating habits.

## Tri-County Snack Cabinets- Who provides the snacks?

By: Heather Schmidt & Jody Schroeder

As we all know the end of the State Fair signifies the beginning of a new school year and the ongoing challenges for some of our families who face food insecurity. Last school year we were fortunate to apply for and receive a small grant that provided us the opportunity to purchase cabinets that we placed in the Tri-County school, and the initial snacks to fill those cabinets. We even had one of our own students design the wraps for our cabinets in keeping with the Trojan spirit!

We currently have 3 cabinets located throughout the school as well as 1 in the weight room to provide snacks for students to access during the school day. Studies have shown that students learn and retain knowledge better if they aren't hungry. The cabinets are also accessible after school for those students in extracurricular activities. You may have also heard that we have a food pantry right inside our school that teachers can utilize for entire class snacks or students that could benefit from it can take groceries home. The food pantry in the school has the opportunity to order items to stay stocked through the Food Bank of Southern Iowa. This service is at no cost to the school, unfortunately that doesn't cover the snack cabinets. For the past year, the cabinet program has been fully funded by the Tri-County Food Pantry and we are excited to keep it going this year but with rising costs it gets expensive to do so. We know what a generous community we live in and the amazing support that is given whenever a need arises. So if you are able to, we are asking for you to think of the snack cabinets the next time you happen to be shopping for your families – we have listed items we have found to be the best fit for the cabinets below; please note all items must be individually packaged servings and we are a peanut free campus.

Snack Cabinet ideas: veggie straws, chips, cookies, crackers, cheeze-its, goldfish, go go squeeze, etc. Thank you so much for your consideration and if you are interested in donating snacks or monetary gifts to this great cause please contact Student Council Advisor, Amanda Sowers at asowers@tri-countyschools.com; Heather Schmidt at

heather.schmidt@carters.com or Jody Schroeder at jschroeder@yourcountybank.com.

#### SEPTEMBER'S STUDENTS OF THE MONTH





SECONDARY Saige McKain-8th grade Chloe Zittergruen-11th grade

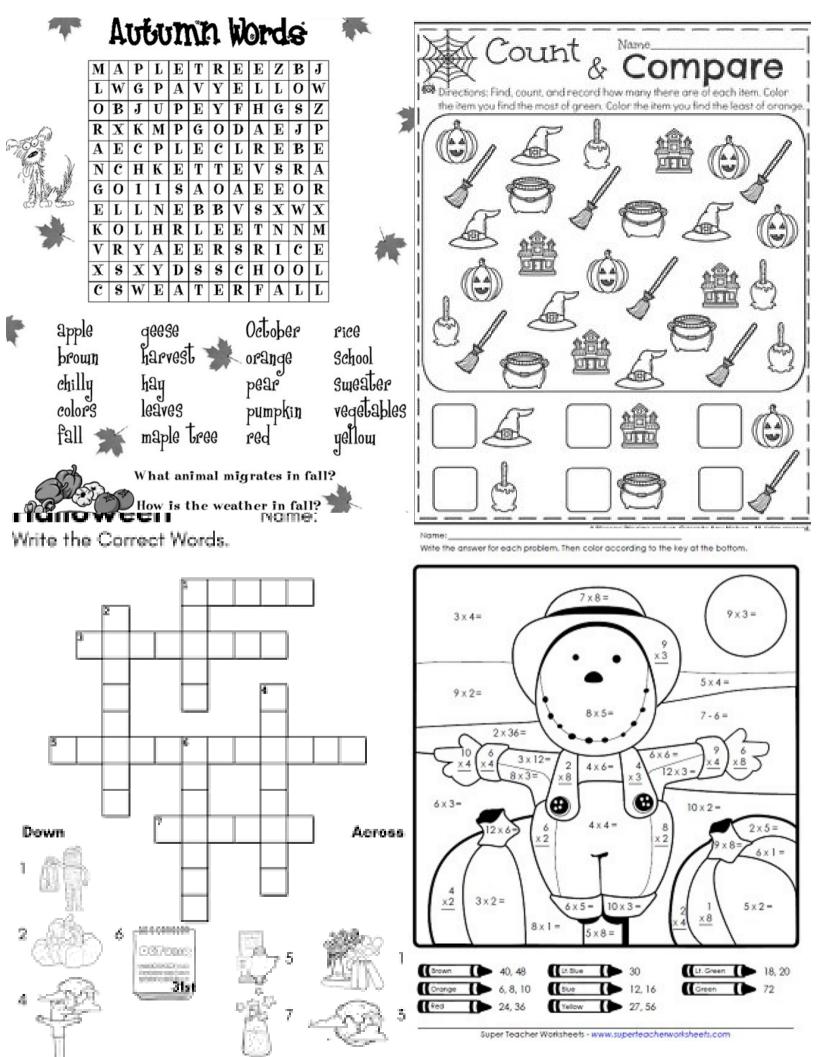


ELEMENTARY Harper Morrow-Kindergarten Jillian McCulloch-3 yr PK Annabelle Callow-1st grade Harlan Dennis-4 yr PK Reese Moore-2nd Grade

Brayden McCulloch-4th grade Bristol Ward-6th grade Natalie Terwilliger-3rd grade Not Pictured Aubrey Cranston-5th grade









Name: \_\_\_

COLOR, CUT OUT AND ATTACH STRING TO MAKE A MASK

