



Southeast Delco School District

# *Knighly News*

Collingdale ★ Darby Township ★ Folcroft ★ Sharon Hill  
Communities

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## *A Day at the Opera*

Students enrolled in the district's enrichment program had front row seats to Prokofiev's *The Love for Three Oranges* at the Academy of Music on September 18th. This mixed genre piece captivated students as they followed the adventures of a cursed prince fated to love three oranges. Comedy, tragedy, romance, and idiocy ensues as this 100-year-old operatic performance unfolded on stage.



DTS students Bryant Peacock (Grade 7) and Autumn Sitvarin (Grade 2) agreed they would recommend the opera to family and friends. Bryant appreciated that the opera was in English, with Autumn adding, "This opera was very funny. I cracked up when Fata Morgana fell. My favorite part was when the Prince and Princess got married."

Sharon Hill School's Greg Newman (Grade 6) shared, "The music was fun and also helped move the longer scenes along, making them easier to sit through. I liked The March - the most recognizable song and apparently it is the most popular song in the opera."

## *Inter-active Art Installation*

Having time before the opera and looking to experience as much as they can, wherever and whenever they can, the gifted students visited the Kimmel Center to view a new inter-active art installation. *Los Trompos*, or *The Spinning Tops*, and *Look Up! Look In.* are two exciting art installations on display at the Kimmel Center plaza!

Please visit [www.kimmelcenter.org/events-and-tickets/201920/free/los-trompos/](http://www.kimmelcenter.org/events-and-tickets/201920/free/los-trompos/) for information on the artists and the exhibit.



### *Let It Rain*

The love of nature and the lure of fresh air and sunshine continue to bring students together to nurture and maintain the rain gardens planted by students at Academy Park, Darby Township and Harris schools. Each school has developed a unique process for caring for the gardens, which over the past several weeks have had their ability to absorb rain overflow tested.



At Academy Park, life skills students joined forces and installed propagated plants around the gazebo and declared “A War on Weeds” to clear the rain garden of unwelcome visitors. The upkeep of the gardens will be a weekly activity for these students; providing them with opportunities to develop horticulture skills.



A group of students enrolled in the district's gifted program at Darby Township School spent part of their last day of summer break weeding and cleaning their rain garden. On the second day of school, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students planted a garden honoring their classmate who passed away over summer break. The plants were donated to the school by the Home Depot and the Pennsylvania Resource Council. A special acknowledgement is due to the grounds crew for going the extra step in helping to install the garden.



A "Weeding Wednesday" program has been created as a way to extend horticulture therapy, and even occupational therapy, to the students receiving emotional support.

At Harris School, a diverse group of students formed a "green team" to help maintain their rain garden. Not only did they lend their skills, they also shared stories about their personal experiences with gardening.

While living in Liberia, Harris student Hawa Swaray gardened with her mom and helped sell the vegetables they grew. The students loved being involved and sharing their background knowledge about gardening.



## ***Academy Park High School***



### ***SE Delco Spotlight***

Mr. Jones was selected by an Academy Park student to be featured on SE Delco Spotlight's Facebook page. Mr. Jones teaches 10<sup>th</sup> grade World History at Academy Park and has been with the district for 4 years.

When asked if there was anything he would like to share about our schools or school community, Mr. Jones replied, "I love being at AP and I believe that this is such an amazing school filled with passionate, intelligent and caring individuals. I'm glad to be here and look forward to the school day, every day."

## *Beka's Blood Drive*

Students and staff throughout the district donated blood to the America Red Cross at the annual Beka's Blood Drive. The interact club, under the leadership of Mr. Seif, runs the fall and spring blood drives. The school community is honored to dedicate the blood drives on behalf of the beautiful and inspirational Beka Seif!



## *Welcome to High School*

APHS students, faculty, and staff are off to a fantastic start of the 2019 / 2020 school year. Students entering their first year of high school were given a warm welcome to Academy Park. Faculty, staff, upperclassman and members of the community greeted them as they arrived for their first day attending the 9th Grade Academy. Welcome to APHS #KnightNation!

## *Darby Township School*

### *Local PBIS Kickoff*

Darby Township School hosted their PBIS kickoff assembly on Wednesday, September 4. The Academy Park cheerleading squad showed up to support and encourage student achievement and students reviewed the PBIS expectations in a fun and exciting way. As part of the event, students participated in a PBIS "boot camp" – traveling to various areas in the building as teachers reinforced and demonstrated the rules and expected behaviors.

### *ClassHroom*

On September 14, Darby Township School students and faculty participated in a test of knowledge on Fox 29's ClassHroom. Faculty members Carl Breithaupt, Erin Deck, and Ilissa Hochman competed with students Keyarra Barley, Logan Fritchey, and Makyiah Johnson on televised contest. Although the students were defeated, they had an amazing time being on the game show! The show was aired by Fox at the end of September and can be viewed here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQazE7G2-cw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQazE7G2-cw).



## Welcome Back to School with Chuck E. Cheese






Staff members mingled with students and families at the Chuck E. Cheese in Springfield to raise money to support their PBIS initiatives. All in attendance had a great time and it was a wonderful way to spend time together outside of the school.

## Delcroft School

### A New School Year Begins

Delcroft opened their doors to students for the start of the 2019 / 2020 school year on August 28. The day prior to the official opening, faculty and staff hosted a “Meet and Greet” to give students and parents an opportunity to meet with teachers before the school year begins.

## Delcroft School Expectations

	<b>Classroom</b> 	<b>Hallway</b> 	<b>Cafeteria</b> 	<b>Bathroom</b> 	<b>Recess</b> 
<b>Be Respectful</b>	Raise hand Actively listen Be courteous Keep body to self	Remain quiet Keep body to self Walk in a line	Raise hand Keep body to self Use manners Listen to monitors	Remain quiet Honor privacy Keep bathroom clean	Share Take turns Include others
<b>Be Responsible</b>	Follow directions Stay in assigned area Accept consequences Complete work	Follow directions Walk on the right	Follow directions Stay in assigned area Clean up	Report issues immediately Return to class promptly Use appropriately	Follow directions Use equipment properly Be safe
<b>Be Ready to Learn</b>	Be here and on time Be prepared Use best effort	Move with a purpose Have a pass Use the shortest route	Eat only in cafeteria Be prepared Line up orderly	Have adult Permission	Line up orderly Enter the building quietly

Delcroft continues to focus on creating a positive environment for students by reinforcing the principles of the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) initiative. Delcroft’s core PBIS team created a behavioral expectations matrix that students will be reminded of on a daily basis.

To reintroduce the students to PBIS and what it will mean to them, assemblies were held where select students and staff demonstrated through skits and performances the expectations for conduct throughout the school. These performances and assemblies will continue throughout the school year.

### Back to School Night at Delcroft

Delcroft hosted a “Back to School Night” on September 12. The night began in the cafeteria with a large group assembly for parents and guardians. Mr. Shawn McDougall introduced himself as the new principal and shared his expectations for the building. He also briefly reminded parents of school district policies and discussed Title 1 funding and how it is utilized at Delcroft and in the district. After the assembly, parents visited their children’s classrooms to meet the teachers and discuss the curriculum and expectations for the year ahead.

Delcroft's Back to School Night was a great success. Parent turnout was very high and enthusiastic, helping to strengthen the connection between home, school and community.

## ***Harris School***

### ***Ice Cream Social***

Harris School held their second annual Ice Cream Social on September 12<sup>th</sup> to kick-off the school-wide Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS) initiative. Staff served ice cream to students and their families. Students signed the PBIS Pledge banner promising to always be safe, respectful and responsible. The banner will be displayed in the cafeteria throughout the school year for all to see.



Over 300 students and family members attended this fun and exciting event. Harris School looks forward to hosting additional PBIS events during the school year. Special thanks to the PBIS committee and staff volunteers who planned and attended this event.



### ***Johnny Appleseed***

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, Harris School's first graders celebrated Johnny Appleseed Day. Students participated in a variety of activities to commemorate this day. Students participated in a fun apple seed math activity, made special Johnny Appleseed hats, and participated in an interesting read aloud while enjoying a delicious apple snack. The 1<sup>st</sup> graders really enjoyed all of the activities organized for this special day.



## ***Sharon Hill School***

### ***Welcome Back!***

Opening day was a great start to the new school year at Sharon Hill School. Community members and staff welcomed students back from summer break and the students returned excited to hear about new school items.

School administrators anticipate a successful year for students and will continue to foster collaborative associations between staff, parents and community members.



### ***Back to School Night***

Sharon Hill School received excellent parental support at their back to school night on September 11! Many families took advantage of the opportunity to meet the different teachers and staff who will be interacting and educating their children and encouraged parents to continue an open line of communication throughout the entire school year. There are many opportunities for parental involvement at Sharon Hill School, including the Home and School Association.



### ***Positive Behavior Intervention and Support***

Sharon Hill Students were all introduced to the school's new positive behavior initiative. This initiative is a set of ideas and tools that Sharon Hill School will be utilizing to improve student behavior and school-wide environment. Students demonstrating the characteristics of showing respect, being responsible, owning their actions, and remaining safe can earn SOAR tickets. The tickets earn students special privileges, prizes and acknowledgement.

# Kindergarten Center

## *A New School Year Begins*

The Kindergarten Center staff has started their second year of PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports). Staff members continue to partner with Delaware County Intermediate Unit to implement this process with fidelity. This program teaches students appropriate social skills by using a common language. Students are reminded to “Be Safe and Be Respectful” throughout the day. They are rewarded with Kinder bucks and each week twenty students are chosen to be PBIS Stars! The program is off to a wonderful start and the staff is already seeing positive results.

The start of the 2019 / 2020 school year at the Kindergarten Center began with an open house on August 26. Parents and children were greeted by faculty and staff and attended an informational seminar about school procedures before getting to “sneak a peek” at their classroom and meet their new teacher.



On September 17, over one hundred parents attended the Back to School Night at the Kindergarten Center. Parents were informed about a variety of program and curriculum items that the teachers will be implementing throughout the year. Also, the parents had the opportunity to purchase books at the Scholastic Book Fair and receive information about community partnerships.

## **SOUTHEAST DELCO SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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