



Tiger Pride Newsletter



Tripp Middle School, 65 Matthews Way, Turner, ME 04282

207-225-1070

March 2017

Principal's Message,

This is the message I received from Hannaford's Cause Bag Program. "We are contacting you today to let you know that your local Hannaford store has selected Friends of Tripp Middle School as the April recipient of the Hannaford Cause Bag program!"

How does the program work? During the month of April, for each Hannaford Helps reusable bag with the good karma message sold at the Hannaford store located at 23 Snell Hill Road, Turner ME, Friends of Tripp Middle School will receive \$1!

Because the Friends of Tripp money goes to help with the end of 8th grade dance and recognition, the money will be evenly divided and one portion will be put in reserve for this years 7th grade. Help support our school and purchase a Good Karma Bag at the Turner Hannaford Market.

EmPowerMe is the state mandated test. Each year all students are tested in the areas of Reading, Writing, and Math. We hold our test periods in the morning at the start of the school day. It is very important that your child arrives to school every day before 7:40, but especially during these test days to help your child be fully prepared for the testing. We are planning to complete our testing on March 28,29, and 30th for Reading and Math. We will complete our Writing in May when it is available. Please see the attached letter from Mr. Ambrose, Assistant Superintendent.

During the March Team Leaders meeting we discussed the process of students qualifying for honor roll and how that is working. We feel our current process is working well. We also talked about an idea that the teachers choose the students for high honors, but the teachers felt this was too subjective for the teachers to choose. We all feel it is better to base honor roll on numbers. We discussed the fact that the high school has high honors. After a lengthy discussion, we came to the following conclusions, although the high school has high honors we feel at this age the honors level is sufficient recognition for showing growth. Thank you for listening and your continued support.

Important Dates

March 14 – 7th Grade Career Day – 7th graders travel to CMCC

March 16 – Half-Day for students

March 17 – Wildcats sponsored Social

March 24 – Trimester 2 Ends

March 28,29,30 EmPowerMe State Testing

Athletic News at Tripp

Sign up sheets are in the main lobby at Tripp for spring sports. I am excited to see all sheets for the different sports filling up so fast. As of the time you get this newsletter, Tripp does not have a 7th grade baseball coach or softball coach. If you have any interest in coaching a great group of boys and/or girls, please contact Mark Thibodeau at 225-1070 or by e-mail, mark.thibodeau@msad52.org .

That being said, spring sports are only a week and a half away. Baseball and softball tryouts will begin on March 20th. In order to tryout, you must have a current physical examination and have all sports paperwork filled out. If you participated in a fall or winter sport your paperwork is complete, if not you can pick up sports paperwork in the main lobby at TMS. Please bring completed paperwork to the coach of the sport you are trying out for on the first day. **If you do not have a current physical or do not have the sports paperwork completed, you will not be allowed to tryout.**

Track and field will also begin on the 20th of March. There are 14 events that you will be able to compete in ranging from sprinting, hurdles, triple jump, pole vault, shot put, to turbo javelin.

Intramural Sports will be wrapping up this month with open gym from 2:30 – 4:15 for softball on Monday March 13th and baseball on Tuesday March 14th.

Curriculum News – Alternative Classroom Experience (ACE)

Tripp Middle School's ACE class is filling their classroom and cluttering Ms. Gavin's desk with evidence of some serious and active learning. Along with reading Ender's Game, learning how to solve and graph inequalities, and discussing CNN student News, we are preparing for some new projects. The students have completed two science investigations: "Mystery River" and "Mystery Disease". These are problem-based learning programs, which encourage students to grapple with a complex and changing science topic of inquiry. We are launching the class's first ever "20Time Project", based on similar projects undertaken at the 3M and Google companies, whereby 20% of the (business) day will be devoted to individual explorations of personal goals. Each student is designing their own project, which will involve an oral presentation, similar to Shark Tank, where they will use persuasive writing and a visual aid. Ms. Gavin is doing an individual project along with the students. We are also gearing up for becoming certified in Adult Lifesaving CPR. Students will take a weeklong class with Firefighter Paramedic Smith from the Auburn Fire Department as their instructor. This is a vigorous class, which will certify students to administer CPR, use of the defibrillator, and basic first aid. Perhaps it was fortunate that we had a few snow days to make up at the end of the year—we have a lot to do!

Tripp Drama Club is Gearing Up ...

The Tripp Middle School Drama Club will be gearing up for the spring play. This club offers opportunities for our students to enjoy working as a team to produce an entertaining event for our community. Ms. Gavin will be coaching students who are interested in learning dramatic arts, improv, and stagecraft. This year's play is "Fandemonium" by Christina Hamlett and Jamie Dare, a comedy that highlights the intertwined lives of celebrities and their fans. Students will work hard and have fun bringing this story to life and to our stage this May.