

TC Details

A Monthly Newsletter for Parents

February 2012

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Let me begin by thanking those of you who supported our student activities programs last year by donating and supporting the Tri-County Auction. Your support helped to fund a wide range of student activities. For parents new to Tri-County, let me explain the purpose of the auction. The Tri-County Auction, scheduled for **Thursday, March 29, 2012**, is our school's major fund-raising effort with all proceeds going to defray the cost of student activities. The United Regional Chamber of Commerce is a platinum sponsor of our auction.

Money raised at past auctions has benefited our students participating in the National Honor Society, Math Team, Robotics Club, Student Council, and SkillsUSA.

There are several ways you can assist us:

- Donate an item or service to be auctioned.
- Purchase an advertisement in our program booklet.
- Volunteer your services to prepare for the auction.
- Volunteer your services to work the night of the auction.
- Attend the auction and be part of the bidding.

The theme of this year's auction is **Crazy 8's**. Your \$10 ticket includes an incredible hors d'oeuvres buffet prepared by our Culinary Arts students. In addition to the food, there is a silent auction as well as a live auction. And believe me, the live auction is entertainment in and of itself!!! In order for the auction to be a success we need as many people in attendance as possible. As an incentive to attending this year's auction, we are offering a special prize to any member of the Tri-County family (that includes you) who brings the most paying guests to the auction. You can check out the silent and live auction items that have been donated to date by visiting our webpage and clicking on Tri-County Auction Page. I look forward to seeing you at the Auction.

Nutri-Kids Cafeteria Point of Sale System:

The direct deposit feature for the Nutri-Kids cafeteria Point of Sale (POS) system is now fully operational. Parents have the choice of using their credit cards online for their son/daughter's lunch accounts. The POS system will automatically import payment information on a daily basis, prior to breakfast and lunch. There will be a convenience fee of \$1.75 per deposit transaction. Parents placing money into multiple meal accounts will only be assessed the \$1.75 fee once per deposit transaction. Contact Angie Gregoire, our Cafeteria Manager, x. 161 with any questions.

Guidance Calendar:

- Tuesday, **February 7** – The Guidance Office will be mailing out Report Cards
- Wednesday, **February 15** – Grade 10 course selections
- Tuesday, **February 28** – Grade 9 & 11 course selections

- Wednesday, **February 29**, Thursday **March 1** and Friday, **March 2** – MCAS English Language Arts Retest

Scholarship Update:

The Guidance Department is compiling a list of local scholarships that will be given out at graduation. To be eligible for a scholarship, students must fill out a scholarship application and secure teacher recommendations. These applications will be distributed to all seniors in April. *Dean College awards a full tuition scholarship at graduation each year.* Contact Mr. O'Brien in Guidance for more information regarding scholarships and awards.

Financial Aid:

Information on completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is available online at www.fafsa.edu.gov. Parents and students must apply for a "pin" number prior to completing the application. Another excellent source of information is the MEFA website, www.mefacounselor.org, which serves as a "one-stop" site that will assist families in applying for state, federal, and college financial aid.

Parents of seniors who are applying to college should complete the FAFSA. Every college has established a financial aid priority deadline for its school. The FAFSA must be completed for processing prior to the school's deadline.

College Planning:

Information on the college planning process is also available on the Tri-County website under "Guidance". Click "Applying to College". Registration dates for the SAT and ACT tests are noted. Juniors who want to take the spring SAT test to establish a baseline score prior to their senior year should be aware of the SAT Reasoning Test:

Test Date: Deadline for Registering:

May 5 April 6

Jun 2 May 8

Students in **Grade 11** who meet the eligibility requirements for free or reduced lunch may qualify for fee waivers up to four (4) SAT tests: 2 SAT tests and 2 SAT subject tests. Please contact Ms. Johannesen in Guidance to inquire about your waiver.

Early College Planning:

On **March 15, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM**, there will be a presentation by a MEFA representative. All grade 10 and 11 students and their parents are welcome to attend. It will take place in the Tri-County Auditorium.

Grade 11 parent/student guidance meetings will begin **March 5**. Look for a letter in the mail detailing how we will be scheduling these meetings.

Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC):

There will be a SEPAC meeting on **February 16, from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM**.

Student Council Dance:

Student Council is sponsoring a dance on Friday, March 2, from 7:00 PM -10:00 PM. Tickets will be on sale starting February 15. Tickets will not be on sale at the door and students will not be admitted without a ticket. Listen to the announcements for more information.

Class Fees:

Class fees are currently being collected in the Dean of Students Office. All class fees are \$50 per year. Student fees are collected to offset the cost of many class activities.

Attendance:

The second semester has ended and parents are reminded of the attendance policy.

An accumulation of **four (4) or more unexcused absences** at the end of each marking period will prevent a student from participating in any extra-curricular activities, including sports, until the end of the next marking period. Three lates or early dismissals count as one absence.

At the end of the school year, a student who has accumulated **MORE THAN TWELVE (12)** unexcused absences may be denied promotion or graduation.

Dress Code:

Thank you for your support addressing issues with the school dress code. It helps to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment. **Please continue to check for ripped, torn or inappropriate clothing (i.e. pajama bottoms, slippers) worn by your child.**

Phone/Cell Phone Use:

As you know, cell phone use is prohibited at Tri-County. Once again we need your support to alleviate cell phone use. Please remind your son/daughter to **turn their cell phone off (NOT on vibrate or silence mode)** upon entering the building and leave them off until 2:15 PM. In an emergency you may call 508-528-5400. Your child will be contacted immediately and will return your call on a designated phone. **All cell phones confiscated must be picked up by a parent/guardian.**

Lost and Found:

Lost and found is located in the Dean of Students Office. There are coats, sweatshirts, shirts, hats, a pair of boots and some jewelry and many pairs of glasses. Please have your child check for any lost item.

SkillsUSA:

The SkillsUSA District Competition will be held at Diman RVTHS on March 8. Students attending the competition must complete and return all forms to Mr. Garland or Ms. Baldi ASAP. Students will be departing from Tri-County at 9:30 AM and will return to the school by 7:30 PM. All students attending will be responsible to raise \$25 by selling March calendar raffle tickets.

Ian Plath, a senior in the Graphics Communication Program, submitted the winning SkillsUSA t-shirt design. All students competing at the State SkillsUSA Conference will be wearing the t-shirt. Congratulations, Ian!

Culinary Arts Students:

The Culinary Arts students will be participating in a Pro Start competition at the Cordon Bleu Culinary Institute on February 3. Four students will compete in the Culinary Arts division and three students will be competing in the Restaurant Management division.

Pre-School Registration:

The Early Childhood program will hold its preschool program registration on Friday, February 3 in the Tri-County Main Lobby. Contact the school for more information.

Student Council:

Student council will be collecting used jeans for Jeans for Teens. This organization cleans and distributes used jeans to teens in need. Collection will take place February 6 – 10, before school. Donated jeans should be placed in the tubs outside the Main Office.

The student council will also be selling roses for Valentine's Day. All colored roses will be available. Roses will be \$3 each or a dozen for \$35. No preorders will be accepted.

Early Release – Monday, February 6, 2012

Periods 1-4, 10:44 dismissal for students.

Spring for Students Auction



CRAZY 8's!

Thursday - March 29, 2012 7:00PM

Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School Cafeteria