



10 Good Things Happening at Tonawanda Schools

As students settle back into the school day routine once again, the Tonawanda City School District has some new things in motion for its new year of classes. Here are 10 good things happening in your school district this year:

1) 1:1 Computing

Our 1:1 computing initiative is expanding this year by giving more students Chromebooks. Now, tenth graders join sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth graders in having crucial technology available to them to succeed in their classwork and homework.

2) Visitor Management System

We are enhancing student and staff safety by implementing the Raptor Visitor Management System. Now, at every building, all visitors must present a valid state-issued ID, which will be scanned into the system and checked against a national database to determine whether the individual raises any red flags.

3) K-12 Arts Integrator

The District has received a Title IV Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant, allowing us to create a K-12 arts integrator program. The arts integrator will assist students



and teachers with bringing fine arts into the classroom, as well as working with our current STEAM

(science, technology, engineering, art and math) coaches to transform our STEMrichment initiative into “STEAMrichment.”

4) Free Meals

Thanks to a Community Eligibility Program grant, all students at Fletcher, Mul-



len and Riverview elementary schools will have a free, healthy breakfast and lunch every day. Parents and guardians are strongly encouraged to fill out a confidential Household Income Form to ensure this program’s sustainability. Visit

www.tonawandacsd.org to download the form if you need one.

5) TNT Game

Oct. 12 will mark the 109th year of the TNT rivalry game, and Tonawanda will host the contest, looking for redemption for the past few years. The school community will be sure to come out in support of the Warriors to defeat the Lumberjacks! The whole week will feature fun-filled events, from the car parade to the “burning of the dummy,” as well as the powderpuff game. Additionally, this year is the 20th anniversary of the 1998 Warrior football team that posted an undefeated record in Division IV.



6) Theatre Season

Get ready for an exciting theatre season at Tonawanda Middle/High School! On Nov. 16 and 17, the High School Drama Club will present “5 for 10,” a series of five short plays that are sure to make you laugh.

This year’s high school musical will be “Mamma Mia!” March 14-17, while the middle school will perform “The Wizard of Oz” May 10 and 11.



- **Riverview:** Krista Sullivan (TA), Whitney Tracy (Special Ed)
- **MS/HS:** Ellen Aroune (MS Music), Amanda Serio (MS Special Ed), Hilary McAndrew (Art), Derek Schalk (HS Science), Emily Corigliano (HS Social Studies), Abigail Streeter (HS LMS), Ryan Friedrich (MS TA)
- **ESL:** Alexa Lucarelli, Natalia Kim-Woodruff
- **Maintenance:** Dale Bedell (Cleaner), Robert Doroski (Laborer), Clayton Hess (Laborer), Jason Popovich (Custodian)

9) Report Cards

Parents and guardians should be aware that secondary school report cards and class schedules are now available through the Parent Portal on www.tonawandacsd.org. These documents will no longer be mailed home, a savings of postage and paper. In addition, elementary students will now receive their report cards on a trimester basis, giving teachers more time to get to know their students and assess their achievement.

7) Warrior Way

In an effort to further strengthen the bond students have to their community and each other, all school buildings will now be following the Warrior Way, our new district-wide character motto. Following the Warrior Way means being respectful, responsible and safe. All buildings will identify as Warriors to have a consistent message that our students will be hearing from the moment they enter our buildings to the day they graduate.



8) New Staff

New staff members joining the Warrior family include:

- **Administrators:** Donna Hill (Director of Business & Finance), Diana Nigro (Mullen Principal), Michelle Siebert (Fletcher Principal)
- **Fletcher:** Luanne Strusa (Special Ed), Chelsea Wiechec (Special Ed)

10) Peer Mentorship Program

Roughly 30 to 40 high school students will be able to attend a fall retreat, engage in interactive workshops and become peer mentors this year. These students will be educated in providing reliable guidance and support to their peers. A grant written in collaboration with the Tonawanda Coalition was awarded from the Tower Foundation.

