



Tri County Area Schools
Tradition • Character • Achievement • Success

VIKING VIEWS



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER - Fall Edition

Welcome to our “Back to School” installment of Tri County’s Quarterly *Viking Views* Newsletter. Each edition will contain information on district and building happenings. We hope this finds everyone enjoying the last days of summer before school starts on Monday, August 26th! See you soon!



Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year! Open House & Orientation Information

TC High School (9-12)

Thursday, August 22nd
All Grades (9-12) 2:00-5:00 PM

(Pictures WILL be taken during open house)

TC Middle School (6-8)

Thursday, August 22nd
5:00-6:30 PM

(Pictures WILL be taken during open house)

Tri County Elementary (K-5)

Wednesday, August 21st
All Grades (K-5) 5:00-6:30 PM

(Pictures will NOT be taken during open house)

Tri County Preschool

GSRP & 3 yr old Preschool
Thursday, August 22nd
5:30-6:30 pm

(Pictures will NOT be taken during open house)



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MONDAY, AUGUST 26TH!

District News

Message from the Superintendent . . .

Dear TC Families and Community Members,

As the summer draws to a close and the excitement of a new school year begins to build, I want to extend a warm “Welcome Back” to all our students, parents, teachers, and staff. I hope you have had a restful and enjoyable summer break, filled with memorable moments with family and friends.

The start of a new school year is always a special time, full of promise and potential. Our dedicated staff has been working tirelessly over the summer to prepare for the return of our students, ensuring that our schools are ready to provide a safe, supportive, and enriching environment for learning and growth. Here are some key topics to remember as we start this school year together:

Communication - Effective communication is the cornerstone of a thriving educational community. We are committed to keeping open lines of communication between the school, families, and the community. Please stay informed through our regular updates via email, our district website, and social media channels. Another way to stay informed and receive notifications is to download our Tri County Vikings App. Additionally, do not hesitate to reach out to teachers, administrators, and myself with any questions, concerns, or feedback. Your involvement and insights are vital to our success.



Community Involvement - We believe that strong partnerships between the school and community are essential for student success. We encourage you to stay involved and connected through our various school events, parent-teacher organizations, and volunteer opportunities. Your engagement and support are invaluable to us.

Support Services - Our commitment to the well-being of our students extends beyond academics. We offer a range of support services, including: counseling, mental health resources, and extracurricular activities. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our administration if your child needs assistance. Our principals and front office assistants are ready to help coordinate.

As we embark on this new school year, I am filled with optimism and excitement for what lies ahead. Our commitment to academic excellence, opportunities to connect outside the classroom, and the holistic development of our students remains steadfast. By working together, we can ensure that every student reaches their full potential and experiences a year of growth, achievement, and joy. I look forward to collaborating with all of you to make this school year a remarkable one.

Thank you for your unwavering support and trust. We look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Monday, August 26th. Together We Are TC!

Warm regards,

Ryan J. Biller

Superintendent

District News

Adventures in TC Summer Childcare

by Kattie Westgate, TC Summer Childcare Director

It has been a fun-filled summer season at TC Summer Childcare! Some highlights of the summer fun have been visiting the Montcalm County Fair to see the animals and ride the rides, participating in four local library summer reading programs, visiting local parks and splash pads, and participating in daily crafts and learning activities at Tri County Elementary, which serves as our “home base” for the summer. Staff strives to facilitate learning through play, with a focus on students’ social and emotional growth and STEM learning opportunities.



The Montcalm County Fair was an instant hit with the kids and staff members alike! We hope that this becomes a new summer tradition for the program. Through our participation with Sand Lake (KDL) Library reading program, kids were able to earn free wristbands to go on the rides at the fair by reading and logging the books. Some fan favorites at the fair were the rock wall, the giant slides, and face painting.

Kids participated in the summer reading programs at the Timothy C. Hauenstein (Howard City), KDL (Sand Lake), Newaygo, and Grant public libraries. Many kids finished their summer reading logs for each program and earned prizes like free ice cream, new books to bring home, and small toys. Three of the four libraries also had summer celebrations to wrap up their summer programming, and we were thrilled to take the kids to participate in the fun!

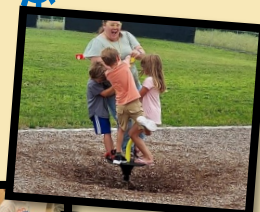


One of the favorite summer activities for our kids is “park hopping.” We frequently visited Morley Park (Cedar Springs), Long Lake Park (Cedar Springs), Gordon Park (Sand Lake), the new Pierson Township Park, and Ensley Park (Howard City). The splash pads in Sparta and at the Spencer Township Park (Gowen) were also a hit! We love visiting parks because it gets the kids outside and encourages them to get active.

While “school” isn’t the focus of our summer program, we do make sure to include plenty of learning opportunities for the kids! We use a STEM-centered curriculum (called World of Words) for short daily lessons. Several of our students were also able to take advantage of the Camp TC summer programming offered by the school in June. We look forward to partnering with Camp TC more in the future to bring greater learning opportunities to our kids!

The new elementary school and its gorgeous playgrounds have been an amazing “home base” for our summer childcare kids. The central air means that kids are comfortable anywhere in the building. The well-equipped cafeteria and kitchen servery means the kids have many lunch options available each day. Having multiple rooms available in the same area of the school has meant that we have defined learning, rest, and play spaces.

If you are interested in enrolling your student for next summer’s childcare programming, please watch for enrollment information to come out sometime in March next year. We also offer before/after school care at the elementary school during the school year and are looking to extend those services to middle schoolers as well. If you have questions or wish to enroll in the school year program, please visit our program’s booth at the Tri County Elementary Open House on August 21, 5-6:30pm.



District News

Fender Blender Coming to a School Near You!

What's a Fender Blender? A "Rock the Bike" Fender Blender is a stationary bike you ride to make pedal powered smoothies! A Bike Blender!

Lisa Newton, Food Service Director, recently attended a regional workshop, where she was able to share her priorities and interests for next school year around our School Meals program. Her attendance at the conference and the completion of a survey gave Tri County a chance at winning a Fender Blender Pro, courtesy of Michigan's dairy farmers.

The Fender Blender Pro is the world's premier high-performance bike blender and combines fitness with flavor in one sleek machine! So, be on the lookout – the Fender Blender is coming to a school near you!



Summer Meals Program a Huge Success!

This year's Summer Meals Program looked a little different than last year! This year the program featured Grab-n-Go style meals for both breakfast and lunch. The weekly Summer Meal Packets included seven (7) breakfasts and seven (7) lunches, along with two (2) half-gallons of milk, per child. The meal packets also included fresh vegetables this year! Parents and guardians were able to pick up the meal packets every Thursday.

So far this summer, the Food Service Dept. has served over 20,000 breakfasts and lunches (that's 40,000 meals), providing summer meals for over 2,850 children.

We want to thank our families for your patience this summer as we initiated this grab-n-go program. Your response has been overwhelmingly positive and we appreciate your kind words.

We also thank our food service workers who worked tirelessly to pack meals and helped with the pickup! We have the BEST food service team! GO VIKINGS!



Thanks To Independent Bank -Howard City!

A "BIG" Viking thank you goes out to Independent Bank-Howard City for their sponsorship of the lunch served at the Timothy C. Hauenstein Reynolds Township Library event to celebrate the end of their summer reading program.

Tri County Area Schools food service dept., in partnership with Independent Bank-Howard City, grilled and served almost 300 hotdogs to kids and families who attended the event. We appreciate and thank Independent Bank for their continued support of TCAS programs.

Household Surveys Coming Soon!

As you may know, part of the Universal Free Breakfast and Lunch program is the requirement for households to complete the "Household Survey". The information from these surveys is used to help TCAS receive state and federal funds for Title I programs, At-Risk programs, etc.

So, when you receive this "Household Survey" we ask that you complete and return it right away to help continue some of the great programs we have in place.

For questions regarding this survey contact Lisa Newton, Food Service Director at lnewton@tricountyschools.com.

Board of Education News

BOARD BRIEFS

Dear Tri County Community,

Welcome back! We are thrilled to kick off the 2024-2025 school year at Tri County and hope you've all had a chance to relax and enjoy your summer.

Our school community has been bustling with activity over the break. From enriching summer learning opportunities to the efforts of our food service staff providing kids with meals, it's been a productive summer. TC's awesome staff have been hard at work preparing classrooms, maintaining buildings and grounds, updating technology, and taking care of countless details to ensure a smooth start to the school year. Meanwhile, our student athletes have attended practices and conditioning to prepare for the upcoming sports seasons, while our talented band members have been busy perfecting their craft for another year of fantastic performances.

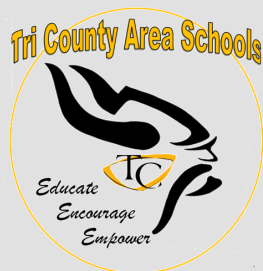
This fall, the Board of Education is excited to resume our "Conversations with Community" initiative at all home varsity football games (weather permitting). We launched this effort in 2019 to enhance our accessibility and strengthen our connection with the community. At these games, you'll find a 'board table' where we'll have useful information and copies of the new school calendar available. We encourage you to stop by, say "Hi," and share your thoughts with us. Whether you have questions or just want to chat, we're here and eager to engage with you. Your feedback and interaction are invaluable as we work together to support our students and schools.

I hope each and everyone of you can find time to enjoy the rest of this beautiful Michigan summer. We can't wait to welcome your children back to school!

We Are TC!!!

Sincerely,

Jill Fennessy, President
Board of Education
Tri County Area Schools



November 5, 2024 Election Information

Tri County Area Schools biennial school election will be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 to elect Board of Education members to fill three (3) six-year board terms, and one (1) four-year partial term.

Candidates for these positions are:

- Jessica Helfmann (incumbent) - 6-year term
- Nicholas Hall - 6-year term
- Brandon Monreal - 6-year term
- MaDonna Princer (incumbent) - 4-year partial term

Newly elected Board members will begin their terms January 1, 2025.

We Are TC!

BOARD OF EDUCATION

	<u>2024 Board Meeting Dates</u>
Ms. Jill Fennessy, President	
Ms. Janet Powell, Vice President	August 12, 2024
Mr. Brian Campbell, Treasurer	September 9, 2024
Ms. MaDonna Princer, Secretary	October 14, 2024
Mr. Chad Bice, Trustee	November 11, 2024
Ms. Jennifer Arnold, Trustee	December 9, 2024
Ms. Jessica Helfmann, Trustee	

All Regular Board of Education meetings will begin at **6:00 pm**. For a complete list of meeting dates and other meeting information, visit the Board of Education page on our website at www.tricountyschool.com

MEET THE TEAM. NEW FACES AT TCAS

Lindsay Lehman - Kindergarten

Ms. Lehman joins our Kindergarten team at Tri County Elementary School. She comes to us by way of Cedar Springs Public Schools, where she served as a Math Interventionist, long-term substitute, lead after-school programs, and coached elementary volleyball. Ms. Lehman has a Bachelor of Science degree from Grand Valley State University and is a graduate of the Michigan Teacher of Tomorrow program. Lindsay is excited to share her experiences, as it is her passion to truly make a difference in the lives of the youth in our community. She is confident in her abilities to have a positive impact in the lives of our students and community. We are excited to welcome Lindsay into our Viking family!

Lacie Hutton - Elementary Music

Ms. Hutton is excited to share her expertise in music education with our Tri County Elementary students this coming year! Lacie is particularly drawn to Elementary Music instruction because it is a critical stage in a child's development, and she is eager to make a meaningful impact on our students. Ms. Hutton is a graduate of Grand Valley State University, where she majored in Music and earned her Bachelors Degree in Music Education. She is committed to fostering a supportive and nurturing learning environment where students feel valued, challenged, and inspired to reach their full potential. Welcome to TC Lacie!

Troy Bytwork - Middle School Social Studies

Mr. Bytwork is looking forward to enlightening the minds of young people as he joins the Middle School Social Studies team. Troy brings with him years of experience. During this time he learned the importance of leadership, whether teaching about the American Constitution or coaching on the field. Troy is a graduate of Western Michigan University, where he earned his Bachelors degree in History with a minor in Social Studies, and earned his Masters degree in History. Troy is also a decorated former football coach, earning many honors and awards over the past several years. We look forward to welcoming Troy into the Tri County Viking family!

Jeffrey Norey - Middle School Science

Jeff Norey returns to his passion of helping students after spending the past several years in the drafting and land surveying industry. He will join the Middle School Science team, where he will share his strong work ethic, innovative thinking, and positive energy, which he believes are keys to opening a child's mind to new information. Jeff also believes in the importance of including social development with academic acceleration. He is a graduate of Ferris State University, earning his degree in elementary education, integrated Science and Social Studies. We welcome Jeff to the Tri County family!

Sam Hutchinson - 1st Grade

Mr. Hutchinson, as some of our students know him, is a familiar face that will be returning to Tri County Elementary School to officially begin his teaching as a 1st grade teacher. Sam completed his student teaching at Tri County Elementary this past year. He is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Ferris State University, where he earned his Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education. Sam is excited to apply his knowledge and skills in the classroom to enhance the lives of this district's youth. Welcome back Mr. Hutchinson!

Allyssa Martineau - Middle School Social Work

Ms. Martineau joins our staff as the new Social Worker at our Middle School. She comes to us by way of Cedar Springs Public Schools, where she was a Middle school counselor, and she also spent some time as a school counselor at Lakeview Community Schools. Allyssa has a Masters Degree in Social Work, with a concentration in community mental health. She is a graduate of California State University and Grand Valley State University. She is eager to share her vast knowledge of programs and available resources to benefit our students and community. We are excited to say welcome to Tri County Allyssa!

Tye Solis - High School Math Dept.

Mr. Solis joins our High School Math Dept. this fall, where he will put his Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics, with a minor in Physical Education, to work. Tye is a graduate of Grand Valley State University, where he was named to the Dean's list over several semesters. He brings with him his experience in teaching Algebra I, Honors Algebra I, and Honors Algebra 2, as well as 8th grade Pre-Algebra. Tye looks forward to making positive contributions to our High School Math department and the Tri County community. Welcome Tye!

Staci Schutt - Paraprofessional

Staci Schutt joins our Early Childhood Special Education staff as a paraprofessional. She brings with her years of experience working with children, first as a nanny and then as a wedding and portrait photographer. Staci has worked in the photography industry for many years, owning her own business for several years and working as a photography assistant. She believes that empathy, flexibility, critical-thinking, and problem-solving are all qualities required to hold ourselves to the highest level of integrity. She is eager to provide attentive and compassionate care to students and staff where needed, and share her enthusiasm in providing excellent support to staff and students alike. We look forward to having Staci join our Edgerton Staff!

Educate • Encourage • Empower (E³)

Other District Information

Kyndra Denton - Paraprofessional

Kyndra Denton will join our elementary paraprofessional staff this fall, after spending time as a stay-at-home mom. Kyndra also holds a degree in Cosmetology and spent several years in the industry before choosing to stay home with her children. She also spent time as a nanny, caring for school age children. Kyndra says she loves working with children and is looking forward to using her problem-solving skills and her skills in childcare in this new position. We are excited to welcome Kyndra to our elementary team!

ParentVUE Summer Verification Reminder

ATTENTION PARENTS! Summer is quickly passing by, and we want remind you of the importance of completing the Summer Verification for your enrolled students!

Tri County Area Schools strives to always have the most up to date information for students at all times. That's why ALL parents/guardians are asked annually to verify current student information online through ParentVUE. This information includes address, phone numbers, emergency contacts, health information, etc. Simply log into your ParentVUE account and you will be prompted to complete the "2024-2025 Back-to-School Summer Verification".

Please be aware that verifying all current student information through your ParentVUE account is vital, as this is required prior to having access to information regarding the new school year, such as teachers/homerooms, schedules, busing, etc.

If you have address changes and/or other busing changes, these need to be completed by **August 13th** in order for these changes to be implemented for bus routing for the new school year. Changes made after August 13th will not be initiated/approved until after school begins.

If you don't have a ParentVUE account or need assistance with your login, contact you student's school office or the Educational Service Center at 616-636-65454.

2024-2025 Athletic Ticket Info

All-Sport Passes will be available for purchase beginning Monday, August 19th. Passes can be purchased from the high school office and at all home Varsity football games.

Ticket holders will be able to attend all high school and middle school events, with the exception of any state tournament events that Tri County might host.

Senior citizens age 60 and over may visit both the Athletic Office located at the high school or the Educational Service Center in Sand Lake for a Lifetime Golden Age Pass for free admission to all school sponsored league events (some restrictions apply).

Ticket Prices for Individual Events:

Student & Adult - \$5.00 ea.

Family - \$15.00 (includes 1 or 2 adults & minor children)

All-Sport Ticket Prices for 2024-2025:

Student - \$50.00

Adult - \$70.00

Family - \$175.00



2024-25 Schools of Choice

2024-2025 Schools of Choice applications are currently being accepted through September 13, 2024. Parents must complete the 2024-25 MAISD Cooperative SOC form, as well as the Parent Permission for Release or Exchange of Confidential Information form to apply.

For forms and more information regarding Schools of Choice visit www.tricountyschools.com/enrollment.



We Are TC!



Other District Information

Tri County Childcare

Tri County Childcare programs are now taking enrollments for before and/or after school care. Child Care is offered at Tri County Elementary and Tri County Middle School.

Monday through Friday

6:00 am until school starts /After school to 6:00 pm

AM - \$10 per session

PM - \$10 per session

One Session Family Discount - \$4.00 discount per additional child

Both Sessions - AM/PM same day - \$18 per day

Family Discount AM/PM same day - \$14 total cost for each additional child



For more information visit our website at www.tricountyschools.com.

School Delay Program Hours

When school has a delayed start before 6:00 a.m., TC Childcare will be open starting at 7:30 am to receive students. If delayed after 6:00 a.m. childcare will remain open until the start of school. This option is available even if you do not use TC Childcare on the regular basis. Parents wishing to use this service must have all required paperwork completed and on file prior to using this service. Cost for the School Delay Program is \$14.00 for one child.

Scheduled Early Release Program

TC Child Care will be running Early Release Day childcare for school aged children (5-12) at Tri County Elementary and Tri County Middle School during the school year, for each of the scheduled early release days. Parents will be required to register separately to attend this program. The cost for the program is \$26.00 for the 1st child, and \$22.00 per child for each additional child. Same Day (not pre-registered) service is available at a rate of \$30.00 for the 1st child, and \$26.00 for each additional child. (Must call first to check availability)

For more information or questions contact Kattie Westgate, Summer Program Director, at kwestgate@tricountyschools.com or visit www.tricountyschools.com.

Other District Information

Free School Meals Continue at TC!

We are pleased to share that Tri County Area Schools is once again participating in the National School Lunch and Breakfast programs for the 2024-2025 school year. ALL TRI COUNTY AREA SCHOOL STUDENTS enrolled can receive a healthy breakfast and lunch everyday FREE OF CHARGE. This is a tremendous benefit for our Viking families.

Information regarding menus, household survey, viewing lunch accounts, and policies can be found by visiting our website at www.tricountyschools.com, and click on the lunch menu link.

EMERGENCY CLOSING INFORMATION

Inclement weather, hazardous road conditions, power outages or other incidents may require the closing of school. However, there are strict state requirements on the number of hours of education for public school students. The state provides up to 6 days for inclement weather/emergency closing. We are required to make up any additional hours. With student safety as our first priority, every effort is made to avoid school closings when possible.

Inclement Weather Guidelines

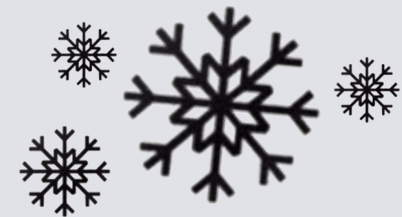
There are several principles that guide our decision-making with regard to school closings. First and foremost, is the safety of our students and staff. In bad weather, the decision to close school is made after:

- Road conditions are tested by the District Transportation Department,
- Weather conditions are examined (weather advisories, storm patterns, temperature, etc.),
- Montcalm County Road Commission's ability to plow area roads is determined, and
- The condition of school driveways and parking lots are assessed.

On days when inclement weather occurs, we try our best to make the call by 5:00 a.m. to provide as much time as possible for families to be notified so that arrangements may be made for childcare, etc. Once the decision is made to cancel school we inform parents via our robocall system, email, local TV stations, our website and Facebook/Instagram pages. You can also download the Tri County App to receive a push notification regarding closings.

Decisions regarding school closings due to snow and ice are made after TCAS transportation staff make a recommendation regarding the ability of our buses and drivers to safely conduct their routes. It is possible that main roads will be drivable while our many miles of unpaved roads are not. We will close school if the air temperature with wind chill is expected to be at or below -20 degrees Fahrenheit while students are waiting for the bus or walking to school. As always, we encourage our students to dress in layers to protect themselves from the cold.

If you have any questions regarding school closings please contact the Educational Service Center at 616-636-5454.



Annual Legal Notices

Notice for Directory Information Disclosure

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that **Tri County Area Schools (the “District”)**, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child’s education records. However, Tri County Area Schools may disclose appropriately designated “directory information” without written consent, unless you have advised the **District** to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the District to include information from your child’s education records in certain school publications. Examples include: A playbill, showing your student’s role in a drama production; The annual yearbook; Honor roll or other recognition lists; Graduation programs; and Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent’s prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student’s information disclosed without their prior written consent. **[Note: These laws are Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. § 7908) and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c).]**

If you do not want Tri County Area Schools to disclose any or all of the types of information designated below as directory information from your child’s education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing by September 15, 2023. For a list of information designated by Tri County Area Schools as directory information please visit www.tricountyschools.com.

Asbestos Management Program

This notice is to inform you that state-approved asbestos inspection and management plans exist for all buildings in the school district. These plans are in each building’s main office and are available for review.

The management plan contains information regarding the location of all asbestos-containing materials, the condition of the material, and the specific location of any remaining materials.

Detailed re-inspections occur every three years and periodic surveillance is performed every six months. These inspections have confirmed that all known asbestos is properly sealed and has not deteriorated so as to cause a safety concern. Our treatment of remaining asbestos is in conformity with all Environmental Protection Agency guidelines.

Pesticide Control Act

State of Michigan law requires that schools that may apply pesticides on school property must provide an annual advisory to parents or guardians of students attending the facility.

Please be advised that the Tri County Area Schools utilizes all suitable techniques in total pest management with the intent of preventing pests from reaching unacceptable levels or to reduce an existing populations to an acceptable level. Pest management techniques emphasize sanitation, pest exclusion, and biological controls. One of the objectives is to reduce or eliminate the need for pesticides to be utilized.

As required by State of Michigan law, advance notice of the application of a pesticide, other than a bait or gel formulation, will be given 48 hours before the application. Please note that notification is not given for the use of sanitizer, germicides, disinfectants or anti-microbial cleaners. In certain emergencies, such as an infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied without prior notice to prevent injury to students, but parents/guardians will be notified following any such application.

Advance notification of pesticide applications, other than listed above, will be given by using two methods. The first method required by law is the posting at entrances to your child’s school. The second method we will use is the posting in a public common area of the school.

Parents are also entitled to received this notice by mail, post-marked 3 days before the application. If you would like to be notified by mail, please contact Thomas Phinney, Operations Director, at 616-636-5454.

Annual Education Reports

The Michigan Department of Education requires all schools to publish an annual report to inform the residents about the status of their schools. This report provides detailed information on student assessment results, Adequate Yearly Progress results, teacher qualification information, and the state results for the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

You can view Tri County Area Schools Annual Education Reports by vising our website at www.tricountyschools.com.

Other Annual Notices

A complete list of annual notices and other policies can be found on the District’s website at www.tricountyschools.com

Annual Legal Notices Continued...

Right to Request Personal Curriculum

What is a personal curriculum?

The personal curriculum (PC) is a process to modify specific Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) high school credit requirements and/or content expectations based on the individual learning needs of a student. It is designed to serve students who want to accelerate or go beyond the MMC requirements and students who need to individualize learning requirements to meet the MMC requirements.

Who may request a personal curriculum?

- The parent or guardian of a student for whom a personal curriculum is sought
- The student, if the student is of the age of majority
- An emancipated minor
- A teacher who is currently teaching the student (who currently teaches in, or whose expertise is in, a subject area proposed to be modified by the PC, or who is determined by the principal to have qualifications otherwise relevant to developing a PC),
- A school counselor or school employee qualified to act in a counseling role.

When may a personal curriculum be requested?

If the student has an Individualized Education Program (IEP), the personal curriculum request may be submitted prior to 9th grade, although any resulting PC may not be implemented until the onset of 9th grade. The earliest submission timeline for all other PC requests is after the student has completed 9th grade. If the parent/guardian/student is interested in more information on the PC option, or would like to make a request for a PC, please contact Keith Hutchins, Special Education Director, at 616-636-5454, or email khutchins@tricountyschools.com

Tri County Upholds CIPA Policy

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires schools and libraries to certify that they are enforcing a policy of internet safety that includes measures to block or filter Internet access for both minors and adults to certain visual depictions. References to CIPA are available on our website with the District Technology Plan, under Electronic Information Access and Use Policy, and on the website under Our District/District Policies and Notices.

Nondiscrimination Notice - Title IX and 504

It shall continue to be the policy of the Tri County Area Schools to comply with all federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination, and with all requirements and regulations of the U.S. Department of Education. It is the policy (Neola 2260) of the Tri County Area Schools Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, or transgender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes") in its educational programs or activities.

The Board also does not discriminate on the basis of Protected Classes in its employment policies and practices as they relate to students, and does not tolerate harassment of any kind.

Equal educational opportunities shall be available to all students, without regard to the Protected Classes, age (unless age is a factor necessary to the normal operation or the achievement of any legitimate objective of the program/activity), place of residence within the boundaries of the District, or social or economic background, to learn through the curriculum offered in this District. Educational programs shall be designed to meet the varying needs of all students.

Any person having inquiries concerning the Tri County Area Schools compliance with the regulations implementing Title IX or Section 504 is directed to contact the District's Compliance Officer:

Joe Williams, HS Assistant Principal
231-937-4338
21338 Kendaville Rd.
Howard City, MI 49329
jwilliams@tricountyschools.com

Tobacco Use/Products on School Grounds

In order to protect students and employees who choose not to use tobacco from an environment noxious to them and potentially damaging to their health, the Board prohibits the use of tobacco on District premises (owned or leased), in District vehicles, at all school-sponsored events and in all school buildings owned and/or operated by the District.

For the purpose of this policy, "use of tobacco product" means any of the following: the carrying by a person of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or other lighted smoking devices; the inhaling or chewing of a tobacco product; the placing of a tobacco product within a person's mouth; and/or the smoking of electronic, "vapor," or other substitute forms of cigarettes, clove cigarettes or other lighted smoking devices for burning tobacco or any other substance.

Tobacco companies/products may not sponsor any school activity.

The complete Board policy (Neola 7434) is available through our website at www.tricountyschools.com.

2024 Fall Sports Schedule

Varsity Football

Fri	Aug 30	Comstock Park	(A)	7:00 pm
Fri	Sept 6	Grant	(A)	7:00 pm
Fri	Sept 13	Morley Stanwood	(H)	7:00 pm
Fri	Sept 20	Newaygo*	(H)	7:00 pm
Fri	Sept 27	Kent City	(H)	7:00 pm
Fri	Oct 4	Big Rapids	(H)	7:00 pm
Fri	Oct 11	Chippewa Hills	(A)	7:00 pm
Fri	Oct 18	Reed City	(H)	7:00 pm
Fri	Oct 25	Ludington	(H)	7:00 pm

(*Homecoming is Sept 20 game)



Varsity Volleyball - Girls

Wed	Aug 21	Sparta	(A)	TBA
Fri	Aug 23	Fremont (First Dig Tourn)	(A)	TBA
Tue	Aug 27	Grant	(H)	7:00 pm
Wed	Sept 4	Big Rapids	(A)	7:00 pm
Sat	Sept 7	Big Rapids Invite	(A)	TBA
Tue	Sept 10	Newaygo	(A)	7:00 pm
Thur	Sept 12	Chippewa Hills	(A)	7:00 pm
Tue	Sept 17	Reed City	(H)	7:00 pm
Tue	Sept 24	Grant	(A)	7:00 pm
Thur	Sept 26	Big Rapids	(H)	7:00 pm
Tue	Oct 1	Newaygo	(H)	7:00 pm
Sat	Oct 5	Kent City (Dig Pink Invite)	(A)	TBA
Tue	Oct 8	Chippewa Hills	(H)	7:00 pm
Tue	Oct 15	Reed City	(A)	7:00 pm
Tue	Oct 22	Lakeview (non-League)	(H)	6:30 pm
Sat	Oct 26	Cent Mont(Monster Mash)	(A)	TBA

Varsity Boys & Girls Cross Country

Fri	Aug 23	South Christian	(A)	TBA
Sat	Sept 7	FSU Invite	(A)	TBA
Sat	Sept 14	Sparta Inv*	(A)	TBA
Tue	Sept 17	Grant (HS & MS)	(A)	4:30 pm
Sat	Sept 21	Cadillac Inv**	(A)	TBA
Tue	Oct 1	Newaygo (HS & MS)	(A)	4:30 pm
Sat	Oct 5	Portage Inv	(A)	TBA
Fri	Oct 11	Montabella Inv	(A)	TBA
Tue	Oct 15	Reed City	(A)	4:30 pm
Sat	Oct 19	Pre-Regional Meet	(A)	TBA
Fri	Oct 25	MHSAA Regionals***	(A)	TBA
Sat	Nov 2	MHSAA State Finals	(A)	TBA

*Spats Inv @ Fruit Ridge Farms

** Cadillac Inv @ Veterans Serving Veterans Park

***MHSAA Regionals @ Chippewa Hills HS

Home (H) Away (A)

Varsity Boys Soccer

Mon	Aug 19	Shelby	(H)	TBA
Tue	Aug 20	Lee HS	(A)	TBA
Wed	Aug 21	Grant	(H)	4:30 pm
Fri	Aug 23	Greenville	(H)	TBA
Mon	Aug 26	Lakeview (non-league)	(A)	4:30 pm
Wed	Aug 28	Newaygo	(A)	4:30 pm
Wed	Sept 4	Reed City	(H)	4:30 pm
Thur	Sept 5	Fremont	(A)	5:00 pm
Mon	Sept 9	Kent City	(A)	TBA
Wed	Sept 11	Lakeview	(H)	4:30 pm
Wed	Sept 18	Big Rapids	(A)	TBA
Thur	Sept 19	Shepherd	(H)	5:00 pm
Wed	Sept 25	CSAA Tourn	(H)	4:30 pm
Fri	Sept 27	Hart	(A)	5:00 pm
Mon	Sept 30	CSAA Tourn	(H)	4:30 pm
Wed	Oct 2	CSAA Finals	(H)	TBA



SOCCER



Varsity Girls Golf

Fri	Aug 23	Lakeview (Brookside)	(A)	9:00 am
Thur	Sept 5	Newaygo (Village Green)	(A)	9:00 am
Mon	Sept 9	Big Rapids (Katke)	(A)	9:00 am
Thur	Sept 12	Lakeview (Bowen Lk)	(A)	9:00 am
Wed	Sept 18	Open (Pilgrims Run)	(H)	9:00 am
Thur	Sept 19	St Louis Invite	(A)	9:00 am
Mon	Sept 23	CSAA Championship	(A)	9:00 am



For all other sports related info and schedules, please visit our Tri County our website or TC Athletics Facebook page.

Michigan Sports Radio will be broadcasting Tri County sporting events again this year. Catch all the live game action by tuning into Michigan Sports Radio at <https://michigansportsradio.com/>. Just visit their website for broadcast schedules.

Tri County Area Schools

94 Cherry Street, PO Box 79
Sand Lake, MI 49343
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