### **Treynor Community School**

"COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE"



# Fall 2020 Newsletter

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT... "YES! I LOVE SCHOOL!"

As a school community, we have faced some of the most difficult challenges over the last seven months. We confronted our new Covid-19 reality, and we handled new situations that were often uncertain and complex. It seemed that daily, weekly, monthly—we faced new obstacles and problems that needed to be solved. As a school community, we worked extremely hard to bring all students back to school in August, and we continue to work hard to keep students in school.

To be honest, there have been moments that we searched for something positive. But I found the one positive thing that will carry me (and hopefully everyone else) through the remainder of the year. Recently one morning, I asked a fourth-grade student if she was ready to start her day. She paused, turned, looked me in the eye, and enthusiastically stated, "Yes! I love school!"

I definitely needed to hear that, and I will not forget it. "**Yes! I love school!**" is the reason we have endured the challenges over the last several months, and it is the reason we are all working hard to keep students in school. School is different in many ways this year. We wear masks, sanitize hands, use social distancing, and practice many other mitigation strategies to combat Covid-19. Regardless of our new reality, our students still love school and want to be here.

Treynor Community School has an amazing team of teachers, para-educators, custodians, bus drivers, cooks, secretaries, counselors, and administrators who work diligently every day to keep students in school. They are the reason our students love coming to school—even during a pandemic.

"Yes! I love school!" has renewed my spirit to continue to meet the upcoming challenges, and we will continue to work together to have a successful and productive school year!

-Dr. Mark Hopkins

# **CERTIFIED ENROLLMENT**

October 1 is an important date for every Iowa school. It is the day schools determine their certified enrollment, which calculates the amount of state funding for each school district. This certification process usually takes the entire month in order to verify information among school districts. Treynor Community School is completing this process, and our district is currently serving 810 students. This total includes 523 Treynor resident students and 287 open enrollment students. This year's enrollment is a decline of 13 students when compared to last year's total of 823 students.



#### Special points of interest:

- ✓ Parent Teacher Conference Info
- ✓ Changes in Weather
- ✓ Message from the Health Office
- ✓ Mascot Agreement
- ✓ School Bus Safety Week
- ✓ Open Enrollment 20-21
- ✓ School Lunch Announcement
- ✓ Certified Student Enrollment
- ✓ Jr Leaf Raking Events
- ✓ Go Cardinals!

# **PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**

The end of the quarter will be Friday, October 16th. Parent-teacher conferences will be held virtually this year on Tuesday, October 20th and Thursday, October 22nd from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. The following information was emailed to parents on Thursday, October 8th:

Virtual Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled this year on Tuesday, October 20th and Thursday, October 22nd from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Conferences are not required but you will need to use the scheduling system to set aside a time (directions below). Scheduling for MS and HS teachers opens Thursday, October 8th and for Elementary teachers on Friday, October 9th. Scheduling for both closes at the end of the day on Tuesday, October 13th.

• If you wish to have a video conference, follow instructions below to schedule your conference date & time.

• If you wish to have a phone call, follow instructions below to schedule your conference AND email your teacher(s) to let them know you want this instead of a video conference.

• If you wish to just have an email summary, do not schedule a time. Simply email your childs' teacher(s) directly for this.

Video conferences will be held using Google Meet and technical requirements are:

- Chrome browser; or
- Google Meet app installed on smartphone
- NOTE: A Gmail account is not required.

Because the conferences are online, we will ask that you be a little early so that you can wait in the Google Meeting "waiting room" for admittance.

### Parent Instructions for Using P-T Conference Scheduler

Go to the school website, www.treynorschools.org and click on PT Conference Scheduler.

Scroll down and click on SIGN-IN if you already have an account. Or, click on SIGN UP option (see image 1) if you do not have an account. Alternatively, you can click on the option to "Connect using Google/Facebook/Twitter" (see image 2).

Sign Up					
If you're new, sign up now. It's FREE!		Or connect using:			
Sign Up		Ggoogle		У twitter	
Need help signing in?					

Next, you'll see the conference menus. Select / Click on the appropriate conference link.

- MS/HS Conference Schedule for MS & HS Teachers (Scheduling is open Thursday 10/8 through Tuesday 10/13)
- Elementary Conference Schedule for Elementary Teachers (Scheduling is open Friday 10/9 through Tuesday 10/13)

Select the check-box for the teacher(s) you wish to schedule a time with.

SCROLL DOWN TOWARD BOTTOM OF PAGE and enter Student Name.

Click Continue

Select time slot(s) and SCROLL DOWN TO BOTTOM OF PAGE and click UPDATE.

You will receive an email confirming your appointment(s).

Schedule additional appointments as necessary.

Click SIGN OUT.

You will receive an email from your childs' teacher(s) with meeting instructions a few days before your scheduled meeting time.

# **CAUTION: CHANGES IN WEATHER ARRIVING SOON**



As the weather begins to change, school cancellations and early dismissals can occur at anytime. If severe weather causes school to be cancelled prior to the start of the day, we will try to have information to the media by 6:30 a.m. In addition to our school website, the media outlets that will carry our announcements this year are: **KMA, WOWT, KMTV and KETV.** 

If weather or unforeseen circumstances (loss of power or water) should occur during the day and school is dismissed early, **PLEASE HAVE A PLAN IN PLACE WITH YOUR CHILD.** When early dismissals occur during the day, we usually have limited time to get information out and many parents aren't aware that an early out has taken place. Also, we have over 800 students in the district and only a couple of phone lines in each building. Don't assume that your child will be able to call you if a decision is made to dismiss school during the regular day. Have a plan in place! The elementary has forms for each parent to keep updated outlining your family's specific plan to deal with this type of situation. Parents of middle school and high school students need to discuss with their child what plan of action they will take in the event of an early dismissal during the school day. Proper planning now will provide assurance to you and your child that all will be okay should we ever have an unforeseen early dismissal.

Our student information database, JMC, will be used for all school notifications (voice, email, text). Please check your contact information to ensure it is up-to-date so you will receive these messages for school closings, late starts or early dismissals. Use the JMC Parent Access portal to check your contact information and make any additions or corrections as needed and to indicate how you want to receive notifications.



# SCHOOL LUNCH ANNOUNCEMENT



Due to a nationwide waiver granted to the USDA, local school districts may choose to provide meal service under the Summer Food Service Program through December 31, 2020 (subject to available funding). The Treynor School District has chosen to participate in the program, and it is available to ALL students. What does this mean to you and your family? Beginning Monday, September 14, 2020, your child/children will be able to eat breakfast and lunch as school at no charge.

However, if your child chooses to bring a cold lunch and wants to have milk with their lunch, they will still need to pay for the milk. The same applies for students who purchase doubles or a la carte items. Please make sure there are funds in your meal account to cover these extra charges. Also, if your family has a negative balance, you are responsible to pay for all meals through Friday, September 11.

Online students and students who have to quarantine: Meals are also available at no charge to all online and quarantined students. These means are available for pick-up at the school. Please notify Jen Brammer at the Superintendent's Office (jbrammer@treynorcardinals.org or 712-487-3414) if you plan to participate in the meal program.

# NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK

National School Lunch Week is October 12-16. Each school lunch includes fruit, vegetable, milk, and an entrée of whole grains and lean protein. The National School Lunch Program serves 30 million children every school day. National School Lunch Week was created in 1962 by President John F. Kennedy to promote the importance of a healthy school lunch in a child's life. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown just how important school lunches are for students and their families.



# **MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE**

### Quarantine is...

- 1. Enacted for people who have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19 (the person who is positive is "isolated")
- 2. Used to prevent the spread of disease by removing people from social interaction
- 3. Determined by Pott County Health Department collaborating with Treynor CSD
- 4. Calculated according to the last contact with the person who tested positive
- 5. Unchanged by receiving a negative test result, but may be extended if symptoms occur
- 6. Subject to change if the situation in Pott County changes

What can we do to help decrease the spread of the virus?



# **EVALUATING SICK STUDENTS AND STAFF** Reopening Iowa's Schools Safely and Responsibly

### **HIGH RISK SYMPTOMS**

# New cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell

### LOW RISK SYMPTOMS

Fever, headache, muscle and body aches, fatigue, sore throat, runny nose, congestion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

Students and staff members should remain home when sick. Students or staff members with <u>any</u> high-risk symptom or <u>two or more</u> low risk symptoms should stay home and are advised to seek an evaluation by a health care provider.

### **EVALUATION BY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER**

**NEGATIVE COVID-19 TEST** 

**ALTERNATIVE DIAGNOSIS** 

**POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST** 

Return to school after 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) <u>and</u> symptoms improving

Return to school after 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) <u>and</u> symptoms improving <u>and</u> 10 days since symptoms started

### **IDENTIFYING CLOSE CONTACTS FOR COVID-19 CASES**

Close Contact: Individuals who've been within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes with a positive COVID-19 case during the infectious period. Contact may occur in a classroom, lunchroom, free period, during transportation to or from school, at practices or games, and during extracurricular activities.

#### SCHOOL WILL:

- Notify local public health department
- Identify close contacts and quarantine exposed students and staff
- Notify appropriate school administration, families and staff (without identifying the COVID-19 case)
- Provide Public Health with list of close contacts

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH WILL:**

- Recommend quarantine for all household contacts of COVID-19 case
- Work with school to determine which students and staff should be quarantined

### STUDENTS

- If no symptoms develop, students can return to school 14 days from their last contact with the COVID-19 case
- If symptoms develop, students should be evaluated by a health care provider
- If a student tests positive for COVID-19, they should isolate for 10 days
- If a student tests negative for COVID-19, they must still complete their 14-day quarantine before returning to school

STAFF

- Staff may be considered critical personnel and can be allowed to return to work if there are staffing shortages as long as they remain asymptomatic
- Staff should take their temperature and screen for symptoms at the start and end of each day, and wear a mask at work
- If symptoms develop, they must isolate immediately

### INDIVIDUALS PREVIOUSLY POSITIVE

 Those who have been previously diagnosed positive for COVID-19 within the past 12 weeks, and were exposed to a COVID-19 case, do not need to quarantine



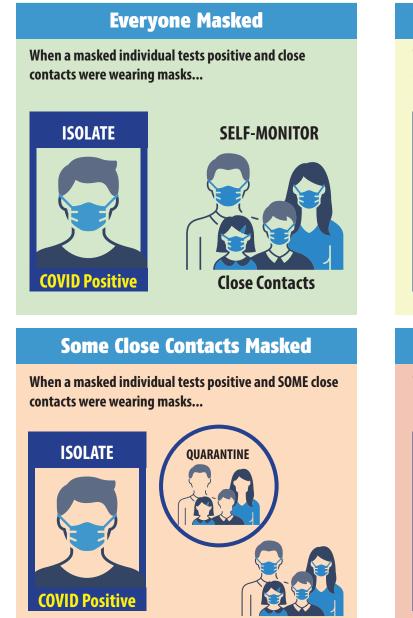


This plan is fluid and subject to change as more information becomes available.

# **COVID-19 Response: When to Quarantine** For Business, Education, and Child Care Settings

For non-healthcare, non-residential settings, quarantine is no longer recommended if a potential exposure occurs while both the infectious individual and the close contacts are wearing face coverings consistently and correctly.

- In all scenarios below, an individual is considered a **close contact** when they have been within **6 feet of the COVID-19 positive individual for 15 minutes.**
- Individuals who are a close contact due to exposure to a household member are required to quarantine for at least 14 days. Quarantine is used to keep someone who might have been exposed to COVID-19 away from others.
- Individuals who have COVID-19 must isolate for at least 10 days. Isolation keeps someone who is infected with the virus away from others, even in their home.



SELF-MONITOR

### **Close Contacts Masked**

When an unmasked individual tests positive and close contacts were wearing masks...



### No One Masked

When an unmasked individual tests positive and close contacts were NOT wearing masks...





September 2020 coronavirus.iowa.gov



Last fall, the Treynor Community School District made changes to the procedures it utilizes for the production of items that include the District's Cardinal mascot. The Board of Directors feels strongly that, while these changes result in additional requirements for local vendors who produce these items, the agreement that included these changes was in the best interests of the entire District community and ensured that the District could continue using the Treynor Cardinal mascot.

These changes stem from an agreement the Board of Directors, in consultation with the District's Legal counsel, reached with Iowa State University. The agreement requires the District to use only vendors licensed by Iowa State who operate consistent with the agreement reached between the licensed vendors and Iowa State to produce apparel and other items that include the District's Cardinal mascot.

The District appreciates all the vendors that take the time to produce high-quality apparel and other spirit items for our staff, students, and community. We look forward to continuing to work with these vendors. If you have any questions, please contact Superintendent Dr. Mark Hopkins at 712-487-3414 or mhopkins@treynorcardinals.org.

# **ELEMENTARY NEWS...**

### Happy Fall.

The end of the first quarter is quickly approaching and although the start of the 2020-21 school year has brought about many obstacles and challenges, Treynor staff and students have shown a tremendous amount of commitment and perseverance. Students are excited to be back in the building and teachers are finding creative ways to ensure all students are learning at high levels. I'm proud of Treynor Elementary staff and students.

Next week we will be holding first quarter parent teacher conferences. Although these conferences are optional, I encourage all parents to participate. There are several options available for you to choose from for the conference. These options include: online through a google meeting, by phone, or by arranging information to be communicated via email. Whatever option you decide teachers will be happy to accommodate. If you are unsure of what questions to ask your child's teacher during parent teacher conferences, especially in a virtual conference, please see the ideas below:

- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
- Are my child's challenges/weaknesses grade level appropriate?
- How is my child progressing socially and emotionally?
- How can I best support my child

Cardinals

Again, thank you for all of your support and look forward to you participating in the first quarter parent teacher conferences. If you have any questions about your child's parent teacher conferences or need anything at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to the school. *–Ms. Kay, Elementary Principal* 

#### **Important Dates:**

October 16th~ 2pm Dismissal/End of First Quarter October 20th~ 2pm Dismissal/Parent Teacher Conferences October 22th~ 2pm Dismissal/Parent Teacher Conferences October 23th~ No School October 30th~ Fall Festival (no outside volunteers) November 25-27th~ No School/Thanksgiving Holiday



### Notes from the Middle School Principal...Mrs. Berens

2:00 Dismissal for End of First Quarter: Friday, October 16

2:00 Dismissal for PT Conferences: Tuesday, October 20 and Thursday, October 22

### SAFETY DRILLS:



### Fire and Tornado

All staff and students have been participating in our annual fire and tornado drills. Iowa Code states that we must have at least two of each drill completed each semester and that one of each drill is not communicated to staff ahead of time.

### **Bus Evacuations**

The transportation department has provided training to all of our middle school and high school students in the event of an emergency situation on a school bus. All students formed small groups, loaded onto a bus, and learned several things to do if there was ever an emergency situation. The trainer showed the students where specific emergency items were located on the bus and also how to use them properly. Some of the items included were the emergency radio to call 911, the door latch to open the back and side doors of the bus, and the air brake button in case the driver was incapacitated and a student needed to stop the bus. The students were all very attentive as the trainer went through the safety protocols.

### Active Shooter

The school will have at least one active shooter drill each semester this year in the middle school/high school.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL HOMECOMING DAY ACTIVITIES

This year our homecoming activities looked different, but I heard from many of the middle school students and they still enjoyed the day. The middle school students were involved in a variety of activities throughout the day including; watching movies, cornhole bag toss, kahoot games, board games, kickball, and they watched powder puff football and powder buff volleyball.

The cooks provided a sack lunch so students were also able to go outside to have their lunch and enjoy the weather. Shortly after lunch all of the students walked down to the football stadium for the pep rally.

### **IOWA INSTRUCTIONAL FRAMEWORK**

A team consisting of administration and our building leadership teams participated in a virtual training on the Iowa Instructional Framework on October 5 and 6. They will continue their training on October 12 and 13. An instructional framework, also known as an instructional rubric or learning progression, creates a common instructional language and vision for quality teaching across an entire school district.

The Iowa Instructional Framework is built around four domains of instructional practice (Instruction, Planning, Environment, and Professionalism) with specific indicators for each, creating a common language for teacher practices and feedback, and guidance for professional growth. After the training is complete this team will determine how best to share and train all other teachers in the district.



# From the Desk of the High School Principal...



*Excellence* is Expected, *Excellence* is Achieved Principal – Mr. Hedger

**Thank you!** As we enter October and begin to look towards the winter months, let's take a few moments to reflect on the extraordinary start to the school year. I first want to thank the community for the supportive and welcoming nature in which I have been received at Treynor. Many of you have taken time to introduce yourself, sent a welcoming email, or stopped by the school to say hello. The support of the Treynor community is outstanding. I notice and appreciate each of the gestures of support not only for me, but the school as a whole. Thank you!

**<u>Activities</u>**: The beginning of the school year has also brought the return of many activities. I know how important these activities are for students (and parents).

- The Treynor Marching Band was able to perform at the home games and have had the opportunity to show off their new uniforms while recording their state performance.
- The cross country, football, and volleyball teams are putting together strong seasons with some exciting moments. The regular season is nearing an end with postseason assignments coming out soon.
- Homecoming, though different than in years past, was a week of celebrating the excellence for which Treynor is known.
- There are also several more activities that will be starting up very soon to allow the student body a chance to demonstrate their skill, passion, and hard work.

### Academics:

- Seven Treynor students travel to Riverside High School to participate in a shared Agriculture program. The students are taking an "Introduction to Agriculture" class this year and can expand their participation in future years. This is a great opportunity for our students to grow in an area of interest and need in the community.
- Treynor had four juniors; Payton Chapman, Aiden Kennedy, Delaney Simpson, and Ashlyn Vorthmann, selected to participate in the Youth Leadership Council Bluffs program. This is a great opportunity and honor for these students.
- The state guidelines for CTE programs have recently changed. The CTE teachers and I are working to establish ways to grow our programs. One area we would like to grow is student work-based learning opportunities such as guest presenters, job shadows, and internships.
- The teachers and staff are working hard every day to provide a great experience for our students. If you have not already done so, please take the time to send them a note of encouragement and appreciation. They deserve it!



# **UPCOMING EARLY DISMISSALS/NO SCHOOL**

- Friday, October 16th End of 1st Quarter / 2:00 dismissal
- Tuesday, October 20th 2:00 dismissal (pre-scheduled virtual conferences from 3-7 p.m.)
- Wednesday, October 21st 2:00 dismissal (normally scheduled teacher in-service)
- Thursday, October 22nd 2:00 dismissal (pre-scheduled virtual conferences from 3-7 p.m.)
- Friday, October 23rd NO SCHOOL (P/T Comp Day)



# NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK



National School Bus Safety Week is October 19-23 and the theme is "Red Lights Mean STOP!"

Each grade K-12 recently had bus evacuation drills to ensure each child knows how to safely exit a school bus during an emergency.

The transportation department has provided bus evacuation training to our students in the event of an emergency situation on a school bus.









## **OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR 2021-2022**

Parents/guardians considering the use of the open enrollment option to enroll their child/children in another public school district in the state of Iowa should be aware of the following dates:

**March 1, 2021:** the last date for regular open enrollment requests for the 2021-2022 school year, except for "good cause" reasons or kindergarten applications.

Kindergarten applications must be filed on or before September 1 of the school year in which open enrollment is requested. (September 1, 2021 for the 2021-2022 school year)

For further details, contact the school Superintendent's office at 712-487-3414.

# JUNIOR CLASS LEAF RAKING EVENT

The Junior Class of 2022 is doing a prom fundraiser and want to rake your leaves! The cost is \$5 per bag, which includes the cost of the bag, rakes and the labor. This will take place on October 14th, 21st, and 28th from 2 to 5 p.m. Contact mabbott@treynorcardinals.org to schedule your yard or for questions.

See the <u>flyer</u> for all the details.



October 2020									
		Happy Halloween!							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
				<b>1</b> 4:00 JH XC @ Shen Varsity XC Fol- lows 4:15 JH VB HOME 6:00 JV VB HOME 7:00 V VB HOME	2 7:00 Varsity FB @ MVAOC- OU	<b>3</b> 9:00 Varsity VB Tourney @ TJ			
4	<b>5</b> 3:45 8th VB @ Kirn 4:15 7th VB @ Kirn 5:30 9th/10th VB @ ISD 6:00 JV FB @ Lo-Ma	<b>6</b> 4:15 JH FB @ Lo-MA	<b>7</b> 2:00 Dismissal	8 4:00 JH XC @ Atlantic Varsity XC Fol- lows 4:15 JH VB @ TC 6:00 JV VB @ TC 7:30 V VB @ TC	<b>9</b> 7:00 Varsity FB @ OABCIG	<b>10</b> 9:00 JV VB @ AL			
11	<b>12</b> 4:00 JH XC WIC @ Lo-MA Varsity XC WIC Meet Follows Varsity VB WIC Tourney TBA	<b>13</b> 4:15 JH FB HOME Varsity VB WIC Tourney TBA	14 2:00 Dismissal	<b>15</b> Varsity VB WIC Tourney @ Riverside	<b>16</b> End of Qtr 2:00 Dismissal 7:00 Football Playoffs TBA	17			
18	<b>19</b> Regional VB TBA	2:00 Dismissal 4:00-8:00 Parent Teacher Conferences	21 2:00 Dismissal Regional Varsity VB TBA	2:00 Dismissal 4:00 XC District Meet @ TBA	23 No School 7:00 Football Playoffs TBA	24 All State Audi- tions			
25	26 VB Regional Semifinal TBA	27	<b>28</b> 2:00 Dismissal	<b>29</b> VB Regional Final TBA	<b>30</b> 7:00 Football Playoffs TBA	31 State XC @ Fort Dodge			

#### November 2020 opy nkscivi Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat 7 1 2 3 4 5 6 2:00 Dismissal Football Playoffs TBA 12 13 8 9 11 14 10 Football Playoffs TBA SWIBA JH Festi-2:00 Dismissal Girls BB Prac-4:00 8th Boys tice Begins BB @ Glenval wood 4:15 7th Boys **BB HOME** 15 21 **19**All State 16 17 18 20 4:15 8th Boys Music Festival Boys BB Prac-2:00 Dismissal All State Music All State Music tice Begins Honor Choir Festival Festival BB @ Creston 4:15 7th Boys Boys Wrestling Midterm 4:15 Boys JH BB HOME Practice Begins **BB HOME** 4:15 Boys JH BB @ IKM-M 7:00 G BB Jamboree @ Harlan 22 23 28 25 26 27 24 4:15 Boys JH Girls BB vs TJ HAPPY HOME HOME Thanksgiving THANKSGIVING DAY Thanksgiving Vacation Vacation 4:30 9th 6:00 JV 7:30 Varsity 29 30 4:15 8th Boys BB @ Kirn 4:15 7th Boys

BB HOME 7:30 G Varsity BB vs Harlan HOME



Phone: 712-487-3414 Fax: 712-487-3332

Visit our website: Treynorschools.org

### POSTAL CUSTOMER

Excellence is Expected

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Excellence is Achieved

It is the policy of the Treynor Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age (for employment), sexual orientation, gender identity, creed, marital status (for programs), or socio-economic status (for programs) in its educational program and its employment practices, pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and other applicable state and federal laws. This prohibition on discrimination applies to admission and employment.

The District has adopted grievance procedures for resolving formal and informal Title IX sex discrimination and sexual harassment complaints and other discrimination complaints.

Inquiries regarding Title IX or the District's policy against sex discrimination may be referred to the District's Title IX Coordinator: Jenny Berens at 102 East Main, 712-487-3181, jberens@treynorcardinals.org. Title IX inquiries may also be referred to the U.S. Department of Education (attn. Assistant Secretary, Office for Civil Rights; 400 Maryland Avenue Southwest, Washington, DC 20202; 800-421-3481; <u>OCR@ed.gov</u>).

Inquiries regarding other forms of discrimination may be referred to one of the District's Equity Coordinators: Jill Kay, Elementary Principal, #2 Elementary Drive, 712-487-3422, jkay@treynorcardinals.org Jenny Berens, Middle School Principal, 102 East Main, 712-487-3181, jberens@treynorcardinals.org Jacob Hedger, High School Principal, 102 East Main, 712-487-3804, jhedger@treynorcardinals.org

