

JANUARY 2023-2024

## School Board Appreciation Month! Trinity Area Board of Directors



Annually, the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, in its discerning wisdom, bestows upon January the prestigious mantle of School Director Recognition Month. With an eloquence befitting their dedicated service, Trinity Area humbly extends profound gratitude to our esteemed Board of Directors. Their unwavering commitment, tireless efforts, and dedication are the cornerstones of our educational foundation, consistently placing the well-being and progress of our cherished students at the forefront of their endeavors. On behalf of these distinguished board members, the district, as a token of appreciation, has generously endowed each Trinity elementary school library with a treasure trove of books, thereby enriching the literary tapestry that nurtures young minds within our academic haven.

#### Each board member chose the following book:

Mrs. Morgan - The Spot Mrs. Eates - Lost In The Woods Mrs. Caleffe - Memory Jars Mr. Dobich - From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankwieler Mrs. Hott - Creepy Crayon Mr. Lowry - The Double Life of Pocahontas Mrs. Neel - Stuart Little Mr. Rudman - Diary of a Wimpy Kid Mr. Slagle - Goodnight Moon

Jennifer Morgan, President Frances Eates, Vice President Penelope Caleffe, Treasurer Sean Dobich er Molly Hott Gordon Lowry Amy Neel Greg Rudman J.R. Slagle

# **Exciting Changes In Leadership!**

Mrs. Michelle Ostrosky - Coordinator of Federal and Career / Technical Programming and Assistant High School Principal



The Trinity Area School District is pleased to announce that Mrs. Michelle Ostrosky, current Principal of West Elementary School, has been asked to serve as Trinity School District's Coordinator of Federal / Career and Technical Programming. Additionally, she will work as Trinity High School's Assistant Principal. A life-long Hiller and graduate of Trinity High School, Mrs. Ostrosky brings with her 26 years' worth of experience as an instructional leader, a sophisticated understanding of Federal policies and programs, and a desire to ensure that all Trinity Area students receive an outstanding education, K-12. Currently acting as the District's Coordinator of Federal Programs, she will continue working in this capacity. Additionally, she will be responsible for securing and managing Perkins funding, which will be used to grow and sustain the myriad of career and technical education programs available to students at Trinity High School. Her ability to perceive teaching and learning from multiple perspectives, as well as her deep understanding of how to secure funding, make her most suited to lead and advocate for our career and technical students.

Additionally, as THS's Assistant Principal, Mrs. Ostrosky will work alongside Principal Zachary Zebrasky and Assistant Principal / Coach Dan Knause to serve as a strong, positive role model for our female Hillers as they consider postsecondary schooling and career options. "I am so excited to become part of the administrative team at the High School! I look forward to empowering our students to dream big and watching them flourish. Leadership is not about being in charge, but about inspiring others to reach their fullest potential," she enthusiastically commented. Congratulations, Mrs. Ostrosky! We wish you all the best as you transition to your new role.



### **Interim Trinity East Principal**

Mr. Jack Minnick, Director of Human Resources, has recently announced his plans to retire in August, 2025. Until he retires, he will maintain his current responsibilities while acting as the Interim Principal of East Elementary School during this time of transition among members of Trinity's administrative team. As Mrs. Lindsay Benzenhoefer prepares to open Trinity Intermediate, Mr. Minnick will lead Trinity East for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year. A seasoned school leader and highly qualified data analyst, he will provide for students and staff members a safe, secure, positive, and rigorous learning environment in which our youngest Hillers can thrive.

Mr. Minnick has graciously agreed to continue serving as the District's Director of Human Resources until the end of the 2024-2025 school year. His commitment to the Hiller community is admirable, and we are so happy that he is willing to transfer his wealth of knowledge to colleagues for one more year. We thank Mr. Minnick for his leadership!





#### **East and West Elementary School Principals, 2024-2025**

Beginning in spring, 2024, Trinity's administration and Board of Directors will interview applicants wishing to join the District's administrative team as principals of East and West Elementary Schools, respectively. Thus, our K-3 students and staff members at East and West can expect to work with a new leader, beginning with the 2024-2025 school year. We look forward to meeting prospective principals and welcoming these individuals to our Hiller community!

# Law Enforcement Day!





The safety of our students, staff, and community members in school is the #1 priority for our Trinity Area School District Police. Make sure to thank them next time you see them!

# Congratulations! January Students of the Month



Gage Nalepka HIGH SCHOOL

Garrett Stoy & Morgan Renne MIDDLE SCHOOL



# **Trinity is Taking Pride in... ACADEMICS, Arts, and Athletics**

FFA Mid-Winter Convention Farm Show 2024: 2024 Keystone Degree Winners & FFA Jacket Winners



The FFA Keystone is the highest honor a PA First year FFA Jacket Essay winners include: FFA member can receive. Trinity FFA 2024 **Keystone Degree winners include:** Bo Schury, Ownen Skariot, Isabella Jobes, Isabella Hull, and Ethan Ashby

Heaven Allen, Bryce Bailes, Rayna Byrd, Jocelyn D'Amico, Zandar Halligan, Madison McClure, Alexas Skariot, Chloe Wasalasky, and Taahliyah Wright



Mrs. Gandy's 7th grade science class would like to announce their adoption of dairy calf Bretta. Mrs. Gandy's students have been enjoying learning about the growth of Bretta and the science behind keeping her healthy. Students have had the opportunity to research and design their own dairy farm, study the various jobs related to running a dairy farm, research ruminant digestion and nutritional requirements, and even attended a virtual farm tour. They are excited for the updates on Bretta, as well as future lessons and an upcoming virtual meeting with the calf. We would like to thank the Zahncroft Farm and **Discovery Dairy for this great opportunity!** 

# Trinity is Taking Pride in... ACADEMICS, Arts, and Athletics



Ms. Hrycko's students are working in small groups during instruction in Biology class. Students are discussing ecology vocabulary terms and ecological organization.

#### th & 5th Grade Literature Festival



Teams of students from Canon-McMillan, Chartiers-Houston, Fort Cherry, McGuffey, Trinity, and Washington school districts competed in a grades 4 and 5 Literature Festival at North Strabane Intermediate School on January 18. Before the competition, students read four novels and engaged in enrichment extensions using the English Language Arts standards. At the event, students competed in trivia, vocabulary, mystery items, and a STEM laundrythemed challenge. Readers also had the chance to make an origami bookmark during their snack break. Congratulations to Antonio, Declan, Drake, and Kasen for coming in 1st place at the event!



Miss McCracken's and Mrs. Tropeano's fourth grade classes have had the BEST time learning about electricity! They have been busy learning about and building circuits, testing conductors/insulators, and creating switches!



# Trinity is Taking Pride in... Academics, ARTS, and Athletics

# **Need Tickets?**



Tickets for "The Sound of Music" go on sale February 14, 2024. The show opens February 29, 2024 and runs through March 3, 2024

Congratulations to Sydney Klick for her successful audition into PMEA Region 1 Choir. She will be representing Trinity at Mars High School on March 6-8, 2024!

Sound





ALLEGHENY | FAYETTE | GREENE | WASHINGTON | WESTMORELAND

# Trinity is Taking Pride in... Academics, Arts, and ATHLETICS

Trinity Wrestling secured a 2023-2024 Class 3A Section V Championship! They have secured the top seed and a home match in the WPIAL playoffs. Congratulations, Hillers!



# CONGRATULÁTIONS

# **8 CHAMPS - 1 TEAM WRESTLING TITLE**



Left to right: Dominic Canalli, TJ Allison, Bodie Morgan, Cael Nicollela, Blake Reihner, Robbie Allison, Zane Gardner, and Jake Wright





Kaylee Foringer - Robert Morris University - Cross Country and Track

Trinity High School Senior, Kaylee Foringer, signed a National Letter of Intent to continue her academic and athletic career at Robert Morris University.



team!



"It's the teacher that makes the difference, not the classroom!" Girls' Basketball <u>Teacher Appreciation Video</u>





A special thanks to Alex Raymer, Mr. Prentice and Coach McConnell for creating the teacher appreciation video for the girls' basketball game.



Congratulations to our 7th & 8th Grade Boys Wrestling Team! Currently, they are undefeated and ranked #1 in the State. Keep up the great work and finish the season strong!









Congratulations to the Girls' Wrestling in their inaugural season. Varsity is currently ranked 3rd in the WPIAL.



# New Record!



# Trinity Vet Clinic

The Trinity Veterinary Technology program is excited to offer technician services on Wednesdays! Please click the link above for more information.



The Trinity Early Childhood Education Program hosted its first annual Princess Tea Party on January 27, 2024 in the THS Cafeteria. The event hosted 70 children and their parents. During the tea party, the High School ECE students provided stations for each of the princesses to participate in: hair, nails, temporary tattoos, and crafts. They even had one-on-one character interactions with four of the princesses.



Ms. Guariglia's class from Trinity East visited the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum in Washington, Pa. They rode on the trolley, visited the museum to explore other trolleys, and completed STEAM activities by exploring magnets.

# **Kicking For A Cure!**



When Andy Palm attended the Kohl's Kicking Camp in Tennessee, he walked away from the camp with more than just the opportunity to kick some footballs. He learned about a non-profit organization called "Alex's Lemonade Stand". Andy made it a mission to donate his own money to this foundation whenever he kicked and made an extra point and/or field goal. Thank you to Kathy S. at



Foundation for Childhood Cancer

Centimark for her generosity towards "Kicking for a Cure". Centimark matched Andy's donations for a great cause! Between Andy and Centimark, Alex's Lemonade Stand received a \$8,600 donation!

# Hillers You Should Know...



You may notice a new leader in the high school food court lately. That's because Rock Star Lois Chisholm was recently promoted to kitchen manager after 15 years. Mrs. Chisholm is dedicated to feeding healthy meals to all Trinity students, and is delighted to be in her new leadership position. Mrs. Chisholm is in charge of ordering foods and cooking at Trinity High School. Getting up early and reporting to work at 3:30 AM one day each week to receive the large load of food that arrives is a demanding task. Her normal shift of 5:30 AM – 1:15

PM lets her tend to her family all of whom graduated from Trinity. "Serving healthy meals to Trinity Students is hard work but fulfilling on so many different levels. The students at the high school brighten my days," she explained.

Mrs. Chisholm is truly exceptional. With a warm smile and genuine care, she ensures that every student receives a nourishing meal each day. Her dedication goes beyond simply serving food; she creates a welcoming atmosphere in the cafeteria, making students feel comfortable and valued. Known for her early morning start time, she takes pride in catering to diverse tastes and dietary needs. Her friendly demeanor brightens up the lunchtime experience for everyone, making her an integral part of our school community.

# Trinity's Own - Sharing Their Heart With Others.



Ben Priest is the newest Ving! recipient. He recorded a video of himself sharing the inspirational story of a fellow community member that could benefit from \$1,000. Congratulations, Ben!

#### Making a Difference in the Life of a Dog or Cat





Kayla Bonnet organized a donation drive for the humane society with a goal of collecting 100 items. She surpassed her goal by 63 and got at least one of everything from the wish list!











Trinity South has been continuing to collect plastic caps to help Washington Park recycle them into park benches. Each bench takes 250 pounds of plastic to become a bench. So far this year Trinity South has collected 392 pounds! Each month we weigh our collection and Ms. Huff takes it to Washington Park.





Western Area CTC



Congratulations to junior Aidan Szygenda! Aidan will begin his co-op experience on January 29 at Specialized Professional Services Inc. (SPSI) in Washington. He will join the fleet maintenance department as he is in the Automotive Technology program.



Trinity Senior, Romen Simonelli, clinched second place in the fierce Hardtop 1990-1999 Class at the 63rd Pittsburgh World of Wheels. Romen, a master in Collision Repair at WACTC, restored his '94 Mustang Cobra to perfection. A true automotive champion!





Romen Simonelli, Braydon Smith, and the WACTC Collision Repair class participated in the World of Wheels pedal car contest on January 19, 2024 in the custom division. WACTC took 2nd place in the competition. This is a contest for all CTC body shops to design, build, strengthen, and paint.

## Trinity Pride



#### **Trinity Pride - Bocci Team**

Mrs. Giorgi, Charlotte Magon, Jackson Knight, Dominic Sacripanti, Braeden Helmkamp, Kody Kress, David Gill, Emily Thompson, Ms. Belleville



Trinity North students participated in The Betty White Challenge throughout January. In honor of Betty's enduring love for animals, The Betty White Challenge was formed. The Challenge asks for donations to animal rescue or shelters in her name. Trinity North was up for the Challenge! School wide, North will be donating over 400 items to the Washington Humane Society and Bridge To Home Animal Rescue. Fourth grade students won the grade level challenge by donating 183 items alone! They will be rewarded with a kickball tournament. We are so proud of all our students! Great job, North!

Once again, Trinity North welcomes furry friends from the Tail Waggin Tutors program. Therapy Dogs International, Inc. is a volunteer organization consisting of certified dogs and handlers the visit a variety of settings. As part of the Tail Waggin Tutors program, these dogs visit local schools to allow students the opportunity to practice reading in a stress free environment. Students practice their reading skills and receive plenty of tail wags and kisses in the process. Pictured is first grader, Sophia Carpenter, with one of the therapy dogs, Sadie.

#### Winter Intramurals - Snow Flag Football!





WASHINGTON, PA 15301

# WHO WE ARE



Laura Campus Trinity Elementary Orchestra

#### **#TRINITYFAMILY**

Mrs. Laura Campus currently teaches elementary orchestra and band students in all Trinity elementary schools. She graduated from Upper St. Clair High School in 2010. During her senior year, she earned first chair in the PMEA All-State Orchestra for oboe, as well as earning the John Phillip Sousa Award. She was a member of the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra while in high school. She graduated cum laude from Northwestern University in 2014 with a degree in Music Education and Oboe Performance. She has been teaching music for nine years, most recently in the Jeannette City School District. Mrs. Campus is certified in the Kodaly Method, an avenue of teaching music with an emphasis on folk music. She presented folk dance workshops for multiple conferences in 2023. She excels in all aspects of music education and is loving her new role at Trinity. Our students are blessed to have her expertise and passion for music.

**Cool Facts:** Mrs. Campus had a special connection to Trinity before she began teaching in the District. In 2017, she met her husband, Chris, in the Trinity High School band room while rehearsing with the Washington Symphony Orchestra! She and her husband remain members of the orchestra and enjoy being a part of the fun and engaging concerts they hold. Mr. and Mrs. Campus recently moved to a house in Finleyville. Their summer plans include visits to Colorado and Nashville to visit.

#### #trinitypride

TRINITY AREA

# WHO WE ARE-



Kayla Smith Speech-Language Pathologist Trinity West

#### **#TRINITYFAMILY**

Mrs. Kayla Smith is a proud Trinity graduate of the Class of 2012. She graduated summa cum laude from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and earned her Bachelor of Science in Education and Master of Science in Communication Disorders. Mrs. Smith spent the past six years providing speech therapy services to students in the Early Childhood Special Education classroom in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. Her focus has been on working with students with autism. She has a passion for augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) and helping children of all levels find their voices. She is certified in Visual Phonics and has received training in utilizing Story Champs, a program focused on the development of oral language through storytelling. At Trinity, Mrs. Smith has transitioned into the role of Speech-Language Pathologist. She has loved every moment of her new adventure with elementary aged students!

**Cool Facts:** When not in school, Mrs. Smith likes to spend her free time with her oneyear-old daughter, husband, and two pups. She loves to travel and just recently spent the holidays in Breckenridge, Colorado. She is a lover of all things Disney, and she and her husband cannot wait to take their daughter to Disney for the first time! She is very passionate about music. She is a singer and plays the piano, ukulele, and cello.

#### #trinitypride

TRINITY AREA

#### **INFORMATIONAL FLYERS:** All flyers are available on the district website under About

https://www.trinitypride.org/Content2 /district-flyers

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



# Dates to Remember February

12 -Staff Development/ No School 19 -President's Day/No School



Coming in March! Kindergarten Registration will be both in person and on-line this year! See flyer below.

> To submit an article for publication in Hiller Highlights email: tkrieger@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.



Kindergarten

#### Trinity Area School District Registration ENROLLMENT IS OPEN FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Please go to our website, <u>www.TrinityPride.org</u> where you will find many details about Kindergarten, the registration process and loads of useful information!

#### In order to expedite your student's registration it is highly recommended that you start your On-Line Registration prior to attending our In-Person Registration event!

#### Enrollment:

If you currently have a Skyward Family Access Account you can access the online application from your account. If you do not have a Skyward account, click on the hyperlink below and complete the form. You will be emailed login credentials and a link to the Online Enrollment Application.

#### **Online Enrollment Login Credential Request Form**

We will be holding In-Person Registration events from 10am-1pm and 5pm-7pm at each of the elementary schools where you will be able to complete registrations, provide required documents, and schedule your student's Dial 4 testing time. For your convenience, please schedule your registration time on our Sign Up Genius. Kindergarten Registration Sign-Up.

Monday, March 4	Tuesday, March 5	Wednesday, March 6	Thursday, March 7
Trinity North	Trinity South	<b>Trinity East</b>	Trinity West
225 Midland Dr.	2500 S. Main St.	252 Cameron Rd.	1041 Gabby Ave.

#### **REQUIREMENTS:**

Any child who is five years old before September 1<sup>st</sup> may attend Kindergarten. The following documents are required for enrollment:

- Birth certificate
- Proof of residency
- Proof of immunizations or medical/religious exemption form
- Custody agreement, if applicable

#### **IMPORTANT TENTATIVE DATES TO KNOW:**



Kindergarten Parent Orientation August 20 6:00-7:00 PM Augu

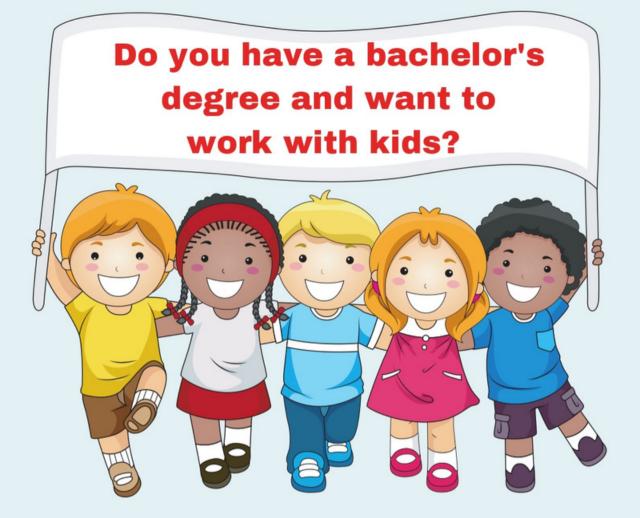
Kindercamp August 21 & 22 10:00 - 1:00 PM First day of school September 3

#### **TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT | 2024-2025 CALENDAR**

AUGUST '24    S  M  T  W  Th  F  S    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	19 <sup>th</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup> New Teachers 21 <sup>st</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> Kindercamp 26 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> Staff Development 30 <sup>th</sup> Clerical Day Teacher Days: 5 Student Days: 0	FEBRUARY '25    S  M  T  W  Th  F  S    u  u  u  u  u  1  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  u <th>10<sup>th</sup> Staff Development/No School 17<sup>th</sup> President's Day/No School Teacher Days: 19 Student Days: 18</th>	10 <sup>th</sup> Staff Development/No School 17 <sup>th</sup> President's Day/No School Teacher Days: 19 Student Days: 18
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	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> Labor Day <b>3<sup>rd</sup> – First Student Day</b> Teacher Days: 20 Student Days: 20	MARCH  '25    S  M  T  W  Th  F  S    u  u  u  u  1  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  u  u  u  u  u	Teacher Days: 21 Student Days: 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  -  -	11 <sup>th</sup> Two-Hour Student Early Dismissal/Staff Development 14 <sup>th</sup> Staff Development/No School Teacher Days: 23 Student Days: 22	APRIL '25    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# – End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> 9 weeks 17 <sup>th</sup> – Staff Development/No School 18 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup> – Spring Break/No School Teacher Days: 20 Student Days: 19
NOVEMBER '24    S  M  T  W  Th  F  S    a  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	5 <sup>th</sup> End of 1st 9 weeks 27 <sup>th</sup> Two-Hour Student Early Dismissal/Staff Development 28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> Fall Break Teacher Days: 19 Student Days: 19	MAY '25    S  M  T  W  Th  F  S    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    4  5  4  5  6  7  8  9  10	23rd Two-Hour Student Early Release/Staff Development 26th Memorial Day Teacher Days: 21 Student Days: 21
DECEMBER '24    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	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> – Fall Break</b> <b>23<sup>rd</sup>-31st</b> – Winter Break Teacher Days: 14 Student Days: 14	JUNE '25    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	6 <sup>th</sup> Graduation/Last Student Day 9 <sup>th</sup> Teacher Clerical Teacher Days: 6 Student Days: 5
JANUARY '25    S  M  T  W  Th  F  S    0  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 <sup>st</sup> New Year's Day/No School 17 <sup>th</sup> Two-Hour Student Early Release/Teacher Clerical 20 <sup>th</sup> M.L. King Day/No School 24th End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Teacher Days: 21 Student Days: 21	Teacher Days: 189 Student Days: 180 Board Approved: TENTATIVE FIRST STUDENT DAY FOR 2025-2026	Since 1925

Student Days: 21

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2025



THE HR DEPARTMENT IS LOOKING FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS!

THOSE WITH A TEACHING DEGREE, AS WELL AS THOSE WITH "EMERGENCY STATUS", MAY APPLY (FOUR YEAR DEGREE REQUIRED/NO TEACHING DEGREE NECESSARY)

DAILY RATE IS \$125

IF YOU ARE QUALIFIED AND INTERESTED IN WORKING WITH OUR STUDENTS, CONTACT

> MR. JACK MINNICK HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR FOR MORE INFORMATION

724-223-2000 EXT. 7121 OR 7114