

THE CR REPORT

CAESAR RODNEY SCHOOL DISTRICT QUARTERLY

"IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A RIDER"



SUMMER 2021

www.crk12.org



GRADUATION ISSUE



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

Message from the Superintendent

These have certainly been challenging times for the country, the community, and the school district! As we all struggle with what is being called the “New Normal.” I have always believed that from challenges comes opportunity. From opportunity comes the need to invent and to innovate. Sometimes the process is not as quick and easy as we want and there is trial and error. But even though the process may become uncomfortable, we become stronger and better for it. While last year was far from perfect, our students continued to outperform others on the state assessment and the SAT. This year while we continue to face challenges from COVID and the Delta Variant, the Caesar Rodney School District is committed to returning our students to a full five-day-a-week in-person calendar. Our goal is to help our students transition back into a full-day setting while jump-starting their learning during the first two weeks of the school year.

We plan to do this while complying with the guidance provided by the CDC. Whenever possible students will be at least

three feet apart; we will continue to clean high touch areas; students who ride school transportation will be required to wear masks; voluntary rapid antigen testing will be available in our schools weekly; as of August 16th, the Governor’s mask mandate has been put into effect. All students, staff, and visitors, by the mandate, are required to wear a mask when in a district building. Students will not be required to wear masks during outside activities or during breakfast and lunch. We have also requested permission to grant exceptions to the mask mandate for Special Need students. Anyone parent requesting a medical exemption from the mask requirement will need to submit the appropriate medical documentation and have their request approved.

Also, any parent whose child has a medical exemption and needs to learn from home, should contact the District Office at 698-4800 and request the necessary paperwork.

So what happens should a student or staff member be exposed to the virus? According to the Delaware Division of Public Health, “the same procedures are in effect for the coming school year as last

year. If an unvaccinated student or staff member is a close contact of a positive case, the student or staff member should quarantine for 10 days from the date of his or her last exposure to the positive case member, or 7 days with a negative test, either PCR at day 5 or 6 following the exposure or an Antigen test on the 7th day after exposure”.

However, “if individuals are immunized, they will not have to quarantine following an exposure as long as they are asymptotic”. The CDC does recommend, that “fully vaccinated individuals wear a face covering for fourteen days or be tested 3-5 days after exposure”.

To help get those individuals ages twelve and above that would like to be vaccinated the Caesar Rodney school district has partnered with Curative to administer the vaccine at Caesar Rodney High School on Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout August and September.

I look forward to seeing you back in school!



WHATS HAPPENING?

BOARD MEETINGS:

Aug 17: Caesar Rodney
High School

Sept 21: David Robinson
Elementary School

Oct 19: Magnolia
Middle School

SCHOOL EVENTS:

Aug 3-4: 9th Grade Success
Academy

Aug 18-23: Teacher In-Service
Days/schools closed

Aug 24: First Day of School

SCHOOL CLOSINGS:

Sept 3: School Closed

Sept 6: Labor Day Holiday

Sept 13: In-Service Day

Oct 8: In-Service Day

FRONT COVER:

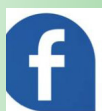
Kindergarten, Special Education, Elementary, and High School students all celebrated their 2020 graduation events this spring.

BACK COVER:

2021-2022 Caesar Rodney
District Teachers of the Year

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

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Social Media Postings



Star Hill's Odyssey of the Mind Team were the DE State Champions for Problem 3, Division 1 for Elementary Schools. On the way to finding the "OM solution", the main character learned a valuable lesson from interacting with all of the characters. As the DE winners the Star Hill team also traveled to the international competition on June 11, in Orlando, FL.



The CR High School FFA horticulture display took 1st place at the 2021 Delaware State Fair! Lots of hard work was put in by the officer candidates and advisors to create such an outstanding display.

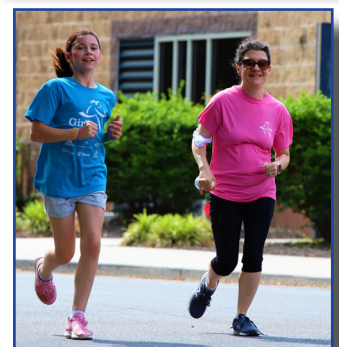


At the Caesar Rodney School District Board of Education meeting on July 6, new Officers were chosen for the 2021/2022 school year. Mike Marasco, was elected as School Board President, and Jessica Marelli, was chosen as Vice-President. Other current members include Dave Failing, Scott Wilson and Dr. Joyce Denman.

Star Hill Girls-on-the-Run 5k Run/Walk

On Saturday May 22 staff, parents and two dozen students of Star Hill Elementary held a Girls-On-The-Run event. The 5K Run/Walk was a traditional way to end the school year for the program.

Girls on the Run is an after-school program designed to inspire girls of all abilities to recognize and embrace their inner strength. Lessons emphasize the important connection between physical and emotional health. At the end of the program, girls complete a 5K, which provides a tangible sense of accomplishment, setting a confident and goal-oriented mindset into motion.



W. B. SIMPSON ELEMENTARY'S KARINE SCOTT NAMED DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR



CONGRATULATIONS to
KARINE SCOTT
W.B. Simpson Elementary School
CAESAR RODNEY
2021 - 2022
DISTRICT
TEACHER of the YEAR

Karine Scott, a physical education teacher at W. B. Simpson Elementary, was selected as the 2021-2022 Caesar Rodney School District Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Scott is eligible for the State Teacher of the Year award that will be announced in the fall by the Delaware Department of Education.

The announcement was made by District Superintendent Kevin Fitzgerald in a surprise visit to Mrs. Scott and her students at Simpson Elementary. The District's overall Teacher of the Year is selected from a group of 12 candidates, one from every school in the district.

"Karine Scott is a reflection of the dedication and spirit that makes W. B. Simpson Elementary such a special place for students," explained District Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald. "She is an exceptional example of the quality of educators that the Caesar Rodney School District represents."

A native French-Canadian, Mrs. Scott has been a physical education teacher at W. B. Simpson since 2015. She has been an Assistant Track & Field coach for the High School and has served as a Fitness & Wellness professor at Delaware State University during her career. She is currently the President of the Society of Health and Physical Education (SHAPE) in Delaware. As the President for SHAPE, she collaborates with the Delaware Department of Education and the Division of Public Health to create initiatives to keep communities healthy across the state.

"Coming from a long line of PE teachers in her family, Mrs. Scott has created her own legacy here at Simpson Elementary. She knows the skills that students need to be successful not only in the Physical Education environment but, ultimately, in the real world," W. B. Simpson Elementary Principal Jennifer Martin said. "She focuses on individual student needs and ensures that every student has the tools to succeed in her class, no matter what it takes. By involving our outside community resources, she has built a comprehensive program where health and wellness come first."

Karine has always wanted to be a physical education teacher. She began her journey by playing NCAA Division 1 Women's Ice Hockey at Minnesota State University. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Health and Physical Education from West Chester University and a Master's of Science in Sports Administration from Delaware State University.



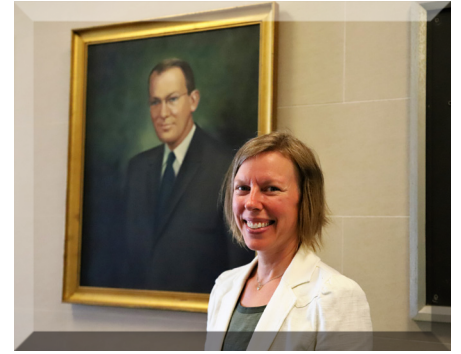
WELCOME NEW PRINCIPALS



Kathleen Fitzgerald
David E. Robinson Elementary



Keith Wisher
Magnolia Middle School



Ashley Holmes
W. B. Simpson Elementary



Darisa Everett
Star Hill Elementary



Freeman Williams
Nellie H. Stokes Elementary

W. B. SIMPSON ELEMENTARY'S ALMA BARTOLOMEO CHOSEN DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR



CONGRATULATIONS to
ALMA BARTOLOMEO
W.B. Simpson Elementary School
CAESAR RODNEY
2021 - 2022
District Educational Support
Professional of the Year

The Caesar Rodney School District selected Alma Bartolomeo as the 2021-2022 Educational Support Specialist of the Year! From W. B. Simpson Elementary School, Alma works with 4th and 5th graders, and is loved by all for her never-ending smiles & support for every student. In its second year as a fully recognized Department of Education sanctioned program, this award is given annually to staff who provide student services in any non-teaching profession.



PURPLE MARTIN POLE RAISING CEREMONY HELD AT ALLEN FREAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Caesar Rodney Center for Green Schools, and CR EcoTeam students, hosted a Purple Martin Pole Raising ceremony on the campus of Allen Frear Elementary School this spring. A habitat site of 12 Purple Martin nesting gourds were installed with the benefit of federal grant funding from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, which allowed for the creation and placement of the habitat. Similar habitat structures will eventually be placed at other sites across the district.

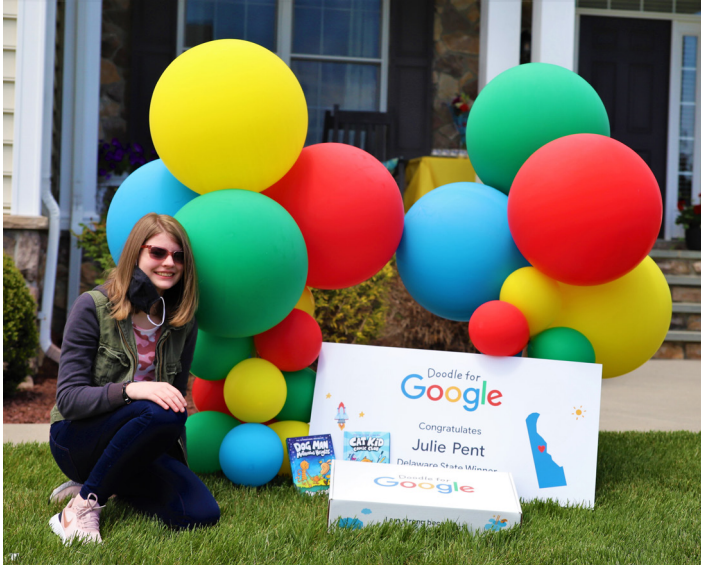
Todd Klawinski, Environmental Education Specialist for the district explained, “Caesar Rodney was the first school district in the country to receive grant funding for habitat restoration and outdoor education from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. In keeping with the Care, Kindness & Respect theme that is a key part of our student lifestyle, it is my goal is to teach every child how to become a conservation-minded-adult.”

A significant contribution to the success of this event is given to the Purple Martin Conservation Association. They assisted in selecting the proper habitat structures and provided mentors to help students build nesting pods and to train them on how to be successful “Landlords” of the nesting site. Each nesting site requires human maintenance and care to be a prosperous Purple Martin colony that they will return to for many years.

Purple Martins, songbirds in the swallow family, are a migratory species that can travel up to 10,000 miles per year. After traveling north from South America, Purple Martins spend their summer months in North America where they nest and raise their young. In late summer, before migrating south they gather in large flocks to feed on insects, socialize and rest. This roosting activity can attract thousands of birds in a small area.



FIFER MIDDLE SCHOOL 7TH GRADER IS DELAWARE “DOODLE FOR GOOGLE” COMPETITION WINNER



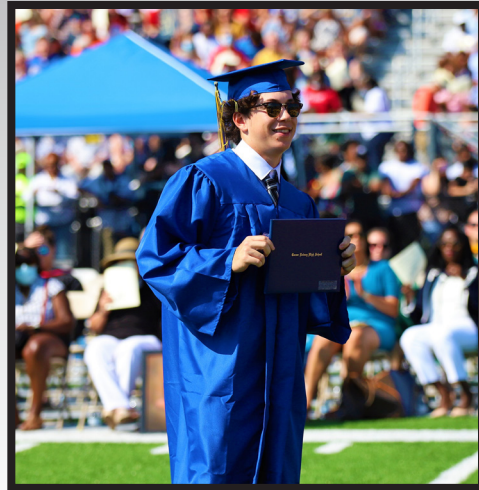
Julie Pent, a 7th grade student at Fred Fifer III Middle School was selected as the Delaware winner of the 2021 Doodle for Google art competition (6th and 7th grade category) in May. By being chosen as the state winner Julie received a prize package of a new Apple tablet to enhance her artistic skills, a t-shirt featuring her winning design and numerous other gifts from Google.

In existence since 2008, the Doodle for Google contest had 54 state and territory winners this year. Julie's Doodle, "Perseverance to the End," was selected from hundreds of Delaware entries. In her own words the art design is meant to convey these feelings: "I am strong because of my perseverance. I keep going until I reach my goals no matter how big or how challenging they are. I persevere until the end."

Fifer Middle School Art teacher Kristin Hutton, Science teacher Amanda Martin, and School Counselor Kiara Moore were joined by Google representatives, friends, and family at her home to surprise Julie with the news that she was selected as the Delaware winner.

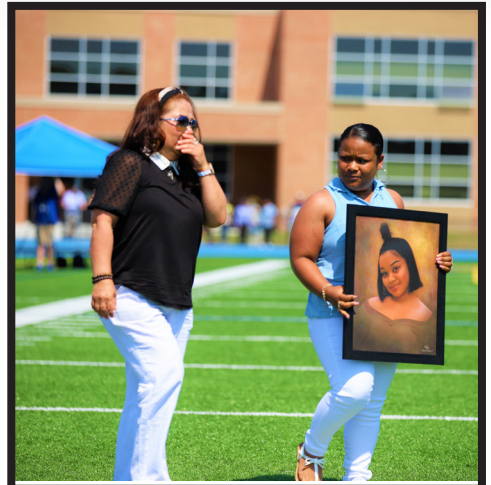


2021 CAESAR RODNEY HIGH



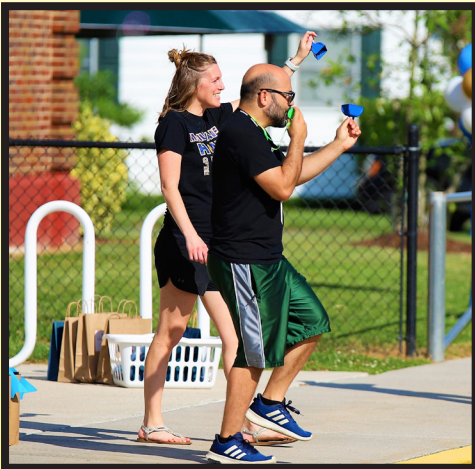
Caesar Rodney High School held the 105th Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, June 5th, at Rider Stadium. Dr. Tony Allen, President of Delaware State University was the Class of 2021 guest speaker. Under bright and sunny skies the 470+ strong graduating class was able to march together into the stadium with packed stands filled with family, friends, honored guests and faculty.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

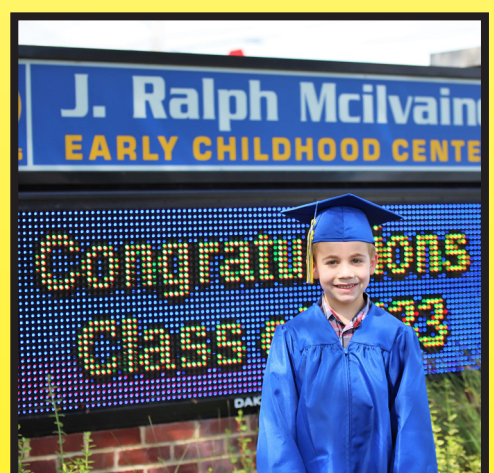




2021 M^CILVAINE ECC KINDERG



ARTEN GRADUATION PARADE



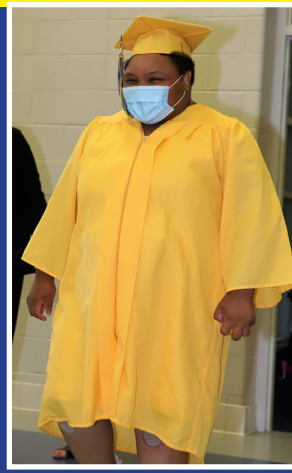
2021 EIGHTH GRADE "MOVING UP" F. NIEL POSTLETHWAIT & DOVER AIR BASE MIDDLE SCHOOL



"UP" EVENTS FOR FRED FIFER III, DOVER AIR BASE MIDDLE SCHOOLS



2021 John S. Charlton School Graduation



Congratulations to the 10 John S. Charlton School graduates for 2021! The ceremony was attended by Board of Education members, families, staff and Superintendent Fitzgerald. Former student Daniel Hall was the guest speaker, to make the event extra special.



Caesar Rodney High School Su



Month of the Military Child Parade Held at Major George S. Welch Elementary



Major George S. Welch Elementary School held a car parade through the neighborhood in April to honor the “Month of the Military Child”. The event was planned to underscore the important role military children play in the armed forces community. It was a great success on a beautiful day! Students & families lined the parade route to celebrate all of the military students in CR School District.1111

Summer School Graduation 2021



CAESAR RODNEY



SPRING SPORTS



Caesar Rodney High School



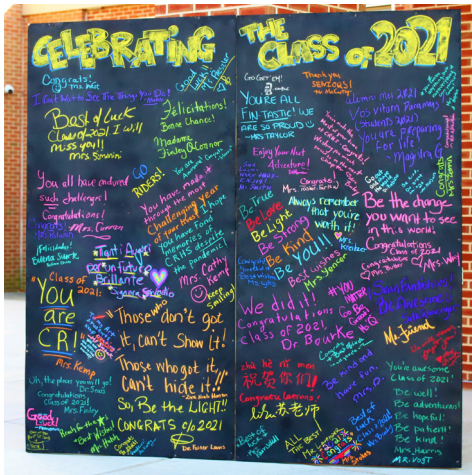
State Champions



Two Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association (DIAA) State Champion student/athletes were recognized by the School Board in June. Cheyane Brown - Girl's Track & Field Shotput; and Darin Jawahar - Boys 2nd Singles Tennis.



Senior Parade & Promenade





CAESAR RODNEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUILDING TEACHERS OF THE YEAR 2021-2022





EMILY BARTH
F. Niel Postlethwait
Middle School



CHERIE BERGOLD
W. Reily Brown
Elementary School



ANNE COLEMAN
Star Hill Elementary School



OPHELIA CRAIG
Fred Fifer III Middle School



ELISE KNABLE
Caesar Rodney High School



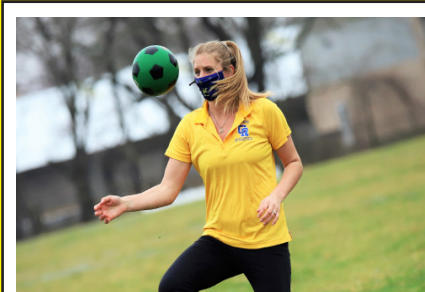
XIWEN LI
Allen Frear Elementary School



TAYLOR MORRIS
J. Ralph McIlvaine
Early Childhood Center



NICOLE PENNYPACKER
Nellie Hughes Stokes
Elementary School



KARINE SCOTT
W. B. Simpson
Elementary School



GEORGINA VOSS
John S. Charlton School



KIMBERLY WEBER
Major George S. Welch
Elementary School



RUSSELL YEAGER
Dover Air Force Base
Middle School