

School MATTERS

Titusville School District Newsletter



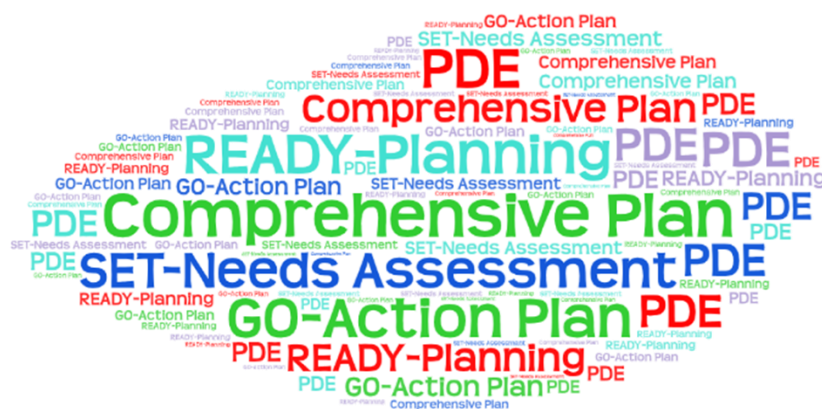
Stephanie Keebler
Superintendent

Winter Issue
March 2025

Building a Brighter Future: Comprehensive Planning for Student Success in the Titusville Area School District

Planning for continuous improvement in leadership, teaching, and learning is vital to ensuring every student has access to a world-class education that prepares them for college, career, and life. Pennsylvania's cycle of improvement is designed with evidence-based approaches to enhance student outcomes and ensure that resources are spent on programs and practices with the highest potential for positive impact. By engaging all stakeholders in a collaborative effort, we can drive progress and create an educational environment that fosters success for every student.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) provides school districts with the **Future Ready Comprehensive Planning Portal**—an online resource that helps districts plan and assess their educational goals. This portal offers a consistent framework for local education agencies, including school districts, charter schools, vocational schools, and intermediate units, to use when crafting their plans. It is grounded in an outcomes-based approach that prioritizes student achievement while offering flexibility tailored to each community's needs.



This new model encourages schools and districts to plan more effectively, innovate, and lead school improvement efforts with a strong focus on student success. The core concepts of the planning process are based on a straightforward logic model that any local education agency can use to create long-term goals, monitor yearly progress, and communicate transparently with all stakeholders, including school personnel, state officials, students, parents, and the community.

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School Directors

Lynn J. Cressman
(President)
Jack D. Roberts
(Vice President)
Monica A. Chatham
(Secretary)
Kevin J. O'Neill
(Treasurer)

Members:
James E. Come
Jill A. Neely
Marc E. Ross
Carol J. Shaffer
Krista Steinbuhler

The **Comprehensive Plan** includes six key sections:

1. Profile
2. Core Foundations
3. Assurances
4. Needs Assessment
5. Action Planning
6. Plan Submission

As we worked through this planning process in the Titusville Area School District, our steering committee utilized the nine characteristics that helped guide our efforts. These include:

1. **Clear and Shared Focus**
2. **High Standards and Expectations**
3. **Effective Leadership**
4. **High Levels of Collaboration and Communication**
5. **Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessments Aligned to State Standards**
6. **Frequent Monitoring of Teaching and Learning**
7. **Focused Professional Development**
8. **Supportive Learning Environment**
9. **High Levels of Community and Parent Involvement**

Our District's Comprehensive Plan will also include several state required reports, including the Professional Education Plan (Act 48), Teacher Induction Plan (Chapter 49), Academic Standards and Assessment Requirements (Chapter 4), Student Services Assurances (Chapter 12), and Gifted Education Plan (Chapter 16). These plans are required to be submitted on a three- or six-year cycle to PDE for approval. Additionally, schools designated as Title I must submit an individual plan identifying accomplishments, concerns, goals, and action steps by September 1st each year. As a Phase 3 district, the Titusville Area School District's plan will need to be submitted after board approval and a 28-day public review period. The next submission is set for March 31, 2025.

What's Happening

Middle School Musical	March 13, 14, and 15 2025 Colestock Auditorium
Act 80 Day	March 14, 2025 no school for students
Easter Break	April 18, 2025 no school for students
Professional Day & Prom	May 2, 2025 no school for students

TITUSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL'S
production of
Disney • PIXAR
FINDING NEMO JR.
at TITUSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL'S
COLESTOCK AUDITORIUM

MARCH 13th- 7pm
MARCH 14th- 7pm
MARCH 15th- 2pm & 7pm

TICKETS \$5

AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR AND ONLINE AT:
<https://cur8.com/17592/project/120191>
or scan the QR code! →



Book, Music and Lyrics by
Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez
Book Adapted by
Lindsay Anderson
Music and Orchestration Adapted and Arranged by
Myrna Conn

Based on the 2003 Disney • Pixar film Finding Nemo written by Andrew Stanton, Bob Peterson, David Reynolds and directed by Andrew Stanton
Disney's Finding Nemo JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International, New York, NY
212-341-4664 or mtshows.com

Titusville High School's Titusville Rockets Manufacturing: Empowering Students for Future Careers



Titusville High School's Titusville Rockets Manufacturing is making exciting strides in providing hands-on, real-world experience for students interested in manufacturing and business. This initiative is led by project director, Adam Huck along with his colleagues Jeremy O'Toole, Brandon Edwards and Mark Hopkins. Through support from the Pennsylvania Department of Economic Development and the Manufacturing PA Training-to-Career Grant program, Rockets Manufacturing continues to grow as a student-run enterprise, preparing the next generation of workers for successful careers in the industry.

One of the most recent additions to Rockets Manufacturing's array of resources is a state-of-the-art HAAS Mini Mill for CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machining. This advanced piece of equipment allows students to create precise, custom parts, gaining invaluable skills that will benefit them both in the classroom and in their future careers. The acquisition of this machine marks a significant step forward in the program's ability to provide hands-on training and experience with cutting-edge technology.

Recently, students in Rockets Manufacturing completed the Business Model Canvas and Value Proposition Workshop, a professional development opportunity provided by the Northwest Industrial Resource Center (NWIRC). This workshop introduced students to essential business concepts and helped them better understand the needs of their customers, strengthening the link between classroom theory and real-world application.

Titusville Rockets Manufacturing collaborates with several local businesses, including Grand Valley Manufacturing, Precision Profiles, and Forest Scientific, as well as the Education and Training Center at Pitt-Titusville. These partnerships provide our students with opportunities for real-time feedback from industry professionals. Working alongside these companies allows students to gain experience in a variety of manufacturing fields, from design and prototyping to machining and production.



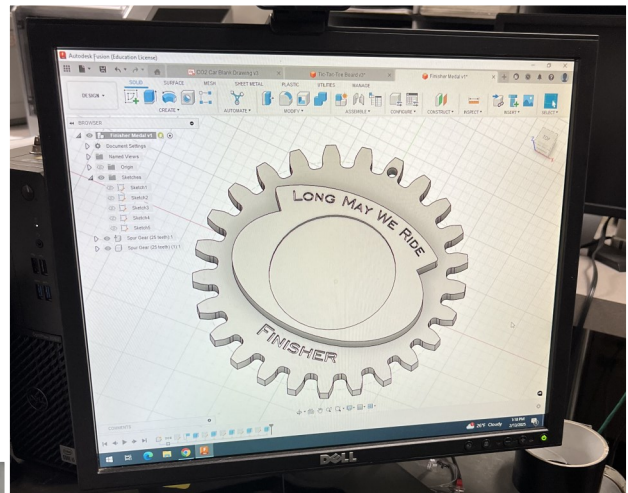
"The Titusville Rockets Manufacturing program provides real-world experience in the field of manufacturing and business," said Lucas Henderson, a 10th-grade student involved in the program. "This Student-Run Manufacturing Enterprise is a perfect opportunity for students to acquire crucial knowledge for the workforce. Students involved in TRM could gain job opportunities through local businesses for easier entry into the workforce."

Looking ahead, the team from Rockets Manufacturing is preparing to attend the NWIRC Student Summit in Erie, PA, on May 7, 2025. This event will offer further opportunities for students to network, engage with industry experts, and deepen their understanding of the manufacturing sector. It's an exciting chance for our students to build relationships with other Student-Run Manufacturing Enterprises (SRME) and other like-minded students from across the region.

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Titusville Rockets Manufacturing is aspiring to be a valuable resource for students, equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and experience they need to excel in the manufacturing industry. Through the program's collaboration with local businesses, access to advanced equipment, and educational workshops, students are gaining a competitive edge as they prepare to enter the workforce.

As Titusville Rockets Manufacturing looks to expand, so will its impact on the students it serves. The hands-on experience and mentorship they receive now will pay dividends for years to come, offering them a head start in their careers and opening doors to exciting opportunities in the manufacturing sector.



Titusville Rockets Manufacturing

Value Proposition

Our student-led manufacturing enterprise is dedicated to providing high-quality, personalized machining services that help local businesses address labor shortage, reduce production costs and increase productivity

Titusville Rockets Manufacturing is developing the future workforce and preparing skilled labor by providing students with real-world experiences and partnering with local manufacturers to drive future economic growth and prosperity for our community.



CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

Phone: (814) 827-2715, ext. 1117 ahuck@gorockets.org

302 East Walnut Street
Titusville, PA

ECLC NEWS



KINDERGARTEN CKLA CULMINATING ACTIVITIES

The ECLC Kindergarten teachers have been working to bring the knowledge units alive through an end of unit celebration or activity. So far this school year, the students have grown seeds for the Plant unit, had a farm to table feast for Farms, made and painted clay pots with Native American symbols for the Native American's unit, and had a tea party and royal ball for the Kings and Queens unit. The students are getting a chance to apply their learning to real world activities. Thank you to the teachers for bringing all of these topics to life for your students.



ADAGIO HEALTH

Adagio Health has been joining the Kindergarten physical education classes once a month throughout the 24-25 school year. Miss Daphne promotes health education and nutrition during her lessons. She also brings foods to share with the students that they may not be exposed to on a regular basis like: beets or spaghetti squash. She provides tasting of these foods if the students would like to try them. This has been a unique experience for the students (especially some of the food choices) while promoting wellness.



OPERATION WARM COAT

The ECLC and PNC Bank have worked together for years to make sure Prekindergarten and Kindergarten students have a warm coat for the winter. This program is called the Operation Warm Coat Project. This year PNC donated over 63 coats to students at the ECLC. We are so appreciative that they partner with us and help our families prepare for the winter months. Thank you, PNC!!!





EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER

2025-2026 Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten Registration

To register your Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten eligible student, parents will need to enter their child's demographic information into our online enrollment system.

1. Go to www.gorockets.org
2. Click on the white ENROLLMENT TAB on the top right of the screen
3. Click on the NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT LINK
4. Click on the orange START BUTTON
5. Proceed by following the instructions; please allow 30-45 minutes to complete
6. At the end of this enrollment process, you will schedule an appointment for registration.
7. Parents will bring their child to the school on April 10 or 11. Children will complete a short screener. Parent(s) will complete a questionnaire about their child and provide required registration documents to the registrar.

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS

1. Photo ID (Parent)
2. Birth Certificate (your child's)
3. Proof of Residency that includes the property address (deed, lease, current utility bill, property tax bill, vehicle registration, Department of Transportation Identification Card)
4. A current copy of your child's immunization records

YOUR CHILD MUST BE FOUR YEARS OLD FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN & FIVE YEARS OLD FOR KINDERGARTEN BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2025.

The current ECLC Pre-Kindergarten students will automatically be enrolled into Kindergarten and the current ECLC Kindergarten students will automatically be enrolled into First Grade.

Please contact the ECLC at (814) 827-2715 Ext. 7 if you have any questions.

February, 2025

HYDETOWN HAPPENINGS

HYDETOWN'S GOT TALENT



Hydetown Elementary hosted their annual "Hydetown's Got Talent" talent show Friday, February 7, 2025. This star studded event featured a mixture of gymnastics, dancing, singing, comedy, sports techniques, and even balloon creations!

Students began the day with a dress rehearsal, which included performing for their classmates. They then geared up for an evening show where families and friends were invited to attend. All students did a wonderful job which made for a fantastic night! A huge thank you goes out to Miss McFall who did a wonderful job managing and organizing all the acts. With such a successful night, we are already looking forward to what next year will bring!



ENJOYING MATH AND SCIENCE

Only in Mrs. Sampson's room could you make the conversion of matter fun! Students worked in partners to create experiments that demonstrated their understanding of the conversion of matter. These included melting marshmallows in hot chocolate, making homemade ice cream, and even dissolving Skittles! What a fun and yummy way to learn!



During math intervention, a group of 5th grade learners expanded their understanding of volume by creating "Volumeville". This project centered on students constructing a town with buildings of a specific volume. They had to first solve volume equations to get the dimensions of the buildings. They then constructed scale models of these structures and placed them in the layout of a town. What a perfect culminating activity to promote student learning and creativity!



HYDETOWN CARE AWARDS

CARE awards are given out each quarter to learners who exemplify one of the CARE characteristics.

C-Character A-Attitude R-Responsibility E-Excellence

The CARE award recipients are determined by their facilitators. These learners have been recognized for their accomplishment in front of their classmates during lunch.

MAIN STREET SCHOOL

Winter News



Let's Celebrate

Main Street students like to celebrate! Whether it's winter time activities like gingerbread houses or celebrating the 100th day of school, we like to dress up or participate in the fun! Fun days keep us smiling and laughing!

Curricular Activities

Teachers are working hard across the district to provide culminating activities for our students throughout the year. Student enthusiasm and participation has been fantastic and provides energy to the school day!



Upcoming Fun:

Read Across America is right around the corner! We will be celebrating the importance of reading with fun activities throughout the week of March 3rd through the 7th.



ROCK Card Rewards

Main Street students have been keeping Mrs. Millard busy cooking breakfast. Students are able to cash in their ROCK cards for multiple items and these students chose to pick "Breakfast with the Principal"!

Pleasantville Elementary

The 2nd semester is underway and the students came back from their holiday break ready to learn. In early January, students took their midyear DIBEL's assessment. This provides teachers with valuable data to see where the students are with regards to reading. Many of our students showed growth in this area as well as allowing teachers to see where some students need extra support.

Students also took part in our annual Elementary Spelling Bee in January. Each class had students compete to find who was the best speller in the class. From there, the class representative went on to compete against students in the same grade level but from Hydetown and Main Street. The students from all three elementary schools did a fine job and represented their schools very well.

As we moved into February, on the 3rd, we had our Book Blast kick off. The program centers on inspiring lifelong readers. It allows for every student to receive at least one new book regardless of how many donations they receive. Students are rewarded with a book at their grade level as well as being able to receive many different prizes for sending out donation links to families and friends. With each donation, this allows for the opportunity of getting each child up to 10 books. It is a nice way to promote reading and it helps to motivate students to put a book in their hand.

Toward the end of the month, students in Ms. Maxwell's music class will be having a spring concert on February 27th at 6:30pm. Students will be singing and playing instruments for their peers as well as family members in the school gym. It is always an exciting time as the students are able to put on a performance to show all the progress they have made over the course of the year. Ms. Cicero will be having her concert for her classes on April 10th at the school at 6:30pm.

At the end of February and moving into March, Pleasantville will once again be celebrating Read Across America. The goal each year has been to get the students to read as much as possible and develop that love for reading. We will be having a reading competition as we have had in the past to help get the children focused and into the spirit of reading. As a school, we want to have a total of 100,000 minutes read by the end of March. Students will compete to see who can read the most within their classes and between all of the classes within the school.

Throughout the month, there will be a spirit week where students and staff dress up with different themes, there will be DEAR time which is "Drop Everything And Read" for 10 minutes during the day(s), a sweet 16 March Madness favorite book competition, and the school will be decorated in a jungle theme as well to go along with the reading events and activities. There will be a celebration day at the end of March where we will have different centers and fun activities to reward the students for all of the hard work and effort they put forth during the competition. The students really enjoy this month as well as the staff. The extra time spent on reading outside of the classroom is invaluable and a little healthy competition goes a long way!

Shining Stars!

At the end of each quarter, Pleasantville has a Shining Star assembly to showcase all of the growth and progress that many of the students have achieved up to that point. Students are recognized for Perfect Attendance, bringing up their grades (B.U.G. award), Academic Excellence (90% or higher in all subjects), Student of the Month, and Citizenship Award. The Citizenship Award goes to the student who best exemplifies what it means to be a Shining Star. These students are hardworking, helpful, positive, and all around role-models for other students. The assemblies really help to motivate our students and reward the hard work and effort that is being put forth by our students.



BookBlast

In February, students at Pleasantville participated in Books are Fun's "Book Blast" Program! The program focuses on inspiring lifelong readers by putting at least one new book in the hands of every student in the school (regardless of participation). Students are rewarded with a book at their grade level, as well as some sweet prizes, for sending out donation links to their families and friends. While donations are not necessary to receive a book, each donation goes toward getting each child up to 10 books. What a great way to start 2025!



Middle School

TMS Students Show What It Means to Work Hard in Quarter 2

Titusville Middle School has been busy over the past few months as we continued our school theme of grit. The second quarter focused on working hard and our students showed just how much they can accomplish when they put in the effort. The second quarter was all about self improvement and personal growth and our students rose to the challenge.

The TMS boys basketball teams had great winter seasons. At TMS we believe in the middle school philosophy of fostering growth and development in our student athletes. We are not just focused on wins and losses. We want our students to take something meaningful away from their experiences in competition and teamwork. That being said, there were plenty of wins along the way. The boys had the support of a dedicated cheer team that brought energy to every game. They made us proud by showing what it means to work hard.

Another big moment this quarter was the annual spelling bee. Over thirty students competed in a heated contest and seventh grader Brin Ammons spelled her way to the crown. She will represent TMS in the upcoming regional competition and we know she will make us proud.

Our chorus and band students also had their moment to shine with fantastic performances over the winter. The concerts were great and the audiences left knowing they had experienced something special. The band also performed for their peers during the school day which was another highlight. The music program in Titusville is outstanding and we are proud to have worked with our teachers and students to build a schedule that allows them to grow and develop their talents.

Students who modeled hard work and performed well in the classroom earned a mission trip reward at the conclusion of the second quarter. They traveled to the MARC in Meadville for a day of swimming and skating. It was a great way to celebrate their achievements and encourage them to keep pushing forward. We also launched a new initiative this year called Reading Allies. Retired teachers volunteer their time to work with our sixth graders and help build a love for reading. It has been incredible to see the Titusville community step up and provide this kind of support to our students.

We kept the fun going with our Groundhog Day celebration. Our very own groundhog Titusville Herold predicted that spring is just around the corner. We trust Herold and are ready for those warmer days ahead. To wrap up the first half of the school year we brought everyone together for a pep rally. Students and staff had a blast competing in games and celebrating our school. The pep band kept the energy high and it was a great way to bring everyone together.

Now we turn our focus to the second half of the year. We will be preparing for the PSSA tests and making sure our students are ready for their next steps whether that is moving to the next grade or transitioning to high school. We also have a big celebration coming up as TMS turns twenty five in March. Be on the lookout for ways to share your own TMS stories in the coming weeks.



On January 29, 2025, Titusville Middle School held its annual spelling bee with 35 students participating. Seventh grade student Brynn Ammons was the Champion. She spelled the word steeped correctly in the 12th round. Sixth grade student Colin Steinbuhler was the Runner Up. In Febru-

ary Brynn will compete in the first round of the Western Pennsylvania Spelling Bee. Colin qualified to participate in the Regional Spelling Bee which is sponsored by the Intermediate Unit 6 Gifted Consortium and will take place on February 3, 2025.



High School

Spanish Class Fashion Show

Students in Mrs. Machokas' Spanish 2 class wrapped up their unit on clothing by presenting a fashion show. Students had to dress up and describe the clothing their peer was wearing providing the color, purchase price, size and store in Spanish. If students were not comfortable with a fashion show, they role played being a client and a salesperson at a store. This was a great way for students to use their Spanish in a real life situation!



PMEA District 2 Chorus

February 5th-7th PMEA District 2 held their District Chorus festival at Allegheny College. Elaena Baldwin, Olivia Decker, Maeve Wakefield, Haedyn Nichols, Flynn Kirvan, and Luke Keebler represented Titusville High School. The choir was composed of 174 singers from several schools in north west Pennsylvania. Dr. Jonathan Richter from University of Massachusetts Lowell was the guest conductor. Congratulations to these students for representing THS at a fantastic choral festival.

Additionally, Elaena, Flynn, and Luke have qualified to advance to the Region Chorus festival held at McDowell Intermediate High School in March. We are very proud of our student musicians at THS.

PMEA District 2 Band

The four students pictured represented Titusville High School at the PMEA District 2 Band Festival hosted in St Mary's, Pennsylvania from January 23-25, 2025. These students combined with approximately 150 musicians from 7 counties to rehearse and perform a public concert under the direction of Dr. Hannah Morrison from West Chester University. All students were also required to audition on their folder of concert repertoire for a panel of 3 adjudicators. Following successful auditions, all four of them were selected to advance to the Regional level. The Region II Band festival will be held from March 6-8, 2025 at United High School. Participation in that event will give them the opportunity to tryout for the All-State ensembles. These students are all members of the THS Symphonic Band with Mr. Kevin Vinson and take individual lessons with local private instructors to refine their playing.



High School

On November 20, 2024, Titusville High School students who are interested in computer technology and robotics, attended the Pittsburgh Robotics Discovery Day at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pa. There were 125 businesses, vendors, postsecondary schools, and community organizations present, divided into four categories that students were able to explore - Robotics, Career Pathways, Community, and Manufacturing. Students were able to interact with various types of robots, talk with industry professionals, speak with post secondary school representatives, and learn about community organizations that utilize robotics and technology.



Gifted Competitions

Academic Challenge

On January 23, 2025, the THS Academic Challenge Team participated in the Academic Challenge Finals tournament at Intermediate Unit 6 in Clarion, Pa and won first place.

Pictured left to right are: Adam Morgan, Ethan Morgan, Aden Winans, Laurel McKellop, Charlotte Winger, Aubrey Schmude.



Gifted Competitions cont'd

Edge of Extinction

On December 9, 2024, Titusville elementary and middle school Students participated in the Edge of Extinction competition held at Intermediate Unit 6 in Clarion, Pa, which was sponsored by the Gifted Consortium. In the 3rd/4th grade division, Cooper Howard (Main Street Elementary) was a member of the first place team. Third place was won by a team consisting of Wesley Riddell (Pleasantville Elementary), Quinn Lavery (Main Street Elementary), Teagen Parker and Zane English (both Hydetown Elementary). Quinn was the High Point Scorer for the 3rd/4th grade division. In the 5th/6th grade division, the team made up of Isabelle Green (Main Street Elementary), Carrig McQuiston (Hydetown Elementary), Adrian English and Garrett List (both Titusville Middle School) won second place. In addition, Adrian was undefeated and was the High Point Scorer for the 5th/6th grade division.



Pictured left to right
3rd/4th grade:
Cooper Howard, Wesley Riddell, Quinn Lavery, Teagen Parker, Zane English



Pictured left to right
5th/6th grade:
Isabelle Green, Adrian English, Carrig McQuiston, Garrett List

Regional Chess Tournament

On November 18 and 25, 2024, Titusville High School, Middle School and Elementary students participated in a Regional Chess Competition at Intermediate Unit 6 in Clarion, Pa. Students competed at several different grade levels of competition. In the Senior High Division, 4 students were undefeated. They were Abbie Colie, Josiah White, Joe Herman, and Nick McQuiston. Other students competing included Cash Lavery, Addison Bish, Jesse Nordin and Chad Roddy. In the 3rd/4th Grade Division, elementary students Zane English, Teagen Parker, Wesley Riddell and Quinn Lavery won third place. In the 5th/6th grade division, Isabell Green was undefeated. Other students competing included Timmy Anderson, Carrig McQuiston, Garrett List, and Simon Ross.



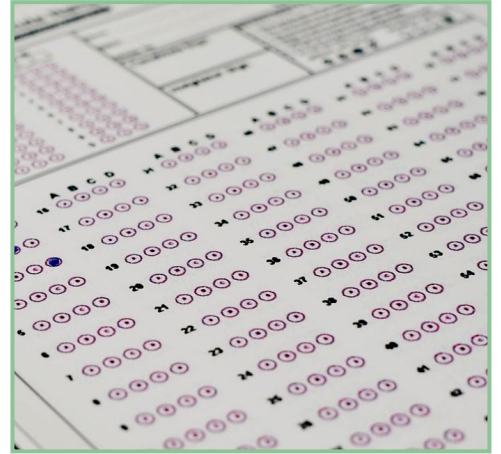
Elementary pictured left to right:
Front row: Zane English, Teagen Parker, Timmy Anderson, Wesley Riddell, Quinn Lavery
Back row: Carrig McQuiston, Isabelle Green, Garrett List, Simon Ross



Senior High pictured left to right:
Front row: Addison Bish, Jesse Nordin, Nick McQuiston, Abbie Colie
Back row: Cash Lavery, Joe Herman, Josiah White, Chad Roddy

Preparing for Spring Testing

The word test makes us feel different things at different times. Perhaps the most memorable tests in our schools are our state tests; the PSSA's and the Keystone's. These state tests help us measure how well each student is prepared for the next school year and helps the state measure our school programs. The PSSA and Keystone tests focus on Math, English Language Arts and Science.



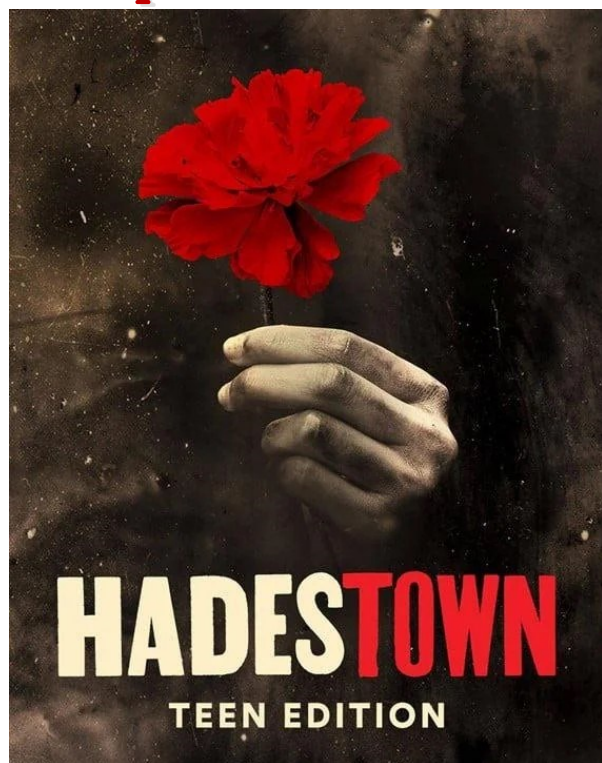
At our Titusville Area Schools, we have been preparing for these tests all year. Parents/Guardians can help prepare too, by following some of these suggestions throughout the school year, and especially during PSSA and Keystone testing time (see schedule below).

- Help your child get to school on time
- Help your child get a good night's sleep (8 to 10 hours each night, even on the weekends)
- Eat healthy meals and snacks with your child at home (we will do the same in school)
- Encourage your child to always give it their best
- Refrain from scheduling appointments for your child during school hours
- Talk to your child's teacher about any concerns you may have

In the beginning of April, you will receive more information about the PSSA and/or Keystone tests and how you can help us build a positive and successful testing experience for your child. Below are the dates of our Spring State testing.

Subject	Spring PSSA	Spring Keystone
ELA / Literature I	April 23, 24 & 25, 2025	May 13 & 14, 2025
Math / Algebra I	April 28 & 29, 2025	May 15 & 16, 2025
Science / Biology I	April 30 & May 1, 2025	May 20 & 21, 2025

Titusville High School presentation of



Feb. 20-22, 2025

