

TYRRELL MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

February 2018



From the Desk of Mr. Norcross, Principal

In recent weeks, Tyrrell students have been participating in a number of exciting curricular and co-curricular activities. Selected students in Grades 6-8 spent a morning with members of Wolcott CASA (Citizens Against Substance Abuse) and participated in a national middle school interactive video conference which focused on the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. This activity was followed by participants decorating the hallways and cafeteria with student created artwork and posters designed to reveal the truths associated with drug and alcohol abuse. Project Explore students recently visited the Rietdyke Senior Center to serve our seniors at special Valentine's Day luncheon. In doing so, it afforded our students an opportunity to not only provide service to our community, but to also connect with our seniors. In other Project Explore News, I am pleased to share that selected students in Grades 6-8 recently participated in the Sigma Mathematics League Competition. Tyrrell students did very well in this national competition earning recognition and several accolades. Grade 6 earned a top twenty finish, while the Grade 7 and combined Grades 6-8 teams finished in the top ten nationally!

As we leave winter behind and anticipate the upcoming warmer days of spring, I would like to remind Tyrrell families that we have had six snow days this academic year. As a result of the aforementioned snow days, the last day of school is currently scheduled for Tuesday, June 19th. Progress report and report card dates have also been adjusted accordingly with Quarter 3 progress reports now being released on March 7th and report cards now being released on April 11th. I am hopeful that we will not have any additional snow days this year!

In addition to using the column of important events posted in the column to the right this page of the newsletter, I encourage you to use the link included in the email that delivered this newsletter in order to access important dates and events as we progress toward spring activities. I suggest you bookmark the document for ease of access. We will update this Tyrrell Middle School Important Events document as new events are scheduled in an effort to provide you with an updated calendar of events throughout the remainder of the year.

As always, I encourage you to contact me with any concerns or issues that may arise related to your child's educational experience at Tyrrell Middle School.

Sincerely,
Joseph Norcross, Principal

March & April Save the Date

- **3/02** – Spring Fundraiser Kick-off
- **3/07** – Progress Reports
- **3/12** – BOE Meeting @ 7:30pm Wakelee
- **3/12** - Alcott "Wizards" Basketball Fundraiser @ WHS 7:30pm
- **3/14** – Gr. 7 Project Explore/ Field Trip to Hartford Stage
- **3/15** – "Tyrrell Madness"/ 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament
- **3/20** – TMS PTO Meeting
- **3/22** – World Language Food Fair 2:30-3:30(Cafeteria)
- **3/26** – BOE Meeting @ 7:30pm WHS
- **3/30** – **No School**/Good Friday
- **4/09** – BOE Meeting @ 7:30pm TMS
- **4/11** – Report Card Distribution
- **4/11** – CPEC & PTO Meeting @ 6:00pm
- **4/12** – Grade 5 Student Orientation @ 9:15am
- **4/12** – Grade 5 Parent Orientation @ 6:00pm
- **4/13** – Grade 7 – Greek Day
- **4/16 – 4/20** – **No School**/April Recess
- **4/27 - 4/28** – TMS Play "Dear Edwina" @ 7:00pm
- **4/30 – 5/11** – SBAC Testing All Grades





Diamond Team News

News from Mrs. MJ and Mr. Terry:

Currently in **Language Arts** classes, we are completing the “Courageous Acts” unit. Throughout this unit we have read novels, short stories and nonfiction articles that all deal with the theme of “courage”. The characters and/or people that we have been reading about have shown acts of courage in some way or another. Some of the stories that we have read in this unit are *Tuck Everlasting*, *Because of Winn-Dixie*, *A Christmas Carol* and *Freak the Mighty*. In February, we will be moving on to our next unit, “Civil Rights”. In this unit we will be exploring civil rights though both fiction and nonfiction.

Mr. Jones:

Grade 6 Science News: Students have been introduced to the Periodic Table of Elements and have been working with matter and energy. They soon will begin an in-depth look at ecosystems and the environment. Don’t forget to join us for 6th Grade Family Math and Science Night held in the TMS gymnasium on February 7 (snow date February 8). Registration forms are due back by February 1st. The night includes exciting curriculum-related activities that explore, calculate, analyze, think, communicate, and more!

Mrs. Cox:

The new year in **Math** brought work with exploring and calculating the area of parallelograms, rhombuses, and triangles as we made connections between visual models and formulas. As we begin our study of Algebra, our next unit of study will focus on numeric and algebraic expressions. Students will interpret, evaluate, and write algebraic expressions, including expressions with exponents, in both mathematical and real-world contexts.

Mrs. Garbus:

As part of our Human Rights unit in **social studies** we are currently reading and responding to the novel *Refugee* by Alan Gratz. The novel is centered on the stories of three children and their families who face hardships and difficult choices as refugees from three pivotal historical times in our world history. There will be a two part culminating project at the conclusion of the novel that includes writing a letter to a President and choice of various other performance tasks.

PLATINUM TEAM



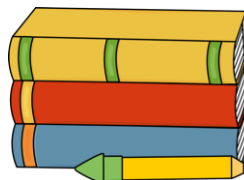
Grade 6 Science News: Students have been introduced to the Periodic Table of Elements and have been working with matter and energy. They soon will begin an in-depth look at ecosystems and the environment. Don't forget to join us for 6th Grade Family Math and Science Night held in the TMS gymnasium on February 7 (snow date February 8). Registration forms are due back by February 1st. The night includes exciting curriculum-related activities that explore, calculate, analyze, think, communicate, and more!

Mr. Goldstone's math classes have just started a unit on Numeric and Algebraic Expressions. Topics to be covered include: exponents, prime factorization, greatest common factor, least common multiple, as well as writing and evaluating algebraic expressions. Students were also introduced to a new type of Problem of the Day this week called a Set Puzzle. Have your child go with you to www.setgame.com and encourage them to show you how to find a "Set" and solve the daily puzzle!

In Mrs. Wright's class, we are studying Human Rights. We will continue to focus on these rights for the next two units. In the next unit, we will focus on water resources in South America. Students will be creating a PSA about various water resources in South America.

Ms. Tedeschi and Mrs. Wilson have begun their Civil Rights unit. This unit focuses on reading and creating written responses. While informational texts will be our major focus, these will be supplemented with other genres, such as plays, poems, and historical fiction. The students will learn to gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources. In some instances, students be assigned different material from which to draw evidence, and although the genre or source may be different, the themes, topics, and skills covered will be the same or similar. They will identify and evaluate specific claims in a text, and they will distinguish those that are supported by reasons and evidence from those that are not. They will then be able to apply these skills when responding to higher level questions with a single paragraph or an extended response by assessing the credibility of the source and providing appropriate textual evidence for their claims. They will be attentive to creating original work, avoiding plagiarism, and providing basic bibliographic information for their sources.

GRANITE TEAM



Math-

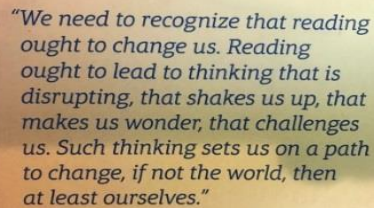
In math classes students have been working on geometry and just completed their first geometry assessment before Christmas break. We have worked on the triangle sum theorem, angle relationships, area of simple geometric figures, and circumference and area of a circle. We are trying to relate this to real life situations as much as possible. We will be moving onto the areas of composite figures and surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures as the year progresses.

In periods 2, 3, & 8 students are about to begin a unit on ratios, rates, proportions, and the constant of proportionality. Whereas in periods 5 & 7 the students are working on percentages and we are discovering how percentages relate to proportions and the constant of proportionality.

Please remember that all homework is posted on the granite team website:

granite.educatorpages.com and if students are absent they should check google classroom since I have been trying to post many things like worksheets and notes to make it easier if a student misses class. As always if you have any questions please e-mail me at kbaker@wolcottps.org

Reading and Writing-



"We need to recognize that reading ought to change us. Reading ought to lead to thinking that is disrupting, that shakes us up, that makes us wonder, that challenges us. Such thinking sets us on a path to change, if not the world, then at least ourselves."

KYLEE BEERS AND ROBERT E. PROBST

We are currently immersed in our "Be a Change Maker" unit. Students were given a choice of inspiring memoirs to read. These titles included: *I Am Malala*, *I Will Always Write Back*, *A Warrior's Heart*, *No Summit Out of Sight*, *I Am a Seal Team Six Warrior*, and *We Beat the Streets*. During this unit students have had an opportunity to take more responsibility for their learning by: participating in student lead group discussion groups, setting their own reading pace, monitoring their comprehension, and tracking their thinking through journaling. The culmination of this unit will be a proposal for a service project that addresses a social issue in our world.

In writing class, the Granite team just wrapped up our unit on memoir writing and began our argument writing unit. We kicked the unit off with an argument talk based on the children's book *The Giving Tree*, where students developed arguments, counterarguments and rebuttals based on the question "*Is The Giving Tree weak or strong?*" As the unit continues, students will learn the vocabulary and techniques of argument writing and work to craft and defend arguments through a variety of activities and writing assignments. We have also been working on a grammar unit where students imitate the sentence structures of professional writers in order to learn parts of speech and add variety to their writing. As always, students continue to study vocabulary, write weekly journal responses, and read and analyze non-fiction texts.

Science-

Science in the 7th grade Granite team has just finished studying Earth Science and has moved on to Physical Science where students completed a lab that involved weight lifting and calculating their work and power. They will be performing another lab next week that involves simple machines namely the inclined plane. Students will explore how changing the length of an inclined plane affects the force required to move up the ramp. The "Trout in the Classroom" project is ongoing and has just received 200 Cortland Brown Trout eggs from the state of Connecticut. The recent Olin Brass oil spill of 4,000 gallons of hydraulic machine oil into Waterbury's Naugatuck River may change the release sight of the trout to something other than a Naugatuck River tributary. The annual release in May is held at Lower Scovill's Pavilion but the Mad River leads directly into the

Naugatuck River so we may be forced to change depending on the amount of environmental damage that has been done. Stay tuned.

Social Studies-

Students in Social Studies recently finished writing their Ancient Egypt research paper. The development of the research paper consisted of multiple days in the classroom using their Chromebooks examining reliable sources to write their research paper. We are currently covering Ancient China. The students are learning about the ideas of Confucius, The Qin Dynasty, and going all the way through the accomplishments of the Han Dynasty. Students are working collaboratively on the different topics associated with Ancient China and comparing the ideologies of legalism versus Confucianism. Following this, students will conduct short research on a topic of their choosing on Ancient China. They will be working on a project which will be followed by the study of India in the coming weeks.

MARBLE TEAM



In science, Marble team students have finished up their study of Earth science and have now moved on to their unit on Physics. Students have discovered that the scientific definition of work is not the same as the definition they use on a daily basis. They have also learned how machines help to make our lives easier by not changing the amount of work that we do, but by changing the way that we do it. Students have also applied their knowledge of machines by calculating work, power, mechanical advantage, and efficiency. Students are currently finishing up this unit by discussing energy, the different forms of energy, and how energy can be transformed or change form.

In social studies, students have been studying the many dynasties of ancient China. Students have covered the different aspects of ancient Chinese society and culture. We have covered the philosophies of Confucius and the importance of Confucianism to the development of China today. We have covered various leaders, governments and innovations in ancient China and are working on our Ancient Chinese Invention projects. We will be covering India and Persia in our next chapter! Stay tuned to our first announcement of GREEK DAY 2018!

Reading classes have begun their new unit “Be a Change Maker.” Students are reading a variety of different memoirs, writing reader responses, and tracking theme, conflict, and characterization. Memoir choices includes; *I am Malala*, *Seal Team Six*, *Warrior’s Heart*, *I Will Always Write Back*, *We Beat the Streets*, and *No Summit Out of Sight* Students are engaged in discussion groups called literature circles. This allows students to read with a specific purpose and take a definitive role in the group discussion. One reading class ritual that has developed is close reading. In short, close reading involves reading a brief section of text multiple times in order to develop a new, deeper understanding of the text. This is meant to lead students to more thoughtful reading.

In writing, students have finished their personal memoirs and will be working on argument writing. Students enjoyed debating topics with their peers in this setting. During the writing units, students are reviewing grammar and sentence structure, and using this review to help revise their own writing pieces whether it be in their daily journal writing assignments or their long term papers. Students are currently focusing on researching both sides of an issue, gathering evidence, and

creating their own claim on the topic to write an argument paper. Students use both visual and written texts and analyze the author's purpose and claim. They are using all the skills they learned in the beginning of the school year to research and write their argument papers.

Marble team math students will be moving forward with new math topics in March. Some students will be learning about proportions and percents and how they are useful in everyday math problems, including how to figure out their math grades! Other classes will be concentrating on the study of equations and expressions (one and two step equations that deal with adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing). On March 14th (3.14), math students will be celebrating Pi Day in honor of the mathematical number Pi. On this day, marble team students will be challenged to memorize as many digits of Pi as they can as well as to learn the history behind the important number Pi.

Silver Team



Family and Consumer Science Classes:

FCS students had a wonderful holiday season filled with baking delicious holiday treats! As the quarter ended students became very comfortable and familiar with the kitchen setting and worked together as a team to create some wonderful dishes. 8th graders focused on food and kitchen safety, and successfully cooked and baked a number of meals from scratch. 7th graders participated in our own version of Cupcake Wars and the creativity was impressive. Students also followed American Chef Emeril Lagasse's pizza dough recipe and baked delicious pizzas. 6th graders were kitchen detectives learning how to prevent accidents in the kitchen. They learned the basics of measuring and following a recipe, baking scratch-made biscuits and muffins. Students also were able to hand sew pillows and stuffed animals, learning the backstitch and how to follow a pattern. It was great to see them take pride in creating their own pillows/stuffed animals, and the results were beautiful!

Physical Education and Health classes:

During the third marking period, all students will be participating in health classes and physical education classes. Sixth grade health topics include: the health triangle, importance of physical activity, influences on your health, self-esteem, managing stress, decision making/peer pressure, bullying and puberty. Seventh grade health class topics include: dietary guidelines/myplate, how to read food labels, dangers of sugar and caffeine, weight management, tobacco/electronic cigarettes, diseases, sun safety/melanoma, male and female reproductive system. Eight grade topics include: Drugs and addiction, dangers of alcohol, marijuana, synthetic marijuana, inhalants, prescription drugs, heroin, healthy relationships, abstinence, and sexually transmitted diseases. In physical education, all classes will be participating in a speedball unit. Speedball is a game combining the sports of basketball, soccer, and football.

Technology Education:

As the end of the marking period has approached, students in all grade levels have worked very hard to complete projects. Students in grade six learned shop safety, applied measurement skills, and used different hand and power tools to complete the construction of wooden bird houses. Grade seven students have learned about the design process, and principles of design. The students then created keychains using computer aided design software, and then printed these keychains on our 3d printer. They then wrapped up the marking period by creating scaled floorplans of a house. Grade eight students finished the marking period by completing construction of different wooden projects which they first designed using computer aided design software.



Project Explore News



Our groups are continuing to tackle challenges to keep our brains active! Each grade has completed three SIGMA math contests so far this academic year. This 30 minute challenge requires students to try their skills on various math problems. Leading the way in Grade 8 is Joey Macary, in Grade 7 is Nathan Yachtis, and in Grade 6 is Ardit Zhuta.

Our Grade 6 students have been working on Tangler and Perplexor logic puzzles and activities that encourage cooperation and strategy. Some opportunities to be creative and hands-on, and chances to work on public speaking skills were activities that have been keeping all of our groups busy.

The Grade 7 students have spent time enriching their recent study of Egypt by simulating mummification with an apple slice. Through this activity, they were able to observe, first hand, how the process would have worked. We also continue to challenge our current knowledge through the weekly NewzBrain contests about current events. Students have begun reading Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express* as a means to work on deductive reasoning. We'll be off to the theater in a few weeks to see a live performance of the mystery!

Finally, the Grade 8 students assessed their risk tolerance when it comes to finances. We discovered that (almost!) all of the students are, in theory, willing to take chances with their pretend money in the Stock Market Game, but that, in practice, it is a little bit harder to part with a sure thing and see how the market works! We also made a "sweet" link with Science class as we constructed a model of a "DNA strand" to help preview a topic that would be studied in whole class. Being able to actually see and experience the information in a personal way not only provided a reminder of how doing something is often one of the best teachers, but it also allowed us to have some "hands-on" fun with our "twist" on things!

PEARL TEAM

Language Arts



This month Pearl Team reading classes began a unit study on authors' craft focusing on authors such as Roald Dahl and Edgar Allan Poe. Students also studied literary devices such as alliteration, onomatopoeia, rhyme scheme, similes, and metaphors. They are working very hard developing strategies and techniques to successfully read, analyze, and respond to literature. Additionally, we will be starting our next independent read novel, *My Brother Sam is Dead*. We are

also working hard on perfecting our analytical writing. Our focus for the month will be writing strong introductions and body paragraphs. We look forward to continued growth in all our students.

Social Studies

In Social Studies, students have been studying the establishment of the Original 13 English Colonies and how their geography, economics, agriculture, and demographics developed differently from region to region. We created Colonial advertisements meant to entice a New World immigrant to settle in one colony or another.

As we progress to the American Revolution, students are beginning to learn what events and decisions contributed to the emergence of a uniquely American identity, bringing together the colonies despite their regional and cultural differences. Coming up, we will be studying the Boston Massacre and trying to determine who is to blame for this famous revolutionary event. We are laying the groundwork for a thorough understanding of the rights that we enjoy as Americans.

Mathematics

At the time of this update Honors Algebra Students are preparing to take their first mid-year exam, which consists of all of the topics these students have learned since the beginning of the year. It should prove to be a beneficial first experience for students who will encounter many exams in the years ahead. Algebra I students are now developing their understanding of exponent operations, which has proven to be a tricky concept over the years. From here, we will learn about operations with polynomials. On the distant horizon is one of the most important topics in Algebra known as factoring.

Pre-Algebra students have just completed their study of Analyzing Data using scatter plots and two way frequency tables. We are now applying our understanding of linear equations from a prior unit to now solve systems of linear equations using the techniques of graphing, substitution and

elimination. From here, we will use these skills to translate and solve word problems using systems. Future topics include the Pythagorean Theorem and Transformations.

Science

In Science, with the conclusion of the Process Unit and almost completion of the introduction to genetics and heredity unit, we will begin to move forward into the physical/earth science portion of the year. We will shortly commence an in-depth exploration into the force and motion associated with our universe. We are looking forward to the many laboratory investigations and activities that this unit will encompass. Students will continually use the scientific skills they have worked so hard to sharpen this year.

Onyx Team



This month the Onyx team social studies classes are focusing on the American Revolution. They have been working on using primary sources in order to examine key revolutionary events. They will have also participated in activities, such as a Boston Tea Party class debate and the creation of colonial protest signs and analogies. Students will also be examining the overall impact of the American Revolution on modern society.

In ELA classes, we are now working on our second unit “Analyzing Author’s Craft and Structure.” The students are exploring, analyzing and evaluating authors’ style and how and why authors craft texts. We continue to build vocabulary and introduce and practice grammar skills in our writing classes.

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unit will encompass. Students will continually use the scientific skills they have worked so hard to sharpen this year.

In math, students have been doing all sorts of fun work with systems of linear equations. Algebra students have been working on factoring quadratics and simplifying radicals.

The Onyx team would like to recognize the following students for their great work ethic and overall outstanding behavior.

December 'Student of the Month' **Elizabeth D'Ettore** and **Javin Frageau** our November 'Student of the Month'.



Congratulations and keep up the great attitude!

World Language News

Students prepared for Three Kings Day by writing letters to the Three Kings in Spanish and making paper shoes for them to fill with treats. On Monday, January 8th, students studying Spanish and French learned about St. Nicolas Day and Three Kings Day. Students listened to a narrated book, Hurray for Three Kings Day, viewed a narrated PowerPoint about the French celebration, and watched an instructional video entirely in Spanish describing how to make *rosca de reyes*, a special cake eaten on this day. The students then sampled the Spanish *rosca de reyes* and the French *Galette des Rois* and looked for a special figurine for good luck. Finally, the students checked to see if the Three Kings had visited them and left treats for them in the shoes they had created. The objective for this lesson was to make comparisons between the Spanish and French traditions. Students continuously did so throughout the course of this activity and completed an activity sheet as the information was presented.



In 6th grade Spanish, students have been learning vocabulary for people and some family members. They are starting to learn personal pronouns and will soon be learning how to use and conjugate the verb “ser” (to be). Next they will focus on adjectives as they continue to learn about the culture of Mexico and Frida Kahlo.

Sixth grade French students have completed a unit on weather and seasons in which they enjoyed dressing up as a way to talk about different seasons and weather. In December, students in all grade levels learned about various French holiday traditions and made a traditional “Bûche de Noël” or Yule log cake for their classes to sample. In addition, sixth graders made paper shoes for St. Nicolas to fill with treats on the eve of December 6th. Sixth graders in French are currently working on the classroom objects unit. They will soon begin colors and adjective agreement, and they will create a color by number picture entirely in French. Students will be learning about and celebrating Mardi Gras in February.

Seventh grade Spanish classes have been very busy! They made *zapatitos*, (shoes) to prepare for the Three Kings’ Day assembly on January 8th. Some students also baked *rosas de reyes* (kings’ cake) and brought them in for students to sample at our assembly. In addition to all of the cultural aspects, students read a short story in Spanish and then designed a book cover with a summary of the story written in Spanish. They are currently learning –ar, -er, and –ir verb conjugations.

In 7th grade French, students have recently learned the French subject pronouns and how to conjugate -er verbs. They are currently learning how to write and talk about what classes they have. Soon, they will also be able to express their opinions of those classes and tell what time they occur. In addition, students are making comparisons between school systems in francophone countries to those in the United States and are learning how many things such as school hours, course load, and graduation requirements are different. As a culminating activity to this school unit, 7th graders will create their ideal school schedule entirely in French.

In 8th grade French, students ended their clothing and money unit with a virtual visit to Paris to go shopping. They were given an assignment in which they won a trip to the City of Light and a

set amount of money to spend on outfits to dine with a famous French actor for lunch and the president of France for dinner. Using their knowledge of how to convert dollars to Euros, they had to come as close as possible to spending all of their money. Students are currently reading an overview of the French novel “Les Misérables” and will soon watch the movie. After taking their midterm exam, the students will learn how to express what their hobbies and interests are. They will also learn about the use of adverbs and contractions in French, as well as the various ways to ask a question. Students will be reviewing the months, seasons, and weather. As part of this unit, they will be watching real-time weather forecasts in French, analyzing current weather maps for different regions of Francophone countries, learning how to read them and to convert Celsius temperatures into Fahrenheit and vice versa.

In 8th grade Spanish, students have been learning about the culture of Guatemala and shopping vocabulary. They are able to identify different types of stores and the items that are sold in the various *tiendas*. Students are also able to describe clothing colors and styles. To prepare for the Spanish midterm, students created review activities that were then shared with classmates. On January 22nd and 23rd, all students took the Spanish midterm exam.

School Counseling

It's a busy season in the School Counseling office. Counselors and students have been meeting individually to discuss goals, academics, and high school plans. The 6th graders had a lesson on study skills and completed a learning styles inventory in Naviance -- this will help them learn how they study and learn best, which will help them throughout their school career. Ask them to show you their results! The 7th graders had a career lesson in January and completed the Holland “Career Key” in Naviance linking personality type and relevant careers, and a work values exercise to identify what is important to them.

Grade 8 High School Registration

On January 23rd, the 8th grade students were given a PowerPoint presentation in Mentor/Mentee on Getting Ready for 9th Grade. Students were informed about what their day would be like at the high school covering the daily schedule, high school credits and extra-curricular activities.

Wolcott High School Course Registration is tentatively planned for February 22nd. The Wolcott High School Counselors will to Tyrrell Middle School and meet with the 8th grade students in their Social Studies classes to guide them through the course registration process. Students levels were previously put into the PowerSchool Course Registration Program and the students will go in and add their electives. Also, on this day Unified Arts teachers from the high school will be at TMS to present their programs first thing in the morning. The PowerSchool portal will be open for parents to view several days after registration. Previous to the registration (around February 15th) parents will get information from Mr. Norcross, via School Messenger, about the Wolcott High School registration process and choosing electives.

Drug and Alcohol Fact Day

January 22, 2018 was National Drug and Alcohol Chat Day. Katie Ciarlo and several other members of CASA sat with approximately 35 students in grades 6-8 and gave them the opportunity to ask questions they may have about drug and alcohol use. It was an open forum where students participated in fun, interactive activities, viewed videos, and discussed issues relevant to them. Treats were also provided. The students made posters, which were hung in the cafeteria, to support shattering the myths on alcohol and drug abuse.



Fourth Annual Student / Staff Volleyball Game

Students and Staff came together in November for Tyrrell's 4th Annual Student Staff Volleyball Game sponsored by the School Climate Committee. Tyrrell's own girls volleyball team, a second student team of boys and girls, and a third team of staff and teachers competed in a fun, spirited series of games -- with the final winner being the student team! The Tyrrell Band and Chorus provided school spirit with

some fantastic music, and both the cheerleaders and the dance team made special appearances. It was a great time for everyone!



TMS Respect Bracelet Program

The program is designed to recognize students who go above and beyond to show respect in our school community to:

- Self
- Others
- School

Examples are:

- Outstanding manners
- Helping teachers or fellow students
- Keeping our building clean
- Sharing materials
- Including students who are left out
- Teachers and Staff nominate students when they see outstanding acts of respect

Students wearing bracelet of particular color earn privileges throughout the school year:

- Going first in lunch line
- Getting to leave for buses first from homeroom
- Each month is designated a different color bracelet

Students can receive only one bracelet of each color, but should try to earn as many as possible!

Megan Iasevoli	Rahi Patel	Nand Patel	Jacob Clarke
Luis Lanzara	Dominic Guerrera	Ariana Sanchez	Morgan Davino
Angel Pacheco	Madison Kelley	Ardit Zhuta	Jeremy Scanlon
Matthew Johnson	Aiden Martinez	Gia Shoban	Kevin Guerra
Joseph Samaha	Michael Boulay	Anthony Mirto	Hannah Brazee
Caden Chance	Ryan Perazzella	Aidan Peruti	Breanna Dilger
Marielis Laguer	Shaun Lafferty	Alan Ladd	Michael Morrell
Cody Goodfield	Gianna Capaldo	Antonia Leary	

Congratulations to our November, December and January Winners!

Contacting Your Child's School Counselor

The best way to reach us is via email. If you would rather call, please call the main number at 203-879-8151 and press "0" to ask for the call to be transferred:

Grade 6: Mr. Michael Lynch, mlynch@wolcottps.org

Grade 7: Mrs. Wendy Salustro, wsalustro@wolcottps.org

Grade 8: Mrs. Elizabeth Buzzelli, ebuzzelli@wolcottps.org

GEOGRAPHY BEE WINNERS

Congratulations to our National Geographic Geography Bee Winners!

Besim Yucel - 3rd Place
Alec Ash - 2nd Place
Makayla Cossette – 1st Place



Rubik's Cube Club

The attached mosaic of Mr. Norcross consists of 280 Rubik's Cubes and was assembled by members of the Rubik's Cube Club. Special thanks go to all those involved in building, Mr. Kelsey for designing and Mr. Mirto for building the wooden frame.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



The PTO has once again launched its **Box Tops for Education** incentive at Tyrrell. Every homeroom has a bucket for box top collections. The homeroom that collects the most box tops and/or labels will receive a pizza party at the end of the month. Please cut out box tops and send them to school with your children.

Below is a listing of on-line companies that are part of the **Box Tops for Education** program. If you will be ordering items from any of these companies please access them through the Box Tops for Education website at www.boxtops4education.com. Once you list Tyrrell as your receiving school the Tyrrell account will automatically be credited with the amount indicated below.



NOVEMBER

DIAMOND TEAM

LUCIAN CAMPOCHIARO

GRANITE TEAM

ALEX BROWN

PEARL TEAM

THOMAS DEROSA

PLATINUM TEAM

JEREMY SCANLON

MARBLE TEAM

KEVIN GUERRA

ONYX TEAM

MATTHEW MAGLIO

JOYAS (GEMS) TEAM

LILA RICHARDSON JULIA SULLIVAN GABRIELLE PETRONIRO

SILVER TEAM

LOGAN SZEP NATHAN EHMER YOUSEF MACARY

DECEMBER

DIAMOND TEAM

MIKAELA LEPAGE

GRANITE TEAM

SOFIA GUGLIOTTI

PEARL TEAM

EMMA DADDONA

PLATINUM TEAM

ASHLIN PANYASITH

MARBLE TEAM

NIKKI SANCHEZ

ONYX TEAM

ELIZABETH D'ETTORE

JOYAS (GEMS) TEAM

LYANA MENDEZ ELIZABETH FRANCISCO ALEXA ERDELY

SILVER TEAM

MIAH HUGHES AVA SARASIN KAILEY CHIEPPO



JANUARY	
<i>DIAMOND TEAM</i>	<i>PLATINUM TEAM</i>
CALEB CLARKE	JONATHAN MOUANES
<i>GRANITE TEAM</i>	<i>MARBLE TEAM</i>
AYLA MARTIN	MARIO ZACCAGNINI
<i>PEARL TEAM</i>	<i>ONYX TEAM</i>
YOUSSEF MACARY	JAVIN FRAGEAU
<i>JOYAS (GEMS) TEAM</i>	
RAHI PATEL AMANDA SULLIVAN CONNER CHARETTE	
<i>SILVER TEAM</i>	
AIDEN STISSER SPENCER CROCE ZACHARY MARZUCCA	
FEBRUARY	
<i>DIAMOND TEAM</i>	<i>PLATINUM TEAM</i>
ANGELA PETERFI	GLORIA JAPS
<i>GRANITE TEAM</i>	<i>MARBLE TEAM</i>
JOSEPH GIANNATTASIO	TRISHA DOUCETTE
<i>PEARL TEAM</i>	<i>ONYX TEAM</i>
MEGAN PRESCOTT	KAILEY CHIEPPO
<i>JOYAS (GEMS) TEAM</i>	
SARAH ZIGADTO ALISON HENSEL MEGAN PAOLINO	
<i>SILVER TEAM</i>	
KAYLA PHELPS MAYCI ABOU ARRAGE MAKENZIE COSSETTE	

Tyrrell Middle School
PTO Membership Form

2017-2018

Support the Tyrrell PTO. Become a member today!

Student(s) Name:	Grade:	Homeroom #

Parents' Name:	
Address:	
E-mail:	Phone Number:

<p>Please Circle One</p> <p>Family Membership \$10.00</p> <p>Supportive Membership \$15.00</p> <p>Please consider supporting our PTO with your donation even if you are unable to volunteer your services or attend meetings. The TMS PTO provides so much to our students through membership donations.</p>
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Please attach your payment to your membership form and send them into the TMS main office in an envelope marked "TMS PTO". ~ Make checks payable to Tyrrell PTO- Thank You

2017-2018 PTO Meeting Dates

September 19th- October 18th(WHS)- November 21st -December 19th-January 16th-
February 13th-March 20th-April 24th-May 15th-

All meetings are at 7pm and last about 30 minutes. We hope to see you there!



We're Switching To LEDs To Make Connecticut Shine!

Tyrrell Middle School Fundraiser

Fundraiser Runs: February 21, 2018 to March 14, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are introducing an environmentally-friendly fundraiser that will save you money! **Tyrrell Middle School** is participating in an energy saving fundraising campaign. By purchasing LEDs for your home, you'll support your school, lower your electric bill and help protect the environment! This fundraiser is made possible by Energize Connecticut. Energize CT is a statewide program administered by Eversource.



The Perfect Fundraiser!

6 LEDs for just \$10

Tyrrell Middle School will receive 50% of the proceeds.

Each kit contains 6 TCP 60w equivalent, warm, dimmable, LED bulbs. LEDs generate the same light as standard light bulbs but use 80% less energy and last up to 25 years.

Each household may purchase up to 4 kits of LEDs.



Generous Prizes For All Participants!

1-3 kits sold: LED night light
4 kits sold: \$15.00 Amazon Gift Card
8 kits sold: \$25.00 Amazon Gift Card
12 kits sold: \$50.00 Amazon Gift Card
25 kits sold: \$100.00 Amazon Gift Card



All prize levels are not cumulative. Participants selling beyond 25 kits will not receive any additional prizes, however the profit will still be earned.



Tyrrell Middle School Fundraiser - Highlights:

How To Purchase LEDs On-Line:

- To become a participant, register at: shiningsolutionsfundraiser.com Select: "I'm A Fundraiser Participant" Use online tools to encourage your family, friends and co-workers to purchase. After registering, select: "I Want To Purchase LEDs"
- Indicate the number of kits you wish to purchase (max 4 kits per household)
- Click: **Checkout** 1) Fill out the order form. 2) Select a fundraising participant (they will receive the credit for the sale).
- Pay for your bulbs by credit or debit cards.
- Click: **Confirm Orders** A receipt for your order will be e-mailed to you.

How To Purchase LEDs By Check:

- Use the ordering form/envelope to collect orders and payments from your family, friends and co-workers.
 - Payment is due when placing your order. Acceptable payment methods: **Check or Money Orders**
- Make checks and money orders payable to: **Tyrrell Middle School** (please do not staple to forms)

Info:

- Fundraiser runs from: **February 21st - March 14th** All order forms are due back on 3/14/18
- Your bulbs will be delivered to the school in mid April.
- Questions? Contact - Sarah Garbus sgarbus@wolcottps.org
- Only CT residential customers may purchase LEDs, Limit 4 kits per household.

www.shiningsolutionsfundraiser.com

Attention 8th Grade parents

Just a reminder that yearbooks are on sale.



You may order online:

<https://yearbookforever.com/#> and selecting “Tyrrell Middle School”

OR by clicking on the yearbook banner on the Tyrrell homepage. **The yearbook company does charge a processing fee for online orders**

You may order offline by sending in a **check or money order for \$45.00, made out to “Tyrrell Middle School”** with your child. ***NO CASH will be accepted.***

Checks and money orders should be brought to Mrs. Krug in the Media Center.

If you have any questions please feel free to email Mrs. Krug at akrug@wolcottps.org



Please consider registering your customer loyalty cards for the ShopRite for Education Program and Stop and Shop A+ School Rewards Program. Rewards earned may be used towards FREE classroom equipment, supplies and monetary earnings for Tyrrell Middle School.

<http://www.shoprитеforeducation.com>

<https://stopandshop.com/school-rewards>

PROMOTION POLICY

Please note that the following promotion policy is in effect:

A student may fail no more than (1) major subject (reading, writing, mathematics, science, social studies, world language) per academic year. Furthermore, a student may fail no more than one (1) enrichment subject (art, band, chorus, family & consumer science, music, physical education, technology education, etc.). An 8th-grade student must pass reading, writing, and mathematics to be promoted to the high school (5123a). The final decision for promotion will rest with the principal who will make his/her decision (5123).

Most information that is pertinent to Tyrrell Middle School can be found on the Wolcott Public Schools website, <http://www.wolcottps.org>. Please utilize this site to access our student handbook, staff directory complete with email addresses, and sports schedules.

After school activity pick-up



Students must to be picked up by 3:30 if they are staying for after school activities that end at 3:30. If rides are not here at 3:30 students will be required to take the late bus. The reason for this is students cannot be left unsupervised and supervision is not available after 3:30.

Thank you for understanding,

Joseph Norcross, Principal

WOLCOTT BOARD OF EDUCATION **2017-2018 MEETING SCHEDULE**

All Board of Education meetings will be held on the second & fourth Mondays of the month unless otherwise indicated. All meetings will be held at 7:30pm in the Tyrrell Middle School's Large Group Instruction Room unless otherwise indicated.

March 12th (at Wakelee)
March 26th (at WHS)
April 9th
May 7th
May 21st
June 11th
June 25th