



TRITON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWBURY • ROWLEY • SALISBURY

From the office of Dr. Sandra J. Halloran

News of the Week

March 19, 2010

Final FY2011 Budget Vote: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 7PM High School Library

Watch the meetings live! Important budget discussions affecting the Triton Regional School District can be viewed as they are happening! Viking Television (VTV) will stream the school committee meetings LIVE on the web at: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/triton-regional-school-committee-meetings>. To view the webcast, copy and paste the address into your web browser.

NES PRINCIPAL INTERVIEW COMMITTEE: The Triton Regional School District has begun the process of searching for the next Newbury Elementary School principal. Three Newbury parents will be selected to sit on the interview committee. The interview committee's role is to act in the capacity of advisor to Dr. Halloran. It is important that members of the interview committee make a commitment to participate in the process from beginning to end and attend each and every interview as well as the orientation meeting.

Interviews will take place at Newbury Elementary School. The dates and times are:

April 7, 2010	3:30-5:00 pm	Interview Committee Orientation Meeting
April 13, 2010	3:15-6:30 pm	Interviews
April 14, 2010	3:15-5:30 pm	Interviews
April 15, 2010	3:15-8:00 pm	Interviews and Deliberation

Parents who are interested in serving on the interview committee should send an email as a letter of interest to Assistant Superintendent Kathleen Willis (kwillis@trsd.net) by Monday, April 5, 2010. Your involvement in the selection of the next Newbury Elementary School principal is very important and we look forward to working with you.

PARENT FOCUS GROUP: An integral part of the search process involves parent and community participation in focus groups. The groups are designed to obtain participant input about the attributes, experience and knowledge that a new elementary school principal should possess. The groups also provide an opportunity for participants to identify immediate tasks which the new principal should address. The focus group session for parents and community members will be conducted as follows:

NES Auditorium on March 31, 2010

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, and wish to provide input or have questions, please feel free to email Assistant Superintendent Kathleen Willis at kwillis@trsd.net or her administrative assistant, Maureen Dupray, at mdupray@trsd.net. We hope many parents and community members will be able to participate as each person's contribution is very important to the process.

THS Students receive art awards: Emily Jutras has been awarded Second Place in the **Congressional Art Awards at Montserrat College of Art** for her piece: Eye of the Soul. There were some very strong pieces to contend with so we are all very proud of Emily.

THS had two award winners at the Newburyport Artists' Association Budding Artists competition. **Nicole Rodgers won a \$25 prize and Andrea Thoen won a \$50 prize.** We also had two honorable mentions: Collette Newcombe and Bianca Corey. The works can be seen along with all the competition at the NAA in Newburyport.

DI NEWS: Sunday is the Regional DI tournament. There are 21 teams from the Triton district. Four high school and five middle school teams will be participating. Teams have been working on their solutions since early fall and will showcase their creative solutions on March 21st at Triton. Triton will host over 75 teams from all over Essex County.

Other district teams include a team from SES, six teams from PGS and five teams from NES. Top scorers from the regional will advance to the State Finals at WPI, Worcester. Then, Global Finals will be held at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN in May. Barbara Mann, the state director of MA Destination ImagiNation will travel with 32 teams from MA to Tennessee. Good luck to all the Triton district Teams!

[Third graders at NES](#) are studying the Pilgrims and Puritans in our Massachusetts history. This week, they had a special guest come in to speak to the third grade from the Salem Witch Museum! Mrs. D'Amario, education director of the museum, was gracious enough to come in and present details about what it was like to live during the time period of the Puritans and trials. The students had amazing and thoughtful questions for her and she was a true wealth of knowledge. She also left the class with special "magic" pencils, a map of Salem in 1692, and informational booklets for the classroom libraries. We want to send out a special thank you to Joy Michaud, Abby Wing's mother, and Joy's brother, owner of the museum, for arranging this "in-house fieldtrip" for grade three. Students were eager to learn about this fascinating time period in our local history!

[TMS eighth grade teachers Shirley Faulkner and Mark Wilson](#) are piloting a 60-day trial of a student hand-held response system from Turning Point Technologies. The software can lay a toolbar over any website, document, or graphic. The teacher asks students to choose an answer and then punch in their choices on their clickers. Students can immediately see (anonymously) results in a poll. The teacher gets feedback about whether students need more instruction or whether the class is ready to move on. The system has many uses. Teachers can set up class teams for contests, or they can ask a question to gather prior knowledge about a new unit or lesson ("What causes the seasons?"), or to generate discussion ("What are the benefits of a free society?") They can also poll students about their own learning. Here is an example:

How prepared are you for Friday's test?

- A. Very prepared
- B. Somewhat prepared
- C. A little prepared
- D. Freaking out!

Mrs. Faulkner and Mr. Wilson have generously invited interested staff to visit their classrooms to see this new tool in action.

[SES Student Council News:](#) The SES talent show is March 26th from 6pm-8pm and April 5th is Red Sox Day. SES invites the rest of the district to participate in Earth Hour March 27th at 8:30PM. Tom Brady and his wife, Gisele, are promoting and encouraging our participation with millions others worldwide. SES is asking everyone to take a pledge to turn off their lights and electronics etc. for one hour. Students who return pledges will have them displayed in the

lobby. [Math-A-Thon](#) collected \$4,970 for [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](#). Congratulations to the student council.

TMS Science & Engineering Workshop: On Tuesday, March 16, 2010 the Collaborative Project for Mathematics, Science and Interdisciplinary Education (CPMSIE) sponsored an all-day workshop at Salem State College for middle school girls who are thinking about careers in science and engineering. The W.I.S.E. Career Day started in 1989 to bring 8th grade girls together with women working in science and mathematics careers. The women present workshops that relate to their careers and encourage questions that can help direct students on a science/math pathway. There were fewer than 100 girls in the first program. The program now services over 400 girls. This year women ranging from fields of civil engineering to veterinary oncology prepared lectures and workshops for the girls. The keynote speaker was Danielle Niles, meteorologist from NE cable news. Girls from Triton Regional Middle School who attended are Nicole Murphy, Laura Frackiewicz, Kandace Demers, Carolyn Parks, Lindsey Thurlow, Meliza Phoummavong, Alexa Reilly, Mae Merrill, Ashley O'Neil, Casey Ross, Sydney Rybicki, and Mikayla Gigandet

Congratulations to NES 6th grade scientists: **Danielle Sedler, Kyle Stackpole, and Mason Winslow** for winning our annual *Periodic Table Challenge*. These students know all of the symbols for all of the elements on the *Periodic Table of Elements!* Honorable Mention goes to **Ava Moran** and **Mason Stickney!** Well done!

TMS 21st Century Community Service Club (Triton Paws 4 People) had a representative from MSPCA-Methuen visit them recently and she brought her dog Tasha! They learned about the MSPCA: what they do, how they operate, how to adopt a pet, what the MSPCA's needs are and much more. They had fun giving Tasha treats and scratching her back, too. They plan on filling up the rest of the bulletin board in the lobby with information about animals in need and how to help them.

PGS District Arts Festival Contribution: PGS hosted a show of high school artwork in the Link Art Gallery. The work shows the elementary students what they can look forward to once they move on to Triton. The students have been ooohing and aahhhing at what awaits them!

Thank you to Robin Knipe-Verrette and Josh Andrews for lending us the work! Maybe next year, we can have some high school students visit in person!

First Taste of Triton Fundraiser: We are very pleased to report that the very first Taste of Triton yielded \$721.50 for the Haiti Relief Fund. As was expected, there were crocks overflowing with gourmet soups, stews, chowdas, chilies, and baked goods for more than 80 diners. The tireless efforts of our Community Service students, staff, and parents made this event a tremendous success. As it was so well received, it has been requested to be an annual event coupled with a production from our Performing Arts Department. Voila...."Dinner and a Show."

A very special thanks go out to Sheila Thompson, Sharon Bolduc, Steve Orme, Regina Sternlicht, Kim Wright, Marybeth Bennett, Jamie Parsons, our outstanding Community Service officers and members, and everyone who offered their support.

The TMS 21st Century Greenhouse project was highlighted in the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education 21st Century Community Learning Centers Newsletter recently. The following article received front page coverage. It all starts with a seed. Whether it is an idea, a dream, or a vision, what can be accomplished in your 21st CCLC programs can be largely constrained only by your imaginations. Are resources important? Of course. Does it take more time than you think you really have? Yes. But true innovation lies in what can be done with by having the right idea, by working with the right people at the right time. Case in point: the **Triton Regional Middle School Green House Project**. They had a bold idea. How to create meaningful experiences for their moderate to severe special education population while teaching those skills that could help them succeed in the work-force. They pitched this idea to their Local Council. One of their members works at the Institution of Savings Bank. This council member suggested that a charitable donation grant be submitted, it was, and they got it! Other community members wanted to pitch in and help. Now goods, services and labor get donated. All of a sudden, they go from a germ of this idea to a full-fledged green house that is being used as a center of learning, community building and more. The moral of this story? Despite limited resources and time, people still do give generously of both if they are compelled by the right idea. We will continue to present these stories to help spur innovation in our communities.

Best, Karyl Resnick

The Spring On-Line Viking Corner Store is now Open through March 31!!

Check it out! We hope you like the choices:

- There is a good variety of merchandise to choose from. The Entrepreneurship students have selected a new design for a short sleeve T and pigment dyed sweatshirt.
- Other items include: ball caps--with flat bill and traditional bill, umbrellas, basketball shorts w/pockets, long sleeved T's, nylon jacket, wind pants, sweatpants with a different design/logo, and ladies/youth full zip hoodie in Columbia blue and white plus a Triton fleece blanket with carrying handle.
- Payment is by credit card; delivery is to your home starting April 14.
- Exchanges for size may be made at the high school lobby store if necessary.

Most items are available in both youth and adult sizes. You can now access the store 2 ways:
Google: tritonstuff.com or go to: [Triton High School Website](#); click "About TRHS," click [Viking Corner Store Online on right side.](#)

Thanks in advance for supporting your school store!

TMPO BENEFIT CONCERT: The Triton Music Parents Organization is having “An Evening of Acoustic Music” Saturday March 20 @ 7pm (doors open at 6:30)_at Triton Regional High School, Elm St., Byfield, MA

MUSIC BY: Wayne O’Blenes & David Fuller
Triton Music Staff and Students

Special Guest: Zach Field Drum Studios

Adults \$10.00 Seniors/Students \$5.00 Refreshments Served

For tickets see any TMPO Member or the High/Middle School Office

Or call: Wayne O’Blenes 978-465-8216

Larry Buckless 978-948-2313

All Proceeds Benefit the Performing Arts Department and Students