



TROY School District

Volume 5, Issue 1

NEWS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Dr. Richard Machesky

As we wind down to the end of 2021 and look to begin a new year, there are likely some things that many of you will want to leave behind. But there is much we also want to carry with us as we move ahead.

We take with us the spirit of our students, who have not only achieved at extraordinary levels, but have also shown incredible empathy and kindness to one another.

We take with us the professionalism of our teachers, who welcomed our students back with enthusiasm and a determination to meet each student where they are, with world-class instruction and a nurturing spirit that made all the difference.

We take with us the ingenuity of our advisors, administrators and volunteers, who have worked in very creative ways to give our students “traditional” events in safer, but sometimes non-traditional ways.

We take with us the compassion of our office staff, paraprofessionals, health care aides and support personnel, who were dogged in their mission to start this year as “normal” as possible for our students, recognizing that nothing about the last two years has been truly normal.

We take with us the diligence of our contracted staff, especially our bus drivers, custodians, food service employees and substitute teachers, who—despite shortages in personnel—made sure that our students and buildings were supported above all else.

We take with us the enormous efforts of our building principals, who have toiled behind-the-scenes to keep our students and staff safe, with an eye on keeping students in their classrooms as much as possible.

And finally, we take with us the support of our families and the community, who have shown flexibility and grace and reached out to our teachers, staff and administrators to let them know you appreciate their extra efforts.

From our Central Office team, please know that we are grateful for all of you, and for all you bring to our learning community.

*Have a safe and well-deserved break,
ONE Troy—the best is yet to come!*

Dr. Richard Machesky
Superintendent
Troy School District



Our school community cares for others all year round, but generosity is front and center during the holidays. See inside for more!

REIMAGINING SPACES IN THE TSD

Students today learn much differently than they did when most schools were built decades ago. Schoolchildren in the past sat at desks in rows, with little movement while they were learning. Today's students are regularly moving around the classroom to collaborate with one another or utilize different spaces for creative activities. So how do we take the physical schools we have and adapt them for the learners of today—and tomorrow?

That is the question that the TSD Facilities Review Committee will wrestle over for the next several months. The FRC, which began meeting in October, is made up of parents, community members, staff and students. Their charge is to assess the physical condition of the current schools and find creative ways to improve the student

learning experience.

And there is good reason for that. Research has shown that the physical space a student spends time in can have a significant impact on their learning. Schools must be safe, in good condition and have

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TROY HIGH TENNIS NAMED STATE CHAMPS

The Troy High varsity boys' tennis team has finally brought home their first-ever state championship, after several years of coming close. Said coach Brian Miska: “I’ve had a feeling about this team for a while. These guys are extremely hard workers and most of them committed to the game year-round, so it was really exciting to see their hard work pay off.” Playing at the state tournament was the pinnacle of success for Senior Andrew Wang: “It feels great to see all of our hours of practice in the off-season pay off. We’ve been a top 5 team for years, but never won a state championship, so to finally win it for Troy is incredible.” When the team clinched their title in Kalamazoo after several days of determined



play, Miska was proud to bring the trophy home. “It meant a lot for me to bring this back to the city,” concluded Miska. They’ll wear their “Division 1 State Champs” title proudly.

SCHOOL BOARD CORNER



**Karl Schmidt, President
Board of Education**

Six years ago, a multi-year study of incoming Troy students by Central Administration showed that 35% of incoming Kindergarteners lacked a quality preschool experience. Worse, those kids came disproportionately from situations where they were more likely to need extra supports in early elementary—often from economically challenged households and/or families where English was not the primary language spoken in the home.

The Board of Education recognized that the best way to close that gap and give these kids an equitable start to their education was to expand access to free and affordable preschool opportunities. The challenge was to figure out a way to make that happen. Rick West, our Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, showed we could create a self-sustaining preschool if we could find a way to cover half the construction costs up front. The Board

chose to sell four district-owned land parcels to buy down the mortgage. Our state-of-the-art preschool opened for the 2019-20 school year at half capacity, with the plan to reach full enrollment (and financial self-sufficiency) for the 2020-21 school year.

COVID-19's arrival in February 2020 threw



a giant wrench in our plans, although our facility remained open and healthy throughout its first two years of operation because of our tenacious Director of Early Childhood, Erin Keyser, and her dedicated staff. Low enrollment rates in

our second year driven by parental COVID-19 safety concerns left us a little nervous. We anxiously awaited August 2021, hoping our enrollment numbers would recover.

Three months into the school year, I am thrilled to report that our TSD Preschool is now running at full capacity. Our 476 students are a wonderful mix of children from different socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds, including children with special needs. Our building includes students funded by Head Start, Great Start Readiness Program, Young 5s, and parent-paid tuition. This funding combination covers our costs and provides extra revenue for future program improvements.

Most importantly, the number of Kindergarteners entering Troy without a quality preschool experience now stands at 13%-down two-thirds from 2015. That means more future Kindergarteners with confidence and capacity and fewer who will need extra academic support. Everyone wins. Next step: how to intervene with the remaining 13%. That may require different solutions, but our commitment to student equity inspires us to persist.

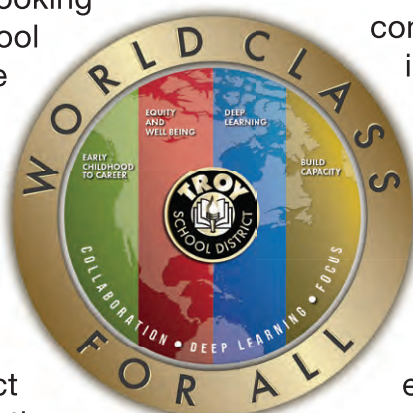
2026 Refresh: TSD Strategic Plan Leads the Way

If a good strategic plan is the road map to success for many organizations, then the Troy School District is on the right path as they head into the next five years.

In 2015, the Troy School District launched a "Journey to World Class," which had school leaders looking to learn from the best school districts in the world. The TSD was already ranked at or near the top of state and local rankings, but this would allow them to benchmark themselves against the best in the nation and internationally, becoming a lighthouse district for others to follow. Despite the pandemic, this goal was achieved, and now other school districts from around the state and country regularly visit to learn from the instruction taking place in Troy.

This year, the district launched the next step, with a new strategic plan that builds on the successes they have already experienced. Project 2026 is a culmination of the work of hundreds

of key stakeholders—from teachers to administrators and the Board of Education, staff, students, parents and community members. In this strategic plan, the four pillars of World Class are woven together to show how much they impact one another and broadened so that all members of our learning community are represented in each one.



The GREEN Pillar, which before ensures a high-quality preschool experience, now encompasses the entire educational experience of each student, from early childhood through career. It builds on the research that shows the impact of a world class educational beginning on a student's future.

The RED Pillar, which before centered on physical and emotional well-being, now clarifies to include the importance of a sense of belonging, connection and safety on a student's ability to learn and grow.

The BLUE Pillar, which emphasized

student ownership over their learning and the connections to the world around them, now takes those goals of deep learning and ensure that they are in place for all students in the school system.

The GOLD Pillar, which focused on the professional learning of the instructional staff in our schools, now expands to build capacity and best practices for students, staff, families and community as learners in the TSD.

The mission of the Troy School District remains the same: Ensuring Learning for ALL. This refreshed strategic plan has the tools and supports in place to make good on that promise. As the ring that now ties the pillars together boldly states—World Class for All is the way forward for the TSD.



REIMAGINING SPACES IN THE TSD

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capacity to host students—but they also must foster creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and communication.

Obviously, tearing all the schools down and starting over is not a viable solution, so what can be done? This committee has been exploring ways to add natural light, to swap out furniture to make the current infrastructure more flexible, and in some cases, reconfigure walls to allow for students and staff to better work together to learn and problem solve. All of their work centers around the refreshed strategic plan and how the physical space might best align with the pillars.

It's challenging but it's also an exciting

puzzle to solve. After their work is complete, the FRC will eventually make a recommendation to the Board of Education about what TSD schools needs—and how they might get there. That recommendation should come sometime this Spring.



IA STUDENTS DO GOOD FOR OTHERS ON C-DAY

In early 2020, as the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) began to spread across the United States. One of the results was an economic recession that reversed years of declining rates of food insecurity – the lack of access to sufficient food because of limited financial resources. While the outlook is improving, the pandemic is not yet over, and the future remains tenuous for people who have experienced uncertain access to enough food for their families. It is likely that it will take time for food insecurity levels to recover.

Back in September of this year, in conjunction with their “C-Day” Activities, about 100 – 150 juniors from International Academy East had the opportunity to visit and volunteer at the Forgotten Harvest Farm in Fenton, Michigan and the Oakland Urban Farm in Detroit.

“From harvesting carrots, kale, and cabbage at Forgotten Harvest to picking apples and peaches, splitting beans, and weeding at Oakland Urban Farm, IAE students learned how their hard work can help so many people who truly need it,” said Lisa Belotti, IB Service Learning/Enrichment Coordinator. “Members from each organization radiated appreciation each day, as both of these nonprofits have employed very few paid workers, and what our students, staff, and parent volunteers were able to accomplish in a few hours would have taken them days to do on their own.”

These activities aligned with the initiative of Zero Hunger from the UN Sustainable Development goal, which looks at food scarcity

and insecurity to ensure consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life. The two farms that we visited are perfect examples of sustainable agriculture. It counted as for CAS, but was also



an opportunity for students to give back to the community. IAE Senior Gyan Caluag felt like this activity was such a positive opportunity: “The REAL experience (of harvesting vegetables), gave us an increased awareness in fighting hunger and food insecurity, and developed an incredible camaraderie and sense of purpose. The task may not be easy, but the thought of doing it for the greater good made our work feel like a breeze.”

The proof was in the harvest, as in one day at Forgotten Harvest alone, IA students harvested 1,665 pounds of carrots, 9,197 pounds of kale, 10,650 pounds of cabbage, 7,930 pounds of collards and 1,965 pounds of zucchini. At a pound per person, that's enough food to feed over 34,000 people.



LIVE THEATRE RETURNS



Troy Theatre Ensemble kicked off the season with their production of *Pride & Prejudice*. Students were introduced to the classic tale with a fun modern twist.

MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL ALL TOGETHER NOW! a global event celebrating local theatre

Troy High and Athens united this fall for “All Together Now,” a musical revue that gave students a chance to perform their favorite Broadway hits.



IAE students presented *Harvey*, the story of Elwood P. Dowd and his best friend, Harvey -- a six-foot tall, invisible rabbit whose antics helped the entire town realize their uniqueness.



Athens Theatre Company delivered *Elf the Musical*, a comedic adaptation of the classic holiday film with all original music.

TSD NEEDS YOU!



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CREATIVITY ON DISPLAY IN CREATIVE GUILD

A new district-wide club is bringing together students from every grade level throughout Troy Schools. The recently established Creative Guild delivers a variety of opportunities for students to expand their digital portfolio.

At an open house hosted in October, over 50 students ranging from 3rd graders to high school seniors attended the event to learn more about video, photo, podcasts, music, and all things media production.

Adam Burns, film teacher at Athens High School, serves as one of the advisors for the Creative Guild. Drones and GoPros were on display as Burns offered insight into how all of the equipment can be used to visually tell a story. Burns also made mention of the competitions where students can submit their finished projects.

On the other side of the studio, located in the TSD Service Center, Thomas Butcher hosted students for a mock podcast. "The

podcast studio was very popular, some students just didn't want to leave", said Butcher, another advisor. Music production is also a possibility in a space with acoustic panels, professional microphones, and industry standard editing software.

With students of every age showing so much interest for learning these skills, the Creative Guild advisors could not be more excited to see what projects these students will produce.



IT'S TIME FOR TROY HIGH ACTIVIST WEEK & ATHENS CHARITY WEEK



Troy High's Activist Week is coming up soon, and Student Government has loaded the week with exciting activities! On February 6-12th, we will be running a series of fundraising events, the proceeds from which will go towards our 2022 Activist Week Charity. Monday evening will be our boy's beauty pageant, Mr. Troy High, and during the day on Tuesday students can stall their classes through charitable donations during our coin stall! Wednesday evening during Powerpuff we'll be holding a boy's volleyball tournament, and on Thursday and Friday we'll be supporting our boy's and girl's basketball teams, respectively. The week gets wrapped up on Friday with a pep assembly and it all leads up to our Snowcoming dance on Saturday night. It's a fantastic, fun week that gives kids the chance to not only get involved with their school but to contribute to their community through charitable donations.



Charity Week is February 14-18, and is one of the best traditions at Athens and has also developed into a point of pride for the Troy community, who has donated generously in the past. Prior to 2021, Charity Week has raised nearly \$700,000 in five years, with a total of over \$180,000 raised in 2020!

This year, Student Council has selected Alex's Saints Foundation, a local organization that combats the opioid epidemic. Named in memory of Athens graduate Alex St. Pierre, this group raises awareness of this important issue while providing narcotic rehabilitation financial assistance. Another focus is helping families who have a loved one suffering from drug addiction.

Athens StuCo has a number of exciting events planned for students, including a pancake breakfast, a carnival, a volleyball tournament, a film festival, the Mr. Athens Pageant, a parent cook-off, a raffle, and many more.

TREE PROVIDES LIBRARIES FOR ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL ENGLISH CLASSES

When Troy School District doors opened this fall, middle school English teachers, English Language Development teachers, and Special Education Language Arts teachers were greeted with a special gift from the Troy Foundation for Educational Excellence (TFEE): classroom libraries customized for their students. This was

made possible through the partnership between the Troy School District and the TFEE, resulting in a \$60,000 grant from the TFEE. The grant provided all teachers with a variety of interesting books at the right level for the students in their classes.

"We had a great deal of help from teachers and media specialists in assembling these shelves. With this grant, we were able to outfit over 40 classrooms with current titles to increase student engagement and choice. The excitement was palpable, as this was truly a labor of love," said TSD Curriculum and Instructional Specialist, Jo O'Brien.

Since 1989, the Troy Foundation for Educational Excellence has raised funds to support education in the Troy School District. For more information, visit their website at TroyFoundation.org



MORSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECEIVES \$5,000 DONATION TO CELEBRATE NEW BURLINGTON STORE OPENING.

Morse Elementary was the lucky recipient of a \$5,000 donation from Burlington Coat Factory, who opened a new store at the Rochester Rd. Winchester Shopping Center and celebrated by adopting and funding a local elementary school through their partnership with AdoptAClassroom.org.



HILL STUDENTS HOLD INCLUSIVE COLOR RUN

Hill Elementary holds a Color Run event each year, a joyous outdoor occasion where colorful chalk is thrown in the air, decorating the shirts of those running by. There's also lots of cheering, music, and other loud audio and visual stimulants. For the first time, during a portion of Hill's Run this year, the music was turned off and the cheering consisted of raised hands and thumbs up instead of the normal noise and raised voices.

This allowed students who are sensitive to sensory issues to fully enjoy the Run—with the

own, and that is okay!" PTO President Nikki Bengry agreed, saying "There was just a different vibe, more freedom, and it was beautiful to watch."

"This let us step into the shoes of someone who has a different perspective. It's what we do at Hill, it's part of our Husky P.R.I.D.E." said 5th grader Maddie Glass. Bengry continued: "Our teachers, staff, and the parents of our special needs students were so grateful that we took the time to see these students and do our best to create something that they could enjoy just as they are."



entire 5th grade there to quietly (but enthusiastically) cheer them on!

Hill Principal Shari Pawlus was proud of this message this sent. "We tell our students to be inclusive all the time. This showed them. The Color Run gave us an opportunity to show them what that means and made us all stop and consider that the needs of others might not be the same as our

The volume and stimulation may have been less, but the JOY was every bit as evident on the faces of all who participated and showed that All really does mean ALL in the TSD.

ONETROY HONORS OXFORD

When tragedy struck at Oxford High School, Troy School District students wanted to do something to show that they care. Many students from across the TSD wore navy and gold to pay their respects to their peers to the north. Student Council representatives at Athens High School painted their traditional rock in OHS colors with the slogan, "Oxford Strong." Members of the Troy High Symphony Orchestra played the Oxford Fight Song as a tribute to end their holiday concert. And students at IA East dedicated the proceeds from their "Tea Room" to a fund that benefits Oxford families. It was a ONE Troy show of respect and empathy that made the community proud.



KEEPING STUDENTS IN SCHOOL—SAFELY!

Students learn best in person, inside their classrooms. When the 2021-22 school year began, the TSD made a commitment to families to do everything it could to keep students in seat, learning alongside their peers. This year has already brought many challenges, but the District is taking a multi-faceted approach to keep that promise.

One important option to ensure that students can continue to remain in person is to make sure that anyone who wants to is fully vaccinated. As COVID-19 cases rose, the TSD was seeing more students in quarantine, because they were exposed to a person with the virus. Under Oakland County Health Department guidelines, fully vaccinated students do not have to quarantine. Though they can still get and transmit the virus, both are at much lower rates than unvaccinated people. At the high school level, the TSD estimates that 85-95% of students are fully vaccinated.

At the lower grades though, students began the school year not yet eligible to receive a vaccine. As soon as it was authorized for children ages 5-11, the TSD partnered with the OCHD to offer the opportunity to their students. A series of two voluntary clinics held at Troy High saw almost 1200 students receive both doses. Still, the District knew that vaccinating every eligible student could take many months—and that some could not receive the vaccine—so it developed another option, thanks to a partnership with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Under the state's "Test to Stay" program, students who were directly exposed to someone with the virus at school could choose to be tested with a rapid test every morning for seven days after they were exposed. As long as the daily test came back negative, a student could attend school that day. The TSD quickly launched a voluntary districtwide Testing Center, which has resulted in hundreds of students staying in school with a quick morning visit. Families are very appreciative to have both options.



Students Stepping Up

Larson 8th graders worked with Troy People Concerned and went out into the community to rake leaves for area seniors as part of their Fall Service Project.



Athens Cross Country team donated funds to the TPC Food Pantry for the purchase of milk. The pantry, which relies strictly on donations of the parish and the local community, assists all city residents.



Wattles supported "Operation Gratitude" by writing letters to thank current and past members of the military and caregivers for their selfless service to our country.



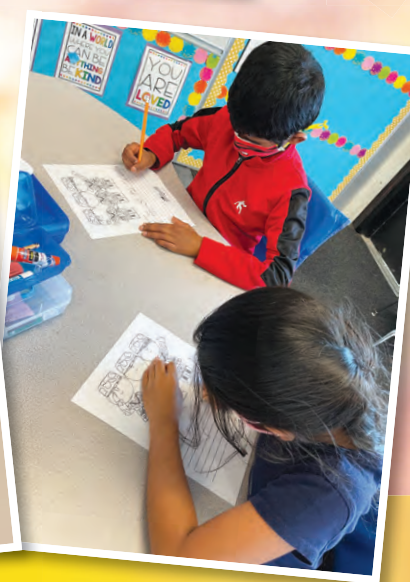
Costello students cared for those in need by packing 240 snack bags for Elli's House, containing goodies and handwritten messages of encouragement.



Hamilton Hawks held a food drive for Forgotten Harvest and utilized their maker spaces to assemble the packages.



Schroeder students conducted a holiday food drive to benefit families in need within the Troy community.





Students Giving Back



TCCHS Senior Alyssa McLarty is spearheading a food pantry project, creating a cache of food, sundries, and personal care items for those students in need.



BPMS' Connector Club created a paper turkey where each feather has a gift idea for families to purchase—which were donated to local health care workers as a sign of gratitude for their unwavering service to the community.



Larson Student Council organized a personal item and toiletry drive during the month of November. After all the items were tallied, more than 3,000 items were collected and donated to Troy People Concerned!



Baker Middle School staff partnered with Kensington Church, sponsoring 35 Baker families for Thanksgiving this year. Each family received 2 bags - one with donated food from Baker Staff and one with household items and a Meijer gift card from Kensington Church.



Wass 5th grader Will Destross raised over \$1,000 for Celiac research with help from family and friends by participating in the Celiac Foundation's Virtual 5K Turkey Trot.



TROY BOASTS 74 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR SEMI-FINALISTS

A record-breaking seventy-four Troy School District students were named National Merit Semifinalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (up from 52 last year). This honor is given to less than one percent of students nationwide, based on their scores on the Preliminary SAT. Over 1.5 million juniors in about 21,000 high schools take the PSAT every year, and 16,000 students across the country



have been designated Semifinalists for 2022.

“Having a record 74 National



Merit Semifinalists is an incredible achievement for our District and our schools,” said Troy School District Superintendent Rich Machesky. “We are extremely proud of these outstanding students, whose hard work has paid off. Their futures are bright, and we are happy to see them being recognized nationally. We have no doubt that they will continue to do great things and have a positive impact on the world around them.”

Photos by school, listed in alphabetical order:

Troy High



Prisha Agnihotri, Frederick Aldinger, Akshat Arya, Seo Hyun Baek, Sarayu Bethamcherla, Kevin Chang, Sanya Chawla, Emily Chen, Reagan Choi, Shiham Chowdhury, Abhishek Dahad, Mariska Goswami, Navya Gullapuram, Albert Hua, Nicolas Hung, Jemi Isaac, Udayvir Jalf, Victoria Jan, Hyun Kim, Rishi Konduru, Aileen Liu, Allison Liu, Aditi Locula, Iris Ma, Mlahat Mahmood, Meera Manek, Brandon Nguyen, Tanisha Panchal, Esha Patel, Avani Prasad, Vandhana Purushothaman, Eric Qiao, Katie Qu, Danny Samuel, Sania Shaik Mohammed, Rishi Shetty, Heejin Shyn, Kishan Soni, Saakshi Sovani, Sachin Sridhar, Vidhya Harini Srinivas, Smriti Suresh, Dilan Swami, Sharanya Swaminathan, Areej Tahir, Jordan Tansingco, Rebecca Varghese, Andrew Wang, Roger Wang, Claire Wu, Angela Xu, Gary Xu, Rachel Yang, Nancy Yao

Athens High



Cole Balintfy, Raaga Dandavolu,

Atharva Dharphale, Nikita Ganesh, Neha Jaisankar, Sachin Karatha, Havesh Kolli, Yahya Qamar, Navya Shankar, Cole VanAmberg (Cole VanAmberg is not pictured)*

International Academy East



Sreenand Anumolu, Shreya Bhargava, Malina Dumitrascu, Rittik Ghosh, Agastya Jayanthi, Anay Modi, Abel Noble, Ayush Pujara, Sanjana Sharma, Akshay Vasudevan

From the approximately 16,000 semifinalists, about 15,000 (nearly all) are expected to advance to the Finalist level where these academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$30 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. About 95 percent of the Semifinalists are expected to attain Finalist standing, and approximately half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title which will be announced in the Spring.



LEARN MORE ABOUT...

- ✓ Full & Part-Time Preschool Programs
- ✓ If you qualify for FREE Preschool
- ✓ The TSD Curriculum & Philosophy
- ✓ Meet Our Amazing Staff & Much More

VIRTUAL TROY SCHOOL DISTRICT PRESCHOOL INFO NIGHT JAN 12, 2022 @6PM

<https://tsdpreschool.troy.k12.mi.us/info-night>



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<https://tsdpreschool.troy.k12.mi.us>

22-23 ENROLLMENT: STARTS 01/18/22

<https://troy.ce.eleyo.com/preschool>



TCCHS SHOWCASES WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION

On Friday, November 5th, four Troy College and Career High School students traveled to Clarkston Junior High School to take part in Northern Michigan University's Women in Construction Day.

The young women spent the morning and afternoon participating in interactive and informative seminars and exhibits in a variety of construction fields. Students took part in hands-on demonstrations of iron work, operated a boom crane to place an I-beam in a makeshift structure, drove a virtual bulldozer on a heavy equipment simulator, spoke with female engineers and tradespeople about their experience in the field, and built beautiful wall mirrors from scratch with the guidance of professional carpenters.



"It was nice talking with women who actually do the things we saw," said Sophomore Abby Adams. "They love what they do, and you could tell from watching them do it."

The students left with information, experience, professional contacts in the trades, and a goody bag full of tools.

ATHENS SYMPHONIC BAND PREMIERES NEW PIECE

On December 7th at 7 pm, the Athens High School Symphonic Band had the unique opportunity to perform a world premiere of a new piece of music written by a Michigan composer and featuring a professional bass trombonist.

The piece was written by Ann Arbor composer Chris Hass and was originally written as a Bass Trombone concerto for Wind Ensemble. Hass has worked with Athens' Director of Bands Adam Cable for the past 3 years, providing custom marching band arrangements, so he knew the excellence he was seeking in high school musicians was there.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed collaborating with

Adam and his ensembles," said Hass. "Adam has always expressed interest in playing one of my compositions with a concert band at the school, so this seemed like a perfect

opportunity!"

"World premieres frankly don't happen often

for a high school group," said Cable. While it is common to be one of the first few to perform a piece, "it is extremely rare to be the first to perform and have others use our recording to practice."

Hass also connected with colleague Evan Clifton, a bass trombone soloist with Michigan ties currently residing in Nashville and asked him to headline the piece. After the concert on Tuesday, the piece will be available to other programs who have commissioned it.

"We were disappointed that we couldn't perform it the last 24 months because of COVID," said Cable. "But to be able to perform this on

our first concert in two years is truly an honor."





ONE TROY SCHOOL DISTRICT SPORTS

SPORTS ARE BACK THIS FALL AND WINTER, AND THERE WERE SO MANY GREAT SEASONS, STORIES AND PICTURES. HERE ARE SOME OF OUR FAVORITES:



Athens' Boys Tennis finished 7th in the state, the best finish in program history!



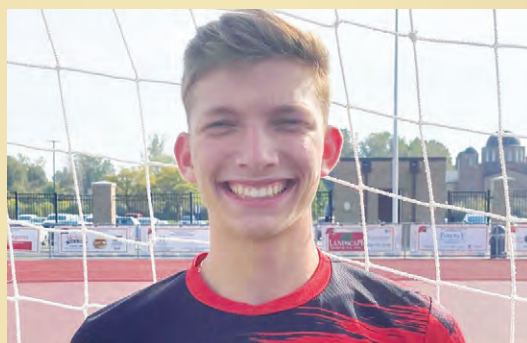
Troy's Football team went 8-1 for the first time since 1999 and hosted their first playoff game that was viewed by thousands of people on Bally Sports Detroit.



Athens' Girls Golf team finished 5th in the State, with Olivia Hemmilila named to the Super Team, and Ava Weeks named to the All State 1st Team.



Troy's Girls Cross Country earned a Regional title this season -- something that has almost become clockwork for this program.



Athens' Soccer Senior Forward Ryan Gruca was named 1st team all-state and named to the MIHSSCA DREAM TEAM--as one of the state's top 11 players.



Troy's Boys Soccer team had an amazing run making it to the state quarterfinals ranked at #13.



Athens' Cheer's Class of '22 is ready to lead the Troy Athens Competitive Cheer program to another great year!



Troy Volleyball earned their fifth straight District championship this year, making it all the way to the Regional Finals.



Athens' Boys Soccer claimed the OAA-Red division title ended season ranked #10 in the state (out of 130) with 13-4-2 record.



Troy and Athens' Boys Soccer dominated this season, facing off during the Semifinals.

Congratulations to our Fall 2021 All-State Athletes:

Ryan Gruca (AHS, Soccer - Dream Team, 1st Team)
Matt Gawthrop (AHS - Soccer 3rd Team)
Rintaro Goda (AHS - Tennis Doubles)
Mayank Gudi (AHS - Tennis Doubles)
Olivia Hemila (AHS -Golf - Super Team All State, 1st team)
Ava Weeks (AHS - Golf - 1st Team)
Aiden Bariac (THS - Soccer Dream Team, 1st Team)

John Palomino (THS - Soccer, 1st Team)
Nick Worrell (THS - Soccer, 3rd Team)
Ryan Decker (THS - Soccer - HM)
Riley Hayden (THS - Golf - HM)
Donna Yoon (THS - Golf - HM)
Connor Schupbach (THS - Football - 2nd Team All North & HM)
Zach Penozza (THS - Football - 2nd Team All North & HM)

THS Men's Varsity Tennis Team:

- Derek Blackwell, #2 singles
- Rishi Shetty, #1 singles
- Andrew Wang & Nikhil Tatineni, #1 doubles
- Srihari Anthalawan & Aryan Gupta, #2 doubles state champions

Fall 2021 Academic All State Athletes:

Athens Girls Golf Team
Troy Varsity Football

Troy Girls Golf Team

DISTRICT ROUND UP

Athens High: Earlier this month, Seaholm High School had their grand opening of their free student store. At the opening, they honored Athens High School, celebrating that they are the 16th school inspired by Athens to create a free store that supports kids in need.

IAE: The Mindfulness and Purpose Team held a variety of activities to celebrate International Kindness Day, including a Mix-It-Up lunch, yoga sessions, kindness-grams, and a Mr. Rogers inspired spirit day.

TCCHS: TCCHS students participated in Deep Learning Wednesday, where they worked on innovating their building's interior & exterior spaces.

Troy High: Senior Heejin Shyn won 2nd place at the J.LIVE Talk Japanese Speech contest, one of only three high school students in the nation selected to compete.

Baker: Baker staff partnered with Kensington Church sponsoring 35 families for Thanksgiving. Each family received 2 bags - One with donated food from staff, and one with household items and a Meijer gift card from Kensington.

Boulan Middle: Language support classes celebrated Thanksgiving with a classic American feast, including turkey, stuffing & pumpkin pie courtesy of our wonderful teachers.

Larson Middle: Congrats to Larson Robotics Team 12740 Robo Next-Gen, who won the Rochester Hills Qualifier on November 13. The team went undefeated through the playoff rounds and will be advancing to the state championships December 17-18!

Smith Middle: Students and families partnered with Smith's PTO to purchase 75+ portable sports chairs that enabled students to sit outside for lunch this fall.

Barnard Elementary: Raised \$45,000 with their Fun Run for building projects to augment student learning. Principal Melanie Morey took part in the outdoor reward assembly where kids got to throw water balloons at her.

Bemis Elementary: Students are participating in our new Media program which is focused on helping them to understand the process of deep thinking and applying it to new learning situations.

Costello Elementary: 4th graders took on the Cardboard Challenge, as they engaged in the design process learning how to be innovators, creators and problem finders and solvers.

Hamilton Elementary: Students have enjoyed a return to fun school traditions from field trips to the Jogathon. Teachers continue to study literacy with Teachers College staff developers and math with our new math specialist.

Hill Elementary: 3rd graders wore their Halloween costumes and paraded outside at at Oakmont Senior Center, receiving treats and smiles from the residents.

Leonard Elementary: Leonard was one of 325 schools in the country to be named a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence for achieving academic excellence.

Martell Elementary: 4th grade teacher Mr. Binford organized a staff donation to the Honor Flight Network, which purchases plane tickets for terminally ill veterans to travel to Washington DC and visit memorials.

Morse: Morse received a donation of \$5,000 from the new Burlington Coat factory store in Rochester Hills that will support adaptive P.E equipment and maker space materials for the media center.

Schroeder Elementary: Schroeder students continued Character Education by participating in Dragon Den lessons within their classrooms.

Troy Union Elementary: Troy Union was very proud to be recognized as a 2021 National and State School of Character by Character.org at the National Conference, held virtually this Year.

Wass Elementary: Wass celebrated the 50th day of school by dressing up 50's style. The day was a celebration of all the hard work that has gone into the return to face-to-face learning.

Wattles Elementary: Staff, students, and parents wear their Wildcat spirit wear or Wattles colors (black, red) every Wednesday, providing a sense of belonging and togetherness.

TSD Preschool: A RECORD 450+ children are attending TSD Preschool programs for the 2021-22 school year. Enrollment 2022-23 begins in January, starting with our virtual parent information night on 1/12/22 @6pm.

Like what you have read or have a story idea? Tell us at onetroycreative@troy.k12.mi.us.