

TROY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

Sports, Awards, Student Voices & More

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SUPERINTENDENT NOTES

Dr. Richard Machesky
Superintendent



Congratulations to the Class of 2023!

As we close out another incredible school year, I want to take a moment to thank the amazing community of learners that makes the TSD the special place that it is. From our students to teachers and staff to our families—your support, dedication and enthusiasm is unmatched. To most recent graduates, the Class of 2023, your hard work and commitment to your future will serve you well. You have made us proud.

I also want to take a moment to express my gratitude to a special group of graduates who have served on our Superintendent Student Advisory Board, and especially to the members of our executive committee. These students have worked tirelessly each year to plan and execute our citywide MLK Day of Service, an event that draws up to a thousand participants annually. They volunteered in their schools, mentored younger students and lent their voices to district issues. They are truly an extraordinary group of human beings.

SSAB grads, you made it your mission to leave the Troy School District a better place than you found it, and I can safely say you did all that and more.

Deepti Aggarwal, Troy High School
Thejo Akkoor, International Academy East
Aanvi Arora, Intl. Academy East (Executive Committee)
Cole Compton, Troy College & Career High School
Jordan Cruz, Athens High School
Jenna DeJonckheere, Athens High School
Allison Diebol, Athens High School (Executive Committee)
Aksheet Dutta, Troy High School
Diya Gehlaut, International Academy East
Krish Ghosalkar, Troy High School
Drew Kovacs, Troy High School
Maya Lalik, Athens High School
Gabriella Leonard, Athens High School
Neha Menon, International Academy East
Ananya Patil, International Academy East
George Perakis, Troy High School (President)
Matilde Rabajoli, Troy High School
Akshitha Sahu, Intl. Academy East (Vice-President)
Sanjana Sunilkumar, Troy High School
Trevor Swan, Troy High School
Abigail Werenka, Troy High School
Ray Zhang, Troy High School (Executive Committee)

Congratulations graduates!
The best is yet to come!

Dr. Richard Machesky
Superintendent
Troy School District



TROY 2022 BOND STATUS UPDATES FOR TROY SCHOOL DISTRICT

STAY IN THE KNOW ON TSD BOND WORK....

Residents who walk or run on the Boulton Park Middle School track will get the first glimpse at your tax dollars at work this summer. The track will be resurfaced and re-striped as part of the first phase of the planned projects. By next summer, those with young children will begin to see the first of several new playgrounds, which will eventually replace aging playscapes at all elementary schools across the district. Inside, new furniture will be piloted across multiple schools. The biggest project in the first phase of the bond—a new Smith Middle School—will break ground next Spring. If you want to stay up to date on all the

2022 bond work and the latest information from the Troy School District, sign up for regular updates using the QR code below or at the following link: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/rLZRAjK/bond>



SUBSCRIBE FOR
BOND UPDATES

We have also created a Bond Update page on our TSD website so that our community can see all of the projects and planning taking place: <https://www.troy.k12.mi.us/bond-2022/troydistrictbond>



BOND STATUS
WEBSITE



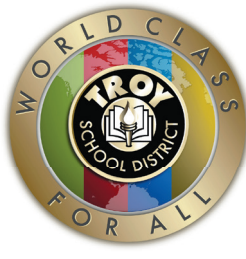
Jamie Samuelsen STRIKE OUT COLON CANCER CHARITY SOFTBALL GAME RAISES \$3,577

The 2nd annual "Jamie Samuelsen Strike Out Colon Cancer" game was held at Flynn Park in Troy, and featured the Troy High Band, the Troy Combined Choirs, silent auction and a fierce game between the Troy Team and Celebrity Team. The TSD team WON in a close score of 38 to 37! But both teams and all in attendance along with Jamie Samuelsen's wife, Christy, and their children Caroline, Josh and Catherine were winners, as they raised awareness and \$3,577 for a great cause. The two charities that this money will be dispersed to is **ColonTown** and **Fight CRC** where it will make a great impact on support and research. Over 24 sponsors including the Troy Baseball Boosters helped make this evening's game a success.



SCHOOL BOARD CORNER

Karl Schmidt
President



TROY SCHOOL DISTRICT NAMED Best Music Ed Community

Troy has been named a 2023 Best Community for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) and the Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas. The award recognizes the outstanding efforts of teachers, administrators, parents, students, and community leaders who have made exemplary music education part of the curriculum.

According to the Association (NAMM) in a press release: “Research into music education continues to demonstrate educational/cognitive and social skill benefits for children who make music: After two years of music education, researchers found that participants showed more substantial improvements in how the brain processes speech and reading scores than their less-involved peers and that students who are involved in music are not only more likely to graduate high school but also to attend college as well. Everyday listening skills are stronger in musically trained children than those without music training. Later in life, individuals who took music lessons as children show stronger neural processing of sound; young adults and even older adults who have not played an instrument for up to 50 years show enhanced neural processing compared to their peers. Social benefits include conflict resolution, teamwork skills, and how to give and receive constructive criticism.”

This is the 17th consecutive year Troy has received this elite designation, and TSD Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Instruction Kris Griffor shares the pride administration feels for this achievement: “As a district, we are so proud of the work that’s been done, and the dedication of our music department to our students and this community.” Director of Teaching and Learning Natalie Haezebrouck agrees: “This is so phenomenal. Thank you so much to each of our talented music educators for your dedication to our children and our music programming.”

“As a district, we are so proud of the work that’s been done, and the dedication of our music department to our students and this community.”

From its beginning, the 2022-23 year felt good. The worst of the COVID pandemic was behind us and what we hoped would be a more open, healthy year stretched before us. The energy in our buildings was palpable. Adults and kids alike were ready for learning, conversation, and community. And what a year of academic growth it has been!

Over the past school year, Board members have observed classrooms piloting new, exciting curricula in math, English, and the sciences. Our ambitious Teaching & Learning staff members partnered with master teachers excited to shift their pedagogy to more modern methods. The result has been courses that transformed traditional “sit and git” lecture model classrooms into dynamic “workshop” classroom environments. In these pilot classrooms, we are seeing our students own and deepen their learning through experimentation and permission to make mistakes along the way. Our teachers are increasingly collaborating with colleagues in other specialties to create lesson plans that show students how individual subjects interconnect in real life. Newly adopted math curricula at the elementary and middle school levels now better apply math to real-world situations and help students articulate why particular principles come into play when solving a problem. Gone are the days when students drilled through computations devoid of application, mimicking the mechanics of equations modeled by their math teacher. Instead, we see enthusiastic students showing math skills well beyond their traditional grade level who can reason through a challenge with—dare I say it—joy.

In a Troy High pilot workshop-style Chemistry classroom, I watched one of our talented teachers show students the properties of chlorine (toxic), then walk outside and demonstrate a property of sodium (impressive flame). He then challenged his students to figure out how two volatile elements can combine into a substance humans can shake on their popcorn. I asked a student what he thought of the class. He told me he loved the challenge of thinking through a solution, both because it kept him engaged and because solving the riddle cemented underlying principles in his brain. That’s world-class learning in action!

I hope our staff and kids have a wonderful summer, and I am confident we will be ready come August with even more transformative educational experiences for our kids. I can’t wait!



GREEN PILLAR EARLY CHILDHOOD TO CAREER

TSD Preschool BOOK CARNIVAL

Athens 12 AP students visited the Troy School District Preschool with games they designed to align with preschool curriculum and brought some of their favorite books to life. A fun morning was shared playing the games together as a great example of our green pillar--**Early Childhood to Career**: Learning opportunities designed to educate and support children from their earliest years through high school, graduation and the world of work.

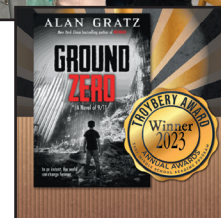
STUDENTS READ TO WIN TROYBERY & BATTLE OF THE BOOKS ANNUAL LITERARY AWARD WINNERS

TSD middle school media centers began their 23rd annual Troybery Award program last fall by checking out, reading, and sharing their favorite current books. The reading frenzy lasted for months and ultimately revealed the 32 potential titles, and a March Madness-style bracket challenge whittled that number down to 10. The Top 10 were then voted on and celebrated in a virtual ceremony that featured videos and artwork created by students from all four middle schools and concluded with the revealing of the runners-up (3rd: **Battle of the Dragons** by Alex London, 2nd: **Starfish** by Lisa Phipps, 1st: **Alone** by Megan Freman) and Grand Troybery winner **Ground Zero** by Alan Gratz.

In the high school "Battle of the Books," students read and then voted from a group of 10 books. Six finalists were chosen and authors of nominated titles appeared on Zoom in designated time slots throughout the day to discuss their books. The afternoon culminated with a



Kahoot trivia competition between THS/AHS, and a pizza/ice cream party was held for the top 3 participating English classes as well as students who had read **all** of the nominated titles. The winning title for this year's Battle of the Books was: **I Must Betray You**, by Ruta Sepetys, and support for the program was gratefully received from the Troy Women's Association, Troy Public Library, AHS' & THS' PTOs and the Troy Community Foundation.



TROY SCHOOL DISTRICT HONORS OUR 2023 RETIREES

The Troy School District honors our 2023 retirees, who represent more than 700 years of combined experience in the Troy School District. This amazing group of employees will definitely be missed! Please welcome me in congratulating:

Karen Barnowski
Teacher, Preschool
Marianne Belleville
Teacher, Wass
Sharon Bourdeau
Secretary, IAE
Monty Clary
Counselor, Troy High
Scott Crecelius
Teacher, Larson
Bob Dowd
Asst. Principal, Athens

Christine Ferguson
Teacher, Athens
Maxine Japowicz
Para-Pro, Martell
Jill Kelly
Teacher, Larson MS
Tony Lucchi
Teacher/TEA
President, Athens
Carolyn Maher
Teacher, Wass
Diane Miller
Secretary, Boulton
Joseph Mocer
Teacher, Troy High
Melanie Morey
Principal, Barnard
Betsy Murphy
Teacher, Hamilton
Carolyn Murtagh
Teacher, Larson
Barb Pangle
Secretary, Hill

Sherri Parks
Teacher, Troy High
Mary Pepoy
Secretary, Larson
Ellen Podeszwa
Soc. Worker, Larson
Deann Quilliams
Teacher, Larson
Virginia Riolo
Teacher, Troy High
Mark Sackett
Teacher, Morse
Charles Steltenkamp
Teacher, Troy High
Nancy Stone
Teacher, Larson
Richard Uebbing
Teacher, Baker
Michael Webster
Teacher, Troy High
Jeremey Whan
Principal, Bemis
Rebecca Yatooma
Teacher, Smith



IAE KEY CLUB ATTENDS EAST LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

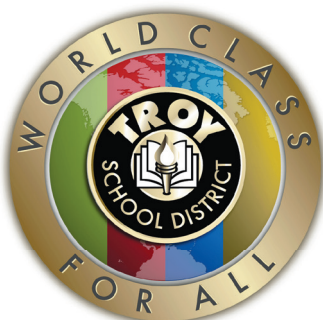
This past Spring, 12 members of IA's Kiwanis Key Club chapter attended the Michigan District of Key Club Service Leadership Conference in Bay City, MI, which recognized Key Clubs for outstanding service and engaged members in service and leadership activities.



Key Clubs are sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club chapters

and encourage high school students to make a positive impact through community service and leadership activities. Three members were elected for district positions: Awsawthy Abraham for District Treasurer, Ema Sulstarova for District Bulletin Editor, and Maya Abbou for Lieutenant Governor of District 15. Nurayda Albeez and Nusratul Ababil served as election delegates. Chloe Shaman, IA's Key Club Vice President and current Kiwanis Family Relations Chair, was awarded the Chair of the Year for the 2nd year in a row. She also received 3rd place for her violin duet in the talent competition.

Key Club chapters worldwide provide students with opportunities to serve others, build character and develop leadership, learning how to lead and stand up for what's right through service and volunteerism in partnership with their local Kiwanis Club. Their motto is "We don't make keys, but we open doors."



SALMON IN THE CLASSROOM

MARTELL - LARSON - ATHENS

A special batch of Chinook Salmon that were hatched from eggs and raised in classrooms were released at Riverbend Park into the Clinton River in early May. Students at Martell, Larson and Athens “hatched” this idea four years ago, but the program was stalled by COVID. This spring, students could finally see the project through, guided by the DNR (Department of Natural Resources).

They harvested eggs, then moved to the sack stage where they hatched. Students began feeding them, now called smolts, and closely monitored their classroom tanks to make sure they were exactly 52 degrees; then carefully modulated the water temperature to match the Clinton River, where they were released in late April.

The young fish will spend up to two months in the Clinton River before migrating to Lake St. Claire to grow into adulthood. They will face many challenges and predators, but for the ones who make it two years or more, they will return to the waters of Riverbend Park to find their environmental imprint, and to spawn the next generation...completing the cycle of life.



RAINFOREST CLASSROOM

BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL

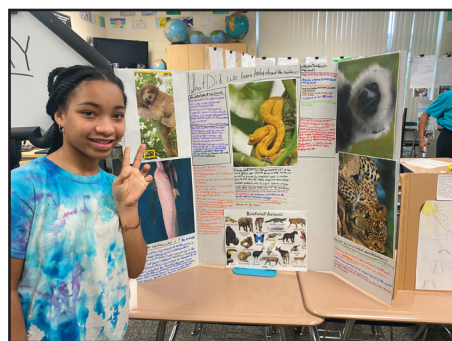
Learning about the challenges and realities of deforestation of the world’s rainforests sounds like a very academic pursuit, and it’s part of the 6th-grade social studies curriculum. But in Brian Fahnestock’s 6th-grade social studies classes at Baker Middle School, the conversation came alive as his students transformed Fahnestock’s classroom into a living, breathing rainforest complete with wall art, informational exhibits, and working waterfalls.

“Students learned about the rainforest, about what animals lived there, and about the challenges that face the rainforest in our current industrialized society,” said Fahnestock. “You could

this way--it was great to be able to say YES! to their ideas,” continued Fahnestock: “Kids worked with their hands--creating, cutting and pasting--and let their imaginations run wild; students that might struggle academically thrived in the creativity.”

It took about two weeks to create the forest, and parents shared how their students were enthusiastically talking about the project at home. This inspired Fahnestock to have an evening Open House, where families were invited to tour the rainforest—6th graders were “tour guides” and brought their parents around to each exhibit, eagerly explaining everything to them. It was a real learning moment, and 46 families attended!

Students became really attached to their projects and were truly saddened when the unit ended and the artwork came down—they literally deforested the classroom, which dovetailed into the next unit on pollution and learning how to protect the world’s resources. Stay tuned for more creative learning opportunities at Baker!



see lightbulbs going off all day as students created origami butterflies and paperchain snakes and connected their creations with the curriculum.”

“This project was really organic, kids had the room to run with this, and there was so much more buy-in doing it



HAMILTON ELEMENTARY Math Students SOAR with Help From High School Mentors

Hamilton Elementary students demonstrated exceptional mathematical prowess and sportsmanship throughout all divisions at the recent MI/OH Math Pentathlon tournament.



From the strategy-based game of "Queens and Guards" to the pattern recognition in "Juggle," the 45 Hamilton students showcased their comprehensive understanding of mathematical concepts and their ability to apply them in a competitive setting. Their hard work and dedication paid off as Hamilton earned an impressive collection of Gold, Silver, Bronze medals and Honorable Mentions, along with Pentathletes awards for Participation. One of the students--3rd grader Ethan Wang--also won a Hall of Fame award, meaning he won all five games in the tournament. The success of Hamilton School's team can be attributed not only to the students' individual abilities but also to the unwavering support and guidance of their high school student coaches.

The high school students are members of **Reboot Future**; a 501c3 non-profit organization founded by Nideesh Srivatsavan (IAE '24), who created the mentor math club four years ago



and was a math competitor himself in elementary school. The high school students leading the club are:

Division 1: Hasini N and Tiffany T, '25 AHS
Division 2: Sahasrashree R '27 BPMS and Nideesh S '24 IAE
Division 3: Kailash R, '24 THS and Ritesh P, '25, IAE

Their coaching and mentorship provided the younger students with guidance, support, and motivation. The high school mentors shared their passion for math and inspired elementary school students to strive for excellence.



THREE TROY HIGH SENIORS NAMED U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR SEMI-FINALISTS

Troy High seniors Deepti Aggarwal, Riya Dutta and Sonnet Xu have been named three out of 629 semifinalists in the prestigious 2023 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program out of over 5,000 applicants. Of the 629 semifinalists, 15 are from Michigan, 11 of those are from Oakland County, and three are from Troy. Inclusion in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program is one of the highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors. Scholars are selected based on their accomplishments in many areas—academic and artistic success, accomplishment in career and technical fields, leadership, strong character and involvement in school and the community.

Troy High's Principal, Remo Roncone, shared pride in these students: "Congratulations to these exceptional students for qualifying as semi-finalists for the US Presidential Scholarship award. It is a testament to their hard work, dedication, and academic excellence. We wish them all the best as they continue to pursue their goals and positively impact their communities and beyond."

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 by Executive Order of the President to recognize some of our nation's most distinguished graduating seniors for their accomplishments in academics, leadership, and service to school and community. A



Riya Dutta



Sonnet Xu



Deepti Aggarwal

distinguished panel of educators selected the 629 semifinalists, and the Commission on Presidential Scholars (appointed by the President) will select the finalists to be announced at the end of May; the Scholars Class of 2023 will be recognized for their outstanding achievement in late June.



Here's to the first step of the next chapter of your life!



You can't move forward without saying goodbye to the past!



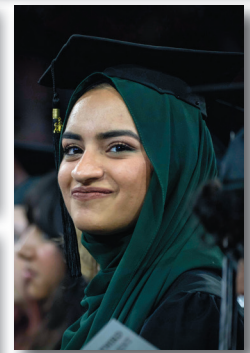
Your life is your story, and the adventure ahead of you is the journey to fulfill your own purpose and potential



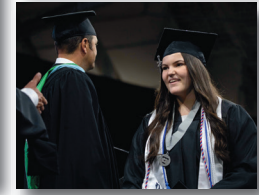
I've learned from the bad times and was humbled by the good. Thank you for all of the great life lessons!



Every person you meet knows something you don't; learn from them



Never let fear of striking out keep you from playing the game!



If you can imagine it, you can achieve it; if you can dream it, you can become it!



The only impossible journey is the one you never begin



A lesson to learn is one that says: always stay true to yourself and never let what somebody else says distract you from your goals and ambitions.



No matter what anyone tells you, words and ideas can change the world



FROM TROY TO CHICAGO

Two Friends Trade in their Cross-Country Jerseys for White Lab Coats



While growing up together in Troy, doctors Ayush Batra and Stephen VanHaerents never dreamed they'd both be:

Practicing medicine in the field of Neurology (in Chicago) and at the same hospital (Northwestern Medicine)

The two friends attended Athens High School, were on the cross-country team together and graduated in 2001. After finishing medical school, residency and fellowships, the two ironically wound up on the same team once again – working as neurologists for one of the top neurology programs in the country at Northwestern Medicine in Chicago.

Dr. Batra's specialty is neurocritical care, where he treats brain injury patients in the Neuro-Spine ICU. Dr. VanHaerents' specialty is treating epilepsy patients. (Epilepsy is a disorder that causes seizures in the brain.)

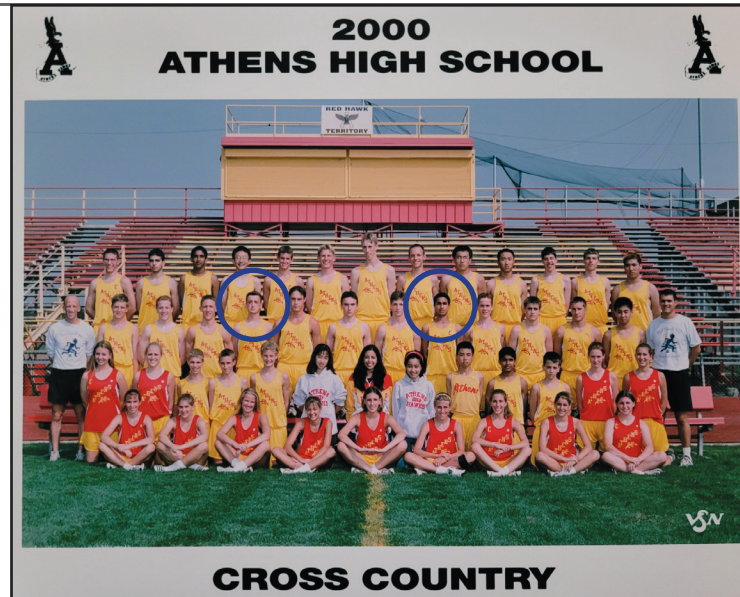
The two recently collaborated on a complicated case where a 20-year-old patient was

diagnosed with a rare and catastrophic epilepsy condition called FIRES, which can lead to severe neurologic and cognitive injury. One in a million kids are affected by FIRES, and only 15-20% return to an everyday life. Dr. Batra cared for the patient in the ICU, and Dr. VanHaerents is managing her post-ICU care. She's doing phenomenally well, stopped having seizures and returned to playing college volleyball, a success especially relished by the two athletes.

And both physicians are remembered fondly at their alma mater. "Ayush and Steve were wonderful student athletes who were not only concerned for their own progress as



runners, but their teammates as well," said Athens cross country coach Shawn DuFresne. "Coach (Michael) Stallsmith and I expected them to make a difference in the lives of others as adults, and we couldn't be more proud to call them Athens Red Hawks."



TSD CELEBRATES AUTISM ACCEPTANCE

The Troy School District celebrates Autism each April and holds events around the district to help foster understanding about Autism as a difference in the way people experience and interact with the world around them. Up until this year, April has always stood for Autism Awareness. But there has been a growing movement to change the thought process from **Autism Awareness**--knowing autistic people exist; to **Autism Acceptance**--accepting autistic people as they are, both strengths AND challenges. Here is what a few of our schools did to recognize Autism Acceptance:

At Costello: Students created signs of support and marched around their outdoor track to recognize Autism Acceptance.

At Morse: Students held a door decorating contest and an outdoor Autism Acceptance Walk, and teachers attended a special in-service with guest speaker Autism expert, Ron Sandison.

At Baker: Students held activities like Sensory Friendly Day (students wore comfy clothing), Neurodiversity Day (students wore rainbow-colored shirts), Magnificent Mind Day (students wore hats/headbands), leading up to Autism Acceptance Day, where

students wore red and gold and participated in a Walk-A-Thon.

At Larson: LINK students made bulletin boards, created PicCollages and recorded PSA's about Autism. An Autism Acceptance Walk was held outside, followed by a Lunch Celebration for LINK students and their partners with games, crafts and pizza.

At Athens: LINK students hosted an outdoor Autism Acceptance Walk celebrating "Minds of All Kinds." Hundreds of students came out to the track during their lunch hours to find the track decorated with supportive posters and a candy table.

At TCCHS: Junior Abby Adams grew up with kids in her family who had autism and always loved being with them. She became a LINK in middle school and found her true passion. In high school she volunteers to support the LINKS teacher at Baker, where she has gotten to know students personally and has rejoiced in their successes, setting herself up for a truly transformational college experience and teaching career.



50 YEARS ATHENS THEATRE COMPANY CELEBRATING KRISTA MANFREDI

Krista Manfredi began her teaching career with Troy Schools in 1973. She has directed nearly 100 productions on the Athens stage, and now after 50 years in education is the last remaining original Athens staff member. Students, friends, family, and alumni walked the red carpet and gathered in celebration of this golden anniversary.

In late April, the Athens Theatre Company produced a variety show featuring current students and alumni from every decade dating back to the 1970's. From Florida to California, Texas to New York,

hundreds of former students attended the event, with dozens taking the stage at their former high school once more to pay tribute to their favorite teacher.

Between the popular musical numbers, the audience enjoyed many fun videos of memories and other surprises. One major surprise was the opening number, an original 10-minute long musical about the life of Ms. Manfredi herself, written, organized, and performed by current students.



As the show came to a close, one final surprise was the announcement that the theatre would be dedicated to Krista Manfredi for 50 years of service as an educator and director. A dinner reception followed in the Athens cafeteria as alumni gave speeches and posed for many more pictures.

This event showcased the significant impact a teacher can have on multiple generations of students. With no plans for retirement yet, we are excited to welcome Ms. Manfredi back for more ATC shows in her 51st year!



ONE TROY Creative STUDENT VOICES

Students of the TSD Creative Guild recently organized their first ever Open Air Festival. This outdoor event in the Athens parking lot featured a stage for musical performances along with tables for displaying student art and the sale of baked goods.



After the opening variety block of performers, Troy High student Sonia Puri hosted a live podcast from on top of a unique school bus crafted by TCCHS teacher Eric Kravako. Meanwhile, students and families in attendance continued to enjoy games and visited the concessions stand operated by Athens Athletic Boosters.

A number of headlining performances garnered cheers of excitement from the crowd. Student performers included both Athens and Troy High students such as Cassandra Wilson, Shane Karas, Katie Redmond, Sophia Keil, and Grace Cafagna. The final performer was Troy High senior Anurag Komaragiri, who took the stage under his artist name AyKom, to perform nearly a dozen original songs.

The inaugural event has students already talking about bringing it back for next year. We're looking forward to seeing how this arts and music festival will continue to grow!



TCCHS ARTS BEATS & TREATS

TCCHS celebrated creativity at their first annual Arts, Beats and Treats---an open house style event which featured student art, music, baked goods and more!



TCT STEPS UP TO THE PLATE AND WINS \$1000



Congratulations to Troy Center for Transition on winning this Spring's "Step Up to the Plate" contest put on by the Troy Chamber in partnership with Children's Hospital of Michigan. They raised \$1907.66 in receipts, and were awarded \$1000!

ATHLETE COMMITMENTS

These TROY SCHOOL DISTRICT Senior athletes have committed to play for the following schools:



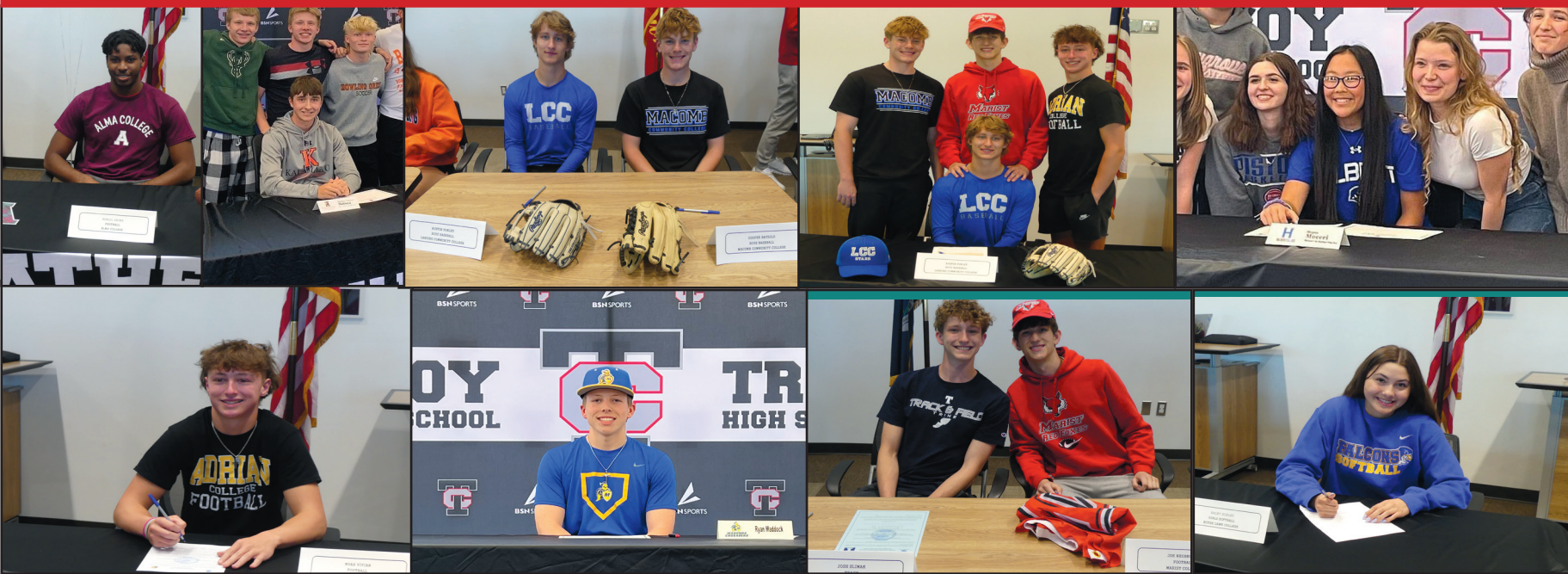
ATHENS HIGH SCHOOL

- Emma Leonard (Softball, Adrian)
- Haley Hurley (Softball, Notre Dame)
- Olivia Hemmilla (Golf, OU)
- Khalil Drone (Football, Alma)
- Noah Vivian (Football, Adrian)
- Joe Neubecker (Football, Marist)
- Kyree Harper (Football, Adrian College)
- Josh Slimak (Track, Trine University)
- Ava Davis (Track, Lawrence Tech)
- Brett Fraser (Bowling, Cleary University)
- Benjamin Maher (Soccer, Wheaton College)

- Daniel Watkins (Soccer, Madonna University)
- Rebekah Delia (Soccer, Olivet Nazarene Univ.)
- Amanda Leonard (Soccer, Purdue/Ft. Wayne)
- Cooper Batzold (Baseball, Macomb CC)
- Austin Pokley (Baseball, Lansing CC)
- Anneliese Schriber (Volleyball, Heidelberg Univ.)
- Liliana Tasich (Girls Lacrosse, Rochester Univ.)
- Makayla Potter (Cheer, Northwestern)
- Madison Emmitt (Swim, Wheaton College)

TROY HIGH SCHOOL

- Annelies Bergmann (Hockey, Cornell)
- Lizzie Bultynck (Soccer, Bowling Green)
- Jordyn Green (Soccer, Rochester College)
- Jen Bricker (Volleyball, Carleton)
- Jessica Rowe (Rowing, Michigan State)
- Megan Mocerri (Hockey, Hilbert College)
- Matthew Matuza Jr. (Soccer, Kalamazoo)
- Collin Glenn (Baseball, Kansas Wesleyan)
- Ryan Maddock (Baseball, Madonna College)
- Darius Whiteside II (Football, Grand Valley)
- Bret Dickerson (Lacrosse, Alderson-Broadbudds Univ.)
- Kate Helfen (Soccer, Univ. of Cincinnati)



BACK IN PERSON! TROY FITNESS RUN

For the first time since COVID forced the event to be virtual, the 2023 5th grade Troy Fitness Run was hosted in person by TSD elementary PE teachers, and its return was welcomed by students, staff & families. On a bright, sunny day, busloads of 5th graders arrived at Boulan Park Middle School, excited to compete against themselves for their best running times. Students wore magnetized identification bibs so that the detector strip at the end of the race captured their times as they crossed the finish line. The fastest student crossed the line at 11:05, and the last student crossed at 23:45. But all who participated were winners!



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF
OUR ATHLETES & 2023 GRADUATES!



DISTRICT ROUND-UP

ATHENS

Juniors Brianna Johnson and Katie Schmidt won 2nd prize in a C-SPAN video contest for their documentary on the impacts of overcrowding in our national parks, "Loved to Death."

IAE

126 seniors just completed three weeks of IB examinations totaling 1,896 examinations in 10 different subject areas spread across 12 days.

TCCHS

Students shared homemade food, original jewelry, music and more at their first annual Arts, Beats & Treats festival.

TROY HIGH

THS students conducted an audit to quantify how much waste was being generated by students in the cafeteria. Student volunteers sorted, weighed and recorded the waste data and submitted the results to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy for recommendations.

BAKER

Baker Middle School held a fantastic Arcade Day—with students demonstrating their learning in a fun and engaging way. 7th-grade students learned about different mythologies of historical events and then created video games about them using Bloxels.

BOULAN PARK

The Boulan Park Science Olympiad team placed 5th in State Finals and took 1st place at the Battle of the States Competition, competing against schools from MI, OH, IL and WI.

LARSON

Larson's Celebration of Learning took place in May and featured student genius hour projects, presentations, and keynote addresses on middle school coursework, clubs, and learning experiences from the 2022-23 school year.

SMITH

6th graders enthusiastically participated in their Celebration of Learning exhibition by setting up tabletop displays about projects they were interested in and shared their knowledge with parents, staff, fellow students and administrators.

TSD PRESCHOOL

TSD Preschool families & staff created a Preschool Pups Cookbook. The cookbook is dedicated to the memory of Sheryl Wagner, Kitchen Manager who passed away. We hope to make this an annual tradition of sharing meals with loved ones.

BARNARD

Students celebrated the high school graduation of former Barnard Blue Jays with a very special "clap out." Graduates wore their caps and gowns and former staff members came back to participate along with the entire student body.

BEMIS

Bemis Daze included inflatables, games, and delicious food trucks! We also celebrated having over 300 attendees at the game at Jimmy John's Field with a whole-school pizza party on June 1st!

COSTELLO

Costello has a student-generated little library now due to lots of teamwork and advocacy, stocking books in other languages for students to take and leave.

HAMILTON

Hamilton Hawks shined in the Hamilcott writing contest and the county Math Pentathlon competition. As we end the year, students are enjoying their favorite rituals from our school-wide zoo field trip to field day!

HILL

Hill's Family Fun Fair was a huge success, including activities like pony rides, dunk tank, 360 photo booth, tattoo & sticker tree, petting zoo; Larson's Girl Botz FTC 22918 all-girls robotics team volunteered as carnival games operators and face painters.

LEONARD

Fourth-grade Leopards celebrated stories of people who have immigrated to our community by interviewing friends or family members who have made Troy their home, learning about people who are important to them as well as more about what drew them to Michigan.

MARTELL

Martell students will be staying connected this summer with their first annual 'One Book, One School, One Martell Summer' reading initiative sharing *Fenway and Hattie*—the series about a mischievous Jack Russel Terrier by Victoria Coe.

MORSE

Students and parents viewed classwork at our Spring Academic & Culture Showcase, including tabletop displays created by students sharing about their personal family cultures and student performances (singing and dancing).

SCHROEDER

Second-grade students learned about operating a business by engaging investors, creating a menu, pricing food options, and working the cash register; Parents enjoyed coming to eat at their "Restaurant."

TROY UNION

TU students participated in their annual Makers Challenge, with this year's theme focused on students designing miniature golf holes in the morning and then students playing with their creations in the afternoon.

WASS

Students raised \$30,000 from their *Running with the Wolves* event; to celebrate reaching their goal, Mr. Jansen and Mr. Cavataio were "good sports," taking pies to the face to the delight of everyone in attendance.

WATTLES

Wattles students did chores, collected pop cans, etc. and then voted on where their donation money would go for their "Kindness Project." They raised \$3,000 and shared the proceeds with St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Alex's Lemonade Stand, and Troy's Nature Center.

TROY CENTER

Six TCT students graduated from Project SEARCH, a program that pairs them with paid internships in various capacities at both Troy and Royal Oak Corewell Health locations. Many have already been hired to continue their work.



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