

# RIDER EQUITY BUZZ

THE EQUITY OFFICE NEWSLETTER

Feb 2021



## CRHS BLACK STUDENT UNION HOLDS BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS

WRDE Coast TV ran a broadcast feature including Caesar Rodney High School members from the Black Student Union. The CRHS BSU formed during the Summer of 2020. The CRHS BSU is open to students from all walks and backgrounds and they support all student organizations on campus as they promote a vision of unity and inclusion.

[Learn More](#)



## THE EQUITY CORNER

Restorative practices in education promotes accountability through an emphasis on the “why” behind inappropriate behaviors versus punitive punishment that far too often does not adequately address the behavioral issue. Restorative approaches to student discipline is an extension of the relationship building that is necessary to create equitable learning environments for our students.

There is a common misconception that restorative disciplinary measures equates to a softening of discipline or relaxation of accountability measures. When appropriately applied, restorative measures actually increase student accountability because they require more student input in their outcomes and it places a value on community restitution through behavior modification. This is accomplished without compromising valuable instruction time.

It is not uncommon to see students self-regulate inappropriate behaviors by peers. This is done in a non-confrontational setting by highlighting the immediate behavior doesn't adhere to the established building culture.

### In This Issue

- CRHS BSU Honors Black History Month
- The Equity Corner
- Star Hill Elementary Equity Team Highlights
- DABMS Celebrates BHM
- Polar Bear Plunge
- Carter G. Woodson
- Looking Ahead

# POLAR PLUNGE®



FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS DELAWARE



Associated Press, [Feb. 22.] 1956. New York World-Telegram & Sun Collection. Prints & Photographs Division

## CR SCHOOLS TAKE THE POLAR PLUNGE

The 30th edition of the Lewes Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics Delaware was quite different than the previous 29, but not even a pandemic could dampen the spirit and determination of the dedicated allies to raise money and awareness for Special Olympics Delaware. Thousands of individuals running into the frigid water of the Atlantic was replaced with virtual dips. Caesar Rodney High School, John S. Charlton School, and Postlethwait Middle School all participated in the virtual plunge. At the time of printing the CRSD team currently leads all schools with 117 bears participating while raising a whopping \$15,780. If the lead holds, the CRSD team will be in the lead for some of the Cool Schools Challenges (pun intended).

## STAR HILL'S EQUITY TEAM



The Caesar Rodney Equity and Diversity Coordinator has been working diligently with the staff of each building to create an equity team that will help develop a building-specific equity plan, and to focus on closing opportunity gaps in furtherance of equitable learning environments for all students.

Star Hill Elementary School's Equity Team is comprised of Marge Moutarim, Laura Clark, Alex Conklin, Camika Clarke, Ashley Cooper, Ashley

## Cont...

Ganley, and Amy Hazewski. "The work of our Equity Team should be highlighted. They have made a conscious effort to provide the Equity Buzz newsletter to staff and raise awareness through visuals. In addition, they've posted fifty (50) bios of African American Influencers throughout our walls for the month of February. I am very proud of their guiding light" - Kathleen Fitzgerald, Principal.

Principal Fitzgerald highlighted the work of Ms. Z, school counselor, whom is highlighting African American Poetry during her lessons with grades 1-5. Ms. Z is submitting poetry from these students to be virtually highlighted through the CRHS Black Student Union's platform. Principal Fitzgerald also highlighted Star Hill's music teacher, Mr. LeNoir, whom created a compilation of Black American Musicians and their influence on culture that has also been submitted to the CRHS Black Student Union.



AP Photo/Jason Minto

## DOVER AIR

## MIDDLE SCHOOL'S

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELE- BRATION

"At Dover Air Base Middle School we acknowledge that Black History runs from January 1st — December 31 every year and work to ensure we are incorporating diversity not only in February, but throughout the year" Mrs. Nicole Jones, Principal

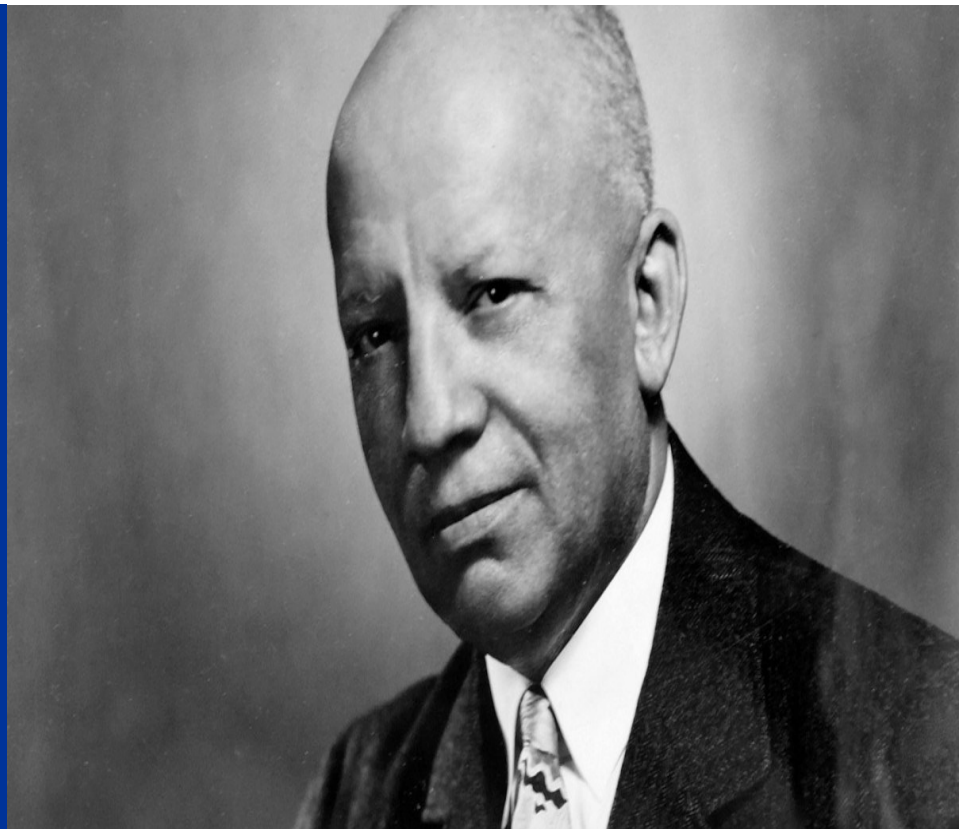
The following are a list of Black History Month activities for (DABM):

The staff and Students Virtual Book Club—March by John Lewis

Grade 8 ADV ELA working on choral reading of 2 poems: "The Miracle of Morning" by Amanda Gorman and "Freedom" by Langston Hughes

Grade 7 Social Studies have a unit on the Civil Rights Movement; reading about science contributions of African Americans; and researching three trailblazing African Americans.

A sixth grade RTI group is focusing on Women African American Trailblazers. The girls will choose four African American women trailblazers to complete a brief research project on.



## CARTER G. WOODSON'S VISION

In 2021 Black History Month brings about observations of the significant contributions of people of African descent. That was not always the case.

Carter Godwin Woodson was born on December 19, 1875, in New Canton, Virginia. Woodson received his formal education while splitting time as a share cropper and mine worker. Woodson's studies earn him degrees from Berea College and Harvard.

Woodson stressed the need for African Americans to rely on their own resources. Woodson also drew attention to African American historical achievements. In 1915, he founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, and in 1926 he initiated Negro History Week. In his influential book, *The Mis-Education of the Negro* (1933), Woodson denounced educational institutions that estranged black students from the black masses while failing to provide them with the practical knowledge needed to uplift the race. Higher education, he argued, should serve "as preparation to think and work out a program to serve the lowly rather than to live as an aristocrat. (Carson, Nash, and Lapsansky)"

# LOOKING AHEAD

**March 1st-31st:** National Women's History Month. [Learn more](#)

**March 1st-31st:** Irish American Heritage Month. [Learn more](#)

**March 8th:** International Women's Day

**March 11:** World Day of Muslim Culture, Peace, Dialogue and Film [Learn more](#)

**March 17:** St. Patrick's Day [Learn more](#)

**March 21:** International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

**March 21:** World Down Syndrome Day

## Contact Us

Give me a call for more information about equity and diversity items and ideas.

Caesar Rodney District Office

7 Front Street  
Wyoming, DE 19934  
(302) 698-4800

Cliffvon.Howell@cr.k12.de.us

Caesar Rodney Education Association - Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee presents:

## The CREA EMAC Future Educators of Color Scholarship

Scan me to buy ↓



### SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

100% of the proceeds from t-shirt sales will go into a scholarship fund available to Caesar Rodney High School's future educators of color. Stand with the CREA EMAC in furthering the career of a future educator and showing support for empowering the voices of ethnic minorities in our community. Qualified applicants are seniors of color at CRHS, accepted into a college or university, with plans to pursue a career in education.

Link to order: [CLICK HERE](#)

T-SHIRTS ARE ON SALE FOR **\$20**

The sale is from **February 16, 2021** to **March 12, 2021**

Scholarship application is open from: **March 15, 2021** to **April 12, 2021**

