

# Branching Out

Monthly Newsletter -- December 2023  
Theodore Roosevelt High School



**We want ALL of our students  
to reach their full potential  
in an equitable & inclusive environment.**



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# Letter from the Principal

by Dennis Love

I would like to wish you a joyous holiday season! There are so many exciting events at Roosevelt in December but we are also mindful that the season can be a stressful and challenging time for so many. We will continue to work together to ensure the success and well being of our students. As the temperature drops, we will maintain a warm, caring, and consistent environment for all at TRHS.

## Academic News

by Dennis Love, Mary Lynn Bush, Brian Bachtel, & Lindsay Zenker

We appreciated the learning community's support in providing us with two professional development days during the first semester. During these days, Roosevelt educators were able to take full advantage of their time by working on curriculum maps, unit plans, common assessments, and school safety training. Our staff utilized this valuable time to collaborate, learn, and reflect on their teaching methods and approaches. Time spent on professional development transfers to students' abilities to explain their daily learning intentions and aids staff and students in identifying clear success criteria at the end of each unit. We are extremely fortunate to have a staff who are committed to our students reaching their full potential.



### R.I.D.E. AWARD

2023-2024

Congratulations Your *Students Name!*

*Student's Teacher* has recognized you for your demonstration of **SPECIFIC QUALITY** of the **R.I.D.E.** expectations! Keep up the great work!

Listen to the announcements each morning to see if you have won a prize!

**Respect, Integrity, Duty, Excellence**

**RESPECT** – Sarah Al-Sherifi, Greg Ballway, Selina Chakraborty, Zakaia Eiland, Tyler Ellington (x2), Ellah Fife, Max Froman, Riley Ghosh, Josh Hamilton, Aiden Hills, Maya Hunter, Brianna Johnston, Matthew Joltin, Willoughby Jones, Alexis Kruger, Forever Lewis, Jermaine Little, Ava Marvin, Jenna Nelson, Ben Nyerges, Alexa Oaks, Jaydin Parks, London Portis, Owen Puhalla, Kail Pyka, Miles Robeson, Kareen Scales, Vayden Scarsellato, Victoria Schmiz, Ryan Slocum, Maryssa Smith, Amir Spratt, Natalie St. John, Jacob Sumey, Aiden Thornton, DeMario Tucker

**INTEGRITY** – Theseus Daniels, Chantya Davis, Nathan Malek, Zach Mulloy, Molly Murphy, Renee Pinkston, Claire Van Damme, Messiah Wright

**DUTY** – Issac Benjamin, Carmela Berry (x2), Alexis Bevilacqua, Kendra Cain, Emanuel Churn (x2), Brayden Dieffenbach, Levi Ehrman, Bailey Gaines, Brenton German, Devon Giffen, Hanna Herakovic, Nate Huff, Max Jackson, Trevon Johnson (x2), Matthew Joltin, Grant Leslie, Nathan Malek, Faith Morehead (x2), Michael Obie, Kail Pyka, Iliad Rodgers, Jacob Sumey, Lamira Thompson, Darshawn Washington, Gia Watts, Bella Weideman, Josh Wells

**EXCELLENCE** – Octavia Adkins, Aiden Allen, Alexios Avouris, Carmen Berry, Shyere Berry, Jacob Biltz, Zo Bivens, Vivian Blatnik, Trevor Bogovich, Cerentiy Boone, Sarah Boone, Jaeden Bosley, Mari Brady, Jesse Braham, Amanda Brind, Emma Brown, Elizabeth Burroughs, Adeline Caudill, Kolton Clark, Phoenix Cline, DeVonta Cody, Amelia Cope (x2), Elizabeth Coseno, Robert Craft, Nat Crisp, Drew Daniels, Evan Farley, Raiden Felding, Francesca Ferrara, Trey Flannery, Arianna Fleshman, Jason Fonner, Teagan Frazier, Merrill Frebog, Masyn Friedman, Bailey Gaines, Brenton German, Josh Hamilton, Caiden Harris, Zoe Heim, Emma Hite, Derek Hoang, David Hoover, Ar'Monnie Jackson, Josiah Karpinecz, Lily Karpinecz, Reign Kelly, Asher Kerr, Jordyn Kibler, Dash Knoyer, Ethan Kurtz, Abigail Landucci, Stephanie Lennon (x2), Forever Lewis, Asia Lindsey (x2), Brady Liske, Eli McAllister, Sydney McKim, Camryn Mclaughlin, Justin Meeks, Kora Mendez, Leah Mercer, Hayden Mitchell, Owen Mosca, Johnavan Murry, Alexa Nash, Cassandra(Cassie) Paolucci, Kayleigh Parks, Isabella Provenzano, Owen Puhalla, Joel Redman, MaKenna Rhodes, Jeremy Rieger, Saidxa Rodrigues Lopez, Carter Roesky, Matilda(Tillie) Sabin, Carter Schilling (x2), Max Shepper, Lillian Skold, Carson Smith (x2), Jaelon Smith, Maryssa Smith, Caroline Stahle-West, Ryker Stanley, Bronwyn Stewart, Markisha Talbert, Anastasia Taylor, London Taylor (x2), Ting Ting Li, May Upshaw, Reagan Wade, Carly Wages, Sophie Wiley, Nikayla Williams, Joseph Wiseman, Harri Wunderle, Sara Yanelli, Kevin Zifchak

**ATTENDANCE REMINDERS:** Now that we are nearing the middle of the school year, please be reminded of the attendance policy in the [TRHS Student & Parent Handbook 2023-24 \(BOE Approved\)](#). As stated in the handbook, specifically pertaining to medical absences, "absences will be considered Medically Excused when a doctor's note is provided for illnesses and doctor's appointments. This will only apply to the dates as specified in the note." This means that doctor's notes are needed whenever a student has to miss school for an appointment (primary physician, dentist, orthodontist, counseling, hospital, etc.). Additionally, if a student misses school because of illness, a doctor's note is also preferred. All medical notes should be turned in to the Attendance Office, faxed to (330)-676-8733, or emailed to [rsevern@kentschools.net](mailto:rsevern@kentschools.net).

## Athletics

by Ben Dunlap

We are so proud of our fall student athletes. These 257 Roosevelt student-athletes cumulative GPA for the fall was an outstanding 3.80. Many of our student athletes have been involved with their sport since the summer. They are also great academic athletes. Below is the GPA average for each individual sport:

- |                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ● Boys Cross Country - 4.19  | ● Girls Soccer - 3.94 |
| ● Girls Cross Country - 4.26 | ● Boys Golf - 4.03    |
| ● Football - 3.58            | ● Girls Golf - 4.04   |
| ● Cheerleading - 4.07        | ● Tennis - 3.88       |
| ● Field Hockey - 3.41        | ● Volleyball - 3.7    |
| ● Boys Soccer - 3.84         |                       |

We had 187 out of 257 fall athletes that were named Suburban League Scholar-Athletes. That means over 72% of our fall student-athletes were honored. Well done Rough Riders!

**Rough Rider All Sports Boosters** is a fully volunteer-run non-profit organization with the mission to support the sports at both Theodore Roosevelt High School and Stanton Middle School while also serving the Kent community by improving the access to and excellence of our athletic programs. They also strive to promote and highlight the accomplishments of our student athletes, coaches, and programs. Families and community members are invited to be a part of their organization. Please see information below on how to get involved either as a patron, volunteer, or sponsor.

### Rough Rider All Sports Boosters Information Links:

[RRASB MEMBERSHIP LINK](#)

[RRASB SPONSORSHIP LINK](#)

[RRASB VOLUNTEER LINK](#)

**ROUGH RIDERS ALL SPORTS BOOSTERS**  
Rough Riders All Sports Boosters (RRASB) is a fully volunteer-run non-profit organization with the mission to support all 47 sports at TRHS and SMS as well as serving the Kent community by improving the access to and the excellence of our athletic programs. We also strive to promote and highlight the considerable accomplishments of our student athletes, coaches, and programs.

**GO RIDERS! #RIDERPRIDE**  
**2023-24 BOARD MEMBERS**  
Josh Schoenberger – President – joshrrasb@gmail.com  
Jonathan Haines – Co-VP & Acting Treasurer – jonathhaines@gmail.com  
Jen Smith – Co-VP – jeniferrasb@gmail.com  
Sara Beatty – Secretary – sararrrasb@gmail.com  
**2023-24 SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR**  
Robin Golden – robinrrasb@gmail.com  
**2023-24 COMMUNITY AND DISTRICT LIAISONS & PR**  
Kelly Foreman – kellyrrasb@gmail.com  
Alyson Haines – alysonrrasb@gmail.com

**Membership OPPORTUNITIES**  
BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ROUGH RIDERS ALL SPORTS BOOSTERS!  
JOIN TONIGHT & RECEIVE A FREE MEMBERSHIP CAR MAGNET  
SCAN THE QR CODE AND SEE HOW MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS BENEFITS

**Volunteers!**  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
WE NEED YOUR HELP

**save the date**  
Monday, September 11, 2023  
First Meeting – 7pm – TRHS Library

Saturday, September 16, 2023  
Rockin' Night Fundraising Concert  
feat. Punching Oswald – \$25 admission  
7:30 pm – Fairways at Twin Lakes

Saturday, March 9, 2024  
AT THE Races  
Details to come

## Career & Technical Education (CTE)

by Brian Bachtel

We are so pleased to announce that Kent City Schools has been awarded \$2,329,250 in special state funding for an Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Center project at Theodore Roosevelt High School. Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted held a press conference in Dayton to announce the grant recipients of the Career Technical Construction Program. Kent City Schools Superintendent Tom Larkin attended the press conference. Funding for the project comes from the Career Technical Construction Program, a priority earmark in the new state budget for the expansion of career-technical facilities in Ohio's public schools. No local funds will be needed to complete the project. The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission will administer the program and is developing the program guidelines in conjunction with the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation. The plan is to create a new manufacturing program and expand enrollment in the engineering pathway by creating a 3,500-square-foot state-of-the-art addition on the north side of Theodore Roosevelt High School. The new program will provide a pipeline of potential employees who are "career-ready."

## Counseling Department

By: Jessica Evanson

During the holiday season, if you or your family need additional support, please reference the [Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County Website](#) which includes access to many local counseling services 24-7.



## **SEMESTER EXAMS:** [Exam Dates & Bell Schedule & Guidelines.](#)

Exams are given in all courses at the end of the first and second semesters. All students are to take exams regardless of fees owed or books returned. Dates and times of exams are below. The philosophy of exams dictates that they are to be given only at the time they are scheduled. No semester or final exams may be taken early without administrative approval. Excuses to be absent from final examinations must be obtained from the appropriate assistant principal at least one week (five school days) prior to the examination. Such excuses are strongly discouraged but if granted, examinations will be taken after the scheduled final examination. **If a student fails to report for a final examination and fails to make-up the exam, the teacher will give that student a 0% on the exam for the course.**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> SEMESTER:</b> <i>(midterms for year- long courses; finals for semester courses)</i>				
	<b>7:30–9:00 am</b>	<b>9:15–10:45 am</b>	<b>10:50–11:20 am</b>	<b>11:25 am–12:55 pm</b>
<b>W Dec. 20, 2023</b>	Period 1	Period 2	LUNCH	Period 6/7 or 7/8
<b>H Dec. 21, 2023</b>	Period 9	Period 10	LUNCH	Make-Up Exams*
<b>F Dec. 22, 2023</b>	Period 3	Period 4/5 or 5/6	LUNCH	Make-Up Exams*

*\*Make-up exam times are ONLY for students who have an excused absence for the originally scheduled time of the exam and need to make-up the exam.*

**2nd GRADING PERIOD:** The second grading period will end on Friday, Dec. 22, 2023, and report cards will be posted on Progress Book by the end of January 12th, 2024. Directions on how to view report cards can be found [here](#). We are very hopeful that our students do well and are rewarded for their efforts. If you are a student who is struggling or have a student that is struggling, please contact your teacher, counselor, or administrator. We are all here to help and create the best possible learning environment for all our students to meet their full potential.

## **GRADUATION DATE FINALIZED!**

Theodore Roosevelt High School is excited to announce the commencement ceremony for the *Class of 2024* will be on **Saturday, May 18, 2024, 5:00 pm, at the Kent State MAC Center.** Cap and gown orders must be placed **BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023** -- [cap & gown ordering DIRECT LINK](#).



# Student Activities

by Heidi Jurging

Prior to the Thanksgiving holiday, several of the KCSD buildings participated in the district-wide Annual Canned Food Drive, organized by TRHS Leadership Retreat Planning Committee and Student Council, all to benefit Kent Social Services. The students gave quite a showing, as reported by each building:



- Davey Elementary School -- 1,567 (*half of which went to the Ben Curtis Family Foundation*)
- Holden Elementary School -- 1,164
- Longcoy Elementary School -- 1,990
- Walls Elementary School -- 1,450
- Theodore Roosevelt High School -- 16,475
  - A special thanks to teachers leading the HS classroom competition among the Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors: **Carla Ferrell, Craig Foreman, Eva Frank, Robin Golden, Laura Hammer, Pam Harr, Chris Hibbs, Matt Hunkele, Nikki Marchmon-Boykin, Larry Piciccio, Ann Puhalla, Terri Slattery, and Jay Wilson**

All donations were sorted and packed for delivery on Saturday, November 18, by Student Council members and Leadership Retreat student delegates. The final total count delivered to Kent Social Services later that day was equal to **21,031 cans!!!** What an amazing example of SERVICE that our students displayed during this annual event. **Thank you to ALL who participated** by donating, publicizing, giving time, and leading the class competitions!!





Congratulations to Seniors **Emma Arthur**, **Francesca Ferrara** (not pictured), **Griffin Wiard**, **Ronald "Scottie" Spears**, and **Ethan Young** who were recognized by the Kent American Legion (Post 496) for their participation in Buckeye Boys and Girls State conferences last summer. Participants were staff nominated for demonstrating the following qualities: a definite interest in American government and current events, high scholastic achievement, exceptional moral character, strong leadership abilities, maturity, a desire to learn, and a willingness to be involved. At the end of November, participants shared their experiences with legion board members, sponsors, and families.

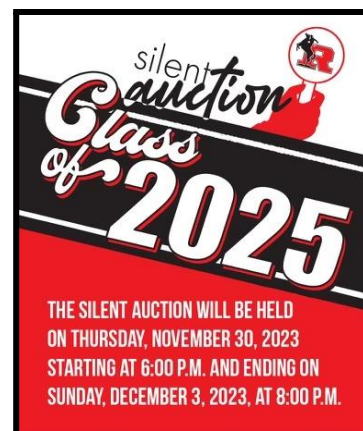


At the Boys State conference, both Ethan and Scottie were selected to attend the Boys Nation conference in Washington DC. Serving in the roles of senator, both were ranked highly by the staff counselors. Ethan earned an overall ranking of #39 out of 100 students, receiving positive comments about how "nice and respectful" he was during the program. Scottie earned an overall ranking #1, and the Boys Nation Senior Counselor stated he was "The absolute example of what Boys Nation strives to see in selected Senators."



Additionally, this is the first time in the history of Boys Nation that two delegates from one state were both from the same high school and the same American Legion Post. What a great accomplishment for these young men and a perfect example of #KentRiderPride in action.

The Class of 2025 is hosting the 25th Annual **Junior Class (Virtual) Silent Auction Fundraiser**, Thursday, November 30, through Sunday, December 3. We invite you to check out the **ONLINE event!** To participate in the bidding, click on the **AUCTION LINK** between November 30 (6:00 pm) and December 3 (8:00 pm) to start viewing and bidding on the many items donated! Proceeds from the event will go towards a Junior/Senior Prom in the Spring and other upcoming class events!



During the month of December, we invite you to attend one or all of the many instrumental and vocal concerts. See the Upcoming Events section below for dates and times of those concert events.





National Honor Society Induction - November 2023



TRHS Drama Guild presents the *Radium Girls* Cast and Crew - November 2023



Freshmen Students at the Freshman Retreat - November 2023



# Upcoming Events

DECEMBER	TIME
1-3 Virtual Silent Auction Junior Class Fundraiser ( <i>starts November 30</i> )	TBD
2 SAT Test ( <i>not at TRHS</i> )	
5 & 6 Silent Auction Item Pickup	2:30 pm & 6:00 pm
7 SMS & TRHS Orchestra Concert at TRHS	7:00 pm
8-9 TRHS Choirs' Madrigal Dinner at SMS	7:00 pm
9 ACT Test ( <i>not at TRHS</i> )	
10 TRHS Winter Band Concert	2:00 pm
10 TRHS Winter Choir Concert	4:00 pm
12 SMS Winter Choir Concert at TRHS	7:00 pm
13 Holiday Jazz at Night	7:00 pm
14 SMS Winter Band Concert at TRHS	7:00 pm
19 BOE Meeting at DePeyster	6:00 pm
20 SEMESTER EXAMS — Periods 1, 2, 6/7 OR 7/8	7:30 am
21 SEMESTER EXAMS — Periods 9, 10	7:30 am
22 END 2 <sup>nd</sup> GRADING PERIOD & 1 <sup>st</sup> SEMESTER	
22 SEMESTER EXAMS — Periods 3, 4/5 OR 5/6	7:30 am
25 WINTER BREAK BEGINS — NO SCHOOL ( <i>no school through January 5</i> )	

## Resources

Refer to the following resources to plan for a successful and involved year. All resources are available on the [TRHS Website](#).

- [Bell Schedules](#)
- [Calendars & TRHS Schedule of Events 2023-24](#)
- [Student Activities, Advisor, & Coach List 2023-24](#)
- [Student Government 2023-24](#)
- [TRHS Student & Parent Handbook 2023-24](#)
- School Instagram accounts:
  - TRHS Counseling Department -- @trhs.counseling
  - TRHS Student Activities -- @trhs.studentactivities
  - TRHS Library & Media Center -- @trhslib
  - TRHS Career Technical Education Programs -- @kentschoolscte
  - Kent City School District -- @kentschools
  - Rough Rider All Sports Boosters -- @roughriderskent

**READ MORE on the [TRHS WEBSITE](#)**

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# Theodore Roosevelt High School

1400 N. Mantua • Kent OH • 44240 • 330-676-8700 • [www.kentschools.net/o/trhs](http://www.kentschools.net/o/trhs)