

HILLER HIGHLIGHTS

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



NEW SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Trinity Area Families,

Welcome Back Hiller Nation! It's a Great Day to be a Hiller! Our staff is excited to see our students next week. We hope our Trinity Families are safe, healthy, and ready for a new exciting school year. Planning for this unique school year has been monumental for both teachers and administrators. It was the most challenging task of our careers. While we carefully monitor an ever-changing health landscape due to COVID-19, our commitment to the health and safety of our students and staff remains our priority and the foundation of all of our decisions. Please review the video link below in case you missed all of the precautionary safety steps Trinity Area has made to keep our school safe during the pandemic.

<https://www.trinitypride.org/News/164#sthash.6XL75bS4.dpbs>

Currently, we are able to offer a hybrid schedule to meet CDC requirements. In the future, our full intent is to provide an option for students to attend the traditional five-day a week learning environment once the mandatory social distancing requirements are lifted. We must remain mindful of the unpredictable nature of COVID-19. We need to advise our parents and staff that they should have plans in place if this unpredictable virus causes Trinity Area, and other districts in our region, to pivot educational options.

Trinity teachers and administrators have spent days and nights preparing to use new state-of-the-art instructional techniques and technology that they have never used with students before. Many new interactive programs and resources were purchased to improve the educational experience of each student. Hence, we are requesting some patience in our first week of instruction.

Our main goal for the first week of school will be to move at a slower pace. Meaning, our first week of school will be a "practice" week for teachers, families, and students. After reviewing other school openings in the area, we anticipate some glitches and necessary adjustments will need to be made in the first week to make sure we can improve in the following weeks. In week one, teachers and students will be practicing using web cameras, recording lessons, live streaming, and using new programs like Canvas and Zoom. Our focus will be on teachers greeting and meeting students, guiding students through the new programs, reviewing new procedures, practicing remote interactions, and making positive connections.

We need to work together more than ever this school year and remain #trinitystrong!

If you have questions, always feel free to contact your child's school principal(s).

Your cooperation during this time is very much appreciated.

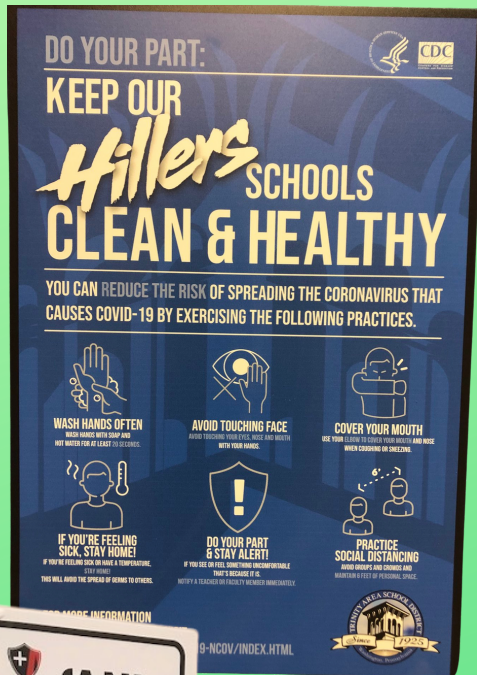
Dr. Michael P. Lucas, Superintendent



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

TRINITY IS PREPARED!

The safety of our students and staff is our top priority. Thermal imaging cameras that scan 30 students per second, hand sanitizer stations, social distancing, and the requirement of masks for all staff and students will be the "new normal" this year.



Thanks to Mr. Prentice who created signage in the TASD FabLab to help guide social distancing at the high school.

Welcome **NEW TEACHERS!**



**Ninalee Dunn,
West Grade 1**



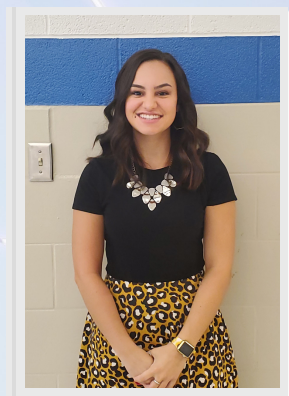
**Allison Okopal,
North Grade 2**



**Jessica Tsangaris,
South Grade 5**



**Kellie Swart
West Grade 2**



**Kristen Fulgenzio
South Grade 4**



**MeganRecker
South ES**



**Beth Sutherin,
High School Nurse**



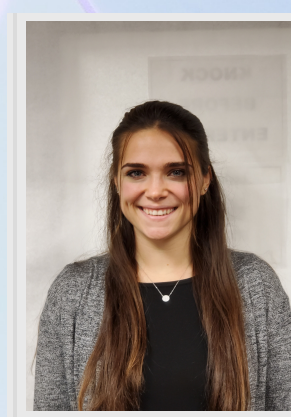
**Seth Nicholson,
MS Science/ES**



**Kelsey Moberg
High School ES/Special Ed**



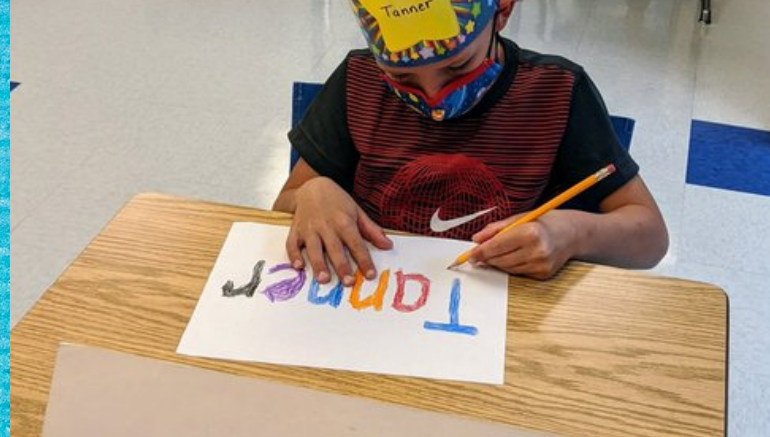
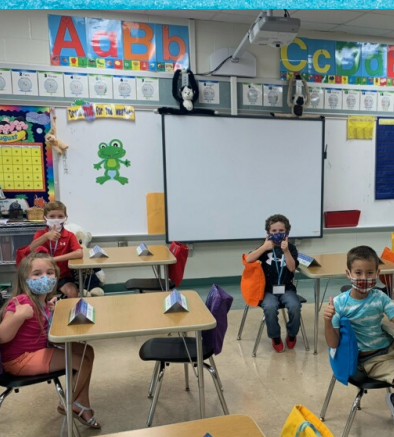
**Sylvia Banish
High School Spanish**



**Elizabeth Beachy
High School English**

KinderCamp 2020

Trinity welcomed the Class of 2033 on August 24th and 25th for KinderCamp. The orientation for incoming kindergarten students is held each year in all four elementary schools.





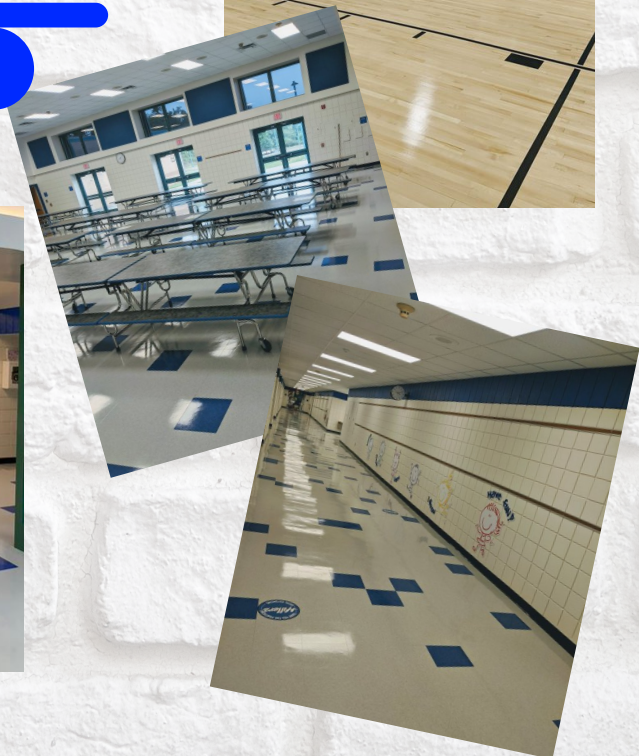
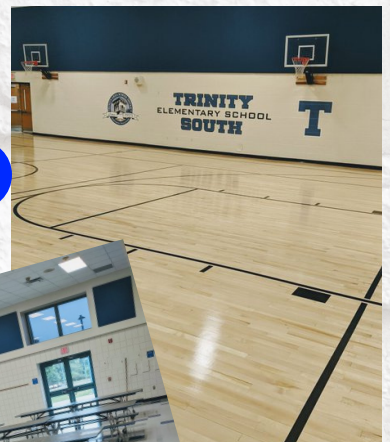
Thanks to the Food Service Department's front line managers for their hard work and leadership! They served 294,108 free meals from mid March through mid August!

schoolcafé

Families may apply for free and reduced benefits at any time of the year at www.schoolcafe.com



**NORTH & SOUTH
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
RECEIVED UPDATES OVER
THE SUMMER.... LOOKIN'
GOOD!**



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

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

THANK YOU!

**Custodians
Maintenance
Computer Technicians
Secretaries
Food Service Employees
Aides....**

**and all support staff who helped
us get ready for this school year!**

#trinitystrong

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



First In-Person Instructional Days are:

Group A Students-
Tuesday, September 8

Group B Students -
Thursday, September 10

To submit an article for publication in
Hiller Highlights 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.

**Articles are published pending
review by the Superintendent.**



INFORMATIONAL FLYERS:
All 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 Academic Calendar 2020-2021

Revised 8.6.20

AUGUST '20						
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					

20-21 New Teacher Orientation
24-25 KinderCamp
26-28 Staff Development Days
31 Clerical

Teachers Days: 4
Student Days: 0

15 President's Day/No School

FEBRUARY '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						

Teacher Days: 19
Student Days: 19

SEPTEMBER '20						
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			

1-4 Staff Development Days/
No School
(3 & 4) Act 80 Days
7 Labor Day/No School
8 First Student Day

Teacher Days: 21
Student Days: 19

29 End of 3rd 9 weeks/Day # 135
31 Two Hour Early Release/Staff Development

MARCH '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			

Teacher Days: 23
Student Days: 23

OCTOBER '20						
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

Teacher Days: 22
Student Days: 22

1-5 Spring Break/No School
30 Two Hour Early Release/Staff Development

APRIL '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	

Teacher Days: 19
Student Days: 19

NOVEMBER '20						
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					

5 End 1st 9 weeks/Day #45
25 Student Remote Learning/Parent Teacher Conf. Day
26-30 Fall Break

Teacher Days: 18
Student Days: 18

28 Two Hour Early Release/Staff Development
31 Memorial Day/No School

MAY '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					

Teacher Days: 20
Student Days: 20

DECEMBER '20						
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		

24-31 Winter Break/No School

Teacher Days: 17
Student Days: 17

4 Graduation/Last Student Day
7 Teacher Clerical Day

JUNE '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			

Teacher Days: 5*
Student Days: 4
*TAEA will complete two in-service days remotely for a total of 189 days.

JANUARY '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						

1 Winter Break cont'd /No School
18 M.L. King Day/No School
22 End 1st Semester/Day #90

Teacher Days: 19
Student Days: 19

Board Approved: FEBRUARY 20, 2020 Revised 8.6.20

Total teacher days: 189
Total student days: 180

NOTE: Any non-student day may be used as a make-up day.



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.



¿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.