

MUSTANG HOOFBEAT

Tri-Valley School District 49-6 – October/November 2021 Newsletter

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS



Greetings,

One of the recommendations from our Facilities Task Force was for our school district to create a school finance committee. The Finance Committee must recognize it is critical to be good stewards of public funds by ensuring transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the district's finances. The finance committee will be designed to assist the school board in fulfilling its fiscal oversight responsibilities and ensuring the public's trust. The school board may ask the finance committee to review any matters potentially having a significant impact on the district finances before the board takes action.

FINANCE COMMITTEE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Assist the District in educating the general public concerning school finance issues, including creating reader-friendly budget information.
2. Review the District's annual audit and accompanying management letters and submit any comments or recommendations to the Board.
3. Review the annual budget, revenue and expenditure forecasts, and submit any recommendations to the Board.
4. Review and make recommendations regarding long-term capital plans and financial strategies for major projects for the district.
5. Recommend transfers between funds for special projects.
6. Advise the Board of any local, state, and/or federal policies, legislation or developing trends which may impact district financial goals and priorities.
7. Provide input on other issues identified by the Board.

Any parent or patron that resides in the Tri-Valley School District is eligible to be a member of the finance committee. If you are interest in serving on this committee, please contact me at the school at 605-446-3538 or you can always e-mail me at mike.lodmel@k12.sd.us

Respectfully,
Dr. Mike Lodmel
Every student. Every day. - The Mustang Way



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Please check out the Tri-Valley Website for the October & November Menus!

The menus can be found under the menu dining tab. Substitution to the menus can happen; if this does occur, we will do our best to inform you in advance of the menu change.

Substitutions are a result of either a supplier discontinuing a product or the supplier not being able to deliver the product by the date it was supposed to be served.

Tri-Valley School District 49-6
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Colton, SD 57018

605-446-3538 or 605-543-5500
Fax: 605-446-3520
Bus Garage: 605-446-3482
www.tri-valley.k12.sd.us

HIGH SCHOOL – MR. BRAD MCDONAND



Greetings from the high school! We are rapidly approaching parent-teacher conferences, scheduled for Thursday, October 14th, from 2:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Parent-teacher conferences are an important opportunity for families to meet with teachers to discuss their child's progress and ways to help them improve. This year we are offering a hybrid approach of online and in-person conferences to better meet the schedules and needs of our families. Below is the schedule we will be following:

- Virtual conferences will be held from 2:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. for parents/students that prefer an online format.
- In-person conferences will be held in the high school gym from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Parents who choose the in-person format will follow the traditional face-to-face

approach with their child's teachers.

We look forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's progress up to this point in the school year. Additional information regarding conference sign-up was emailed to all parents and students. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the upcoming parent-teacher conferences.

As the school year continues, I would like to remind parents that attendance is critical to your child's success. There is a documented link between attendance and declining achievement. School attendance and student achievement go hand-in-hand. The research is clear regarding attendance: Students who attend school regularly are able to learn more, have fewer discipline problems, develop better study habits, and often are more successful than students who do not. Children who do not attend school regularly rarely achieve their full potential. Missed instruction and the challenges students face as they attempt to complete missed work are important factors that impact student performance. While regular attendance is not a problem for most of our students, I would encourage parents to monitor and limit absences to enhance their child's academic success.

Similar to regular attendance, timely completion of homework can impact achievement. Homework is an important extension of learning in the classroom. We have established homework guidelines to reinforce the lessons taught in the classroom and to help develop positive study habits. Parents play an important role in making homework a positive experience for their children. Please read and discuss the homework guidelines with your child. Parents and teachers working together will ensure that all students have an opportunity to achieve success in the classroom!

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas you would like to discuss.

Sincerely,
Brad McDonald
Tri-Valley High School Principal

BOOKS AND EBOOKS AVAILABLE

Did you know that you can get free eBooks and audiobooks from the Tri-Valley library? It's easy! Just visit <https://soraapp.com/welcome/login/202544> and borrow digital books with your Tri-Valley Library Card Number. You can enjoy them on all major devices.

You can also access the Tri-Valley Library catalog at <https://tvsk12sd.booksys.net/opac/tvsk12sd/index.html#menuHome>.

Students can log in to see what they have checked out as well as search for and reserve materials. Questions? Contact Kay Dahl Hobart (kay.dahl@k12.sd.us)



INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL – MR. ERIC SMART



Greetings from Tri-Valley Intermediate School! It's been a great start to the year with our new schedule in place, and I am so thankful for the staff and students for their flexibility in taking on something new. I am also thankful for the school bond passing, which will give the Intermediate School much needed space in the near future. With the additional space, we will be able to alleviate a couple times in the day where we are currently cramped in the schedule.

This year is the first year of our Intermediate School. If you have a student in grades 5-8 you have probably seen that term in one way or another on school communication. In an effort to combine our 5th & 6th grades (former elementary) with 7th & 8th (former junior high) we are working to combine ourselves into a distinct, unified part of the Tri-Valley School District. One way we are working to achieve this goal is combining the 5th & 6th grade and 7th & 8th grade student councils. The 7th & 8th grade have chosen their representation and now the 5th & 6th grades will do the same. From there, we will start having student meetings as a larger group. I am hopeful this is one small way to achieve our goal.

In the next few weeks, staff will be breaking down testing data in order to better plan and deliver instruction. Our staff will be working to not only meet students where they are currently at, but also push them to attain the standards set by the state and then tested on in the spring. The test is commonly referred to as the Smarter Balanced Assessments. If you feel instruction is changing course in the next few weeks, this is most likely the reason as we dig deeper into our data in order to best serve our students' needs.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are on Thursday, October 14th from 2:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Additional information regarding the format of conferences was sent to parents on Friday, October 1st and can be found on the school website. I would ask you to please make plans to attend conferences and if that is not possible to reach out to your child's teachers.

Thank you,
Eric Smart
Intermediate School Principal

INFINITE CAMPUS PARENT PORTAL

Parent engagement has a direct correlation to student success. Students with engaged parents are more likely to have higher self-esteem, lower absenteeism and earn higher grades or test scores.

Stay up to date on grades, assignments, attendance announcements, schedules and more by signing up for Tri-Valley Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Information can be accessed on the web or by using the Campus Parent mobile app.



To sign up or for a forgotten username/password, please fill out the form at <https://bit.ly/tvparentportal2>.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – MRS. NANCY JOHNSON



The school year is off to a terrific start with the conclusion of the first quarter coming soon. Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, October 14th. Families will have the option of attending in-person or scheduling a Zoom conference with their child's teacher. All homeroom teachers have sent a signup link to their individual homeroom families. We also sent the links for all the Encore/Title Teachers as well as the elementary counselor to all families via Infinite Campus Messenger. Families are encouraged to visit with these teachers also. Being a part of your child's conference is just one way to show your support and willingness to collaborate with the school in the best interest of your child. Thank you for taking time to make this meeting happen.

We are excited to have limited access for our families this year. Several have already taken advantage of sharing lunchtime with their child. If you are interested in eating lunch with your child, please call the school on the day you'd like to visit so we know you are coming. If you plan to pay cash for your meal, you can do that with Mrs. Dana Sundal when you check in to the main office upon arrival. You can also charge the meal to your child's lunch account and pay on the account at your convenience. Either way works for us! We will ask that you and your child sit at a separate table to enjoy your lunch and that you say your good-byes as the students head out to recess. Thank you so much for your cooperation with this. It has been a joy to see families enjoying lunch together once again.

Some family activities are also returning to the elementary this year. Our Breakfast with Champions of Character that is held each quarter will be held on Thursday, October 7th at 7:30 a.m. in the high school gym, and families have been invited to attend! We are so proud of our Champions, and we hope that all families can make it to school to celebrate with their Champion on the 7th.

Remember to check the school website at <http://tri-valley.k12.sd.us/> to find staff webpages and follow Tri-Valley Elementary on Facebook (@TVElementary) to keep up on current happenings in our elementary school. Please feel free to stop by my office or contact me via email or phone with questions, suggestions, or greetings.

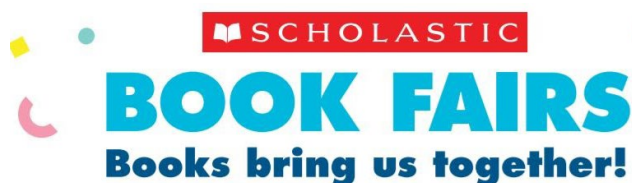
Happy Fall to All!
Mrs. Johnson, Elementary Principal

TRI-VALLEY STUDENTS SELECTED TO THE ALL-STATE CHORUS

Congratulations to the following students for being selected to the SDHSAA All-State Chorus: Elizabeth Dahl, Lance DeWitt, Lauren Harstad, Levi Langloss, Isaac McFarland, Calli Noe, Grant Schlueter, and Andi Sonnenberg. The following students were chosen as alternates to the event: Landon Asche, Hayden Hastings, Jenna Robinson, and Brooklyn Rombough. These students will participate in the All-State Chorus and Orchestra event, held this year at The Monument in Rapid City, on October 29th-30th. The Grand Concert will be televised on PBS.



NEW FROM THE TRI-VALLEY MEDIA CENTERS:



Join us for **Scholastic Book Fairs: Books Bring Us Together!** at the Scholastic Book Fair in the Elementary Library during Conferences in October and online from Oct. 6-19.

Lots of quality, affordable books, posters, and much more will be available for purchase Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 12 & 13 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 14 from 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. A "Grand Event" will be held Thursday, Oct. 14 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. for anyone "grand" in our students' lives. Join us for "Family Night" from 2:30-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 14. Be sure to stop by and take a look. Don't forget to keep your Christmas list handy because it's a great time to do some early shopping. Additional information will be sent home with Tri-Valley students when it gets closer. Information can also be found on the Book Fair homepage at <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/trivalleyschool1>. Additional books as well as books for older students and adults can be found in the online book fair. Purchases can be made online from Oct. 6-19 at www.scholastic.com/schoolbookfairs. As always, we welcome any questions you may have, just give us a call.

Mrs. Dahl & Mrs. Miller



1-2-3-4 We Declare a Penny War!

Join us in a Penny War benefiting our EA, Heather Siemonsma!

WHERE: Tri-Valley School District

WHEN: October 4th – 14th

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Each grade level (ECE – 12) has their own coin jug for collecting money located in their respective offices. Add points to your grade level jug by adding pennies and dollar bills. Subtract points from other grades by adding silver coins to their jug.

All funds raised will go to Heather Siemonsma, an educational assistant at Tri-Valley to help cover her medical bills. The winning group will be announced on Monday, October 18th. For more information, please contact Kate Haar at kate.haar@k12.sd.us.

Facts about Heather:

This is her 18th year being an educational assistant for Tri-Valley.

Her husband & sons graduated from Tri-Valley: Paul (1991), Andrew (2011), & Brandon (2016). Their granddaughter, Vivian, was born two weeks before her diagnosis. She is a light and blessing!

Heather loves working with the kids and staff at Tri-Valley!

Heather was diagnosed with Stage 4 Colon Cancer on August 17th, 2020. She had surgery and completed 12 rounds of chemotherapy. On August 23rd, 2021, her doctors told her she would need to restart chemo to stop additional spots from growing. On October 1st, she will start chemo again on a bi-weekly basis.



FBLA NEWS: By Barret Althoff, FBLA Reporter



Tri-Valley's Future Business Leaders of America attended the South Dakota Officer Leadership Institute conference in Sioux Falls in September. All the Tri-Valley Officers were in attendance, chaperoned with advisor Mrs. Amber Fluth. Our officer team includes: Erika Beck (President), Aiden Larson (Vice President), Brooklyn Rombough (Treasurer), Erica Bicknase (Secretary), Rachel Boer (Historian), Barrett Althoff (Reporter). Our chapter also has two state officers that presented at the training Mikaila Fluth (SD Secretary) and Lauren Harstad (SD Reporter).

The officer team got the opportunity to network with students from around the state, as there were 9 chapters in attendance. Training topics included sessions on leadership, recruitment, fundraising, and publicity. "We all had a blast hanging out with new people and learning more about what we should be doing, as well as what other chapters are doing. We learned a lot of new things that we are going to bring to our chapter here at Tri-Valley," Barrett Althoff, chapter reporter.

ORDER YOUR 2021-2022 YEARBOOK



The best place for memories: Order your 2021-2022 yearbook today! The cost is \$55 until October 29 (and \$65 after). Order before October 17 to get 4 personalized icons (with personalization purchase). The yearbook is mainly focused on covering high school students. Our staff goal is to picture each high school student three times. Don't worry, the 2020-2021 yearbook will be here soon! We

will still make a special time for signing yearbooks!

Order now at www.jostensyearbook.com or see Mrs. Finnesand! She is free to answer any questions you may have. You may also order by bringing a check to Mrs. Finnesand. Order today!

Seniors – your senior picture and baby picture are due to Mrs. Finnesand by December! Senior picture needs to be a headshot with no props. Bring hard copies to Mrs. Finnesand or email at nicole.finnesand@k12.sd.us

Tri-Valley School District's Wellness Policy can be viewed at the School District office.



TRI-VALLEY MARCHING BAND



Congratulations to the Tri-Valley Marching Band! They are having a great marching band season. On September 17th, they marched at the 3rd Annual Parker Pheasant Marching Competition; Tri-Valley took home awards in Class A for Best Winds and Brass, Best Color Guard, and Best Percussion. The band got 1st place overall in Class A! The band traveled to Beresford, SD on Friday, September 24th, for the Watchdog Marching Festival where they finished 1st in Class AA along with being awarded Best Color Guard! On Saturday, September 25th, the band traveled to Luverne, MN for the 70th Annual Tri-State Marching Competition. They finished in 3rd place among the 6 bands in Class AA! Congratulation Tri-Valley Marching Band! Friday, October 8th, will be their last competition of the year in Menno, SD. Good Luck!

THE 7TH EAST COAST TRIP IS COMING IN 2023, & IT IS CHANGING



When I started leading student/family trips to the East Coast the year was 2011, and a lot has changed in those 10 years! Among those many changes were changes to our school and to many of our lives, but one thing that hasn't changed is my love of travel and my love of wanting to give our students and families even more opportunities for travel and adventure in their lives. It's time for a change for our East Coast Trip too.

It used to be we would go every two years (a bi-annual trip), and I would offer the trip to all students currently in grades 5-8 at that time and their families. While that would give everyone two possible opportunities before they left intermediate school to try to experience a trip, it often could lead to uncertainty with families too, not knowing which trip they should travel on, and then possibly end up missing both.

Our East Coast Trip is switching to a yearly (annual trip), more of a class trip like setting. While this gives each grade only one chance to go, it also means you can start planning years in advance to save up, and no one has to wonder if their friends might be going on this trip or the one in two years. If you want to join us on the East Coast Trip it will be the summer at the end of your 8th grade year. Yes, any family member that wants to come along is still invited!

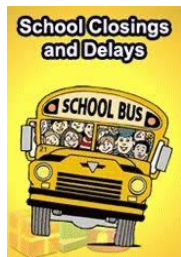
Our trip in 2023 will be a six-day trip to Washington D.C. and New York City. It will be open for sign up for all students currently in 7th grade and their family members. We will have an informational meeting in the Commons on the night of Monday October 25, at 7:00 p.m. I really hope to see you there. Each trip is unique and memorable in its own way for all who participated, and the 2023 trip will be too. If you know someone who went on one of the trips, ask them about the trip. I almost guarantee you will be encouraged to take advantage of the next touring opportunity in 2023.

Please contact Mr. DeWitt if you have any questions. Brandon.dewitt@k12.sd.us

2021 TRI-VALLEY HOMECOMING ROYALTY



Tri-Valley's Homecoming was held the week of September 7th-10th. The Homecoming royalty for 2021 were (as pictured) Rachel Nehlich, Hannah West, Ally Haga, Asmeret Abebe, Queen Paige Jewett, Michael Beyer, King Isaac McFarland, Connor Christensen, Josh Leiseth, and Jayden Siemonsma.



SCHOOL CLOSINGS & DELAYS

In the event that the school has to close due to inclement weather or other emergencies, notification will be given over television stations KELO, KDLT and KSFY and a telephone message and/or email will be sent as soon as a decision is made. In all cases, the safety of the students will be the determining factor.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-teacher conferences are an important opportunity for families to meet with teachers to discuss your child's progress, as well as ways to help them improve. To help in connecting with as many parents as possible, we'll be offering two forms of parent-teacher conferences this fall. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for Thursday, October 14th, from 2:30-8:30 p.m. Virtual conferences and in person conferences will be held in the Elementary School. The Intermediate and High School will have virtual conferences. These will occur via signup from 2:30-4:45 p.m. on October 14th. From 5:30-8:30 p.m., in-person conferences will occur in the High School & Middle School Gyms at Tri-Valley.



ART CLUB PRINTING



If you need any large scale printing projects done, look no further than the TV Art Club. We can print banners, photos, signs and adhesive images right at the school on our large format printer. Most of our papers are 36", with the adhesive paper being 24".

The cost is as follows:

Durable Banners - \$15/foot

Glossy photos - \$15 for 18x24

Matte photos - \$10 for 18x 24

Adhesive images - price will depend on size and details.

One time design and set up fee \$5-\$20 depending on difficulty.

If you have any questions or are interested, contact Mandy DeWitt at mandy.dewitt@k12.sd.us for more information.

For up-to-date information check out the Tri-Valley School District website tri-valley.k12.sd.us. Calendars, staff, lunch menus, forms, policies, and so much more!

The All-School Play "American Idle" will be performed on December 2nd & 3rd. Are you the #1 School Slaker? Mark your calendar

ATTENDANCE

Daily attendance of all students who are enrolled in Tri-Valley schools is required, in accordance with state law and school board policy. Consideration will be given by the administration to lengthy illness, serious injury, and important family trips.

On the day a student is absent parents, or legal guardians, are asked to call the school by 8:30 a.m. Students with unexcused absences will not receive any credit for the classes missed.

Please be sure to call or email the school between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m., if you know that your child is going to be absent, late or needs to leave early. Call 446-3538 or 543-5500.

EC-4th grade, Joni Bunde

joni.bunde@k12.sd.us

5th -12th grade, Christy Oberg

christy.oberg@k12.sd.us

TRI-VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Regular school board meetings are held the second Monday of each month in the McAreavey Board Room at the Administration Office. All meetings are open to the public. If a person desires to have an item placed on the agenda, please contact the Administration Office one week prior to the scheduled meeting. The school board members are Ryan Fods, President, Nicole Pullman, Vice President, Jessica Alvey, Paul Siemonsma and Tom Van Asselt.

The Tri-Valley School District
strives to give its students the
skills and
knowledge necessary to succeed
in school, the workplace and life.

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct. 14 - Early Dismissal @ 1:00 p.m.

Parent-Teacher Conference

Oct. 15 – No School

Oct. 18 – End of 1st Quarter

Nov. 24 – Early Dismissal @1:00 p.m.

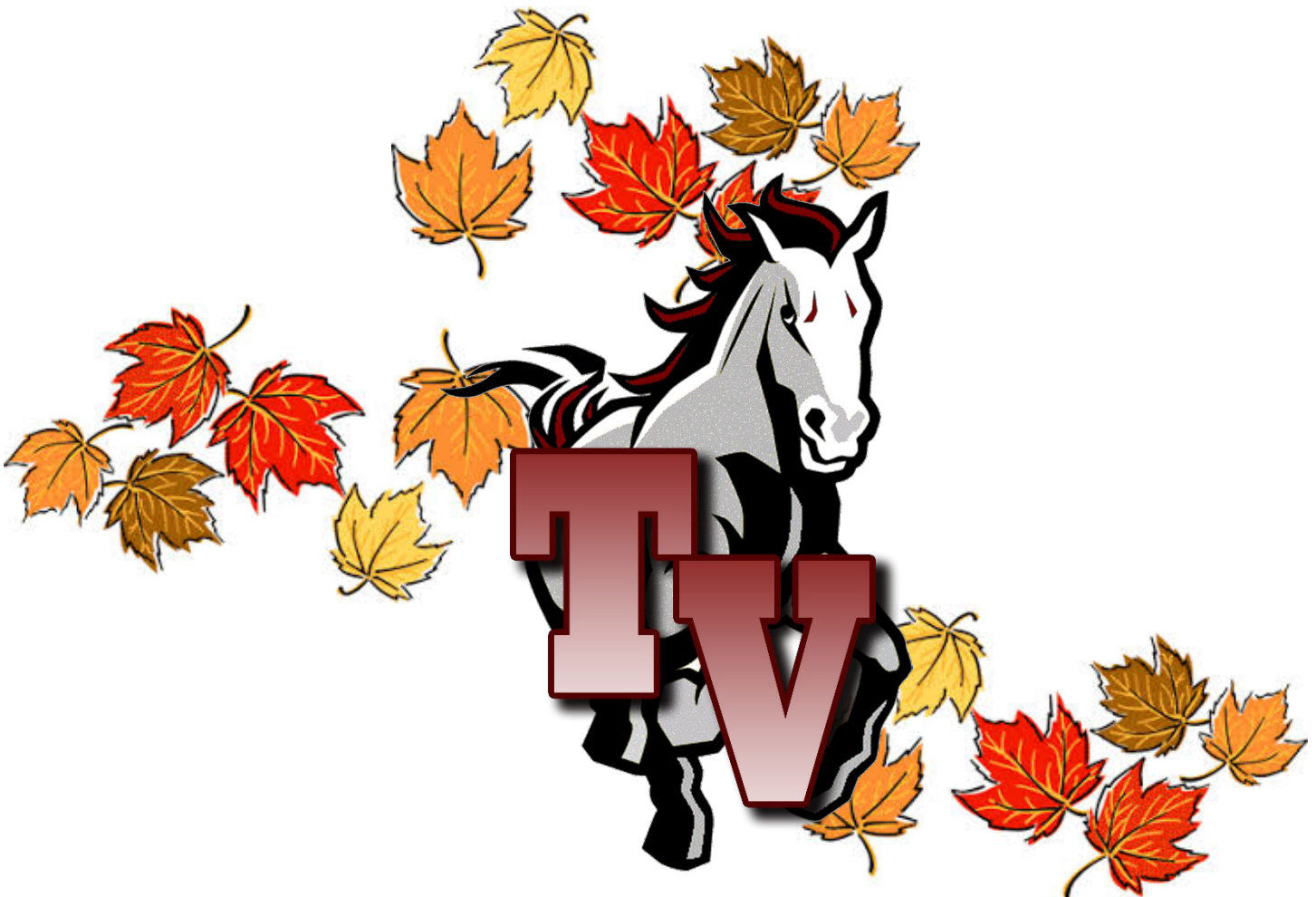
Nov. 25 – No School

Nov. 26 – No School

TRI-VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT 49-6
"HOME OF THE MUSTANGS"
46450 252ND STREET
COLTON, SD 57018-5712

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RESIDENT



The Tri-Valley Newsletter depicts and discusses programs that are in progress in the Tri-Valley Schools and are of interest to all members of the community. Additional copies are available upon request. Community suggestions and contributions to its contents are invited.