

# Branching Out

Theodore Roosevelt High School Monthly Newsletter  
March 2023



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**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 High School,

Spring is a season symbolic of fresh starts and new beginnings. It isn't possible to start the school year over, but we do have the ability to reflect on where we are on our high school journey. This is a great time for all of us to grow and learn by taking advantage of all the opportunities available at TRHS and finishing the school year strong.

We continue to be grateful for the tremendous amount of support from our community. Recently members of our school community:

- Assisted us in reviewing our school safety plan;
- Helped create the presentation for the all-district equity and inclusion community night;
- Organized the Rough Rider All Sports Booster fundraiser;
- Helped hire our new football coach as part of the interviewing committee.

Our students, staff, and administration are thankful that some of the most important decisions we make involve the wonderful citizens who are part of the Kent Learning Community. We all benefit from your service, knowledge, and experiences.

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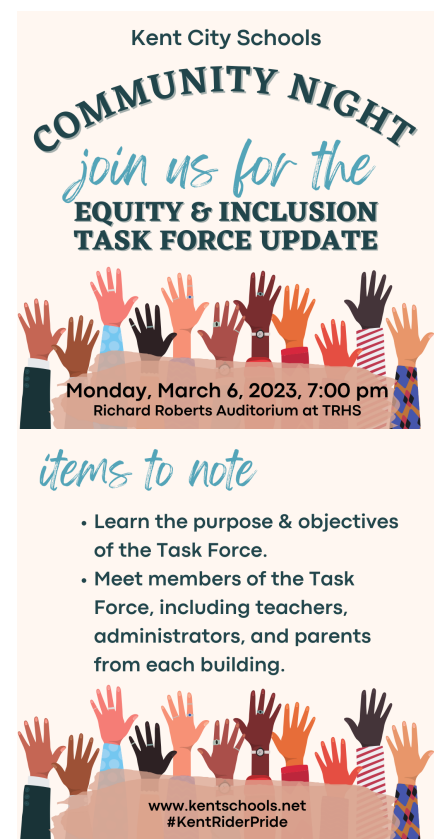
## Academic News

by Dennis Love, Mary Lynn Bush, Brian Bachtel, and Daniela Stuckey

As we continue on our path of collaboration to ensure ALL of our students meet their full potential in an equitable and inclusive environment, it's imperative we celebrate the progress we've made over the past several years. On **Monday, March 6, 2023**, the district is hosting a Kent City Schools Community Night.

Progress Theodore Roosevelt High School intends to highlight includes our advances in:

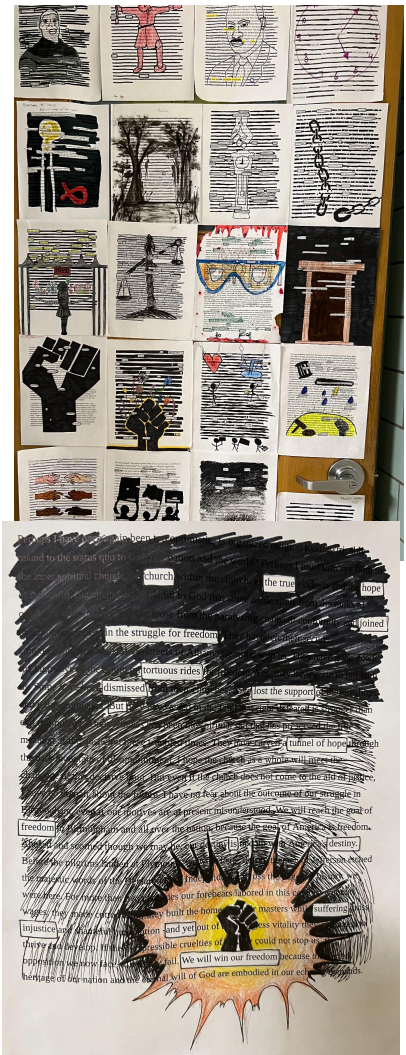
- **Curriculum and Instruction;**
- **Equitable access to all educational opportunities;**
- **Professional Development;**
- **Athletics and co-curricular activities.**





**Highlights of National Black History Month** -- The Roosevelt Staff has been highlighting Black History Month in many ways throughout the month of February.

- **SOCIAL STUDIES:** Students in US History courses worked on the **heroes and works of the Harlem Renaissance** as well as delving into the Tulsa Massacre, while US Government classes read **MLK's "Letter from a Birmingham Jail"** and used sections of the letter to create blackout poetry. Additionally, teachers point out appropriate "Black History" moments or history throughout the year in the American Government course and actively work with the Guidance office to promote the Black Experience I and II course, which is a great opportunity for Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors to take for College Preparatory or College Credit Plus credit.
- **ENGLISH:** AP English classes have featured **Black poets in AP Literature** -- Lucille Clifton, Maya Angelou, Langston Hughes. In the Expedition Academy English class, students research the Black Lives Matter movement. Additionally, several English classes did **Black History month quilt blocks** with students. Students in Women's Studies and Literature completed an **intersectional Women's [HERstory](#) project** to combine Women's History Month (March) with Black History Month where each student chose a historically significant black woman from the first and second waves of feminism (pre-1980) and highlighted the contributions of each. Students chose from all backgrounds and professions and prepared a slide to share with the class (along with a discussion question to tie the past to the present).





- **COUNSELING:** The Counseling Department created a **Historically Black College and University (HBCU) Bulletin Board** for the many college opportunities available to students and also offers **Black Experience I and II courses** for dual enrollment credit.
- **ACTIVITIES:** **Black History Month Trivia** was hosted for all students during lunch periods to test their knowledge of Black History and win prizes.
- **CTE:** Health Careers & Technologies teachers used **Oprah Winfrey's Documentary "The Color of Care"** to have a conversation with Health Careers Technologies students about racial inequities in America's healthcare system and what needs to be done to change it.



## Athletics

by Ben Dunlap

Congratulations to Roosevelt sophomore **Parker D'Sidocky** on placing 26th at the OHSAA State Diving meet. **Gage Bailey** finished 9th at the OHSAA State Swimming Meet as an individual and the 200 medley team of **AJ Springer**, **Eli Hilton**, **Gage Bailey**, and **Jack Puhalla** finished 20th.

Roosevelt was represented by Rough Rider bowlers **Jillian Eden** and **Emma Arthur** at the OHSAA District Bowling Tournament. They both just missed qualifying for the State Tournament, but brought back very valuable experience they will bring to the team next year.





# Career & Technical Education

by Brian Bachtel

Tenth grade students still have time to join a Career Technical Education program for the 2023-24 school year by completing an [online application](#). More information is also available at [www.rhscte.net](http://www.rhscte.net) or [www.sixdistrict.com](http://www.sixdistrict.com).

# Counseling Department

by Jessica Evanson

Your school counselors have been working with your students on preparing schedules for next school year. In addition to the classroom scheduling lessons, all students are encouraged to schedule a one-on-one meeting with their counselor to review their graduation and post high school plans. Appointments can be made through our [website](#) or in person with Mrs. Qualls in the counseling office.

The **Senior Guidance Assembly #2** was held on February 7, 2023. A [copy of the presentation](#) is available to review.

**SchoolLinks** is a modern college and career planning platform available to all students and their families at TRHS. Each grade level counseling team introduced students to school links so they can start to explore. Parents also have access to SchoolLinks and can connect to their student's account. [Directions for how to access your account.](#)

**College Credit Plus** intent forms are due April 1, 2023, and can be found on Final Forms. College Credit Plus (CCP) is an Ohio program where students in grades 7-12 can take college courses during high school (and earn both high school and college credit) for free. This is a wonderful opportunity for students' to earn college credit while in high school. Please review the CCP information on our [CCP Website](#).

**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.

**Prom Dress Giveaway** -- Altrusa International of Akron is hosting their giveaway for girls 16 or older in need of a prom dress on Saturday, March 11, 2023, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. at the Kohl Family YMCA, 477 East Market St., Akron Oh, 44304. Registration at the door entitles you to one formal or semi-formal gown \*FREE\* and choice of complementary accessories. For more information, call Linda at 330-338-3378 or Shelley at 330-309-6399.



**Is an HBCU right for you?** On Saturday, March 11th, 2023 come to hear an HBCU 101 Presentation. This is a conversation open to all high school students and their families. While there you will receive information on campus visits, an alumni unforgettable moment panel discussions, post secondary, and scholarship information.

- **Date:** Saturday March 11, 2023
- **Time:** 9:30am to 12:00pm
- **Location:** Cleveland School of the Arts - 2064 Stearns Rd. Cleveland OH 44106

### **Spring Testing Dates**

- **Ohio State Tests** will be April 3 - May 5 (English II, American History, Government, Biology, Algebra I, & Geometry).
- **AP Tests** are May 1-12, 2023 ([AP Exam Schedule](#))



**School Fees** -- Fee invoices for the second semester are in the mail. Parents of Seniors, all school fees will need to be paid by May 8 in order for your student to receive their diploma at graduation. Payments can be made in person, or by mail to TRHS or you can pay online at [mypaymentsplus.com](http://mypaymentsplus.com). If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. D'Sidocky at 330-676-8703 or via email at [kdsidocky@kentschools.net](mailto:kdsidocky@kentschools.net).

## School Safety

by TRHS Safety Committee

On February 23, Student Resource Officer Poe organized a school and community safety meeting. Community members, administrative assistants, teachers, and building and district administrators attended the meeting. The objectives of the meeting were to review what we have done well the past five years, identify what must be improved, and set goals. During the meeting we reviewed staff and student surveys to identify themes and ideas. Some of the topics we discussed focused on communication, counseling, training, exterior entrances, photo identification, visitors, and supervision. The collaborative discussion was extremely helpful in creating the safest possible environment for the Roosevelt Learning Community.

## Student Activities

by Heidi Jurgling

**Winter Musical** -- Students in our performing arts programs are diligently rehearsing in preparation for this year's musical. **The Fantasticks**, which premiered off-Broadway in 1960, ran for 42 years and was the longest-running musical of all time. We invite you to join us for our production of this evocative show described by Music Theatre International as "a timeless fable of



love ... nostalgic and universal.” Performances are **March 2, 3, and 4, at 7:00 PM**, and **March 5, at 3:00 PM**. Tickets may be purchased online through [Hometown tickets](#).

**March is Music In Our Schools Month!** Music In Our Schools Day was first celebrated in 1973, and it became Music In Our Schools Month in 1985. Its purpose is “to raise awareness of the importance of music education for all children. It is an opportunity for music teachers to bring their music programs to the attention of the school and the community, and to display the benefits that school music brings to students of all ages” (NAfME, 2023).

At Theodore Roosevelt High School, we kick off the month with our annual Band Extravaganza. This concert features all of our band students in grades 6 through 12 on March 7. On March 9, the Roosevelt and Stanton orchestras will come together for a concert. The TRHS bands will present a formal concert on March 14. Choral students in grades 5 through 12 come together for the annual KCSD Choral Festival on March 15. And finally, on March 16, we will feature the TRHS choirs in concert. The Band Extravaganza takes place in the gymnasium. All other concerts are in Richard Roberts Auditorium. All concerts begin at 7:00 PM, and the public is encouraged to attend.

**Spring Elections** will be coming up after Spring Break. Students in grades 9, 10, and 11 who are interested in serving as class officers for the 2023-24 school year should pick up election information in the Activities Office or the Student Council Google classroom in April for details on running for class officer positions. Each class has a class president, class vice president, class treasurer, and class secretary. Additionally students can serve as class representatives in Student Council. For more information on class officer & representative positions, refer to the [Elections Information: Class Officer & Representative Descriptions](#) handout.



## Upcoming Events

- **March 2, 3, & 4: Winter Musical: *The Fantasticks*** -- 7:00 pm
- **March 5: Winter Musical Matinee: *The Fantasticks*** -- 3:00 pm
- **March 6: KCSD Equity & Inclusion Community Meeting** -- 7:00 pm
- **March 7: KCSD All-City Band Extravaganza Concert** -- 7:00 pm
- **March 9: SMS & TRHS Orchestra Concert** -- 7:00 pm
- **March 14: TRHS Band Concert** -- 7:00 pm
- **March 15: KCSD Choral Festival** -- 7:00 pm
- **March 16: TRHS Choir Concert** -- 7:00 pm
- **March 27-31: NO SCHOOL for Students** -- Spring Break

READ MORE on the [TRHS WEBSITE](#)

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# Theodore Roosevelt High School

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