



THE GRAD REPORT

**DR. JEROD
PHILLIPS**

*Distinguished
Principal*

c/o 2038

GRADUATION

*Retired teacher
brings home
memorabilia*

**Rider
PRIDE DAY**

*moves back
to the fall!*

WELCOME BACK



Dear Students, Families, Staff, and Community Members,

It is with great pride that I welcome you to the start of the 2026–2027 school year. I hope your summer was filled with relaxation, joy, and meaningful time spent with loved ones.

Before the summer began, we watched the Class of 2026 walk across the stage and step into their futures. I want to officially congratulate our recent graduates. Their achievements in academics, athletics, and the arts set a phenomenal standard for our district. Whether they are heading to college, trade schools, the military, or entering the workforce, they carry the spirit of the Caesar Rodney School District with them. We are incredibly proud of who they are and what they will accomplish.

While our schools may have seemed quiet in the summer, an incredible amount of hard work was happening behind the scenes. I want to publicly recognize and thank our outstanding custodial, maintenance, technology, and operations teams. They spent the summer deep-cleaning classrooms, upgrading

technology, repairing facilities, and ensuring our buildings are safe and beautiful. Thank you also to our administrators, office staff, and educators who spent their summer planning curriculum and facilitating summer learning opportunities. Because of your dedication, we are ready to hit the ground running.

A new school year brings the beauty of new beginnings. Over the next ten months, our core mission is to provide an environment grounded in dynamic learning and personal growth. We are committed to helping every student stretch their mind, discover new talents, and bounce back from challenges.

Education is a team effort. Your trust, collaboration, and presence in our schools are what make this community thrive. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Let's make the 2026–2027 school year an exceptional journey of learning and growing together.

Professionally yours,
Dr. Corey Miklus



2026–2027 Teacher of the Year *Morgan McManus*

3RD GRADE TEACHER, ALLEN FREAR ELEMENTARY

“Morgan is the kind of teacher who makes a lasting difference in the lives of her students. She creates a classroom where every child feels supported, challenged, and inspired to learn, while also sharing her knowledge and leadership with other educators. Her passion for teaching and dedication to her school community are evident in everything she does.”

-Kimberly Cole, Principal, Allen Frear Elementary School





Introducing Dr. Jerod Phillips

This year, we proudly celebrate Dr. Jerod Phillips, the esteemed principal of David E. Robinson Elementary School, for being recognized as Delaware's Elementary Distinguished Principal. Dr. Phillips is a passionate and visionary leader whose unwavering commitment to students, families, staff, and the Robinson school community is evident in everything he does. Beyond the walls of his school, he is a proud leader for the Caesar Rodney School District, consistently representing our district at both state and national professional learning conferences, inspiring educational leaders across the country. His dedication to excellence, collaborative leadership, and belief in the potential of every child have made a lasting impact on our district and the profession. Dr. Phillips, thank you for Riding Tall at Robinson, for leading with integrity, compassion, and purpose, and for exemplifying the very best of educational leadership. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition as Delaware's Elementary Distinguished Principal!





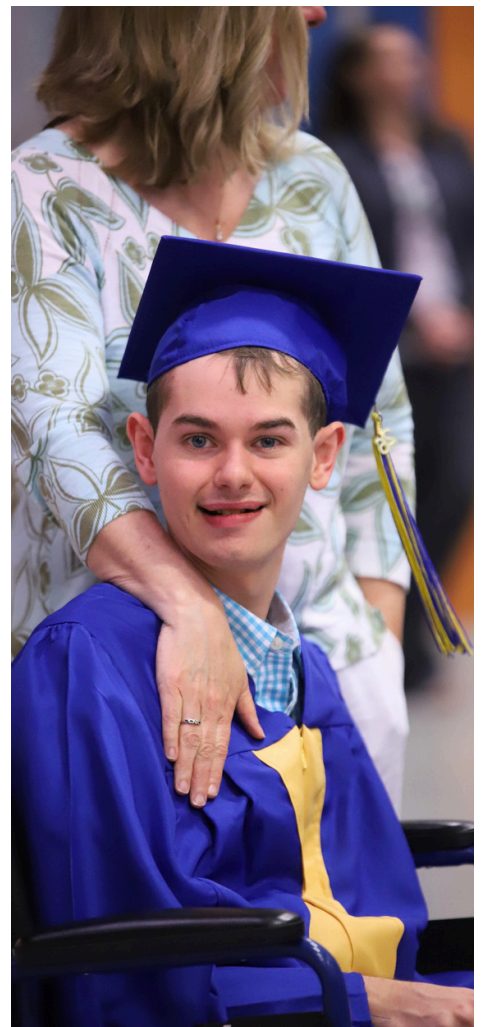


*Congratulations CRHS
Class of 2026*





Class of 2026





Mark Your Calendars

Rider Pride Day is heading back to the fall! After hearing feedback, one message was clear, our community wanted to celebrate Rider Pride during football season, earlier in the school year, and with the excitement of Homecoming Week. We listened, and we're thrilled to announce that Rider Pride Day will be on Friday, October 10, 2026, officially kicking off Homecoming Week across Caesar Rodney School District.

This beloved tradition brings our Rider community together to celebrate school spirit, showcase student talents, reconnect with alumni, and strengthen the bonds that make CR so special. We have lots of exciting activities planned and look forward to sharing more details in the future. Mark your calendars and get ready to celebrate all things Rider Pride this fall!

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Class of
2038

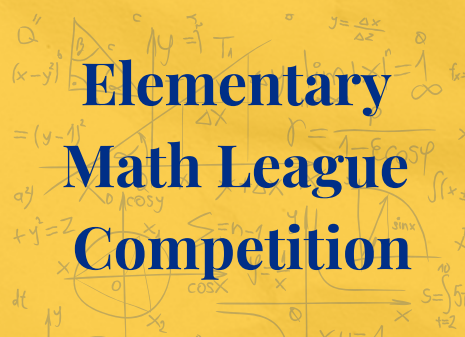


Welch





Creating, Competing, and Celebrating Together,
CRSD First Annual Elementary Arts Festival & Math League Competition
Where Creativity Shines and Young Minds Rise!



District-Wide Events



Allen Frear Builds Skills

Thank you to Yoon's Martial Arts for partnering with our schools to inspire and empower our students. Through Taekwondo, students not only learned fundamental martial arts techniques but also strengthened important character traits like focus, confidence, and respect.

Nellie Stokes Continues Hallway Huddle Tradition

You can probably hear the celebration throughout the town of Camden as students cheer on their classmates, teachers, staff, and community members. It's an electrifying display of Rider Pride.



Star Hill Blue & Gold Club

Students participated in the Star Hill Blue and Gold Club, which focuses on promoting inclusion and fostering meaningful connections among students.



W. Reily Brown Teams Advance to Odyssey of the Mind World Finals



Creativity, collaboration, and innovation were on full display this year as two Odyssey of the Mind teams from W. Reily Brown Elementary School earned the opportunity to compete at the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals in Iowa. Odyssey of the Mind is an international academic competition that challenges students to solve complex, open-ended problems through teamwork, critical thinking, and creativity. Teams spend months developing unique solutions, designing sets and props, and preparing performances while overcoming spontaneous challenges that test their problem-solving skills on the spot.

A PROMISE KEPT: CENTENNIAL GALA PORTRAIT RETURNS HOME TO CAESAR RODNEY

Written by: Shannon Wolfe

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en years after purchasing a one-of-a-kind portrait of Delaware patriot Caesar Rodney, former Caesar Rodney High School driver's education teacher Arthur Cahall has fulfilled a promise that speaks to the heart of Rider Pride.



In 2016, during Caesar Rodney School District's Centennial Celebration, CRHS art teacher Rob Sample was commissioned by the Centennial Committee to create an exclusive portrait of Caesar Rodney. The painting was auctioned at the Centennial Gala held at Dover Downs Hotel and Casino, where Mr. Cahall placed the winning bid of \$2,600. At the time, he shared a simple but meaningful intention:

"My wife and I plan to will the painting back to the Caesar Rodney School District."

This year, as our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of the United States, Mr. and Mrs. Cahall decided they didn't want to wait. They felt there was no more fitting time to return the painting to the district that had meant so much to him.

When Mr. Cahall arrived to donate the portrait, he did so proudly dressed in Caesar Rodney blue and gold, complete with a vintage CR lacrosse hat that reflected decades of Rider memories. As he carried the painting through the doors, his excitement was unmistakable. He shared stories from his years at Caesar Rodney, reminiscing about the students whose lives he helped shape and the colleagues who became lifelong friends. His pride in the district remained just as strong as it was when he first walked its halls.

Some gifts are measured by their value. Others are measured by the memories, history, and heart they carry. Thanks to the generosity of Arthur and Mrs. Cahall, this remarkable piece of Caesar Rodney history has come home, where it will continue to inspire generations of Riders for years to come.



Retired Drivers Education Teacher, Mr. Arthur Cahall pictured with his wife, Mrs. Cahall showcase retired art teacher, Mr. Rob Samples artistic talent.



Once a Rider, Always a Rider.

Congratulations to the Class of 2026.

Wherever your path leads, you'll always have a home at Caesar Rodney.



Rider Pride Day, October 10, 2026, Kicking off Homecoming Week!