



Superintendent

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Tri-County School Corp.
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219-261-2214
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Principal
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Guidance Counselors

Becky Luebcke
Tri-County Primary
Leah Stitz Mathew
Tri-County Intermediate
Jessica Banes
Tri-County Junior/Senior High School
Darla Harrington
Tri-County Junior/Senior
High School

Director of Athletics

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February / March Newsletter

A NOTE FROM MR. HASKINS

It is so nice to have our students and staff back in the building for the second semester. Everyone that I have spoken with enjoyed a well-deserved break in December, but are looking forward to getting back into the routine of learning. Fortunately, we were able to continue with our in-person learning, which is so important for all grade levels in the corporation. I am hoping that our health challenges remain minimal, so that our students' educational experience can continue on uninterrupted. The key for this to take place is for everyone to take the proper steps to remain healthy. Proper handwashing and awareness of social distancing when possible are two of the things that our building will continue to encourage throughout the coming months.

A new semester always brings excitement into the building. One of the many highlights is the welcoming of nine new students into our building. As I have spoken to these students, each one has commented on how safe, welcome and relaxed they feel coming in each day. This is a credit to our students and their awareness of the importance of making these students feel part of our school starting on the first day. I can't tell you how proud I am of everyone in the building for how they have taken the steps to make others feel a part of our school.

The start of the semester also is a time for students to have a chance to reset academically and be introduced to new concepts in all subject areas. Our staff will continue to be working hard again this semester on reaching our continual goal of improving student learning. Each Monday, teachers meet in departments to discuss new ways to instruct and challenge our students. As an administrator, it is refreshing to observe our staff working together to find best practices that can be used in the classroom to engage students and enhance the overall learning process.

Lastly, as we continue into our second semester, I hope our community members have a chance to attend one of the many extracurricular events to show support for our students. Both our students, coaches and sponsors put in countless hours outside of the regular classroom to participate in activities that students are passionate about. All of our participants do a great job of representing not only our school, but the entire community.

Stay safe and continue to keep your family's health a priority!

Mr. Haskins

#ImprovingStudentLearning

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

I sincerely hope everyone was able to enjoy the Christmas Holidays and welcome 2022 with friends and family. The holidays provide an excellent opportunity for students and staff alike to decompress and recharge before entering the second semester of school. The holiday break also provides an opportunity to reflect.

As I reflected on the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year, two prevailing themes became apparent.

First, quality relationships are a priority. Hopefully families were able to get together and enjoy time with each other over the holiday break. I would encourage everyone to continue making those relationships a priority even after the holiday season is over.

For the Tri-County School Corporation, the holiday season provides a welcome break from the usual busyness of the school year. Staff are able to enjoy time with their own children and families. While being away from the students for two weeks allows for time to recharge and prepare for the second semester, I know our teachers are still thinking about our students over the holidays. Due to the strong relationships between our staff and students, our students are always on the mind of our staff, even over breaks. Not only do they continuously think about the best way to maximize their learning experiences at school, but they truly care for the students and often refer to and think of them as their own kids.

During the second semester, the Tri-County School Corporation staff remains committed to building strong, positive relationships with our students and families. It is these strong relationships which build such an important foundation for our students, making learning and achievement within the classroom possible.

Second, everyone must maintain a proper work vs. life balance. For the past three years, everyone within the public education system, including our administration, staff, students and families, have worked diligently to provide a quality education during a global pandemic. To that end, everyone has worked too many hours! Maintaining a proper balance between work and life is critical. Please do not feel bad for taking the time on the weekend to watch a movie, read a book, exercise, or participate in any personal hobby, and please encourage your kids to do the same!

The Tri-County School Corporation appreciates the opportunity to educate the students within our community. We know the enormity of the responsibility we have on a daily basis. We do not take this responsibility lightly, yet consider it both an honor and privilege to be entrusted to educate these future leaders. As always, thank you for the continued support, flexibility, and appreciation for our Tri-County staff.

Yours in Education,

Patrick Culp, Superintendent

FROM THE DESK OF MS. HALL

We are well into our second semester now. I am beyond pleased with how many days of in-person instruction we have been able to have at the Primary School. This is a testament to our families, students, and staff members and their continued commitment to health and safety practices. Below are some reminders of those practices.

- Students should have a mask to wear while they are on a school bus
- Please keep your child home if he/she is not feeling well, if they are being tested for COVID-19, or if they are a close contact to someone who has tested positive
- If someone in your family is waiting for test results, your child should remain at home until results are known
- Communication about your child's absence is greatly appreciated; please report their attendance to our main office by calling 219-261-2214

As we patiently wait for warmer weather, please make sure you are sending your child to school dressed appropriately. Students will go outside for recess as long as the temperature (including wind chill) is twenty degrees or higher. We have a growing collection of coats, hats, and gloves in our lost and found. If your child is missing items, have them check the lost and found closet down by the cafeteria.

In March the Primary School teachers will still be holding spring parent-teacher conferences. Staying connected to our students' families is important to us, and we do not want to miss out on this opportunity to share the progress our students have made throughout the school year. More information about conferences will be sent home at a later date.

Below are some dates to make note of for February and March. We encourage you to reach out to us if you have any questions or are interested in volunteering and getting involved in all of the great things going on at TCP!

Sincerely,

Ms. Hall

Mark Your Calendars:

February

1st- PTO meeting, 7:00 in the TCI art room
14th- School Board Meeting, 7:00 at the Corporation Office
21st- School in session for make-up day

March

1st- PTO meeting, 7:00 in the TCI art room
14th- School Board Meeting, 7:00 at the Corporation Office
11th- End of 3rd 9 weeks
18th-25th- Spring Break



FROM THE DESK OF MR. HAGAN

All of us at TCI would like to thank our parents and community supporters for all you do to help provide our students with the best 21st century learning opportunities. We appreciate our many parents and community members who provide their time to substitute in our schools and support learning at home. In-school instruction is the best option for our students and we have been fortunate to stay open the majority of the school year so far. We are able to provide students the best possible educational opportunities because of our amazing community.

We have many great opportunities lined up for students this semester at TCI. Tri-County Schools understand the great benefits and outcomes STEM education brings to our students, and we are working together to enhance our STEM programming across all of our schools.

All students are immersed in STEM within each subject in the classrooms and attend our STEM Academy weekly. Our 4th, 5th, and 6th grade robotics teams are working hard getting their robots ready for competition. Purdue University will be working with our students in growing hydroponics at school. Purdue Professor, Dr. Krishna Nemali, is planning to begin engaging students in controlled environment agriculture where they will learn about the growing process in our hydroponics systems at school. Students will be growing fruits and vegetables and plan to eat their harvest on our salad bar.

Thank you to everyone involved in making all of these experiences possible for our students, and being patient with us as we safely plan opportunities for students. We are eager to bring all of our unique learning experiences back, and we thank you for your patience and support.

Every Day Is What You Make It! Make It A Great Day!

Mr. Hagan



IN THE KITCHEN...

Like many organizations at the end of the year, we want to share words of encouragement to let you know that we appreciate the work you put in day after day to feed students across the state of Indiana. The one common thread between all children at school is that they all eat. Balancing how to do that, during a pandemic, is a struggle that not many can articulate.

Considering this, I recently asked Becky Landes, the Food Service Operation Manager for Manchester Schools, to sum up the frustration of ordering food and supplies in a time where schools in other parts of the country muse that they may ask students to bring in their own cutlery and dishes. Becky shared a lighthearted take on just trying to complete a food order in late 2021.

Last week's ordering went something like this

I need corn dogs, but they are out of stock, both regular and minis. I try steak burgers. Not a chance I will get those in either size 3 oz or 2.4 oz. How about quesadillas? Well, one variety out of five is in stock and I have no idea if the little kids will eat spicy quesadillas but it's all I can get.

Ham- forget it, unless I get it directly from a local farmer. Bacon for breakfast sandwiches and baked beans are the same as the ham. Pizza- maybe if you don't care what kind it is. Chicken- on a good day yes, it's a little like rolling the dice. Ahhh, maybe Salisbury Steak no go ... yikes did I really try to order some that cost \$1.00 per steak?!? That is as much as a locally purchased hamburger. .. might need to rethink that the next time.

Disposable plates, nope. Paper trays, ditto. Plastic forks and spoons, maybe a spork- how do you eat soup with a spork?

Tomato soup- I can't even order it. Individual fruit cups- there is nothing there. Oh, but I can get number 10 cans offruit. But what shall/ put the serving offruit in? I can't get disposable bowls or cups.

In the past egg patties have been a problem so we made our own patties. I just scored 20 cases of egg patties a couple weeks ago, so now we have a enough of them to last until March, so it's a cause for great celebration!

Now, don't forget we need to meet all the food groups, vegetable subgroups, whole grain, calories, saturated fats for each grade grouping. Well, the main thing is to make sure the kids have food to eat and so far, we have accomplished that. We are feeding everyone; it just might look different than it has in the past. Therefore, it's a good day!

Prepping Fruit (Baked Apples)
Veggies for the Cold Line



I've included a live interview from a Food Service Director in Northern Indiana. We are all facing this challenge.

FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 GB(VAR) Sectional (A) 6pm	2	3 WR(JH) SN (A) 6pm BB(JV/V) NN (H) 6:30pm	4 GB(V) Sectional (A)	5 GB(V) Sectional (A) GB7(A/B) WCT (A) 9am GB8(A/B) WCT (A) 9am
6	7 GB7(A/B) TL (H) 6pm GB8(A/B) TL (H) 6pm	8 GB7(A/B) CC (A) 6pm GB8(A/B) CC (A) 7pm WR(JH) Pioneer (H) 6pm	9	10 GB7(A/B) Rossville (A) 6pm GB8(A/B) Rossville (A) 6pm BB(JV/V) Cov Christ (H) 6pm	11 BB(JV/V) BC (H) 6:30pm	12
13	14 School Board Meeting 7pm GB7(A/B) Carroll (A) 6pm GB8(A/B) Carroll (A) 7pm	15 GB7(A/B) NW (A) 6pm GB8(A/B) NW (A) 7pm WR(JH) NW (A) 6pm	16	17 GB7(A/B) St James (H) 6pm GB8(A/B) St James (H) 6pm WR(JH) Frontier/C.Prairie (A) 6pm	18 BB(JV/V) Faith Christ (A) 6pm	19 WR(JH) NW Invite (A) 9am
20	21 School in Session GB7(A/B) Faith Christ (A) 6pm GB8(A/B) Faith Christ (A) 6pm WR(JH) C.Prairie/Rossville(A) 6pm	22 GB7(A/B) WC (A) 6pm GB8(A/B) WC (A) 6pm BB(V) Taylor HS (A) 7:30pm	23	24 GB7(A/B) Frontier (H) 6pm GB8(A/B) Frontier (H) 6pm	25 BB(JV/V) Pioneer (A) 6pm	26 WR(JH) WC Invite (A) 9am
27	28 GB7(A/B) Pioneer (H) 6pm GB8(A/B) Pioneer (H) 7pm					
		Notes:				

Tri-County Activity Calendar

MARCH 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 BB(V) Sectionals (H) 6pm	2	3 GB7(A/B) NN (H) 6:30pm GB8(A/B) NN (H) 6:30pm WR(JH) Frontier/TL (A) 6pm	4 BB(V) Sectionals (H) 6pm	5 WR(JH) RCMS Invite (A) 9:30am BB(V) Sectional Championship (H) 6pm
6	7	8	9	10 WR(JH) TC/SN (A) 6pm	11 WR(JH) MWC (A) 5pm	12
13	14 School Board Meeting 7pm	15	16	17	18 End of 3rd Nine-Weeks	19
20	21 No School - Spring Break	22 No School - Spring Break	23 No School - Spring Break	24 No School - Spring Break	25 No School - Spring Break	26
27	28	29	30	31		
		Notes:				

6TH GRADE TRAVELS TO CAMP TECUMSEH

6th Grade Travels to Camp Tecumseh

On September 27 and 28, 6th grade attended the Foundations for Success Program at Camp Tecumseh. This overnight field trip was made possible thanks to a generous grant from the White County Community Foundation. We left school at 9:30 am on Monday and returned approximately 2:30 in the afternoon Tuesday. Throughout the team building activities students were using the Foundation of communication, problem solving, leadership, self-confidence and trust.

During camp we saw and heard “ah-ha” moments of students realizing things they didn’t know or learned about themselves. At meals, students shared successes and failures that they learned from, as well as bragged upon their accomplishments (climbing the rock wall, solving a puzzle or clue, lighting a match, just to name a few).

Upon returning to the classroom, we are able to draw upon these new found strengths and group students with others to be successful or challenged by tasks. We use examples from camp year round to remind the students that they can do “hard” things, seemingly impossible tasks, and work with peers they would not otherwise pair themselves with and be successful. We see students interacting with each other in new ways, and seeking out different friendships throughout the year, we attribute much of this to camp.

Student reflections speak best to the experience. These are a few of the reflections taken straight from their writings upon returning from camp:

“I would definitely recommend this for the future grades. It helps Stabilize sixth grade. you get to know it’s better that you don’t always hang out with [the same people] and become a better person. this is why I would recommend camp for the younger kids”

“The best thing about Camp T was that we got to have fun and do these group activities and learn how to work together in a group. I also really got to interact with other people I don’t usually interact with.”

FROM TC’S TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Our Digital World

Being a parent or a grandparent in today’s digital and social media-filled world can be a little daunting when trying to keep your children/grandchildren safe online. We want to share a few sites that you can use to help you decide what boundaries you feel are appropriate for your family. Each family has to decide what is right for them and understand it can/should be different for each family and possibly each child.

Your first option is pbs.org. This site has activities and shows for children ages 2-8. Be sure to choose the Chicago station or Indianapolis station, whichever you prefer to get information from. PBS.org is free for all to use.

The second option to use includes a blog that covers many different parts of digital life. This site is bark.us. This site is well worth your time. All of the Bark Blog articles are free to read and they are categorized to give you their thoughts on many topics. Be aware that they are also going to try to “sell” you their product, which is parental monitoring of your child’s online activities, but you are not required to purchase anything to use the site.

The third option is commonsensemedia.org. Common Sense Media offers reviews and information on TV shows, Movies, Books, Apps, and Games. These reviews are written by children and adults. They can also be broken down by age. The “basic” account is free and you can read 3 different reviews per month. This is a great resource to help you decide if a movie or whatever you are checking out is something you think is appropriate for your family.

JASPER COUNTY PREVIEW BEEF SHOW

Sponsored by Tri-County FFA

SATURDAY, APRIL 30th

JASPER COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

2671 WEST CLARK ST, RENSSELAER, IN 47978

Check-in 7am-9:30 am CST - Show starts at 10 am CST

Show Order: Heifers-Steers-showmanship

Judge: TBD

\$40/HeAD

\$5 Showmanship

MUST STALL OFF TRAILER AND FOLLOW ALL JASPER COUNTY COVID PUBLIC SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Concessions provided by FFA PARENT CONNECTIONS

Questions? Contact

Tri-County FFA

Travis Scherer & Haley Verhaeghe, Advisors

219-279-2105

scherer@trico.k12.in.US

verhaegheh@trico.k12.in.us

TRI-COUNTY FFA PARENT CONNECTIONS

18th ANNUAL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

SATURDAY APRIL 2nd

STARTING AT 10 AM EST

Tri-County High School, Wolcott, IN

Consignments Needed

Consignment Rates

Any Farm Machinery
Donation

\$0-\$5.00

Lawn Mowers to Go-Carts
15%

\$6.00-\$100

Livestock Equipment
10%

\$101-\$500

NO Tires Without Rims
7%

\$501-\$1500

NO Household Appliances
5%

Over \$1500

NO Chemical Containers

For more information:

Tri-County Ag Dept. (219) 279-2105 Ext 3439

scherer@trico.k12.in.us verhaegheh@trico.k12.in.us

Consignments will be taken 8 am -8 pm on

Wednesday, March 30th to Friday, April 1st

Advertising Deadline is March 16th



Any Tri-County School Organization wishing to make an announcement in the Newsletter, please have articles in the Superintendent's Office by the fifteenth of the month. If you would like to receive the Tri-County Newsletter or know of someone who would like to receive the Newsletter, please contact the Superintendent's Office at 219-279-2418

Tri-County School Corporation

Office of the Superintendent
Wolcott, Indiana 47995



FROM ALL OF US AT TRI-COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION

TRI-COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Tri-County School Corporation has a policy which is currently being practiced. All courses are open to all students regardless of age, race, color, national origin, sex, and handicapped condition.

Educational services, programs, instruction and facilities will not be denied to anyone in the Tri-County School Corporation as the result of his or her age, race, color, national origin, sex, or handicapped condition.

For further information, clarification, or complaint, please contact the following people:

Title IX Coordinator:

Shawn McCracken, Assistant Principal
Tri-County Jr/Sr High School
11298 W 100 S
Wolcott, IN 47995
Phone: (219) 279-2105

Section 504 Coordinator:

Brian Hagan, Principal
Tri-County Intermediate School
200 W North Street
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Phone: (219) 279-2138