

HILLER HIGHLIGHTS

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



JANUARY 2020

Thank You! Trinity Area School Directors



Each year the Pennsylvania School Boards Association designates January as School Director Recognition Month. Trinity Area would like to extend our gratitude to our Board of Directors. Thank you for all of your hard work, commitment, and always putting the students of the Trinity Area School District first!



Congratulations Mrs. Berty!

Trinity Area extends our very best wishes to Mrs. Mary Ann Berty for a healthy, happy, and well-deserved retirement!
We'll miss you!



Follow Dr. Lucas on twitter @ #TRINITY_MLUCAS

2019 Academic Review

Trinity Area is celebrating the third consecutive year of academic gains in student assessment performance. Congratulations to our students, staff and parents for earning some of the highest 2019 passing rates and school profile scores in Western Pennsylvania. We are excited to observe measurable academic growth each year to validate the great work of our students, and staff. The academic performance of our students is reflective of the rich tradition of Pride and Excellence we foster at Trinity Area. We expect the achievement to continue to rise in 2020.

“We are proud to point out the tremendous performance and improvements in student achievement and academic growth at the Trinity Area School District. The students, their families and the staff members have demonstrated what can be accomplished through hard work and dedication. The Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System’s three-year data highlights student performance which met or exceeded the standard for PA Academic Growth, at the elementary, middle and secondary levels.” – Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Donald Snoke

Trinity Middle School's principal, Mr. Kostelnik, is proud to celebrate the increased achievement levels in all three tested subject areas for the second year in a row. He noted, "The hard work of Trinity students, teachers, and staff is showcased by our #1 ranking school performance profile in the Washington, Greene, and Fayette counties. TMS was ranked in the top 10% of middle schools in the state of Pennsylvania."

Trinity East Elementary School and Principal Deems are thrilled to have out-performed over 87% of elementary schools in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Deems said, "Trinity East 5th Grade Math scores remain the highest in Washington County and rank in the top one percent in the state. This is due to the hard work of our teachers, students, and staff members."

Lastly, Advanced Placement scores continue to rise and more students are enrolling in AP courses than ever before at Trinity High School. More Trinity students are earning the status of AP Scholars with Honor, AP Scholars with Distinction and National AP Scholars. Additionally, current seniors earned impressive scores on the ELA, Algebra and Science exams.

Please follow the link to view detailed performance information for each school and learn how Trinity fared among other neighboring schools.

To view the 2019 Academic Report
[Click HERE](#)

CONGRATULATIONS

January

Students of the Month



Kristin Leep
High School

Matthew Heffner
and
Savannah Rivera
Middle School



Keep up with news and events at
the high school!
Follow the link to the student
newspaper, **The Hiller** here

FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA

REGIONAL PLACE WINNERS

The Region 4 Leadership Conference was held at California University of Pennsylvania on Friday, December 6.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Trinity medal recipients:



Accounting I

- 1st - Fidel Diaz - STATE QUALIFIER
- 2nd - James Meyer - STATE QUALIFIER
- 3rd - Damon Manning - STATE QUALIFIER

Agribusiness

- 2nd - Julian Burchett - STATE QUALIFIER

Accounting II

- 2nd - Kayla Gandy - STATE QUALIFIER
- 3rd - Camden Walsh - STATE QUALIFIER

Business Calculations

- 3rd - Adam Gill - STATE QUALIFIER
- 5th - Luke Phillis



Entrepreneurship

- 1st - Aden Lin & Nathan Orr - STATE QUALIFIERS

Graphic Design

- 4th - Makenzie Coyle, Brent Kurtz & Carley Popielarcheck
- 5th - Emma Morgan, Danielle Cyprowski & Austin Beels

Health Care Administration

- 5th - Isabel DeRosa

FBLA regional place winners, con't.



Job Interview

3rd - Hailey Scott

4th - Kendle Haught

Public Speaking

2nd - Ethan Turturice - STATE QUALIFIER

5th - Jonathan Stout

Publication Design

1st - Anthony Santi - STATE QUALIFIER

3rd - Cassandra Hrabik & Dalton Forman



Sales Presentation

1st - Austin Wells - STATE QUALIFIER

Sports & Entertainment Management

3rd - Dylan King & Brandon Robaugh - STATE QUALIFIERS

Spreadsheet Applications

2nd - Koen Weichel - STATE QUALIFIER

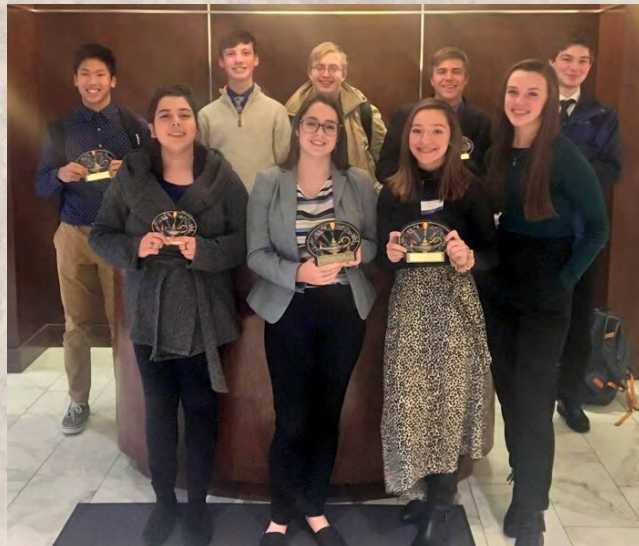
**THANKS to Advisers
Elizabeth Husk
and
Alison Migyanko**

Trinity DECA Launches on Top at Their First District Competition

Nine high school students traveled to the Pittsburgh Airport Sheraton on December 3rd to compete in the 2019 PA DECA District III Competition, going against chapters from Bethel Park, Norwin, Highlands, and Freeport high schools. Events require students to take a 100-question content cluster exam in one hour, plus the completion a role play in under fifteen minutes, which students must critically think on the fly to prepare and execute a scenario in an assumed role (for example, an HR director handling interoffice dating, or a marketing specialist planning a new product launch). This is the first year that Trinity is participating in the DECA program, a nearly 75-year international program educationally and professionally aligned to prepare emerging leaders in business, marketing, and entrepreneurship. Stemming from Mr. Modrak's Tourism and Marketing program courses, the DECA chapter at Trinity HS is one of the newest chapters in PA and is already off to a great start. Congratulations to the following students:

- Rachel Chase, Personal Financial Literacy, 1st place
- JJ Stout, Accounting Applications, 1st place
- Emily Wickham, Marketing Communications, 1st place
- Alison Spadaro, Human Resource Management, 2nd place
- Jonathan Brodak & Noah Heffner, Business Law & Ethics Team Decision Making, 2nd place
- Caleb Bendzsuk, Principles of Business Administration, 4th place
- Zach Diedrich, Quick Serve Restaurant Management, 4th place
- Allie Greco, Apparel & Accessories Marketing, 4th place

Top finishers, plus additional DECA members who worked on research projects, move on to the 2020 PA DECA State Conference in Hershey this February! Great job, everyone!



TRINITY ELEMENTARY ART DEPARTMENT WELCOMES THE PITTSBURGH GLASS CENTER



Thanks to a generous donation from the EQT Foundation, the Pittsburgh Glass Center was able to conduct a two month residency program in the elementary art room at Trinity East as well as Trinity South Elementary Schools. Over the course of eight weeks, students in kindergarten through fifth grade learned about the history of glass mosaics, how to cut glass, how to handle glass safely and finally how to work collaboratively to create five large glass mosaics. To begin the project, the artists-in-residence asked students to develop a list of ideas for the subject of the collaborative mural(s). The artists from the PGC took the list of ideas and transformed them into drawings which the students used as a guide as they glued the glass down. These murals will be on display at the annual art show in May and will be permanently installed in the school buildings at the end of the year.





FFA NEWS

TRINITY FFA MEMBERS RECEIVE KEYSTONE DEGREE

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 on January 6, 2020. Only high school seniors or graduates in the third year of their membership are eligible to apply for this 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.

Five members of the Trinity High School FFA Chapter earned their Keystone Degree this year. They are:

- Morgan Snyder, daughter of Mr. Scott Synder and Jodi Andretti of Washington, earned her degree with her Rabbit Care and job placement projects.
- Kylie Bradmon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jay Bradmon of Washington, earned her degree with her Backyard Gardening and Pet Care projects.
- Cailey Dahlquist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dahlquist of Washington, earned her degree with her Angus Beef Production project.
- Bethaney Summer Ames, daughter of Mr. Jeffery Ames of Washington, earned her degree with her Raising Chickens project.
- Hannah Jones, daughter Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Jones of Washington, earned her degree with her Equine Management project.



Pictured are Pennsylvania Secretary of Education, Pedro Rivera, Cailey Dahlquist, Kylie Bradmon, Summer Ames, Hannah Jones, Morgan Snyder and Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding

2020 PENNSYLVANIA FARM SHOW



Ensley Clark, junior, placed 4th with her market hog, and placed 3rd with her market lamb



Kalvin Hrutkay, sophomore, competed at the 2020 PA Farm Show and received 1st in his market class and 4th in showmanship with his hog. He got 2nd in my market lamb class and 3rd in showmanship with his lamb.

Cailey Dahlquist, Graduate Trinity FFA member, received the 3,500 dollar PA Farm Show Scholarship for her 9 years of showing cattle, lambs, hogs and goats. Cailey won her class with her April yearling named Vision. Vision is due to have a baby in March. This was Cailey's last Farm Show as a junior FFA member



Bradley Janusey, senior, received 5th place in Market Hog Class at the 2020 PA Farm Show.



Courtney Dahlquist, junior, received three - 2nd place ribbons. She showed in both the junior and open shows.

FLORTICULTURE CAREER DEVELOPMENT



SECOND PLACE TEAM! Trinity FFA (from left to right), Ensley Clark (first place individual), Summer Ames (third place individual), Hannah Jones, Chloe Tamulinas, and Delaney Slesh.

Four Washington County FFA Chapters competed in the 2019 Floriculture Career Development Event at McGuffey High School. Thirty-five students participated from seven teams from Avella, H.G. Parkinson, Fort Cherry, McGuffey and Trinity. Each team was comprised of four or five students, each participating individually and as a team in the competition.

The Floriculture Career Development Event is a competition designed to test students' knowledge on various plants, design techniques, and floral industry practicum. This county level event involved five rigorous parts for students to challenge their peers. The first part of the day was a written test on students' knowledge of many aspects of floriculture industry, including little known facts to surprise and challenge the competitors. Students were then tested about greenhouses, plants, and several flowers and plant identification and their ability to name various plants and flowers based on appearance. The third part involved various tools used in the floriculture industry. Individual projects kept students engaged by constructing a pin on corsage with given materials. The corsages were judged based on size, color, and overall wearability.

During group projects, members of each group were given separate tasks with the mindset of an actual floral shop. Arrangements included a door decoration, a fourier arrangement, a small bathroom arrangement, and an elongated centerpiece. A customer order phone call was assessed for proper communication and order taking skills by a random member of each team.

JACKET ESSAY WINNERS



Mason Kraer and Anthony Holland were recognized at the 2020 FFA Mid-Winter Convention Farm Show as FFA Jacket Essay Winners. These individuals constructed and wrote essays about what the agricultural education and the FFA Jacket meant to them.

MILK QUALITY AND PRODUCTS CONTEST

Forty four members from Fort Cherry, Trinity, Avella and McGuffey FFA chapters competed in the Milk Quality and Products Contest on January 24, 2020 at Trinity High School. Members were tested by a written knowledge test, cheese identification, milk fat quality and milk imperfection identification.

In the team category, members were tested on their ability to perform leadership skills working as team completing an Ice Cream Making Lab which included making ice cream, recording temperature reading and finally making a line graph of the data.

The top five individuals included three members from the Trinity Chapter:

- 1st: Summer Ames
- 2nd: Holly Tran
- 3rd: Ensley Clark



Trinity High School FFA Chapter
First Place team members
Julian Burchett, Holly Tran, Ensley Clark and
Summer Ames

CHICK-FIL-A LEADER ACADEMY DO GOOD DECEMBER PROJECT



Members of Trinity High School's Chick-fil-A Leader Academy, a national high school leadership program focused on impact through action, worked together to plan and complete a Do Good December Project. Students organized a drive to collect personal hygiene products for The Washington City Mission during the month of December. In January, two groups of CFA Leader Academy students volunteered at the City Mission serving lunch.

WHO WE ARE

#TRINITYFAMILY



When you meet Mr. Poletti you know immediately why he is so loved throughout the High School. He is the type of guidance counselor that understands the needs and aspirations of our students. Bill has extensive experience in his present role as he spent the past 7 years at George Junior Republic. Impacting our youth became his passion while attending Duquesne University where he received his Bachelors Degree in Sociology and his Master's Degree in School Counseling. On the Bluff, he was a 4 year letter winner as a football player as well as the Dukes team captain. In his first year, Mr. Poletti is very active in the school. He is a coach for the Trinity Girls Basketball Team. He is a mentor for the Chick-fil-A Leadership Academy and serves as the High School AP Coordinator.

Cool Facts: Mr. Poletti is the 2nd Poletti in the School District as his brother Anthony teaches Sociology and American Government. They were teammates at Chartiers Valley HS where he won a WPIAL Basketball Championship. He was a 3 sport athlete in Basketball, Football and an All-State Baseball player. He and his wife Brittany, a standout volleyball player, met at Duquesne and have been married for 3 years. They enjoy their weekends at Deep Creek hiking and boating.

One Last Thing: Mr. Poletti is single digit handicap in the sport of Golf.



Congratulations

WACTC Skills USA District 9 Competition Winners!

First Place
Culinary Arts – Consuelo Mish

Second Place
Electrical Occupations– Logan Stupak

Third Place
Electrical Occupations – Aaron Hamilton



Pictured: Consuelo Mish,
Dr. Demian, Assistant HS Principal,
and Logan Stupak

Many thanks

*to the employees of
Advanced Orthopaedics!
In lieu of Christmas
gifts for their employer,
the staff collected nearly
\$1000 which they
donated to Trinity's
Food Service Department
to help cover students'
delinquent cafeteria
accounts.*



Mrs. Gasmire's First Grade Class at Trinity West was honored with a surprise visit from her former student, United States Navy Petty Officer Steven Lyons-Wade STG3 Sonar Technician. Petty Officer Lyons-Wade was reunited with his brother, Micah Lyons, one of Mrs. Gasmire's current students. Thanks to Petty Officer Lyons-Wade for his service to our country.

We are proud of you!



COMPUTER REACH "TECHIE CAMP"



On Saturday, January 11, 2020, Computer Reach held its 4th "Techie Camp" at Trinity East Elementary School for all district elementary students. Twenty four students and families received home computers in an effort to close the homework gap. Students learned about computer hardware and software from the Computer Reach team, while parents learned about internet safety from T ASD Police Officer Dean Urbanic. Overall, approximately 80 families from Trinity Area received home computers within the past year.

This program was made possible by funding awarded by EQT Corporation. Thanks to Trinity Area staff who volunteered to help operate the Techie Camps.

It's a Great Day to be a HILLER!

Trinity Area awarded PDE's Teacher in the Workplace Grant

Trinity's K-8 teachers will have the opportunity to learn new skills and industrial trends in order to enhance classroom instruction, learning, and career readiness. Thanks to Ms. Heather Mohr for assisting the administration during the grant proposal process.

We are excited to offer this program to our Teachers!





CONGRATS

**RILEY
DERUBBO**



**1,000
POINT CLUB**

It's a great day to be a Hiller!



CONGRATULATIONS

100 CAREER WINS!

COLE



WHITMER

Trinity Area School District announces Kindergarten & First Grade Registration



HOURS:

11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2020
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2020
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2020

TRINITY SOUTH
TRINITY NORTH
TRINITY WEST
TRINITY EAST

Note: Children DO NOT need to attend registration.

YOU WILL NEED TO BRING

- Child's original birth certificate
- Immunization records
- Proof of residence (listed on registration packet)
- If you would like to obtain the forms before registration, please access them through the school's website (www.trinitypride.org) or stop in.
- Child must be 5 years of age before September 1, 2020 to enter kindergarten
- Child must be 6 years of age before September 1, 2020 to enter first grade

PLEASE NOTE:

Students presently enrolled in a Trinity kindergarten do not have to register for first grade.

If for some reason there would be a school cancellation the day of registration, it will be held the same day of the following week.

**DISTRICT FLYERS
available HERE!**

**To request that a flyer be
posted on the website,
email:
jwalz@trinityhillers.net**

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.

TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL
PROUDLY PRESENTS



April 2, 3, 4 at 7:00 PM

April 5 at 2:00 PM

Trinity High School Auditorium

Tickets will be sold in advance online starting
February 17, 2020

Tickets will also be on sale at the door before
each performance.

Visit our website at our.show/th sannie2020 for
tickets and show information.



3 Teacher In Service Day/
NO SCHOOL

6 School Board Meeting/6 pm,
Board Room

10 PTA/PFC Meetings/all
elementary schools

14 Two Hour Student Early
Release/Staff Development

17 President's Day Holiday/
NO SCHOOL

18 Board Finance Committee
Meeting/5 pm, Board Room

20 School Board Meeting/6 pm,
Board Room

**Parents/
Community Members**

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, please click on the following link for more information:

<https://www.trinitypride.org/about/departments/item/796-human-resources>

Introducing the TRINITY HILLER
SPORTS NETWORK!
We now livestream athletic events at our stadium & gymnasium. To activate your account, click here.

The season for inclement weather is right around the corner! Here are a few ways to be sure you receive notifications on school delays and cancellations:

Be sure your contact information is current for phone numbers and email addresses in Skyward to receive rapid alert notifications.

-Check the website: Alerts will be posted at the top of the website whenever there is a delay or cancellation.

-Check social media: Delays or cancellations will be announced on Twitter.

-Check news outlets: Inclement weather announcements will be posted on the following news outlets:

Local TV - KDKA, WTAE, WPXI

Local radio - WJPA

Please note that the District does not control how quickly radio and TV stations update their information on-air.