



TWINSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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September 24, 2023

Dear Tiger family,

It is Homecoming Week in the Twinsburg City School District! Please join us on Friday, September 29th for the Homecoming Parade which will begin at 6 pm from the Twinsburg High School bus lot and will proceed on Tiger Trail to Tiger Stadium. This year's Parade Grand Marshall is our former Athletic Trainer Mike Sherer, who we all affectionately call Trainer Mike. The Parade will be followed by the Homecoming Football Game where our Tigers play the Brush Arcs at 7 pm. You won't want to miss all the fun of this Tiger fall tradition including the crowning of our Homecoming King & Queen, the Alumni Band, the Alumni Cheerleaders, and the Twinsburg Athletic Boosters' Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony at halftime. This year's inductees include Scott Effross (baseball), Mike Labry (wrestling), Justin Szydowski (baseball), and Garrett Crichlow (track).

Thank you, Twinsburg Council PTA!

A great big "Tiger Thank You" to our Twinsburg Council PTA for hosting last Friday's Tiger Tailgate. It was a fantastic event, enjoyed by many Tiger families. We also want to thank our booster organizations as well as our local businesses who sponsored a variety of fun activities for all to enjoy.

And, Another Thanks...

Thanks to all who donated to our annual Fill the Bus Campaign in support of The Emergency Assistance Center. We appreciated your generosity and we also appreciated our Tiger football players who unloaded the bus and stocked the pantry shelves on Saturday morning.

Enhanced Safety & Security Protocols in the TCSD

The Twinsburg City School District continues to seek ways to enhance our safety and security protocols. Our District was fortunate to receive two separate Safety & Security Grants from the State of Ohio. We sincerely appreciated receiving the Safety & Security Grant funds as with them, we are able to continue our efforts to ensure that our campuses are as safe as possible for our students, for our staff members, and for our visitors. These funds will be used to purchase new equipment. Here is a summary:

- **Vape/Shot Detectors:** Vaping is an unhealthy habit. E-cigarettes (or "vape pens") heat a liquid until it becomes a vapor, which is inhaled. The liquid (called e-liquid or "vape juice") can contain nicotine or marijuana distillate or oil. The health risks of vaping include: addiction, anxiety and depression, sleep problems, exposure to cancer-causing chemicals, chronic bronchitis, and lung damage. In an effort to prevent our students' use of vape devices and other paraphernalia while at school, and to better respond to potentially harmful situations, we are in the process of installing vape/shot detectors in the restrooms at Twinsburg High School and RB Chamberlin Middle School. These detectors are connected to security cameras in the hallways that when triggered by a vapor or loud noise, will trigger the camera feed to alert administration with instant video access to a few minutes prior to and after the event. This will greatly assist administrators in determining the last individuals to have been in the area, and to proceed accordingly. This system represents an investment of approximately \$52,000 of our Safety & Security Grant funds.
- **Handheld Radios:** In an effort to improve communication between staff members in daily operations as well as during emergencies, the District purchased several dozen new handheld radios. These radios will be used throughout the District. In the event of an emergency, these radios are the primary form of communication thus they are an extremely important safety tool. These handheld radios represent an investment of approximately \$66,000 of our Safety & Security Grant funds.

Unwavering Commitment - Unlimited Possibilities



- **Badge Readers & Security Cameras:** As an additional safety measure and in an effort to replace aging technology, we are in the process of installing new and replacing old security cameras. We are adding many new camera locations throughout the District, including key outdoor areas, to better monitor and secure our parking lots, playgrounds, and other high traffic areas. Additionally, we are installing new door access badge readers to many doors. These access readers are used by our staff members as they enter our facilities. The access readers and camera upgrades represent an investment of approximately \$69,000 of our Safety & Security Grant funds.
- **Handheld Metal Detector Wands:** In an effort to prevent weapons, paraphernalia, and/or other potentially harmful items from being brought into our buildings or events, our Board of Education is in the process of authorizing a Board Policy for the intermittent use of handheld metal detector wands. The handheld metal detector wands will be used at Twinsburg High School and RB Chamberlin Middle School, and at entry points for other District-sponsored events. Like our current use of breathalyzers at high school dances and the prom and K-9 searches, the handheld metal detector wands are another preventative measure which will be intermittently used to encourage our students, and others, to make good choices. Once authorized by the Board of Education, the policy and procedures for the use of the handheld metal detector wands will be communicated to staff, students, and our families. These wands represent an investment of approximately \$8,000 of our Safety & Security Grant funds.
- **THS Student Access & ID Badges:** In an effort to ensure that students entering Twinsburg High School are properly enrolled and to ensure that all visitors enter through the high school Welcome Center, special badge readers are being installed at student entrances at Twinsburg High School. Students will be assigned a THS photo ID that when scanned, will show green if the student is properly enrolled, or red if there is an issue. THS students will be required to carry these photo IDs and to use them when they enter the school. We anticipate the implementation of these new procedures within the next week or two. This new security system represents an investment of approximately \$10,000 of our Safety & Security Grant funds.

Mark Your Calendar Now for the TCSD Unity Day, October 18th

The month of October is *National Bullying Prevention Month*. Unity Day will be October's signature event in our District and this year, Unity Day is sponsored by the Twinsburg City School District's Equity Steering Committee. Unity Day is October 18th and it is meant to promote kindness, acceptance, and inclusion to prevent bullying. The TCSD Equity Steering Committee is asking all Tigers to wear orange on October 18th as we unite for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. Unity Day t-shirts are available to purchase at: <https://rdpsports.com/shop/01-twinsburg-unity-day-5000-s-s-cotton-tee/>. T-shirt orders are due by September 28th.

Just a reminder that Monday, September 25th is a Curriculum Day. Our students do not have school on Monday and will enjoy an extended weekend while our staff members participate in professional development. Monday is also Yom Kippur, the holiest day in the Jewish calendar. We wish all our Tiger families of the Jewish faith, "G'mar chatima tovah".

We hope to see you at the Homecoming festivities on Friday,
Kathi Powers, Superintendent

