



DECEMBER 2023

TWIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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IMPORTANT DATES:

HBEC Elves' Workshop

Tuesday, December 12 -

Friday, December 15, 2023

REC Winter Concert

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

TVHS Orchestra and Choir

Winter Concert

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

TVEC Winter Concert

Thursday, December 14, 2023

TVHS Band Winter Concert

Sunday, December 17, 2023

HBEC School Store

Thursday, December 21, 2023

Early Dismissal

Friday, December 22, 2023

Winter Break | No School

Monday, December 25, 2023 -

Monday, January 1, 2024

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

Every student. Every day.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

HOLIDAY SEASON REFLECTIONS

Dear Twin Valley Families,

The holiday season always brings a heartwarming spirit of togetherness that serves as a reminder to celebrate and honor the diverse traditions that make up the vibrant tapestry of our community.

It is during this period that we have the unique opportunity to embrace the richness of our differences and cherish the bonds that tie us together throughout Twin Valley.

Throughout this season, let us take a moment to express gratitude for the opportunities we have, reflect on the progress we've made, and appreciate the relationships we've built at Twin Valley School District (TVSD). I also encourage you to extend thoughts and support to those who may need a little extra kindness and care during this time.

As I reflect on this past year, I am profoundly thankful for the dedication of our educators, students, parents, Board members, and community who have contributed to the success and vitality of our District. Your unwavering commitment to excellence in education and the well-being of our community is the cornerstone of our collective achievements. I am fortunate to say that 2023 has been another remarkable year for TVSD and look forward to all that lies ahead in 2024.

On behalf of the entire Board and Administration, I extend my heartfelt wishes for a joyous holiday season and a prosperous New Year. May the upcoming year be filled with continued success, abundant opportunities, and moments of shared growth and achievement for all. We hope to see you at our upcoming holiday celebrations across the District! For a list of events, we encourage you to visit [tvsd.org/calendar](https://www.tvsd.org/calendar).

Warm regards,
Patrick Winters



#RAIDERPRIDE

TWIN VALLEY ELEMENTARY CENTER STACKS UP



Each year, Children's Grief Awareness Day is recognized the Thursday before Thanksgiving as a way to educate the community about the impact grief and loss has on children and to demonstrate the need for support among all children and adults who have experienced grief and loss.

In honor of Children's Grief Awareness Day on November 16th, all TVEC students participated in a classroom lesson, school-wide activities, a theme/spirit week, and the STACK UP Challenge. The classroom lesson included a read aloud of "The Rabbit Listened" by Cori Doerrfeld. "The Rabbit Listened" is a heartwarming story about how sometimes the best thing we can do for friends and loved ones who are having a difficult time is to simply...listen. At the end of the lesson, each child and staff member had the opportunity to make a decoration for our "TVEC Family Tree" in honor of someone special they remember or someone who loves and supports them. The Family Tree is located outside of the cafeteria so everyone can be reminded of these special people as they walk past the wall.



The STACK UP Challenge was to help set a WSSA World Record for the "Most People Sport Stacking at Multiple Locations." In PE class, students learned a variety of cup stacking techniques while practicing cooperation and teamwork. In addition, students had a guidance lesson that focused on different ways we can "stack up" each other or support and be there for one another. Throughout the week of November 13 – 17, we also raised money for A Haven, a nonprofit support group that helps students in our community. Our goal was to not only have fun but also create a culture of togetherness and community.





**AROUND
TWIN VALLEY**

TWIN VALLEY ELEMENTARY CENTER **FALL FESTIVAL**

TVEC's Partners in Education (PIE) parent organization organized the 2nd Annual Fall Festival on November 4, 2023. The sponsor-supported free event was a day of community and family fun featuring hayrides, bands, games, crafts, food, petting zoo, Twin Valley fire trucks, and fire pits with hot chocolate and s'mores. Hundreds of students and their families enjoyed the great weather and family friendly activities throughout the day. Many thanks to all of the volunteer organizations and individuals who helped to make the day such a success!



ROBESON ELEMENTARY CENTER **FIRST GRADE THANKSGIVING FEAST**

The 1st Grade Thanksgiving Feast has become a beloved tradition at Robeson Elementary Center. Each year, students come together to enjoy a group meal while learning about the traditions and meaning of Thanksgiving.

Students make their own placemats featuring feathers that list things they are grateful for. Each child brings in 1 thing to add to the feast. Canned and fresh fruit were mixed together to make a huge fruit salad that was shared by all. The few extra canned fruit items that weren't used were donated to a local food pantry.

This celebration shows our students that as one they didn't have much, but when they all work together a feast can be had by all, just like the pilgrims did.





**AROUND
TWIN VALLEY**

TWIN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL'S MARCHING BAND IS MAKING NOISE



The Twin Valley Marching Band recently competed at Cavalcade of Band's Championships at Warwick High School. The band placed 2nd out of 14 bands, scoring a 93.30 (highest score in Twin Valley's competitive history) and was .225 from 1st Place! The marching band also received the awards for High Music and High Overall Effect.

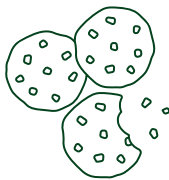
Congratulations on these amazing accomplishments that speak to the dedication, effort, and pride that our students and staff have in developing the quality of the Twin Valley Band both musically and visually.



ROBESON ELEMENTARY CENTER COATED IN ARMS



#WhatILearned: 4th Grade students from Mr. Brennan's class created a coat of arms complete with a Latin motto as part of their non-fiction ELA unit on Empires in the Middle Ages.



TWIN VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL COOKIES FOR A CAUSE

On Friday October 27th, 7th Grade students at Twin Valley Middle School (TVMS) participated in the 21st Annual TVMS Cookie Bake. Students mixed batches of chocolate chip cookies that were packaged along with hand-written letters for Keystone Military Families in Leesport, PA who distribute them to military members stationed all over the world.

In total, over 7,500 cookies were baked and \$1,800 in donations were collected to cover the cost of shipping the boxes to their destinations! Additional funds were donated to Keystone Military Families to support their outreach to military members, veterans, and their families. TVMS students also had the opportunity to hear from guest speakers from the 2nd Squadron, 104th Cavalry Regiment of the Pennsylvania National Guard as part of the event.

Thank you to the generous 7th Grade families for donating the supplies needed to bake the cookies, to Mrs. Brecht and Mrs. Taylor who coordinated the art project that students created for the event, and to the 7th Grade Math Team for planning and running the event.





**AROUND
TWIN VALLEY**

HONORING

ALL WHO ★★ ★ HAVE SERVED

*VETERANS DAY CELEBRATIONS TOOK
PLACE ACROSS TWIN VALLEY SCHOOL
DISTRICT THROUGHOUT NOVEMBER.*



VETERANS DAY CONT.





TWIN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL INTERNS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to both Faith Stiffler and Wyatt Allen for being named December Interns of the Month!

Both Faith and Wyatt are outstanding individuals who have worked very hard since the beginning of the school year at the Reading Regional Airport. They both work alongside Zach Tempesco, within the airport Operations Department. Zach reports, "Faith and Wyatt have quickly become part of our team at the airport. They have performed many tasks including office work, airport operations, and event planning. Their efforts contributed to a very successful Reading Aviation Festival and Career Fair event on Saturday October 24, 2023 with over 1,200 attendees! Wyatt and Faith were also able to participate in a press conference at the airport and pilot the very aircraft being featured!"

Faith Stiffler, a Twin Valley Senior, is a driven student who has a passion for all topics of aviation. Faith's favorite thing about her internship is her ability to interact with the aviation and flight community, which has shown her endless love and support so far. She has had many opportunities so far such as flying a plane herself and being a passenger. Following graduation, Faith plans on attending a post-secondary school where she will earn a degree and then attend flight school.

Twin Valley Junior, Wyatt Allen, is a dedicated student who strives to become a fighter pilot and officer in the United States Air Force. Since he was young, he has been surrounded by people who have a passion for aviation, including both of his parents who were helicopter mechanics in the Air Force. Following in his father's footsteps, Wyatt hopes to become a fighter pilot. Wyatt loves how every day is different, and he gets new experiences daily. He also has had opportunities such as flying a plane himself, meeting the airport President, and discussing his future career with amazing mentors. Following high school, Wyatt currently plans on attending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University to participate in their ROTC Program.

Learn more about Faith and Wyatt's Internship at: dailylocal.com.

TWIN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR SHINES

Twenty-nine of our top choral musicians at TVHS had the opportunity to audition for Senior County Chorus at Governor Mifflin High School. TVHS is thrilled to report that 27 of those students were able to pass the audition and will sing in the Senior County Festival in January.

Congratulations to the following students:

- Bare, Mackenzie
- Blankenbiller, Sara
- Brown, Sienna
- Clayton, Natalie
- DiFabrizio, Jenna
- Donnellan, Sam
- Eversmeyer, Ian
- Gerhart, Madalynn
- Johnson, Evan
- Kelly, Grace
- Kurtz, Hannah
- Lodzuk, Julia
- Paine, Ethan
- Paton, Dakota
- Podehl, Alexandria
- Scott, Ben
- Shumate, Carmen
- Shumate, Megan
- Simon, Zoe
- Skoniczin, Patrick
- Slider, Ella
- Sparr, Avery
- Stevens, Thomas
- Stoltzfus, Kristel
- Symonds, Macayla
- Tennant, Nora

Sienna Brown, a sophomore, ranked 1st in the County for her voice part. Patrick Skoniczin ranked 1st for piano accompanying and 5th for his voice part. Ethan Paine ranked 4th for his voice part.

The Senior County Festival, which will feature the county chorus, band, and orchestra, will be hosted by Conrad Weiser High School on January 20, 2024.



Pictured, Left to Right: William Clements, TVHS Principal; Hannah Kurtz, Jack Hafer; and Bruce Hartshorne, President of the Rotary Club



**TVHS ROTARY
STUDENTS OF
THE MONTH**

HANNAH KURTZ

If Hannah Kurtz could summarize her time at Twin Valley with one phrase, it would be “busy yet fulfilling”. Hannah is an academically high-achieving student ranking in the Top 10 percent of her class with a current GPA of 4.417. She challenges herself by taking rigorous AP and honors classes each year. Hannah also prides herself in her level of involvement in clubs and activities at Twin Valley. Currently, Hannah plays the Baritone Saxophone in Concert Band and plays the Tenor Saxophone in the Marching Band, where she also serves as a second-year Drum Major. Her love for music extends into Concert Choir, where she serves as the Historian on the student leadership team and is a member of audition-only ensembles including Select Chorus and Senior County Chorus. Hannah is a member of the National Honor Society, LINK, President of The Awakening Bible Study, and the Historian and Public Relations Chair of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Lastly, Hannah is a dedicated member of the Theater Arts Club, where she earned the rank of 8 Star Honor Thespian in the International Thespian Society (ITS) and yearly participates in the Fall play and the Spring musical. Outside of school, Hannah especially enjoys singing and learning new musical instruments, volunteering at her church, reading, photography, and working as a summer camp counselor at Camp Sankanac. After high school, Hannah plans to attend a Christian college and major in Communications to work towards a future career in ministry.

JACK HAFER

Jack Hafer is a highly involved senior at Twin Valley High School. He is a three-sport varsity athlete, where he competes on the Football, Soccer, and Track & Field teams. Jack is a 4-year varsity letter recipient on the Soccer Team. He was named All-Division Honorable Mention for two years, was nominated for the Berks County All-Star Game, and was the captain during his junior and senior year. In the Spring, Jack placed 1st at the Chris Nunn Memorial Berks County Football Combine for Kicking and Punting. Jack works just as hard in the classroom as he does on the field, remaining Top 10 in his class with a 4.369 cumulative GPA. He has served as the Spirit Chair of Student Council and currently serves as the President. Jack is also the Secretary of Varsity Club, a LINK leader, and is a member of NHS, History Club, Mini-THON, High School Heroes, and TSA. During his junior and senior years, Jack served on the Twin Valley Community Education Foundation as one of two Student Representatives, working alongside administrators and volunteers to run community initiatives. Outside of school, Jack is an avid skier. In the winter, he volunteers at BART Adaptive Sports Center, helping those with disabilities hit the slopes. Jack is also musically inclined. He has been playing the piano since 1st Grade and qualified for States in Music Production for TSA. Jack has recently applied to several colleges, planning on studying business or finance.

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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www.tvsd.org



Every student. Every day.

TWIN VALLEY COMMUNITY EDUCATION FOUNDATION TVCEF SPOTLIGHT

A message from the Twin Valley Community Education Foundation: Thank you to everyone who was a sponsor, donated, and attended the 2023 Gala. The evening was a great success, and we are looking forward to holding more Alumni events soon!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS:

COMMUNITY EDUCATOR : MICHAEL SMITH
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER : DAN MILLER
COMMUNITY BUSINESS : GLASS & SON'S COLLISION
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT : RON FREDERICK
RISING STAR (16-21 YEARS OLD) : NATALIE CLAYTON
TWIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT ALUMNUS : MANDY STOUDT

THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO FOR THE
TWIN VALLEY COMMUNITY!

Visit tvcef.org to learn more about TVCEF.



TVSD ATHLETICS CHEER ON!

TVHS Cheer earned a 1st Place win in the Small Game Day Division at the BCIAA County Cheer Competition.

Their next competition is Sunday, December 10, 2023 at UCA Regionals in hopes of obtaining a bid to Nationals. Go team!

