

THE TC INSIDER

October 19, 2018



To the Tri-County Community,

I want to thank the Athletic Boosters along with our Athletic Director, Sara Martin, for sponsoring Homecoming last Friday. Homecoming is traditionally our first extracurricular activity of the year and almost 400 students attended the event in our cafeteria. The football team responded on Saturday by beating Holbrook 41-0 for their fifth win of the season against one loss. This fall has provided some very entertaining and exciting competitions. The volleyball team is undefeated and has already qualified for the state tournament. Both the boys' and girls' soccer teams are well on their way to qualifying as well. Our cheerleaders will be competing for the first time this season next Sunday the 21st at Oliver Ames HS in Easton, MA. Despite the weather, we have had many fans come out to our games to cheer for our teams and we appreciate the support.

After over a year of preparation, we received our NEASC visiting team this week. NEASC stands for New England Association of Schools and Colleges. We had a team of over 20 educators from all over New England in the school to evaluate our programs. I want to thank the School Committee, parents, students, and faculty that participated in the self-study as well as those pitching in this week for their support.

Up next this month are our Career Days on October 25th and 26th, where area middle schools visit us over a two-day period to explore career options and our programs. The two Career Days are followed immediately on November 1st by our Grade 8 Open House. These are great events for any eighth-grade student considering a

Upcoming Events

Career Days

October 25 & October 26
Tours begin at 8 AM
No School for Tri-County Students

Grade 8 Open House

November 1 @ 6:30 PM

End of the Quarter

November 9th

Veteran's Day Observed

November 12 - No School

Early Release Day

November 21

Thanksgiving Recess

November 22-23

About The TC Insider

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

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technical education in high school to check us out. We would appreciate your help in spreading the word about these great events.

Remember – Work Hard, Today Counts,
Mr. Procaccini

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From the Office of 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 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. Fees are paid at the Dean of Students office before school, during all three lunches, or after school.

From the Office of the Director of Cooperative Education:

Co-op seniors have a Co-op Course in Its Learning. Co-op students can reach out to Mrs. MacLeod easily, especially on B week when they are not at Tri-County. Bulletins will be posted along with answers to frequently asked questions as they arise. Additionally, both the Co-op Calendar and Time Sheet is available for print through the site.

Co-op students are reminded that in order to receive weekly credit for hours worked; they must fill out their time sheet in its entirety prior to your supervisor signing it at the end of the week. They need to indicate the types of jobs, chores, and experiences that they were a part of *before* the supervisor signs it. The shop teachers receive a copy of those time sheets. It is very important for the instructors to be aware of the types of new and different experiences that your child encounters on the job. Timesheets are always available on Mrs. Robert's desk, so when the Co-op student turns in the completed one, they will help themselves to a new one for the next shop week.

All Co-op students must turn their time sheets into Mrs. Roberts in the front office when they arrive back to school on academic Monday. Mrs. Roberts inputs those hours so that your child is not marked absent or delinquent from school. Failure to do so may result in suspension from Co-op for the next shop week. An occasional reminder to your child is always a plus and greatly appreciated!

Senior Project Weeks

Seniors should begin the process of acquiring the necessary materials for the creation of their Senior Project. On November 26-30, all seniors will be working in their shop on the creation/construction of their Product. Seniors will have the advantage of the shop space, shop tools, and machinery as well as the instructor's advice, experience and expertise.

All seniors will come to school on Monday 11/26/18 with their materials prepared to work. Any student who does not have the appropriate materials/supplies necessary to begin working and continue to work on the product for any of this time will be assessed at a zero each day. For your information, The Senior Project Progress Daily Evaluation Form is located in the Manual, which is accessible on the website. Please encourage your child not to wait until the weekend prior to acquiring his/her supplies. Items get back ordered, discontinued and become scarce to get at the last minute. Ordering online is not foolproof and your child is at the mercy of "in-stock" vs. "will ship at a later date". Please remind your child that they *must* come prepared.

Admissions Updates:

It's that time of year again where Tri-County will host two very important events for eighth graders to attend. Please spread the word about these great events.

Career Days

On October 25th and 26th, eighth-grade students are invited to Tri-County for Career Days. This is a fun-filled and interactive guided tour of our technical career programs and academic offerings presented by students and faculty. There will be no school for Tri-County students. Students volunteering in their shops as part of the Career Day events will need to supply their own transportation.

Open House

Grade 8 Open House will be held on Thursday, November 1st from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Eighth graders and their families are invited to come and take a closer look at Tri-County. During the Grade 8 Open House, students and faculty will highlight 16 different career areas, as well as the school's academic program. Extracurricular activities, athletics, and the school's Online Admissions program will also be discussed. Refreshments will be served and raffles will be available with an opportunity to win prizes.

Guidance Updates:

We will be offering a free college placement test to all Juniors next Tuesday, October 23 in the Library. The Massachusetts College System requires this and this is a great way to get a jump start on the process.

News from Technical Education:

It's been a very busy start to the school year with many exciting things happening in our technical programs.

New Teachers

Our Auto Collision Repair program has a new teacher. Please welcome Mr. Derick Estacio! Along with that same note, Medical Careers has a new teacher as well. Ms. Victoria Shokunbi is a welcome addition to the team.

Culinary Arts

The Culinary Arts program has opened Gerry's Place, our restaurant is open to the public. Beyond that, they have been busier than normal as they have provided all of the food for the NEASC visit as this is an accreditation year for Tri-County.

Engineering

Our Engineering Technology program is housed in its new space with the Advanced Manufacturing lab connected. This space is highly functional, yet aesthetically pleasing. In walking through the lab at any given time, students are working on a multitude of activities from creating items in the Advanced Manufacturing Lab on the automated CNC machines to presenting on architectural design. Engineering students have begun working with NASA engineers in the HUNCH program. They are working on some problems; two of which include sleeping quarters for astronauts as well as keeping fruits and vegetables fresh for at least 3 months in space.

Metal Fabrication

The students in Metal Fabrication have installed safety gates at every shop entry. They are also working on door jams for the Franklin Police Department. Metal Fabrication students will earn American Welding Society welding certifications, as well as, learn how to fabricate with both steel and sheet metal.

Graphic Communications

Graphic Communications students have been busy creating and printing a multitude of flyers and brochures for both our school and folks from communities. They too have automation in the form of an embroidery machine. Students create files in which the embroidery machine “prints” onto fabric using various color threads using techniques to create texture.

Legal & Protective Services

Legal & Protective students registered five 18-year-olds to vote in the November election! Students have also been studying this year’s Massachusetts ballot questions.

They’ve been lucky enough to have three guest speakers to help them to demystify the “Question One” about nurse staffing. They are hoping to consolidate their research and make it available to any voters in the building. Stay tuned and look for posters up in our hallways.

A guest speaker from the Good Samaritan hotline recently came to Tri-County to talk with sophomores and seniors about suicide awareness and helpful ways to talk with friends, or future clients, who might be feeling suicidal.

Tri-County Pride

This is just a snippet of the wonderful things happening in our 16 technical programs. We take great pride in our motto *Work Hard, Today Counts* as students learn the values in TCPRIDE, which stands for Trust, Character, Professionalism, Responsibility, Integrity, Dedication, Empowerment. Our administrative team and teachers work toward modeling TCPRIDE each and every day. As a result, our students enjoy our school and are open to learning. Just a few days ago, we had a very inspirational email from an exploratory parent who was thrilled with the level of excitement and enthusiasm her son had while in Culinary. And this morning, one of our Dental Assisting teachers, Mrs. Moran, received a letter indicating that she was selected as the *St. Vincent’s College Great Teacher Recognition Award 2018*. A recent graduate of the Dental program nominated her indicating that Mrs. Moran is like her “second mother”. Tri-County truly is a special place!

Club News:

Get ready for Ski Club!

Attention Skiers and Snowboarders! The Ski Club will begin their 6 weeks for skiing/boarding at Wachusett Mountain beginning Thursday, January 3, 2019. The bus will leave Tri-County at 2:00 PM and return at 8:00 PM. Skiing/boarding at the mountain will be from 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM. Rentals and lessons are available at discounted rates. The price for 6 weeks of skiing/boarding at Mt. Wachusett is only \$140.00 plus a mandatory bus fee of \$80.00 (to Tri-County). Students interested in skiing/boarding at Wachusett Mountain this winter with Tri-County can contact Ms. Johannesen to get more information and pick up the forms.

Athletics News:

Fall sports are underway. For the latest scores and schedule changes, visit our new TC Athletics Twitter page @TriRvths. Individual sports pages can be found on our website at www.tri-county.us/athletics.

Library Media Center Update:

From the desk of Mr. Dagan- Library Media Specialist

Earlier this month I visited several classes and spoke with students about achieving attainable goals in whatever they choose to pursue. I presented them a reading challenge. I shared with them the outline of the challenge and had them fill out a short questionnaire. Based on their responses and a follow-up conversation, they agreed to participate in a voluntary program to increase independent reading times.

One goal is to establish a **reading habit** in the busy lives of high school students. I am hoping we can work together to capture the pleasure and passion for reading.

- **Reading relieves stress:** Reading takes a person out of the present and into another place and time; it's a perfect escape.
- **Reading builds stamina** to prepare students for college & work. Reading for fluency and stamina has been proven to improve the reading rate for students. Fast reading develops confidence and an appetite for books as well as vocabulary in context, which improves writing, but it only happens when students find books they *want* to read.

- There is talk in the media that ‘students today don’t read, because of other distractions (the internet, TV, etc.). In my experience, students who haven’t been readers since elementary school will suddenly become quite passionate about reading with **the right book** in their hands.

In this program, students will keep track of their progress in reading by logging on to “its Learning” where they will be able to record the date they read and how many pages they completed in their choice reading. They are advised to get a replacement if they do not like the original book they chose to read. They will be asked to fill out an online weekly log.

Results take time. I respect your role as parents and look forward to working together to foster curiosity, lifelong learning, and independent reading. Please feel free to contact me with further questions.

Thank you for your support.

Save the Date:

Tri-County Cheerleading Competition

Come cheer on the Tri-County Cheerleaders as they compete for the Mayflower Athletic Conference Title on Sunday, October 28th at 12 PM right here at Tri-County!

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.**](mailto:dockray@tri-county.us)

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