### Southeast Delco School District

# Knightly News

Collingdale ★ Darby Township ★ Folcroft ★ Sharon Hill Communities

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#### 2019 Partners in Education Celebration

#### Honors District Teacher and Student

Extraordinary student achievement and exceptional classroom teaching were honored at the 2019 Partners in Education Celebration on May 2. Considered the region's premier academic recognition event, the annual celebration is sponsored by Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union Foundation and the Delaware County Intermediate Unit.



Kramoh Mansalay celebrates his achievement with his family.

The celebration honors all students and their faculty advisers who participated in the 71<sup>st</sup> season of Delco Hi-Q,

the nation's oldest, continuous academic quiz competition. Chosen by their faculty advisors, the All-Delco Hi-Q Team is made up of one outstanding member from each of the 21 competing teams.

Representing Southeast Delco, Academy Park junior Kramoh Mansalay has balanced his team captain responsibilities on Hi-Q with leadership roles at school, including the presidencies of the Class of 2020 and the African Students Association. A 30-time honor roll recipient, first prize recipient in both the Philadelphia Junior Flower Show and Philadelphia Flower Show, Kramoh takes AP U.S. history, Calculus AB and Chemistry, and if that isn't enough to keep him busy, Kramoh is also following in his polyglot parents' footsteps by learning French, Arabic and Mandingue languages.

Congratulations Kramoh, we can't wait to see what you'll achieve next year as a senior!



Amy Stilley is congratulated by Superintendent Butz

The Delaware County Excellence in Teaching Award was presented to Amy Stilley, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at Sharon Hill School. Ms. Stilley was recognized as an outstanding and innovative educator who has had a positive impact on the students she serves through her work, dedication and disposition.

Ms. Stilley has been teaching for 12 years and when asked, stated that her greatest teaching satisfaction, "Is when I can help students find success and guide them to develop a love of learning. I love working with students as they learn and discover new and exciting things that spark their curiosity."

Congratulations Ms. Stilley, for being recognized for your commitment to excellence in education. The district is proud and grateful that you choose to teach in Southeast Delco.

#### Ballroom Dancing Returns to Southeast Delco

Academy Park's physical education department once again partnered with the Dancing With The Students (DWTS) organization to bring ballroom dancing to Southeast Delco.

This non-profit organization works with regional high school students to teach the Waltz, the Swing, the Meringue, and the Tango! In addition to learning dance steps, the students develop skills in partnerships, etiquette and showmanship.

Students attended 7 dance lessons and 1 dress rehearsal to prepare to compete in the Mirror Ball Trophy finale. They worked hard and displayed stamina, perseverance and problem-solving skills.





Several talented couples danced away with trophies: Best in Waltz – Efo Eguae / Xaria Cottman, Best in Swing – Rasheed Coles / Kariann Heslop, Best in Tango – Zamair Lomax / Khiyonna Liverpool, and Best in Meringue – Hafeez Burnett / Andriel Tabolo. One couple, Ryan Kirchoff / Daion Hunter, received a trophy for overall best dancers. Additionally, Brianna Corbett / Pouttama Sithara were honored with the Susan Shea Mirror Ball Trophy for being the students that brought "light" to the spirit of the program.

All of the students received a medal for participating in the event. Xavier Newman / Alicia Matthews and Larry Gulledge / Tatiana Bowman received Honorable Mentions from the PE teachers for best in overall skill, cooperation and attitude during all practices and the finale.

Academy Park teachers and administrators are so proud of their students and grateful to the DWTS organization for all their time and hard work!

#### Academy Park High School

Poetic101 Headed to Championships

Poetic101 won their third slam competition and secured their spot in this season's championship. The competition will take place at the Kimmel Center on Friday, May 24 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. All are invited and audience support is greatly appreciated by the artists.



Members of Poetic101 also hosted a showcase slam in the auditorium at APHS on May 7. APHS assistant principal, Jaime Smyth stated that, "Our students' voices were so powerful as they spoke from their heart and soul" and praised Academy Park teachers Ms. Burns, Ms. Jetter, Mr. Rain, and Ms. Sacrenty for "creating a safe place and sense of family and friendship where students can share their feelings, concerns, motivations, views, opinions and thoughts."







You can view performances from a recent competition below on YouTube.

Round 1: Sahmir Blackwell and Sierra Coleman https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pq4FUoedwcM

Round 2: Deedeh and Cat Salee

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrC8b0-UeME

Round 3: Princess Warley, Nidia Scott, Deidra Senessie, Saniya Monroe https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMv55Cb6Unc

#### Students Visit Walnut Hill College

Academy Park Tech Bridge students visited Walnut Hill College to learn more about careers in the hospitality industry. During the trip, students explored the skills and responsibilities of a pastry chef and restaurant chef, as well as restaurant and hotel management.



Walnut Hill College welcomed the students as VIP guests, offering fancy drinks, pastries, pasta, and a delicious lunch. During one of the workshops, student RaNiyah Williams helped to cook hand-made blue bowtie pasta. The students were also provided information on the college's baccalaureate programs.







The trip was highly informative and demonstrated the talent and hard work required to be a successful hospitality professional.

#### Blue Ribbon Awarded to APHS Reading Olympics Team

APHS Reading Olympics team competed against Marple Newton, Archbishop Carol and Academy of Notre Dame de Namur high schools in the 2019 Delaware County Reading Olympics competition. This year's team earned more than 50 points to take home a blue ribbon!

#### **2019 Reading Olympians**

Michaela Badey
Kay'La Brown
Amaya Carter-Beard
Sierra Coleman
Alex Foreacre
Chanel Geohaghan
Brianna Ha
Haleigh Kehner
Kathleen Lac
Kayla McCauley
Chamara Whitney



The team worked very hard all year, and it showed in their performance. If you see any of the team members around school or in the community, please say congratulations. Additionally, a HUGE thank you to Mrs. Much and Mrs. Clinise for leading the kids to victory, to Dr. Mosakowski for approving all of the team's requests, and to Mrs. Watkins-Robinson for coordinating everything. #parkpride #knightnation

#### Romeo and Juliet at the Seaport Museum

The district's 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy took its annual trip to the Independence Seaport Museum on April 25, where they were treated to a performance by the Lantern Theatre Company of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.



Wonderfully done with minimal sets and intimate cast, the play is sponsored by the museum as part of its educational workshop program. Following the performance, students met with cast members who shared some of their experiences as actors.

After the play, students enjoyed some time outdoors and then a quick bus ride back to Academy Park where they enjoyed a delicious brown bagged lunch in the school cafeteria.

The students and staff enjoyed their time away from the building; learning and interacting outside of the traditional classroom setting. Everyone ended the day with a smile on their face.





Never wanting to miss an opportunity to brag about our kids, it should be noted that while Academy Park High School was only one of three schools in attendance at the museum that day, our teachers received many compliments on how respectfully our students conducted themselves.

A special thanks to Mr. Ferry, Mrs. Clinise, Mrs. Much, and Mrs. Paup for chaperoning this delightful excursion.

#### **Darby Township School**

## Young Poets of Delaware County Poetry Contest Winner!

Keyarra Barley, 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Darby Township School, took third place in the 30th annual Young Poets of Delaware County 2019 Poetry Contest.

Keyarra's poem, entitled *Daddy Why*, will be published in the annual anthology and displayed at Delaware County Libraries' Story Walk at Rose Tree Park. Keyarra will be honored at the Redwood Community Playhouse on May 19. We are very proud of Keyarra!



#### PSSA Time!

Students in grades 3 through 8 took the English / Language Arts PSSA on April 23, 24, and 25. Students worked diligently during the test and their confidence reflected the hard work of the Darby Township School teachers!

To show support and remind the students not to stress, staff members wore matching "Donut Stress Just Do Your Best" t-shirts to school on the first day of testing. We are very proud of the effort our students displayed during the state assessments.

#### Fundraising for PBIS

Darby Township School is revamping its PBIS framework and is being creative with fundraising. The school hosted a Book Bingo on May 1 and a Chuck E. Cheese fundraiser on May 10. Profits from these events will help fund PBIS incentives and benefit the students at Darby Township School.



Huge thank you to the PBIS internal coaches Shab Custer and Gabby Ciallella for organizing these events. J.P. Mascaro & Sons also provided Darby Township School with a \$1000 grant to help with their PBIS initiatives.

#### **Delcroft School**

#### Delcroft Celebrates Autism Awareness Month

In April, Delcroft School celebrated Autism Awareness Month and the entire Delcroft community joined in to promote awareness in the school and community. Informational packets about Autism were sent home for students to share with their families. Students and staff decorated puzzle pieces and colored paper light bulbs blue to "light up" the hallways in support of Autism Awareness.





Parents of students enrolled in the district's Autistic support program also joined in on the fun. District occupational therapist, Ms. Lori presented a workshop for parents on sensory strategies and activities that can be used with Autistic children.

As a culminating activity for the month-long celebration, the Southeast Delco Parent Support Group sponsored an egg hunt for all special education students.

#### **Harris School**

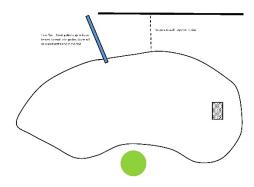
#### Rain Garden at Harris School

Students enrolled in the district's gifted program are in the process of researching and designing a rain garden to help reduce stormwater runoff and increase local biodiversity at Harris School.

Rain gardens can be a relatively simple solution for developed areas that are prone to flooding, which is a common problem after a rainstorm. Downspouts from roofs and overland flow across a property can cause runoff that would eventually lead to storm drains. The rainwater carries pollutants and deposits them into nearby creeks, streams, ponds, wetlands, and coastal waters. Rain gardens are strategically placed to intercept pollutant laden stormwater runoff until it can be fully absorbed into the ground; making them a great way to help improve water quality.



Satellite view of proposed garden position.



Plan of work needed prior to planting.

The gifted program recognized the problem of stormwater runoff and its effect on the environment as a unique learning opportunity for the students. Working with the Pennsylvania Resource Council (PRC), district enrichment teacher Colleen DiMaggio and the gifted students have already installed rain gardens at Academy Park High School - with a lot of help from district life skills students - and Darby Township School.

PRC is Pennsylvania's oldest grassroots environmental organization and has worked to protect the Commonwealth's resources through environmental education, recycling, waste diversion programs, and anti-litter campaigns. They provided expert guidance to Ms. DiMaggio and secured funding through a Pennsylvania Growing Greener Grant.

The rain garden on Harris School grounds will be installed this spring. Collingdale Borough has worked closely with the Eastern Delaware County Stormwater Collaborative to ensure that all necessary components are available. Collingdale borough manager, John Hewlings has secured a contractor who will donate services to excavate, put in piping, remove sod, and raise a needed inlet. The piping, inlet and riser were donated, as well.

Harris School and the district are very grateful to everyone who will "get their hands dirty" to make this beautiful rain garden a reality. Thank you to Ms. DiMaggio, the PRC, and especially John Hewlings and Collingdale Borough.

#### Sharon Hill School

#### Honor Roll Luncheon

Students in grades 3 through 8 who achieved honor roll status for both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> marking periods were rewarded for their hard work and dedication with a celebratory luncheon.







The students feasted on pizza, fried chicken, chips and cake and enjoyed the opportunity to socialize with their classmates.

#### Zoo On Wheels

The Philadelphia Zoo On Wheels presented their traveling animal program to Sharon Hill students in the  $2^{nd}$  grade. The Zoo on Wheels program emphasizes the importance of cultivating empathy and connecting with animals at a young age.



Through direct introduction to wildlife, young children can begin their journey to becoming future stewards of the environment that we share with so many unique creatures. The interactive program engaged the students with live animals, role play and songs.

#### Book Fair

It's almost time for the Sharon Hill School Book Fair! A variety of age and grade appropriate books will be available for purchase at the school library from May 13 through May 17. Students are excited for the upcoming event and have been discussing how may books they plan to read over the summer. Some students are considering joining the Reading Olympics challenge next school year. Reading is extremely important for student success and it is wonderful to see their enthusiasm.

#### PSSA

Students prepared for the Pennsylvania System of School Assessments all school year and were well prepared to work diligently to complete the assessments. Based on attendance, students were eligible to win prizes each day and at the end of the testing window. Parents and staff worked together to help encourage and motivate students by writing them letters to read before beginning a few different modules.

#### Kindergarten Center

#### Making a Difference

Ms. Hollie Citerone was selected by the Delaware County Local Task Force to receive the 2019 Making a Difference Award. She was nominated by both staff and parents for her work with students with disabilities in an inclusive setting.





The award ceremony was held at Northley Middle School in Penn Delco School District on April 29. This special evening provided an opportunity for students, staff and families to come together to honor those individuals who have gone above and beyond in making a difference in the lives of students with special needs.

Southeast Delco School District was well represented at the event and excited to share in this special evening. Congratulations Ms. Citerone on this well-deserved recognition.

#### **SOUTHEAST DELCO SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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