

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



FALL/WINTER 2022

Technology Counts in the Classroom

Instructional Technology Coach Supports Students and Teachers

Variety is the name of the game for District Instructional Technology Coach, Lindsay Brillion. One minute, she is working with teachers to use the software accompanying the District's new math program. The next, she is working with a group of fifth graders, helping them put together digital storyboard projects. Every day is different, says Brillion.



Brillion is new to the District this year. The position was created to help integrate technology into the classroom and to make sure teachers have the tools they need in their classroom.

According to Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Tracy Donich, in a world driven by technology, the instructional technology coach helps

"to make sure teachers can help students do what they want to do." Both Brillion and Donich have a vision that this position will integrate technology into every aspect of the district's curriculum.

Providing STEM Electives to Students

Brillion also teaches elective STEM classes (science, technology, engineering and math) to seventh and eighth graders. In the first trimester, students are working on interactive animation and gaming and learning to use JavaScript, a computer language. In the second trimester, they will work on robotics and their final class will be web development.



Introducing students to different types of technology and helping them become comfortable using each one is critical for preparing them for college and careers. ~ Tracy Donich, TWC



TREVOR-WILMOT
CONSOLIDATED GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Community EVENTS

TWC RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES PRESENTS:

Family Gingerbread House Competition

Wednesday, December 7
5:30-7:30 PM, TWC Cafetorium
Fee: \$25. Families must pre-register. Limited to 30 families.



Scan to Register



Community BINGO Night

Tuesday, December 20
6-7 PM, TWC Cafetorium
Join us for BINGO for a chance to win prizes. Special holiday raffle. Ages 4+ are welcome with an adult. Refreshments provided.



Family Resource: Online Safety & Responsibility

Recently, Trevor-Wilmot School recognized Digital Citizenship Week which teaches students to be safe, act responsibly, and think critically when online.

Families can learn more about digital citizenship and access online family activities and resources by visiting:

[commonsense.org/education](https://www.common sense.org/education)



Learning to Be Leaders

Everyone can be a leader. That's the idea behind the "Leader in Me" program recently launched this year.

Based on the writings of Stephen Covey, author of "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People," the program is designed to build leadership skills in students and staff members. Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Tracy Donich, said the District wanted an initiative that could be used by all students and staff.

"It's great to have this program to unify the District," Donich explains. "Since the pandemic began, we've been going in a lot of different directions to meet student needs. This is the mortar that is really going to solidify our efforts and move us forward together."

All staff participated in 2 ½ days of training in the program. Every staff member is on one of three committees that are exploring all aspects of the District, including school culture and academic achievement, through the lens of the program.

The committees are still determining exactly how to involve students in the program but have already placed students in new leadership roles such as reading the daily announcements and calling for the buses. Every classroom has written its own mission statement.

Specifically, students and staff learn habits that help them to be effective leaders. This fall, the focus is on being proactive, beginning with the end in mind, and putting first things first.

"The ultimate goal is to empower students to lead their own learning and help support their school," Donich said. "The skills they learn will also transfer to their adult lives as they learn to be proactive and productive members of society."



Leader in Me is an evidence-based, comprehensive model that builds leadership and life skills in students, creates a high-trust school culture, and lays the foundation for sustained academic achievement.

The goal is to unleash the greatness in students, educators, and school communities everywhere. ~ Mr. Kamlager, Principal





2022-23 Budget Update

At the October annual meeting, the Board of Education approved the District's budget for the 2022-23 school year. A budget is a financial representation of the District's educational plan to reach the needs of students. It presents a high level of responsibility to effectively manage limited tax dollars, while representing an educational plan to reach the needs of students.

To help focus educational efforts, the District completed a Strategic Plan in the spring of 2022. This plan was developed using staff, school board, community, and administrative input and will be used to guide improvement.

System-wide Staffing Decisions

The biggest component of the District's budget is staffing. System-wide decisions to improve the overall effectiveness of the District's educational program. This year, training and support topped the list of priorities, including the addition of:

- **Instructional technology coach** - we know all students must be prepared to use ever-evolving technology in their future.
- **Increased music teacher** positions to two full-time staff to assure all students receive a well-rounded education.
- **Full-time principal** to provide daily support for teachers, students and families. This was possible by adjusting the responsibilities of the existing leadership team.

Challenges that Effect the District

Additional funds from the approved operational referendum significantly improved our financial picture. Yet, as predicted, the District continues to face ongoing challenges:

- **Declining enrollment** (nationally and locally) directly impacts the revenue we receive.
- **We used ESSER funding** for reading / math interventionists and a social worker to address the learning gaps caused by the pandemic.
- **Staffing shortages** continue to challenge districts across the country so we provided a 3% raise for all staff. A shortage of substitute teachers required the hiring of long-term subs to guarantee daily availability for coverage.

Fiscal Responsibility with Taxpayer Dollars

The administration and Board of Education continues to be diligent and monitor our spending very carefully. Prepayment of debt, called a defeasance payment, resulted in close to \$500,000 of interest savings and accelerated the payoff of our bond (complete in 2025-26). Frequent monitoring of budget allocations will continue so that all resources are aligned toward the best outcomes for students, the staff, and the community.

Financial SPOTLIGHT

 **\$3,089,502**

State Aid Decreases 6.7%

The amount of state aid received for the 2022-23 school year is a 6.7% decrease from the year.

 **\$3,445,153**

Tax Levy Amount Remains Flat

Despite a decrease in state aid, and an increase in local funding due to the approved non-recurring operating referendum, the District was able to minimize the tax impact to property owners.

Property Values Increase

 **11.35%**

 **School Mill Rate* Decreases**

2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
\$8.63	\$7.91	\$7.11

**per \$1,000 of property value*



TREVOR-WILMOT

CONSOLIDATED GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT

26325 Wilmot Rd. | Trevor, WI 53179

www.trevorwilmotschool.net

Trevor-Wilmot Consolidated Grade School District: Dedicated to Students; United for Excellence.

Why Choose Trevor-Wilmot? We offer a caring and safe environment and personal attention for all our learners!



BUILDING STRONG STUDENTS

We help build strong students through personal connections, relevant curriculum, and a respectful and welcoming environment.



ENGAGING STAFF

Our devoted staff engage and build connections with individual students and each other to implement a curriculum that supports each student's personal growth and academic achievement.



PROVIDING SAFE FACILITIES

We provide our students and staff with a well-maintained, safe and modern school, and secure technology to deliver a respectful, engaging, and productive educational environment.



FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Through fiscally responsible practices, the District maintains a steady tax mill rate, operates within its budget, yet it is challenged by external forces including laws governing district finances, state budget decisions that limit revenue, and decreasing enrollment.

4-year-old Kindergarten Registration Opens in Spring

Children who will be at least four years old on or before September 1, 2023 are eligible to attend our district in the 2023-24 school year! We are proud to offer a half-day 4K program, with both morning and afternoon sessions available. Transportation and on-site before and after school care are also available.

Call to Schedule a Tour! 262-862-2356