



THE CAESAR RODNEY SCHOOL DISTRICT QUARTERLY "Where Excellence is Our Tradition" CR REPORT

Your District-Wide Information Source

April - June Issue 2011



Left: Kathleen Hartung, valedictorian for the graduating class of 2011. Right: Kelsey Jones, salutatorian for the graduating class of 2011.



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What's Happening?

Board Meetings:

July 19—Location to be Determined
August 23—Location to be Determined
September 20—Location to be Determined

Summer School:

July 28—Last Day

Success Academy: August 8-18



This image is a Quick Response Code (QR) for the Caesar Rodney School District website. If you have a Smartphone with a camera, just search for a QR "app" then use your phone to take a picture of this image. You will then be taken to the district website. Once you have installed the "app" on your phone, go to Google.com and type in "QR Generator." You will then be able to create your own QR codes to share websites, videos or other information.

Message From the Superintendent

The Caesar Rodney School District has closed yet another school year filled with milestones, changes and opportunities. The W. B. Simpson Elementary project is just a few weeks away from completion of its year-long renovation. I hope that the style of the building will bring back fond memories of Caesar Rodney High School/Junior High. I believe that when finished, it will be a showcase school for our students, staff, parents and community.

As one project ends, another begins. The renovation of Allen Frear Elementary School will begin in August with students spending the 2011-2012 school year at Dover AFB.

The district has once again received a contract from the Department of Defense to continue to provide educational services to the children of Dover AFB. I cannot thank enough the tremendous support we have received from Dover AFB and our military community through the years.

This year, our students in grades 3-10 participated in three sessions of the Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System (DCAS) state exams which replaced the Delaware Student Testing Program (DSTP). Individual test scores will be mailed to all parents/guardians in early July. I know our students did their best. However, I believe the amount of time involved in the new testing process greatly impacted the amount of instructional time our teachers had available to do what they do best – teach! Also, across the state, school districts are anticipating that test scores will be lower since the state has raised cut scores so that they are aligned with national and international assessments. So, while our students tried their hardest, their scores may not be as high on this new test as they would have been on the DSTP.

This past month, four graduations took place in our district. At Caesar Rodney High School, 415 seniors proudly walked across the platform to receive their hard-earned diplomas.

Nearly half of these high school graduates have committed to colleges and universities across the country while a number of our students have also chosen a career pathway in the military.

Over at the McIlvaine Early Childhood Center, an even larger graduation took place as 432 of CR's "Littlest Riders" celebrated as members of the "Class of 2023!" At Welch Elementary School, 80 "Flyers" received a certificate of completion and accolades from parents, family and friends. At our Charlton School, 11 students completed their program and will now be entering the world prepared to take on new challenges.

Watching these children – "the big and the small" – walk proudly in front of their families and friends is truly heart-warming. I wish all of our students, teachers and staff a great summer and a restful time away from school work!



Department of Defense Awards Contract to Continue Services

The Department of Defense has confirmed the Caesar Rodney School District has been awarded a contract to continue providing education services to students from Dover Air Force Base for the 2011-2012 school year.

The CR School District has provided services to students of Dover AFB since 1958 at Dover Air Force Base Middle School and Major George Welch Elementary School. Many students eventually attend Caesar Rodney High School.

"Years ago, there used to be five-year contracts for CR to provide education services," said Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, superintendent for the Caesar Rodney School District. "As times have changed, contracts are now awarded on a yearly basis with an option to roll for another year. Last year, the contract was rolled over to this year, therefore, the school district had to apply for another contract."

If the district had not received a contract, some teachers within the district would not have been rehired, while students at Dover Air Force Base would no longer be assigned to the district. Also, the district would not have been able to use the middle or elementary schools on base.

Retirement Honor Roll

We wish to honor those individuals who have chosen to retire from the Caesar Rodney School District. Your support, dedication and caring has helped provide a quality education for all of our children. We wish you luck and safe journey in the years ahead.

Sharon Barilla	Terri Carter
Joseph Corning	Patricia Darlington
Kathleen Dorre	Edie Ryan Ennis
Monica Harrison	Wanda Houdek
Stephanie King	Lucy Mares
Jeanne Petty	Cathy Rotchford
Dorothy Semans	Paul Shay
Theresa Thompson	Betsy Tootell
Virginia Windbush-Scott	Gail Woodall

CRHS Cord Ceremony Honors Seniors



Pictured after receiving their "Honor Cords" are CRHS seniors and members of the National Honor Society (NHS). Chartered on May 3, 1934, this will be the 77th class to graduate NHS members. Each spring, the Board of Education, the district superintendent and the CRHS principal recognize each graduating member of the NHS who has maintained an A grade point average and upheld the NHS tenets of Scholarship, Character, Service, and Leadership. The Honor Cord, worn at Commencement over the graduation gown, is a visible recognition of each senior's achievements. This spring, we honored 77 seniors (43 females and 34 males) who will all attend college or enter military service after graduation. Good luck to all!

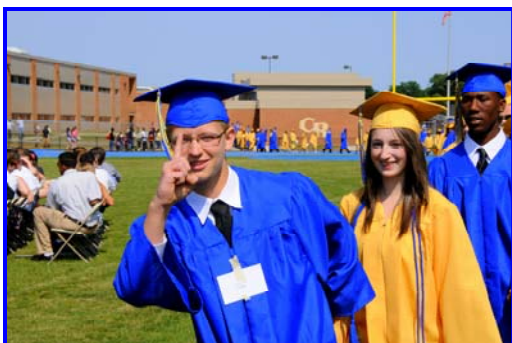
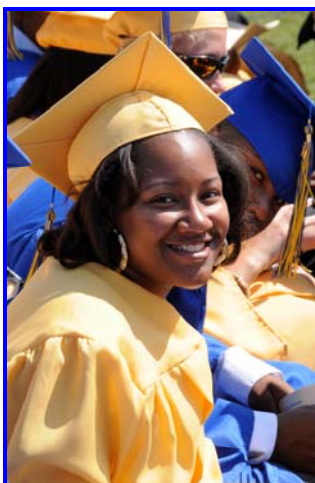


**Farewell,
Seniors!**

THE CR REPORT



Second Largest Class at CRHS Graduates 415 Graduate; \$1.48 million in scholarships awarded



THE CR REPORT

BEST OF LUCK TO ALL!

John S. Charlton Program Graduates Eleven



Eleven students from the Class of 2011 graduated from the John S. Charlton program. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Adam Dixon while "America the Beautiful" was performed by students of the Transition Partnership Project. Guest speaker was William Victory, girl's basketball coach at Caesar Rodney High.



McIlvaine ECC Graduates 432 "Littlest Riders" -Largest Kindergarten Class in Kent County-



Have a great summer!



Carla Lawson Selected as District Teacher of the Year

Carla Z. Lawson, a social studies teacher in grades 9-12 at Caesar Rodney High School, has been chosen as the district's Teacher of the Year for the 2011-2012 school year. With 15 years teaching experience, all at Caesar Rodney High, Carla received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History Education from the University of Delaware in 1995 and a Masters degree in Secondary Counseling from Wilmington University in 1999. She is also a National Board Certified Teacher, having received this prestigious honor in 2002.

"I have always had a desire to help others and make a difference in people's lives," said Carla. I wanted a career that would enable me to interact with people and impact them in a positive way. Teaching seemed like a logical fit. Once I committed to a career in education, I was determined to be an exceptional teacher and vowed to create a classroom environment that would make my students want to come, learn and remember."



"Carla is a product of the district, having attended schools at Caesar Rodney before becoming a teacher at the high school," said Kevin Fitzgerald, Ed.D., superintendent of the Caesar Rodney School District. "I am extremely proud of her accomplishments and abilities as a teacher. Recognizing Carla as our Teacher of the Year is an affirmation of her commitment to provide the best education for our students."

"Teaching is not a job for Carla, but rather a way of life; dedicated to making the world a place for each student to succeed," said Lou Ann Carlson, Ed.D., assistant

superintendent for the Caesar Rodney School District. "Carla's resume is rich with contributions to teaching and it is with quiet determination that she enhances the profession."

The process for determining the district's Teacher of the Year begins with recommendations from students, teachers, parents and administrators at each school building. Building teachers then vote to select the top five teachers. Those nominees then develop portfolios which are then reviewed and scored by a committee of parents, teachers and students from each school. From that process, one teacher in each building emerges as a district Teacher of the Year candidate.

A more in-depth portfolio is then created by each candidate which contains information including: educational history and professional development; awards and recognition; philosophy of teaching; community service; and letters of support. These portfolios are then read and scored independently by administrators, teachers, parents and students. From this process, candidates emerge as finalists.

Two teams, consisting of the district superintendent, building principals, teachers and parents conduct classroom observations and interviews with the finalists. Again, working independently, each team member uses a rubric to award an overall score to each candidate. Combined with the score from the portfolio, the district Teacher of the Year is selected.

Carla will now compete against 18 other school district Teacher of the Year nominees for the honor of becoming the State's 2012 Teacher of the Year. That announcement will be made by Governor Jack Markell on Tuesday, October 18th in Dover.



Attorney General visits Fifer Middle School

Attorney General Beau Biden recently visited Fred Fifer Middle School to talk with students about internet safety, bullying and other issues facing today's society. Biden started his presentation by asking students rhetorical questions such as: "How many times a week/day are you online?" and "How many friends do you have on your account and do you know these people personally?" Biden also asked, "Do you go into chat rooms? Do you enable your webcam? Do you play games online?" Biden then stated that predators use the same tools on the Internet to lure people of all ages and backgrounds into gaining trust which could ultimately lead unsuspecting individuals to harm later. He then talked about the savvy of online



predators in that they are very smart, are computer literate and that they may be someone you know posing as someone you don't.

Biden then talked about the information posted online that helps a predator know everything there is to know about you. For instance, profile information is intended to be useful to other people looking to find new friends, but a predator can use it to manipulate you. He then offered tips for filling out online profiles including avoiding programs and sites that require a profile; if a profile is filled out, control who has access to it and check privacy settings; never include your email, full name or names of family members or friends; do not in-

clude your phone number, birthday, address or what school you attend; never post revealing pictures of yourself or friends or pictures in school or sport uniforms; do not detail your schedule such as when you are at home, not home or will be online. "There are people who take advantage of others online and will try to hurt others, steal their identity, ruin reputations and disrupt lives," said Biden.

The Attorney General, and son of Vice President Joe Biden then talked about "sexting," which is the dissemination of any digital image depicting a person in the nude or semi-nude via text message from one cell phone to another. "A send is forever! Once you send a picture, ultimate distribution is out of your control" said Biden. "Once you send it, your boyfriend or girlfriend has sent the picture to their friends...and then they forward it...and then they forward it. Before you know it, most of the people you know have seen it and a lot of people you don't know have seen your photo."

Attorney General Biden also spoke about cyberbullies: people who pretend to be someone they are not to trick others into giving out personal information then spread lies and rumors about victims, send or forward mean messages or post pictures of victims without their permission. "The reason they do this is because they think it's funny or they won't get caught; are encouraged by their friends and don't think about the consequences of their actions," said Biden.

Ten Tips to Protect Your Cyberspace

1. Tell a parent, teacher or trusted adult when something you see online makes you uncomfortable.
2. Don't trust that people you meet online are who they say they are.
3. Keep your profile private and carefully screen the friends you accept.
4. Never post or give out personal information online.
5. Keep your username, ID and online profile generic and anonymous.
6. Do not send any type of photo to someone you met online.
7. Do not post pictures of you or your friends in a school or sport uniform.
8. Never agree to a face-to-face meeting with someone you met online.
9. Do not post revealing or embarrassing photos of yourself or your friends.
10. Practice good cyber citizenship—if you would not say it in person, do not say it online.



Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System (DCAS)

Frequently Asked Questions

What is DCAS?

This school year, the state launched the Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System (DCAS). This assessment was administered on the computer for most students and replaced the state's previous paper-and-pencil exam, the Delaware Student Testing Program (DSTP).

How are the new online tests better than paper-and-pencil tests?

Paper-and-pencil tests are considered fixed form and every student receives the same set of questions in the same order. With a computer adaptive test (CAT) the questions and the sequence of questions is unique to the individual student. Students will not see the same test questions more than once, and they never see the next question until they answer the question they are on. Reading operates a bit differently in that the student sees multiple questions at one time -- all related to the same reading passage. Students are allowed to mark questions for review and return to them later. Most students will be given 50 items per subject.

The reading, mathematics, and science tests are adaptive. The social studies tests are not.

Taken during multiple testing windows throughout the year, these tests help to identify a child's strengths and weaknesses and give teachers immediate feedback so they can focus the instruction in the child's classes to meet his or her needs.

Schools also have more flexibility in administration of the exam, being able to administer part of an assessment on one day and the rest on another. Students can stop at different points in an assessment, and assessments can be given at any time of the day. A student can test only once in any test window. In 2010-2011, there are three test windows. In 2011-2012, there will be the option of testing twice in the spring window with the higher score counting.

Will practice tests be available?

Practice tests have been available for each subject in grades 3 to 10 since September 2010. The prac-

tice tests are not adaptive. They have 20 items that represent a variety of item types that the student will be given on the operational test. They also are available in Spanish.

When and how will parents receive their students' scores?

Parents will receive a printed student report annually. This year's will be mailed to the addresses provided by schools in mid-July. Schools also are able to generate reports to share with parents throughout the school year.

How do schools match current accommodations and accommodations available for DCAS?

Most accommodations have remained the same with slight modifications due to the online assessment (e.g., large print is now larger font size). Some accommodations have been discontinued as they are no longer relevant (e.g., accommodations relating to the writing assessment). There will be a small number of accommodations that will be new for the online administration. These can be handled on a case-by-case basis to determine if the IEP team will need to reconvene to discuss if these are relevant for a student. There are fixed paper versions of the test available as an accommodation for students documented as needing paper forms. These forms include only multiple-choice items. Paper forms and Braille forms are available for each testing administration.

Does my child's highest score count?

The spring assessment scores are used for accountability. Next year, when there are two spring testing windows, schools will have the option of testing up to twice in the spring window and using the highest score from those two testing dates.

(Continued Next Page)

Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System (DCAS)

Frequently Asked Questions (Continued)



Why did my child's score go down from earlier in the year to a later testing date?

This year, Delaware students in grades 3 through 10 participated in three assessments of reading and mathematics using the new DCAS (Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System) computer assessment.

The expectation was that student scores on the DCAS during the fall 2010 test window would be their lowest score of the year in either reading or mathematics because the DCAS presents them with test items tied to the skills and knowledge to be covered in their current grade level. Later in the year, as the students participate in the mid-year and spring DCAS assessments, their scores would increase as a result of their classroom learning of the grade level material.

In cases for which improvement in scores is not shown, other factors may have affected your student's test scores. Difference in motivation or effort on the mid-year assessment, or difficulties in following directions on specific test items are three possible explanations. Conversely, positive influences such as recent classroom instruction on mathematics concepts or reading strategies that the student subsequently applies during the DCAS assessment session may explain significant increases. Incidental occurrences, such as improvement in health or new glasses, may also impact student growth.

Will school accountability calculations for 2011 take into account that this is the first year of this type of testing?

The U.S. Department of Education does not allow any exceptions for states during the year of transition from one assessment to another.

How does scoring compare to the DSTP?

A new scoring system was approved by the State Board of Education in September 2010 that "raises the bar" for what is considered proficient on the exam. The new system recognizes that we must be preparing our children to compete in a global economy by requiring a greater mastery of core subjects to achieve a rating of "proficient" on the exams. The new scoring system replaces previous measurements that were reported each year as part of the Delaware Student Testing Program.

When you receive your report, the new scores will be accompanied by information that demonstrates how the student would have done against the old proficiency standards that were in place with the DSTP.

What does the new scoring system mean for my child's score?

The state expects an initial drop in student scores this year. The previous standards may have indicated a higher percentage of students meeting expectations, but that was because the bar was lower. The new expectations better measure how children need to be prepared to succeed when competing with students around the nation and world.

A lower score does not necessarily mean your child knows less than he or she did last year or that he or she is somehow "doing worse in school." It means that the new standards require a higher level of mastery of information and concepts.

Like the DSTP scores, the DCAS scores will not impact a student's grades or be reported to any colleges where a student is applying.

DCAS report cards will be mailed to each student's home beginning July 8th



AFJROTC Continues To Expand At CRHS



As you walk through Caesar Rodney High School, one cannot help but notice the distinctive uniforms of the young men and women of the school's Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFJROTC). More than 130 freshman, sophomores, juniors and seniors make up one of the largest JROTC programs in the state.



The program, identified as DE-941, first started at the high school in 1994. The unit, which is authorized one officer and one non-commissioned officer, is led by Lieutenant Colonel Steve Welde (USAF Ret) who began in 2001 and MSgt (USAF Ret) Jon "Jay" Wedel who joined CRHS three years ago.

In 1994, the unit had 92 cadets and has since grown to its present strength of 132 cadets. "We are forecasting 150 cadets to participate in the program next year," said Sergeant Wedel. "If we were to exceed 175 students, we could be authorized another noncommissioned officer to help with our JROTC program." Added Wedel, "One of the reasons we have such a successful program here at CRHS, and why we see continued growth is the chemistry between the instructors and the students."

The high school principal can recommend any student for the program. Students with physical disabilities can participate in the program as well. Cadets are not recognized as freshman, sophomores, juniors or seniors but rather first year, second year, third year and fourth year cadets.

If a cadet chooses to stay with the AFJROTC program for three years, then joining the military will have a promotion advantage in that he or she could earn as many as two stripes upon completion of basic training.

Also, any high school senior in the U.S. can apply for an ROTC scholarship at the college level and their package would meet one board for approval/denial. However, a JROTC cadet's package would actually meet two boards, including a JROTC board. This in fact "kicks" up their chances over



L to R: AFJROTC cadets Tyler Metzner, Steven Rash, Danica Natril and Chris Palmer discuss WWII's "Band of Brothers."

a non-JROTC cadet of earning a ROTC scholarship.

"The goal of the program is not to get students into the military," said Colonel Welde. "A small percentage of students in JROTC actually join the military." However, several of our current fourth year cadets do plan on entering the military. "One cadet plans on be-

coming a nurse in the military; one cadet will attend ROTC in West Virginia; one cadet has joined the US Army Reserves while another cadet has already signed up with the Marine Corps," said Welde.

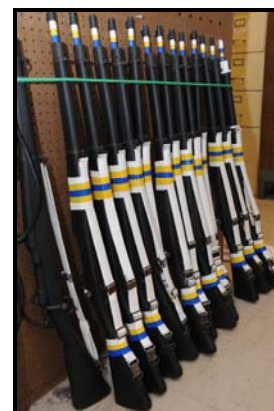
DE-941 is no stranger to community involvement with more than 2000 hours given annually to the community and beyond. "The Amish Bike Tour, Special Olympics, Heart Walk, Dover Days and



Instructor MSgt Jon "Jay" Wedel leads a discussion on military leadership.

Adopt-A-Highway are just some of the programs we support," said Wedel. "We also provide 'colors' for our varsity teams, and have supported the Dover AFB Honor Guard, as well."

Recently, the CR cadets were declared state champions after competing against ten other Delaware high schools at the 13th annual JROTC Military Drill Championships held at Dover AFB. The AFJROTC cadets are also the reigning homecoming float champions.





Holding a portrait of her deceased son Kevin Freeman, mother Sherie Jacobs is escorted by Delaware State Police Officer Alfonso Jones to the opening ceremonies of this year's MATPS program at the Charlton School.



Assisted by paraprofessional Jose Bernard, a Charlton student takes a mighty swing of the bat during the MATPS event. Members of the Caesar Rodney High School baseball team and physical education teacher Dan Candeloro helped support all of the competitors.

Charlton Honors A Fallen Student

The John S. Charlton School recently held their annual Motor Activity Training Program (MATPS). However, this year's program had special meaning. This year's event was dedicated to Kevin Freeman, a child at Charlton who passed away earlier this year. Members of the Caesar Rodney High School baseball team assisted students in an indoor scrimmage baseball game. At the end of the game, each student was awarded a Special Olympics Challenge Award from Delaware State Police Officer Jones. "The Caesar Rodney High School baseball team does so much to support our programs throughout the year," said Dr. Pamela Atchison, principal at Charlton. "I want to personally thank them for all they do to put smiles on the faces of our students."

Harlem Wizards Perform for CR

Allen Frear Elementary School in Camden-Wyoming recently hosted an evening with the world famous "Harlem Wizards" basketball team at the Caesar Rodney High School gymnasium. With a "Wizard" winning streak at more than 2800 games and counting, the staff of several CR schools put on a courageous game but in the end, the Wizards streak continued.



"This evening's program is a wonderful opportunity not only to raise funds for our PTA and our school's Positive Behavior Support program, but also allows us to give back to the Caesar Rodney community," said Tara Faircloth, principal at Allen Frear. "We appreciate the constant support we receive from our PTA and the Caesar Rodney community. This is one way we can bring our staff, our students and our community together under one roof for a really good time."

Parent Partnership Award Presented to McIlvaine

Lieutenant Governor Matthew Denn recently recognized the faculty and staff of McIlvaine Early Childhood Center for their efforts in creating an environment where parents feel they are equal partners in the education of their children. Selected by a committee of parents, teachers, administrators and business community representatives, McIlvaine was one of only two schools recognized for this prestigious annual award. "We strongly believe that the home and school must work together as a team to benefit the child," said Sherry Kijowski, principal at McIlvaine ECC.



L to R: Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, superintendent; Matthew Denn, Lieutenant Governor; and Sherry Kijowski, principal, McIlvaine Early Childhood Center, following the Parent Partnership Award ceremony.

Have you seen our new website?

<http://www.cr.k12.de.us>





Welch Students Highlight Countries of the World

Fourth grade students of Welch Elementary recently spent a day representing countries all over the globe in a lesson called "Passports Around the World." Students captured the culture of many countries by dressing up and making colorful presentations to the entire school population.



FOUR CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR CRHS!!!

Congratulations to Caesar Rodney High School in capturing **FOUR** state championships during the 2010-2011 school year. The Riders dominated their competitors in wrestling, golf, boy's tennis and girl's tennis!

Fifer Middle School Soccer Team State Champions...Again!!

The Fifer Middle School girls soccer team went undefeated this spring with a record of 11-0 making them back-to-back undefeated champions for 2010 and 2011 with an overall record of 22-0.



Three Caesar Rodney Middle Schools Perform at Wilmington's Frawley Stadium

More than 160 Caesar Rodney students representing Dover Air Force Base, Fred Fifer and F. Niel Postlethwait middle schools recently combined their talents (and instruments) to perform the Star Spangled Banner prior to the start of a Wilmington



Blue Rocks baseball team. Practicing together only once for ten minutes prior to boarding the bus for the Blue Rocks game, each middle school band worked independently under the direction of directors Mark Crossley, Mike Smith and Dave DeLong. At game time, the three bands performed flawlessly in front of parents, friends, alumni members and school staff. "We, as directors for these terrific bands, were pleased to have shared the talents and accomplishments of our young musicians to the Blue Rocks community," said Crossley, band director for Postlethwait Middle School. "These students did a great job representing the Caesar Rodney School District!"



Go Riders!



FREAR TALENT SHOW BRAINCHILD OF ONE THIRD GRADE STUDENT

Emerson Manning, a third grade student at Allen Frear Elementary School, chose to stop by Principal Tara Faircloth's office one morning since she thought she had a great idea! Emerson explained that since there are so many talented students in the school, wouldn't it be great to host a talent show! Ms. Faircloth agreed and stated it would be a wonderful opportunity to showcase the many different abilities that grow each day at Frear.

Two staff members, Maghen Miller and Kathy Klecan, volunteered to stay after school for many rehearsals in order to put together the First Annual Allen Frear Talent Show. Students performed with dances, singing, baking, karate, origami making, joke telling, gymnastics and musical performances.

Students ran the entire event including taking on the roles as back-stage crew and emcees. Parent, grandparent, aunts, uncles, and all who attended raved about the event.

"This is just one example of the difference one student can make," said Faircloth. "Thanks to Emerson, students were able to shine in an evening of fun and outstanding performances."



Pictured left: Second grade student Gizelle Villanueva recently won an Arbor Day poster contest sponsored by the Delaware Department of Agriculture's Forest Service. Her reward? The Forest Service donated a Dogwood tree to her school.



Gizelle adds a shovel of dirt to the tree now located in front of her school. Pictured right: Students gather around Miya Skocik as she helps fill in the area around the Dogwood tree she won for her school with a winning entry in the Arbor Day contest.



"Swashbuckling" librarian Ruth Fuchs presents a unit lesson entitled "Shiver Me Letters" to students at McIlvaine ECC.

Thirty-three school bus drivers recently competed in the annual statewide "School Bus Rodeo" safety competition. Designed to recognize excellence in school bus drivers while demonstrating skills needed in their demanding jobs, events included: written test; bugged bus; offset alley; railroad crossing; straight line; right turn; back-in to a dock; parallel park; decreasing clearance and bus stop. Rachel Hurt, bus driver with the Hilton Bus Service in Camden, captured third place in the competition. Congratulations!





Welch Elementary Presents Kid's Choice Awards to Fifth Graders

It wasn't just another awards ceremony. This one was special since award recipients were chosen by fellow classmates. Some of the categories included: most likely to be president; most likely to be in the military; and most likely to be a teacher. Other awards included best dressed;



Students of Welch Elementary School are presented with a letter signed by President Barack Obama congratulating them on their dedication to academic success and setting an example for others.

best hair, best smile, sweetest person; best vocabulary and best story teller. In what has been an annual tradition at Welch Elementary to help close out another successful school year, principal Alane Brown, assistant principal Jean Miclette and superintendent Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald were on hand to present awards to Welch fifth graders.

DAFB Middle School Celebrates Positive Behavior Support

Rewarding students for behavioral excellence is a program that culminates the end of another successful year at Dover Air Force Base Middle School. With just two days left in the school year, students enjoyed a host of activities including bike safety, flag football, kite building, track and soccer activities,



A DELDOT instructor offers bicycle safety instructions to DAFB Middle school students during the schools Positive Behavior Support program.

"Guitar Hero," and "Ultimate Frisbee."

Organizations including the American Lung Association, DELDOT, MilitaryOne and support from Dover AFB helped to make this year's events enjoyable for all students.

Freshman Academy Staff Continue Preparations For 2011-2012 School Year

The Freshman Academy staff has been working very hard to prepare for the opening of the 2011-2012 school year. CRHS staff have been planning and preparing for the Success Academy activities which will be held August 8th –August 18th at the high school. We look forward to seeing all of the students who will be attending this exciting two week program. The latest event for incoming freshman was the summer book handout that took place at each of the middle schools during the week of June 13th. Each freshman who will be attending CRHS this year was provided a book to read during the summer break. The book will be used during the Success Academy as well as during the regular school year.

Also, be sure to check out the Freshman Academy Website using the link www.crhs.cr.k12.de.us. The summer book reading blog can be accessed on the website and we invite all of our incoming freshman to log on and contribute to the comments about their books. Again, the Freshman Academy staff would like to express our appreciation and thanks for your support and look forward to an exciting school year. If you have any questions regarding the Freshman Academy or Success Academy, please contact Mr. Jeff Visalli



Senator Coons Visits Star Hill

It's not every day that a U.S. Senator stops by to visit a school let alone drop in to say hello to one particular student. However, that is exactly what Delaware Senator Chris Coons recently did.

Back in November, while still a senatorial candidate, Mr. Coons visited Star Hill Elementary School to



Senator Chris Coons and fourth grade Star Hill student Elijah Vela discuss a life science experiment involving the behavior of crawfish.

talk with the fourth and five grade student council about the voting process and being an informed voter.

Four months later, in March, Star Hill fourth grade student Elijah Vela was in Washington D.C. with his mother Margie attending a national conference. Following the conference, Ms. Vela and her son visited the Delaware delegation, including Senator Coons' office.



Fourth and fifth grade student council members from Star Hill Elementary School get together for a group picture with U.S. Senator Chris Coons following his second visit to the school.

While there, Elijah began talking with Senator Coons' staff and discovered he and the senator shared a common interest in chemistry.

A suggestion was then made to have Senator Coons visit Star Hill once again not only for a guided tour of the school but to meet with Elijah.

When the senator arrived, Elijah was on hand to personally take Senator Coons on a tour of his school including looking at science experiments and art projects plus speaking once again to the fourth and fifth grade student council about the importance of voting in a democratic society.

Having one of only two Delaware U.S. Senators to stop by Elijah's school to personally say hello was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Said Elijah, "It was really cool. I was very excited!"

Postlethwait Students Dominate Music Festival at Six Flags

Recently, the Postlethwait Middle School Jazz Band, 8th grade Band, Mixed Choir, Men's Choir and Women's Choir participated in the school's fourth annual adjudicated music festival at Six Flags in New Jersey. The Jazz Band received an "Excellent" rating and placed first in



their division. The Women's Choir, Men's Choir, Mixed Choir and 8th grade Band all received the highest rating of "Superior" and placed first in their divisions. The Women's Choir received highest overall score of the seven performing choirs that day and were presented with the trophy for "Best Overall Chorus." The 8th grade band was the only middle school band out of five bands that day to receive a "superior" rating for their performance and was presented with a trophy for "Best Overall Band" for the fourth straight year.

Farewell, Mr. Whitehurst

The Caesar Rodney School Board said farewell to Mr. Charles "Chuck" Whitehurst at the most recent board meeting held at Welch Elementary. Having served 15 years as a board member, Mr. Whitehurst was involved in the renovations of every school in the Caesar Rodney School District. Said Mr. Whitehurst, "I have truly enjoyed the experience of serving as a board member and thank you for all your support."



Mr. Whitehurst looks at a photo collage of his 15 years of service to the Caesar Rodney community.





City of Dover Mayor Carey Presents Flag to Brown Elementary

City of Dover Mayor Carleton E. Carey, Sr. recently presented a Dover flag to the W. Reily Brown Elementary School. Joining the mayor were members of the Dover City Council; Caesar Rodney School District board members; assistant superintendent Dr. Lou Ann Carlson; Dover Police Chief James Hosfelt; W. Reily Brown staff; and the entire student body of Brown Elementary School.

Although physically located in the Caesar Rodney School District, Brown Elementary is located within the Dover city limits. Therefore, Mayor Carey felt it was appropriate to present the school with the City of Dover Flag that will now be flown in front of the school



Dover Mayor Carleton Carey, Assistant Principal Jean Allen and Principal Craig Weardon pose with W. Reily Brown students during flag presentation.

Dover Air Force Base Middle Holds Science Fair Competition

The Dover Air Force Base Middle School recently held a science fair in the school's library. Student project objectives ranged from determining whether band or non-band students had greater lung capacity to how age and gender affect short-term memory. Members of the community served as judges for the competition. The winning project, completed by 6th grader Megan Martinez, explored which brand of popcorn popped the most kernels. Other winners included Braydin Sones and Katherine Kraweitz while honorable mentions were afforded to Alden Tonkay, Dallas Smith and Hallie Walsh.



DAFB Middle School science fair students and judges gather for a pose following the competitions.

Postlethwait Holds Summer Workshop for Students and Parents



More than 150 Postlethwait students, parents and guardians gathered at the Magnolia Fire Department to collect resources and tips to help keep students academically sharp and safe during the summer. Information booths included summer reading, the CRHS Freshman Academy, Parent Information Center, John Dickinson Plantation, Kent County Library, Delaware State Police, State Fire Marshall's Office and the Delaware State Fire School. Also, a graphic/global "GLOG" was created where students can communicate with other students and teachers on the books they are reading. Happy summer!