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TWINSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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April 27, 2025

Dear Tiger Family:

Here is this week's news:

Update Regarding Ohio Department of Education & Workforce Directive Regarding <u>Title VI</u>

In the April 13, 2025 edition of *TCSD Weekly Update*, I mentioned that on April 3, 2025, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) received notification from the U.S. Department of Education that State Education Agencies were required to collect certification responses from Local Education Agencies (otherwise known as public school districts) to verify their compliance with U.S. Civil Rights laws. These laws aim to restrict diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives in public education - with the risk of losing federal funding for noncompliance. I mentioned in that update that the Twinsburg City School District would risk losing \$1,340.047.00 in federal funds, known as Title funds and IDEA funds, if the District did not comply and certify. The deadline to submit signed certification responses to the DEW was Friday, April 18, 2025.

On Wednesday, April 16, 2025, the Twinsburg Board of Education met in a Special Meeting/Work Session to discuss the District's response to this mandate. After a very lengthy discussion, it was determined that the Title VI certification would be signed and submitted however, it was also determined that a Board resolution indicating that the District affirms and maintains its commitment to creating educational environments where all students feel welcome, valued, respected, and supported in their learning would be submitted along with the certification. The Board intended the resolution to affirm the District's longstanding compliance with Title VI, its continued commitment to all its legal obligations, and its assurance that non-discriminatory treatment of its students, staff, and members of the school community remain a core value and guiding principle of the District. Finally, the resolution stated that the Board is taking the action to comply with the Title VI certification solely to maintain access to federal funding, which the U.S. Department of Education had threatened to withhold from school districts that did not sign the certification.

On Thursday, April 24, 2025, the District Court for the District of Columbia granted a preliminary injunction on a nationwide basis to halt the implementation and enforcement of the Request for Certification. For now, the Court ruling means that K-12 school districts are not required to provide the Title VI compliance certification that the U.S. Department of Education requested and the U.S. Department of Education is prohibited from implementing or taking enforcement action with respect to its February 14 Dear College Letter, the FAQs, and the Request for Certification. However, litigation will continue.

We are closely monitoring this situation and will continue to follow guidance from legal experts and professional organizations, including the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. Our goal remains the same: to ensure compliance with all federal laws while continuing to support students and staff in a safe and respectful learning environment.



Here's A Chance to Learn More About Our Tiger Legacy Project

Recently, the Twinsburg Board of Education members and Central Office administrators videotaped a series of short videos regarding our *Tiger Legacy Project* which is the proposed construction project. You can learn more about the project by accessing the videos here:

Video #1 - Why Is the Twinsburg City School District Placing A Bond Levy on the Ballot? <u>https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZr3d85ZADzMUOAD0abfCxT6lsOO2L3ycKUV#gallery=open</u>

Video #2 - What Specific Projects Will the Bond Levy Fund? <u>https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZr3d85ZADzMUOAD0abfCxT6IsOO2L3ycKUV#gallery=open</u>

Video #3 - Why Replace Wilcox, Bissell, and Dodge With One New School? <u>https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZr3d85ZADzMUOAD0abfCxT6IsOO2L3ycKUV#gallery=open</u>

Video #4 - What Challenges is the District Trying to Solve With This Bond Levy? <u>https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZr3d85ZADzMUOAD0abfCxT6IsOO2L3ycKUV#gallery=open</u>

Video #5 - How Much Will This Bond Cost Homeowners? <u>https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?</u> code=kZr3d85ZADzMUOAD0abfCxT6IsOO2L3ycKUV#gallery=open

Video #6 - How Did Community Feedback Shape the Final Plan? <u>https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZr3d85ZADzMUOAD0abfCxT6lsOO2L3ycKUV#gallery=open</u>

Video #7 - How Does This Bond Levy Impact Athletic Facilities? <u>https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZr3d85ZADzMUOAD0abfCxT6IsOO2L3ycKUV#gallery=ope</u> <u>n</u>

Video #8 - What Is the Bond Levy and Why Is It Important? <u>https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZr3d85ZADzMUOAD0abfCxT6IsOO2L3ycKUV#gallery=op</u> <u>en</u>

Video #9 - Why Is the New School Going to House Students in Preschool - Grade 6? <u>https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZr3d85ZADzMUOAD0abfCxT6IsOO2L3ycKUV#gallery=open</u>





Catch the Second Edition of Eye of the Tiger, Season 2!

Students in Mr. Casey Kirtley's Broadcast Media class at Twinsburg High School have been busy capturing great stories to share! Aiden Bryan and Angela Jackson serve as anchors in this second edition of *Eye of the Tiger, Season 2*. In the first story, Griffin Bradic gives you a behind the scenes look at calling a Calamity Day here in our school district. The second story is produced by Angela Jackson and features our Great Expectations Show Choir. Nic (Micaiah) Smith created the motion graphic intro and background for the show. Aiden is the son of Tracy Jones of Twinsburg; Angela is the daughter of Lonny & Alisa Jackson of Twinsburg Township; Griffin is the son of Matt & Erin Bradic of Twinsburg; and Nic is the daughter of Josiah Quarles and Michelle Smith of Twinsburg. Fantastic job, Tigers! With special thanks to Mr. Kirtley for his guidance and expertise. Catch this great show at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1E8FKmdXMbc3y8D8Dmtm7yNKdexSLc8TB/view



RBC Celebrates Honor Corps Inductees

On Wednesday, April 23, 2025, RB Chamberlin Middle School celebrated 120 students who were inducted into the 2025 Honor Corps class. To be considered for Honor Corps, inductees are required to meet the criteria of a 3.5 GPA throughout middle school, behavior expectations, and the completion of a special project. Students completed a slide of their favorite middle school memories. Some of the favorite memories included the DC Trip, Cedar Point, and being Students of the Month. We congratulate all of our 2025 Honor Corps inductees!









Congratulations, THS Symphonic Band!

On Friday, April 25, 2025, our Twinsburg High School Symphonic Band performed in the OMEA State Competition. Their hard work and dedication to their craft paid off as our Tigers earned the prestigious rating of Excellent. With special thanks to Director Ryan Bonitz and Assistant Director Samantha Gossett for their leadership and support of our Tigers. Bravo to one and all!







<u>RBC Tigers Attend the Kent State University Reading & Writing Festival</u> Also on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, thirty-five (35) RB Chamberlin Middle School students attended the Kent State University Reading & Writing Festival. Participants met with guest author Scott Reintgen and attended a variety of workshops celebrating literature and the writing process. It was a great day and our students had a wonderful time!





Way to Go, THS Senior Artists!

We are so Tiger Proud of our THS senior artists, Grace Scolaro, Aniyah Pickens, Norah Kremer, and Christian Dunbar. They created amazing boards that depicted their entire year in art, while representing their personalities perfectly. Their boards were displayed at the THS Fine Arts Festival on Thursday, April 24, 2025. As spectators came by, our seniors shared insight into their work. They have worked incredibly hard this year. We think their boards demonstrated their diligent efforts. Grace is the daughter of Mike & Lori Scolaro of Twinsburg, Aniyah is the daughter of Jermaine & Oanh Pickens of Reminderville, Norah is the daughter of Matthew & Shelley Kremer of Twinsburg, and Christian is the son of William & Marcella Dunbar of Twinsburg. Way to go, Tigers!











THS Fine Arts Festival & Art Gallery Walk Huge Successes

On Thursday, April 24, 2025, our Tiger families gathered at Twinsburg High School for the THS Fine Arts Festival. Once again this year, the festival featured the amazing artwork of our high school artists. In additional to the visual arts on display, our THS Jazz Band serenaded our guests. The students' artwork and performances were fantastic! With special thanks to our Art educators Mr. Dan Lunde, Mrs. Ashley Tornow, Ms. Cheryl Kozak, and Ms. Rachel DiFrancisco as well as our Directors of Bands Mr. Ryan Bonitz and Ms. Samantha Gossett for their inspiration.

Following that event, on Friday, April 25, 2025, our THS artists' work was displayed in an Art Gallery Walk. THS students and staff members were able to visit the Art Gallery Walk during the day to enjoy the work of our very artistically creative Tigers. Exceptional work, Tigers!

























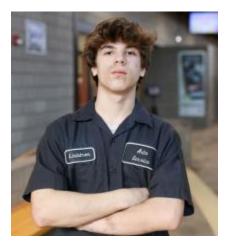






THS Junior Cody Lindstrom Featured In CVCC's Student Connection

Each month, Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC) features Twinsburg High School/CVCC students in their *Student Connection* newsletter. THS/CVCC junior Cody Lindstrom is the feature student in the April edition. Cody participates in CVCC's Auto Service Technology program. Cody's interest in "all things automotive" started when he was just seven (7) years old so choosing Auto Service Technology was an easy decision for Cody given his strong interest in the maintenance and repair side of the industry. Cody is the son of Lee & Valerie Lindstrom of Twinsburg. You can read more about Cody and his experiences at CVCC in the April edition of *Student Connection* which is attached.



Registration is Open for Twinsburg Youth Football & Cheer

May is the final month to register your child to participate in Twinsburg Youth Football & Cheer for the coming season. There will be a Parent Meeting on May 16th at 6:00 p.m. at the Twinsburg Community Center. Please see the attached flyer for details.





This is a busy week for our Tigers. One group of our Dodge 5th graders will head to Greenfield Village on this long-anticipated trip. Our students will participate in Special Olympics on Friday at Nordonia High School. Our Class of 2025 will celebrate at their Prom and After Prom on Friday evening. Have fun, Tigers, and be safe!

Have a great week, Kathi Powers, Superintendent

