

# HILLER HIGHLIGHTS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT SINCE 2015  
HOME OF THE HILLERS!

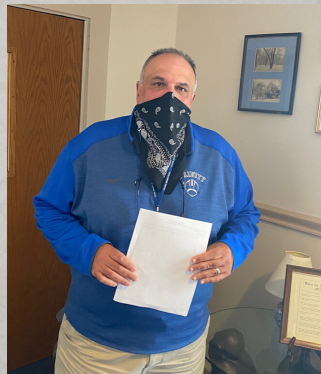


May 2020

## TRINITY BOARD MEETINGS GO VIRTUAL

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19), the Trinity Area Board of Directors meetings in May have been held via a video conferencing platform. Due to the current extraordinary circumstances, the Board has suspended their policy which requires the physical presence of at least a majority of the members of the Board for a meeting to be conducted. When circumstances change to allow the Board to safely convene in one location, they will revert to the usual policy. Thanks to the Trinity Area Technology Department for making this happen!

For more information, visit the district website the day of the meeting.





Kathy McConnell-Miller  
voted  
Girls Basketball Coach  
of the Year by the  
Tri-County Athletic  
Directors' Association

*Congratulations*



Your Elementary Principals  
miss you Hiller Nation!

Thanks to the Salvation Army  
who has been distributing food  
and children's items EVERY  
Friday since the beginning of  
the school closure



# Congratulations!

*May*  
*Students of the Month*



High School  
Hailey Scott

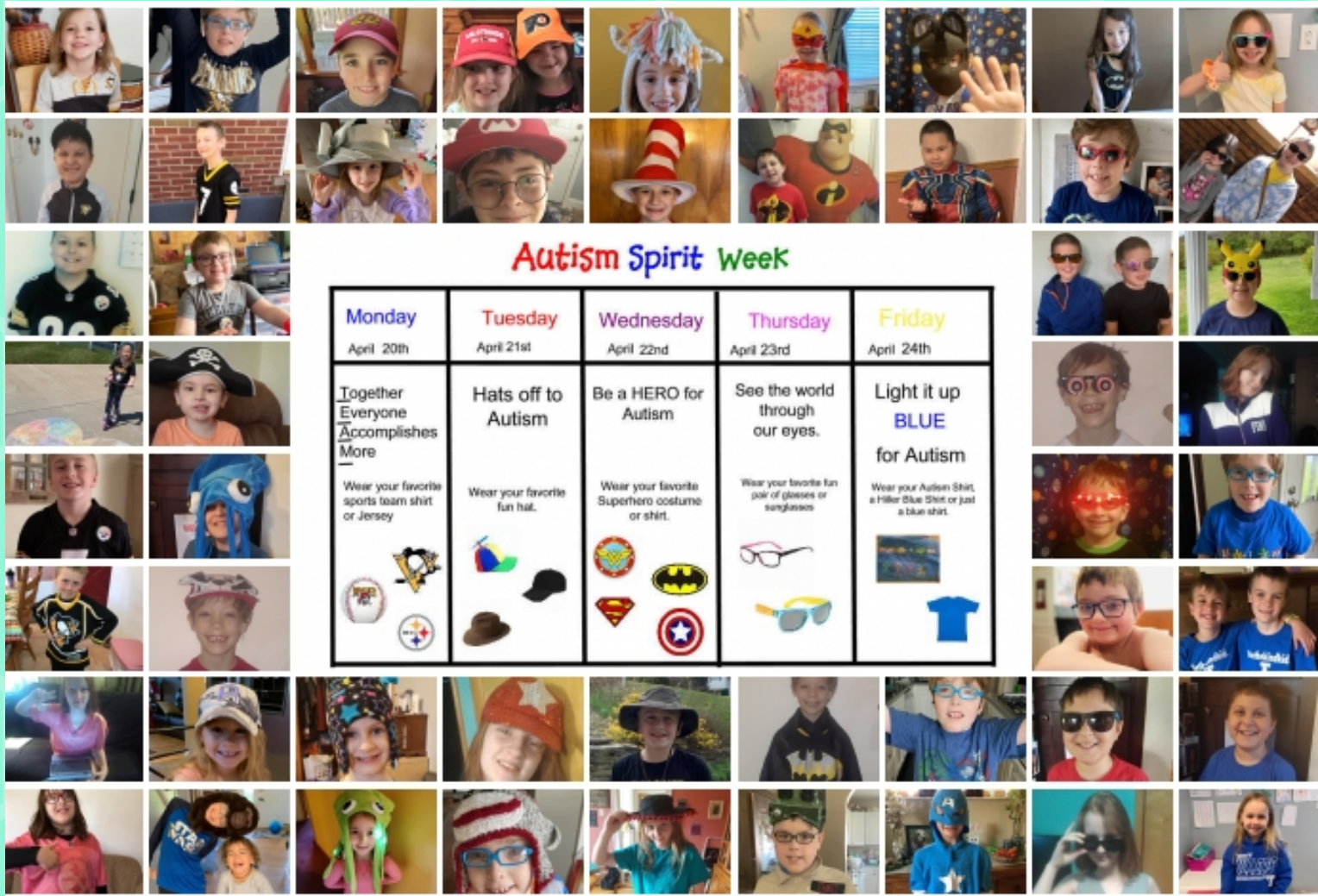


Middle School  
Noah Gentis and Isabella Priest

Keep up with news and  
events at the high school!  
Follow the link  
to the student newspaper,  
**The Hiller**  
<https://thehillernewspaper.org/>



Follow Dr. Lucas on twitter @ #TRINITY\_MLUCAS



## Autism Spirit Week

Monday April 20th	Tuesday April 21st	Wednesday April 22nd	Thursday April 23rd	Friday April 24th
<p><b>Together Everyone Accomplishes More</b></p> <p>Wear your favorite sports team shirt or Jersey</p> 	<p><b>Hats off to Autism</b></p> <p>Wear your favorite fun hat.</p> 	<p><b>Be a HERO for Autism</b></p> <p>Wear your favorite Superhero costume or shirt.</p> 	<p><b>See the world through our eyes.</b></p> <p>Wear your favorite fun pair of glasses or sunglasses</p> 	<p><b>Light it up BLUE for Autism</b></p> <p>Wear your Autism Shirt, a Miller Blue Shirt or just a blue shirt.</p> 

During the month of April, Trinity West continued to Shine a Light on Autism in honor of Autism Awareness Month, which supports those individuals who are on the Autism spectrum within our district, community, nation, and world. Autistic Support Teachers at West, Ally Tylka and Kristi Kubatka, with the help of the parents whose children are in their Autistic Support classrooms and the Trinity staff, created a virtual spirit week in place of the one that was planned during school this month. Students and staff throughout the district participated in the fun themed days: Together Everyone Achieves More (sports jersey/ team day), Hats off to Autism (hat day), Be a HERO for Autism (superhero day), See the World through our Eyes (sunglasses day), and Light it Up BLUE for Autism Awareness (blue day).



# TRINITY HS SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM WINS CHAPTER AWARD

Congratulations to the Trinity High School Speech and Debate Team! The team won the PHSSL District # 4 Leading Chapter Award for 2020. Mrs. Berty and Mr. Komula are this year's coaches.

The following students qualified to compete-

Commentary: Rayne Elling

Congress: Kacie Gallardo

Extemp: Carson White, Josh Shepard

Humor: Michael Veltri

Informative Speaking: Arwen Hefner

Persuasive Speaking: Macy Comfort

Prose: Daniel Lee

Radio Broadcasting: Peyton Celani and Mariah Jones

Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Lily Hefner

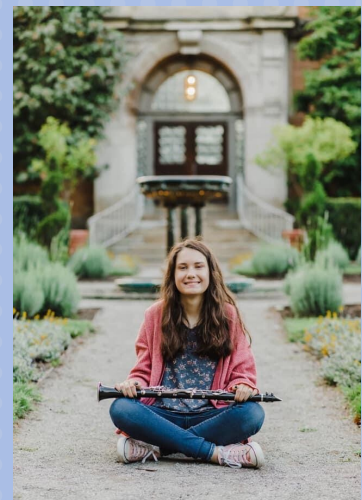
Parliamentian Debate Teams #1 - Ann Kozak, Elliott Salvatori, Alison Spadaro

#2 - Zach Diedrich, Timon Franke, Brett Wrubleski

The 2020 Pennsylvania High School School Speech and Debate Finals scheduled for Bloomsburg University have been canceled.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO TRINITY'S FCCLA

Congratulations to the Trinity High School Chapter of the Pennsylvania Association of Family Career and Community Leaders of America! The group has been recognized with the Silver Outstanding Chapter Award, the Young Outstanding Chapter Award and the FCCLA Largest Percent Increase in Membership Award. Member Joie Engle has also been recognized as the Chapter Member of the Year! Mrs. Brittany Aliveto serves as the organization's sponsor.



Congratulations to senior Evelyn Flickinger on her successful audition into the PMEA All-State Concert Band!

# It's a Great Day to be a Hiller!



## Microgrant Awarded to Chick-fil-A Leader Academy

The high school students participating in the Chick-fil-A Leader Academy this school year have done a phenomenal job. The students were in the process of preparing for the Spring Impact Project when the COVID-19 School Closures occurred. Aden Lin, Jade Miller, and Madelyn White, members of the Finance Planning Committee for the project, applied for a microgrant and Trinity High School received \$300. These funds will go towards the 2020-2021 Spring Impact Project!

## TANGERKIDS GRANTS PROGRAM

Middle School teacher Andrea Gandy has received a \$550 grant from the TangerKIDS Grants program to support the Tortoise Habitat initiative. Congratulations!

# Trinity Pride!



Mia Baugh and her third grade friends from Trinity East organized a food drive to benefit the Greater Washington Area Food Bank. Way to go to help out during this difficult time!



### RED WAGON FOOD DRIVE

Saturday, May 9, 2020  
Food collection 10AM- 1PM

Please place all non-perishable food items on your front porch by 10AM on Saturday morning.

Sponsored by the 3rd Graders from Cameron Estates  
To benefit the Greater Washington Area County Food Bank



# THE SHOW MUST GO ON!

The month of May is typically an exciting time for the district's art department. Each spring a district-wide art show is held at the middle school featuring hundreds of pieces of artwork created by kindergarten through twelfth grade students. Sadly this year the show will not go on, so instead the elementary art department would like to acknowledge students' hard work while learning remotely. Please enjoy the images below as they were submitted each week by the talented students from all four elementary schools.

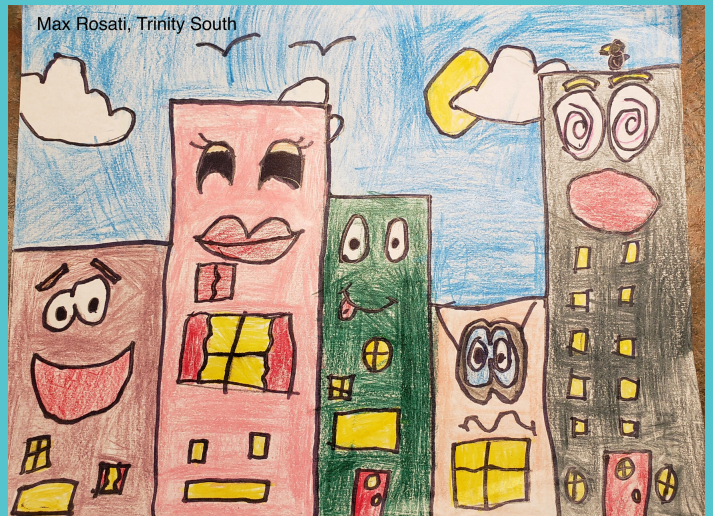
Mrs. Day & Ms. Kirkpatrick

## Trinity South

Easton Phillips, Kindergarten, Trinity South



Max Rosati, Trinity South



Sky Price, First Grade, Trinity South



Wyatt Clark, Fourth Grade, Trinity South



Landry Migyanko, First Grade, Trinity South



Taylor Farabee, Fifth Grade, Trinity South



Ruby Perkins, Third Grade, Trinity South



Mason Allison, Kindergarten, Trinity South



Reese Hoover, Second Grade, Trinity South



Jackson Hoy, Fourth Grade, Trinity South



# Trinity East



Sydney Berres, Kindergarten, Trinity East



Jocelyn Ankrom, Kindergarten, Trinity East



Melissa Zaragoza, Third Grade, East

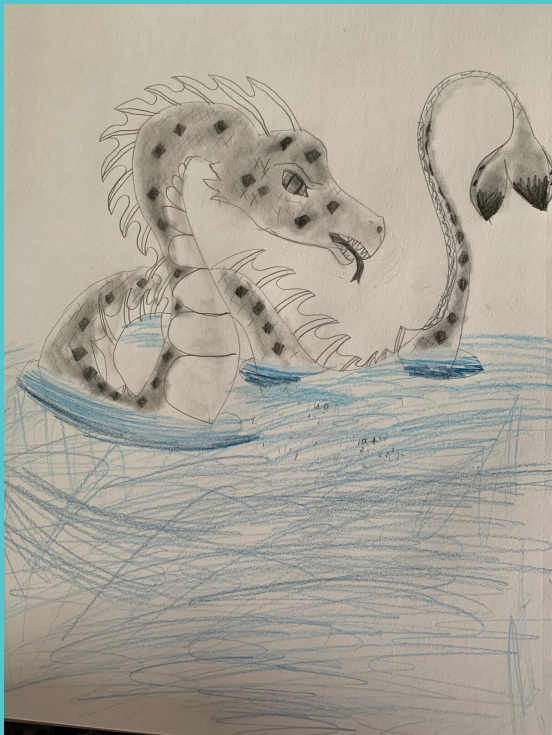


Ella Berry, Third Grade, Trinity East



Audrey Proudfit, Second Grade, Trinity East

# Trinity West



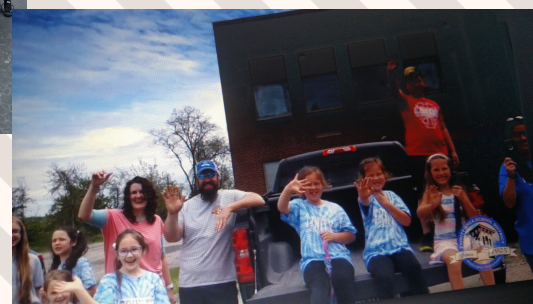


# Trinity North





North Elementary teachers were on parade visiting many of their students!



Mr. Eric Lauver, Trinity North Elementary Principal, kept his part of the bargain by getting pelted with water balloons and sponges for the Soak the Principal Challenge! Mr. Lauver's sons Aaron and Alex and wife, Rie, were recruited to help. North students were challenged to read 5,700 books for this reading month; and in return, Mr. Lauver and his staff would be soaked during a school wide assembly in May. Well, the school closure and the COVID virus could not stop the students from reading. At the end of the challenge (which restarted in April and ended in May), students not only met the goal, but exceeded it by reading 7,738 books! The winning grade level was first grade by reading 2,570 books! The staff, students, and their families were treated to watch the live soaking on Trinity's North network, along with a video for later viewing. Congratulations to the students of Trinity North for meeting this challenge in a big way during this unusual learning time! A big thank you goes to Principal Lauver for being a good sport!

# WHO WE ARE

## #TRINITYFAMILY



**Lindsey Osborne**  
Trinity West Elementary

Lindsey is currently a Kindergarten Teacher at Trinity West Elementary. She is very active in the district and loved by her colleagues and students. Her academic background is quite impressive. Lindsey graduated Summa Cum Laude from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania in May 2017. She earned her B.S. in Early Childhood Education and Special Education. She has a Dual Certification in Special Education PreK-8 and Early Childhood PreK-4. She is currently pursuing her Masters Degree in Integrative STEM Education K-12 at California University of PA. Her classroom is filled with energy and a genuine passion for learning. Every day begins with a morning meeting and every Thursday is designated "Thankful Thursday" as each student expresses gratitude for something that happened that week. Lindsey is currently an Assistant Softball Coach at Trinity Middle. How fortunate for our student-athletes to be coached by an All-State Softball Player!

**Cool Facts:** Lindsey loves spending time with her family and grandparents. She enjoys anything outdoors, especially kayaking, hiking, and skiing. Most people don't know she's a skilled hunter and is an experienced fisher. When she is not exploring nature she can be found supporting our local professional teams especially the Penguins and the Pirates. She is creative and loves photography as a hobby. When the quarantine is lifted you will likely see her sharing a pizza at 'Burghs!

**Lindsey's message to her students :** "I feel more than thankful that I was given the opportunity to be YOUR teacher during your first year of school. I truly believe you all have taught me just as much as I taught you throughout our time together. Although it was cut short, nothing can change the memories we made, laughs we shared, and the amazing person you have become."



# WHO WE ARE

## #TRINITYFAMILY



**Mrs. Cortni Junko**  
Trinity West Elementary

Cortni Junko is currently a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Trinity West Elementary. She is a team player who enjoys bringing energy and enthusiasm into her classroom lessons. She graduated from Seton Hill University earning a certification in Elementary and Early Childhood Education. She spent three years teaching in the state of Hawaii while her husband served in the U.S. Army. Cortni served one year as preschool director and classroom teacher for The Children's School of Washington and has most recently served as building and long-term sub for Trinity. She is a graduate of Trinity High School and resides in the district with her husband and three children.

**Cool facts:** Cortni enjoys spending time with her family. She can typically be found cheering on her 3 children in all of their activities. In her younger years, she was an exceptional athlete and was a 3 sport Letterman at Trinity in Volleyball, Basketball and Track. Cortni played collegiate basketball at Seton Hill. She was inducted into the Trinity Sports Hall of Fame in 2018.

**Cortni's message to her students:** I applaud you as you approach the milestone of finishing elementary school. You have grown so much this year and prepared yourselves to move on to middle school. Always remember to make positive changes, be resilient, be a problem solver, and most of all be the kind kid. You are ready for the challenges and adventures at the middle school and will ultimately succeed with hard work and perseverance! Congratulations 5<sup>th</sup> grade, it has been a privilege being your teacher!





# WHO WE ARE

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## #TRINITYFAMILY



**Xenia Guthrie**  
Trinity Middle School

Ms. Guthrie has been a great addition to our Middle School Art program. She has been an asset as she will be collaborating w our STEAM classes to bring 3D Digital Art to life! Xenia graduated from Edinboro University in 2018 with a BFA in Studio Art (metalsmithing/jewelry and ceramics) and a BS in Art Education. She obtained her Associate Degree in Art with a concentration in Printmaking from the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC). She is certified in Welding Technology. She currently works with clay and metal art. She was a volunteer and worked at artist-run Printmaking studio A.I.R. in Pittsburgh for a few years before going to school for art education.

**Cool facts:** Xenia and her husband Gerry have 2 children Eva and Ian, along with a cat, Tigger, and 2 dozen tropical fish. She is not only creative and an exceptional artist, but she is also musically inclined. She played Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, and Eflat Clarinet in middle and high school. She participated in Band and Orchestra at Saturday Morning Center for the Musically talented. She was featured on a live recording called Organ Plus! She played a number of gigs with a woodwind trio and quintet at the Grand Concourse in Station Square. She still plays the clarinet for fun, hobbies include fishkeeping and vegetable gardening.

**Xenia's message:** Art might seem intimidating to students who think they don't have "natural talent," but artistic expression is one of the most natural and basic human abilities. I believe my job is to find ways to encourage that divergent thinking that is usually "not allowed" and show students that there are so many different ways to make and experience art.



# WHO WE ARE

#TRINITYFAMILY



**Dr. Sammy Demian**  
Assistant Principal

Dr. Sammy Demian is no stranger to Trinity High School as he is a Washington Area native. He is presently our Assistant Principal. In just his first year, he quickly acclimated to his role at Trinity High School. He wears many hats as he serves as our LEA and National Honor Society liaison, oversees our Cyber School, as well as our SAP Coordinator. His extensive education makes him a great asset to our District. He received his Bachelor of Science in Education from California University of PA in 1999. He earned his Master's Degree in Educational Administration from Duquesne University in 2003. He relocated to Miami, Florida and held several positions such as Teacher, Literacy Coach, Administrator as well as Behavior Specialist. After teaching for nearly 15 years he returned to the classroom to pursue his Doctorate Degree in Education with a concentration on Organizational Leadership. He received his Doctorate from Nova Southeastern in 2018.

**As a Principal:** When he was a student and walked the halls of Washington High he was commonly known by principals, teachers, and his classmates as "Sammy D!" Today, he is the Assistant Principal at Trinity High School. You will see him greeting the students in the morning, high fiving them for their achievements, or lending an ear for a tough day. His leadership has made this unprecedented year a success. His passion for the kids at Trinity High School has him as one of their favorites. Now his students address him as Dr. D!

**Cool Facts about Dr. Demian :** He was a 3 sport Letterman at Wash High in Football, Basketball, and Baseball. He was a great athlete and played collegiate baseball at CalU. Just as he at Trinity High School, he was that guy, behind the scenes making it work!

#trinitypride



# Important Dates



## JUNE

- 4 - SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, 6 P.M.
- 10 - LAST STUDENT DAY OF SCHOOL
- 12 - GRADUATION (**MORE DETAILED INFORMATION WILL BE SENT TO SENIORS SOON!**)
- 18 - SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, 6 P.M.

### 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, For more information, please contact the TASD HR Department

### Please Note!

The District will be operating on a modified summer schedule beginning Monday, June 15. District offices will be open Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. and closed on Fridays. The regular schedule will resume Monday, August 17.

**Need information?  
FLYERS  
available HERE!**

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

To submit an article for publication in *Hiller Highlights* email:

[hillerhighlights@trinityhillers.net](mailto:hillerhighlights@trinityhillers.net) or  
[jwalz@trinityhillers.net](mailto: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 Area School District Academic Calendar 2020-2021

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  
 26-27 Staff Development Days  
 28 Clerical  
**31 First Student Day**

Teachers Days: 4  
 Student Days: 1

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						

8 Staff Development/No School  
 15 President's Day/No School

Teacher Days: 19  
 Student Days: 18

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			

7 Labor Day/No School  
 15 Elementary Open House  
 16 Elementary Open House  
 22 Middle School Open House  
 23 High School Open House

Teacher Days: 21  
 Student Days: 21

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			

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

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

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	

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

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					

2 End 1st 9 weeks/Day #45  
 9 Parent Conference Day/No School  
 25 Two Hour Early Release/Staff Development  
 26-30 Fall Break

Teacher Days: 18  
 Student Days: 17

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					

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

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		

23 Staff Development/No School  
 24-31 Winter Break/No School

Teacher Days: 17  
 Student Days: 16

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			

**4 Last Student Day/ Early Release/Graduation**  
 7-8 Staff Development  
 9 Teacher Clerical Day

Teacher Days: 7  
 Student Days: 4

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  
 21 End 1st Semester/Day #90

Teacher Days: 19  
 Student Days: 19

**Board Approved: FEBRUARY 20, 2020**

Total teacher days: 189  
 Total student days: 180

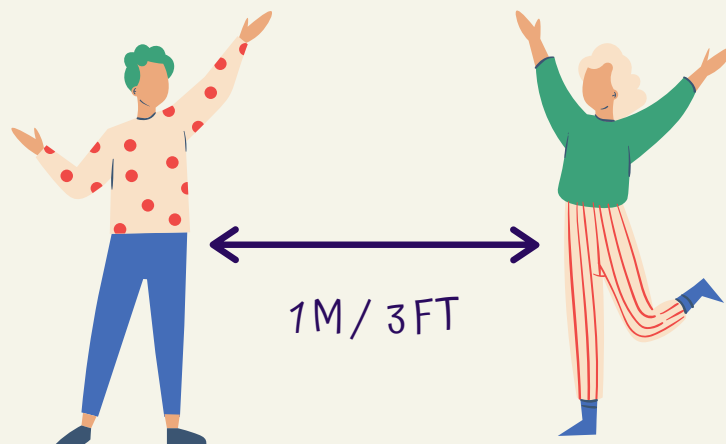
NOTE: Any non-student day may be used as a make-up day.

# STOP THE SPREAD



## WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY

Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.



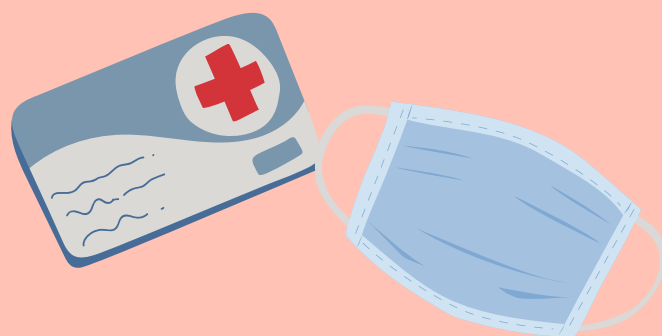
## MAINTAIN PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.



## AVOID TOUCHING EYES, NOSE AND MOUTH

Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth.



## IF YOU HAVE A FEVER, COUGH AND DIFFICULTY BREATHING, SEEK MEDICAL CARE EARLY

Stay home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance.