

# Branching Out

Monthly Newsletter -- February 2024  
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*

Dear Students, Parents, and Friends of Theodore Roosevelt,

Even though Northeast Ohio has not seen much sunlight to start the new year, the halls of Theodore Roosevelt High School are brimming with positive energy. The start of the second semester is an exciting time of the year to be a Rough Rider. Students should be comfortable and have a clear understanding of what is expected of them in each of their classrooms and in our building. Winter sports and activities are in full swing and there are plenty of opportunities for students to be engaged in the school community. February will be filled with a range of activities from planning for graduation to 8th grade orientation.

## Academic News

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

As we celebrate **National Black History Month**, I want to remind our school community that we want our Black and Brown students to feel that they are valued; we recognize and are acutely aware of the need to create an equitable and inclusive environment.

Our District Equity and Inclusion Taskforce hosted our second Kent Community Update Night. All of our buildings highlighted the amazing work that has been done to ensure equitable access to high quality learning and opportunities for **ALL** of our students, across our district. In addition to our expo table, TRHS prepared [this presentation](#) so we have an opportunity to share our great work with all of our TRHS families.

Our task force has also been working with a [comprehensive rubric from Facing History](#). The rubric is a powerful tool in assessing our progress toward creating a more inclusive and equitable educational environment. We have been receiving feedback from students, staff, parents and community members. This feedback is crucial as we strive to continually improve, we want to be sure to create a high school where students and staff of color feel respected, safe, and have the opportunity to thrive.

We are committed to collecting data and evidence to better meet the needs of our diverse learning community. We will continue to have anti-racism training and to be transparent with our educational goals and action plans. We have solicited and continue to welcome feedback from the Roosevelt Learning Community. We all have the challenge of making our world a better place. I am proud of how the Roosevelt Learning Community continues to learn and grow as we strive to become the best versions of ourselves.



## PBIS - R.I.D.E. - Respect, Integrity, Duty, Excellence

♥ **Valentine's Day "Show the Love"** – The PBIS team is hosting a mid-quarter recognition celebration. The teachers/staff are able to and do recognize students for representing one of the RIDE characteristics through a google form. The students who are recognized during the week of February 5, will be given a ticket to receive a hot chocolate during their lunch period on February 14! Staff members that haven't participated yet, will also be rewarded with a hot chocolate if they nominate at least one student next week. In addition, our top three staff members will be given a golden ticket for the hot chocolate as well. Any staff member can nominate/recognize any student for their RIDE actions, attitudes and behaviors. We are excited to celebrate the students and staff that are representing the Theodore Roosevelt RIDERS community in a positive way! The list of students who were recognized for the month of January are listed below.



**RESPECT** – *Greg Ballway, Vivian Blatnik, Ava Galley, Jaiden Portis, Elissa Rogers, Addysen Sarah, Amelie Semmler, Nevaeh Tackett, Cheyenne Thompson*

**INTEGRITY** – *Colette Golden, Ada Howard, Carter Slack, Maryssa Smith*

**DUTY** – *Aiden Allen, Ghaida Alshammari, Emily Barry, Kylan Blake, Elliot Boltz, Clara Bowers, Ollie Boyden, Carter Brown, Conner Buterbaugh, Amiyah Collins, John Denning, Khalil Faiz, Chase Fancher, Lauren Frey, Diego Coutino Granados, Ethan Hammonds, Bryan Harper, Eli Hilton, Robert Kraft, Kari Kurko, Dakota Kwasney, John McKinney, Cherish Palmer, John Parmer, Lesly Patterson, Lucy Perea, Nicholas Roberts, Gwen Rogers, Ady-ma'am Salmons, Carter Schilling, Carson Smith, Elylah Stager, Caleb Stroh, Darshawn Washington, Blake Wright*

**EXCELLENCE** – *Julian Amos, Greg Ballway, Theo Bednar, Alexis Bevilacqua, Rya Blake, Ollie Boyden, Finley Clapper, Finley Clapper, Elliot Cole, Skylar Coles, Tyler Copen, Elizabeth Coseno, Kaysia Crawford, Sophia Della Vechhia, Tyler Ellington, Teagan Fraizer, Mahlia Friedman, Bailey Gaines, Devon Giffen(x2), Abby Gold, Josh Hamilton, William Hardin, Dalvi Harris, Simon Hassler, Eli Hilton, Derek Hoang, David Hoover, Grace Johnson, Matthew Joltin(x2), Simon Khan, Mayara Krifa, Daniel Li, Asia Lindsey, Loyal Lipkins, Katherine Logue (x2), Natalie Lowe, Nathan Malek(x2), Sophia Maxwell, Sam McKinney, Mason Medhurst, Hanna Moore, Ben Nyerges, Mick Oldham, Kayleigh Parks, London Portis, Ashlynn Riddick, Saidxa Rodriguez Lopez, Eniyah Smith, Samuel Snellenberger, Caroline Stahle-West, Mia Stroh, Jake Sumey(x2), Nevaeh Tackett, Lamira Thompson, Max Uhrig, Benna Vodila, Lincoln Wade, Shawn Washington, Gia Watts, Messiah Wright, Nikayla Williams, Anabelle Yensel(x2), Anya Young, Ethan Young*

# Athletics

by Ben Dunlap

Back in 2008, our Lady Rough Rider basketball program began a lifelong friendship with the residents and staff at Hattie Larlham in Mantua. Every Thursday night, the Lady Rider hoops players spend time



at Hattie playing games, making crafts, and having fun with the residents there. This started out as a "volunteer" activity and became something way beyond that; it became the heart and soul of the program. On Monday, January 22, we held our annual Hattie Larlham Game where many of the staff and our friends came to watch us in our home, Rough Rider gymnasium.

Congratulations to our **Boys and Girls Swimming and Diving** teams as they have both clinched the Suburban League Championship title. That is back-to-back championships for our boys team and our girls won the league title for the 1st time in 27 years! It's the first time in the history of the swim/dive program that both the girls and boys teams are **simultaneous** Suburban League Champs! Additionally, they completed their last meet at the end of January, finishing with a PERFECT 11-0 SEASON for BOTH teams! Way to go, Rough Rider swimmers and divers, along with our amazing coaches!





On Friday, January 26, the school celebrated the winter sports seasons by recognizing team captains and representatives at the Winter Sports Pep Assembly. These student athletes have demonstrated great leadership throughout their seasons.

### **WINTER SPORTS CAPTAINS**

**Boys Basketball --** *Gavin Hockin*

**Girls Basketball --** *Julia Nash, Maddie VanDamme, Arie Wilson*

**Boys Bowling --** *Aidan Broyles, Brayden Darkow*

**Girls Bowling --** *Emma Arthur, Jillian Eden*

**Cheerleading (Basketball) --** *Nevaeh Hersman, Bronwyn Stewart and Naomi Yohn*

**Ice Hockey --** *Matt McCann, Brad Simms, Asst Captain Alex Simms*

**Swimming & Diving**

**Boys --** *Ethan Bruner, Drew Vecchio*

**Girls --** *Jeanie Barzellato, Ella Houk, Gabriella Melin, Cassidy Singer*

**Wrestling --** *Jeremiah Brumfield, Noah Dunlap, Gavin Edwards*



## **Career & Technical Education (CTE)**

*by Brian Bachtel*

Parents and students can attend a special evening event at TRHS on February 8 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. to learn about Kent Career Programs and have questions answered. Once you have checked out all of the programs at Kent and within the Six District Educational Compact, fill out your application by going to [www.sixdistrict.enrolltrack.com/](http://www.sixdistrict.enrolltrack.com/). You may apply to more than one program. Make sure you identify your preferences in rank order. Apply by February 24, 2021.

### **Schedule of Programs to Join a Career Technical Education Program**

- February 8 -- CTE Conversation with Parents & Students -- 6:30-8:00 pm
- Applications are due by February 24, 2024.



## Counseling Department

By: Jessica Evanson

**ACT/Plan Testing** On February 27, 2024, all Freshman and Juniors are to report to school. Freshmen are taking the PreACT 9 and Juniors are taking the state mandated ACT.

- **FRESHMAN & JUNIORS should be at school by 7:15 am; the tests start at 7:30 am.** Students will report to the room where they are taking the test. The room assignments will be sent to each student via their school email. In addition, the list of rooms and rosters will be posted outside of the counseling office and the library.
- **SOPHOMORES & SENIORS will not report to school that day.** Sophomores will have asynchronous classroom assignments. The Seniors will be independently exploring post-secondary opportunities of enrollment, enlistment, and employment.

**Scheduling for 2024-25** is underway. Discuss with your students their classes for the next school year. Parents have access to the [Schoollinks](#) platform. This platform is how you can see what courses your student has requested for next school year, college and career matching features, and a scholarship search. Please log on to your schoollinks account today and see all it has to offer. [Directions for how to access your account.](#) A full list of courses and descriptions can be found on our course [registration page](#).

**Local Scholarships** are now available. Please check out our [Local Scholarship Website](#) to see the current scholarships. Check back often. Kent City Schools offers over \$80,000 in local scholarships from our Kent community.

We held our **College Credit Plus (CCP) Meeting** on 1/24/2024. Information about CCP and a recording of the CCP Meeting please visit [TRHS CCP](#).

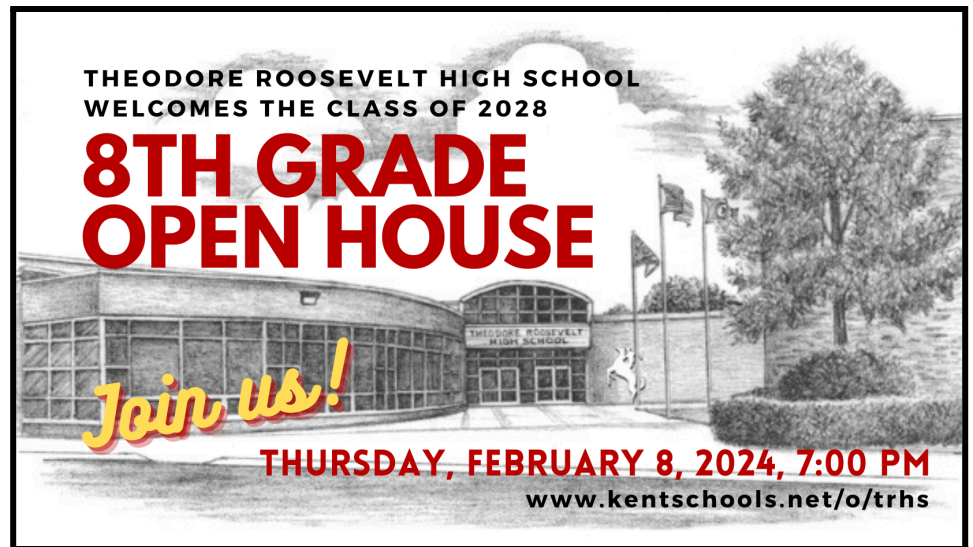


# Student Activities

by Heidi Jurging

On **Thursday, February 8, 2024** (alternate date if inclement weather will be Monday, February 12), TRHS Administration and Counseling Department will be hosting the annual **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House**, welcoming the Class of 2028 to Theodore Roosevelt High School. Following a brief program in the auditorium beginning at 7:00 p.m., 8<sup>th</sup>

grade students and their families are invited to tour the building and meet with representatives from departments, athletic teams and student organizations in the gymnasium. Building tours, conducted by Roosevelt students, will depart every 10 minutes from the back door of the library starting at 7:30 p.m. The evening provides a wonderful opportunity to showcase the many course offerings, special programs, sports and clubs available to students attending Roosevelt High School. Additional information can be found on the Roosevelt website.



Congratulations to Roosevelt Seniors, **Lillian Chang**, **Katherine Logue**, and **Sara Yanelli** who submitted creative writing pieces to annual Scholastic Writing Awards. Sara received a Silver Key Award for her personal essay. Lillian was awarded TWO Gold Key Awards for short story and flash fiction pieces. In addition to a Silver Key, Katherine Logue received a Gold Key Award for her writing portfolio. Lillian and Katherine will compete at the national contest later this spring.



The TRHS Academic Challenge Team competed on Channel 5's Academic Challenge show and finished second. We wish the team members, **Dash Knoyer**, **Nina Loofboro**, **Madelyn Baron**, **Ben Baron**, **Ethan Young**, and **Cash Liedel**, another good showing when they compete again against Copley in February.


Health Careers Technology (HCT) students and Student Council will be hosting a Blood Drive February 12, 2024, with donation times of 7:00 am - 1:00 pm in the Competition Gym lobby. Teachers, parents, and students 16 years or older and who meet the height/weight eligibility are able to sign up to donate with parent consent. Because the blood drive is during Valentine's week, **everyone that registers online will receive a \$10 gift card!**

**To Register Online:** Simply scan the QR code on the attached image or go to [vitalant.org](https://vitalant.org) and search with the **Blood Drive Code: U3059**

- [Parent/Guardian Information, Acknowledgement, & CONSENT FOR MINOR/STUDENT DONORS FORM](#)
- [BLOOD DONOR QUALIFICATIONS Information Sheet](#)

Student Council and HCT students will be able to help with the registration process during lunch periods the week of February 5!

**Because of you, life doesn't stop.**




## BLOOD DRIVE

**Kent Theodore  
Roosevelt  
High School**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12  
7:30 AM – 1 PM**

Inside front entrance  
1400 N. Mantua Street  
Kent

All gifts of blood count toward  
Vitalant scholarships for students.



16 year olds may donate with a signed Vitalant Parental Consent Form available in the office.


Please eat before you donate.

Bring a photo ID and a list of any medications you take.

Appointments are preferred.

To make an appointment and earn reward points, go to [vitalant.org](https://vitalant.org) and search with Blood Drive Code: **U3059**

GIVE BLOOD TODAY | [vitalant.org](https://vitalant.org)  
Eligibility questions? Call 877.258.4825

**vitalant** 



# 2024 Winter Rumble Class Competition Highlights





# Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY		TIME
6	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Scheduling Orientation	7:30 am
8	CTE CONVERSATION W/PARENTS ( <i>alt. date 2/12, if needed</i> )	6:30 pm
8	EIGHTH GRADE OPEN HOUSE ( <i>alt. date 2/12, if needed</i> )	7:00 pm
10	OMEA Dist. 6 High School Solo & Ensemble Contest	8:00 am
10	ACT Test ( <i>not at TRHS</i> )	
12	HCT & Student Council Blood Drive	7:30 am
12	Prom Works for Juniors ( <i>M-W through 3/20; Room 133</i> )	6:00 pm
13	Senior Class Assembly #2 ( <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Period</i> )	8:25 am
13	Spring Sports Coaches' Meeting	5:00 pm
13	Kent Music Boosters Meeting	7:00 pm
13	Spring Sports Parent & Athlete Meeting	7:00 pm
13	Spring Sports Individual Team Meetings	7:30 pm
15	EARLY RELEASE DAY for Students	12:15 pm
16	NO SCHOOL for Students (FACULTY IN-SERVICE)	7:30 am
19	PRESIDENTS' DAY — NO SCHOOL	
19	Baseball, Lacrosse, Softball, Track & Field, Boys Volleyball Begin	
20	Junior Class ACT Info Assembly	7:30 am
23	Registration Deadline — 3/9 SAT Test	
27	ACT Test for all Juniors & PreACT Test for all Freshmen	7:30 am
29-Mar 2	Winter Musical	7:00 pm
24	OMEA Orchestra Contest	TBA

## 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](#)**

# Theodore Roosevelt High School

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