



TRIWAY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Every Student. Every Classroom. Every Day.

January 2018

Issue 4

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@TriwaySchools
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Superintendent's Message

Happy New Year to all of our Triway families. The weather has presented many challenges as we begin 2018, but we look forward to getting back into a routine and showcasing the many positives happening at Triway. #theTriwayDifference will be on display in 2018 as we continue to excel academically, athletically, and through the arts.

A strategic plan was implemented at the beginning of this school year to support our district vision of Every Student, Every Classroom, Every Day. The plan includes short and long-term goals centered around academics, communication, and school culture. I invite you to read about the goals and action steps that will be the driving force behind the continued growth of Triway Local Schools located on our district website:

<http://www.triway.k12.oh.us/district/office-superintendent>

On Wednesday, February 21st, our second Community Dialogue meeting will take place from 6:00-8:00 at Triway High School. Options that pertain to the facility master planning process will be presented. Your involvement is essential as we consider the future of Triway Local Schools. To access presentations and information presented at previous meetings, please continue to visit the website, <http://www.dejongrichter.com/triwaylocal>.

Go Titans!

Nate Schindewolf
Superintendent, Triway Local Schools
@TriwaySupt





H&R Block: Budget Challenge

The THS College and Career Readiness Class, led by Family and Consumer Sciences teacher Joyce Krebs, recently finished an online budget simulation experience. Free to high school teachers and students, the H&R Block Budget Challenge is an online simulation tool that replicates real-world budgeting and personal finance decision-making. By simulating an adult's financial life – paying bills, investing in retirement, managing loans and more, students are immersed in the life of a recent college graduate who has been working for six months. Each participant receives a virtual salary and must make smart budgeting decisions regarding expenses such as rent, utilities, car payments and more. Students are challenged to balance current and future financial needs, and demonstrate resourcefulness, understanding, and practical application of financial concepts. Students must log-in daily to get points and pay bills on a regular basis. They must pay their bills on time, while maximizing savings via a virtual 401(k). They must also minimize penalties such as late fees, overdraft fees, or finance charges. The simulation includes realistic “surprise” scenarios and monetary challenges such as a roommate who doesn't pay their share of the rent or a stolen laptop.

The simulation encourages healthy competition and cooperation among classmates, and also affords students the opportunity to qualify for scholarship money through the H & R Block Foundation. Although no scholarships were received by Mrs. Krebs's students, the class finished in 68th place out of 1,145 classes nationwide, while ranking 4th nationwide among all Family and Consumer Sciences classes that participated.

“I truly believe the simulation gives high school juniors and seniors an essential experience in real-world financial issues before they graduate,” said Mrs. Krebs. “Most students take the simulation very seriously and actually get a bit stressed out about their financial state from day to day! It's a safe way to experience the ups and downs of an adult's financial life, without the negative real-world consequences.”

This was the third year that Mrs. Krebs utilized this tool as a learning opportunity for her students. Students also received a certificate of participation at the end of the simulation, which can be used in a college or future job portfolio.





Problem-Based Learning

Mrs. Ridolfi recently presented her 4th-grade math students with a real-life problem. They were challenged to create a seating arrangement in the gym for the Wooster Township December music program that would provide the maximum amount of seating for their guests. Her class used the problem-based learning approach to find the solution. Problem-based learning (PBL) is a teaching method in which students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an authentic, engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge.

Before they could make a plan, music teacher, Mrs. Douglass, shared some important information with the students. They learned that they needed to keep three feet open around the perimeter of the gym. There would also be xylophone players and three tables in front of the stage, so they decided to extend the free space from three feet to five feet. Then, students talked to Mrs. Donnelly and learned that the 6th grade band would be in the middle of the gym. They planned extra space in front of the band for Mrs. Donnelly to conduct and extra space beside the band for audience comfort. After sharing additional discoveries about total square footage for each chair, as well as for the gym floor, students began developing plans.

Students chose to work as individuals, or with partners or groups, to create their own plans and share them with the class. Plans were to include correct measurements and decisions the class had already agreed upon. They used graph paper to represent the gym, having each square equal to one square foot. Students agreed that they should leave space between seats and stagger the chairs to help the audience see. They also voted to have one foot of space between rows and a six foot aisle in the middle of the gym. Students planned five horizontal rows in the back half of the gym. In the front, they voted to arrange the rows diagonally so that audience members could see the students on the stage, as well as the band on the gym floor.

Finally, the big day came! Equipped with yardsticks and enthusiasm, students went to work. Some students assisted Ms. Esther, Wooster Township custodian, as she brought the chairs up from the multipurpose room. Other students meticulously measured aisles and spaces between rows and chairs. Many students worked together to complete the rows that were measured out. Students also helped Mrs. Shoulders decorate with Christmas lights and a large train that was created by Wooster Township 6th grade volunteers. Watching the plan on paper come to life gave the students a sense of true accomplishment as they applied their classroom skills to discover a solution.



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Academic Challenge: Inscrutable Fun

The Triway High School Academic Challenge Team regularly competes with other local schools to demonstrate knowledge of sometimes complex and esoteric facts from the realms of English and American Literature, Chemistry, Physics, Calculus, Art, Music, History, Geography, and Government. While the questions are seldom easy, the team can prepare by studying online resources, and by having weekly practices reviewing past tournament questions. These questions are rephrased so that the points often go to players who can recognize the reconfigurations of questions they have heard previously.

It's a bit of a conundrum every year as we ask ourselves, are we a co-curricular activity, or are we a sport? Given the hours of practice and preparation that these students put in, there is no doubt that it is a real competition. It can also be a lot of fun to show what you know. "It's the only place I can show off my useless factoids, and for that, I enjoy it" claims varsity member, Jacob Price. Teammate, Meredith Klingerman, states, "we show up at seven in the morning for practice—that's dedication!" The JV team is right there with the varsity preparing for their future as varsity members. This season, the JV team has enjoyed some early success by coming in second place in both tournaments they have competed in.

One phrase that resonated with the team this year came from JV member Jared Durieux's attempt to repurpose a tournament question quoting the shocked radio announcer's exclamation on witnessing the Hindenburg crash, "Oh, the humanity!" In keeping with the temperature in the tournament venue that evening, it became, "Oh, the humidity!"

To date, the Academic Challenge team has competed in Wayne County Academic Challenge tournaments and the Greater Mohican Academic Challenge tournament at Ashland University. Yet to come is the Tri-County Academic Challenge tournament on February 3rd at West Holmes High School. Everyone is encouraged to attend to cheer the team on to victory.



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The Season for Giving

This holiday season, students at Shreve Elementary have been hard at work giving back by participating in various service projects. During the month of December, second-grade students in Mrs. Flinner and Mrs. Shriver's homeroom set a hefty goal of collecting 400 pairs of new or gently used shoes for the Soles 4 Souls Organization. This nonprofit organization collects and distributes shoes to people in need across the United States and all over the world. Our second-grade students created shoe bins, made signs, and visited local businesses in Shreve to ask them for their support. They were also responsible for collecting and counting the shoes each day, as well as updating our students and staff on the morning announcements. With one day left to donate, our students found themselves about 45 pairs shy of their goal. With one final push, we are proud to announce that these students finished their shoe drive with a whopping 436 pairs of shoes collected for this very worthwhile cause.

Mrs. Shutler's 5th grade class shared in the holiday spirit of giving by holding their second annual pajama drive to benefit The Pajama Program. The Eastern Ohio Chapter of this organization collects and distributes new pajamas and bedtime stories for kids in local group homes, foster care, and shelters. Thanks to all of our wonderful families, our 5th grade students were able to collect 78 pairs of pajamas and 120 bedtime stories to donate to local organizations.

On December 9th, our Student Lighthouse Team and a few members of our Staff Lighthouse Team had the opportunity to spread some holiday spirit by ringing the Salvation Army bell at the Pine Tree Barn. These students and staff members spent a cold and windy afternoon raising money for the Salvation Army. Through the generous donations of the patrons, there wasn't any room left in the kettle by the end of the four-hour shift.

Each year, our Shreve Elementary PTO sponsors a Santa Shop where students are able to bring in money and shop for Christmas presents for their family and friends. This year, one Shreve Elementary student decided to give back by saving \$100 of her own money and donating it to students who didn't have the money to buy presents for their families. Due to this student's generous act of kindness, fifteen students were able to buy presents for members of their family.

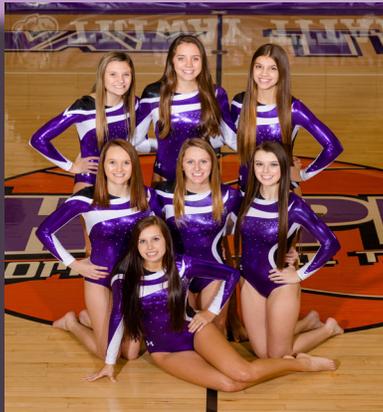
As 2017 comes to an end, we continue to feel inspired and proud of our students. We enjoy watching them learn how they can turn their ideas into actions that can create positive changes for our community and surrounding communities. We can't wait to see what 2018 has in store for our outstanding students and leaders at Shreve Elementary.



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