



November-December 2022

TWIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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IMPORTANT DATES:

HOLIDAY BREAK:

Early Dismissal

Friday, December 23, 2022

No School

*Monday, December 26, 2022 to
Monday, January 2, 2023*

Keystone Exams

*Wednesday, January 4, 2023,
through Wednesday, January 18,
2023*

No School

Monday, January 16, 2023

Last Day of 2nd Marking Period

Thursday, January 19, 2023

VISIT [TVSD.ORG/CALENDAR](https://www.tvsd.org/calendar) FOR ALL
SCHOOL AND DISTRICT EVENTS.

Every student. Every day.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Impact of a Twin Valley School District EDUCATOR

One of the Latin roots of the word educate is educare, which means “to bring up or rise up or train or mold or nourish”. This root speaks to the true essence of all the educators working with and leading the 3,000 plus students in the Twin Valley School District. No matter what their role is in educating our students – teacher, aide, custodian, maintenance worker, bus driver, support staff, professional staff, or administrator - they all work tirelessly and daily “to bring up” the next generation of TVSD graduates. Therefore, in honor of our amazing educators in the Twin Valley School District, the acrostic poem below is for you.



Excellence

Dedication

Unselfishness

Character

Adaptability

Trustworthiness

Organization

Resilience

Early in my career as a High School English teacher, one of my mentors used to say the following: “If you find a job you love, you’ll never work a day in your life.” Public education is that career and calling for all the individuals working in our District. You have our thanks; you have our appreciation; and you have our support. Each and every one of your efforts on a daily basis determines the experiences our children have in schools, and please never underestimate the impact each and every one of you has.

On behalf of the Board, administration, and all District employees, we wish all of our students and families a wonderful holiday season, a happy New Year, and appreciate all of you for allowing us to be an EDUCATOR each and every day with your children!

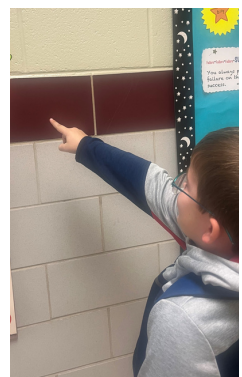
HONEY BROOK ELEMENTARY CENTER CREEPY CARROTS!

The excitement at Honey Brook Elementary Center began the minute the students walked through the front door. “Orange you glad that you’re a reader?” was October’s Monthly Reading Theme. The students were elated as they spied “creepy carrots” hanging around the building when they arrived. Each carrot had a sight word written on it, and the curiosity built until the morning announcements.



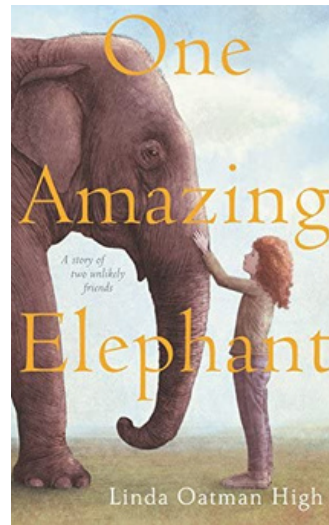
2nd Grade teachers **Erica Jamison**, **Kali Dzon**, and **Noelle Meyer** each took turns reading a section of Creepy Carrots! by Aaron Reynolds, during a school-wide read aloud. Creepy Carrots! is a story about Jasper Rabbit who loves to steal carrots out of Crackenhopper Field. After helping himself to a few too many, he believes that the carrots are following him. **Michelle McClure**, HBEC’s librarian, used the app “Novel Effects” to help bring the story to life.

The children soon found out that they could keep the carrots at bay only if they could read the sight words on them. Everyone seemed to join in on the fun, which was a wonderful learning experience as well.



TVEC AUTHOR VISIT

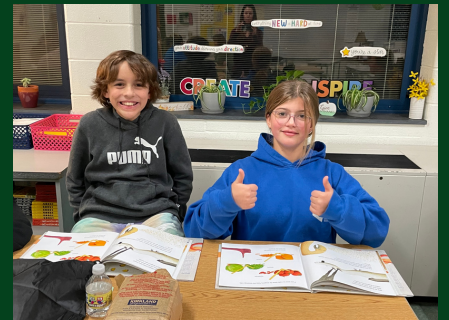
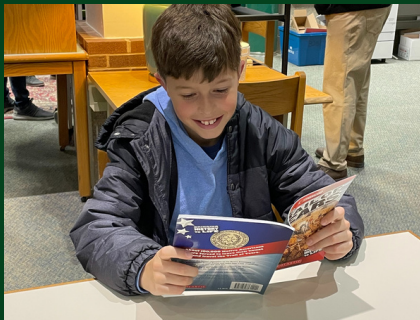
4th Grade students at TVEC had a visit from local author, **Linda Oatman High**, author of thirty different books. Students in Mrs. Sanger's class enjoyed hearing Linda's story, One Amazing Elephant, as a read aloud, and all 4th Graders enjoyed Linda's talk on being an author and good writer. This visit was a great culminating activity to our first "Units of Study" unit on narrative writing. Students learned about how books are published and about ghost writing, among many other things.



TVMS FANATIC FAMILY READING NIGHT

The Twin Valley Middle School hosted Fanatic Family Reading Night last month. Families had the opportunity to shop at the Book Fair, eat dinner and spend time reading with their child(ren).

Each student received a special Philadelphia Phillies hat, as well as, a bag full of goodies related to literacy. The evening ended with a raffle. We had more than 60 families attend the event.





ROBESON ELEMENTARY CENTER HONORING OUR VETERANS

On Friday November 11, Robeson Elementary Center held its 27th Veterans Day Program. Students participated by honoring veterans in our families and community. Students were encouraged to invite any veterans they have in their family. An invitation was also extended to the members of the Birdsboro VFW. All students devoted time during their music classes preparing The Star Spangled Banner, a recitation of "The Oath of Enlistment", and an all-school song "American Heart" by Teresa Jennings. 3rd Grade performed "We Celebrate" by John Riggio, and 4th Grade performed "The Brave" also by Teresa Jennings.

In culmination, there was an all school performance of the song "American Heart" written by Teresa Jennings. 4th Grade started off by leading all students in the singing of the song. Following the first verse, the 3rd Grade stood and joined the 4th Grade leading motions for the Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd Graders. At the close of the song, all students stood in union while joining in singing the words "Mine is, an American heart".



Prior to the program, the veterans enjoyed light refreshments, visiting with one another, and reminiscing their days in military service. During the program, veterans were recognized while they stood as their military branch was called. As part of the RSVP to our program, families were asked to share names of their loved ones who have passed since last year. **Jason Nonnemaker**, a son of veteran **Joseph Nonnemaker, Jr.**, played the melody chimes in honor of the memory of each name read by principal **Dr. Diane Van Bodegraven**. Students stood motionless with great reverence as "Taps" was played to honor all those who have fallen in the line of duty.

The event and its preparations provide great teachable moments for our students, and every year it is our honor to welcome local veterans and show them how grateful we are for their service.





TVHS INTERN OF THE MONTH

CONGRATULATIONS TO TVHS SENIOR, **TERESA PHELAN,** ON BEING NAMED INTERN OF THE MONTH!

Written by Paige Crunkleton

Teresa Phelan is a diligent student at Twin Valley High School, who has been spending her time learning the particularities of Honors 10 English with **Mrs. Gatto**. She is held responsible for giving students feedback, and writing quality questions and prompts for the class. Since her sophomore year, Teresa has had and maintained a relationship with Mrs. Gatto.

She was given the opportunity, both her junior and senior years, to spend a part of the day making plans and assisting with the material she was once taught as a student. Mrs. Gatto described Teresa as an intern who “always maintains high expectations [for herself]” and “[has] a friendly manner with the sophomores in class but conducts herself in a mature way that establishes an appropriate degree of authority,” Mrs. Gatto said, that so far, “Teresa is doing a great job at preparing students for the academic challenges that await them.”

Besides her internship, Teresa also has a very active student life. Within the school, she is a part of the National Honor Society, the National Art Honor Society, the High School Heroes, and the Prom Committee. In addition, she is employed outside of school at Power Play Rinks.



Teresa Phelan (right) working with a student.

After high school, Teresa hopes to go to college where she can further her education and then pursue her dream of becoming an editor or publisher. As for now, her goal is to help students grow a love for English, continue editing their work, and lend her hand, so students can become stronger readers and writers. We have no doubt in our minds that Teresa will succeed with her goals, and we wish her the best of luck in all of her future endeavors!

Congratulations Teresa!

For additional information about Twin Valley's Internship Program, please contact Angela Morgan at amorgan@tvsd.org or Gwen Werner at gwerner@tvsd.org.



TVHS ROTARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

*From Left to Right: Saadé Salamán-Maclara;
Mr. Bill Clements, TVHS Principal; Michael Haak*

TVHS SENIORS, SAADÉ SALAMÁN-MACLARA AND MICHAEL HAAK, HONORED AS OCTOBER ROTARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

On November 16, the Twin Valley Rotary Club was proud to honor seniors **Saadé Salamán-Maclara** and **Michael Haak** as their students of the month. The presentation was made at their biweekly meeting. Saadé and Michael were honored for their participation in extra-curricular activities and outstanding academic achievement.

Saadé Salamán-Maclara was born and raised in Puerto Rico. She became part of the Twin Valley community last year as a junior. In her time at Twin Valley High School, she has exhibited determination, perseverance, a strong work ethic, and selflessness. Her giving nature is motivated by her views on the world, which she stated as the “Earth will continue to rotate on its axis and revolve around the sun, causing the days to go by, but there is no certainty in our position tomorrow.” Helping is her way of showing gratitude to the world, filling her heart with joy and satisfaction. These attributes have been present throughout her junior and senior years at Twin Valley High School.

During her enrollment at Twin Valley High School, she has been taking rigorous courses and participating in many extracurricular activities. After high school, she plans to pursue a major in Biology with a Pre-Med focus and hopes to become a surgeon. She has explored her interest in the medical field by interning at Reading Hospital, where she has the opportunity to go on rounds with medical students to gain a deeper understanding of diagnosis while also fulfilling the expectations of the Surgical Intensive Care Unit. Saadé also interns at the Middle School twice a week to assist a Venezuelan student who does not speak English. She is an active participant in Twin Valley’s HOSA, Leo Club, NHS, LINK, and Global Scholars. She is also involved with the Council on Chemical Abuse and initiated the Substance Abuse Findings and Cultural Awareness and Diversity Project for our school community. Congratulations Saadé!

Michael Haak is a senior at Twin Valley High School and is glad to have been a part of the Twin Valley community for the past four years. He attended Windsor Christian Academy in Chester Springs from Kindergarten to 8th Grade before starting at TVHS as a freshman. Michael started high school not knowing many of his peers and being limited by the restraints of the pandemic. In the past four years, he has gained confidence, surrounded himself with positive peers, and excelled while exploring the various creative outlets and opportunities available.

Michael enjoys challenging himself academically with AP courses, connecting with students and teachers, and studying music, art, and Spanish. Michael’s extracurricular activities include the National Honor Society, leading The Awakening student Christian club, playing the cello in the TVHS orchestra, and singing in the choir. He is a lead in the spring musical and also participates in LINK. Michael has been recognized for his personal and academic achievements as a recipient of the PA 44th Senatorial District Good Citizen’s Award and a National Merit Scholarship Letter of Commendation.

In his free time, Michael loves spending time outside, hiking, and experiencing culture. Although his plans are not settled completely, he hopes to attend a university to study international social justice. However, Michael is not afraid to trailblaze and forge his own way wherever life after high school may take him. Congratulations Michael!



DISTRICT HAPPENINGS

MERRY MUSIC

Listen to the sounds of the season at our schools' Holiday and Winter Concerts! A schedule of upcoming* concerts is listed below or a full calendar of events can be found at tvsd.org/calendar.

REC Holiday Chorus Concert

Wednesday, December 14, 7-8 p.m.

TVEC Winter Concert

Thursday, December 15, 7-8 p.m.

TVHS Winter Concert (Choir & Orchestra)

Wednesday, December 21, 7-9:30 p.m.

*At newsletter publication, HBEC and TVMS concerts had already occurred.



TWIN VALLEY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

tvsd.org
(610) 286-8600
4851 N Twin Valley Road
Elverson, PA 19520



We Are Hiring Support Staff Positions!

Available Positions:

- FT, PT, & Substitute Custodians
- PT & Substitute Aides
- PT & Substitute Food Service Openings

Make a **Difference** at Twin Valley!

- ✓ Great Work Environment
- ✓ Community Atmosphere
- ✓ Convenient Hours
- ✓ Flexibility

VISIT [TVSD.ORG](https://tvsd.org) FOR INFORMATION

JOIN OUR TEAM!

The Twin Valley School District is looking for qualified individuals to join our team! View open positions and learn how to apply at the link below.

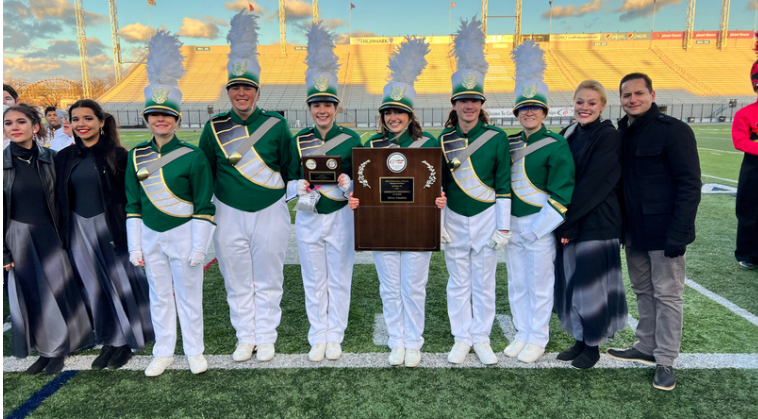
Twin Valley School District is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

[JOIN TVSD](https://tvsd.org)



EXTRACURRICULAR NEWS & UPDATES

EXTRAORDINARY RAIDERS



Congratulations to the members of the Twin Valley Marching Band for placing 2nd out of 25 bands at the Cavalcade of Bands Championships in Hershey, PA, on Sunday November 13! Additionally, Twin Valley won the award for High Music Overall. This is an amazing accomplishment in their first year participating in championships and a credit to all the hard work, determination, and perseverance of the band members and band staff involved.

A huge thank you goes out to the parents, supporters, and friends that help the band get on and off the field and to and from performance locations. Your support and help cannot be overstated. We have a wonderful team of booster parents dedicated to the program and because of everyone involved, the band was able to succeed in this championship. Throughout this season, everyone involved has personified our mission of "Pursuing Excellence." Congratulations!



The Twin Valley High School Leo Club culminated their service project with volunteering at the Honey Brook Food Pantry on Wednesday November 16. They also collected food and donated \$100 from the High School faculty "Jeans Days" money. Way to go Leo Club!

Pictured from left to right: **Megan Burnett** (12th Grade), **Emma McNamee** (9th Grade), **Teresa Phelan** (12th Grade), **Yarimar Irizarry-Padua** (9th Grade), **Kayla Proctor** (12th Grade), and **Mrs. Sandra Crook** (Advisor).



Three Twin Valley High School violin students recently participated in the Lebanon Valley College Honors Orchestra. **Julia McKeown**, Grade 12, **Anelis Morales**, Grade 11, and **Isabel Richardson**, Grade 11, joined students from York, Cumberland, Lebanon, Berks, and Dauphin counties to play under the direction of Dr. Hannes Dietrich of Lebanon Valley College. Read more about their accomplishment [here](#).



EXTRACURRICULAR NEWS & UPDATES

EXTRAORDINARY RAIDERS

PA Thespian State Conference Recap

December 2 and 3, 2022

1. Our troupe was represented at the conference by 29 members who participated in workshops, sessions, and shows during the 48-hour conference.
2. Two one act plays performed – Sure Thing and The Philadelphia. Student actors in these shows – **Mackenzie Bare**, **Lorelei Koller**, **Sienna Brown**, **Macayla Symonds**, and **Sloane Wolfe**. This was our first time participating in the One Act Performance. Mackenzie Bare earned “Star Performer” for this.
3. We had five students compete in the Tech Competition for Stage Crew – **Alexis Jordan**, **Paige Clipsham**, **Blake Egbert**, **Sophia Estevez**, and **Sara Lahmann-Metcalf**. The team placed in the Top 10, and Sara and Alexis took FIRST PLACE in quick costume change.
4. PA was named a Gold Star Chapter Nationally by EdTA.
5. Finally, **Jenna DiFabrizio** was elected to her second term as a STO (State Thespian Officer). She and **Ms. Nicole Weaver** continue on the State Board.

Congratulations to these students!



92.5 XTU CLASSROOM COVER DEBUTS!

The Twin Valley Middle School Select Choir Classroom Cover debuted on 92.5 XTU on Monday November 21, 2022. TVMS Select Choir performed an arrangement of “Glad You Exist” by Dan + Shay. They are the first school in the Philly area to do a Classroom Cover! Read more [here](#).

You can also watch the video of their arrangement on YouTube [here](#)!

OUR SCHOOLS

Honey Brook Elementary Center
Robeson Elementary Center
Twin Valley Elementary Center
Twin Valley Middle School
Twin Valley High School

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Every student. Every day.

TWIN VALLEY COMMUNITY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

20th Gala
*Thank you for all
your support!*



Thank you to everyone who sponsored, donated, and attended TVCEF's 20th Annual Gala on November 4. You made the event a big success! Because of this generosity, TVCEF is able to fund a new hearing screener and supplies for the TVSD Nursing Department, open up a second grant period for teachers, and continue to increase the giving to all Twin Valley schools. If you would like to support TVCEF and make a difference in Twin Valley School District education this giving season, visit www.tvcef.org.

PIAA JUNIOR OFFICIALS INFORMATION

Students ages 16 and 17 may participate in the PIAA Junior Officials Program allowing them to officiate 7th through 9th Grade contests as long as they have met all the requirements of a registered PIAA official. Those requirements can be found here: [Become a PIAA Official](#). Registration fees will be waived and interested students can fill out the [application form here](#) and forward to Kim Hill at PIAA: khill@piaa.org.