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CAESAR RODNEY SCHOOL DISTRICT QUARTERLY
"WHERE EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE IS A TRADITION"

THE CR REPORT

SUMMER 2018

School's Out!

SPECIAL GRADUATION ISSUE

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

Message From the Superintendent

As the 2018 school year draws to a close, I would like to thank our community for their continued support. As you look through the summer issue of The CR Report, I hope that you experience the sense of pride and satisfaction that we experienced in the 2017-18 school year!

With graduations, moving up ceremonies, numerous awards and recognitions, we certainly have had a great deal to be proud of! First, let me congratulate our graduates. Caesar Rodney High School saw 446 students walk across the stage and receive their well-deserved diplomas.

544 Little Riders graduated from McIlvaine ECC and 75 from Welch Elementary. Our Charlton program graduated seven students and we had seven students complete their internship with DELDOT through our Project Search program.



Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, Superintendent

It certainly has been a great time to be a Rider! – not only for our students but for their proud families and friends!

As you may have noticed, our stadium field and the field closest to our gym are being prepared for the new turf field which will allow us to play and practice within the limited space around the high school. As a matter of fact all of our construction and renovation projects have started to take shape. This summer and over the course of the next school year, our community will begin to see improvements made to our all of our buildings throughout the district and anticipate breaking ground and beginning the construction process for the new elementary school.

This spring, the district celebrated its first-ever art show held at the Biggs Museum, our tennis teams both won state championships and the CRHS AFJROTC cadets once again demonstrated their drill proficiency by being named state champs for the 6th straight year.

I'd also like to congratulate Ashlee Upp - our District Teacher of the Year and all of our Building Teachers of the Year. Their hard work and dedication is appreciated throughout our District and is what makes this district so special!

As the year comes to a close and we begin preparations for the 2018-19 school year, I want to thank the parents, teachers, staff, administrators and community for making our children their priority!

Have a great summer!

The CR Report is a quarterly publication created exclusively for the Caesar Rodney School District community.

For questions or comments, please contact

Dave Chambers at:

david.chambers@cr.k12.de.us

What's Happening?

Board of Education Meetings:

June 20th - Brown Elementary 6pm

July 17th - District Office 7pm

Aug 21st - District Office 7pm



Special Events:

July 30th: 9th Grade Success Academy starts

August 2nd: 9th Grade Success Academy ends

August 15th: 6th Grade Orientation Day

August 16th: New Teacher Orientation

August 22nd: CRHS Truckin' Back To School 5:30pm

August 23rd: CRHS Band Exhibition Show 6pm

August 27th: First Day of School

School Closings:

August 31st: School Closed

September 3rd : Labor Day

September 6th: In-Service Day



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"Caesar Rodney School District"



Follow us on Twitter!

Visit Twitter and FOLLOW
"CaesarRodneyRiders"



Follow us on Instagram!

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"CaesarRodneyRiders"



Subscribe to our YouTube channel!

Visit YouTube and SUBSCRIBE
"Caesar Rodney School District"

ON THE COVER...J. Ralph McIlvaine ECC kindergarten graduate Louis Smith waves with both hands during his school's commencement in May. See page 18.

Visit crk12.org for info!



Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald Named Superintendent of the Year



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS NAMES DR. FITZGERALD TOPS IN THE NATION

The National Association of School Superintendents announced Tuesday, May 15, 2018 that Caesar Rodney School District Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald has been named as the 2018 NASS Superintendent of the Year.



“Dr. Fitzgerald is an incredible leader and educator who is laser-focused on advocating for students,” said Tom Armelino, NASS Executive Director. “This honor is an acknowledgment of Kevin’s hard work and determination to build an educational environment where students and teachers can grow.”

Fitzgerald has been CRSD superintendent since 2007, previously serving as a principal and assistant principal at Caesar Rodney High School. Dr. Fitzgerald’s experience also includes thirteen years as a classroom social studies teacher in Maryland.

“I am humbled by this honor. When you enter the field of education it’s not about winning awards or seeking individual recognition,” Fitzgerald said. “This is about students and making sure they are provided with the tools necessary to succeed in an ever changing world. Whether as a teacher, administrator or superintendent, I’m proud to say that this has always been my focus.”

Fitzgerald’s tenure at CRSD has seen marked growth in technology, blended learning, and community outreach. The district is one of the state’s technology leaders, leveraging multi-platform learning modules to offer high school courses to middle school students and middle school courses in elementary schools. The district offers students the opportunity to take seven different world languages, which is top in the state. Under Fitzgerald’s leadership the district became one of the state’s pioneers in

world language immersion programs. Parents of kindergarten students have the opportunity to have their children immersed in Chinese or Spanish language. Fitzgerald has also used student and staff voices, as well as the community to showcase the district’s successes. Fitzgerald will be formally honored at the NASS National Advocacy Conference, September 23-25, 2018 in Washington D.C. Go Riders!



“An award of this nature is not won by an individual - it is a tribute to the hard work of our faculty staff and administrative team, the support of our school board and the faith that our community and placed in us to provide the best possible education for their children.”

- Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald



Allen Frear's Ashlee Upp Named District Teacher Of The Year

ASHLEE UPP – CR DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR



CRSD Teacher of the Year 2018-2019 Ashlee Upp teaches third grade at Allen Frear Elementary.

UPP UP AND AWAY

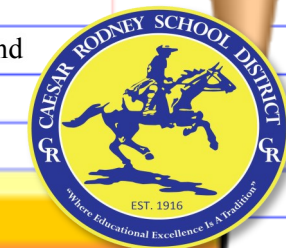
Ashlee Upp, a third-grade teacher at Allen Frear Elementary School has been selected as Caesar Rodney School District's 2018-2019 Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Upp is a graduate of CRHS, she received her B.S. in Education from the University of Delaware in 2009." She holds an M.Ed. from Wilmington University and is currently pursuing her doctorate. In 2009, she returned to her home district as a second-grade teacher at Welch Elementary School, earning "Teacher of the Year" in 2012. She moved to Allen Frear Elementary in 2013 as a second and then third-grade teacher.

"It is a distinct honor to have been selected Caesar Rodney School District Teacher of the Year. As a product of the CR system, it is a particular honor to receive such recognition because the foundations for my career started right here. I thank my family, administrators, and fellow teachers for their support. But most of all, I thank our amazing students who provide inspiration for me every day." said Mrs. Upp

"We are honored to have Mrs. Ashlee Upp as an educator at Allen Frear Elementary. She is a dedicated, knowledgeable professional that continuously goes above and beyond to meet the needs of her students." remarked Frear principal Julie Lavender.

Mrs. Upp will now represent Caesar Rodney School District and compete against eighteen other Teacher of the Year nominees for the honor of becoming the Delaware's Teacher of the Year in October. Good luck, Ashlee! Go Riders!



ASHLEE UPP – CR DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

ASHLEE UPP – CR DISTRICT

THE CR REPORT



Former CR Superintendent Dr. David Robinson Honored



Dr. David Robinson holds his DIAA Lifetime Achievement Award in June.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Former CRS D Superintendent Dr. David Robinson was presented the DIAA Lifetime Achievement Award during the monthly meeting of the DIAA Board of Directors on June 14th at the John W. Collette Education Research Center in Dover with his family, many old friends and colleagues in attendance.

Robinson was honored for his many contributions to interscholastic athletics in the state of Delaware during his long and distinguished career. He was a member of the Delaware Secondary Schools Athletic Association Board of the Directors from 1989 to 1996, and served as chairperson of the board from 1991 to 1993. DSSAA was the interscholastic athletic governing body until 2002 when it was replaced by the DIAA. He was an active member of the State Football Tournament Committee from 1992 until 2017.

Robinson was a stellar football player for both Lewes High School and West Chester State College. He was the starting left defensive tackle for the victorious Gold squad in the 1961 Blue-Gold All Star Game. He was also a successful football coach at Lewes and Caesar Rodney high schools.

"I'm very appreciative of people attending that mean a lot to me - a lot of old faces. It's amazing over time, you remember the good things - and that's the good part of life." Dr. Robinson told the Delaware State News during the event. "That's probably the best thing - we can celebrate. Where I am in my life right now, it's a good thing."

"The one thing as a school administrator is that I never looked back or held grudges." Robinson added. "I just kept trying to do the right thing. My credo that I lived by is doing the right thing. Over time, if you try to do it that way, things will work out."

"The best principals I ever had were people that thought like a coach. I've got to pick my team. I've got to get the best people to make my school as good as it can be. You have to have that competitive edge. I think people that participate in athletics understand that."

- Former CRS D Superintendent Dr. David Robinson





Welch Elementary at 85th Dover Days



Welch Elementary School students dance around the maypole on The Green in May.



WELCH DANCES 'ROUND THE MAYPOLE

Students from Major George S. Welch Elementary School proudly participated in the 85th annual Dover Days festival on May 5th.

The students marched the parade route down State Street stopping at Lookerman Street to say hello with a tip of a hat to Mayor Robin Christiansen. The Welch gang were the first school to dance the maypole this year on The Green and entertained the huge crowds as they danced in full period costumes and flowers in their hair on a beautiful Saturday morning.

The traditional Dover Days maypole dance, nearly identical to that celebrated in the United Kingdom, is an important part of May Day celebrations in local schools and communities across the country as a springtime ritual welcoming the season.

Dover Days has the biggest parade in Kent County with Delaware Governor John Carney serving as Grand Marshal and the festival was placed among the Top 100 USA Events by the American Bus Association.

Dover Days began in the 1930s with the inaugural Dover Flower Show and the event became a success with local gardeners who named it "Dover Day." The maypole dance has always been a traditional part of the festival and CRSD is proud that Welch staff and students are willing to continue this very special tradition. Great job!



Allen Frear Rider Dye 5K



THESE COLORS DO RUN!

Have you ever ran three miles? Have you ever ran three miles while people are constantly hurling colorful dust in your face?

Riders of all ages got up early on a perfect sunny spring Saturday, May 12th, to do just that during the Allen Frear Elementary School Rider Dye 5K Color Run which saw lots of walkers and runners getting completely covered in colorful dust all for a good cause.

Event co-chair and Frear paraprofessional Shannon Wolfe said "The 3rd annual Rider Dye 5K Color Run finally hit the ground running in May after being rescheduled twice, once in March and once in April, both due to SNOW! Who would've thought? A new exciting course for this year's 5K included the Charlton, Allen Frear and Postlethwait properties. We look forward to seeing you next year!"



Shannon Wolfe photo

Four friends enjoy a rest after a colorful CR Rider Dye 5K in May.



Shannon Wolfe photo



Approximately 250 Riders participated in the fun event and \$3,000 was raised by the Caesar Rodney community to benefit the super students of Allen Frear Elementary School.

Congratulations to all those who participated and good luck washing those T-shirts.
Go Riders!





CRHS AFJROTC State Champs...Again



AFJROTC instructor Sgt. Jay Wedel and his cadets celebrate good old #8.

"How many teenagers today willingly get up at 5:30 in the morning to be part of a great team? Ours do it every day and it paid off with another championship."

- CRHS ROTC instructor Col. Mitch Berger

SIXTH IN A ROW & EIGHTH OVERALL

Caesar Rodney High School's AFJROTC cadets won their eighth state championship April 21st during the Eagle Classic JROTC State of Delaware Military Drill Championships held at Dover Air Base Middle School. It's their sixth consecutive championship too!

Approximately 250 cadets from ten schools competed in the competition which includes inspection, armed and unarmed regulation drills and exhibition drills.

Proud instructors Col. Mitch Berger and Sgt. Jay Wedel were happy to see the cadets take **First Place Overall** and first in five of six events during the championships. Sgt. Wedel also commented afterwards that this is his first season of ROTC where a cadet never dropped a rifle while performing. "We've fielded some very talented teams over the years at CR but none of them has had the total work ethic of this one. Top to bottom this drill team is full of workers," said Wedel.

"Every year is a great year to be a member of CR JROTC but this year has been special. From getting an "Exceeds Standards" rating on our headquarters inspection, to setting a new record for community service hours in a year and now our sixth straight State Drill Championship," said Col. Berger. Congratulations!

100% Rider Excellence!



John S. Charlton School Prom



PARIS COMES TO CHARLTON

The gymnasium at John S. Charlton School was decorated like it was Paris, France May 25th as students and staff celebrated the end of the school year with their 2nd annual Prom.

Students dressed in formal suits and gowns for the special event which included a red carpet entrance, music and lots of paparazzi to capture the big entrances.

Charlton School principal Michelle Flanders remarked "It's a truly unique celebration for students in that it offers a social gathering in a familiar environment for during the school day for the students to interact together. We are thrilled to offer this opportunity for parents to join their teenage and young adult students to dress up and feel special after a wonderful year of successes."

The dedicated staff who serve on the Charlton Prom Committee put everything together to create a sensory friendly environment that considers every possible need for the students - including a quiet but celebratory promenade for students who find loud noises to be overwhelming.

Très sympa, Charlton! Tu es le meilleur!



No. It's not a Hollywood superstar arriving to a movie premiere...it is, however, CR superstar Jarett Butler entering the Charlton School prom in May looking like a million bucks.



THE CR REPORT



W Reily Brown Leader in Me Day



W. Reily Brown students sing the school song during "Leader In Me Day" in May.



LEADERS EVERYDAY

W. Reily Brown held its annual "Leader In Me Day" May 17th with local dignitaries in attendance.

Members of the school's Students Lighthouse Team led the program which included a performance by the school Step Team, a cool video made by Brown Elementary School Student Lighthouse representative Teja Mannem, songs from the school chorus, a living wax museum and tours of the super school.

Brown student leaders emphasized "The Seven Habits of Successful Students" by Stephen Covey in their remarks.

THE SEVEN HABITS OF SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

1. Be proactive
2. Begin with the end in mind
3. Put the first thing first
4. Think win-win
5. Seek first to understand, then be understood
6. Synergize
7. Sharpen the saw

The
Leader
in Me™

The Leader in Me is a whole school transformation process. It teaches 21st Century leadership and life skills to students and creates a culture of student empowerment based on the idea that every child can be a leader.

Principal Dr. Susan Frampton said, "This is our third year as a Leader in Me school. Our students stretch their leadership muscles by developing the ability to own their academic progress and practice the skills that will serve them in later life, such as how to set goals and make a plan to achieve them, monitor their progress toward meeting their goals, and celebrate the attainment of their goals."

Brown Elementary was named a "National Title I Distinguished School" in 2016 and a "School of Continued Excellence" in 2017 by the Delaware Department of Education.

Watch our video on
 YouTube



The Music Man @ CRHS



CRHS drama students Ryan Adkins and Elyse Blaier starred in CR Stage Crew & Thespians' production of "The Music Man" in March.



From left: Garrett Geidel (Mayor Shinn), Aiden O'Connor (Charlie Cowell), Ryan Adkins (Harold Hill) and David Ransdell (Tommy Djilas)

"Harold is a challenging, fun role. He's selling every second. He never stops selling. So every time he's speaking, he is selling you on something. So that took a little bit to get used to. I had to stop talking like a human and start talking like a salesman. Everything he says is quick and on the fly. He has no idea what he's talking about and yet he is very good at it."

- CRHS senior Ryan Adkins on his acting role as "Harold Hill"



From left: Alexis Waddy (Eulalie Shinn), Elyse Roscoe (Alma Hix), Haydee Byars-Weiser (Ethel Toffelmier), Alexis Burris (Maud Dunlop) and Sarah Griffith (Pick-a-Little Lady)



David Ransdell (Tommy Djilas) and Michaela Tucci (Zaneeta Shinn)



Garrett Geidel (Mayor Shinn) and Ryan Adkins (Harold Hill)



Garrett Geidel (Mayor Shinn) and Alexis Waddy (Eulalie Shinn)

76 TROMBONES IN THE BIG PARADE!

The "Music Man" Harold Hill came to the Camden/Wyoming area in March. And he probably tried to sell you a trombone, right?

CRHS senior Ryan Adkins starred as the con man who took center stage inside the school auditorium and announced to the Rider townspeople that he will prevent "sin and corruption" from the pool table by forming a boys' band!

The Caesar Rodney High School Stage Crew & Thespians brought their production of "The Music Man" March 8th-10th. The show was directed by Mr. Keith McCarthy and musical direction was provided by Mr. DuWane Sandlin. The sets were decorated by the Fine Arts Department at Caesar Rodney High School.



The plot concerns con man Harold Hill, who poses as a boys' band organizer and leader and sells musical instruments and band uniforms to naive Midwestern townsfolk, promising to train the members of the new band.

Harold is no musician, though, and plans to skip town without giving any music lessons. Prim librarian and piano teacher Marian, portrayed by Elyse Blaier, sees right through him, however.

Folks in the audience were humming "Ya Got Trouble" and "Seventy-Six Trombones" for days afterwards. Great show!

Check out the ARTS at CR!



W Reily Brown Cultural Fiesta Night

BROWN CELEBRATES SPANISH CULTURE

W. Reily Brown Spanish Immersion students in grades 1-3 put on a quite a show April 19th at CRHS during their Cultural Fiesta Night.

The students sang and spoke Spanish throughout the charming performance and even performed dances from countries rich in Spanish culture.

“As our students continue to grow through our Spanish Immersion program, they will continue to become more aware of and show more positive attitudes towards other cultures and an appreciation of other peoples as well as become better prepared for the global community and job markets where their second language is an asset to have.” said CRSD Supervisor of Instruction Dr. Darren Guido. “Language and culture are intertwined and some would say that language is the verbal expression culture.”

“The merengue dance was part of our cultural studies, when we learned about Puerto Rico.

It means a lot that I am able to expose my students to other cultures.”

- W. Reily Brown Elementary School
Teacher of the Year 2019
Benedicta Guzman

Brown Elementary first-grader Brigham Kopp stands on stage with his classmates at CRHS in April.



NHS Members Receive Honor Cords



CRHS NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY HONOR CORD CEREMONY

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.

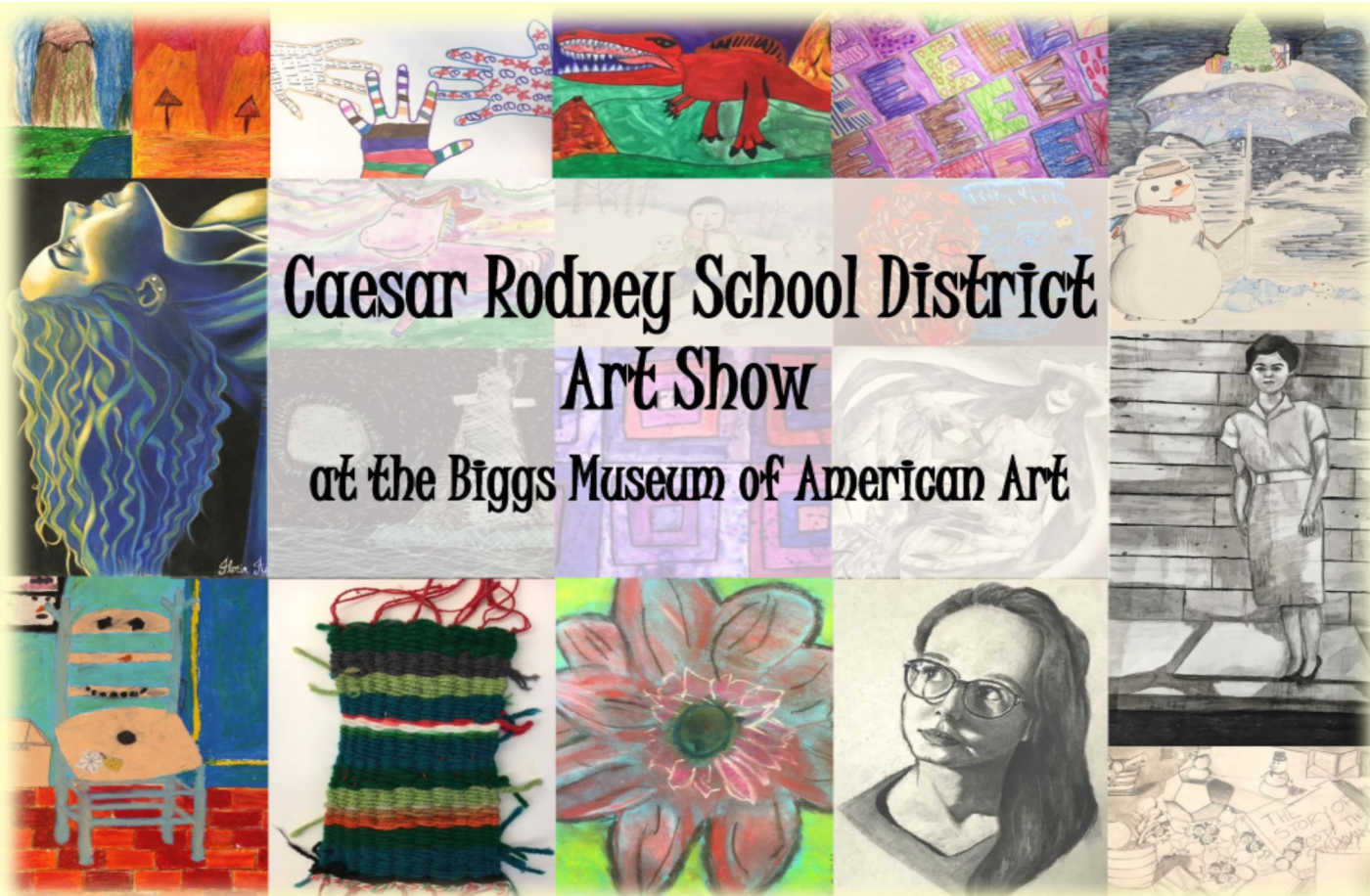
Nearly 100 CRHS seniors received their NHS honor cords May 14th during a ceremony held inside the school auditorium.

CRHS Honor Society president Andrew Chen recited the Honor Society Motto and vice-president Ella Wisniewski conducted the flag salute to begin the program. Senior members of the CRHS Chorale sang the alma mater to conclude the ceremony.



CRHS NHS members smile after receiving their honor cords in May.





Caesar Rodney School District Art Show at the Biggs Museum of American Art



CRHS art teacher Rob Sample goes through student work before the 1st annual CR Art Show in May.

YOUNG AT ART

First-year Welch Elementary School art teacher Brendan Flaherty (CRHS '96) had a vision.

Most CR kids and families have grown accustomed to seeing their artwork in a hallway without matting or frames...but what about seeing their work in a big art show inside a fancy museum?!

"I went to high school at CRHS and I remember segmented art shows around the district but never anything combined," he remembered. "Most CR families have kids at various levels throughout the district and I thought it would be awesome to have a show where we can showcase the talent from every level."

So, he did just that. With lots of assistance from many other CR art teachers, volunteers and students, as well as CRSD administrators like Supervisor of Instruction Dr. Jessilene Corbett.

"Showcasing the artwork of our students demonstrates their talents and creativity in such a gratifying way. Our students are doing amazing things every day in the classroom," remarked Dr. Corbett. "Now we can let others see the efforts of all their hard work and talent. It is my pleasure to be afforded the opportunity to assist in sharing our CRSD students' art at the Biggs Museum."





Welch art teacher Brendan Flaherty was the brainchild behind the first-ever CR Art Show.

The result of his vision was the first-ever Caesar Rodney School District Art Show held at the prestigious Biggs Museum of American Art in Dover. The show opened on Dover Days Saturday May 5th and ran until May 27th.

"The extreme willingness of other teachers to participate made this district art show work so well. The ability to see the show come to fruition my first year in the district is beyond humbling," said Mr. Flaherty.

The art show contained **152** pieces of art that were submitted from all twelve Caesar Rodney schools. And it looks like Mr. Flaherty's vision has gone from reality to tradition as the community response was overwhelming and CRSD has been asked to come back to the Biggs Museum of American Art next year...but in the main gallery space this time.

"Families from around the Rider community have expressed the great pleasure seeing their kids artwork in a prestigious museum," Mr. Flaherty said.

Congratulations to all the young artists who created and to all the art teachers who donated their time. Thanks to all those who visited the museum and big thanks to Mr. Flaherty. Dreams can come true. Go Riders!

"This show was about celebrating the art of our kids and what the art teachers are doing throughout the district. This was our opportunity to shine and make each of our talented artists and teachers feel appreciated."

- Welch Elementary School art teacher Brendan Flaherty



THE CR REPORT



Class of
2018

466 Graduate From Caes

"I know that we, the Class of 2018, can accomplish anything, because we are all intelligent in one way or another. As long as we act with perseverance, courage, and grit, we can continue to take steps toward our dreams!"

- CRHS Class of 2018 valedictorian
Jessica Goldschlager



The 102nd graduating class from Caesar Rodney High School throws their caps into the air during their commencement ceremony.



ar Rodney High School

Saturday, June 2, 2018



High School tosses their
ceremony in June.



THE CR REPORT



544 “Little Riders” Graduate From McIlvaine Kindergarten



Tuesday, May 29, 2018



Four MECC kindergarten students celebrate their graduation day in May.



Best Wishes

75 “Little Riders” Graduate From Welch Elementary Kindergarten

Wednesday, June 6, 2018



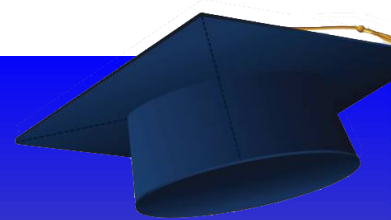
Welch kindergarten grads are all thumbs-up before their graduation in June..



Class of 2030



John S. Charlton School Graduation



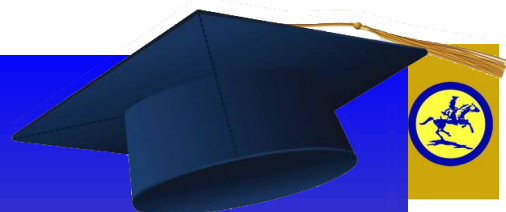
Friday, June 1, 2018



Charlton School graduate Robert "RJ" Robbins holds his diploma on stage with Principal Michelle Flanders during the school's commencement ceremony in June.



John S. Charlton School PreK/K Graduation



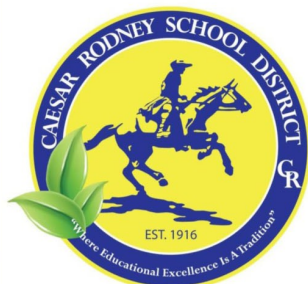
Friday, May 25, 2018



Charlton School kindergarten student Simone Marshall and pre-kindergarten student Andrew Ratledge are on the road to success during their graduation ceremony in May.



THE CR REPORT



GREEN RIDERS

Planning For 21st Century Sustainable Schools

Our CR *Environmental Education Specialist* brings you the latest news regarding the district's efforts to raise awareness about sustainability, environmental literacy, and all things GREEN.

The Caesar Rodney Center for Green Schools

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2017/18 SCHOOL YEAR

- Established **CRSD Center for Green Schools (CRGS)** based out of Postlethwait.
- Established **student led EcoTeams** with staff sponsors at 9 of our 12 school buildings.
- Formed and ratified **CRSD GreenTeam** to guide and provide focus for our **EcoTeams**.
- Completed student **audits of resource consumption and waste** at 7 of our schools.
- Expanded **network of partnerships** with non-formal educators and other agencies.
- Drafted master plan for district sustainability programs and **The EcoCampus at CRSD**.
- Held first annual **Children in Nature Day** celebration.



FEATURED RIDER

WHO: Mr. Todd Klawinski

WHAT: CRSD *Environmental Specialist*, established the CR Center for Green Schools.

WHEN: August 2017

WHERE: Currently stationed at Postlethwait Middle School

WHY: Increases environmental literacy, health and wellness, for our communities while reducing our impact on the ecosystems and natural resources around us.

HOW: Promoting sustainable programs and facilities such as *The Outdoor Classrooms, Community Gardens, and Compost Centers* at each of our schools.

"It's not what you take when you leave this world behind you, it's what you leave behind you when you go."
~Randy Travis

GOOD TO KNOW



Sugar snap peas are high in vitamin C. Eat them as a substitute for candy.



Much of this food waste can be composted.



Get involved with The Outdoor Classrooms and Community Gardens at **YOUR** school. It's fun!



IT'S EASY BEING GREEN

The Caesar Rodney School District green team, known as the **GREENRIDERS**, is an informal group of staff members and student delegates representing each department throughout the district and ultimately each school building within the district.

This group meets regularly to educate themselves, their colleagues, and the community at large about sustainability. As best practice, the **GREENRIDERS** examine the sustainability of school district policies in order to create innovative solutions that align with the mission and goals of the Caesar Rodney School District.

The **GREENRIDERS** are guided by the three pillars of the US Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools - reducing environmental impact and costs, including waste, water, energy use and alternative transportation; improving the health and wellness of students and staff and providing effective environmental and sustainability education.





Amillion The Poet Rocks at Firefly

ONE IN A MILLION

The 7th Firefly Music Festival at The Woodlands in Dover began June 14th and the second artist to perform was none other than CRHS graduate and hip-hop sensation Amillion The Poet ('01).

During Amillion's 45-minute set, a photo of him performing at the 2016 CRSD Back To School Breakfast was shown as the former Rider fulfilled his lifelong dream on The Backyard stage.

"It felt like everything," Amillion said. "We've been performing a lot, but this is the big home game," he told the Delaware State News afterwards. Congratulations Amillion!



Rene McPoyle photo

Hundreds of Riders were shown behind Amillion's Firefly performance.



Delaware State News photo



Blue Hens' Downstate Day at CRHS

DELAWARE COMES TO CR

University of Delaware held its annual Downstate Day at CRHS on Saturday, April 14th and yes, You Dee and Baby Blue were in attendance on that perfect Spring day as was lots of blue and gold. Lots!

A record number of youngsters registered to get the chance to toss a football, kick a soccer ball, play field hockey and/or shoot hoops with actual Blue Hens from UD! Lots of fun in the warm spring sun.

Visitors to CRHS would've seen the giant inflatable Blue Hens helmet on the practice fields that day alongside the Giant Jenga. Thanks for the visit, UD!



CRSD Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald hi-fives YouDee in April.



Star Hill Diabetes Walk



Star Hill Elementary School teacher Kyle Hill, his wife Nicole and son Owen.



PUTTING THEIR BEST FOOT FORWARD

Talk about walkin' the walk and talkin' the talk! 500 Star Hill students participated in the school's first-ever Diabetes Walk April 24th behind the school. And they had fun! And raised over \$1500!

Organized by teacher Kyle Hill (his son Owen is in fifth grade at Star Hill and suffers from Type 1 diabetes), the walk was a smash success. Some students chose to do a nice leisurely stroll, some ran full speed and some chose to dance as they walked.

"The Star Hill kids have worked hard to raise money that will go towards research for kids with Type 1 diabetes. Having some students with this condition at our school, we felt that this was an important opportunity to support them. The Star Hill Walk was our celebration for all of their efforts in raising funds." said Mr. Hill afterwards.

After the walk, walkers received a complimentary bottle of water and then had a chance to win some lollipops in a game of bean bag toss. A great fun way to end the day and maybe help save the day for children with diabetes.

All funds donated go to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Great job, Star Hill! To make a donation, please visit www.jdrf.org/delaware.



DABM Chorus Sings For Governor Carney



Surrounded by Riders, Gov. Carney holds the signed proclamation.

SALUTING THE MILITARY CHILD

Members of Major George S. Welch Elementary School's student council took a trip to Legislative Hall April 17th to meet the Governor. Gov. John Carney invited the students to participate in an official signing of a proclamation declaring April the Month of the Military Child here in Delaware.

They were joined by members of Dover Air Base Middle School's chorus who sang military songs for the Governor and his staff under direction from DABM music teacher Dave DeLong. During the signing, Gov. Carney was surrounded by Riders from both schools who posed for photos afterwards with the Governor.

Let's hear it for our military children studying at Welch and DABM!

Watch our video on
 **YouTube**





Stokes Delivers Breakfast To Police

STOKES DELIVERS SMILES

Students from Nellie H. Stokes Elementary School delivered a hearty, healthy Chick Fil-A breakfast to the Delaware State Police troopers at Troop 3 near Magnolia on March 9th.

The students had the idea last year and this year they decided to do it again bringing along boys from the school's Young Gents Club. The Stokes students, from all five grades, were given a special tour of Troop 3 Headquarters afterwards including a special fingerprinting demo from one of the detectives.

Troop 3 Youth Aid Supervisor Sgt. Mark Gaglione, bottom right, thanked the thoughtful students for their kind gesture and many troopers remarked how their kindness made their day.

The Stokes students wanted to say thank you to the local troopers for all that they do to keep the community safe. What a very kind gesture, Stokes.



Students from Nellie H. Stokes Elementary School visited Delaware State Police Troop 3 and brought the law enforcement officers a "thank you" breakfast.



Star Hill Friendship Mailbox

PLEASE MR. POSTMAN

Star Hill Elementary School held a special set of assemblies on March 16th. Student leaders unveiled a new initiative - The Friendship Mailbox. Students who are looking for a friend during lunch or recess can simply put a note in the mailbox.

It was the idea of two sisters, Lola and Cali Caron, who built the beach-themed mailbox with help from their grandparents. Lola is in fifth grade at Star Hill, Cali is in fourth. "I think the mailbox is going to make a big difference in our school." said Cali.

Principal Nicole Kurz-McDowell will check the mailbox daily and let 'Any Time Buddies' know that someone is looking for a friend. A group of student leaders presented a skit and an explanation during the assembly.

Star Hill already has a "Buddy Bench". The new mailbox is yet another of the school's kindness and inclusion initiatives.



Star Hill Elementary School students, Lola Caron, left, and her sister Cali pose by The Friendship Mailbox in March. Students who are looking for a friend during lunch or recess can put a note in the mailbox located in the school's front lobby.



Simpson Good Neighbor Breakfast



The W.B. Simpson Elementary School Unicycle Club performed for the community leaders in attendance at the school's annual Good Neighbor Breakfast in March.



WHEELIE GOOD NEIGHBORS

W.B. Simpson Elementary School held its annual Good Neighbor Breakfast March 8th and there was quite a turnout. Community leaders gathered inside the school's gym for a delicious breakfast which was provided by the school as a "thank you" for all of the community involvement over the past school year.

"The Simpson Good Neighbor Breakfast is a social gathering for local businesses, community members, civic leaders, and our friends who live next door to the school. Like a neighborhood block party, it is great to occasionally get together to socialize with your neighbors. It makes the Simpson community, as a whole, more cohesive. Events like this only reinforces that we are all Simpson proud and Rider strong." said Simpson principal Mike Kijowski.

Those in attendance were treated to a entertaining performance by the W.B. Simpson Unicycle Club. Students from grades 3-5 practice riding the one-wheeled cycles twice weekly after school.

Watch our video on
 **YouTube**

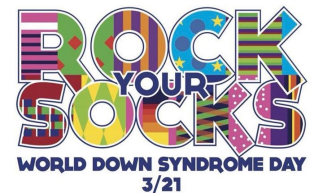
Frear Rocks Their Socks



Allen Frear Elementary School students use a bit of "sock and awe" by rocking their socks in observance of World Down Syndrome Day in March.

WE WILL WE WILL SOCK YOU!

March 21st is World Down Syndrome Day but unfortunately, that day was a snow day this year here at CR.



Allen Frear Elementary School therefore observed the day on March 26th with "Rock Your Socks"! Students and staff were encouraged to wear mismatched, crazy and/or colorful socks to help raise awareness for World Down Syndrome Day.

March 21st was selected as World Down Syndrome Day to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome which leads to Down Syndrome.

Even Frear principal Julie Lavender joined in the mismatched fun. "At Frear, we chose to 'Rock Our Socks' as a way of advocating the inclusion and well-being of all of our peers. We are all champions at Frear!" she remarked.

It's the hard sock life. Great job, Frear team!





PMS Student Wins Prudential Award

DEWEY DID IT!



PMS 8th grader Jenna Dewey learns that kindness and hard work do pay off.



Postlethwait Middle School 8th grader Jenna Dewey was awarded the The Prudential Spirit of Community Award April 16th during a short ceremony inside the school library. The Prudential Spirit of Community Award honors middle school level and high school students for outstanding community service to others at the local, state and national level.

She is one of two State Honorees from Delaware. State Honorees receive an award of \$1,000, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expense-paid trip with a parent or guardian to Washington, D.C., for national recognition events.

Last summer, Jenna had the idea to build a children's library at The Shepherd Place, a local women's homeless shelter. Jenna collected over 1,500 books and even helped install the book shelves at the shelter. Jenna's amazing act of community service was noticed by PMS staff and administration and they chose to nominate Jenna for this prestigious national award. Outstanding job, Jenna! Congratulations! Well-deserved!

CRHS Students Receive DeIDOT Internships

INTERN ROCKSTARS



From left: Justin Jackson, Christopher Pinock and David Pearson pose after signing up to be DeIDOT interns next school year through Project SEARCH.

Project SEARCH at DeIDOT welcomed three CRHS students as new interns for the 2018-2019 school year. CR Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald calls them "rockstars" of the district.

David Pearson, Christopher Pinock and Justin Jackson participated in an official signing ceremony on April 12th in the school library.

With support from staff at Charlton School, DeIDOT and community partners, students will transform into interns next school year.

The interns will participate in three 10-week rotations at DeIDOT with varying opportunities from working the DMV window to maintaining grounds across Kent County.

This is the second group of CRHS students who have been selected to intern at DeIDOT. The first batch were incredibly successful and our three new interns will certainly live up to the high standards and the "rockstar" image.

Congratulations! Rock On!





CRHS Dedicates New Security Booth

SCHOOL STADIUM SECURITY

Caesar Rodney High School unveiled its new security guard booth, donated by Rockland County, NY based Guardian Booth, on March 27th. The portable booth was delivered on March 22nd, and is placed at the entrance to the school stadium to help ensure the safety and security of the entire school body. Senator Colin Bonini (R-Dover) lent a hand with this special project by recommending CRHS to Guardian Booth as a possible school to receive a donated booth.

With an enrollment of over 2,000 students, CRHS hosts many open-spaced events on its campus throughout the school year. For this reason, implementing a portable and versatile guard booth is important for the protection of all attendees of such events.

CRHS principal Dr. Sherry Kijowski said "The addition of the Guardian Booth to the CR High School campus will help us to enhance security and streamline the entrance of patrons to events in our stadium. We are grateful to Senator Bonini for his support of Caesar Rodney High School in this capacity."

"I know Superintendent Fitzgerald and everyone in the CRSD are dedicated to ensuring the safety of their students and I am glad I could help in a small way, by making a connection and pushing this forward," said Senator Bonini.



Caesar Rodney HS athletes perform the ribbon cutting with Sen. Colin Bonini and Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald in March.



DABM Donates Easter Baskets to Stokes

EGGCEPTIONAL EGGCELLENCE

Members of the Dover Air Base Middle School student council visited Nellie H. Stokes Elementary School on March 28th to help out with their annual 1st Grade Easter Egg Hunt and they brought ninety surprise Easter baskets with them.

DABM principal Nicole Jones said "Student council members at Dover Air Force Base Middle School really enjoy giving back to their community. Along with their club sponsor, Mrs. Debbie Wheeler, they put together all ninety baskets and planned the visit."

CR Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald was also part of the hunt as ninety first-grade students joined him and searched for and collected fourteen eggs each. (Yes, that's over 1,260 colorful plastic eggs that were scattered on the ground behind the school.) And there will still some eggs left to find!

After the egg hunt, the happy first-graders were then given their surprise Easter baskets by the Dover Air Base Middle student council.

All in all..an eggquisite eggzample of Rider generosity.

Eggcellent job, DABM!



Dover Air Base Middle student council members donated 90 Easter baskets to Stokes Elementary first-graders in March.





Riders Fall to Sallies in Lax Title Game



"T.E.A.M.! From the off season to playing for the DIAA state lacrosse title, these young men grew as a family and worked intensely hard to play at their best as a unit. They represented the program, their school, and the entire Rider community with pride and passion everyday. I'm not able to express enough of how proud I am of this team's hard work and determination."

- Coach Matt Faircloth

FAIRCLOTH HENLOPEN COACH OF THE YEAR

The CRHS boys lacrosse team had an outstanding season this year producing a 13-2 record and an appearance in the DIAA State Championship game against arch-rival Salesianum on June 4th. The Riders only two regular season losses were to Cape Henlopen and yup...you guessed it, Salesianum. The Riders lost 14-9 in the state finals to the Sals but won the hearts of the entire Rider Community.

Head coach Matt Faircloth was named Henlopen Conference Coach of the Year. Senior Demetrius Stevenson was named All-State First Team for netting 35 goals and eight assists. He finishes with 119 goals and 33 assists in his high school career.

Riders Fall to Padua in Soccer Title Game



"The season was a lot of fun. Our team won our Division and Conference. We made it to the state finals for the seventh time. We finished with a 16-2-1 record with our only losses coming from Padua. I am very proud of the girls. They played a great style of entertaining soccer and they displayed a high level of character both on and off the pitch." - Coach Darrell Gravatt

SEVENTH TRIP TO FINALS

CRHS girls soccer finished the regular season with an impressive 12-1-1 record. Their only regular season loss was to arch-rival Padua Academy.

Head coach Darrell Gravatt led his team to a seventh DIAA State Championship game on June 1st where they faced, yup...Padua. The Riders fought hard but fell 5-1 to the Pandas.

"Second place tonight doesn't feel very good," said Gravatt on the night of the state finals. "But, we're 16-2-1 and our only losses have been to Padua, the Division I champs. This is still a young squad. I definitely think this team's going to do some good things next year. The future looks great."

CRHS Tennis Wins State Titles



Rishi Gundakaram is the boys DIAA champ!

GUNDAKARAM WINS BOYS TITLE

CRHS junior Rishi Gundakaram won the boys' individual first singles DIAA State Championship on May 25th and helped lead the Riders to the team state championship title. Gundakaram dethroned defending champion Robbie Ward of Tower Hill in the boys' first singles. Gundakaram fell to Ward last season in the first singles championship round.

CRHS also won the girls' state championship for the 3rd year in a row.

CRHS PE Teacher Collins Wins Award



BEST ON THE EAST COAST

Physical education teachers in New York City, Boston, Washington DC, Philly and Baltimore don't have anything on CRHS physical education teacher Sabra Collins who received the 2017-2018 Shape America Eastern District High School Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award on April 16th during a ceremony in principal Dr. Sherry Kijowski's office.

Shape America Eastern District president Sally Nazelrod, right, made the long trip from Westminster, MD to personally deliver Sabra's award.

CRHS College Signings



Carissa Thorne - Delaware State U.
SOFTBALL



Tommy Pomatto - U. of Delaware
BASEBALL



James Holmes - Wesley College
FOOTBALL



Natasha Sijan - U. of Tenn.-Martin
TENNIS



Kayley Peugh - Immaculata U.
SOFTBALL



Brenden Holder - Wesley College
FOOTBALL



Isobel Moyer - Jefferson U.
GOLF



Patricia Davis - Millersville U.
TRACK & FIELD



Jared Wagenhoffer - Wesley College
FOOTBALL



Xander Harfeld - York College
SWIMMING



Nathan Reid - Salve Regina U.
SOCCER



Kaleb Moseley - Moravian College
FOOTBALL



Kahle Shaner - Virginia Wesleyan
LACROSSE



Jonathan Butto - U. of South Carolina
CHEERLEADING

**SEE YOU
NEXT YEAR!**

