



TRITON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWBURY • ROWLEY • SALISBURY

From the office of Dr. Sandra J. Halloran

News of the Week

April 9, 2010

The next Triton School Committee meeting is scheduled for April 14 at 7PM in the high school library.

Want to meet Triton's new Superintendent of Schools. Tune into our channel on Ustream.tv this week and watch his interview in front of the school committee.

Superintendent Interview (Part 1) <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/6022979>

Superintendent Interview (Part 2) <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/6024234>

For more programming related to the school committee visit:

<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/triton-regional-school-committee-meetings>.

Need a laugh? Catch the April Fools Day episode of Viking Television at

<http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/5851244>. For more student-related programming

visit: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/vtv-viking-television>

Important grant opportunity: The 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant Innovation grant RFP recently announced by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education would offer our district valuable opportunities to expand 21st Century after school programming into our high school. In the coming month we will be submitting our proposal.

Currently, we have a 21st Century after school program at the Middle School and at Salisbury Elementary School. Both of these sites have been named Exemplary by DESE and Salisbury Elementary has just received a superior evaluation in the first step to continue programming beyond the three year Exemplary extension.

[Middle School teachers Diane Berky \(math\) and Paige Ribaud-Smith \(science\)](#) have received a 3M Ingenuity Grant for \$3,500. The 3M Ingenuity Grant is an invitation-only grant to help math and science teachers bring new teaching methods and learning activities into the classroom. Through this grant, two classroom sets of student response devices will be purchased for use by the math and science departments. Students will be able to vote via handheld clickers in response to prompts or questions on the screen. Their responses are graphed. Teachers can get a snapshot of student understanding right in the middle of a lesson. The ability to do quick (and engaging) informal assessments will help teachers to be more responsive to student needs. This summer, the two teachers will also create common assessments to track student progress throughout the year.

[SES Kindergarten](#) is hatching chicks! Eggs were donated by Deb Walton, who will take the chicks home after they hatch!

[TMS 21st Century Viking Cafe](#) held their "Hearts for Haiti" bake sale in April. They raised \$180 selling cupcakes, cookies, and chocolate covered pretzels. The money was donated to the Hospital Albert Schweitzer, in Deschepelles in Haiti's Artibonit Valley. The hospital has been in existence since the 1950's and has been inundated with over 160,000 refugees who have flooded into the area.

The students have also been working with Jennifer Alves of Jengerbread bakery. Ms. Alves has been teaching them the finer points of cake decorating. They would like to expand the Cafe into a baking service as well. The Cafe has already received their first order for an end of the year cake to be designed and baked for the Community Service Club.

[District Grade 4 science teachers need to replace D-cell batteries](#) annually for hands-on science experiences in the electricity unit. They welcome donations of new packages of batteries. If you would like to donate batteries, please drop them at the schools care of the following Science committee people: Jane Keeler at SES, Gareth Bevan at PGS, Kelly Williamson at NES. Tip: Sometimes discount stores have great sales!

[CONGRATULATIONS TO TERESA BENOIT OF TMS TEAM 7-3!](#) Her Letter about Literature received an honors designation in the Level 2 category of the Massachusetts Letters

about Literature 2010 program, which means [Teresa's letter was in the top 1%](#)! She and Mrs. Babendreier will be attending the awards ceremony at the State House in Boston on May 11th!

A big thank you to the PTO for purchasing brand new copies of [Freak the Mighty](#) for the seventh-grade! It will be so nice next year to read WHOLE books with no missing pages. Mrs. Babendreier and Mrs. Gearin are eternally grateful.

[NES Kindergartners](#) enjoyed a presentation by the teachers from Spencer-Peirce Little Farm/Historic New England. They learned a colonial song and dance in preparation for Newbury's 375th Anniversary. Be sure to watch our presentation during NES's Living Museum on May 6th. In Foundations we have been practicing retelling beginning, middle, and end of stories, characters, and setting. We are listening for ending sounds of words during our Bingo games. In Investigations, we have been exploring and counting the number system with non-standard units such as sticks and cubes. We are recording our measurements with pictures, numbers, and words. Story problems are being introduced and we are practicing writing a number sentence. In Science, the children will be planting seeds to discuss cycles, living and nonliving things, and Earth Day. Kindergartners are beginning to read. Have you asked a Kindergartener to read to you lately?

[Thank you to Mrs. Verette and her art students.](#) They are helping the Green Thumb Club create a mural of a wall and flower pots in the high school TLC room. Please stop by and see the work in progress. It is coming out very nicely.

[PGS Grade 3 will participate in a field trip on June 9th.](#) They will enjoy a performance of Aesops Fables at the Berklee Performance Center. Following lunch, hopefully a picnic on the Boston Common, they will tour the Massachusetts State House. Thank you to PGS PTO for support of these field trips.

[SES 6th grade students,](#) Hailee Poulin, Lauren Mowles, Briana Appolloni, Jenessa Doucette and Emily Winnerman have started a monthly school newspaper. Wil Courtney editor from the Daily News came in and gave them tips on how to start a paper and to interview them. There will be an article and picture in the Daily News soon. Congratulations!

[THS music and drama students](#) will be cruising the Caribbean April 18th to 24th. They will sail from Tampa, FL to Grand Cayman and Cozumel, touring the sites and performing aboard the Carnival Inspiration. In addition to the 60 students and seven chaperones, 11 family members will travel with them and about 30 other "Tritonians" will be meeting them on the ship. They are sure the Triton contingent will quickly gain a reputation for being fun and friendly as they entertain their fellow passengers. The Concert Band, Jazz Band, Women's Choir, Jazz Choir, and Singers will all be adjudicated by a nationally credentialed judge, and will receive comments and a rating based on a rubric. The experience promises to be a valuable one for the students.

[April is National Poetry Month, and NES first graders](#) have embarked on a study of the craft of writing poetry. The young writers have begun to look at ordinary objects in interesting ways. Through a poet's eyes, for example, a curvy stick becomes a slithering snake. The children's creativity is so impressive! Now they have begun to set their ideas to "music," making their writing look and sound like poetry through the arrangement and choice of their words.

The writing of poetry is a recent first grade activity, but they have been reading poetry all year long! As readers, poems give them opportunities to practice their phonics skills, word-solving strategies, comprehension through visualization, fluency, and expression. They connect poetry to their learning in math, science, and social studies. Reading poems over and over in first grade classrooms celebrates the love of language and learning!

All of their reading and writing of poetry will culminate in a first grade end-of-year tradition -- Poetry Day. Parents with older children at NES can attest that this is one of many lasting memories of first grade at NES.

[Mass Audubon at SES:](#) A naturalist from the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary (of Mass. Audubon) spent an hour with each of the fifth grade classes at SES on Thursday, April 1st. He presented a program called "Energy Matters" which directly related to the science curriculum. He took each class outside and taught students about photosynthesis and food chains through fabulous hands-on activities. The SES PTA sponsored this program and we are very grateful for their support.

[In the fall, Team 8-2's 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

Rachel Williamson 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

[Spring Fling!](#) April 9th is SES Annual Spring Fling Dance for Grades 3-6 at 6:30 pm J

[Triton Arts News:](#) On Thursday, April 08, 2010, Triton Arts and Triton Community Service hosted our annual Senior Citizen Spring Breakfast. Seniors enjoyed music by the jazz band and jazz choir, and were served food by the students of the community service organization. Andrea Sargent, Sue Densmore, and Bob Lathrop did a great job putting this event together.

[Grade 2 at NES](#) will be presenting Country of Origin Projects on Wednesday the 14th of April. Students have been hard at work researching their family ancestry and learning about a country in which they have family history.

[A message about the Seminar at Triton on Bullying:](#) On March 18 Dr. Elizabeth Englander from the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center at Bridgewater State College spoke at Triton Regional High School on issues relating to bullying and cyber bullying. All middle and high school students and staff got a presentation on bullying. She also presented to parents later that evening. Dr. Englander is a nationally known authority on bullying in all its forms. It was only through the tremendous support of the Triton community that this speaking event was possible.

I would like to thank the Triton Ed Fund for their tremendous support of this event. I would also like to thank the Newburyport Bank, Pine Grove PTO and Newbury Elementary PTA for helping to bring her to Triton. Also, this event would not have been possible without the strong support of the parents of the students at Triton. Through our annual direct appeal we have avoided traditional fundraisers and have asked parents for direct support of the PTA. With continued support from the Triton community, we would like to continue to bring interesting, thought provoking speakers to present to both parents and students.

It is with heartfelt gratitude that I thank you all for helping us make the community we call Triton better for each and every one of our children.

Respectfully yours,
Alicia Greco
TRS PTA President

TRITON ALUMNI CAREER DAY

All students in Gr. 7-12 are invited to attend!
Wednesday, April 14, 2010--(2nd and 3rd period)

Located in the High School Library
Plus 4 Room in the Foreign Language Hall

(1) Medical/Registered Nurses—H104

Adv. Pract. RN, Psyc/Mental Health	Jill Sheridan, Manchester Mental Health Cen.NH
Registered Nurse, Intensive Care	Felicity Kubiak Perron, Merrimac Valley Hosp.

(2) Medical/Pharmacist/Athletic Trainer—H103

Pharmacist	Andrea Fabrizio, PharmD, Walgreens Pharm.
Athletic Trainer	Christopher Collins

(3) Law/Law Enforcement—Library

Lawyer/Internal Invest./Compliance	Ben Tymann, Mintz & Levin, Boston, MA
Corrections Officer	Robert Sweet; Federal Penitentiary, Ayer, MA
Police Officer	Officer Richard Lebel, Topsfield Police Dept.

(4) Learning & Education—H102

Kindergarten Teacher	Tiffany Stone, Middleton, MA
Elem. Ed., Reading Specialist	Bethany Webber Marshall, Salis. Elementary
High School Teacher, ESL	Jean Hopkinson Arango, Triton Reg. H.S.

(5) Science/ Engineering/Technology—H101

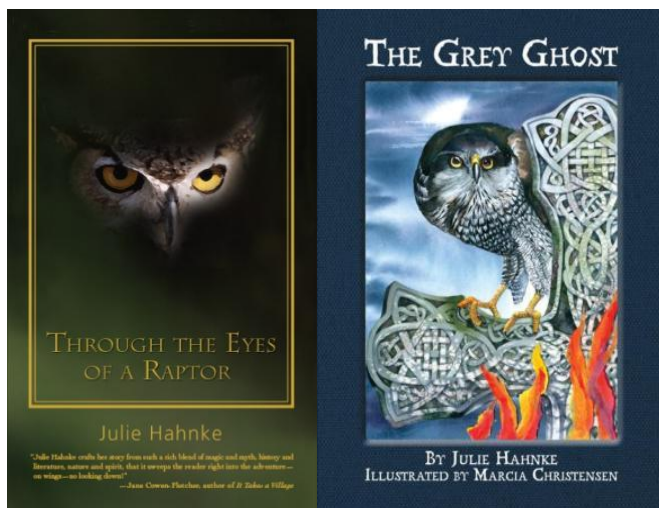
Research Scientist	Nick Mosher, MIT, Dept. of Defense
Acoustical Engineer	Brad Gallant, Epsalon Associates

- You must have a teacher signed registration form by the deadline to participate
- High School Teachers have copies of Registration forms
- Middle School forms are available from HR teachers

Literary Festival

May 7th, 2010

High School Auditorium



This year, **Julie Hahnke** will be visiting us 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. Julie will also be bringing her illustrator, Marcia Christiansen.

Luncheon:

We would like to invite you and other tri-town community leaders to the Triton Middle School Literary Festival. We hope this gathering will help enlighten the community about our school and foster more inter-community communications.

You are personally invited to our luncheon! While enjoying a wonderfully presented lunch, meet the author and the illustrator, tour student work, and hear about some of our new initiatives. **Time:** 11am – 12 pm **Place:** Triton High School Library

Please join us immediately following the luncheon for Julie's presentation.



Parlez-vous français ?



Do you speak French? Some Triton Regional High School students do! If you were a student in Québec, Canada, you would be speaking French every day in school, at work, and at home!

April 9-11 2010, a group of 28 Triton Regional High School students will be travelling to Québec City to try there hand at French, to stay in the beautiful Château Frontenac, to experience a traditional Sugar Shack, to sing traditional French Canadian Folk songs, and to learn more about the French heritage that the Québécois are so fiercely proud of in *La Belle Province*- the beautiful Province, founded by Samuel de Champlain.

Who will the Québécois welcome (**Bienvenue!) this year? Along with their chaperones Mme Melville, Mme Sternlicht and M Williams, students will travel with Visit Canada to Québec, where they will meet their tour guide Simon. Bon Voyage!**

On Saturday, April 10th, the Massachusetts PTA is celebrating its 100th Anniversary. Our High School Counselor, Dr. Erik Champy will be installed as the President-Elect of the organization for a two-year term. The Massachusetts PTA is the largest advocacy group for all children in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In addition, Triton Regional will be awarded for its increase in PTA membership.