



Technical High School

Pride, Respect, Responsibility

From Tech Principal Roger Ziemann

At the boys' basketball game earlier this week, I was "in charge". Andrea Swanberg, Activities Director, asked me to be at the basketball game because she was needed at our hockey game at SCSU.

It was another usual game for Tech. The boys quickly jumped out to a twenty-point lead. The crowd watched rather quietly as the ball traveled up and down the court. In fact, it was almost hypnotic. With a few minutes to halftime, you just knew that this was exciting as the game was going to get. And then it happened.

One of Tech's players came flying off the court near the end zone where I was standing. But as he crossed the out of bounds line, he ran into the six gallon orange water barrel—which was nearly full of water and ice. In slow motion, the barrel began to fall, the lid came off and all six gallons flooded the floor behind the Tech bench.

This had never happened before at Tech. And here I was "in charge." Before I could say "Oh Heck", Steve Taylor, Phy Ed teacher, took off to get mops and the mop bucket. Custodian James Luke grabbed one of the mops. Steve and Jean Sonstebly, Event Manager, grabbed the other. (I watched.)

Somebody said, "We're going to need towels." With a mop in one hand and a cell phone in the other, James called Custodian Loren Notsch from another part of the building and said that he should grab the new box of towels. At this point, Steve's wife, Steve's daughter, and former assistant principal and current school board member, Bruce Hentges, grabbed towels and helped sop up the water. I think it was Steve's wife who also grabbed a broom and swept up the ice.

From the time the player hit the barrel, to the time that the floor was bone dry took only about four minutes. Our beautiful floor was not damaged, and more importantly, the floor was ready for halftime without the danger of a spectator or player falling on the very slippery floor and becoming injured.

I keep thinking which team really won that night. Of course, Tech won the basketball game. But the evening was won by the team who quickly assembled to take care of a problem that could have gotten out of hand.

At first, I was surprised by the willingness of others to pitch in so quickly. And then I said to myself: "You idiot. You have been here for ten years. Don't you know by now that this is just the way the people at Tech are? They jump in to help whenever necessary."

And for once I was right.



**Tech's next Site
Council
meeting is
February 23
at 6:00 p.m.**

TECH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 6, 2009 - Battle of the Bands
February 9, 2009 - Jazz Concert
February 10, 2009 - Full Instructional day
February 13, 2009 - Night of the Stars
February 14, 2009 - Night of the Stars
February 16, 2009 - No School
February 25, 2009 - Matrix Day - Respect
February 26, 2009 - Play - Mouse Trap
February 27, 2009 - Play - Mouse Trap

ATTENDANCE

Please remember when your child is ill or absent, a parent/guardian must call Tech attendance office at 252-2231, extension 3007 each day of absence, or students may bring a signed note to the SAO excusing their absences **the day they return to school**. Your prompt attention to reporting absences is a great help to us as we seek to maintain and report accurate attendance.



CONGRATULATIONS! STUDENTS OF THE MONTH DECEMBER

Katlyn Ambrosch
Devin Hill
Emily Kent
Cameron Kipka
Davis Lewis
Kevin Myhre
Cham Odol
Brittney Stowe

Jostens will be
delivering class
rings on Thursday,
February 12th
from 11:00 – 1:30



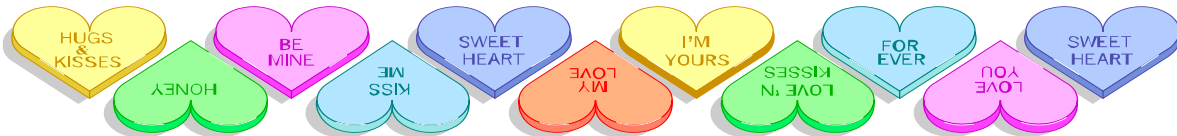
**LINK CREW HAS GREAT SUCCESS AT TECH
BY JORDAN NELSON**

You remember high school, the massive upgrade from junior high. More class options, activities, lunch choices. Less riding the bus and smelly BO. All great stuff, right? Each year, Tech's freshmen find themselves in an environment of new: new teachers, new classmates, and new hallways – it can seem almost like too much! That's where Link Crew comes to the rescue. Designed to assist freshmen make this less-than-pleasant transition, it truly makes Tech a more positive, unified place.

Link leaders juniors and seniors, were paired over the semester and received training to make the program as successful as possible. Each pair was then assigned a group of 10-15 incoming freshman to mentor. On the first day of school last September, the freshmen were given guided tours, participated in team-building activities, and had the chance to ask their questions about Tech. Leaders had a great opportunity to meet many of the people who would be now attending Tech.

In November, Link Crew guided an improving Tech activity. Each homeroom created a plan to support the quality of Tech. Some adopted a hallway and pledged to keep it clean, some decided to pay closer attention to lunchroom behavior, another created a proposal to work with administration to update traditional school policies. Freshmen were faced with the opportunity to better Tech with support from their upper-classmen leaders.

Link Crew has been a major success at Tech. It has eased the worries of many freshmen and created a bond between students from each grade.



Night of the Stars

For the past seven years, LEAF (Local Education Activities Foundation) has held a “Night of the Stars” to help raise funds for the support of student activities in arts, academics and athletics. This year’s event will be held on Friday, February 13th and Saturday, February 14th at 7:30 p.m. at the Paramount Theatre. As always, it will feature the talented students and staff of our district. Don’t miss this fun and enjoyable fundraising event! Check out on-line auction at:

<http://www.leaf742.org/Index.htm>

TECH ACTIVITIES UPDATE

With the start of February comes the start of playoffs for our teams. Winter sports are starting to wind down and the excitement begins. So far this winter season, the teams are doing very well. Good News: We had our first team qualify for the state tournament! The Music Listening team consisting of Dominick Ormsby, Stefan Barthel and Thomas Moore will compete at Augsburg College on February 6th. Our boy's basketball team is currently undefeated at 13-0 and is ranked fourth in the state. The gymnastics team is undefeated and is ranked third in the state. The boy's hockey team is 11-4 overall and 7-1 in the conference. All three of these teams are fighting to win the Central Lakes Conference title.

The abundance of snow has made our Nordic and Alpine skiers very happy. The boy's Nordic ski team is doing very well. They have consistently placed very high in their meets and look to qualify for the state tournament. They finished second at the CLC meet with several of our athletes sick. Speech had their first meet of the year at Dassel-Cokato and had several students place very high. Liz Null and Zoe Bohnen placed first in their respective categories. Knowledge Bowl placed first in the Kimball meet.

Tech's math team won their division. Tech has 8 of the top 9 individual in the division. Currently they are 6th in the State rankings.

Some events happening at Tech in February:

February 7th- Tech Speech Invite

February 9th- Jazz Concert in the cafeteria at 7:30 p.m.

February 12th- Girls' Basketball Tech vs. Apollo 7:30pm

February 13th and 14th- Night of the Stars performances 7:30 p.m. each night

February 21st- Section 8AA gymnastics 5:00 p.m.

February 28th- Section 8AAA wrestling 12:00 p.m.

There are many activities during February, and if you want a schedule of all the events go to the Central Lakes Conference website; www.centrallakesconference.org. You will then need to go to Tech's site and it will give you a calendar of events. This website will also give you schedules, maps, results and standings. Please use this website, it is a wonderful resource.

Parent / Teacher Conferences are:

Thursday, April 9 from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m.

and

Tuesday, April 14 from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m.

in the Tech Gym

Please enter doors 6, 8, 9, or 10



Report cards were mailed out January 29, 2009. If you have not received one, please contact Tech Guidance at 320-252-2231 ext. 3013.



Robert Simson broke the Tech High School record in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 57.06. The old record in the 100-yard backstroke was held by his brother Allan Simson.

Women's Day of Dance event will be held on Thursday, February 26 from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. Wear red shoes! Blood pressure, height and weight and body mass index tests available. The whole family is welcome to attend.



St. Cloud Area School District 742
Contact: Steve Jordahl, Superintendent
February 4, 2009
NEWS RELEASE

Due to weather-related school closings on January 15 and 16, 2009, the following adjustments have been made to the 2008-2009 school calendar for St. Cloud Area School District 742:

Tuesday, February 10, and Wednesday, March 25, 2009, **will be full instructional days.** These days were previously listed on the school calendar as a two-hour late start and early dismissal, respectively.

June 4, 2009, will be a make-up day for students and staff as incorporated in the 2008-2009 school calendar.

The focus for January's Matrix Day was Responsibility. Each homeroom was asked to develop an action plan for a service project for the Tech High School or St. Cloud Community. Here are a few of the service projects developed by the students at Tech: pick up trash, public service poster display in hallways, greet others in the hallway, clean desks after school, make new mural for the library, raise money for the Salvation Army, and show tiger pride by putting up artwork around the school.

February's Matrix Day topic will focus on Respect.

We are very proud of the many acts of pride, respect, and responsibility demonstrated on a daily basis by our Tech Tigers.





COME SEE *THE MOUSETRAP!*

Do you enjoy a suspenseful mystery every now and then? If so, please join us in the performance of a life time! This play will have many surprises in store for you and your family. Performances will be at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 26th- Saturday February 28th. One afternoon show at 2:00 p.m. will also be held on the 28th. Please come and pay credit to Marcie Ratliff; the student who helped make every aspect of this play come to life.



Uplifting News!

By **Laura Bautch**

I have exciting news to share at Tech – we are getting an elevator in the West Wing! Ramping systems will also be added between the East and West Wings, as well as by the Choir room in the West Wing, making Tech fully accessible for everyone. I have gotten to play an active role in this process, which has been a great learning experience. I am a junior at Tech, and I use a wheelchair to get to my classes. The East Wing at Tech is fully accessible, and I can get to all of my classes (such as Language Arts, U.S. History, and Business) in that Wing by using the elevator. However, there are stairs connecting the East and West Wings, and there is not an elevator in the West Wing. I am able to walk up stairs, but it is physically tiring for me to do so. To access my classes in the West Wing (such as Spanish, Human Biology, and Algebra), I need staff members to carry my wheelchair up and down the stairs between my classes. I was concerned about the lack of full accessibility at Tech, so during my sophomore year, I began talking with Tech and District administrators about the possibility of getting an elevator and ramping systems. I was very excited this year when I found out that we would be getting them! At this time, all procedures are scheduled to be completed by the end of this summer. I am looking forward to my senior year and being able to independently access all areas of Tech. It is very rewarding to know that my hard work paid off and will benefit many people!

Tech is having a paper drive starting February 17 – 27. The goal for each homeroom is 15 reams of copy paper. Tech will be out of paper by March 31. In past years, the paper drive has made it possible for us to continue on with our educational program without rationing paper by department or by teacher. The homeroom that collects the most white copy paper will win root beer floats. To "sweeten" the pot, Mr. Ziemann the principal is giving 2 huge chocolate bars to **each** homeroom teacher that gets 15 reams of paper from their home room--and give each student in the home room with the most paper a Tiger Paw pin. WOW !

Let's Go Tigers !

Guidance News – Krisi Lain/Counselor

Registration

January and February were busy months for students and registration. Counselors met with 8th – 11th grade students to register for the 2009/2010 school year. Registration books were sent home, but if parents have further questions, please feel free to contact your child's counselor.

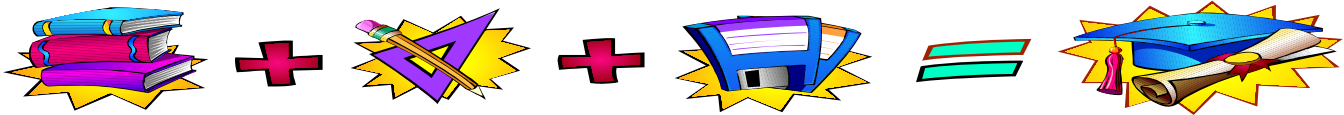
Testing Testing Testing

PLAN Test – 10th grade students took the PLAN test in October. This is a practice test for the ACT college entrance examination. Results will be sent home with the 10th grade students with a parent letter and result interpretation instructions in two weeks.

BST Testing

Seniors who have not passed the Minnesota Basic Standards Tests in Reading, Writing, or Math had another opportunity to take these tests during the week of February 2-6th. Make-up testing for these tests will be the week of February 9th.

PSAT Test- 11th grade students had the opportunity to take the PSAT test in November. This is a practice test for the SAT college entrance examination. This is also a qualifying test for the National Merit Program. Results were interpreted for students and sent home.



If you would like to be included in this mailing, please e-mail your full name, child's name and e-mail address to:
tigernews@isd742.org