



Bulldog Barks

A Publication of the Tredyffrin-Easttown Middle School PTO

March 2009

www.temsppto.org

Volume 14, Issue 7

PTO HIGHLIGHTS

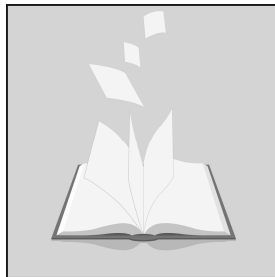
Well, after a snow storm greeted us on March 1st and a very short week of school, I am definitely ready for spring. We've moved our clocks forward so that must mean it is right around the corner, or at least we hope it is. Spring sports begin on March 16th. Lets hear it for outdoor activities!

Thank you to Rosi McPherson and the parent volunteers for another wonderful **Bowling Event** at Devon Bowling Lanes. Also, to Kate Ferris again for organizing the parent chaperones for the **Valentine's Dance**; thank you parents for chaperoning. Debbie Weger and the volunteers, who worked the telephones scheduling conferences, also deserve a big thank you.

Please put June 4th on your calendar because we are hosting our third annual **Barnes & Noble Summer Reading Book Day** at the Devon Location (Swedesford Road). Come in and purchase your summer reading books; TEMS PTO benefits because we earn a percentage of the proceeds.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

April 1	TEMS PTO Meeting	9:00 am	TEMS
April 15	ISC Meeting: Strategic Plan-Creativity/Ethics	7:00-9:00 pm	ESC Building
April 24	7th & 8th Grade Spring Fling Dance	7:00-9:30 pm	TEMS
May 6	TEMS PTO Meeting	7:00 pm	TEMS Library
June 3	TEMS PTO Meeting	9:00 am	TEMS
June 4	Summer Reading Book Day	All Day	Barnes & Noble



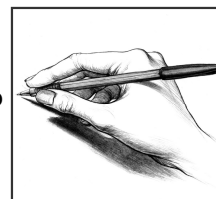
Don't forget to visit our website www.temsppto.org. It is a good place to find both PTO and school information.

Finally, we encourage you to join us at the next meeting on April 1, 2009 at 9:00 am in the Faculty Lounge. Karen Consalo has begun putting together a list of volunteers interested in positions either on the board or as chairpersons of various committees for the upcoming school year, 2009-2010. If you are interested in taking a more active role, or know of someone who is, please contact Karen at consalo1@aol.com.

PTO Executive Committee:

Gretchen Guttman, Karen Consalo, Ayuko Siegel, Jean Purinton and Rita Borzillo

TEMS PTO Meeting Minutes



The November PTO meeting of the 2008/2009 school year was called to order at 9:00 am on March 4, 2009 by President Gretchen Guttman. Present at the meeting were: Ayuko Siegel, Jean Purinton, Sue Snyder, Gigi Miller, Maragret MacKenzie, Marybeth Panaro

TEMS Administration Reports:

Principal Mark Cataldi

National Assessment of Educational Progress – The nation's report card - 90 students in 8th grade to participate – happening right now – not sure what results we will get

Revised school calendar – June 23 – 8th grade recognition ceremony this morning

Parent Conferences tomorrow; schedules are varied; trend is math teachers have a full schedule overall

Music teachers are looking into separating the 7/8 Spring Concerts into two concerts; Band/Orchestra one night and Choral another night; may mean two different nights for performances if in multiple activities

Spring Sports – signups have occurred/ may have to make cuts in baseball/many opportunities in Track; begins March 16 – typically over 60% of the 7 & 8th grade participate

Close to \$1900 in the coin collection will go to Special Olympics; “Pie Throwing Contest went well”

Treasurer's Report – no report as the Treasurer was absent.

Fundraising Events:

Parent Social – Karen Consalo/Johanne Lamarche – Looking at \$14,000 profit; looking for a chair for next year

Bowling party – March 6 – noon – 2 pm; low attendance maybe only 20-25 youth have signed up; have sent several blast emails

School/Community Related Topics:

Cultural Arts – Ropeworks Residency – May 11 & 12

Received \$1,000 from the school to assist with the cost so we are on budget

The Renaissance man – 8th grade; scheduled for 4/2/09

Newsletter – editor is Suzanne Fanelle (ssfanelle@verizon.net); Deadline is the first Wednesday of the month; looking for someone to take over newsletter next year

Acme Receipts - \$415.92

Allergy Ingredients list at District

Dave Preston at President's meeting; a list for anyone whose child is allergic who wants to eat at the cafeteria; go to the TEMS Food Services website to view the list

Dental Clinic – Yankee Candle Sale ended 3/3

Letter from Bernadine Ceter thanking us for our casseroles

ESCRIP – please sign up; a very easy way to raise money for the PTO; need to reregister for those with Genardi's cards; there is an online mall – shopping.escrip.com, put in your information and you can do all your shopping

Rep Reports:

BUILD – no report

School Board –Marnie Hertzfeld reported on the website she created which outlines the facts and figures on the history of the Van Leer Cabin (<http://www.tesd.pa.us/stoga/CHS%20History/van%20leet/index.html>)

Student Representative concern was discussed regarding the fact that the Governor's School of Excellence has been cut from the budget

Proposal to consolidate school districts was discussed; may need grassroots efforts

A discussion was held regarding a review of enrollment projections as they relate to space need for the 5 year period from 2009/10 to 2013/14; the data indicates that it is not a current need to build a new elementary school; some adjustments will be made at Devon Elementary to accommodate some of the near term growth; will continue to monitor actual enrollment versus projections and adjust as needed; possible solutions to growing enrollment would be redistricting, room conversion, construction of classrooms and modular classrooms; discussion of the ongoing project of the Renovation of maintenance building

Finances – currently at break even for this year

Graduation competency Initiative is being watched and the Board may request a grassroots effort

Looking into using Twitter in addition to the all call program

Diversity Committee reminded about the donation of old computers and prom dresses

Green initiatives – starting to show a positive

Education committee reported on the District's performance in ERB, PSSA and SAT testing

March 9 – budget discussion on at Stoga – all invited to attend

ISC – Next meeting 3/11/09/social Norming/PATHS

Last two meetings; tour of Stoga's library and technology; review of world languages

Next meeting – discussion on social norming which came out of ARCH

PATHS – for the elementary school students which deals with better communication; peer relationships

April meeting - Strategic plan - Creativity and Ethics

ARCH

3/5 Cyber Safety Talk – 7 pm -Episcopal – open to anyone

3/24 – Help Your Teen Make Good Choices – 7 pm - Radnor Middle School; research on adolescent brain development – issue on decision making process in a USA Today article

General PTO Business

Open Positions 2009/2010:

Please contact Karen Consalo if you are interested

Donation to CAPCO – all our money goes to fund issues/items at TEMS pursuant to our bylaws so cannot donate to CAPCO

Brenda Carpenter – Photographer – 8th grade dance- or graduation

If we support it as a school; we have to go through bidding

If sponsored by the PTO – PTO deals with the issue; there is a policy on student photographs

Discussion of having Brenda take photos of each student as they are called to the stage; may reduce parent traffic to the front of the auditorium to take photos; Gretchen will look into with Brenda

Discussion of having a “photo booth” at one of the dances; Gretchen will look into it

The next meeting is on April 4, 2009 at 9:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 am

Respectfully submitted by Rita K. Borzillo, PTO Secretary

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

Science Students are wrapping up their study of physical science, which includes activities that explore matter, light, and sound. Students will soon begin to investigate rock, minerals, and other exciting areas of earth science.

Social Studies Students are continuing their exploration of ancient civilizations. Recent and future units of study include ancient China, ancient Greece, ancient Rome, ancient Israel, and ancient India.

English Classes have finished taking the English PSSA and their teachers are proud of their hard work! They continue to compose various pieces across the three modes of writing – persuasive, informative, and narrative. Students also continue to study parts of

speech. Many elements of English grammar are being studied for inclusion in students' writing. Regular spelling practice continues to round out students' English experience in 5th grade.

Reading Students in reading classes continue to read and respond to a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts. Additionally, reading classes are gearing up for the Reading PSSA this month!

Math Classes are also preparing for the PSSA test, which will take place from March 16-20. Additionally, students are studying various geometric concepts, including plane and solid geometry. Students have also begun a study of number theory and fractions.

SIXTH GRADE NEWS

Math The Above-level students have finished learning about percentages. In this unit, the students found common percents using mental math, solved proportions and used ratios to find percents. The students will be applying this knowledge to practical applications for shopping, such as sale, rate of discount, and sales tax. The students are now moving on to a unit on probability.

On level math students are finished the number theory unit. In this unit, the students explored divisibility, factors, multiples, and prime and composite numbers. This unit prepared students with the concepts necessary to understand fractions and relate them to the previous unit on decimals. Now the students are using this knowledge to work on two chapters on operations with fractions.

Students in Pre-Algebra classes just wrapped up a unit on proportions and percentages. They have just recently begun studying basic units of geometry and spatial thinking. The students will get many hands-on learning opportunities throughout this new unit.

All math students are taking some time to prepare for two annual events: the PSSA and the sixth grade 24 tournament. Both occur the week of March 16th. For the PSSA, please be sure your children get *plenty of sleep* and *eat a healthy breakfast each morning, all week long*. In lieu of homework, students should be practicing math facts, looking over math notes, and reviewing math vocabulary. The annual 24 tournament will take place in math classes the same week. Class finalists will compete in a school championship where those finalists will have the chance to compete in a district championship against similar finalists from Valley Forge Middle School.

Reading Students are working with short stories this month in reading class. In pairs, they will be reading, writing about the stories using a prompt, and

finally discussing the stories with their partner. Later in the month, we will be starting Literature Circles. This engaging reading activity groups students according to the novel they have chosen to read with each "circle" reading a different book.

English This month we are working on writing persuasive essays. The goal is to write well-organized, multi-paragraph essays that promote a cause that show the students' abilities to use persuasive language effectively. Next, we will begin a new writing unit that emphasizes the use of descriptive language. Students will be encouraged to use all of their senses to create paragraphs that *come alive* with good description. In addition, we will continue working with grammar and spelling.

Science We have begun our third unit, From Bacteria to Plants. Students are currently learning about stimulus/response and how living things are organized by taxonomy. Students continue to grow their bread mold and take measurements and observations. We are realizing that mold demonstrates the six characteristics of living things and that we are providing the four basic needs of all living things. After studying the six kingdoms we will look at living amoebae, paramecium, and euglena cells using our microscope skills covered earlier in the year. The unit will culminate with growing bacteria cultures. Using the scientific method, we will collect samples of bacteria throughout the school and grow them in a sterile environment.

Social Studies During the month of March, sixth grade students will begin a unit on Asia and the Pacific. To kick off this unit, students will have the opportunity to meet in small groups with a young adult from a different country. Students will formulate questions in class and then will be able to have a conversation with the young adult. Students will also be taking an in-depth look at China.

SEVENTH GRADE NEWS

During the next few weeks of March, parents should receive another important mailing about Williamsburg. This mailing will contain the next set of forms that are due and other information pertaining to the trip. The cost of the trip is \$270, which may be paid in installments. The first installment of \$90 was due by February 19th and the second installment of \$90 is due March 12th. The last installment of \$90 is due April 30th. All necessary information and forms can be found online at www.misswilson.com.

English Students have been reading one of two novels that relate to middle school life: Stargirl and Schooled. At the conclusion of this unit, we will examine excerpts from various memoirs. Students will then write a memoir of their own.

Mathematics The Math 7 classes will begin work with percents and percent word problems. First, students will convert percents to fractions and decimals. Next, the class will learn mental math strategies for finding the percent of a number. Finally, students will solve percent word problems.

The Pre-Algebra classes will finish rational numbers and begin work on ratios, proportions and percents. We will begin the unit with an introduction to ratios and unit rate. Next, the students will learn the concepts of proportions and apply these concepts to

similar figures and scale drawings. The class will then discover the relationship between fractions, decimals, and percents. Students will learn how to set up and solve percent equations. Finally, we will conclude our unit with some real world applications of percents such as percent change, discount/markup, and interest.

Algebra I classes will continue working with factoring polynomials and solving quadratic equations. The unit will conclude with word problems using quadratic equations.

Science During the month of March, some science classes will continue to work with environmental science while other science students will be learning about chemistry. This will include different types of properties, chemical and physical changes, heating and cooling curves, and temperature. All science classes will be continuing to stress science process through critical thinking and scientific method.

Social Studies Seventh grade classes are continuing their study of the American Revolution. Topics include the Declaration of Independence, the writings of Thomas Paine, various military battles and tactics, the French Alliance, and the Treaty of Paris. Students will continue to learn about the stock market through the on-line simulation game. The game will last until April 17th.

EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

English The eighth grade English classes are working on Romeo and Juliet during the month of March. Students will be reading the play and creating parodies based on the work. Students will continue working on journals and vocabulary and will be responsible for producing a compare and contrast essay at the conclusion of the unit.

American History Students will explore the events, ideas and movements that led to the United States Civil War.

Pre-Algebra Students just finished working with both decimal and fraction equations. They are now moving into a unit on ratios, proportions, and percents, which will include scale drawing applications.

Algebra 1a Students are finishing up with linear equations and inequality applications. They will then work with the TI graphing calculator in order to graph the linear equations they have been learning about.

Geometry Students are finishing the unit on Right Triangle Trigonometry. Students will study applications before moving on to Area of Plane Figures.

Algebra 1 Students are finishing the unit on quadratic equations and then will start to work with a unit on factoring. Students from Mrs. Rodger, Mrs. Tyrell and Ms. Quirk's classes will then compete in the annual

Factoring Olympics. We look forward to the friendly competition. Winners will be announced in the next newsletter.

Algebra 2 Students are completing their study of Exponential and Logarithmic Functions. They will be moving on to solving Rational Equations.

Science Students will complete their study of geologic processes like plate tectonics, earthquakes, and volcanoes. Our study of geologic time with a focus on the coal and limestone deposits found in Pennsylvania will be concluded. Students will investigate the rock cycle and the physical processes involved in the formation of igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rock. The geology unit includes a study of the geologic processes that lead to the formation and deposition of minerals and other natural resources. Activities include a lab that tests mineral attributes using Moh's Hardness Scale, making a crystal rock garden and examination of various rock and mineral samples. Weather concepts related to geology, like erosion, will be incorporated into the unit.



Nominating Committee Volunteers

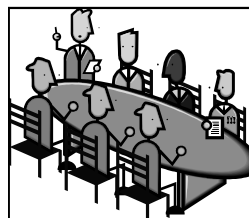
Volunteers are needed for the Nominating Committee! We will be filling all Committee Chair Positions and Board Positions. If you would like to be on the committee or hold a position, please call Karen Consalo 610-644-6119. Thanks!

The Children's Dental Clinic

Thank you to everyone who supported the Children's Dental Clinic this year through the Yankee Candle fundraiser. All orders have been submitted and you will receive notification when the products arrive. Thanks again for your continued support for this worthwhile cause!

Linda Hood

The Children's Dental Clinic Representative



Middle School Advisory Committee

The Middle School Advisory Committee consists of parents, teachers, school board members, and administrators. During the first meeting of the 2008-09 school year documents related to the development of the middle school program were reviewed and discussed.

It is the practice of the District to review programs and initiatives at regular intervals. As part of the District goal to review the middle school program, the committee developed the following overarching goal: To determine if the current middle school program meets the needs of students in the 21st century.

To achieve this goal, the committee will review the action plans of the original program to determine the degree to which they promote the development of strategic initiatives and reflect best practices.

Visit the T/e-Bulletin Board at www.tesd.net!

The electronic bulletin board contains information on community non-profit activities and events of interest to T/E parents and students. Examples of groups advertised on the electronic bulletin board are sports organizations, townships, libraries, art centers, community recreation centers, cultural education organizations, charitable organizations and many more. Information is updated twice a month – so check back often!

T/E Insight Goes Digital

The District's quarterly community newsletter, the *T/E Insight*, is available on the TESD web site and is also sent electronically through T/E's email notification program.

No longer want to receive a paper copy?

To be removed from the *T/E Insight* mailing list, visit the TESD web site, www.tesd.net, and click on "Remove me from the T/E Insight mailing list." To sign up for the email notification program, click on "Join T/E's Email Notification Program". You'll receive weekly email updates of school district announcements, community activities, meeting agendas, meeting minutes and more.



Ice Hockey Players!

**Thursday, April 23 at 7:30pm at the Easttown
Library**

**The Conestoga Middle School Ice Hockey Club
will be having a meeting for new players and parents!**

**This established program is open to all
2009-2010 5th – 8th grade girls and boys**

living in Tredyffrin/Easttown School District.

**Come find out how you can experience Conestoga Ice
Hockey, a proud tradition since 1968!**

**Questions please contact Kathy Borzell at
610-695-0642 or borzellfamily@msn.com**

2009-2010 School Year Calendar

The school calendar for the 2009-2010 school year was approved by the School Board on November 17, 2008 and is available on the T/E School District web site at www.tesd.net under "Calendar" on the right side of the home page. Labor Day occurs later than usual in 2009.

Notable about the new calendar are the following details:

- School will start on September 3, 2009, the Thursday before Labor Day, for students in grades 1-12.
- The first day of school for kindergarten students is September 10, 2009.
- Conferences will take place during the week before Thanksgiving. School will be in session on Wednesday, November 25, 2009, the day before Thanksgiving.
- School will be in session on Monday, February 15, 2010, President's Day.
- Spring break will begin the last week in March.
- The tentative last day of school for students is a half day on June 15, 2010.

The TESD policy on bullying has been revised to meet the new Pennsylvania state regulations, effective January 1, 2009. The policy is displayed in every classroom and students have been informed about the updates through their Olweus class meetings. You may see the updated policy at the TESD website under Student Discipline, #5401.

DO YOU PLAN TO PLAY A FALL SPORT AT CONESTOGA?



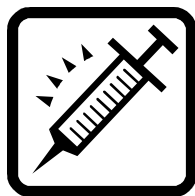
If you plan to try out for a varsity or JV team, be prepared to participate in pre-season which begins **Monday, August 17, 2009**. Please make summer plans with this date in mind. If cuts are necessary, they are made the first week of pre-season and you **must** be present to be considered.

In order to tryout for any sport, your student must have a physical after **June 1, 2009** and completed paperwork submitted to the Conestoga Athletic Office by **August 3, 2009**. The necessary paperwork is available online at www.tesd.net/stoga. Click on "Athletics" and scroll down to the file under forms. Print the first four pages of the seven-page file, complete and submit them.

There are freshman teams for the following sports: football, boys soccer, girls soccer, field hockey and girls volleyball. These teams begin tryouts after school has resumed.

There will be an important meeting for all fall athletes and their parents on Wednesday, May 20th in the Auditorium at Conestoga at 7PM. Come meet the coaches, ask your questions and find out all you need to know about athletics at Conestoga.

ATTENTION: Parents of 6th grade students... New immunization requirements!



Children ENTERING 7th grade in 2009/2010 need the following:

1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis(Tdap)

1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)

Look for a letter from your school nurse in mid March if your child needs these immunizations.

CONESTOGA YOUTH WRESTLING ASSOCIATION'S **HEADLOCK**

WRESTLING CAMP June 29th to July 3rd, 2008

Camp Director: Mike Semar-Great Valley & Conestoga Youth Coach Phone: 484-318-1522
Former Head Coach at Conestoga High School & Current Valley Forge Middle School HPE Teacher
2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, & 2005-2006 Central League Coach of the Year
2003-2004 Daily Local News Wrestling Coach of the Year
1998, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004, & 2006 Main Line Life Coach of the Year

E-mail Questions to:
semarm@tesd.net

Clinicians:

John Semar - 1987 New Jersey Wrestling Coach of the Year, Member of the NJ Wrestling Hall of Fame
Ed Spiller - Former Head Wrestling Coach at Conestoga High School & Former Marple Tigers & CYWA Youth Coach
Pat Ryan-Valley Forge Middle School Wrestling Coach & Valley Forge Middle School HPE Teacher

Where: Valley Forge Middle School
105 West Walker Road
Wayne, PA 19087

When: Monday June 29th to Friday July 3rd
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM Each Day

Who: Wrestlers 16 years old and younger will be grouped for instruction by age, ability experience, and attention span. There is NO experience necessary!

This summer, the CONESTOGA YOUTH WRESTLING ASSOCIATION will be offering, for the 14th year, a wrestling camp for all wrestlers 16 years old and younger. The HEADLOCK WRESTLING CAMP has been designed to further expose athletes to the world of wrestling. Highly experienced teachers and coaches will utilize the wrestling room, new gym, and large gym at VF Middle School, to set-up three wrestling mats for instruction. The camp clinicians have experience teaching and coaching wrestlers stepping on the mat for the first time, as well as, coaching wrestlers winning national and international championships.

The technique sessions will involve topics including: leg attacks, throws, defense, scoring from the bottom, pinning combinations, and many others. There will also be time spent teaching the different styles of wrestling such as: SCHOLASTIC, FREESTYLE, GRECO ROMAN, and SUMO.

THE EMPHASIS WILL BE ON HAVING FUN!!

COST: \$225 (Which includes a camp T-shirt and a drink at lunch.)

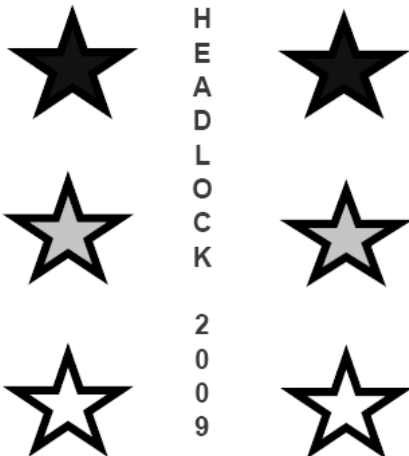
A copy of this form can be found at:

Please make checks payable to: Conestoga Youth Wrestling Association

www.CONESTOGAWRESTLING.com

HEADLOCK WRESTLING CAMP CONESTOGA YOUTH WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

Name
Address
City / State / Zip
Phone
Emergency Phone Number
Medical Insurance Company
Policy Number
Medications to be taken at camp:



PLEASE SEND FORMS TO:

MIKE SEMAR - VFMS
HEADLOCK WRESTLING CAMP
105 West Walker Road
Wayne, PA 19087-1193

Age:	Weight:	
Wrestling Club:		
E-Mail Address:		
Years of Experience:		
T-shirt Size (Circle):		
YM	YL	AS
AM	AL	AXL
[Add \$10 for any extra t-shirts]		

In consideration of acceptance of this form, I hereby for myself, my heirs, administrators, and assigns waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the sponsoring organizations, or their representatives, successors and assigns, arising out of any and all injuries suffered by me while participating in the Headlock Wrestling Camp/Conestoga Youth Wrestling Association. Parent and/or guardian agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the sponsoring organizations, represent successors, and assigns, for any and all damages from injury received by the minor participating in the Headlock wrestling Camp/Conestoga Youth Wrestling Association.



School Board Update



Summary of School Board Committee Meetings Provided by Committee Members

February 2009

Education Committee

submitted by DEBBIE ROLLINS

The Education Committee met on February 10th. The Committee received reports on testing. The administration presented testing data from the Educational Record Bureau (ERB) test; Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) and Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT). T/E students consistently performed above the suburban norm and national norm on the ERB test. In addition, T/E had a higher percentage of students score in the 'advanced' and 'proficient' category on the PSSAs when compared to state percentages. Finally, Ninety-five percent of 2008 seniors took the SAT. The mean verbal/reading SAT score was 580 and the mean math score was 594.

Next, the administration presented information on Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). In 2008, all T/E schools made AYP. In 2008, AYP was determined using PSSA results from grades 3-8 and grade 11. The percentage of students who scored advanced or proficient in math, in grades tested, ranged from 80.8% to 95.7%. The average AYP performance standard in math is 56%. The percentage of students who score advanced or proficient in reading ranged from 81.7% to 96.4%. The average AYP performance standard in reading is 63%. By 2014, the state expects 100% percent of students to score in the proficient category.

Facilities Committee

submitted by PETE MOTEL

The Facilities Committee met on February 20th. The Committee outlined and discussed the goals for the upcoming year.

The District architect is currently working on the design and construction documents for a renovation to Devon Elementary School. The District will receive bids for the project in early April.

The Committee discussed the process of installing and updating the District's network cabling system at the IT building. The project was designed to allow for growth in technology in accordance with the strategic plan.

The Committee agreed to move to the consent agenda of the February 23rd Board meeting an agreement with Tri-M Group, LLC to provide network cabling at the IT building in an amount not to exceed \$154,500. The Committee also agreed to move to the consent agenda an agreement with TeraNet Consulting & Technical Services for project management services for the upgrade to the District-wide telephone system and the consolidation of WAN services in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.

The Committee and administration reviewed the process used to update the Infrastructure report each year and to prioritize projects.

In preparation for its sidewalk project, Tredyffrin Township needs District approval to regrade a portion of District property. The Committee agreed to allow the Township to regrade a portion of District property, assuming any storm water management issues can be resolved.

Finally, the contract between Tot-Time Kids (formerly a Child's Place) and the District is coming up for renewal. The Committee asked the administration to determine the costs incurred by the District in allowing Tot-Time Kids to use District facilities.

The Committee will meet next on March 13th at 7:30 a.m. in the Tredyffrin Easttown Administration Offices.

Finance Committee

submitted by KEVIN MAHONEY

The Finance Committee met on February 19th. The administration presented the monthly financial statements for January. The administration explained that transfer tax and delinquent tax revenue is lower than the prior year, while investment income revenue is higher than expected. It was also noted that the final lien list is substantially higher than last year.

The Committee reviewed draft goals. A revised list of goals will be discussed at the March meeting.

The District has the option of joining the Delaware Valley Health Care Coalition (DVHCC), which is a

consortium of local union health and pension funds. By joining the consortium, the District would be eligible to receive discounts on healthcare benefits. The administration will research this issue and provide additional information at the March meeting.

The administration presented recent District initiatives to reduce energy consumption. The District is forming an energy management committee to further evaluate ways to reduce energy consumption.

Since the January Finance Committee meeting, the administration has implemented several initiatives to reduce spending to match reduced revenue projections. The administration presented revised expenditure data for the remaining portion of the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

The administration will review the District's fees charged for facilities use. In addition, the administration will keep track of all costs, including labor, to provide public records under Pennsylvania's Right to Know Law.

Policy Committee

submitted by LIANE DAVIS

The Policy Committee met on February 5th. The following policies will be sent to the full Board for a second reading at their regular meeting on February 23rd: Policy 4340, *Restriction on Use of Electronic Devices (Tredyffrin/Easttown School District Employees)*; Policy 5100, *Special Education*; Policy 9130, *Officers of the Board*; Policy 9140, *Board Committees*; Policy 9220, *President – Inability to Complete Term*; Policy 9318, *Preparation and Distribution of Information Prior to Board Meetings*; and 9420, *Duties of Bonding Officers*.

The Committee recommended that Policy 2110, *Superintendent as Executive Officer*, be revised and then sent to the full Board for a first reading in February.

The Committee reviewed Policy 5119, *Foreign Students and International Exchange Study Program*. No changes were made and the addition of a new review date was recommended. In addition, the Committee reviewed Policy 5437, *Continuing Education for Pregnant Students*. The Committee determined that this policy is outdated and is no longer needed. The policy will be sent to the full Board for a first reading with intent to repeal.

The Committee recommended that the following policies be reviewed or discussed at the March 12th Policy Committee Meeting: Policy 1124, *Distribution of Promotional Information*; Policy 6121, *Philosophy of Education*; Policy 6162, *Instructional Materials – Copyright*; Policy 5440, *Free or Reduced Lunches*; Policy 5450 *Advisory Health Council*; and Policy 5510, *Post-Secondary School Students*.

The Committee asked the District solicitor to write a resolution that authorizes the replacement of the word "pupil" with the word "student" wherever it occurs in Board policies and regulations.

After a brief discussion, the Committee affirmed their support for teacher participation in "Casual Business Dress Days" that generally occur once a month, to raise money for local charities. The Committee also indicated support for student participation in the Google art contest.

Public Information Committee

submitted by PAT WOOD

The Public Information Committee met on February 5th. The Committee reviewed Pennsylvania's new Right to Know law with the District solicitor. The Committee recognized that the District's current policy and procedure outline how requests for information are fulfilled and that the new Right to Know law will not alter our practice. The Committee discussed the need to develop the criteria to determine what information could be posted on-line. Betsy Fadem suggested that we gain some experience in the type of information requested from the community to determine if posting on-line is the best solution. Continuing, Mrs. Fadem stated, T/E is recognized as a leader in education, and is in compliance with the Right To Know law but that more experience and knowledge are needed to understand the implications of posting the information on-line.

The Committee discussed developing a legislative advocacy communication plan based on the communication methods used for disseminating information about the Graduation Competency Assessments last year. This purpose of the plan will be to guide the District in communicating about future legislation affecting the T/E School District.

The Committee discussed the possibility of using Twitter.com as a complement to TE All-Call. Committee members were asked to visit Twitter.com prior to the March meeting in order to further discuss it's viability as an emergency communication tool.

Beginning in 2009-2010, the administration will provide the District calendar in a comma separated value (CSV) format for download on the TESD web site. The CSV version of the calendar will contain the same activity and event information that is printed on the paper copy of the calendar and will not be updated for scheduling changes.

For information on School Board Committee meeting dates and times, visit the T/E School District web site at www.tesd.net.

Tredyffrin/Easttown Middle School
801 Conestoga Road
Berwyn, Pennsylvania

Non-Profit Organization

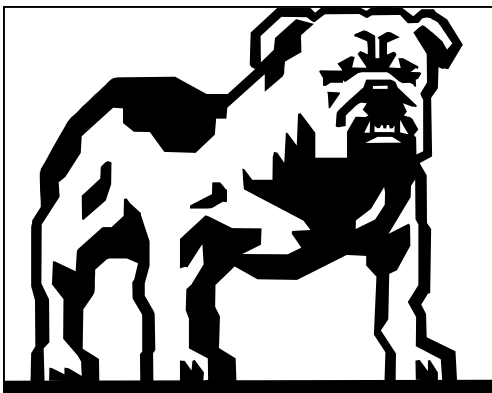
US POSTAGE PAID
Paoli, PA 19301
Permit No. 24

DATED MATERIAL

Coming Events:

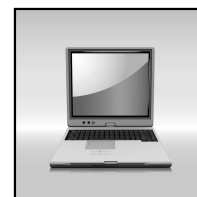
For more details, check T/E website.

4/1	PTO Meeting Faculty Lounge	9am
4/3-12	SPRING BREAK NO SCHOOL	
4/15	Strategic Plan-Creativity/Ethics	7-9:30pm
4/24	7th and 8th Grade Spring Fling	7-9:30pm
5/5	5th and 6th grade Spring Concert	7:30pm
5/6	PTO meeting	7pm
5/13	7th and 8th grade Spring Concert	7:30pm
5/25	Memorial Day NO SCHOOL	
6/3	PTO meeting	9am
6/4	Summer Reading Book Day	9-11am



Help the TEMS PTO
Go GREEN!

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Barks”



your
“Bulldog
ONLINE!

Each month you will
receive a link to the