

THE TC INSIDER



December 18, 2018

To the Tri-County Community,

As this fall comes to an end we are really looking forward to the winter break. It has been a very busy fall, but a good busy with a lot of accomplishments. A number of successful fall teams have produced several coaches of the year, Ryan Hippert in golf, Steph Caffrey in volleyball, Rick Vernon in boys' soccer and Tony Mazzola in football. It is quite an honor to be named coach of the year and a significant accomplishment for TC to have four of them in one season. Congratulations to all.

Superintendent Steve Dockray and the Tri-County School Committee have reached out to the Franklin Police Department (FPD) and partnered with them to help fund an additional School Resource Officer (SRO) for the town. We have shared SRO's with Franklin for some time, but the new agreement will station an SRO at TC for half of each school day and at Franklin schools for the balance of each day. Officer Paul Guarino will be assigned to TC after the holiday break. The FPD has always been very responsive to our needs and we appreciate their partnership with us. Because our students come from so many different communities it has been difficult to build a solid relationship between our students and families and the FPD. We look forward to having Officer Guarino become a part of our community and for having the time to work with our students and faculty every day.

Parent-teacher conferences were held on December 6th with over 300 parents visiting our academic teachers. We are grateful for the participation and family involvement. As we move forward into term 2 and the winter season I want to wish all in our community a happy and healthy holiday season.

Work Hard, Today Counts,

Mr. Procaccini

An Update from The Dean of Students:

AAA Drivers Education

AAA will be at the school for Drivers Education starting on Thursday, December 27th and ending on Wednesday, January 9th. Information can be obtained through the Dean of

Upcoming Events

Early Release Day
December 21

Winter Holiday Vacation
December 24 - January 1

Grade 9 Program Information Night
January 9

Martin Luther King Day - No School
January 21

End of Second Quarter
January 25

About The TC Insider

The TC Insider is a monthly newsletter for the families of Tri-County students.



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Students office or you can contact AAA at 855-222-1050 or AAA.com/DriverTraining. There is a discount if you have AAA.

Class Fees

Students are responsible to pay class fees each year. Class fees are \$75.00 a year and help to defray the cost for senior yearbooks, senior trips, and co-curricular activities. We are excited to offer MySchoolBucks® School Store which is an online payment service that provides an easy way to pay for annual Class Fees using your credit/debit card or electronic check. MySchoolBucks provides:

- Convenience- Available 24/7 on the web.
- Efficiency- Make purchases for all your students and eliminate the need for your students to bring money to the school.
- Flexibility- Make payments using credit/debit cards and electronic checks.
- Security – MySchoolBucks adheres to the highest security standards.

Enrollment is easy!

If you are already using MySchoolBucks to pay for school meals or parking fees, your account is already set-up and ready to go! Just log in and click on School Store. If you don't have an account, follow the steps below:

1. Go to www.MySchoolBucks.com and register for a free account.
2. Add your students using their school name and student ID.
3. Make purchases with your credit/debit card or electronic check.

Lost & Found

We have many items that have been found throughout the school and put in the Lost & Found bin in the Dean's Office. Please have your student check in the Dean's Office, should he/she find something missing.

Dress Code

Students are reminded that ripped and torn clothing is not allowed per the Student Handbook. With the cold weather coming, flannel pajama bottoms are not permitted.

From the Office of the Director of Cooperative Education:

Senior Project Presentations - IMPORTANT CHANGE IN DATE

Senior Project Products are due back in-house to Tri-County on Monday, January 7, 2019.

This is the first A Week of the New Year. This due date is firm and a ten-point deduction will be assessed for each late day. Again, Senior Project production time has ended. **Co-op students MAY NOT ask their employer for time off to come to school to work on their Project; this is a stipulation of the Co-op Agreement.** Shops have resumed their regular curriculum; therefore, co-op students are not allowed to come into Tri-County to work on their projects.

The Senior Project Presentations will be underway beginning January 14, through May 16,

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2019. Although all students will be given ample time to practice during Related class, not all teenagers are comfortable at public speaking. If this is the case with your senior, you can be of great assistance by just asking him/her to give you a “practice run”, or two. This will allow your child to become more comfortable with the material, thereby having to rely less on reading a script at the podium.

All parents/guardians will be receiving an invitation to their child’s Senior Project Presentation. This invitation indicates the actual presentation time. In some instances, your child may prefer that you do not attend as young people often feel that your presence may make them nervous, or distracted. PLEASE be sensitive to their request.

Presentations are recorded and uploaded to “The Cloud”. Uploads do not occur until the Presentation week has ended. A video recording of your child’s Presentation will become available on their ItsLearning account. Once it is posted, it is highly recommended that you download and save to a disc, stick, or hard drive as the account collapses upon graduation.

NOTE: In the event of a school cancelation due to snow, those students will be rescheduled to present on a future date. Parents will be alerted to the new date and time. In instances of late opening due to weather, students should arrive at school prepared to present regardless.

Cooperative Education

The second quarter is coming to a close on Friday, January 25, 2019. Letters of deficiency were sent home prior to the holiday break. Co-op students who are struggling with academics are in danger of losing their placement for no less than a term. If this is your child, please encourage him/her to connect with the teacher to bring up that grade. More often than not, it is simply a matter of making up an assignment(s) forgotten, or a test/quiz that he/she may have been absent on the day it was given. Our teachers go to great lengths for all of our students to help them be successful as well as responsible. Since Co-op students are not in school on B week, it is imperative that they seek out the teacher and make the appropriate arrangements to get back on track. Students should prepare to stay with the teacher on their Late Help Day during A Week. Additionally, they should plan to attend the Home Work Center where there is a teacher on duty for each subject daily and ready to help out no matter what the issue. After working so hard to get out on Co-op, it would be a shame to lose that real-world experience, as well as, that well-deserved paycheck!

TIMESHEETS! We are still missing some. Time on task must be input to attendance records. Failure to turn in the timesheet will be recorded as absences, thereby rendering your child ineligible for Co-op 3rd Term. Please ask your child if they are among the missing. Your support is necessary for your child to remain out on Co-op.

Guidance Updates:

New Spanish 101 & 102 Courses Now Offered

Spanish 101 and 102 will be offered to start in January 2019: Date TBD. All applicable forms need to be completed and returned to Scott O’Brien, Head of Guidance, no later than January 4, 2019. The class is expected to be at capacity, once filled, no late registrations will be accepted. To find out more, go to **Spanish**.

Grade 9 Parent Night

Please join us for the Career Program Information Night on **Wednesday, January 9th from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm** in the Auditorium to learn more about the Career Program selection process. This night will begin with an overview of our vocational areas followed by an opportunity to speak individually with vocational teachers. We encourage all Grade 9 parents **and** their child to attend.

MEFA Pathways for Freshman Students

Freshmen students are now registered for MEFA Pathways digital portfolio and they will be participating in a Career Interest Inventory with Ms. Kennedy during the week of January 7th. Students are near the end of their nine exploratory programs and career selection is coming up very soon. This is an opportunity for your child to see how their interests match up with people in various fields and will give them a list of occupations to consider.

MEFA Pathways connects students, parents and school counselors throughout the development of their portfolio and resume, as they explore occupations, manage their course plans and prepare for all facets of post-secondary success. It is our goal to prepare every student with an opportunity for successful management of their education and preparation of their future career.

Grading & Attendance

For details of Tri-County's grading system, please see pages 4-5 of the Student Handbook. For the attendance policy, especially the impact of tardies and dismissals on attendance, please go to pages 29-32. For your convenience, the Student Handbook can be found [here](#).

Library Media Center Updates:

Junior Research

Juniors have started working with Mr. Dagan, our Library Media Specialist, to help them with their upcoming research assignment. Mr. Dagan has provided the students with the tools necessary to independently collect valid resources that will aid them in completing the research successfully. During their time with the Library Media Specialist, students will be able to **understand** how to **access** and **locate** various credible media resources to enable them to **narrow down** a topic that they will want to write about for their Senior project.

Students are provided with the tools that will allow them to have all the necessary resources to complete the research objectives. They are encouraged to access both self-paced guides that were provided for them in ItsLearning to assist with the task of being prepared. They are:

<https://tricounty.itslearning.com/LearningToolElement/ViewLearningToolElement.aspx?LearningToolElementId=114880>

<https://tricounty.itslearning.com/LearningToolElement/ViewLearningToolElement.aspx?LearningToolElementId=132226>

Students will be able to answer the following **Essential Questions**:

- What are the benefits of using books for their research?
- What are the benefits of using databases their research?
- What are the benefits of using periodicals their research?

- What are the benefits of using visual and audio media for their research?
- How do they use advanced tools to narrow their search?
- How do they determine if the information they are reading is credible?
- What are the best ways to access the information they will need to find in the future?

Students will understand that:

1. Research is a process that takes time and effort.
2. Research is done with multiple credible sources.
3. Using online tools can narrow results and save time when researching
4. Using a search engine such as Google can severely limit the information retrieved.

Students will be skilled at:

1. **Accessing** information about their topic through various types of media
2. **Saving and retrieving** the information they would like to access again later on.
3. **Reviewing** the credibility of a source and seeing if it meets their needs.

Students will know:

1. How to use Destiny Discover
2. How to use Topic Finder in Database
3. How to apply advanced search when searching within Google
4. How to save database resources.
5. How to conduct a credibility test on resources they might want to use.

Task 4 provides for them a worksheet to better define their keywords, understand annotated bibliography concept, and assemble a list of suggested resources they will use in research from print, digital, audio, visual and other media sources. Students have been informed that they should contact Mr. Dagan on ItsLearning when they need further help with their research.

A Note from the School Nurse:

We still have some students for whom we have not received the Student Health/Demographic and Emergency Information Form. This form can be found on the website under the Student Services, School Nurse tabs or you can click [here](#) to obtain the form. It is critical that this form is completed at the start of each school year for the purpose of accurate health records and emergency contact information. Additionally, the school nurses can not administer over-the-counter medications such as Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen or other without the written consent of the student's parents/guardians. Completed forms can be returned by mail to the attention of the nurse's office or they may be brought in by your student, to the nurse's office.

Athletics Update:

Mayflower League Coaches of the Year

Having one of your coaches named a Coach of the Year is an honor for any school. Having four coaches named Coach of the Year in different sports says a whole lot about the athletics program at Tri-County. Tri-County fall sports coaches Stephanie Caffrey, Ryan Hippert, Tony Mazzola, and Rick Vernon were selected as Mayflower League Coaches of the Year in volleyball, golf, football, and boys' soccer, respectively.

"The Tri-County community is lucky to have a cadre of veteran coaches to work with its athletes, says athletics director, Sara Martin. "Their commitment to teaching the values and mission of Tri-County to their athletes both on and off the court and field vastly outweighs their statistical successes of the fall season. The selection of coaches Caffrey, Hippert, Mazzola, and Vernon as Mayflower League Coaches of the Year is a testament to their dedication to their respective sports and the athletes that they serve."

Congratulations to our Coaches of the Year!

Wrestling Coach Earns 200th Dual Meet Victory

Steven LaPlante, Tri-County Varsity Wrestling Coach, recently earned his 200th Dual Meet victory. Steve has been the Tri-County wrestling coach for the past 15 years. To date, his record is now at 202 wins and 64 losses. Congratulations Steve!

Academic Update:

Women in Science Scholarship Competition

Six Tri-County students participated in the Women of Science scholarship competition at Bedford High School on Saturday, December 8. The 16th run of this annual event drew 38 teams from high schools in eastern Massachusetts. The event was sponsored by Millipore, Sigma, Thermo Fisher Scientific, the University of Massachusetts-Lowell, the Bedford Education Association, and the Bedford Public Schools.

Tri-County participants were:

Kayla Cantara, a junior from North Attleboro
Corinne Blasetti, a senior from North Attleboro
Kaitlyn Jones, a senior from Plainville
Sabrina Howarth, a senior from Seekonk
Hannah Davis, a junior from Franklin
Emily Foley, a junior from North Attleboro

The students competed in 4 science and engineering events. All events involved knowledge based in the areas of biology, chemistry, engineering, environmental science, math, and physics. Tri-County students competed in two teams of three.

While the event encouraged friendly competition, its core goal was to increase female interest in science-related fields and to celebrate women in science.

Business Technology

In Social Media & The Business World freshman classes, students learned about the 4P's in the business world. They learned that the 4 P's are the categories involved in the marketing of a good or service, and they include product, price, place, and promotion. Students created projects and presented them to their class.

Health & Wellness

Attention Grade 10 parents! All grade 10 students will be participating in the Signs of Suicide Prevention Program as part of their health curriculum this year. An email was sent to all parents with more detailed information on the content and goals of the program, which includes the administration of the Brief Screening for Adolescent Depression. A parent or guardian may opt their student out of this program by signing the letter which was sent via

email and returning it to Dawn McNamara in the Guidance Office by January 3. If we do not hear from a parent/guardian, then we will assume that your student has permission to participate in the curriculum. Depending on your student's schedule, this program will take place over a few weeks, beginning either January 7 or May 8.

Vocational Update:

Help Wanted - Advisory Board Members

Tri-County is working to identify leaders in our region who can assist us in building a *Medical Assisting Program*. This is a new program to our school bringing our total number of career/vocational technical education program offerings to 17. We are looking for medical professionals, such as Physicians, Registered Nurses, Lab Assistants, and Medical Assistants, who are concerned with the education of students entering the medical assisting profession. We will be meeting monthly to determine the layout of the classroom/shop and list equipment needs, make recommendations about curriculum and nationally recognized credentials and advise us on how to best prepare students for careers in Medical Assisting.

Please contact Cathie Rebelo, the Director of Vocational Programs, via phone or email if you are willing to assist in the development of this new program. Email: rebelo@tri-county.us. Phone: 508-528-5400 ext 262

Cosmetology

Sophomore Cosmetology students hosted Family and Friends Morning of Beauty where family and friends got some special pampering from their students.

Culinary Arts

The 15th annual International Holiday Buffet was held on December 13th. Items included Scallops and bacon, Teriyaki Beef and sweetish meatballs, Creole Chicken Gumbo soup and Minestrone, Christmas Eve Salad, Melon and Feta Salad, Pickled Beets, Roast leg of lamb, Roast Turkey, Baked Ham with a raisin sauce, Shrimp with coconut, Latkes, German Potato Salad, Brussels sprouts with pancetta, mashed root vegetables, assorted desserts and beverage included. The International Holiday Buffet provides Tri-County Culinary Arts students with a valuable opportunity to explore diverse cuisines. Each year, juniors in the program research holidays celebrated by different cultures and the traditional foods associated with those events. The group then plans and presents an eclectic menu that represents these traditions.

Culinary Arts students visited schools in North Attleboro to the Chef's Move to School Day where they prepared Carrot Honey Coins and gave them out to students during their lunch.

Electrical Wiring Technology & Engineering Technologies

Eight girls from the Electrical and Engineering shops were taken to the Eversource Female Career Exploration Event for High School Students. The girls were able to network with female employees who work in non-traditional roles at Eversource, which is New England's largest energy delivery company. Students met field engineers, lineworkers, field technicians, systems engineers, and a dispatcher.

Engineering Technologies

Seniors have been studying water resources engineering and visited both the Charles River Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Franklin Water Treatment Plant and Well site.

Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration (HVAC/R)

HVAC/R students and their teachers visited ABCO HVAC/R Supply & Solutions in Sommerville for the 12th Annual Vocational Field Day. Students were able to see a demonstration of new ZoomLock fittings for refrigeration lines, electronic gauges that calculate superheat/subcooling for you, a presentation by Accu-Temp where they talked about new hire expectations and their benefits program and perused many HVAC vendor displays. Students were given a free lunch and were able to enter to win raffle prizes and giveaways.

Plumbing & Hydronic Heating

Plumbing sophomores are working on hot and cold water to the hot water tank, a sink with faucets and a drain pipe! The projects are all located in the plumbing shop.

Post-Secondary Update:

Practical Nursing

Practical Nursing students had the opportunity to have two speakers present a program entitled, "Until Help Arrives". Colonel David Gavigan, the Director of Homeland Security at the Bristol County Sheriff's Office and Captain William Camara, gave the students valuable information that can keep people with life-threatening injuries alive until emergency medical responders arrive. This new training program was developed by several state and federal agencies.

Post-Secondary Cosmetology

Post-Secondary Cosmetology program is now open for business. Please call 508-528-5400 x139 to schedule an appointment. (Roller Sets, Blow dry, Haircuts, Manicures and Waxing).

Aesthetics Program

Monday or Tuesday evening appointments can be made at either 5:15 pm or 6:30 pm.

Contact Jackie at truitt@tri-county.us to make an appointment.

Save the Date:

Tee Off for Tri-County Golf Tournament

Mark your calendars for the 7th Annual Tee Off for Tri-County Golf Tournament Fundraiser which will be held on Friday, June 7, 2019.

Social Media:

Are you on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or LinkedIn? Tri-County has a social media presence on all of these social media platforms where the latest news all about Tri-County is reported. Follow us by clicking: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

The Tri-County Education Foundation:

Buy-A-Brick Campaign

The Tri-County Education Foundation is continuing to sell commemorative bricks to help fund educational programs and innovation. The bricks will be used to create a commemorative walkway in the front the flagpole at Tri-County. This makes a great gift for students, graduates

and anyone who would like to become a part of Tri-County's history through generous donations. To buy a brick click here: [Buy-A-Brick](#).

Board Members Wanted

Members of the Tri-County community founded the Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical Education Foundation to enrich and expand programs needed to meet the school district's stated mission of excellence. Anyone interested in joining the Foundation can contact Superintendent-Director Stephen Dockray at dockray@tri-county.us.

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