



THE CR REPORT

CAESAR RODNEY SCHOOL DISTRICT QUARTERLY
"Where Excellence is Our Tradition"

Your District-Wide Information Source

May-June 2015 Issue



Left:
CR High School Students
Preparing For Summer
Studies In China.
Right:
Stokes Elementary Staff
Conduct "Book Drop"
In Student Neighborhoods



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DID YOU KNOW?

More than 130 photo albums of ceremonies, events, celebrations, sporting events and everyday life in our schools can be found on the Caesar Rodney School District website at:

<http://www.crk12.org>

The CR Report is a publication created exclusively for the Caesar Rodney community. For questions or comment, please contact Ron Gough at: ronald.gough@cr.k12.de.us.

What's Happening?

Board Meetings (7:00 p.m.)

May 19: John S. Charlton School
June 16: J. Ralph McIlvaine ECC
July 21: Paul L. Dunbar Building

Special Events:

May 22: John S. Charlton Graduation
May 25: Memorial Day-Schools Closed
June 3: J. Ralph McIlvaine Graduation
June 6: CRHS Graduation

We Are On Facebook!

Go to your Facebook account and LIKE "Caesar Rodney School District" for the latest information in ALL of your Rider schools! Thank you for your support of CR!





Message From the Superintendent

I would personally like to congratulate the twelve outstanding teachers that have been selected by their peers, their students and by parents, as our building "Teachers of the Year." From these outstanding educators, Ms. Sandy Krugh was selected as our "2015-16 District Teacher of the Year."



Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald
Superintendent

While biographies of each "Building Teacher of the Year" can be found in this issue of the CR Report, Ms. Krugh will be profiled our next edition.

We were recently honored by having Governor Jack Markell stop by CRHS to announce statewide gains in the number of Advanced Placement (AP) courses being taken by high school students. I am especially proud that CRHS offers more AP courses than any other high school in the state and that we will increase this number to 27 at the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year.

We will also be adding five additional dual college enrollment courses next year to go along with the two that are already being offered, bringing the number of college credit course offerings up to 34 at the high school.

Delaware's Secretary of Education Mark Murphy recently paid a visit to Fred Fifer III Middle School spending the majority of his visit talking with students about their school.

Senator Tom Carper stopped by Postlethwait Middle to speak with Mrs. Megan Szabo, Delaware's Teacher of the Year. Senator Carper visited Megan's classroom and engaged her science class in a discussion about his roles and responsibilities in the Senate.

Speaking of Mrs. Szabo, how impressive is the fact that she reached out to a former student and presented her with a full ride four-year online scholarship courtesy of the University of Phoenix in Arizona. After reading the story, I'm sure you will agree that this gesture could change the life of this young, former student.

-more next column-

Another opportunity of a lifetime will also occur shortly when five of our high school Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) students will travel this summer to China to take daily language classes, visit local schools, participate in cultural activities and tour sites of science and technology companies with travel, living and all education expenses paid by the Wanxiang Group of China.

Finally, I want to congratulate a number of our students and staff for the honors recently bestowed on them. They all truly exemplify the Rider spirit in our school and in our community.

"Hello Dolly" A Huge Success

The Broadway musical "Hello Dolly" was recently performed by the Caesar Rodney High School Music Department and the Stage Crew Thespians. The cast, music, costumes and the sets were simply amazing. The students began auditioning for parts back in December; music and stage practice began in January. Their hard work has certainly paid off. Congratulations to everyone involved for an outstanding performance!



To see all the pictures of this wonderful performance, go to the Caesar Rodney School District home page and click on "Photos Around The District" in the Quick Links box.

Fort Delaware Comes To Fifer Middle

Jake Miller, program manager for Fort Delaware State Park, recently provided some history lessons to students in Mr. Temple's classroom at Fifer Middle



School. Mr. Miller brought in artifacts, photographs and diaries from Fort Delaware which served as a prison for Confederate soldiers during the American Civil War.

Building Teachers of the Year Announced

District Teacher of the Year to be Announced in April

Michael Burger

Michael Burger is a grades 6-8 math teacher at Dover Air Base Middle School in Dover. With ten years teaching experience, Michael received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Temple University, a Juris Doctorate from the Widener University School of Law and a Master of Education from Wilmington University. "Teaching is a second career for me. I was an attorney before I became a teacher. Though the legal field was challenging, it did not offer me the gratification and sense of accomplishment one should feel when practicing his chosen profession." Added Michael, "When I turned 35, I knew I needed to make a career change. I wanted to find something both challenging and rewarding. I needed to find a profession where I would have a reason to look forward to going to work every day, and where I can go home with a smile on my face thinking about the events of that day. The choice was simple. There is no career more gratifying or rewarding than teaching."



Paula Coleman

Paula Coleman is a grade 9-12 Functional Academics, Daily Living teacher with the John S. Charlton School. Working out of Caesar Rodney High School, Paula has nine years teaching experience, all at Charlton. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wilmington University and is near completion of her Master degree in Special Education, also from Wilmington University. When asked what made her choose the teaching profession, Paula replied, "I was a para-educator and enjoyed working with children with special needs so I decided to complete my degree and continue to work with this population of very special children but in the capacity of a teacher." Added Paula, "I am fortunate to be able to spend my day with the students. They give me so much more than I could ever give them. I want to be able to help people within our community, including our school and district, to see the value and the joys of getting to know and work with our wonderful students."



Rebecca Donahue

With 11 years teaching experience, Rebecca Donahue is a Grade 3 teacher at Star Hill Elementary School who received a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from the University of Delaware and a Master of Science degree in Education from Capella University in MN. "As a child, I sometimes struggled to understand the books I was supposed to be reading and took longer than everyone else. I did not understand why I had such a hard time. It was through later work with professors and caring teachers that I learned strategies to help me become a better reader. I quickly realized as a classroom teacher that I could inspire children who were like me to become better readers now and not have to wait until they were an adult. The knowledge and strategies I learned assisted me in teaching my students how to read and comprehend in all content areas. With guidance they will become lifelong readers and learners. I could not have done all of this work without caring, knowledgeable teachers in my life."



Sandra Krugh

Sandra Krugh is a first grade teacher at W.B. Simpson Elementary School. With 23 years of teaching experience, Sandra received a Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education from Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania and a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from the University of Delaware. When asked what rewards she finds in the teaching profession, Sandra stated, "My students are my family. I enjoy watching them grow as learners, dreamers and thinkers. I love seeing them take chances and then finding success and knowing I put them on a path to confidence in all they do. I'm also delighted that they know I will always care for them no matter what because we are family."



Building Teachers of the Year Announced

District Teacher of the Year to be Announced in April

Cherylyn Minto

Cherylyn Minto is a K-5 art teacher at George Welch Elementary School located on Dover Air Force Base. She has 14 years experience, all within the Caesar Rodney School District.

Cherylyn received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Edinboro University in PA., and a Master of Instruction from the University of Delaware. "I became a teacher because of my teachers, beginning with my mom. She entered a drawing of my dad fishing in a Father's Day art contest when I was seven. I won first place. When I look at it framed, even to this day, with the ribbon inside, I feel PROUD. I feel that same pride when one of MY students wins an art contest; when I compliment a student during class as I walk by and notice a smile break out on their face when I look back; each time I hear a child proudly telling their teacher 'That's mine' as they point to their art hanging on the wall; and each time a student tells me that their parents framed a piece of their art or they purchased a product from Artsonia with the students' art printed on it."



John Muller II

John Muller II is an English teacher, Reading Specialist and a Teacher of Theater at Caesar Rodney High School. With 17 years teaching experience, John graduated from Utica College of Syracuse University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Education, and a Master of Science degree in Reading from State University New York (SUNY). "I have always wanted to be a teacher. When I was in first grade, I remember going through trash boxes behind my school and fishing out all the workbooks and textbooks and taking them home so I could play 'school' with all my friends. When I entered high school, two teachers fueled my desire to teach English and theater. My English teacher's passion for teaching 'Macbeth' is what drove me to become an English teacher. My vocal music teacher kindled my love of the theater. I believe that God put me on this Earth to teach. It is has been my mission and my life's goal all my life. I don't think of teaching as my job; it's my calling, my mission."



Linda Price

Linda Price is a first grade teacher at Allen Frear Elementary School. With 12 years teaching experience, and five at Frear, Linda received a Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education from Delaware State University and a Master of Education in Reading from Wilmington University.

"Not all students learn the same way, and I pride myself on finding unique ways to reach every student and allow them to experience success and feel loved in my classroom. These moments are the most gratifying as the students and I see all of their hard work pay off. Seeing my students gain the confidence in themselves that comes from feeling success provides them the additional drive to challenge themselves more."



Tara Schmeling

Tara Schmeling is a kindergarten teacher at the J. Ralph McIlvaine Early Childhood Center. With nearly four years teaching experience, Tara received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Eastern Connecticut State University and a Master of Education in Elementary Special Education from Wilmington University.

"My rewards in teaching are my students' successes. The best moments for me are when I am able to have a student visit the office and are able to read from a book or share their writing with another adult. When a parent can text me and tell me how excited their child was when they were telling them about their day; that is what teaching is all about for me." Added Tara, "Every student learns differently so I am constantly trying out new strategies to teach them so they can be successful. Then, when the student can apply those strategies and realize their success, that they finally 'got it,' there are no words that can describe their happiness or mine."



Building Teachers of the Year Announced

District Teacher of the Year to be Announced in April

Sean Sealund

With fourteen years of teaching experience, Sean Sealund is a fifth grade teacher at Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary School. Sean received a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Delaware State University and a Master of Education in School Leadership from Wilmington University. "Every now and then I reflect on the many students I have taught over the years, whether it be through casual conversation with other teachers, or while rummaging through my desk I come across an old class picture, or when a former student visits or sends an email. It's hard not to wonder how these children are doing and where their lives have taken them. As teachers we strive to show passion for our work and exemplify the capacity to infect our students with our passion, therefore inspiring and empowering them. We empower them to become advocates for social change and innovation, to be selfless and accepting of others who were different from them, overcome obstacles no matter how great or trivial, and understand that positive values can and should be lived each day."



Jennifer Skripko

Jennifer Skripko is currently assigned as a third grade teacher at W. Reily Brown Elementary School. With ten years teaching experience, Jennifer received a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master degree in



Applied Technology in Education from Wesley College in Dover. "I find the rewards in teaching come constantly. They range from hearing the students using the vocabulary we teach them in class when they are on the playground, to having discussions with students in the cafeteria to find out what interests them. Letting the students see that we are people that have lives out of school and having them ask us questions about our lives is such a great experience. Every year, we get to educate a new batch of students and let them into our lives as they allow us to teach them all of our knowledge that we have gained over the years. Being able to laugh with our students when we make mistakes is by far the best because we can always learn from our mistakes, so why not laugh about them."

Kellie Wilson

Kellie Wilson is a grade 6-8 Family Consumer Science teacher at F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School. With more than eight years teaching experience, Kellie received a Bachelor of Science degree in Paralegal Studies from Wesley College and a Master in Education from Wilmington University. When asked what rewards she finds in teaching, Kellie replied, "The smiles on the student's faces, the proverbial light bulb that goes off when they get it, and them running up to me in the grocery store to say hello while their parent waits in the front of the store. The rewards are the e-mails from parents asking for copies of a recipe we prepared in class because their student wants to make it at home or a thank you because they have begun to help set and clear the table. The rewards are seeing the 8th graders cry as they leave the building knowing they have had made connections and that Postlethwait Middle School was their home away from home for the last three years."



Charles Wilt Jr.

Charles Wilt Jr. has 16 years of teaching experience, all within the Caesar Rodney School District and currently teaches sixth grade science. Charles

received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the University of Delaware and a Master of Education from Wilmington University. "While working in banking,



I became involved with the Junior Achievement Program, teaching fifth graders about finances and basic economics. This experience made me realized I was in the wrong profession and I wanted to become a teacher. Other factors included my parents being educators where I was able to see firsthand the rewards of the teaching profession. I also coached the Camden-Wyoming Little League. The enjoyment I got from coaching affirmed that working at the bank was not my calling. I knew I was meant to work with children which has allowed me to fulfill my professional and personal dreams."



Fifer Farms Owner Recognized at Monthly School Board Meeting

Mr. Mike Fennemore, owner of Fifer Farms Orchards and Country Store was recently honored by the Caesar Rodney Board of Education for his being "...a supportive and gracious community partner with the Caesar Rodney School District."

Late last year, an event was hosted by Welch Elementary School called "Hotdogs for Heroes" and held in the Fifer Farms pumpkin patch. This event has always been the school's way of saying thank you to our military heroes and their families serving at Dover Air Force Base. "Hotdogs for Heroes" brought nearly 600 students and family members together with lawn chairs and blankets in Fifer's pumpkin patch to watch "It's The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" movie. It was an experience those children and their parents will not forget.



Mike Fennemore holds up a tribute presented by the Board of Education and his "Spirit of Caesar Rodney" T-shirt displayed.

Mr. Fennemore and his staff were more than accommodating and helped with traffic control, water and apple distribution and ensuring that everyone was having a good time!

Thank you, Mr. Fennemore, for providing Fifer Farms the opportunity to host our Caesar Rodney families and for helping to make our school district a special place for our children.

Stokes Elementary Delivers "Book Drop" To Stokes Neighborhoods

The third annual Stokes' "Book Drop," began in 2013, partnering with the Camden Wyoming FC. Each year, Stokes delivers books to Stokes' students in their neighborhoods. The Book Drop's prime goal is to encourage literacy and parent involvement year round, especially during the summer. The "Book Drop" has grown each year and students always look forward to seeing the fire truck and their teachers.



Four CRHS Seniors Selected as Secretary of Education Scholars

Four seniors from Caesar Rodney High School have been selected as Secretary of Education Scholars for 2015. Emily Booth, Daniel Krewson, Caitlin Purcell and Bryna Alden were chosen by their principal, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, as exemplary scholars for the Class of 2015 as well as their commitment to the Caesar Rodney community. Each student was personally recognized at a dinner held recently at Dover Downs Conference Center. The annual event is hosted by Delaware's Secretary of Education.



Left to Right: Emily Booth, Daniel Krewson, Caitlin Purcell and Bryna Alden

Secretary of Education Murphy Visits Fifer Middle School

Delaware's Secretary of Education Mark Murphy recently paid a visit to Fred Fifer III Middle School to talk with students and staff about their school.

As escorts for Secretary Murphy, students (Left to Right) Jaden Corbett, Hannah Mackey, Sophia Badell, Silvana Nasim, Rishi Gungakaram and Garrett Geidel stand on either side of Secretary Murphy with Fifer Principal Brian Smith looking on.

Secretary Murphy talked with the students at length wanting to know what they liked and disliked (if any) about their school. They were also asked to give their thoughts on what changes they would make if they were the principal at the school. The students truly appreciated his visit.



Delaware's Teacher of the Year Megan Szabo Surprises Former Student With College Scholarship

When Postlethwait Middle School's (PMS) Megan Szabo was announced as Delaware's 2015 Teacher of the Year last October, little did anyone know the impact her success would have on one of her former students.

As Delaware's Teacher of the Year, Megan would receive numerous grants and technology



packages, scholarship offers and appearances at educational forums across the country. On a recent trip to Phoenix, Arizona with the other State Teachers of the Year, the University of Phoenix stepped up and offered each teacher an opportunity to present a full online scholarship to a deserving student. In an instant, Megan thought of only one student she had more than seven years before—Jasha' Scott.

"When I came to PMS, I had no real friends and a chip on my shoulder mainly because I had always been teased in school," said Jasha' who arrived at PMS in 2007. "Nothing was easy; I thought everyone was against me. I thought I had no one on my side, that is, until I met my science teacher Mrs. Szabo."



Added Jasha', "Sometimes we bumped heads. Mrs. Szabo would have plenty of talks with me but I only heard what I wanted to hear. When my grades

began to suffer, Mrs. Szabo called my mother and explained how she wanted to help develop a game plan for my success. Every day in class I found my way up to the desk right next to hers where she could keep an eye on me and help me with my studies."

Jasha' continued, "One day, Mrs. Szabo asked me if I wanted to learn to play field hockey. I agreed and she then became my coach, as well. She helped me come out my shell and mold me into the person I am today."

Jasha' finished middle school then graduated from CRHS, four years later, in 2013. However, she would

—continued next column—

never forget the effort and caring of her middle school science teacher.

Jasha' enrolled in Delaware Technical and Community College with the hopes of pursuing a science degree. However, her dreams were soon put on hold due to financial and logistical issues.

It was around this time that Jasha' saw her former science teacher had a Facebook account and requested they become "friends." It wasn't too long after that Mrs. Szabo asked Jasha' if she would do her a favor and write a letter of recommendation to support her nomination package for State Teacher of the Year. Jasha' was honored for the opportunity and wrote a heartfelt letter of support for her former teacher.

This past February, Megan once again reached out to Jasha' asking for her help on another project she was working on at PMS. And once again, Jasha' agreed and met Megan in her classroom at the end of the school day. When Jasha' entered Megan's classroom, she was surprised to see several other Postlethwait educators in the classroom. That is when Mrs. Szabo said, "Jasha', the reason I wanted to see you today is that while on a trip, I was asked by the University of Phoenix to choose a deserving student who would appreciate and take advantage of a complete, all expenses paid four-year online college scholarship." Szabo said, "I didn't have to think twice. I knew I wanted to give it to you." Added Megan, "I



was very fortunate that I never had to pay for school and had no school debts. I would like the same for you." Szabo also added, "My team and I are here to help you with any tutoring you may need to help you succeed."

For Jasha', it was the happiest day of her life. "I cried my eyes out, hugged her and thanked her a million times. I then called my mom and she cried and told me to give Mrs. Szabo more hugs!"

"I realize this tremendous opportunity that has come my way, said Jasha'. "I cannot thank Mrs. Szabo enough for what she has done for me. She is one of the most caring and positive persons I have ever met. I am who I am because of her."





Five CRHS Students Going To China For Further Studies

Twenty Delaware high school students, including five from Caesar Rodney High School (CRHS), have been chosen by the Delaware Department of Education to study in China expense-free this summer, thanks to a partnership agreement announced earlier this year by Gov. Jack Markell with the Wanxiang Group, China's largest auto parts manufacturer.

The CRHS students chosen for the Delaware Summer Chinese Language Initiative for Communicating STEM are Gary Gray II, Landon Lynn, Caleb Siebach, Sarah Wearden and Jared York and will study at the company's facility in Hangzhou, China, June 27-July 24, 2015. They will take daily language classes, visit local schools, participate in cultural activities and tour sites of science and technology companies. Wanxiang will fund all travel, living and educational expenses.

The program's goal is to provide Delaware students already studying Mandarin Chinese an opportunity to gain cultural knowledge and to use their knowledge of the language in connection with STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields.

"The students chosen have earned this amazing opportunity to advance their language skills and become familiar with the culture of the world's second-largest economy," Gov. Markell said. "I look forward to hearing from them when they return about how they plan to put what they learned to use."

Dr. Alexander Tang, Deputy Chairman of Hangzhou Wanxiang Polytechnic and Executive Director of the 100,000 Strong Initiative, said "We are looking forward to receiving students from Delaware who have a passion for learning Chinese and who are already thinking about how this will enhance their ability to get jobs in the future. As Wanxiang continues to expand in the US and as we hire local talent, it is imperative that we have employees who understand not only the science of the industry but also have the language and culture skills needed to work in an international environment."

"I am really proud of our five Caesar Rodney students who have been chosen to participate in this

wonderful experience," said Caesar Rodney School District Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald. "This is a true testament to the hard work of these talented individuals as well as a reaffirmation of the success of our Mandarin Chinese program."

To qualify for this program, students had to be enrolled in Chinese Level II or higher in a Delaware public high school and agree to take the next higher



From Left to Right: Caleb Siebach, Gary Gray II, Sarah Wearden, Jared York and Landon Lynn in their Mandarin Chinese Class at Caesar Rodney High School.

level of Chinese during the 2015-16 academic year. They had to have at least a B average in the Chinese course and all STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) coursework, and an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher. Students also had to be recommended by both their Chinese language teacher and their school counselor.

While in China, the students are expected to develop a multi-media presentation on one of the following topics: American vs. Chinese Perspectives on a Green Energy Solution, Chinese Language Skills as an Advantage for College and Career Options, or American and Chinese Cultural Differences and Ways to Facilitate International Cooperation and Collaboration. They will present their projects to State and business officials upon their return.

Change of CR Varsity Football Leadership
Dan "Candy" Candeloro, a physical education teacher at Caesar Rodney High School, has been named head coach for Caesar Rodney High School's (CRHS) varsity football program. Coach Candeloro replaces Coach Mike Schonewolf who will be retiring at the end of the school year.



CRHS Swim Coach VanOrman named "Coach of the Year"

CRHS teacher Maureen VanOrman has been selected by her peers as the 2015 Henlopen Conference Swimming Coach of the Year.

Under her leadership, the Caesar Rodney High School boys swim team had a perfect 10-0 record and won both the regular season championship and the Henlopen Conference Championship. The girls swim team went 6-3 and placed third at the Henlopen Conference championship.



At the end of the swim season, swim coaches from the Henlopen Conference cast their votes to determine which coach has made the most impact on his or her team or teams and determined Maureen deserves the honor of being called "2015 Henlopen Conference Swimming Coach of the Year."

CRHS Student Aaron Green Named Male Swimmer of the Year

CRHS senior Aaron Green has been named the 2015 Henlopen Conference Male Swimmer of the Year. In his fourth year on his school's swim team, Aaron was voted, for the second consecutive year by the Henlopen Conference coaches, as the Henlopen Conference Male Swimmer of the Year.

Swimming for Caesar Rodney High School, Aaron has broken two Henlopen Conference records: the 50 meter freestyle and the 200 meter freestyle. This

year, Aaron won both the 50 meter freestyle and the 100 meter freestyle at the State Swimming Tournament, becoming

the first male swimmer from Caesar Rodney High School to bring home a state title. He is now the owner of nearly every swim record for Caesar Rodney High School. Congratulations, Aaron!



CRHS CHEERLEADERS DECLARED STATE CHAMPIONS

The Caesar Rodney High School Cheerleaders were recently declared the Delaware Cheerleading Coaches Association (DCCA) Co-Ed Varsity State Champions. During the 2014-2015 school year, the team recorded an undefeated season, taking first place against every competitor they faced. The team is made up of 29 boys and girls from Caesar Rodney High School and is coached by Amanda Graham, Ashley Miclette and Alyson Miclette.

And yes, that is Super Bowl champion Duron Harmon in the background cheering on his sister!



SCIENCE FAIR CHAMPS MOVE ON TO STATE FINALS

Kayla Mercer (L) and Geena Edmanson (R) from Fred Fifer Middle School recently placed first



in the middle school division for Kent County in the category of Biochemistry. Their winning project was determining whether all purpose flour or gluten free flour rises quicker. As champions for their division, both young ladies will now move on to the State finals to be held in Oaka, Pennsylvania. Oh, by the way, all purpose flour rose quicker than gluten free flour.





SENATOR CARPER'S OFFICE NOW ACCEPTING STUDENT APPLICATIONS FOR U.S. SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS

U.S. Sen. Tom Carper (D-Del.) is now accepting applications for U.S. service academy nominations from Delaware students. Senator Carper encourages those interested in attending the U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy or U.S. Military Academy to apply for a nomination.

"I urge young Delawareans that wish to give back to their country, gain valuable leadership skills and receive an excellent education to consider applying to be a Service Academy nominee," said Senator Carper. "Students accepted into these programs are given a unique opportunity that will guide them well in their future."

To be considered for a congressional nomination, students must meet all of the general requirements of their academy of choice and submit an online application (as well as an application to the academy), along with supporting documents, to Senator Carper's office by Oct. 15, 2015. Applications can be found by going to carper.senate.gov and clicking on "Service Academy Nominations."

Requirements:

- Citizenship: U.S. citizenship, or having obtained it by graduation
- Residency: Delaware residents only
- Congressional nomination: U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and U.S. Military Academy
- Age: at least 17, but not older than 23 by July 1 of entering year
- Marital Status: unmarried, not pregnant, no legal obligation to support children
- Academics: must complete SAT-I or ACT examinations
- Physical: must meet academy physical requirements and medical examination
- Morals: must be of strong moral character

For more information regarding the application process, please go to carper.senate.gov or contact Laura Wisler, Kent County Director, at (302) 674-3308 or academy@carper.senate.gov.

CRHS AFJROTC WINS FIFTH STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

The Caesar Rodney High School AFJROTC recently competed against eight other teams from across the state in the annual State Championship



competition. For the second year in a row, and five times in the last seven years, the Rider men and women dominated the event by winning five of six events entered, earning them the Overall State Championship title. Congratulations!

CRHS's Simonini Delaware's School Counselor of the Year

Candace Simonini, a school counselor for the past 11 years at CRHS, has been named "Delaware's Counselor of the Year for 2015. Candace received a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Delaware State University and a Master of School Counseling from the University of Pennsylvania. "I wanted to be a counselor in order to help people help themselves." Added Candace, "When you are able to help a student see a different path and help that person towards a successful future, that makes this job so rewarding."

With more than 50 nominees at the high school level, the Delaware School Counseling Association made the final decision in selecting Candace as Counselor of the Year who will now compete at the national level. Thank you, Candace, for all you do.



Postlethwait Cheerleaders Declared Middle School State Champions

The Postlethwait Middle School cheerleaders have been declared Middle School State Champions for the



2014-2015 school year! The small middle school division is the most competitive division in Delaware. Postlethwait had the highest competition scores of all middle schools in the state and has won the state title four of the last five years. Team Postlethwait has also been the first place middle school team in the game-day division for the past three years in a row.

CRHS Cheerleaders Capture State, National Titles

The Caesar Rodney High School Cheerleaders were recently declared State Champions (Co-ed



Division) following their stellar performance at this year's statewide competition. The CRHS Cheerleading Stunt Group were declared National Champions following their competition at the nationals held in Virginia Beach, VA.

Pictured above are many of the cheerleaders being recognized by the school board!

Welch's Perfect Score Wins Odyssey Of The Mind Competition

After finishing first in the regional competition, the Odyssey of the Mind team from George Welch Elementary School moved on to the state competition where they once again dominated their competition by placing first and also scoring a perfect 350 points!

At a recent school-wide assembly, the five team members and coaches were presented with the Delaware Creativity and Problem Solving Inc.(DELCAPS) 350 award for achieving a rare 350 score.



Front Row: Drew Colbert, Aidan Scherer. Middle: Luke Grismer, Troy Boehne, Patrick Hairston. Back: Assistant Principal Alberta Miclete, DELCAP President Bill Combs, OM Coach Cari Boehne, Coach Anna Evans, Caesar Rodney School District Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald.

Senator Carper Visits Megan Szabo at Postlethwait

Senator Tom Carper recently stopped by Postlethwait Middle School to congratulate Megan Szabo on becoming Delaware's Teacher of the Year for 2015.

Senator Carper talked with PMS staff about the teaching profession then visited Megan's science class to talk to the students about our democratic society and his roles and responsibilities as Delaware's senator.





21st Century Grant After School Program

The mission of the Caesar Rodney After School Program is to provide academic, social and family engagement opportunities outside the regular school day to increase the achievement of students in the district early in their education careers.

Program elements include a focus on early literacy skills, appropriate social skills, and positive academic experiences for students and families in the Caesar Rodney School District.

The Delaware Academy for School Leadership (DASL) has partnered with the district to address the needs of kindergarten and first-grade students at McIlvaine Early Childhood Education Center, W. Reily Brown Elementary School and Nellie H. Stokes Elementary School.

This program seeks to increase the early literacy skills. Through strategies such as systematic instruction in phonemic awareness

and phonics and explicit instruction in comprehension, classroom teachers help students gain skills to successfully complete kindergarten and first grade.

The program also incorporates family events to build school connectedness with students and their parents/caregivers. With an academic focus, community-centered activities, and take-home activities, family events aim to increase parent comfort within the three schools served and form valuable home/school partnerships with a focus on student success.

Through intentional practices implemented during after school programming, this program builds positive school culture and prepares students to be productive adults. Students learn valuable lessons about positive interactions, responsibility and respect through the implementation of character building philosophies aligned with positive behavior supports.

Together, the program components give students extra support to be successful in their early education careers. Through the commitment of talented teachers, school leaders, parents/caregivers and DASL staff members, Caesar Rodney School District kindergarteners and first graders achieve academically, while gaining valuable life skills.

This program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education's 21st Century Community Learning Center Program. Through this partnership, students have had positive experiences and additional learning time to grow and develop with readiness skills and character building. The Caesar Rodney School District looks forward to continuing this grant over the next three years.



CRHS, FMS Students Moving On To National BPA Competition

Members from the Caesar Rodney High School Chapter of Business Professionals of America (BPA) recently competed against other high school students in Delaware at the 2015 BPA State Leadership Conference, with 20 students receiving awards in 17 different categories. The high school had seven First Place, five Second Place, six Third Place, one Fourth Place and three Fifth Place finishes. Seven students will advance in the National Competition in California.



These seven Fifer Middle students also competed at the BPA and won in their respective events. They too will now move on to the National Conference in Anaheim, California. There, they will participate in workshops, complete service activities, network with other business-minded students and compete in their events against the best Business Professionals of America students from across the country. We wish them success!

