

# HILLER HIGHLIGHTS

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



JANUARY 2021-2022

## Thank You! Trinity Area Board of Directors

**Jennifer Morgan, President**  
**Frances Eates, Vice President**  
**Penelope Caleffe, Treasurer**  
**Sean Dobich**  
**James Knapp**  
**Gordon Lowry**  
**Amy Neel**  
**Greg Rudman**  
**J.R. Slagle**



Each year, the Pennsylvania School Boards Association designates January as School Director Recognition Month. Trinity Area would like to extend gratitude to our Board of Directors for all of their hard work, commitment, and always putting our students first! On behalf of the board members, the district has donated books to the elementary school libraries located throughout the district.

**Each board member chose the following book:**



Mrs. Morgan - *Save Me A Seat*  
Mrs. Eates - *The Giving Tree*  
Mrs. Caleffe - *Salt in His Shoes*  
Mr. Dobich - *The Last Lecture*  
Mr. Knapp - *My First Book of Basketball*  
Mr. Lowry - *The Music In George's Head*  
Mrs. Neel - *Charlotte's Web*  
Mr. Rudman - *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*  
Mr. Slagle - *Alice in Wonderland*

# Congratulations!

## January

### Students of the Month



**Claudia Cappelli**  
**HIGH SCHOOL**



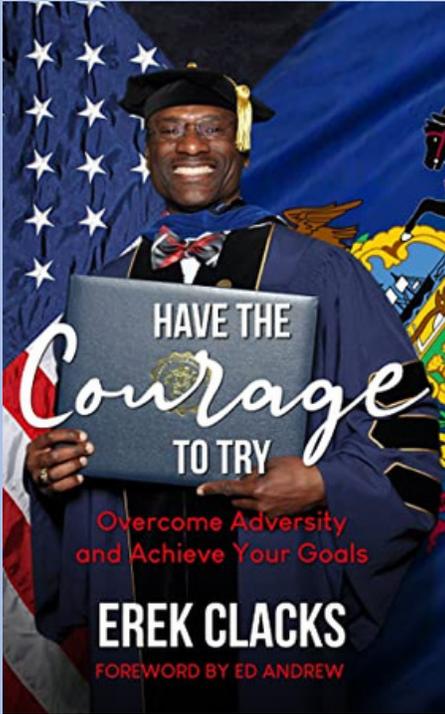
**Jordan Keener**



**Caden Miller**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

# Trinity's Pride!



## CONGRATULATIONS TO ONE OF TRINITY'S OWN... **DR. EREK CLACKS**

Trinity is proud to introduce *Have The Courage to Try*, written by Trinity high school teacher Dr. Erek Clacks! This is a must read for anyone, especially students considering their futures, facing challenges, or desiring to realize their full potential. It can be purchased on Amazon.com



Trinity North had fun "shoveling snow with spoons" and fishing with candy canes!



Thank you to South Strabane Police Department for helping to make Christmas extra special for some of our students!

# Positive Work Pays Off at TMS



The Barnhill Animal Preserve visited Trinity Middle School sixth and seventh graders as a reward for positive achievement and behavior. The students learned about a sloth, armadillo, a bearded dragon and many others, as well as being able to get up close and personal with photographs. Overall, the assembly was a success and we hope to have the preserve back in the future.

TMS 8th graders were awarded for good behavior and positive work ethic with a student/teacher basketball game. The game took place in December before break. The students gave a valiant effort against teachers including Mr. Damaska, Mr. Carioli, Mr. Sherry, Mr. Kostelnik, Mr. Smith and many more! In the end, the teachers were victorious but the game was incredibly close! Hopefully, our students will earn another incentive towards the end of the year.

## *Holiday Hiller Helpers*

Hiller Helpers completed yet another year of giving a holiday to Trinity students in need. Under the supervision of Mrs. Muschick, Ms. Kovacicek, Mrs. Miller, and Mrs. Benz, TMS shopped, wrapped, and prepared gifts for 155 Trinity students across the district. We are proud of this community service outreach and can't wait to do it again next year!



## **THS TO PMEA DISTRICT 1 FESTIVAL**

Congratulations to Sydnie Garrett, Zach Losko, Melena Maglietta, Brett Phillips, & Sara Seto who participated in PMEA District 1 Festival in Pittsburgh.



Special shout-out to Brett Phillips who qualified to participate in PMEA Western Region Orchestra Festival on February 25th!

*Trinity's Pride!*





The Trinity High School National Honor Society has spent the past few months donating to local organizations and will be continuing to do so through December. Thus far, our chapter has made donations to the Washington City Mission and to the Domestic Violence Shelter of Washington County.

We have donated over 360 nonperishable food items to the City Mission and over 1300 items to the Domestic Violence Shelter. In December, the National Honor Society prepared Christmas cards for local nursing home residents to bring them joy for the holiday season.

Our members are always willing to donate to support those in need in our community.



# Congrats!



The 2022 Region FBLA Leadership Conference Awards Ceremony was held this month and Trinity had 37 attendees with 29 members qualifying for States which will be held in Hershey in April

## **First places:**

Accounting II- Luke Cowden  
Business Communication -Abby Bodart  
Business Law - Antonio Borello  
Hospitality - Kaylyn Weichel  
Personal Finance - Raymond Wang  
Securities - Adam Gill  
Client Services - Mirranda Rinehart  
Impromptu Speaking - Aiden McCoy  
Business Management Team -  
Olivia Sikora, Carrie Proudfit, Jadon Dobich  
Publication Design Team -  
Grace Coyle, Morgan McKay

## **Third Places:**

Accounting I - Taryn Russell  
Advertising - Jaidyn Sebetich  
Economics - Hai Le  
Personal Finance - Finley Hohn  
Public Speaking - Assad Nasar  
Publication Design Team -  
Jace Banco, Andrew Durig  
Sports Marketing Team -  
Ty Banco, Drew Collins, Brian Rice

## **Second Places:**

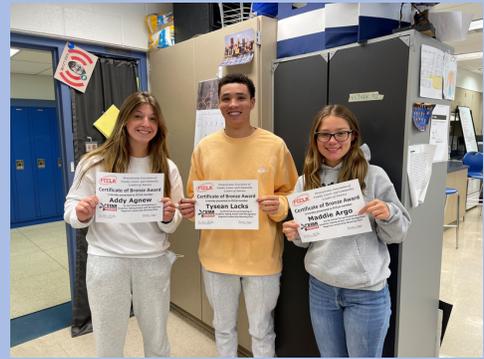
Accounting I - Ben Papson  
Financial Math - Joe Thornburg  
Entrepreneurship - Kyle Fetcho  
Hospitality - Julia Luzar  
Graphic Design - Nick Hrabik  
Job Interview - Daniel Lee  
Broadcast Journalism Team -  
Dakota Hartzell, Sean Craft, Brett Gombita

## **Fourth Places:**

Accounting I - Cameron Minnick  
Personal Finance - Morgan Bonnell  
Marketing - Emma Lorenzo  
Madison Shook  
Public Speaking - Maria Giorgi

## **Thank you to our teachers:**

**Mrs. Husk, Mrs. Migyanko,  
and Mr. Modrak**



## FCCLA Regional Competition

Trinity FCCLA students and advisors, Mrs. Aliveto and Mr. Modrak, attended the Regional Competition and Conference. Jayden Engle earned a silver medal in FCCLS Creed Speaking and the team consisting of Tysean Lacks, Adison Agnew and Maddison Argo earned a bronze certificate in FCCLA Professional Presentation. Jayden Engle, Chloe Prowitt and Cassidy Borchet will be heading to the State Competition in March, 2022! Congratulations and Good Luck!



## Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Farm-to-School Program

**40 Trinity North students received free romaine lettuce. This is the third crop that has been produced using both hydroponic and aeroponic technology on campus.**

# Congratulations!

Trib HSSN  
named Trinity  
girls basketball  
team of the week  
for Jan. 10, 2022!



## It's a great day to be a Hiller!



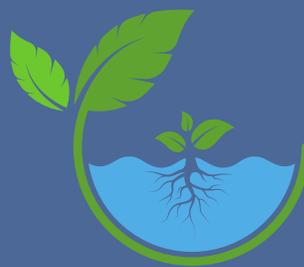
Observer Reporter  
Athlete of the Week:  
Connor Roberts, Trinity



Observer Reporter  
Athlete of the Week:  
Ty Banco, Trinity



Sheriff Romano made his last visit to Trinity North Elementary on the day he officially retired from being the Sheriff for Washington County. For the past eight years, he, along with some of his deputies and chief, visited the students during the lunchtimes. The Lunch with the Sheriff Program was in place before the addition of school police in the school buildings. Monthly, Sheriff Romano would talk to the students individually about any concerns or questions they may have. This program helped the students feel comfortable with officers of law enforcement, as well as learning lessons from the Sheriff. Sheriff Romano was presented with a certificate of appreciation and a gift card by Mr. Lauver, North's principal, for his efforts with making the program a success. The students and staff will truly miss him. They are very fortunate to have had these lunch visits from Sheriff Romano, and they wish him the best, along with a wonderful retirement!



The first hydroponically grown vegetable at Trinity South, a zucchini, has been picked! Mrs. Gojmerac's students, Cameron Rockwell and Max Rosati, have been tending to the SuperNova Grow Cabinet weekly since October. Their weekly tasks include adding water to the growing chamber, adjusting the pH, and monitoring the temperature and humidity levels. Mr. Keruskin enjoyed the zucchini with a steak over the weekend!



# FFA NEWS

*Congratulations*

## FFA Keystone Degree Winners

Ten members of the Trinity FFA Chapter at Trinity High School earned their Keystone Degree this year. Members were awarded their Keystone Degree at the PA Farm Show on January 10, 2022. More than four hundred FFA members from across the state received Keystone Degrees at the Pennsylvania FFA Mid-Winter Convention at the Pennsylvania Farm Show. High school juniors and seniors or graduates in their third year of membership are eligible to apply for the Keystone Degree. The candidates must have demonstrated leadership abilities and earned or productively invested at least \$1,000 and/or worked at least 300 hours in a supervised agricultural experience program. Just 3 percent of the more-than 8,000 Pennsylvania FFA members qualify each year for a Keystone Degree.





Keystone Degree recipients are pictured with FFA State President, Abigail O'Neill. Left to right: Megan Callahan, Skylar Lauderbaugh, Zachary Snedeker, Piper Kemis, Baylie Novak, Holly Tran, Desyre McDougan-McCombs, Kaiya Smith, Calvin Hrutkay, and Janel Gilmer

## First Year FFA Members

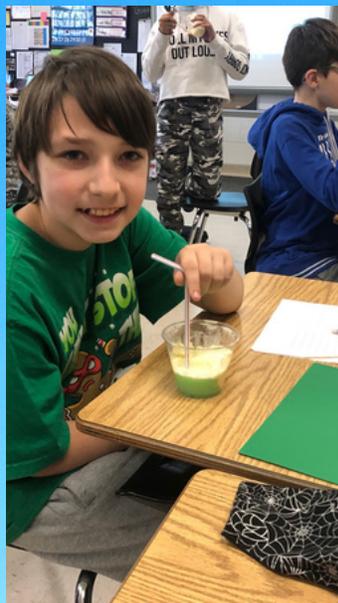
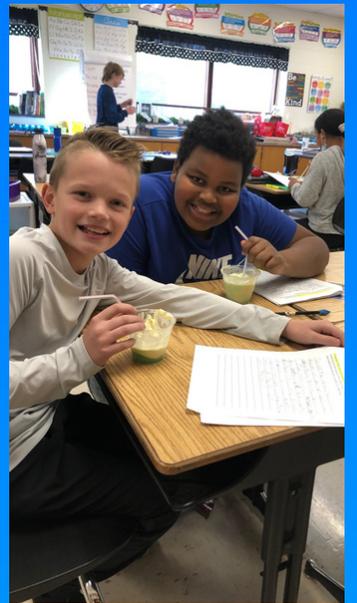
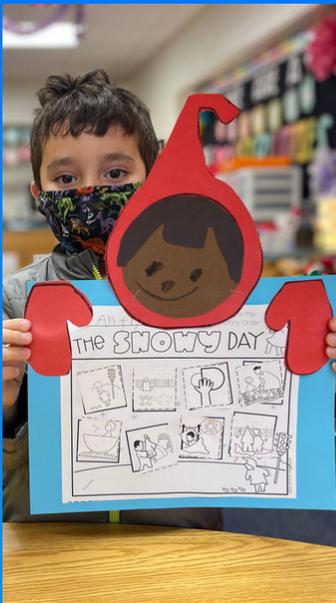
Each year the Pennsylvania FFA Alumni Association puts on a jacket campaign to put the blue corduroy jacket on the backs of first year PA FFA students. This year, six of our first year Trinity FFA members received their very own FFA jacket by successfully writing and submitting an essay that was written in Mrs. Durila's Intro to Agriculture Science class. This jacket will be worn proudly and will for sure open many doors for these students.

**We CAN'T WAIT to see where the FFA will take YOU!!**

FFA Jacket earners are the following:

Pictured: Matt Callahan and Luke Fraas  
Not pictured: Hannah Beyer, Eva Cessna, Zachary Eddy, and Logan Stegenga.





**Trinity West celebrated the Holiday Season with multiple activities school wide!**

*Trinity West Kindergarten was invited to participate in...  
The Wedding of Q and U!*



**The students dressed up in their wedding attire to participate in the special occasion! They all worked to identify the sound "qu" make when they stand together. The wedding was followed with a short reception which included dancing!**

# WHO WE ARE

## #TRINITYFAMILY



Alyssa Bumpus  
Music Teacher

Alyssa Bumpus, a Ripley, WV native, is the new band director/general music instructor at Trinity Middle School. She also assists the Trinity High School Marching Band. Alyssa graduated with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from West Virginia University this past spring. As a member of the WVU marching band, Alyssa was selected to perform with the U.S. Air Force Band under the baton of Col. Don Schofield. Ms. Bumpus teaches private lessons in conducting and trumpet. She completed her student teaching at Canon-McMillan High School and Canonsburg Middle School. As a new teacher to the district, Alyssa provides her students with the most positive, safe, and encouraging learning environment possible. She is committed to helping her students grow as people, young leaders, as well as musicians.

**Cool Facts:** During her time as a Mountaineer, Alyssa served as Drum Major of the marching band, played trumpet in the Wind Symphony and Jazz Band. She traveled across the country to perform with the athletic band. In her spare time, Alyssa loves to hike, cook, and spend time with her loved ones. She unintentionally kayaked with sharks, once! She also loves to play with her 1-year-old Sheepadoodle, Leo.

#trinitypride



# WHO WE ARE

## #TRINITYFAMILY



**Ms. Emma Pellicano**  
**School Counselor**  
**Trinity North & South**

Ms. Pellicano holds a Master of Education in School Counseling from Duquesne University. She completed her degree with a 4.0 GPA and was a member of the Chi Sigma Iota Honor Society. She holds a certification as a National Certified Counselor (NCC). Emma graduated from Mt. Lebanon High School. A stand-out student-athlete as a Blue Devil, she was recruited to play basketball at Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. While balancing the rigors of academics and athletics, she worked as an in-game broadcaster for the soccer & men's basketball teams. She was also a staff writer for the athletic department website. Emma graduated from Allegheny College with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Minor in Communication Arts. As part of her Senior Comprehensive Project, she conducted a study involving student-athletes from PA and Ohio, comparing how their personalities match with different coaching & teaching styles.

**Cool Facts:** Emma excelled as a student-athlete at Mt. Lebanon High School and continued her athletic excellence at Allegheny College. She currently holds the record as the 2nd All-Time leading scorer in program history. Emma was also a 4 time All-Conference Selection! She coached at the high school and youth levels. She credits her experiences as a student-athlete and coach to her values in community and teamwork. Emma tied the knot last summer. She spent 10 days on the West Coast exploring new cities and places with her husband, Thomas. She looks forward to spending time with friends & family and traveling around the United States.

**One more thing:** *There a few people in the state that hold the distinction of being a 3x WPIAL Champion and 3x PA State Champion. Emma Pellicano is one of them!*

#trinitypride



*Trinity High School Performing Arts Presents*



**March 31, April 1, 2, 3, 2022 in the High School auditorium**

**Tickets go on sale March 1, 2022 @ 7:30 AM**

**<https://our.showthsmarypoppins2022>**

**to purchase your tickets**



# Sora

Open a world of reading.

## What is Sora?

- ★ Sora provides **free** access to Audiobooks and eBooks through Trinity and our local public library system.
- ★ SORA is already installed on all student Chromebooks.

## How do I download Sora on a personal device for my child?

- ★ Download Sora from the app store.
- ★ Select *Trinity Area School District*.
- ★ Students will be prompted to log into their Class Link account.

## How do I connect with our local public library system?

- ★ On the Explore tab, where it says "Trinity Area School District," click the down arrow and click "Add Library."
- ★ Enter **15301** and find "Washington District Libraries."
- ★ Click "Add Library."
- ★ The first time a book is borrowed, a pop-up box may appear asking you to sign into your library. Choose "Trinity Area School District" from the dropdown list.

The TASD librarians are here to help! Reach out for assistance!



- |                   |              |                            |
|-------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| ★ Lindsay Crow    | East & North | lcrow@trinityhillers.net   |
| ★ Jennifer Paluda | South & West | jpaluda@trinityhillers.net |
| ★ Debbie Zewe     | TMS          | dzewe@trinityhillers.net   |

To submit an article for publication in  
**Hiller Highlights** email:  
[tkrieger@trinityhillers.net](mailto:tkrieger@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.

Articles are published pending  
review by the Superintendent.

## INFORMATIONAL FLYERS:

All flyers are available on the district  
[website under About](#)

<https://www.trinitypride.org/Content2/district-flyers>

To request that a flyer be posted on the  
website, email:  
[tkrieger@trinityhillers.net](mailto:tkrieger@trinityhillers.net)

## Dates to Remember February

7 - Staff Development/ No School  
21 - President's Day/No School



**Do you have a bachelor's  
degree and want to  
work with kids?**



**THE HR DEPARTMENT IS LOOKING FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS!**

**THOSE WITH A TEACHING DEGREE, AS WELL AS THOSE WITH  
"EMERGENCY STATUS", MAY APPLY  
(FOUR YEAR DEGREE REQUIRED/NO TEACHING DEGREE NECESSARY)**

**DAILY RATE IS \$125**

**IF YOU ARE QUALIFIED AND INTERESTED  
IN WORKING WITH OUR STUDENTS,  
CONTACT**

**MR. JACK MINNICK  
HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR  
FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**724-223-2000 EXT. 7121 OR 7114**