
August 2025 Newsletter

1 message

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Monthly News & Updates

August 2025

WELCOME BACK EL PUENTE AND ESCUELA VERDE!

NEW: TCY Mission

Following a collaborative update by our School Leaders and Board President, Victor Frasher, at the July Retreat, the Board of Directors voted to adopt a new organizational mission:

"TransCenter for Youth advances educational equity in Milwaukee by operating and supporting small, student-centered high schools that move beyond one-size-fits-all models. Our schools empower youth to become agents of change in their lives and communities"

Core Values: Connectivity, Inclusivity, Joy

Policy and Handbook Updates

New Approved Policies:

Important Reminders

All TCY Staff Off

Sept 1 - Labor Day
Nov 27 & 28 - Fall Holiday
Dec 25 - Winter Holiday
Jan 1 - NYD
Jan 19 - MLK Day
April 3 - Spring Holiday
May 25 - Memorial Day
June 19 - Juneteenth

PTO Reminder:

Academic staff receive 2 PTO days
Year Round staff receive 25 PTO days

Upcoming Events:

- Staff Alcohol Use – Permissible Consumption Under Specific Circumstances
- Indoor Environmental Quality

Review them in the HR Employee Handbook at the link below.

HR Handbook in Simbli

New AI Tool: Brisk

We now have access to Brisk Teaching, including all premium features. This is an AI app that is approved by TCY. It is a google chrome extension that works in your google drive.

It has many features, including helping with curriculum development, feedback, and student engagement, and much more! For non-instructional staff, it can help with developing procedures, writing emails, creating forms, etc.

Here's how to get started:

1. Install & Pin Brisk: [Click here](#) to view a guide to install and pin the Brisk extension. If you've already downloaded the extension, you can simply refresh the page. Once Premium is activated, you should see the banner "Brisk Schools and Districts" when you click on the extension.
2. Complete "Getting Started"
PD: Explore [Brisk Academy](#) and begin with the "Breeze into Brisk" module. This should take about 20 minutes to complete.

Other helpful resources:

- [Previous training of an overview of the features](#)
- [Professional Development Resources Page](#)
- [Brisk Bites](#) - short overview videos of all of Brisk's features

Did You Know?

All staff should have 'TCY Bookmarks' at the top of their web browser that has useful links to

- Medical, Dental/ Vision Benefit websites
- American Funds(our 401k company)
- Simbli(Our eBoard website)
- Skyward(our HRIS)
- and more!

If you have a bookmark idea or need tech assistance, send an email to techsupport@yourschoolname.org

IMPORTANT: 401k UPDATES

Automatic 3% 401k Withholding Each Paycheck

Beginning this school year, all employees will automatically have 3% withheld from their compensation each payroll and contribute that amount to the plan as a pre-tax 401K deferral.

However, you can choose to put in a different amount, including changing it back to 0%. Employees who are already contributing 3% or more, there is no change.

First paycheck with 3% contribution:

- Returning year round staff - 7/15/2025
- Returning academic plus - 7/31/2025
- Returning academic - 8/15/2025
- New Hires - it begins after a full month of employment

If you would like to make changes, use the American Funds link below.

TCY's 401k Contribution for Full Time Employees

A benefit TCY provides is a contribution to employees 401k account that have worked at least 1000 hours and employed until the last day of the plan year.

On 7/14/2025, TCY contributed 3% of the employee's salary to those employee's 401k accounts. Please make sure it went through - **Steps to view this HERE**

****MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A BENEFICIARY OR UPDATE, IF NEEDED****

Steps to view this HERE

If you have any questions about this, reach out to Nancy Meylink.

American Funds

Student Ambassador Opportunities

The Board is inviting a couple of students from each school to join the TCY Board Meetings. This will give the students an opportunity of real life experience participating, seeing how a school board works, and to help make a change.

Also, keep students in mind who could assist in school tours with potential funders.

Do you have a student in mind? If so, reach out to Felita Daniels Ashley to learn more.

| TransCenter for Youth |

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