

TALLMADGE BOND ISSUE FINANCIAL UPDATE



In November, residents passed two bond issues for the Tallmadge City School District. The district is now in the process of securing and selling bonds to pay for the new academic and athletic facilities.

The first step was to sell short-term notes in order to have monies immediately available to allow the district to enter into necessary contracts. In December, the district sold notes worth \$9.9 million at a 1.35% interest rate. The district sold an additional \$21.1 million in notes on Jan. 18 at a 1.328% interest rate. In both cases, the district received very attractive and competitive interest rates.

The next step in the process is to prepare the official statement and adopt the resolutions that bond council requires, keeping the district accountable to taxpayers. The district will likely sell the bonds in late March or early April, and

is currently selecting an underwriter to help facilitate the bond sale process.

The bonds will be sold on a level debt structure to keep the millage constant throughout the life of the bonds. The building bond issue was approved as a 37 year term and the athletic facilities is a 35 year term.

We are grateful to our taxpayers for their support and will remain accountable and transparent throughout this process. Again, we thank them for voting in November and are excited about the new facilities and the future of Tallmadge City Schools.

For more information about this process, visit the district website at www.tallmadgeschools.org and click on "Construction News" in the menu on the right.

Thank you,
Jeff Hostetler
Treasurer
Tallmadge City Schools

As you read this and future newsletter articles from my office, please feel free to contact me with comments or questions about Tallmadge Schools' finances at:

hostetler.jeff@tallmadgeschools.org



TRADITION VISION EXCELLENCE

TALLMADGE CITY SCHOOLS

FEBRUARY 2017

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



and middle school buildings.

We received proposals from 12 highly qualified architecture firms. Sol Harris Day really separated themselves when it came to their ideas on designing buildings focused on 21st century learning. They also presented a detailed plan on involving students, staff, teachers, parents and the community in the design phase. These areas were of high importance for the district as these buildings need to last for decades to come.

Now that the architect is in place, the district can begin the process of hiring a construction manager. Six have applied so far. Sol Harris Day will also be involved in this process.

Additionally, the design and engineering phase will also begin.

As we begin the design process, we will be inviting community members, along with teachers, students and parents to join us. Tallmadge

residents have been involved from the beginning of this facilities project and we want to give them the opportunity to weigh in on the design of the finished project.

In addition to the elementary and middle school project, the district is in the process of selecting an architect for the athletic facilities. The goal is to coordinate both projects so they run simultaneously. Even though they are separate projects, they are interconnected as we have to coordinate moving the high school athletic facilities while the construction of the new buildings take place.

I look forward to beginning this next phase of the construction process and continue progress on our new facilities.

For more information about the construction projects, visit www.tallmadgeschools.org.

GO BLUE DEVILS!

Jeff Ferguson
Superintendent
Tallmadge City Schools

PAGE 2

TALLMADGE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN GENIUS HOUR, LAUNCH TALLMADGE THINK TANK

TALLMADGE IMPLEMENTS CLASSROOM POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORT PROGRAM

PAGE 3

COMMUNITY SERVICE AT TALLMADGE CITY SCHOOLS

TALLMADGE CLASS OFFICERS AND ADVISORS BEGIN SOPHOMORE PROGRAM "SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS"

PAGE 4

TALLMADGE BOND ISSUE FINANCIAL UPDATE

TALLMADGE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN GENIUS HOUR, LAUNCH TALLMADGE THINK TANK

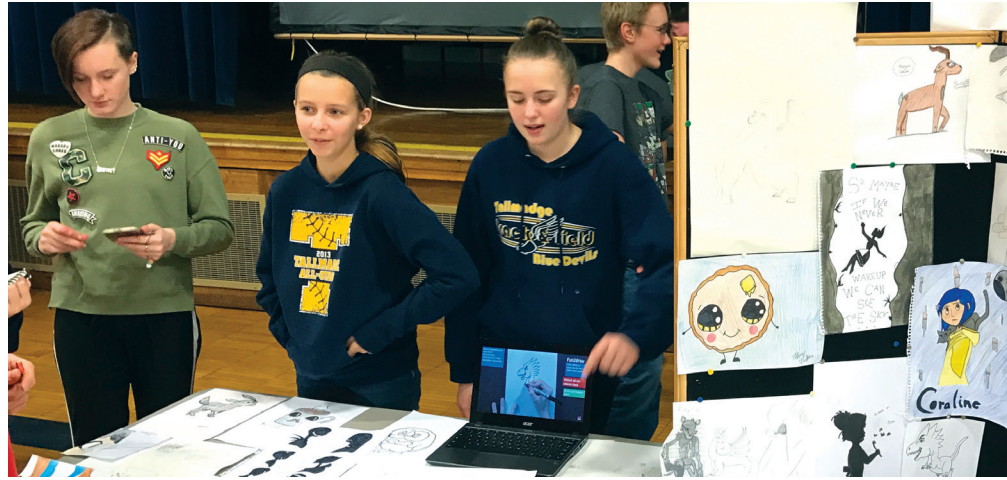
Tallmadge Middle School officially launched Tallmadge Think Tank (TTT), an opportunity for students to utilize one hour of Academy time to explore an area of personal interest over the first semester in the 2016-2017 school year.

"Teachers who empower students to explore their own passions can meet learning goals while creating powerful experiences that lead to increased motivation and critical thinking," said Principal Robert Kearns. "With this philosophy in mind, we created TTT."

Last year, middle school staff toured the STEM school in Akron and noticed how engaged they were in project-based learning. Wanting to foster that atmosphere at Tallmadge Middle School, the staff members returned and began conceptualizing TTT.

Early last year, students in all grades were surveyed about their interests and passions. This data was used to group students and to place them with a "Project Mentor," who guided students to explore their area of interest through a problem-based learning model.

At the end of the survey process, almost 30



Students present their Think Tank project

groups were created focusing on interests from volleyball to music to robotics. Every Thursday for nine weeks, the groups met for an hour to learn more about their areas of interest. Their final project could culminate in a performance, video presentation or a tangible artifact such as a home-made dress or a photo. On Tuesday, December 20, the groups presented their final projects.

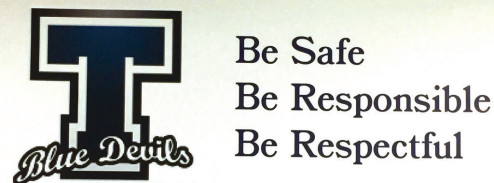
"We're really hoping to get kids to learn problem solving and critical thinking through these

projects, getting them to think in terms of where they are, where they want to be and how to get there," Kearns said. "When kids explore something they're passionate about, they put more effort in and learn more from the process."

Visit the following URL for a video about TTT and its applications:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BwVsZBMYf-gO1V2h6WTRCY29kZ2M/view>

TALLMADGE IMPLEMENTS CLASSROOM POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORT PROGRAM



We are Tallmadge!

Tallmadge has implemented a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) program at Dunbar Primary and Munroe Elementary

Schools. PBIS includes preventative and responsive approaches that may be effectively implemented with all students in a classroom and intensified to support small groups or a few individual students.

Classroom PBIS strategies are important tools to decrease disruptions, increase instructional time, and improve student social behavior and academic outcomes, which is critical as schools are held to greater accountability for student outcomes and teacher effectiveness.

At Tallmadge, students are given a behavioral matrix illustrating how to behave in different settings, including in the hallways, cafeteria, playground and on the bus. Students are instructed to be safe, respectful, responsible and engaged. The matrix and PBIS help to establish behavior expectations for students and a process for addressing behavioral concerns.

Tallmadge City Schools are dedicated to providing our students with a high-quality educational setting. By implementing PBIS, we are better able to ensure that classrooms and learning environments are safe, focused and stimulating.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AT TALLMADGE CITY SCHOOLS

At Tallmadge, we are dedicated to giving back to the community that is so wonderful in supporting us! Every building has been working on community service projects, and we are proud to work together to make Tallmadge a great place to live.

At Tallmadge High School, the Student Senate works throughout the fall semester to raise money for the Christmas Families program. All events are planned and carried out by the students, including a spaghetti dinner, t-shirt sales, Hat Days for students and Academy Train collecting. This year, the students raised more than \$3,000 and helped four local families get new clothes, shoes and boots, as well as Christmas gifts, cleaning supplies and dry or canned food.

At Tallmadge Middle School, students in the Builder's Club are always involved in several projects and are currently in the process of planning and fundraising to supply basic health supplies to an orphanage in Cameroon, Africa, through the non-profit African Sky. Throughout the school year, students participate in the Thanksgiving Food Drive and raise holiday donations for Summit County Children's Services.

At Dunbar and Munroe, students participated in the 'Thanks for Giving Food Drive' by donating food items to the Akron Canton Regional Food Bank during the holiday season. Dunbar also participated in the Coats for Kids drive, in which students and staff donated new and gently used coats for children in need.

These are only a few of the projects that our buildings have been working on! We are excited to continue serving our community wherever and whenever we can.



TALLMADGE CLASS OFFICERS AND ADVISORS BEGIN SOPHOMORE PROGRAM "SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS"



Scott Hovest presents to THS students

Tallmadge High School Class Officers and Class Advisors Joni Giles, Julie Headrick and Arene Staszak have created a program for sophomore students called the Spotlight on Success Series.

Once a month, a successful graduate of Tallmadge City Schools comes to share their advice and discuss their journey from high school to a successful career.

"We hope that these presentations help students decide what they want to do with their futures," said Giles. "I don't think many students realize how many career options there are. I also hope they learn that reaching your goals takes a lot of hard work, practice and determination. I want them to hear that's what it takes to become successful from people they can relate to."

There are already so many presenters that the program is set up for the year, with presenters now being booked for the 2017-2018 school year. In October, Jon Lampley of the band The Huntertones spoke to students; in November the presentation was from Dr. Paul Wilkie of the Cleveland Clinic; in December the presentation was from Nicole Tomei Zwolinski, global director for the fourth largest marketing research company in the world, and the presentation in January was from Scott Hovest, an actuary with Ohio National Financial Services.

If you or someone you know would like to share their story with the sophomore class, please contact:

Joni Giles at 330-633-5505, ext 1603 or at giles.joni@tallmadgeschools.org

Julie Headrick at 330-633-5505, ext 1619 or at headrick.julie@tallmadgeschools.org

Arene Staszak at 330-633-5505, ext 1506 or at staszak.arene@tallmadgeschools.org

