

November 2018

School Update

Bringing the latest news within the TBAISD MOCI and SXI programs to students, families, and the community

933 Rose St., Traverse City, Michigan, 49686 | 231.933.3561



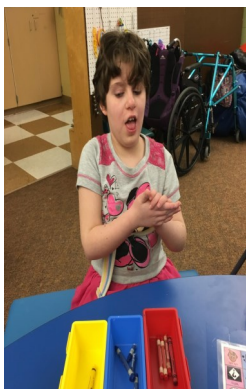
Hello students, families, and friends,

It is snowing big snow flakes outside my window as I write this, and I cannot help but feel the excitement of the season. This is definitely a time of thanksgiving, and I want to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated teachers, teaching assistants, therapists, nurses, and secretarial staff that give their all each day to support our students. I also want to thank our TBAISD families for allowing us to work with your wonderful children and for supporting them through their educational journeys. Our students will be participating in various activities this week focused on Thanksgiving. From learning to shop for groceries, to helping prepare traditional Thanksgiving foods, to exploring tastes that are new; our students will be learning many things through their experiences this week at school. December will bring even more enriching activities. I hope that your children can join us for our annual Holiday Event to be held on December 20th. This event was a lot of fun for students and staff last year. Please be on the lookout for a flyer and permission slip for this event. I wish you all enjoyable moments with family and friends throughout this holiday season!

Sincerely,
MartyAnn Guiney
Supervisor of TBAISD MOCI and SXI Programs

Math With a Greater Purpose

In Wendy Warner's classroom, students do math with a greater purpose. Each week, students take time to sort used crayons according to the attributes of color and length. These crayons have been collected from local restaurants and would otherwise be thrown away. The sorted crayons are sent to the Crayon Initiative that melt down the used crayons and turn them into new crayons that are donated to children's hospitals.



SCHOOL & COMMUNITY CALENDAR

November 22-23: No School - Thanksgiving Break

November 28: Ask the Staff at Disability Network, 1:00-3:00. Disability Network is an organization in northern Michigan that provides support to people with disabilities and their families. It is located at 415 East Eighth Street in Traverse City. If you need help removing barriers in your life or the life of your child, or if you have questions about how Disability Network could support you, please consider stopping by the Disability Network anytime during their Ask the Staff event or call at 922-0903.

Dec. 20th: Holiday Event and Parent's Night Out, after school to 7:00 p.m. at TBAISD Traverse Heights located at 933 Rose St. in Traverse City. Students within TBAISD MOCI and SXI programs are invited to join us for some holiday fun after school on December 20th. We will have holiday activities and dinner for participants. TBAISD will provide transportation for students attending programs at Courtade, East Middle School, or Central High School to Traverse Heights at the end of the school day. Parents will be responsible for picking up their children from Traverse Heights at the end of the event at 7:00. We know how busy this time of the year is for parents, so we hope you can enjoy this extra time to do some last-minute shopping or enjoy a little time to yourselves. Please look out for the flyer on this event. All participants must return a permission slip. We hope to see you there!

December 24th– Jan. 4th: No School Holiday Break. School resumes on Jan. 7th.

Students Experience Eating Out With Friends

Recently, the students and staff of East Middle School MOCI programs took a bus to La Senorita to have lunch. The students got to order anything they wanted off of the menu, working on communication skills and independence through the process of ordering. While the most popular item on the menu was a hot dog, a few students did actually order some Mexican food. Students worked on many different skills throughout this outing including overall independence, reading, socializing with their peers, and using table manners. Everyone did an amazing job, and all of the teachers were so impressed!



Fall Festival Fun at Traverse Heights

The Traverse Heights TBAISD programs hosted a fall festival this October. Parents, students, and staff shared in fun fall activities like pumpkin bowling and Halloween sensory experiences. Representatives from community agencies such as Arts for All, CMH, Disability Network, Michigan Alliance for Families, and Special Olympics were present to share about their programs with parents. Our therapy team also shared information with parents about MOVE, Active Learning, and supporting literacy and communication. It was a fun and informative event. Thank you to all those parents who were able to share in the day with us!



SPECIAL OLYMPICS CALENDAR

January 3rd: Winter Sports Organizational Meeting, 3:30-4:00 at Life Skills Center. This meeting is for downhill skiing, cross country skiing, and snowboarding.

January 3rd: Basketball Organizational Meeting, 3:00-4:00 at Bay Wesleyan Church

January 8th through March 7: Basketball Practice on Tues/Thurs, 3:00-4:00, at Wesleyan Church in Traverse City

January 9th through 23rd: Cross country ski practice on Wednesdays 3:00-5:00 at Timber Ridge.

January 9th through 23rd: Downhill skiing practice on Wednesdays, 4:00-6:00, at Holiday Hills.

Jan 18th: Local Winter Games at Timber Ridge

Special Olympics Michigan Area 02 is an organization independent of TBAISD. For questions or more information, please see www.somi.org

Let's See a Show!

The State Theater in Traverse City provides 25cent movies for children on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. They are offering many great holiday-themed movies over the next few weeks. Consider catching one of these shows:

November 24th: Home Alone
 November 29th: The Star
 December 8th: The Muppet Christmas Carol
 December 15th: The Santa Clause
 December 21st and 22nd: The Polar Express

Theater for All

A Sensory Friendly production of **A Christmas Carol** will be held at the Old Town Playhouse on 8th Street in Traverse City on December 1st from 1:00 to 4:00. This performance will include some adaptations such as low-level lighting in the house during the performance, slightly lower sound levels, and designated spaces for participants to take a break if needed. This is a free event for participants, but reservations are required. You can register for this event at <http://www.oldtownplayhouse.com/performances/main-stage-season/a-christmas-carol.html>.