

HILLER HIGHLIGHTS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
HOME OF THE HILLERS!



Welcome Back! 2021-2022



Message from the Superintendent



**FIRST STUDENT DAY
THURSDAY, AUGUST 26**

Dear Trinity Area Families,

We hope you enjoyed a wonderful, relaxing summer and are ready for another exciting school year! On behalf of our Board of Education and staff, I want to extend a warm “welcome back” to all within our Hiller community. The beginning of each school year marks a very special time as we again look forward to working with students, connecting with families, and uniting to grow Hiller Nation. Over summer, our administrators and teachers have spent considerable time preparing for the upcoming year. Everyone is refreshed, enriched, and eager to begin doing what they love.

This year, we are filled with hope and vision after having remained resilient throughout the last two, extremely challenging school years. Although the health and safety of our students and staff remain our top priority, we aim to focus our attention on instruction in a way that affords our students infinite learning possibilities. For example, we are pleased to announce the adoption of a new mathematics program called Envision, which will help our elementary school students to become more engaged as critical thinkers and problem solvers. Additionally, we are expanding our curriculum to use technology in unique and meaningful ways: Our Middle School will be implementing a new iPad initiative, and our High School will pilot a new Esports course. Trinity’s mission is always to prepare students to reach their fullest potential. We ensure students’ academic achievement by considering how Twenty-First Century learners think and work, and providing them with options that resonate.

Additionally, we will continue to work diligently to provide for our students a safe, nurturing, inviting environment where they feel comfortable learning, growing, and sharing experiences. Although, overall, students responded positively and productively to the numerous changes last year, we know they thrive with consistency. Therefore, we are committed to teaching them that, even in the face of change, the one constant is that they can count on their principals and teachers to help, support, and encourage them. During the first few weeks of school, our main goal is to build a strong sense of community among our educators, students and families. Once students become acclimated to their new teachers and classrooms, we will reach out via newsletter with information about their successes and all the interesting things happening on campus. Stay tuned for our monthly issue of Hiller Highlights.

Thank you very much for your continued cooperation and support of what we do every day, and for everything you do at home to help our students come to school ready to learn. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please feel free to contact your child’s principal. It’s a great day to be a Hiller!

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael P. Lucas, Superintendent



Follow Dr. Lucas on
twitter
[@TRINITY_MLUCAS](https://twitter.com/TRINITY_MLUCAS)

Welcome TO HILLER NATION!

Dr. Constance DeMore Savine Director of Curriculum and Instruction



Dr. Constance DeMore-Savine has served as an outstanding educator in the public school system for over 25 years, and she is pleased to join Trinity Area School District as the newly hired Director of Curriculum and Instruction.

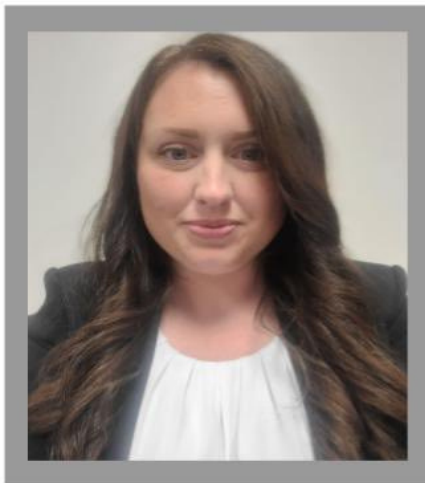
Dr. DeMore had worked diligently for 19 years as a middle school social studies teacher at the Norwin School District before being hired in 2015 to design, implement, and manage the district's secondary gifted education program. In addition to fulfilling her primary job responsibilities, Dr. DeMore has worked as an adjunct professor at Saint Vincent College and the University of Pittsburgh, where, in 2011, she earned a doctorate degree in Administration and Policy Studies in Education. With a passion for teaching and learning, she continues to consult for school districts in Western PA, research, and publish. Her current project involves investigating ways to inspire fruitful, productive collaborations among representatives of stakeholder groups striving to improve student achievement across the region. "Developing strong relationships, as well as helping individuals reach their full potential, is the foundation for everything I do, both professionally and personally," she explained. Dr. DeMore hails from Pittsburgh and currently lives in Venetia, PA with her family and two dogs. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and painting.

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"I'm so excited to begin the next chapter of my work at Trinity – to get to know the students, staff, and community members so that, together, we will continue to uphold the district's mission to ensure the growth of every student in our care."

Dr. Constance DeMore Savine

Samantha Shinsky Director of Technology and Innovation



Samantha Shinsky has served as the Director of Technology & Innovation at Charleroi Area School District where she spearheaded a 1:1 initiative; revamped the network infrastructure; and led several innovative initiatives to include: Charleroi Summer Acceleration Academy, MS/HS Makerspace, and Charleroi Online Learning Academy. Prior to moving into a technology leadership role, she served as an instructional technology specialist. In this capacity, she supported teachers with integrating technology into their classrooms and taught a computational thinking course to students in Grades 2-5. Samantha began her career in Education as a 3rd Grade Teacher.

Samantha earned her Bachelor of Arts from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She holds a Master of Science in Elementary Education Degree from Duquesne University, a Post-Master Certification in Instructional Technology from Robert Morris University and a Post-Masters Certification in Project Management from Penn State University. Samantha is currently continuing her education in Educational Leadership at California University of Pennsylvania.

Samantha resides in Cecil Township. In her free time, she enjoys reading and loves spending time with her husband and one year old son.

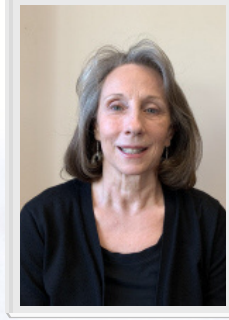
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"I am excited to join the Hiller family and look forward to bringing my passion for innovation in Education to the Trinity Area School District."

Samantha Shinsky



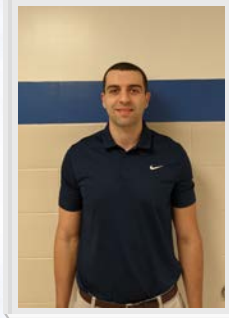
David Columbus
High School Physics



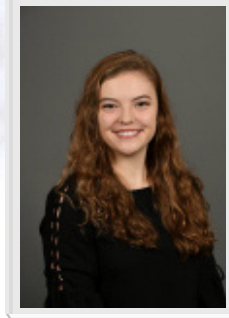
Cynthia Reichard
Speech Pathologist



Andrew Harmon
Middle School Math



Andrew Jacobs
Middle School
Business Computers
Informational Technology



Alyssa Bumpus
Middle School Music



Katherine Shuey
High School
Social Studies



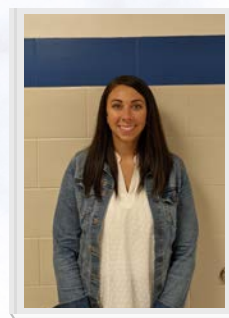
Emma Pellicano
Elementary Guidance
Counselor



Tiffany Daniels,
Elementary
Music



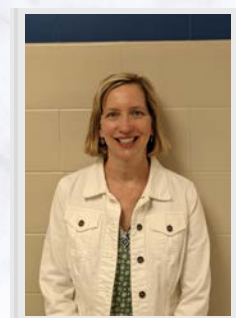
Kayla Lemmon
Elementary
Special Education



Emily Tropeano
West Elementary



Ian Killen,
Sports Medicine



Sarah Maxwell
West Elementary

It's a great day to be a Hiller!

KinderCamp 2021

Trinity welcomed the Class of 2034 on August 19th and 20th for KinderCamp. The orientation for incoming kindergarten students is held each year in all four elementary schools.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

The Trinity Area School District is accepting nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Presentation: High School Awards Assembly

Nomination Deadline Date: January 15 of Each Year

CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION

A nominee must be an alumnus/alumna of the Trinity Area High School who graduated a minimum of fifteen (15) years prior to the date of the presentation.

Distinguished Alumni will be honored for outstanding contributions made in their chosen profession and include areas such as business, education, journalism, law, medicine, science, performing or visual arts, and public service. Characteristics given primary consideration are a record of academic achievement, as well as professional and/or business achievements and accomplishments, and community or civic consciousness.

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Nominee's Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Maiden)

Nominee's Current Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Nominee's Former Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Nominee's Current Telephone Number: (_____) _____

Nominee's Profession/Occupation: _____

Nominee's Place of Employment: _____

NOMINEE ACHIEVEMENTS

(Attach current photo, résumé, letters of recommendation, newspaper articles, to support the nomination.)

Attachment #1: Exceptional Academic Achievements: High School/College/Postgraduate

Attachment #2: Outstanding Contributions to Profession

Attachment #3: Community/Civic Contributions of Note

Nominee's Year of Graduation: _____ Name of Nominator: _____

Address of Nominator: _____
Street City State Zip

Telephone Number of Nominator: (_____) _____

Please return to: Dr. Michael P. Lucas, Superintendent
Trinity Area School District
231 Park Avenue, Washington, PA 15301
lucasm@trinitypride.org

Congratulations



Hillers Derek Falvo, Jonah Williamson , JR Rieg, Jase Hartley, and Khi Bouman represented Trinity in this year's Pony League World Series.



**Custodians
Maintenance
Computer Technicians
Secretaries
Food Service Employees
Aides....
and all support staff
who helped us get ready
for this school year!**

#trinitystrong

Important Contact Information

Trinity Area School District 724-223-2000

High School 724-225-6380

Principal - Mr. Craig Uram ext. 6501
curam@trinityhillers.net

Asst. Principal - Dr. Sam Demian ext. 6503
sdemian@trinityhillers.net

Asst. Principal - Mr. Zachary Zebrasky ext. 6505
zzebrasky@trinityhillers.net

Middle School 724-228-2112

Principal - Mr. Paul Kostelnik ext. 5503
pkostelnik@trinityhillers.net

Asst. Principal - Ms. Lindsay Benzenhoefer ext. 5501
lbenz@trinityhillers.net

East Elementary 724-225-8140

Principal - Mrs. Sandra Deems ext. 4501
sdeems@trinityhillers.net

North Elementary 724-222-5064

Principal - Mr. Eric Lauver ext. 2501
elauver@trinityhillers.net

South Elementary 724-225-7490

Principal - Mr. Peter Keruskin ext. 3501
pkeruskin@trinityhillers.net

West Elementary 724-222-4730

Principal - Mrs. Michelle Ostrosky ext. 1501
mostrosky@trinityhillers.net

Would you like to give back to your school and earn some extra money at the same time? The HR Department is looking for “Emergency Status” substitute teachers. No teaching degree necessary. If you have a four-year degree and are interested in working with our students, Contact the Human Resources Department for more information

724-223-2000 ext. 7114

To submit an article for consideration please email:

hillerhighlights@trinityhillers.net or
jwalz@trinityhillers.net

Articles may be submitted in the body of the email or attached as a *Word* document. Documents in .pdf format will not be accepted. Corresponding pictures must be attached to the same email in .jpg format.

The newsletter is released at the end of each month -
September through June.

All articles are subject to final approval by the Superintendent.



INFORMATIONAL FLYERS:

*Flyers are available on the district website under **About***

To access, click on the link

[DISTRICT FLYERS](#)

To request that a flyer be posted on the website, email:

jwalz@trinityhillers.net



TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2021-2022 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

AUGUST '21

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

19-20 New Teacher Orientation
 19-20 KinderCamp
 23-24 Staff Development
 25 Teacher Clerical Day
 26 **First Student Day**

Teacher Days: 7
 Student Days: 4

FEBRUARY '22

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

7 In-Service/No School
 21 Presidents' Day/No School

Teacher Days: 19
 Student Days: 18

SEPTEMBER '21

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

6 Labor Day
 24 Two Hour Early Student Release/Staff Development

Teacher Days: 21
 Student Days: 21

MARCH '22

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

25 Two Hour Early Student Release/Staff Development

Teacher Days: 23
 Student Days: 23

OCTOBER '21

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

29 Two Hour Early Student Release/Staff Development

Teacher Days: 21
 Student Days: 21

APRIL '22

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

14-18 Spring Break/No School

Teacher Days: 18
 Student Days: 18

NOVEMBER '21

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1 In-Service Day/No School
 25-29 Fall Break

Teacher Days: 19
 Student Days: 18

MAY '22

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

27 Two Hour Early Student Release/Staff Development
 30 Memorial Day/No School

Teacher Days: 21
 Student Days: 21

DECEMBER '21

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

23 In-Service Day
 24-31 Winter Break

Teacher Days: 17
 Student Days: 16

JUNE '22

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

1 **Last Student Day**
 2 Teacher Clerical Day
 3 Graduation
 Teacher In-Service Day

Teacher Days: 3
 Student Days: 1

JANUARY '22

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

3 In-Service Day/No School
 17 M.L. King Day/No School

Teacher Days: 20
 Student Days: 19

Teacher Days: 189
 Student Days: 180

END FIRST 9 WEEKS – OCTOBER 28

END FIRST SEMESTER – JANUARY 19

END THIRD 9 WEEKS – MARCH 25

BOARD APPROVED:
 February 18, 2021





TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
231 Park Avenue, Washington, PA 15301
Phone: 724.223.2000

Parent Right to Know Information as Required by The Elementary and Secondary Education Assistance (ESEA) [Section 1112(e)(1)(A)] and the Every Student Succeeds Act [Section 1112(e)(1)(A)]

Trinity Area School District receives Federal Title I funds to assist students in meeting state achievement standards. Throughout the school year, we will be providing you with important information about this law and your child's education. This letter lets you know about your right to request information about the qualifications of the classroom staff working with your child.

We are very proud of our teachers and feel they are prepared to give your child a high-quality education. Our Title I schools must meet federal regulations related to teacher qualifications as defined in ESEA. These regulations allow you to learn more about your child's teachers' training and credentials. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which was signed into law in December 2015 and reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1956 (ESEA) includes additional right to know requests. At any time, parents and family members can request:

- Information on policies regarding student participation in assessments and procedures for opting out, and
- Information on required assessments that include
 - subject matter tested,
 - purpose of the test,
 - source of the requirement (if applicable),
 - amount of time it takes students to complete the test, and
 - time and format of disseminating results.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals meet applicable Pennsylvania state requirements.

If you have any questions about your child's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact your child's building principal.



High-quality health care coverage from CHIP helps keep kids strong

CHIP COVERS

- Routine check-ups
- Prescriptions
- Hospitalization
- Dental
- Eye Care
- Eyeglasses
- Behavioral care
- Specialty care
- More

CHIP covers uninsured kids up to age 19 in Pennsylvania. It doesn't matter why your kids don't have health coverage right now; CHIP may be able to help. Most kids receive CHIP for free. Others can get the same benefits at a low cost.

CHIP is brought to you by leading health insurance companies who offer quality, comprehensive coverage.

There is no limit on income. If your income is below CHIP guidelines, your child may be enrolled in Medical Assistance.

APPLY/RENEW

CHIPcoversPAkids.com • 800-986-KIDS



Pennsylvania's Children's
Health Insurance Program
We Cover All Kids.



chip Strong

¿Necesita cobertura médica para sus hijos?

CHIP CUBRE

- Chequeos de rutina
- Recetas médicas
- Hospitalización
- Servicios dentales
- Cuidado de la vista
- Anteojos
- Salud del comportamiento
- Atención especializada
- Mucho más

CHIP cubre a niños sin seguro hasta los 19 años en Pennsylvania. No importa cuál sea la razón de que sus hijos no tienen cobertura médica ahora; CHIP puede ayudarle. La mayoría de niños reciben CHIP gratis. Otros pueden obtener los mismos beneficios a un bajo costo. CHIP es traído a usted por las principales compañías de seguros médicos que ofrecen cobertura de calidad e integral.

Si sus ingresos son menos de las pautas indicadas por CHIP, su hijo podría ser inscrito en Asistencia Médica.

INSCRIBIRSE/RENOVAR

CHIPcoversPAkids.com • 800-986-KIDS



Pennsylvania's Children's
Health Insurance Program
Cubrimos a todos los niños.