

THE TC INSIDER

January 21, 2019



To the Tri-County Community,

Sure signs of the midway point of the school year at TC are Senior Projects in full swing, a lack of gym space for winter teams, and our robotics team starting to get organized for their annual competitions. All of those things began in earnest last week.

Senior projects got underway with Graphic Communications and Engineering kicking it off this year. I had the pleasure of judging Engineering projects this morning and as always I was impressed with the quality and ingenuity of our students. Our winter sports are in mid-season with five basketball teams, the wrestling team, and an indoor track team all competing for practice space. The robotics team is busy organizing a new space and preparing for this year's challenge.

Mr. Pierangeli and the Metal Fabrication seniors received a visit from the Massachusetts State Police. The Metal Fabrication shop designed and fabricated 16 one-man door rams for state and local police. These devices are designed to replace the heavier ones that require a team to operate and can be carried in a police vehicle. Fox 25 news was on hand to report on the devices.

Lastly, the other sure sign of mid-year is the freshmen participating in their last shop exploratory this week and the selection of their shop program. The entire school year to date has led to this one final week where scores will be compiled and choices will be made. It is an annual rite of passage here at TC where our freshmen take their place in one of our vocational programs.

Thanks for your support,

Upcoming Events

Martin Luther King Day - No School

January 21

End of 2nd Quarter

January 25

**The Children's Center
Registration & Open House**
February 7 from 12:15-1:45 PM

**The Children's Center
Registration & Open House**
February 8 from 9-10:30 AM

Early Release Day

February 8

Winter Vacation

February 18-22

Early Release Day

March 4

About The TC Insider

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

Work Hard, Today Counts,

Mr. Procaccini

Admissions Update:

We are currently accepting applications for the Class of 2023 on a space available basis. If you know a current eighth grader, please pass along this information. We invite all eighth graders with their parent/guardian to visit Tri-County any Tuesday morning at 9:00 am to tour the school. Simply call 508-528-5400 ext. 125 to schedule a date. **Apply Now** to submit an application. Interviews for the Class of 2023 will begin in February.

We have a great new video to share! You may just see a student you know. To view it, go to our **homepage** and click on the video.

An Update from The Dean of Students:

Lost and Found

There are many sweatshirts and coats in the lost and founds. Please have your student check to see if any are theirs before they get donated next month. Lost and founds is located in the Dean of Student's office.

Dress Code

Please make sure your child is following the Student Handbook regarding the dress code.

They have been told through announcements that flannel pajama pants are not to be worn.

Ripped or frayed clothing is also not allowed.

From the Office of the Director of Cooperative Education:

Juniors and Senior Project

Research and composition will begin the third term for the Senior Project. The Topic Proposal is due February 15th and Journal Entries begin this month. Deadlines are of the utmost importance and strictly adhered to. Any junior who is struggling with their research, or journal entries are strongly encouraged to stay after school with their English teacher on his/her late help day, as well as attend the Homework Center. The Homework Center has a wealth of information, organized specifically for the Senior Project research process. Mr. Dagan is happy to assist anyone in accessing valuable information from a



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variety of sources. Additionally, an English teacher is in the Center Tuesday through Thursday to assist and advise anyone who needs extra help in composition/writing, whether it be a little or a lot. The Tri-County English teachers go to great lengths to help our students succeed.

A comprehensive Senior Project Timeline with all due dates, obligations and grading assessments is accessible on our website. Click on “Students” located on the top toolbar, there you will find “The Senior Project Manual” located on the left in “quick links”. The timeline is on page 9.

NOTE: *Students who do not complete their Senior Project Paper render themselves ineligible for Co-op consideration until after 1st term of Senior Year.*

Senior Project

Senior Projects are in full swing. Congratulations to Engineering, Graphic Communications, Auto Collision, and CIS. will present the week of January 28th. **Snow happens.** In the event of school cancelation on presentation day, every effort will be made to have those seniors present later that week, or a subsequent B week. An updated letter or phone call will go out to parents indicating the new date and time. In the event of a late start to the day, students will be expected to come prepared to present.

Co-op students who are returning to Tri-County to present their Senior Project have been rescheduled to the morning so that they may go back out to work after their Presentation. **However, if the employer has given the student the day off, they must remain here in school, in their career program until the end of the day. Dismissals other than co-op will be unexcused.**

Co-operative Education

As we enter the third quarter of the school year, qualified seniors are reminded that they may still avail themselves of a co-op opportunity. Students may be placed at any time as soon as jobs become available and are determined to be Co-op viable.

Students who are out on co-op are reminded that they have made a commitment to that employer when the co-op agreement was signed by all parties. Under no circumstances should anyone quit or submit a resignation without consulting with Mrs. MacLeod. Violation of a Co-

op Contract will remand the student back to Tri-County for the remainder of the school year. A copy of that contract is uploaded on Its Learning and available for review in the CO-OP 2018-19 course.

NOTE: If safety is an issue, Mrs. MacLeod should be contacted immediately.

Junior Co-op

Exemplary juniors, who are highly recommended by all of their trade program instructors, may begin their co-op opportunity 4th term. “Exemplary” is defined as having stellar attendance, good academic grades (all 3 terms), and very good shop grades (all 3 terms). These are students who stay for late help when needed, makeup work when absent, and pass assignments in on time, (unless otherwise arranged with the instructor). Co-op juniors continue to work over the summer, in whatever capacity is mutually agreeable with the employer and family vacation time. Come September, co-op is all set for their senior year. It’s a win-win for all! Comprehensive expectations for juniors on co-op are in the Student Handbook, pages 9 & 10.

Guidance Updates:

Spanish 1 & 2 Courses

Spanish 1 & 2 courses will begin this week. Spanish 101 will meet on Thursday, January 24th and Spanish 102 will meet on Tuesday, January 22nd.

Attention Seniors - Scholarship Opportunities

Tri-County awards scholarships and tool awards exclusively for Tri-County students. Please click on **Scholarship & Tool Awards** to download the forms to fill out.

Any student who is interested in attending any college next year, please stop by the Guidance Office to see Mr. Casey or Ms. Johanessen to receive valuable scholarship applications. Now is the time to be taking advantage of all of the great Scholarship Applications that we have to offer to our Tri-County Students.

John and Abigail Adams Scholarship

Sixty-four seniors at Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School qualified to receive the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship for their performance on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System test.

The John and Abigail Adams Scholarship provides a tuition waiver for up to eight semesters of undergraduate education at a Massachusetts state college or university.

School Nurse Notes:

Grade 10 Screenings

A letter was sent out to Grade 10 parents regarding the Vision, Hearing, and Body Mass Index (BMI) Screenings will take place starting in January. Parents and/or legal guardians can request, in writing, that their child not participate in the screening. This letter should be addressed to the school nurse.

Library Media Center Updates:

With the end of the exploratory program around the corner and career selection by the students coming up, I would like to remind families of the available informational resources to help you understand future career choices/pathways for your children.

Mrs. Kennedy shared MEFA Pathways with the students. The students have the login information where they can see career information.

In addition, Mrs. Dodakian (Medical Careers) and Mrs. Taylor (Early Education) have exposed students to the wealth of information in the **Careers Occupational Outlook Handbook** where students can see detailed information and career paths as related to the respected vocational programs of interest.

Here is an example of the information you can find inside this resource: The section for Careers in Technical Services & Equipment Repair provides those interested with technical service and equipment repair with necessary insight into potential careers and provides instruction on what those seeking this pathway can expect in terms of training, advancement, earnings, job prospects, working conditions, relevant associations, and more. Careers in Technical Services & Equipment Repair provides a current overview and a future outlook of specific occupations in the technology and equipment maintenance industries. In this specific career path, there are over 25 sections describing specific fields of interest in these industries, including Aircraft Mechanic, Industrial Mechanic, Nuclear Med. Technologist, Engineering Technician, Laser Technician, Robotic Technician, Home Appliance Repair, Locomotive Engineer, and more. The individual sections provide real-world insight into these professions, including A Day in the Life, Work Environment, Education & Training, Earnings &

Advancement, Employment Outlook, Networking Contacts
Areas with the Highest Employment Levels,
and Conversations with Real Professionals.

Careers in Technical Services & Equipment Repair is also enhanced with numerous charts and tables, including projections from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, and median annual salaries or wages for those occupations profiled. Each section also notes those skills that can be applied across broad occupation categories. Interesting enhancements, like “Fun Facts”, “Famous Firsts”, and dozens of photos, add depth to the discussion. A highlight of each section is “Conversation With”, a two-page interview with a professional working in a related job. The respondents share their personal career paths, detail potential for career advancement, offer advice for students and include a “try this” for those interested in embarking on a career in their profession.

The remote password to access **Careers Occupational Outlook** is LMC2017 (You will find information related to all 16 career pathways at Tri-County).

The Class of 2021 Academic Advisory Update:

The 2019 Freshman-Sophomore Semi-Formal will be taking place at TC on March 22nd from 7-10. The cost is \$15 per person. The theme is Disco. Tickets can be purchased at the Dean of Students office. Please note that TC students who want an outside friend to come can do so only if an approval form is signed and approved by the Dean. These forms are available at the Dean of Students office as well. Students wishing to get involved and help decorate/ plan/ advertise this event are welcome to and should contact Ms. Sabasowitz or come to the next class officers meeting being held 1/29 after school.

Reminder: The Class of 2021 class dues needs to be paid! \$75 per year. The dues raffle from last year will take place again this year and will be held in May.

Academic Update:

Mid-Year Exams

Mid-year exams have begun. ELA and Science exams took place last Wednesday, January 16 for B week and will begin on Wednesday, January 23 for A week. Math and History exams were administered on Thursday, January 17 for B week and will begin on Thursday, January 24 for A week. Please remind students if they are

absent, they must arrange to take the missed exams their teacher's extra help day or arrange with them for an alternative testing day/site.

Business Technology

Mrs. Shaffer's Personal Finance sophomore classes have created resumes, crafted cover letters and done some preliminary job exploration (i.e. Indeed and Glassdoor) which lead into interview preparation, mock interviews and follow-up (thank you) letters/emails. It was our Get a Valuable Job unit and was a success. We hope that the sophomores are better prepared to snag that first job they desire.

In Managing Your Own Business each student made their own company logos and in social media, each student did an individual SWOT (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis and team presentations of a favorite product's SWOT.

From the Desk of Ms. Sabasowitz Science Classes

The End of Quarter 2 is January 25th. For Ms. Sabasowitz- NO work will be accepted after 3 pm.

Students need to see me on my after school days (Tuesday in my classroom, Wednesday and Thursday in the Library). This pertains to all of my classes (Microbiology CP, Bio 1 CP, and Bio 2 CP).

In Ms. Sabasowitz's classes the following material will be covered in Quarter 3 (please note these dates are tentative):

Microbiology CP: We will be researching different bacteria to determine their overall effects on the health of individuals and what role these bacteria have on influencing the health of the human body and the viability of nature. We will be looking at current events happening in the field of microbiology. We will be learning more about protists and fungi.

Biology 1 CP: We will start with Energetics, which is learning about Photosynthesis and Cellular Respiration. Then, we will move on to Mitosis and Meiosis.

Biology 2 CP: We will be starting Energy transfers in ecosystems and BioGeoChemical cycles.

For all students, please note that Homework Center referrals will be generated for any student with less than an 80% starting a couple of weeks into Quarter 3. Student households will be called if the student does not

come to one of the designated after school referral days.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Sabasowitz with any questions/concerns:

Sabasowitz@tri-county.us or 508-528-5400 x232.

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

Auto Collision

Auto Collision students restored a fire truck pick-up truck for the Town of Seekonk.

Culinary Arts

Did you know we have a Market Place at Gerry's Place?

We have added some new items. Feel free to come on in and to browse anytime while we're open for lunch. New items are:

Chicken, broccoli fettuccine Alfredo ... \$5.00

4 Piece fried chicken with biscuits and gravy \$5.50

Pot Roast Dinner.. \$6.50

Buffalo chicken dip with homemade chips \$3.50

Roasted chicken dinner ...\$5.50

Golden Graham Cereal bars...\$.75

Soup of the Day

And, of course, we have our normal fare of sandwiches, salads, soup, hot dogs and other surprises. Let us cook your dinner tonight!

Also, Sophomores in Culinary Arts just passed Food Handlers and Fire Extinguisher. Congratulations for their hard work.

Computer Information Systems

Friday, January 11, 2019, 36 CIS Students participated in the State round of CyberPatriot.

Cosmetology

Congratulations to four cosmetology students who recently passed The State Board of Cosmetology exam.

They are Amber Standing, Katlyn McCarthy, Grace Kaluzny, and Christine Sullivan. They are now licensed, cosmetologists.

Early Education

Half of the grade 11 students are finishing up observations and assessments of the preschoolers. They will be presenting the information to the preschool parents in a parent/teacher mini-conference this week. Historically, parents have been grateful and impressed that high school students are articulate and professional in their delivery of information.

Registration and Open House for the Tri-County Children's Center preschool program for 2019 – 2020 will be held on Thursday, February 7th, from 12:15 pm -1:45 pm and Friday, February 8th, from 9 am to 10:30 am at the Tri-County Regional High School in Franklin at 147 Pond Street. Parents will be able to view the preschool while children can engage in developmentally appropriate activities. For more information, please visit www.tcchildrenscenter.com.

Legal & Protective Services

LPS students finished presenting their business plans to their classmates in a "Shark Tank" format where students acting as shrewd venture capitalists used tens of thousands of their "cougar bucks" to invest in businesses. The students' lesson plans were comprehensive and included financial projections based on anticipated investments. Some of the product prototypes included a personal door remote-control for mobility-challenged persons; a "Girls on the Go" kit that holds all the essentials for girls and women in a cute, compact bag; and a gamer headset/sweatband, called "the sweat set." It got exciting in a few scenarios where multiple "sharks" tried to outbid one another with better offers of up-front capital in exchange for lower ownership rights.

After they completed the "Shark Tank" activity, they took their understanding of entrepreneurship onto a micro-scale and learned about the company, Kiva.org, which provides micro-loans to micro-business entrepreneurs. After looking over many loan applications, the students

settled on the person that the junior class found most worthy and made a class contribution toward her cause. Alice, a pharmacist in Rwanda, was seeking funds so she may continue to provide low-cost medications to her customers in need. Later this year they will check to see her progress so they can see how our small financial contribution has benefitted others.

Johnson and Wales admissions came to our juniors and seniors and presented their admissions process and advantages of attending the university.

Seniors who are not on Co-op went to New Hope, a domestic violence resource where they sorted donations for victims of domestic violence. Seniors also started their CPR re-certification with training from three Franklin Firefighters. Seniors and sophomores started a 7-session training introducing them to court reporting. Court Reporting (or Stenography or Captioning) is a prestigious and high-paying career that does not require a 4-year college education. People with this specialized training are highly in demand and can find jobs starting at \$50K with a likely potential of six-figure salaries after just a few years in the field.

The junior class had a guest speaker named Erin Petti, who is a published author and improvisational comedian.

This is a part of our public speaking unit within our professionalism curriculum. Attorneys need to be good storytellers in order to capture and maintain the interest of a jury and to establish credibility.

Sophomores received training from the Deputy Chief, Foxboro Fire Department, Thomas Buckley, regarding interactions between emergency services and persons with autism.

Medical Careers

Medical Careers Grade 10 students have begun their 2nd clinical rotation. One half of the group is at Compass Memory Support in Milford working with residents with Alzheimer's Disease as part of Dementia Care certification. The other half work with children of all developmental ages (4 months-6 years) in a childcare setting as part of Child Growth and Development.

Metal Fabrication

The Massachusetts State Police received thirteen one-man Battering Rams designed and fabricated by TC Metal Fabrication students. The students and their instructor, Mr. Pierangeli presented the Battering Rams to the State

Police and Fox News was there to capture the moment.

In case you missed it, see it [here](#).

Plumbing & Hydronic Heating

Grade 10 plumbing students are learning how to pipe hydronic heating systems.

Continuing Education:

SAT Prep Class @ Tri-County

The Continuing Education program is once again offering an SAT Exam Preparation program this spring. The program consists of 18 sessions including two Saturday practice tests. This comprehensive course provides instruction and review of essential mathematics, critical reading, writing, and test-taking skills. Classes are held at Tri-County from 6-8pm. Space is limited so please register early. More information including the schedule can be found on the online registration page through Adult Education on the Tri-County website. You can also contact the continuing education office directly at x126.

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

Members Wanted

Members of the Tri-County community recently 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 Dockray at dockray@tri-county.us.

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