



TRITON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWBURY • ROWLEY • SALISBURY

From the office of Dr. Sandra J. Halloran

News of the Week April 1, 2010

Assistant Superintendent, Kathleen Willis has been named a finalist for the position of superintendent in the North Reading School District. The selection committee will visit Triton on Tuesday, April 6th. The site visit to North Reading, followed by an interview with the school committee, will take place on Tuesday, April 13th. An announcement of the successful candidate will be made on Thursday, April 15th. Congratulations and best wishes to Ms. Willis!

The next Triton School Committee meeting is scheduled for April 14 at 7PM in the high school library. Want to stay informed about what is happening at Triton? Watch us on your computer at ustream.tv. Thanks to Triton's Media Productions classes we currently have two channels up and running. Both are full of useful and entertaining shows with more being posted every week. For School Committee meetings visit: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/triton-regional-school-committee-meetings>.

For student related programming visit: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/vtv-viking-television>

The last few weeks at Triton...

Bullying Assembly for Triton Students: <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/5537010>

Bullying Presentation to Triton Parents: <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/5560429>

School Committee Public Hearing on Budget: <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/5536081>

Viking Television Episode 14: <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/5511933>

The TRHS robotics team competed in the FIRST Robotics competition this past weekend at Boston University's Agannis arena. They had a slow start with complications, but the team went heads down and made the necessary modifications to the robot all while working under time constraints between matches and in limited space.

We are proud of our students as they masterminded the design, construction and programming as a team. They went on in the tournament scoring a goal and supporting the alliance playing defense all while keeping the opposing alliance from scoring.

Awesome year TRHS Robotics team! We will miss our seniors - Ben Collins, Dan Norton, Josh Gershuny and Sara Bouchard, who were instrumental in the success of the entire robotics design process.

[TMS TLC program](#) is completing a curriculum review by Easter Egg Hunt! In the interest of learning AND fun, the TLC students hunted for Easter eggs in which review questions were hidden. They were allowed to find four each and then answer the hidden questions. Fun was had by all culminating with an Easter treat!

[In the fall, Mr. Sydney's TMS English classes](#) submitted entries to the Library of Congress' Letters about Literature contest, in which students reflect themselves by writing to the author of their favorite novel and explaining how it connects to their lives.

From the director of the contest, Sharon Shaloo: "This year more than 4,100 letters were written by young readers in Massachusetts, and we were, as ever, amazed by the range of their insights and the reach of their reflections. The students are grappling with real life issues: life and death, belonging and isolation, happiness and depression, prejudice and presumptions, financial security and, more often, financial risks, all the while linking the books that they read in meaningful ways to their efforts to dance through the minefield of the complex world in which they live."

The following students' letters were selected by the judges for their merit:

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Taylor Martens: | state semi-finalist | top 10% in the country |
| Sarah Pawlick: | state semi-finalist | top 10% in the country |
| Devin Anderson: | state semi-finalist | top 10% in the country |
| Sarah Johnston: | state semi-finalist | top 10% in the country |
| Alexa Bryant: | honorable mention | top 5% in the country |
| Madeleine Winslow: | honors | top 1% in the country |

invited to a State House ceremony May 11th

[The student council at NES](#) has recently had a hat day at school to raise money for the Bush-Clinton Haiti Relief Fund. A total of \$ 200 was raised. This amount was generously matched by the Provident Bank of Amesbury. These checks will be presented to Mrs Jordan by the bank and then mailed to the Relief Fund. Thanks to everyone who donated and a special thanks to the Provident Bank.

[TMS 21st Century Community Service Club, Triton Paws 4 People](#), has three events coming up:

- 1) A walk to raise money and supplies for the MSPCA at Nevins Farm in Methuen on Wed., April 7 at Triton
- 2) A visit to the MSPCA at Nevins Farm in Methuen on Wed., April 14
- 3) A celebration of their achievements on Wed., April 28 at TRMS

[Congratulations to this first year club on their many successes under the direction of Heather Douglas!](#)

[The THS Junior Class](#) will be holding a competition modeled on the popular TV show, "So You Think You Can Dance," complete with a judge's panel and a range of different dance types. Students can sign up with Ms. Dempsey, junior class advisor. The competition is scheduled for April 16.

The Junior Class is selling tickets for the Junior Prom. The class will be holding the prom on May 8, Saturday, at the Atkinson Country Club. Students must purchase tickets by April 15.

[TMS Team 8-2 students participated in the National French Exam.](#) These students were extremely diligent in their preparation for this prestigious exam. We congratulate all participants!!

Devin Anderson, Jessica Beal, Jay Belleville, Alexa Bryant, Curran Callewaert, Lucas DeAngelo, Alec Dunn, Ryan Fufllis, Jacob Gauthier, Alessandra Greco, Patrick Hoey, Erin Holloran, Thomas Howell, Jacqueline L'Heureux, Sydney Marino, Ashley Miller, Eric Ninthala, Brian Romanski, Madison Solomon, Joshua Terry, Lindsey Thurlow, Erin Volpone, Madison Williams and Madeleine Winslow.

Team 8-2 is VERY proud of you for taking this challenging exam!! C'est magnifique!

Additionally, Team 8-2 Foreign Language students continue to use the new "Clicker" technology. This software, complete with clickers for all the students to use is currently on loan to us from Turning Point Technologies. The students use their clickers to select the proper answer to a question they read from the screen. With our Foreign Language textbook and the new software, Mrs. Faulkner has created PowerPoint presentations which allow the students to use their new language in a fun and interactive way!! They love it when we "Ask the Audience!!"

[PGS teacher, Beth Stephan](#), has been training for a 10-mile race since mid-January. The race is on May 2nd. The 5th graders at PGS have been tracking her progress on charts and graphs to see how many miles she runs each day. They also track her average pace as well as her weekly mileage and total mileage altogether, and then they discuss it. On a bulletin board in Ms. Stephan's room, they have a map of Massachusetts and are tracking how far across Massachusetts she will have run altogether.

[The Key drive continues at SES](#) and to date they have collected over 500 keys to raise money for the local food pantry! The key drive runs until May 21st and if you wish to donate old keys, please send them interoffice to Lisa Davis at SES.

[April is Literary Festival month in the Middle School](#). This year, Julie Hahnke will be visiting on May 7th for an author presentation. Julie's books have been placed #3 on the Summer Reading Kids' Indie Next List, and a NH Public Radio Kids' Summer Reading Pick, and is a Silver Medal Winner of 2010 Mom's Choice Award.

In addition to her afternoon presentation, she will also be giving writers' workshops in the morning. TMS has the additional good fortune to have her illustrator join them, along with members of Fable Vision, an educational software company who provided TMS with "Animation-ish," a tool by which students can animate work based on research, reading, or sheer inspiration. They both will also be working along side Julie offering workshops as well.

Eighth graders will be participating by reading Julie's second book, "Through the Eyes of a Raptor." Some seventh graders will be reading Julie's first book, "The Grey Ghost." Julie has graciously personally autographed all books. They will be reading the books and modeling her

writing style for the entire month of April. The Art Department will be taking the opportunity to have some students illustrate other students' work. All students will have the opportunity to animate parts of either what they read, or what they wrote. Also, a main character in "The Grey Ghost" is a luna moth, so the science department is hatching real luna moths.

In addition to Julie's multiple talents, she is also a professional bag piper. Since her stories are inspired by ancient Scotland, she will be sharing her amazing piping skills for us at the end of her presentation.

TMS is very excited about all the happenings this month in the Middle School. Thank you parents and guardians for all your support!!

[A Special Thank You from Ms. Moreland:](#) I would like to publicly thank Dr. Barbara Cyr for the help she provides to special education teachers across the District who are submitting MCAS Alternate Assessment portfolios for their students this week. As you may know, some special education students are not able to participate in the regular MCAS due to the nature of their disabilities. The MCAS Alt is a way for them to show what they know through a months-long process of producing a portfolio that documents their work toward the standards. Barbara is an expert on the MCAS Alt, serving as a consultant to the DESE on this initiative. She makes herself available to special education teachers from around the district to make sure we are all on track to present our students' work as effectively as possible.

Sincerely,

Maryellen Moreland

[TMPO FUNDRAISER THANK YOU](#)

TMPO (Triton Music Parents Organization) would like to thank everyone who helped to make the "Benefit Concert" a week ago a success, from the students who took care of lighting and sound along with helping out backstage keeping everything organized to the parents who made and served snacks, set the tables and sold tickets. We would also like to thank Chris Walsh for his help making sure we had chairs, tables and anything else we needed to make things run smooth. This wouldn't have come together without the work and talent of Wayne O'Blenes, David Fuller along with all the very talented Triton students and the impressive music from the students of Zach Field Drum Studios. We would also like to thank everyone who came to

support the Arts, it is people like you who give us the drive to keep our organization going for all the students in the Performing Arts.

[A Message from Claudia Nagle:](#) Christine Kneeland and Margot Lacey held our Community Gathering for parents last evening at Pine Grove School. My husband Richard Nagle was present and VERY impressed! The topic was on Bullying and Harassment with the focus on the following: The Three R's, Respect Yourself, Respect Others, and Take Responsibility for Your Actions, What is Bullying? The Four Kinds of Bullying, The Role of the Bystander, and Cyber Bullying. Christine and Margot have held three Community Gatherings on these topics over the last several weeks with the students in grades 1-6. The parents were shown the Power Points that have been presented to the students.

There were 50 parents in attendance despite the weather. This community gathering was very well received with parents from NES and SES attending as well as including a school committee member. Wonderful questions and suggestions were discussed with the evening ending on a very positive note. Christine and Margot will be scheduling an additional evening to for this again as several parents indicated that they could not attend due to the flooding. It was a wonderful presentation!

As an IA at PineGrove, business owner in Rowley and MOST IMPORTANT a parent of a 4th grade student at PG, I write this blurb with much pride knowing that our school is in such wonderful hands and we are progressing as a community on a very positive and rapid path as a result of the effect that Chris has had on our education AND Community. Thank you for adding this to the News!!!

Claudia Nagle

[THE CIRCUS JUST LEFT TOWN, THEATER WORKSHOP AND NES-PTA DAZZLED THEIR AUDIENCES WITH CIRCUS-O-SCENARIO...](#)

The 6th graders have taken their final bow, the magical circus set has been dismantled and the colorful costumes have been put away but the electric performances by the 93± Newbury Elementary students is still fresh in the audiences' mind after seven stellar performances.

Written and directed by Stacey April Fix, this original play was a representation of the dynamic life of circus people through a rich spectacle of dance, color and light. Circus-O-Scenario depicted the mayhem and magic of the circus through exciting acts featuring ‘exotic animals’, clowns and ‘acrobats’ as well as enchanting personalities and devious characters.

The set was designed to mimic the circus ring of yesteryears bringing audience members right up to the stage encouraging participation and interaction with the cast. Classic acts had the audience in stitches including the ‘reluctant bears’ dance, the lion/tiger show, the runaway kids and as always the NES teachers in their various comical roles. Some acts simply mesmerized the audience including the tightrope dancers and the various “freak” characters who showed off their odd talents!

In between all of the exciting acts, the circus characters impressed the audience with their confidence, delivery and acting ability. From Raul, the ring master (Eric Rybicky) whose arrogance was clearly evident to Priscilla (Brooke Thon) and Bobo the Clown’s (Sergei Franson) genuineness and innocence, you couldn’t help but fall in love with each character. The romance between the two clowns Lala (Ania Burgess) and PomPom (Robi Scalfani) was equally endearing as was the unlikely love affair between the Bearded Lady (Emma Cashman) and Magnifico the Magician (Brendan Muldowney). Hudson Shearer and Ben Hall had the audience howling in their roles as Pierre’s sister and friend, Candy and Mona, while the devious Pierre (Mason Winslow) delivered his lines in a hysterical French accent.

The costumes, designed by Lola Knight, were remarkable, rivaling any Broadway show. The hair and makeup were equally impressive: from the expressive clown faces to the “disturbing” circus characters. The set, the organization, the volunteers, the program, all reflect a polish and professionalism rarely found in any local production. The Triton School District should be incredibly grateful for Theater Workshop, the young students, dedicated faculty and enthusiastic parents who support the arts so fervently. The performances brought moments of emotion and surprise and sent a wonderful message of goodness, love, pride and confidence to all who experienced it.

TICKET SALES REPRESENT AN IMPORTANT FUNDRAISER FOR THE NES-PTA AS 100% OF THE PROCEEDS GO DIRECTLY INTO THE ASSOCIATION’S FUND ENRICHING THE LIVES OF ALL NES

STUDENTS. We look forward to seeing many more Triton families attend these productions in the future. For information about Theater Workshop contact Monica Burgess at monicaburgess@gmail.com or Stacey Fix at theaterworkshop@comcast.net

You are cordially invited to attend an informational grant reception

Sponsored by: **The Rowley Cultural Council**
Thursday, April 8th, 2010, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
At the **Rowley Library**, Main Street, Rowley, MA
Refreshments will be served

Come discuss your ideas or learn about the grant application process for the upcoming 2011 grant cycle. Deadline for grant submissions is October 15, 2010. Each year we have \$4,000.00 in grant awards to benefit our community. The grant forms are simple and easily accessed online.

For more information please contact:

Mary Murphy, mmkpmurphy@verizon.net

978.948.7917

Website: <http://www.mass-culture.org/Rowley>