

OCTOBER 2021

Trojan Update

Home of the Trojans!

PRINCIPALS CORNER

By Jennifer Berg

As we enter Fall, I am pleased to report our Fastbridge testing for the Fall term has been completed in grades K-11th. Our interventions have been planned with help from our AEA consultant, Gary Jarmes (Mathematics). We are underway with our SEL (Social emotional learning) groups/individual sessions with our AEA Behavioral Interventionist, Amy Molyneux. This school year we are focusing on mathematics and writing interventions. Our secondary teacher, Vince Hrasky has planned our secondary writing interventions which all students in grades 7th-11th will be completing. Our 3rd-11th grade classroom teachers are incorporating writing tasks into their curriculum twice a month with timely feedback to our students on the writing process. These decisions were data-driven based on our ISASP scores and data analyzation of our formative assessments. We are looking forward to growth in all of our students at TC.

The elementary students in grades PK-6th took a field trip to What Cheer Public Library at the end of September. They were given the opportunity to sign up for a library card with parental permission, learned about the resources available at our local library, and had a snack during their time at the public library. I would like to applaud Carolyn Becker for helping us with this trip.

Our secondary BIG BUDDY volunteers are eagerly assisting the elementary classroom teachers and students. I value this relationship and opportunity for both groups of students. It is a positive experience to have a BIG BUDDY in our elementary classrooms. The requirements for BIG BUDDY's are to have an open study hall period, remain eligible, and have no missing or late assignments.

Stay tuned for Fire Prevention Week in October. Remember to discuss fire safety with your children at home, have your child memorize their home address, and develop a fire safety plan including where to meet outside in case of a fire.

Lastly, our three year old preschool program has been welcomed with open arms. This is a great opportunity to have at TC and I appreciate the continued support.

Yours truly,
~Ms. Jennifer Berg



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Letter from the Editor

By: Adrienne Thomas

Dear Tri-County Community,

I am pleased to announce a couple of changes to this years newsletter. First, I would like to welcome some new student members to the newsletter "staff". Reanna Robb (12); Kylee Kinzebach (11); Wesley Davis (9); Gyasalin Purdy (8); Emma Lindley (8); and Haley Thomas (8). These students will be writing articles, adding content and taking photos. Secondly, we have added something called the Tiny Trojan Update. This will be a monthly newsletter geared to the elementary side of the building. It will be printed off and given to students PK-6. A copy will also be posted online for everyone to enjoy. This newsletter will have activities for students to work on throughout the month. If they return the completed pages they will receive a prize and their artwork will be proudly displayed in our hallways.

I hope everyone enjoys these new additions to our Trojan Update!

Regards,

Adrienne Thomas

Sports News

By: Kylee Kinzebach

This year Tri-County has teamed up with the Oskaloosa Indians to play JV and Varsity football. Freshman, Levi Molyneux(9th), is on the JV team and his brother Eli, (11th) is playing Varsity. Coach Doud had the following to say about the boys. "I love the Molyneux boys. This is a great opportunity for them. I feel like they are a part of our family, and the door is open for them. A lot of people think he(Eli) can't do it because he was on an 8 man team, but he's been sticking his nose in and getting more comfortable. Football is football, the more the merrier. He's getting comfortable with the transition from 8 men to 11, Eli has a great attitude!"

In regard to his experience with the team Eli Molyneux said, "It's awesome, the greatest thing to ever happen." It's an amazing feeling winning and I love these guys!" Go cheer them on at Oskaloosa home games, they would love to have TC pride in the crowd!

Cross Country is back at TC after 9 years. Head Coach, Marina Flores said, "Everything went well(for the first meet). Our main goal for everyone was to finish, especially because it was everyone's 1st meet and how they could handle the circumstances. There are Personal Records(PR's) to come in the future. They run at least 3 miles. It's just gonna get better throughout the season. As long as there is constant progress."

Tri-County JH volleyball's 1st game was a win against Iowa Valley!! "My girls worked together and had consistent servers and did their best in my eyes. If they learned something and had fun they won in my book. They also won in the score book and had good additions.", said Head Coach, Mrs. Craig. The last game is October 5th.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

By Gyasilyn Purdy

Marley Van Patten

Marley is an 8th grader, she was picked to be student of the month because she speaks about what she needs and wants. She's proud of this achievement, yet was shocked to find out. Marley considers herself a role model and usually tries her hardest during school. She does not participate in any sports or activities for school. Her advice for her peers is "keep trying and you'll eventually achieve your goals."



Haylei Pettit

Haylei Pettit was chosen as high school student of the month because of her great grades and amazing attendance. When she found out, she and her friend were surprised and shocked. Haylei is not in any school activities, but works outside of school. She is willing to help friends and peers with school work if they need it and if she has time. Haylei's advice for her peers is "Focus on school work before romantic relationships."

Preschool-Jordy Little is so excited to be in school. She is a good listener and does a great job following directions.

Kindergarten-Emersyn Schmidt is learning to speak up for herself when she needs or wants something.

1st Grade-Milo Fogle has been making responsible, safe and respectful choices. Always willing to help a friend and try his best in class.

2nd Grade-Dax Tuttle is always safe, respectful and responsible in the classroom, the hallways and at lunch!

3rd Grade-Braxton Krumm is always willing to help out any classmates and has a positive attitude.

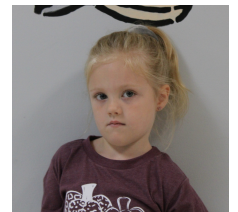
4th Grade-Aziah Jandrisovits has been super helpful with other students and is always ready to get to work.

5th Grade-Octavia Van Patten has done an excellent job getting her work done on time and being a good classmate to her peers.

6th Grade-Natalie Triplett is kind and helps others who might be struggling in the classroom. She works hard to stay current on assignments.



Jordy Little



Emersyn Schmidt



Milo Fogle



Dax Tuttle



Braxton Krumm



Aziah Jandrisovits



Octavia Van Patten



Natalie Triplett



Fit Family Friday Event

By: Adrienne Thomas-TC Youth Sports

TC Youth Sports hosted their annual Fit Family Friday event in September. They provided fun fitness activities, healthy food ideas and prizes for all that attended. Each student that participated received an attendance badge and welcome bag with water, healthy snacks, and other fun prizes. They then took this to each station and preformed a task. For example the TSTAC booth provided an obstacle coarse. After the task they would get their badge stamped and they could move on to the next. After all of the booth activities were completed they could come to the prize booth! There were sport/fitness toys, TC swag and other apparel.

TC Youth Sports would like to thank the following for hosting booths and/or donating to the event; Keokuk County ISU Extension Office for their snack booth, Sigourney Public Library for their UNO card activity and prizes, Girl Scouts Troop #114 for their recruiting booth, Keokuk County Bowling for their ring toss booth and free bowling certificates, KC Elite for their tumbling mat and balance beam, T-STAC for their obstacle coarse and snack. We would also like to thank the following for their prize donations; Sheets Chiropractic, TC Black & Gold Club, Keswick Vets Legion, Keokuk County State Bank, Compass Memorial and Casey's.



Tri-County Tidbits

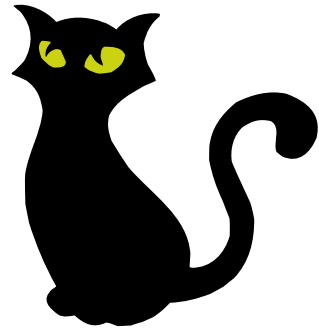
By: Kylee Kinzebach

Student Council will be having a Blood Drive in October. They have decided to have Homecoming during basketball season in January. "We plan to attend the Iowa association of student councils which will be a two day overnight trip in Des Moines, Iowa on October 24-25th," said Amanda Sowers, Student Council Advisor.

The FFA program is continuing to grow. "We have had several potential new members asking about when FFA is going to be and what FFA entails. We have a very strong officer team that is putting in the work to make sure our chapter continues for many years to come. We have many excited go-getters already in the chapter and I am hoping to keep that attitude up and I hope that rubs off on some of the younger members that are coming up!" said Ms. Craig, FFA Chapter Officer. The Tri-county annual FFA Fruit sales will be October 14 - November 1st, reach out to a local FFA member to order.

Septembers Board meeting~ The city has approved the building of a new track we are just waiting for pricing bids. They are also trying to get a shot board for basketball but it will not replace the scoreboards. The school plans on getting AC and are just waiting for quotes. Non-Certified staff will get a \$1 raise to the base pay and para professionals will get a \$2 increase. Bus drives will also increase by a percentage based on the \$1 increase above.

The Junior class will be doing the Haunted Hallway in October and will be doing a bake sale at the October What Cheer flea market to raise money for their class.



Hallway Hall of Fame

By: Haley Thomas

Elementary students drew what they thought the best pet was :D



Secondary students in art class made a piece where they represent their personality :D.

Fastbridge Assessments

By: Jamie Schultz

Tri-County continues to use Fastbridge reading, math and social and emotional needs assessments. K-6 classrooms, Title 1 classroom and special education classrooms are using Fastbridge for weekly and bi-weekly progress monitoring to check reading fluency and math with our students. Teachers will organize groups when all testing is completed to give additional instruction time for math and reading in our WIN groups (What I Need groups). Once groups are formed, we will use problems and games from Fastbridge to get each student closer to their benchmark level.

CBMreading (Curriculum-Based Measurement for Reading) is an evidence-based, one-minute assessment used for universal screening in English (Grades 1-6), and for frequent progress monitoring (Grades 1-6). It is a simple and efficient procedure. FAST provides benchmark targets for performance to help identify students at-risk for academic failure. CBMreading assessments are predictive of risk, quick to administer, and sensitive to growth. Substantial research evidence demonstrates that CBMreading is a robust indicator of reading development and a useful predictor of student performance on state tests. CBMreading is an index of word reading efficiency, which is an important ability that facilitates reading comprehension. Students who read a grade-level passage with efficiency are better able to use their cognitive resources to comprehend while reading.



CBMreading is used to screen students up to five times per year. Benchmark standards (i.e., “cut scores” or “targets”) are built into the system to assist in determining which students are at-risk for academic failure versus those who are on track to be successful. Students with deficit achievement are quickly identified for additional intervention. The data also identify and inform instructional decisions for on-track and high-performers.

The profiles of students’ skill strengths and areas of difficulty can provide useful information to plan instruction. Each individual and group report within FAST is available instantly, expediting the process for teachers.

Kindergarten students are tested on early reading strategies as well. Things included are: letter names, letter sounds, parts of a book, beginning short words such as cat, map, can.



Fastbridge Assessments cont'd

Progress Monitoring

CBMreading is uniquely designed to accommodate quick, easy, frequently delivered assessments (e.g., weekly, biweekly), which provide useful data to monitor student progress and evaluate response to instruction. Progress monitoring helps teachers evaluate instructional effects and determine if differentiated instruction and interventions are effective. Students that receive Title 1 or Special Education services will be progress monitored weekly.

Assessments Included

Both FASTtrack Reading and FASTtrack Math include a combination of specific and broad measures. This combination allows the FastBridge system to identify the best focus of instruction for an entire class as well as for small groups of students who need intervention. The following assessments measure the specific and broad skills at each grade level:

Grades	Reading		Math	
	Specific	Broad	Specific	Broad
K-1	earlyReading English subtests	earlyReading English Composite	earlyMath subtests	earlyMath Composite
2	CBMreading English	aReading	CBMmath Automaticity - L2 GOM	aMath
3	CBMreading English	aReading	CBMmath Automaticity - L3 GOM	aMath
4-12	AUTOreading Composite	aReading	CBMmath Automaticity - L3 GOM	aMath*

Screening

SAEBRS can be used to identify students who are at risk for general, social, academic, and emotional behaviors at least three times a year. By evaluating in which of the three specific domains a student is at risk, educators may determine what type of supports are most appropriate and which problem behaviors should be prioritized through intervention. For instance, if a student is only at risk for emotional problems, then a school may decide to target emotional behaviors via the application of social-emotional learning (SEL) programs.

Target Population

The SAEBRS is designed for universal screening of student risk for social-emotional and behavior problems for students in kindergarten through twelfth grade.

If you have any questions about the Fastbridge assessments feel free to contact me:

Jamie.schultz@tri-countyschools.com



Change in Curriculum Presentation

By: Penny Krumm

All Tri-County students used to be required to take Physical Science, a basic level class studying Chemistry and Physics concepts. Students could choose to take Chemistry and Physics afterwards if they so desired. Now, students decide whether to take Physical Science or Chemistry and then Physics. Physical Science has evolved a lot since that scheduling change into an investigation centered environment. Mrs. Krumm feels strongly that students learn best by doing and is continually modifying assignments to incorporate more inquiry based learning.

TC has Peer Helpers

By: Wesley Davis

This month I interviewed the peer helpers in the elementary school. Peer helpers are 7th through 12th graders who go to help out students in the elementary school during their study hall. The questions I asked the peer helpers were; what is your favorite part of being a peer helper, how do you help out the students, do you like being a peer helper, and would you recommend it to others? The peer helpers I interviewed were Reanna Rob, Gaige Mercer, Nevaeh Orr-Meyer, Ryan Schroeder, Zander Elwood, Alyssa Conrad, and Macy Schmidt.

Mrs. Berg started this program three years ago, and she plans on doing it every year. Unfortunately, she did not do it last year because of the pandemic. "I started the Peer Program (Big Buddies/Little Buddies) because I felt it would be beneficial to both the secondary and elementary students. The secondary students act as role models to our younger students and I wanted to encourage this partnership. Not only does it benefit students, but it also helps out the classroom teachers as well. " The requirements for the program are to be 7th through 12th grade, have a free study hall period, be grade eligible, and not have any missing work.

After talking with the peer helpers, most of them said they enjoyed interacting with little kids. Gaige Mercer stated, "My favorite part of being a peer helper is being a role model for the kids. " I am also a peer helper and I agree with Gaige. Some peer helpers said they helped their students with homework, math problems, spelling, grammar, and helped them understand numbers and letters. Reanna Robb stated, "I would recommend it to people who are mature enough to deal with children and who have patience. " Gaige said, "I would recommend it to people who are interested in the teaching field. "

When asked if they like having a peer helper, most of the students said yes. One said that their peer helper is their best friend. Most of the students said that they like it when the peer helpers help out. The peer helpers help them out with spelling, and get stuff done. Some students want to be a peer helper when they get old enough. Having peer helpers in the school is a positive experience for everyone.



October Food Pantry

Tuesday Oct 26th: 4:30PM to 5:30PM

Located at the What Cheer Methodist Church.
Food Pantry is open to all Tri-County and Delta
residents who need a little extra help right
now.

Please Note:

We will be inside in the church basement again
for Food Pantries. We will ask you to come in
the main door of the church and exit up the
ramp on the West side of the church to help us
maintain social distancing.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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October Food Truck

Tuesday October 12th: 3PM to 4:30PM

Located at the What Cheer Methodist Church.
The Food Truck is open to all Keokuk County
residents who need a little extra help right
now.

Groceries will be pre bagged and delivered in
your car. We ask that you line up on the North
side of the church facing the highway. We will
get you signed in and move the line through
the alley, please stay in your vehicles and have
a place cleared in your car for us to place the
groceries.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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Tri-County CSD

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				Cheeseburger Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes Dinner Roll Assorted Fruit Tac-Go
Chicken Nuggets Baked Beans Assorted Chips, Carrots Assorted Fruit Cereal & Toast	Cheese Quesadilla Shredded Lettuce Corn Assorted Fruit Waffle & Yogurt	Sweet & Sour Chicken Brown Rice Broccoli & Cauliflower Assorted Fruit Biscuit & Sausage Gravy	Grilled Chicken Sandwich Carrots & Dressing Assorted Fruit Long John	Beef Corn Bread Casserole Mashed Potatoes Assorted Chips, Green Beans Assorted Fruit Breakfast Pizza
Hot Dog w/ WG Bun Potato Wedges Coleslaw Assorted Fruit Cereal & PopTart	Chicken Nachos Refried Beans Tomatoes, Lettuce Graham, Assorted Fruit Pancake & Yogurt	Macaroni & Cheese Lil Smokies Carrots & Dressing Assorted Fruit Biscuit/Sausage Patty	Buffalo Chicken Sandwich Assorted Chips Romaine Salad Assorted Fruit Cinnamon Roll, Eggs	Chicken & Rice Casserole Cucumber & Dressing Assorted Fruit Tac-Go
Sloppy Joe Cheese Slice Romaine Salad, Corn Assorted Fruit Cereal & PopTart	Beef Taco Refried Beans & Cheese Grape Tomato Assorted Fruit Waffle & Yogurt	Cheesy Ravioli Dinner Roll Carrots & Dressing Assorted Fruit Biscuit & Sausage Gravy	Orange Chicken Brown Rice Broccoli & Cauliflower Assorted Fruit Long John	NO SCHOOL
Soft Pretzel w/ Cheese Crispy Potato Cubes Carrots & Dressing Assorted Fruit Cereal & PopTart	Hot Ham & Cheese Baked Beans Romaine Salad Assorted Fruit Pancake & Yogurt	French Toast Sticks Romaine Salad Red Pepper Assorted Fruit Biscuit/Sausage Patty	Meatball Sub Carrots & Celery Assorted Fruit Goldfish Graham Cinnamon Roll, Eggs	Cheese Pizza Romaine Salad Cucumber w/ Dressing Assorted Fruit Tac-Go

Breakfast is served with fruit, fruit juice, milk, and daily entree listed at the bottom of the daily lunch menu.

*Variety of milk is offered with lunch each day.

All menus are subject to change.



Tri County Dollars for Scholars is hosting a fundraising event:

FALL FLING!!

Saturday, November 6th @6pm

Keswick American Legion

Free Will Donation: Beef Brisket, Pork loin, scalloped potatoes, green beans, salads and desert.

You can call and request take out as well, please call Heather Schmidt's phone at 404-623-6325 anytime starting at 530pm on the 6th or after to request take out. We will also have a Silent Auction filled with great items. Every \$\$ raised goes to our Tri County graduates!

Hope to see you there!

\$40 EACH

21-22 YEARBOOKS FOR SALE!

Forms available in the office or they may be purchased through your students PowerSchool.



Senior Fall Can Drive! Friday October 8th