TIFFIN CITY SCHOOLS

Edition 1 / Fall 2026

The Tornado Watch

News for Tiffin City Schools families

Columbian High School

Monsour earns national teaching honor



Chris Monsour is one of five national Horace Mann honorees. Graphic: The NEA Foundation.

Columbian science teacher Chris Monsour is one of five educators nationwide selected for the 2027 Horace Mann Awards for Teaching Excellence. The NEA Foundation announced the honorees Oct. 13. He is also the 2026 Ohio Teacher of the Year and a Fulbright Teacher Exchange award recipient.

Monsour will receive $10,000 and be honored Feb. 12 in Washington, D.C. His career spans more than 25 years, and he teaches AP and College Credit Plus biology at Columbian.

> *"I feel the students prefer to learn by doing as opposed to sitting on a computer," Monsour said. He brings that approach to hands-on science lessons.*

Read the award story

Listen to the WBVI interview

District report card | 3.5 stars

TCS rose from 3 to 3.5 stars on the 2025-26 Ohio School Report Card. Five of six rated areas meet or exceed state standards. This is one snapshot of student learning.

Read the district update Explore the report card

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55 Attendance Superstars

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Showing up for students

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Around the district

From the superintendent

A note to our families



Dear Tiffin families,

As we settle into our second quarter, thank you for supporting our students and staff. Across our six schools, students are learning, exploring and making connections.

The Tornado Watch will arrive four times a year with stories and useful family information. We hope it helps you feel connected to our schools.

Please stay in touch with your child's teachers throughout the school year. We welcome your questions and appreciate your partnership.

Greg Williamson, Superintendent

Columbian auditorium

Auditorium lighting upgrade

On Oct. 26, the Board of Education authorized a contract of up to $549,420 with Energy Optimizers, USA for Phase I lighting and electrical improvements at Columbian's auditorium.

Mercy Health - Tiffin Hospital has contributed $250,000. TCS is seeking additional grants and private gifts. Work is planned for summer 2027 to accommodate school-year events.

"I'm hopeful that we could do this project with all donated money," Williamson said. To help, contact Jimmy Flint at 419-618-5306.

Read the auditorium update

Family essentials

Closings and delays

SchoolMessenger sends alerts. Update your contact information in FinalForms.

Grades

Ask your school office for a ProgressBook registration key.

Free meals

K-12 breakfast and lunch are free; no form is required. Please complete one confidential CEP Household Information Form per household in PaySchools Central under School District to help fund student programs.
Questions? 419-447-2515

District dates

Check school messages for updates

Nov. 11
Scheduled two-hour delay

Nov. 25-27
Thanksgiving break

Dec. 21-Jan. 4
No school; students return Jan. 5.

Jan. 18, 2027
No school: MLK Jr. Day.

Thank you, Tiffin

Thank you for gifts and grants supporting our students: American Legion Auxiliary Unit 169, AMVETS Post 48, Animal Care Center of Tiffin, Coppus Motors, Grace Baptist Church, J's Homemade, Lowe's of Tiffin, Owens Corning, the Reinhart Foundation, Seneca VFW Post 2858, Sisters in Shelter, the Tiffin Columbian Alumni Association, Tiffin Brake & Wheel, the Tiffin Community Foundation Youth Advisory Council and Toyota through the Kids In Need Foundation.

Lincoln Pre-K

Lindsey Distel | Director of Early Learning

Preschool



From Mrs. Distel

Our first quarter at Lincoln Pre-K was filled with learning, exploration, and exciting new activities! Through hands-on experiences and play, students are building skills, gaining confidence, and developing friendships as they practice sharing, taking turns, and communicating with peers. We are proud of their progress and thank you for supporting their learning!

Attendance

Lincoln Pre-K Attendance Superstars for the Month of September!

Every day of preschool matters and we celebrated **55 students with perfect attendance** during the month of September! Consistent attendance helps children become comfortable with classroom routines, strengthens relationships, and builds on what they have already learned. Being at school regularly provides valuable opportunities to practice language, early literacy, math, and social-emotional skills that support kindergarten readiness. Please make attendance a priority when your child is healthy and well enough to participate!





Some of Lincoln's September Attendance Superstars celebrate their recognition.



Meeting the People Who Help Us

Tiffin firefighters visited Lincoln Pre-K on Oct. 8 to show preschoolers their protective gear and the tools on a fire truck. Some students also climbed aboard, getting a closer look at the people and equipment that help keep our community safe.

Dates & reminders

District dates on page 2

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Nov. 5 & 12: Conferences
Nov. 13: 8 a.m.-noon
Check school messages for details.

Nov. 11th

Scheduled 2-Hour Delay Day
Morning Session: 10 a.m.- 12 p.m.
Afternoon Session: 1-3 p.m.

Nov. 18th

Lincoln Pre-K Picture Retakes

School office 419-455-9107

Washington

Jennifer Watson | Principal

Kindergarten & grade 1

From Ms. Watson

Thank you for helping our youngest learners build strong school routines. Students are practicing reading/math skills and learning together as a community. Please stay connected with your child's teacher throughout the school year.

Learning in motion

Two Olympics, one very busy school

Kelsey Wickham and Kerry Tschanen helped kindergarten celebrate its nursery rhyme unit with four Olympic stations. Students jumped the candlestick like Jack Be Nimble, balanced eggs for Humpty Dumpty, fetched water like Jack and Jill and waddled with a ball between their knees for Mother Goose.

First graders in Mrs. Marlowe's and Mrs. Biglin's classes followed with a Fable Olympics, leaping for the fox's grapes and racing home as Peter Rabbit.





Kindergartners and first graders brought nursery rhymes and fables to life.

Kindergarten

Making music

In Hannah Watson's music class, kindergartners tried the woodblock, hand drum and triangle, learning to play percussion instruments.



Staff spotlight

Abigail Chlosta

Title reading teacher Abigail Chlosta helps our youngest readers build skills and confidence.

Previously featured on our Facebook page.



Dates & reminders

District dates on page 2

Nov. 5
Fall conferences.

Nov. 12
Fall conferences.

Jan. 18, 2027
No school: MLK Jr. Day.

School office 419-447-1072

Krout

Dr. Lori Pierce | Principal

Grades 2 & 3

From Dr. Pierce

Krout students and staff have been learning and practicing the expectations that help everyone learn. Through Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), students spent a week practicing routines for classrooms, hallways, buses, the playground and other school settings.

Our PAX lessons help students manage emotions and actions, stay focused and reduce disruptions. Students are also learning to recognize situations that bring on strong feelings for themselves and classmates, helping them respond with empathy.

Thank you for reinforcing these expectations at home and helping us build a positive learning environment at Krout!

Positive choices earn rewards

Earn up to 3 PBIS points daily:
Morning: 1 point
Afternoon: 1 point
Arrival/dismissal: 1 point

Save points to buy PBIS store items. Monthly shopping begins in November.

Gifted services

Thinking about thinking



Second graders compare, sort and explain their reasoning.

Through P.E.T.S., or Primary Education Thinking Skills, Krout second graders spend 30 minutes each week on puzzles, games and hands-on problem solving with Gifted Intervention Specialist Mrs. Nicole Arnold.

One recent lesson asked students to compare objects and sort them into groups. Explaining their choices and considering different solutions builds reasoning, creativity and flexible problem solving.

Questions about gifted services? Call 419-447-3358.



Spelling takes a step outside

Mrs. Shawnie McLellan's students took their spelling practice outside, using chalk to write their words.



Flapjacks and flannels

Mrs. Hepp's and Mrs. Jones' classes explored exaggeration in the tall tale of Paul Bunyan. For Fun Friday, students read a recipe, measured ingredients and cooked their own flapjacks.

Dates & reminders

District dates on page 2

Nov. 4 & 10

4: Marco's fundraiser.
10: Picture retakes.

Feb. 16 & 18, 2027

Conferences, 3:30-7:30 p.m.

School office 419-447-2652

Noble

Mike Newlove | Principal

Grades 4 & 5

From Mr. Newlove

I am especially proud of the way our students are showing kindness and helping one another feel welcome. They are amazing! Thank you for partnering with our teachers and staff.

History close to home

A walk to remember

None of Noble's fifth graders were born on Sept. 11, 2001. This fall, they walked to Tiffin's All Patriots Memorial to learn why the day still matters.

Jill Gosche read *September 12: We Knew Everything Would Be All Right* and explained the memorial's symbolism. Chris Hafley shared how Tiffin received its steel beam.

Classes led by Miss Harrison, Miss Launder, Mrs. Lee and Miss Reinbolt took part.



Students learned the story behind the steel beam at Tiffin's 9/11 memorial.

WATCH D.O.G.S.

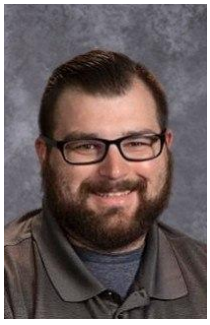
More role models at Noble

Noble's Sept. 30 kickoff brought 56 volunteer sign-ups. Dads, grandfathers, uncles and mentors can read with students, practice skills and join lunch or recess through WATCH D.O.G.S. The Seneca County Family and Children First Council supports the program. To join, call 419-447-1566. A brief introductory presentation is required.

Learn more about volunteering

Staff spotlight

Tyler Mesnard



Intervention specialist Tyler Mesnard now teaches in the building he attended as a student.

Previously featured on our Facebook page.

Dates & reminders

District dates on page 2

Upcoming dates

Nov. 6: Picture retakes.
Nov. 11: Marco's fundraiser.
Jan. 8: Gradecards posted.

School office 419-447-1566

Tiffin Middle School

Ryan Imke | Principal

Grades 6-8

From Mr. Imke

Thank you for your support this school year! Students who meet lunchroom expectations can go outside after lunch, so please send a coat, hat and gloves as it gets colder.

Student support

A $2,050 boost for the Hygiene Closet



Students request items through a confidential online form.

A $2,050 grant from the Tiffin Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Council keeps the TMS Hygiene Closet stocked with soap, shampoo, toothbrushes and more.

"The Hygiene Closet allows us to say, 'We've got you,'" counselor Melissa Mellott said.

Read the full story

Community partnerships

Music that connects generations

A $1,850 Peter R. Marsh Foundation grant will support TMS choir visits to local assisted living facilities. The award includes $1,600 for performance equipment and $250 for transportation, helping students share music and spend time with older neighbors.



Skills on the menu

Ms. Lawrence's and Mrs. Riley's classes visited The Corner Restaurant in Bloomville. Students practiced ordering, table manners and calculating tips.

Dates & reminders

District dates on page 2

Nov. 5

6th grade band, 6:30 p.m.

Nov. 10 & 19

Conferences, 2:45-6 p.m.

School office 419-447-3358

Columbian

Michelle Tuite | Principal

Grades 9-12

From Mrs. Tuite

At Columbian, PROUD means Positive, Respectful, Own it, Understanding and Dependable. We help students make positive choices, take ownership of mistakes and repair harm. Thank you for partnering with us.

Seneca County Skills Showcase

Freshmen explore local careers



Columbian freshmen joined students from across Seneca County at the Oct. 2 Skills Showcase at Sentinel Career Center. Business partners led hands-on activities and answered questions about the skills and education their fields require.

Each student visited five employers, exploring health care, engineering, manufacturing, construction and logistics.

Stay connected

Follow Tiffin City Schools on Facebook

Have a story idea or question? Reach out to Jimmy Flint:

jimmy_flint@tiffincityschools.org

Freshmen tried hands-on activities with local business partners.

Sentinel remote-learning days

Columbian offers a safe place for students on Sentinel remote-learning days. Students staying at Columbian should report to their assigned study hall.

Before leaving campus, students must communicate with a parent or guardian. They must return for their next Columbian class and cannot arrive or leave during class periods.

Talk through your family's plan in advance.

National Merit



Senior Angela Liu was named a National Merit Commended Student, recognizing her academic achievement.

Go be kind. Go be bold. Go TC!

Dates & reminders

District dates on page 2

Nov. 18

National Honor Society induction.

Dec. 10

Winter Choir Concert, 7 p.m.

School office 419-447-6331