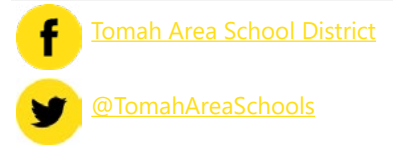


WEEKLY PAWS

TOMAH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

MONTH ENDING
MARCH 31, 2023



Sign Up to receive this e-newsletter directly to your inbox! [\[here\]](#)

Hello TASD Families!

Enjoy this edition of the PAWS as we highlight many wonderful events and activities going on throughout the Tomah Area School District!

Included in this edition is the information about the Tomah Area School District April 4th Operational Referendum question that will appear on the ballot. Please feel free to contact us anytime if you have questions regarding the April 4th Operational Referendum.



A sincere thank you to our student participants, advisors, and coaches for an incredible winter season of fine arts, athletics, and academic activities! Activities throughout the school year and into summer keep our students engaged and promote life-long learning opportunities. It's exciting to have spring activities already in progress, and we look forward to a great season! The month of April is very busy! Check out our school district calendar to find building and district level concerts, athletics, and co-curricular activities! Thank you for your support of our students, advisors, and coaches during the year!

Although we have a few months until the end of the 2022-2023 school year, plans are well underway for the start of the 2023-2024 school year. The 4K-12 traditional and 45-15 school calendars are available on our website. Buildings following the traditional calendar will have a start date of August 30, 2023, while Lemonweir Elementary School is set to begin on July 12, 2023. The Tomah Area School District Board of Education will continue to have 2023-2024 board agenda items to act on now through June. Board meetings are open to the public, and the school board agendas are posted on the district website. Look for additional information from your child's building as our schools prepare transition activities for the 2023-2024 school year.

We're in the final stretch of the 2022-2023 school year with many wonderful educational opportunities yet to come! Thank you for your support of our students and employees at Tomah Area School District! Together we make our district a great place to learn and grow!

-Dr. Mike Hanson

T-COMMERCE

TASD'S OFFICIAL ONLINE SPIRIT SHOP

The TASD T-Commerce store is now open for 24/7 shopping, until April 2nd. Grab some new gear and show off your school spirit! Orders ship directly to your doorstep!

SHOP NOW!



STORE IS OPEN
UNTIL
4/2/23



READ MORE NEWS

[\[HERE\]](#)

Thank You!



Athletic trainers are specialists in the health care industry who support our student athletes, helping to protect them from injury and improve their performance. On a typical day Liz can be found providing training services, evaluating injuries and providing first aid, applying tape, bandages or braces to prevent injuries, and implementing rehabilitation programs. Liz is an invaluable part of our Tomah Athletics Department!

High Quality Student Learning. Every Child. Every Day.

HAPPENING IN OUR DISTRICT

BAND -O- RAMA

Another successful Band-O-Rama is in the books! 300 band students from 6th-12th grade came together to perform a fun, musical feast for the community!



Spaßabend 2023

Spassabend, a German word that translates to "an evening of fun", is a TASD tradition which started in 2001 and has evolved over the years into a full musical production. Spassabend is performed each year by the Middle and High School German students, and is a graded performance. Students select their songs, and then translate the song to English to better understand the meaning. Then, based on the translation, students work together to decide how the song can be sung in German, yet understood by the audience through dance, props, and acting!



HAPPENING IN OUR DISTRICT

The High School JAG program hosted a Spotlight Day alongside Black River Falls and invited Senator Patrick Testin to join the festivities. They celebrated some of the students' successes and milestones in the program. They all did a phenomenal job speaking about their journey in JAG, how it has impacted their lives and the plans they have for the future, that the program has helped them dream and plan for!



Tomah hosted its first Wisconsin Scholastic Chess Federation Tournament and brought home the 1st place team win in the 612 division! THS's Collin Branch also won 1st place as an Individual, as well as in the K12 division!



The Middle School Science Olympiad competed at the Boyceville MS Regional Tournament in February. Joanna and Josalynn took 1st place in Anatomy and Physiology and 10th place in Can't Judge a Powder. Elijah and Jackson received 8th place in Disease Detectives and 9th place in Road Scholar. Zeddicus and Joanna took 5th place in Rocks and Minerals. Zeddicus also took 9th place in Solar System. Outstanding!

Our THS Academic Decathlon team was one of only 20 teams chosen to travel to Green Bay to compete in the State competition. This year's team consisted of Adam Johnson, Kendra Seering, August Newman, Nicholas Salzwedel, Sandra Hess, Daniel Jungmeyer, Danielle Ludke, Katherine Andrus, and Andrew Kerr. Tomah took



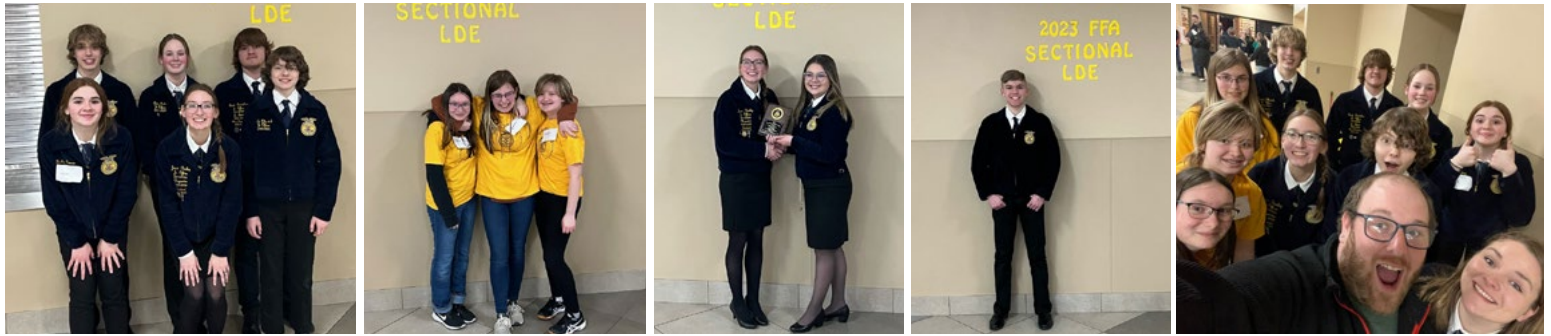
14th statewide and 5th in Division II. Andrew Kerr took home two silver medals in Science and Mathematics, the first time a Tomah student has medaled in either of those categories! Daniel Jungmeyer, Nicholas Salzwedel, and Kendra Seering took home bronze medals in the Superquiz. Top scorers overall were August Newman, Andrew Kerr, and team captain Adam Johnson. In the 40 years Academic Decathlon has existed, this is only the 4th year Tomah has gone to State. Way to make Tomah proud!

Shout out to the THS Forensics team who had a great showing at their District Competition in West Salem this month. Ava McKie, Cesar Gonzalez, and Alexa Miller all earned top scores! Thirteen Tomah students will now move on to State Forensics next month. Check in to see how they did!



HAPPENING IN OUR DISTRICT

Tomah FFA members headed to Sectionals this month. Josie Bailey earned 1st in Discussion and will be advancing onto State in June. Middle School Quizbowl team (Aidan Hernandez, Kieralynn Tupper, Caden Fravel, Emma Henley, Stella Huser, Payton Marth) placed 2nd out of 6 teams. Parliamentary Procedure (Carter Ollendick, Cale Ollendick, Josie Bailey, Addie Gerke, Brad Granahan) Team placed 2nd, Erin Perry competed in Extemporaneous speaking and earned 5th place, and Marshal Reiman Competed in Creed and earned 5th place!



AND THE AWARD GOES TO...



THS Gymnastics coach Karen Brown was named MVC Conference Coach of the Year!



Mark Von Haden of the Tomah Ladies Basketball, was named MVC Conference Coach of the Year!



Jami Vitcenda received the Wisconsin Alternative Education Teacher of the Month Award for February!



THS Gymnastics ended a memorable 19th season setting all 6 new school records! MVC Conference Awards went to Maddy, honorable mention beam and All Around. Jenna, with honorable mention bars. The Sports Booster Award went to Brielle. The Leader of the pack award went to Maddy for setting all 5 new individual records and Peyton for showing everyone how to be strong and courageous both on the mat and in life as she continues her fight against cancer.



THS SOFTBALL TEAM HOSTS SOFTBALL CAMP FOR YOUNGER PLAYERS



WARRENS



Students had a blast at their Friendship Dance



Students had "snow" much fun at their Snow Fun PBIS celebration

WYEVILLE



Kindergarten and 1st Grade students had an indoor snowball fight!



ACROSS *the* DISTRICT



[follow our story here](#)



Students and staff had fun participating in a variety of activities for Spirit Days!



MILLER



Having fun in ESS



3rd graders read to Kindergartners during Read Across America Week



2nd graders build towers with paper clips and index cards



4th graders worked on their debate skills studying the American Revolution. John Hancock presided over the debate!



Utilizing STEM skills to build Leprechaun traps!



2nd grade kicked off their plant unit in science by planting seeds!



LAGRANGE



4h graders enjoy some snowshoeing for meeting their PAW goal!



Family Science Night!



Third grade representatives for the Regional Kickapoo Valley Invention Fair~Lily, Ian, and Carter!

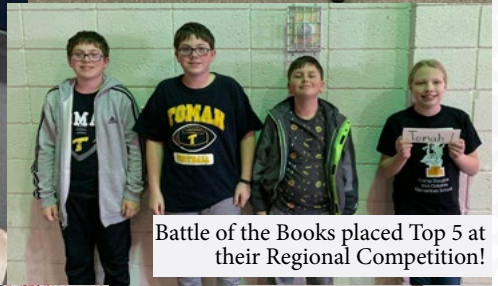
CAMP DOUGLAS



Fun at Math and Science Night



Fourth graders created living sculptures



Battle of the Books placed Top 5 at their Regional Competition!

Second graders researched and created maps of places around the world!



MIDDLE SCHOOL



Ms. Clayton's class baking cupcakes and learning how to make fried rice



Middle School Art on exhibit at The Pump House in LaCrosse



FFA attends The Connect Conference in Stevens Point

ACROSS *the* DISTRICT



[follow our story here](#)



JAG students do teambuilding exercises at UW-Stout

HIGH SCHOOL



Student Council members read to elementary schools during Read Across America Week



FFA attends The Connect Conference in Stevens Point



ESS Jr/Sr classes work out with Marines!



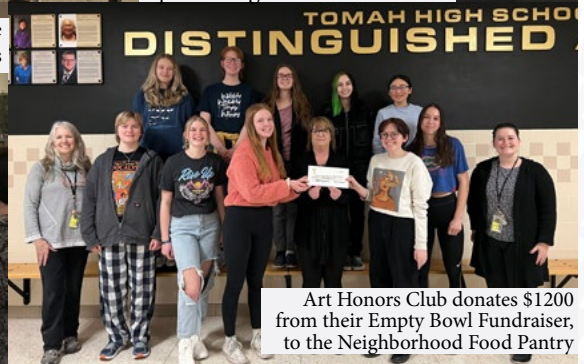
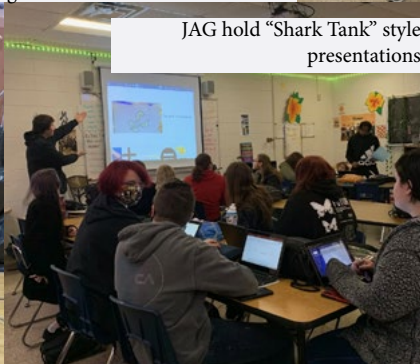
Diversity Club invites Mr. Spencer Stephens to close out celebration of Black History Month with presentation focusing on Plight, Insight, and Blight.



Physics students observe UW-Eau Claire's demonstrations with liquid nitrogen



JAG hold "Shark Tank" style presentations



Art Honors Club donates \$1200 from their Empty Bowl Fundraiser, to the Neighborhood Food Pantry

CALENDAR

... a look ahead to the month of April



- 4/3 -School Board Meeting
@RKLC 6:30pm
- 4/4 -Warrens Elementary Concert
@THS Auditorum 6:30pm
- 4/7 -No School (Spring Break)
- 4/10 -No School (Spring Break)
- 4/11 -Miller 3-5 Elementary Concert
@THS Auditorium 6:30pm
- 4/12 -Montessori Governance Board Meeting
@TAMS 6:00pm
- 4/15 -Walk for Epilepsy Awareness
@THS Track 10:00am-2:00pm
- 4/17 -THS Forensics Showcase
@THS Library 6:00pm
- 4/17 -School Board Meeting
@RKLC 7:00pm
- 4/28 -High School Musical
@THS Auditorium 7:00pm
- 4/28 -K-12 Art Show
@THS Commons 5:30pm
- 4/29 -High School Musical
@THS Auditorium 7:00pm
- 4/29 -K-12 Art Show
@THS Commons 5:30pm
- 4/30 -High School Musical
@THS Auditorium 2:00pm

TOMAH BOYS & GIRLS
GOLF
CAMPS
2023
REGISTRATION DEADLINE : JUNE 1

Hiawatha Golf Course
JUNE 15 & 16

BOYS CAMP 8:00-10:00	Ages 5-14 COST \$40	GIRLS CAMP 10:30-12:30
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[View Boys Registration HERE](#)
[View Girls Registration HERE](#)

WE'RE
HIRING

QUICK LINKS

a clickable directory

OUR DISTRICT...

- [TASD Web News](#)
- [Academic Calendars](#)
- [Event Calendars](#)
- [Employment Opportunities](#)
- [TASD Facebook](#)
- [TASD YouTube](#)
- [Board of Education](#)

OUR DEPARTMENTS...

- [Activities](#)
- [Curriculum](#)
- [Finance](#)
- [Food Services](#)
- [Transportation](#)

OUR PROMISE...



HIGH QUALITY STUDENT LEARNING.
EVERY CHILD. EVERY DAY.

OUR BUILDINGS...

TOMAH HIGH SCHOOL

[Webpage](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

TOMAH MIDDLE SCHOOL

[Webpage](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

CAMP DOUGLAS ELEMENTARY

[Webpage](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

LAGRANGE ELEMENTARY

[Webpage](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

LEMONWEIR ELEMENTARY

[Webpage](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

MILLER ELEMENTARY

[Webpage](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

OAKDALE ELEMENTARY

[Webpage](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

TOMAH AREA MONTESSORI

[Webpage](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

WARRENS ELEMENTARY

[Webpage](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

WYEVILLE ELEMENTARY

[Webpage](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)





Why does Tomah Area School District need an Operational Referendum?

Costs and services provided to students continue to rise yet the state of Wisconsin has not provided an increase to the allowable per student spending in six of the last eight years. The District estimates a fiscal shortfall of approximately \$2,500,000 for the next school year and is asking the community to approve a \$2,500,000 Operational Referendum.

A successful Operational Referendum will allow Tomah Area School District to continue current educational programming to meet the needs of our students.

This referendum is not to build a new facility.

How does a passing Operational Referendum impact our students?

Passing the Operational Referendum will help offset budget deficits. This allows Tomah Area School District to continue providing quality class offerings, extra-curricular activity opportunities, and added programs for student success. This referendum will also help continue initiatives to maintain the security of District facilities and provide safe learning environments for our students and staff.

How does a failed Operational Referendum impact our students?

Without a successful Operational Referendum, there will be a \$2,500,000 deficit next year.

Without increases to the allowable per student spending from the state of Wisconsin, the District's deficits will continue to grow. Tomah Area School District will need to make reductions to personnel and programs to balance the budget.

Tomah Area School District maintains a Fund Balance to secure a solid financial position. These funds are typically used for emergencies and temporary budget shortfalls. These limited funds cannot support all current educational opportunities.



referendum@tomah.education

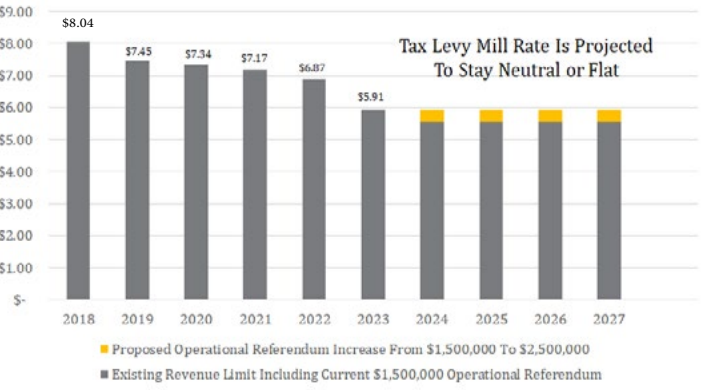
www.tomah.education/referendum

How will the Operational Referendum impact taxpayers?

For the past seven years, the Tomah Area School District community has approved and supported a \$1,500,000 referendum. On **April 4**, residents will have the opportunity to **cast their ballots** for an Operational Referendum question to exceed the revenue limit by \$2,500,000.

This is an increase of \$1,000,000 over the past \$1,500,000 Operational Referendum. The additional funds will alleviate the fiscal shortfall that has been created by the lack of increases to the allowable per student spending from the state of Wisconsin. Based on current projections, Tomah Area School District's tax levy rate would stay neutral or flat.

Please see the chart below.



The tax levy mill rate equates to the amount of money a taxpayer pays per \$1,000 of property value.



Comparing Neighboring Community Tax Levy Rates

Bangor.....	\$9.50
Onalaska.....	\$8.55
Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton.....	\$8.01
Mauston.....	\$8.00
Holmen.....	\$7.93
Royall.....	\$7.86
West Salem.....	\$7.73
LaCrosse.....	\$7.69
WI State Average.....	\$7.68
Sparta Area.....	\$7.34
Black River Falls.....	\$7.01
New Lisbon.....	\$6.69
Necedah Area.....	\$6.68
Tomah Area.....	\$5.91

Example: If a taxpayer had \$100,000 worth of property and lived in the Bangor School District, their school portion of property taxes would be approximately \$950. If that same person owned \$100,000 worth of property in the Tomah Area School District, their school portion of property taxes would be approximately \$591.

THE BALLOT WILL READ:

"Shall the Tomah Area School District, Monroe, Juneau and Jackson Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$2,500,000 for each of the 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and the 2026-2027 school years for non-recurring purposes to maintain and enhance educational and technology programs, school safety and security and school facilities and to maintain current levels of operational expenses?"

**VOTE ON
04/04/23**

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

EMAIL: referendum@tomah.education

VISIT: www.tomah.education/referendum

Summer PACK! 2023

Sign-Up
information coming soon!

Students currently in
grades 4K-2 will have
classes offered at Miller,
Oakdale, Warrens, or
Wyeville.

Students currently in grades
3-8 classes offered
only at
Tomah Middle School



Summer PACK Classes:

Students who are currently in
grades 4K-2 will take "Getting
Ready for the Next Grade"

Students currently in grades
3-8 will choose their classes.

Math and reading classes
offered at all levels.

Session 1
June 12-29

Session 2
July 10-July 27

Monday-Thursday
8:00 a.m.-1:45 p.m.

JOB & CAREER FAIR

**MAY 19, 2023
12 PM - 5 PM**

**TOMAH HIGH SCHOOL
901 LINCOLN AVE**

**Students Only
12 pm-3:20 pm**

**Student/Parent Power Hour
3:30 pm-4:30 pm**

**Open to the Public
3:30 pm-5 pm**

**VENDOR BOOTHS REGISTER
BY MAY 12TH AT:
bit.ly/thscareerfair23**

**\$50 CHAMBER MEMBERS
\$75 NON-MEMBERS**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT:**

**Tomah Chamber & Visitors Center
608-372-2166 | info@tomahwisconsin.com**

STUDENTS

Gain valuable knowledge of what employers are looking for in candidates.

Apply for summer, afterschool, and post graduation positions.

Learn about the opportunities available for high wage, high demand positions.

Gain knowledge about a career field or pathway.

Students are encouraged to:

- Ask questions about what it is like to work in career fields of interest.
- Dress for success.
- Bring copies of your resume!

BUSINESSES

Accept applications and resumes onsite to fill immediate vacancies.

Build your talent pipeline by making valuable connections with youth.

Showcase the scope of services your business offers and what day-to-day operations entail.

Connect face to face with prospective employees; sometimes you don't get the whole picture with just a resume.

Learn about employer resources available through various workforce agencies.

Businesses are encouraged to:

- Register as soon as possible to get the maximum exposure for your organization.
- Promote your participation in the event on your website, your Facebook page, and within your business.
- Bring equipment or tools to demonstrate what you do in your business.

JOB SEEKERS

Meet hiring representatives in person.

List of businesses attending will be outlined on the Facebook Event.

Resume reviews and job search assistance.

Mobile computer lab will be available to apply right away onsite.

Job seekers are encouraged to:

- Research employers before the event.
- Dress for success.
- Bring copies of your resume!

BIG

BAND

BASH 2023

Featuring The Tomah Jazz Bands

Directed by: Alex Knoepker & Ms. Pihoda

Dinner Show Fundraiser 4.22.23 6pm

Formal attire requested

Cranberry Country Lodge 319 Wittig Rd. Tomah, WI 54660
\$75 per individual ticket or \$600 per table of ten

PURCHASE TICKETS: TAPHOUSERWENTY.COM

Proceeds benefiting the Tomah Jazz Bands

Tomah High School Golf Team Benefit



Hosted by Hiawatha Golf Club

Sunday, May 14th, 2023

Shotgun: 3:00 p.m. Registration 2:00 p.m.

Open to the Public

3 Person Scramble – PAR 3

Directly Benefiting the Boys and Girls THS Golf Teams

\$30.00 Entry per person (includes buffet at the end)

Non-Hiawatha Members pay

\$20 Green Fee with Cart

Get a threesome together and enjoy

an afternoon on the course!

Contact Tonya Gnewikow – THS Girls Golf

Randy Neumann – THS Boys Golf

sign up below or contact:

tonyagnewikow@tomah.education (608) 387-0304

randyneumann@tomah.education (608) 387-9096

Tomah Regional High School Rodeo & Junior High Rodeo 10th Annual May 5th–7th, 2023

Monroe County Fairgrounds
1625 Butts Ave.



Performances:

Saturday Performance: 10:00 am

Sunday Performance: 9:00 am

Ticket Prices: \$18 weekend pass, \$10.00 per performance, Kids 7 & Under Free



May 5th, 2023
Warm Up Jackpot
Barrels & Breakaway
6:00pm– Exhibition

Events at this Rodeo will Include:

High School Boys Events

Bareback Riding
Bull Riding
Calf Roping
Saddle Bronc Riding
Steer Wrestling
Team Roping

Junior High Boys Events

Bareback Steer Riding
Breakaway Roping
Bull Riding
Calf Roping
Chute Dogging
Goat Tying
Ribbon Roping
Team Roping
Saddle Bronc Steer Riding

High School & Junior High Girls Events

Barrel Racing
Breakaway Roping
Goat Tying
Pole Bending
Team Roping



Information Contacts:

Carm Schneider 608-343-9169

Toni Henry 608-343-6316

