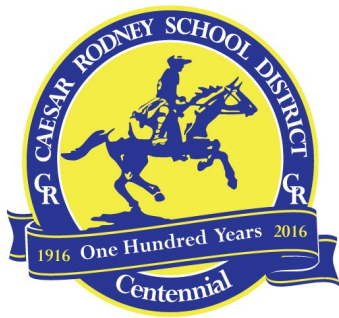




THE CR REPORT

CAESAR RODNEY SCHOOL DISTRICT QUARTERLY
"WHERE EXCELLENCE IS OUR TRADITION"

Your District-Wide Information Source

Summer 2016

100!



Centennial CRHS Class Celebrates Commencement

Caesar Rodney School District, 7 Front Street, Wyoming, DE 19934

Message From the Superintendent

As the 2015-16 school year draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone who has made our centennial year one to remember! I would especially like to thank our Centennial committee which planned the gala; the high school student council for organizing and planning the biggest and best Homecoming parade, the Rider Pride Day Committee and the "Friends of Caesar Rodney" for their help and support in the passage of our referendum.

This has truly been a year in which our community has joined together to celebrate our past, present and future. Speaking of the future, I hope you enjoy the wonderful pictures of our Charlton, McIlvaine, Welch and Caesar Rodney High School graduation ceremonies found in this issue! These photographs were taken by our new Community Relations Specialist Dave Chambers. Dave has joined us after serving ten years as the photographer for the Delaware State News. He is replacing Ron Gough, who after five and a half years at Caesar Rodney and another twenty at DEMA and DOE has decided to retire. Ron's work on the centennial was a true labor of love. Dave certainly has big shoes to fill!

I want to thank the parents, students, teachers and staff members for making this a year to remember and I want to apologize to the senior class for only one snow day and one fog delay!

Have a wonderful Summer!

Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald



Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, Superintendent

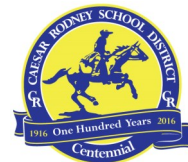
The CR Report is a publication created exclusively for the Caesar Rodney community. For questions or comments, please contact Community Relations Specialist Dave Chambers at:
david.chambers@cr.k12.de.us.

What's Happening?

Board Meetings

July 19: District Office 7:00 p.m.

Aug 16: District Office 7:00 p.m.



Special Events:

July 27: Charlton Summer Session Last Student Day

August 1: 9th Grade Success Academy starts

August 4: 9th Grade Success Academy ends

August 29: Students First Day of School

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Follow us on Twitter!



Visit Twitter and FOLLOW "CaesarRodneySD" for all the latest information on ALL our schools!



Farewell, Ron!

Caesar Rodney School District Community Relations Specialist Ron Gough has retired after many years of service. His last day was May 31st and his tireless dedication will be missed throughout the district.

Welcome, Dave!

Former Delaware State News award-winning photojournalist Dave Chambers is Mr. Gough's replacement as the new Community Relations Specialist for the district and this is his first issue as editor of **The CR Report**.





Melissa Rapp Named Teacher of the Year

Melissa Rapp, a ninth grade social studies teacher at Caesar Rodney High School, has been chosen as Caesar Rodney School District's Teacher of the Year for 2016-2017.



"Melissa is an excellent example of a quality teacher, not only at Caesar Rodney High School but throughout the school district," said District Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald. "Her dedication to her students and to the community has helped make Caesar Rodney High School a very special place."

Melissa will now go on to compete against 18 other school district Teacher of the Year nominees for the honor of becoming Delaware's 2017 Teacher of the Year.



CR Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, CR Teacher of the Year Melissa Rapp and CRHS principal Dr. Sherry Kijowski

Simpson 5th Grader Wins NASCAR Pace Car Design Contest

Sabrina Marelli, a fifth-grader at W.B. Simpson Elementary School, got a real surprise in April when she learned her artistic design for the Dover International Speedway pace car was chosen over more than 500 submissions statewide.



The pace car, driven by 2015 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series champion Erik Jones, pulled up behind Sabrina's school to show off her winning design in front of the entire fourth and fifth grade classes.

Part of Sabrina's prize for the winning design included being on stage for the pre-race show during the May 14th race.



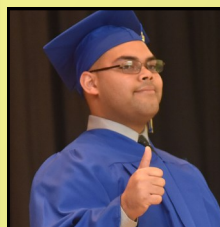
W.B. Simpson fifth-grade student Sabrina Marelli and NASCAR driver Erik Jones



Twelve Graduate From Charlton School



Twelve students from John S. Charlton School were awarded their graduation certificates May 20th in front of a packed gymnasium full of friends and family with 2004 CRHS graduate Kagen Nuss, who is blind, gave an inspiring keynote speech about overcoming obstacles and fighting through adversity.

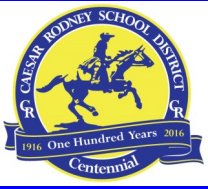


The graduates included: Leanna Marie Brittain, Brandyn Christian Bryant-Davis, Joseph Ian Deguzman, Brian Matthew Eskridge, Jon Francisco Kika Gadaingan, Amanda Marie Jennings, Todd Nicholas Johnson, Michael Anthony Langhorn, Jr., Jillian Laura Mathews, Natalie Elizebeth Schultz, Shane Dickerson Vari and Michael Anthony Wyatt

CRHS Honor Cord Ceremony



Almost 100 graduating members of the CRHS National Honor Society (NHS) were awarded their honor cords May 16th during a ceremony featuring Caesar Rodney School District Teacher of the Year Melissa Rapp as the keynote speaker. Each spring, the Board of Education, district superintendent and the CRHS principal recognize each graduating member of the NHS who has maintained an "A" grade point average and upholds 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.



CR Celebrates 100 Years with Centennial Gala



Caesar Rodney School District celebrated 100 years of educational excellence May 14th with a Centennial Gala held in the Rollins Center at Dover Downs Hotel and Casino. Approximately 750 Riders, past and present, attended the function and enjoyed an evening of festive fun with CRHS grad Mike Hines ('82) providing the musical entertainment.

Community Relations Specialist Ron Gough worked with a special centennial committee that held several successful fundraisers over the course of the 2015-2016 school year, including an alumni dance and selling holiday ornaments, centennial pins & special centennial Caesar Rodney School District Delaware license plates, to pay for the event. (Photos courtesy of Delaware State News)



100 Years of Educational Excellence!



CRHS Art Teacher's Painting of Caesar Rodney Auctioned off at Gala



CRHS art teacher Rob Sample was commissioned by the centennial committee to paint an exclusive portrait of Delaware's colonial hero Caesar Rodney which was auctioned off at the Centennial Gala held on May 14th at Dover Downs Hotel and Casino.

The winning bid of \$1800 was made by former CRHS drivers education teacher Arthur Cahall. "My wife and I plan to will the painting back to the Caesar Rodney School District." said Mr. Cahall.

GO RIDERS!!!



485 “Little Riders” Graduate

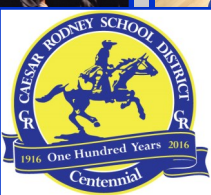


485 kindergarten students (Class of 2028) graduated from McIlvaine Early Childhood Center on June 1st during three separate ceremonies held at CRHS with MECC principal Brook Castillo as emcee.

from McIlvaine Kindergarten

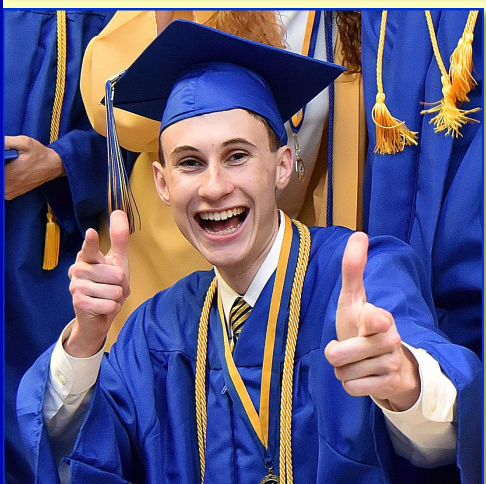
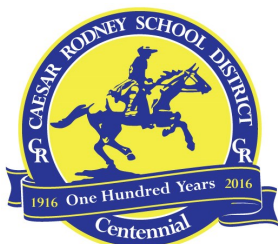


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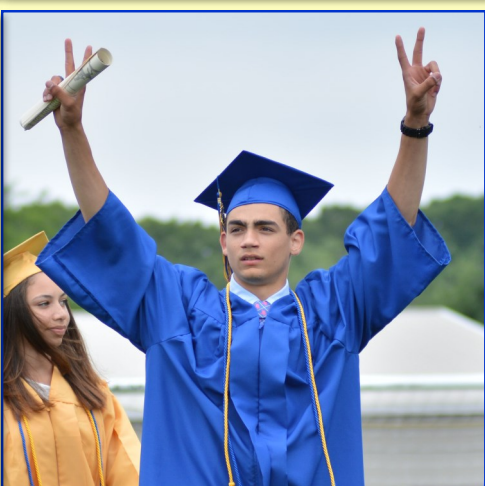


445 Graduate from Caesar Rodney



The Class of 2016, the **100th class** to graduate from Caesar Rodney High School celebrated their commencement on June 4th as 445 proud seniors received their diplomas. Keynote speaker was CRHS grad and basketball star Laron Profit ('95), a former NBA player and current NBA assistant coach, who gave a powerful speech about the importance of knowing one's self in order to be truly successful in life. Andrew Stant was the valedictorian and Liam O'Connor was the salutatorian.

Caesar Rodney High School





Welch Student First Rider to Graduate in Centennial Year

George Welch Elementary School issued its first graduation diploma of the Caesar Rodney School District's centennial year to kindergarten student Von Kleiv who is currently receiving treatment for lymphoma at the A. I. DuPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington.

As soon as Welch Elementary learned of Von's diagnosis in mid-May and that he would be unable to attend his kindergarten graduation, school staff immediately put together a plan to have a graduation ceremony for the six-year old at A. I. DuPont. The following morning, Welch Principal Jason Payne, Assistant Principal Alberta Miclette and kindergarten teacher Wendy Wallace drove up to the hospital and presented Von with his graduation diploma.

"My dream has been to have both my older son Sam and Von together in cap and gown since they will both be graduating this year," said mom Gina. "As we were preparing for Sam's graduation, Von was getting excited about his graduation, as well." However, those plans changed this week with Von's diagnosis.

Wearing his cap and gown and with his graduation diploma in hand, Von proudly walked through the halls of A.I. with *Pomp and Circumstance* playing in the background. With his brother Sam also in cap and gown, Gina's wish had come true. "Von was able to graduate before he started his chemotherapy," said Gina. "We were so excited that the school came on board and that cancer didn't take those things away from us."

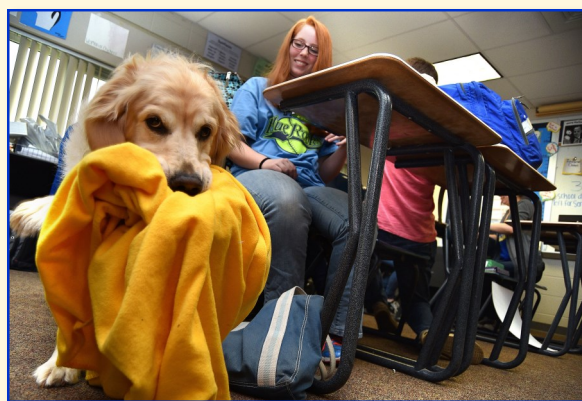
"I was honored to participate in such a special ceremony," said Welch principal Jason Payne. "Being able to provide this special moment for this young man and his family has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career."



Paws For People Pooch Maggie Helps Students

Meet Maggie! She's a friendly golden retriever that stops by teacher Mary Ann Noel's psychology classes at Caesar Rodney High School three times a week as part of the Paws For People program to help her students cope with stress and anxiety during their busy high school day.

Paws For People is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide elders, children, students, and folks with disabilities therapeutic visits with a gentle, affectionate pet like Maggie.



Governor Markell Visits Simpson Immersion Classes

Gov. Jack Markell visited W.B. Simpson Elementary School for a special assembly held in his honor May 24th to say thank you for his World Language Initiative program which includes CR's Chinese and Spanish Immersion classes.

He was treated to a special Chinese fan dance and a Mirala Cara A Cara dance by students and was given special tokens of appreciation including a signed photo collage from all students who participate in the Immersion classes.



First Annual CR Tech Expo Huge Success

Caesar Rodney School District hosted its first ever in-house professional development Tech Expo for more than 600 CR teachers in April. More than 75 teachers from around the district provided non-grade specific technology instruction that can be applied in all classrooms.



Seen here are many of the 75+ teachers who provided professional development held at Caesar Rodney High School.

CRHS Alum and NBA Player and Coach Laron Profit Inducted into Delaware Sports Hall of Fame

Former CRHS grad and basketball player Laron Profit ('95) was inducted into the Delaware Sports Hall of Fame on May 24th at The Riverfront in Wilmington surrounded by friends, family & CR administration members.

Mr. Profit attended the University of Maryland and was drafted by the Orlando Magic in the 1999 NBA draft. He played on both the Washington Wizards and Los Angeles Lakers teams and has been an assistant coach with the Orlando Magic since 2012.

Mr. Profit was also this year's CRHS graduation keynote speaker.



School Board Recognizes Odyssey of the Mind Teams

Members of the F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School's and Star Hill Elementary School's "Odyssey Of The Mind" teams were honored by the Caesar Rodney School Board members on April 19th for advancing to the World Finals that were held in Iowa in May. Congratulations to all the OM team members on a job well done!

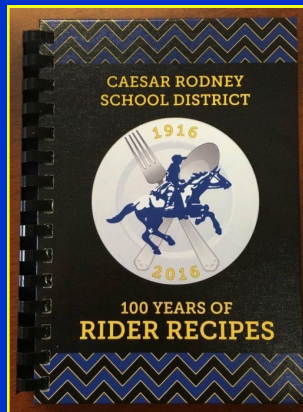


The F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School OM team



The Star Hill Elementary School OM team

Get Cookin' the Caesar Rodney Way!



The Caesar Rodney Centennial Cookbook has arrived! If you would like to purchase one or more, they are for sale at CRHS for \$15.

You can also order online at <http://store.crk12.org> (\$5.00 shipping/handling)





Sixty-two "Little Riders" Graduate From Welch Elementary Kindergarten

Sixty-two Welch Elementary School "Little Riders" graduated from kindergarten to first grade the morning of June 7th with principal Jason Payne presiding over the ceremony held at The Landings at Dover Air Force Base in Dover. Each student received a certificate and a book to enjoy reading over the summer break. The little learners sang the songs "I'm A Little Graduate", "The Kindergarten Class" and "I've Been Going To Kindergarten" before each recited a line from the poem "All I Really Need To Know I Learned in Kindergarten" in front of proud parents and family friends.



Twenty-Two Charlton School Pre-K Students Graduate



Twenty-two young students graduated from John S. Charlton School's Pre-K program on May 27th in front of a packed gymnasium full of friends and family. Assistant principal Jennifer Hallman, who oversees early childhood through 2nd grade, proudly emceed the event.

"I am very proud of the preschool students and all that they have achieved this school year at Charlton. We wish them much success in this exciting transition to kindergarten!" remarked Ms. Hallman.

Charlton music teacher Mindy Beck led the students in several sing-a-long songs and Charlton principal Todd Simpson gave each graduate a congratulatory balloon after they received their certificates.



Go Riders!



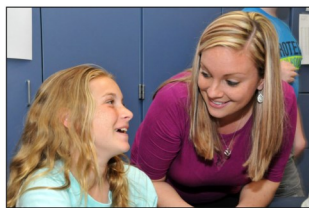
Caesar Rodney School District Building Teachers of the Year 2016-2017



Mandi Christensen
W.B. Simpson Elementary School



Danielle Deinert
Nellie Stokes Elementary School



Brittany Fox
F. Niel Postlethwait Middle School



Samantha Gustafson
W. Reily Brown Elementary School



Dwayne Lavender
Fred Fifer Middle School



Ceila Moran
Allen Frear Elementary School



Stephanie Morrison
John S. Charlton School



Jeani Preszler
Star Hill Elementary School



Melissa Rapp
Caesar Rodney High School



Maia Scott
George Welch Elementary School



Jennifer Torgerson
Dover Air Force Base Middle



Kim Webb
Mellvaine Early Childhood Center

CRSB Names Board Scholars

The Caesar Rodney School Board commends the following list of CRHS graduating seniors for being recognized as 2015-2016 CRSD Board of Education Scholars.

This honor is bestowed upon students whose academic achievement ranks them in the top 5% of their graduating class.

Andrew Stant valedictorian	Channah Mills
Liam O'Connor salutatorian	Adam Ahern
Hailley Loper	Claire Kolakowski
Matthew Anderson	Casey Artis
Jennifer Atkinson	Caleb Siebach
Julia Boaman	Issybella Lang
Krista Jarrell	Dillon Otto
Christine Marks	Osama Mahmoud
Jeanette Beers	Reeti Parikh
Madeline Thompson	Lauren Grismer
Samantha Mazzola	Kush Patel
Joy Ford	Kirsten Grismer
Nicolette Beers	Haley Prillaman
Michael Clavier	Laura Wagner
Aaron deBloois	

Outstanding Academic Performance!

Welch's Passport Around The World

4th graders at Welch Elementary School held their annual Passport Around The World event June 3rd dressed in colorful costumes and offering interesting information from countries all over the world!



CRHS Tennis Teams Win State Championships

Caesar Rodney High School senior Parker Barton, who finished as a runner-up individually his freshman and sophomore years, won the second singles title during the DIAA state tennis tournament held at the University of Delaware on May 26th.



CR senior Parker Barton

"I trained a lot harder since I knew this was my last chance," Barton said during an interview with the Delaware State News after the match.

"I'm feeling great. I've been waiting to win a state championship for four years." (Photo courtesy of Delaware State News)

CRHS junior Halle Parker was crowned the second singles girls champion. The Caesar Rodney girls also won the third singles, first doubles and second doubles. The CRHS girls team took home the DIAA state title winning four of the five brackets as the Lady Riders scored 27 overall points besting second place finishers Archmere Academy and Wilmington Charter, which each had 18 points.



The DIAA state champion CRHS boys and girls tennis squads

The CRHS boys team won the DIAA state title by one point with the Riders earning 21 to narrowly defeat Archmere Academy, which scored 20, thanks to sophomore Joseph Gravelle and senior Adam Ahern who ended up second in the state in boys' second doubles.

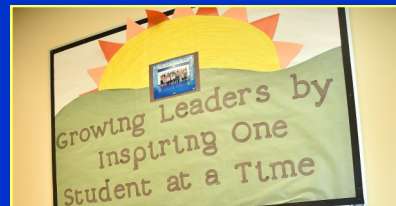
Congratulations to both teams!

W. Reily Brown's "The Leader In Me" Day



W. Reily Brown Elementary School held their "The Leader In Me" Day on May 26th where students participated in leadership skills exercises throughout the day.

The school chorus performed songs, the third grade held a market fair and the fifth grade held a living wax museum event where students dressed as famous Americans in history.



CRHS Girls Soccer Star Sets State Record

Caesar Rodney High School senior girls soccer star Aleya Cummings set a state record, scoring **51 goals** in a single season on May 26th.



CR senior Aleya Cummings

Her performance that evening helped the Lady Riders win in the first round of the DIAA state tournament at Caravel Academy's Bob Peoples Stadium 8-0 against crosstown-rival Dover.

(Photo courtesy of the Delaware State News)

