

Smyrna School District's

# Smyrna Messenger



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The mission of the Smyrna School District is to ensure that the students of the community are prepared, as effectively and as efficiently as possible, to become responsible and productive citizens possessing the knowledge, the problem-solving skills, and the positive attitudes necessary to successfully adapt to and function in an ever-changing environment.

82 Monrovia Ave. • Smyrna, DE 19977

302.653.8585

SPRING ISSUE

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## Smyrna Board of Education

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## From the Superintendent's Desk...

*Spring Message from Deborah D. Wicks*

On Saturday, February 22, 2014 the Smyrna School District and our communities of Clayton, Kenton, Townsend, and Smyrna celebrated our 16<sup>th</sup> "I Love the Smyrna School District" day. With well over 7,000 people attending, the day was filled with student mini-concerts, art shows, curriculum displays, and informational booths from churches, local businesses, and community organizations. A special thank you to our voters who passed our Current Expense and Major Capital Improvement Referendum. See pages 8 & 9 for photos of the day.

At the end of the day, many students received awards for winning our annual values essay contest. This year's community core value was responsibility. Congressman John Carney was honored as our role model of responsibility by our Smyrna School District Board of Education and local, county, state, and federal leaders. What a

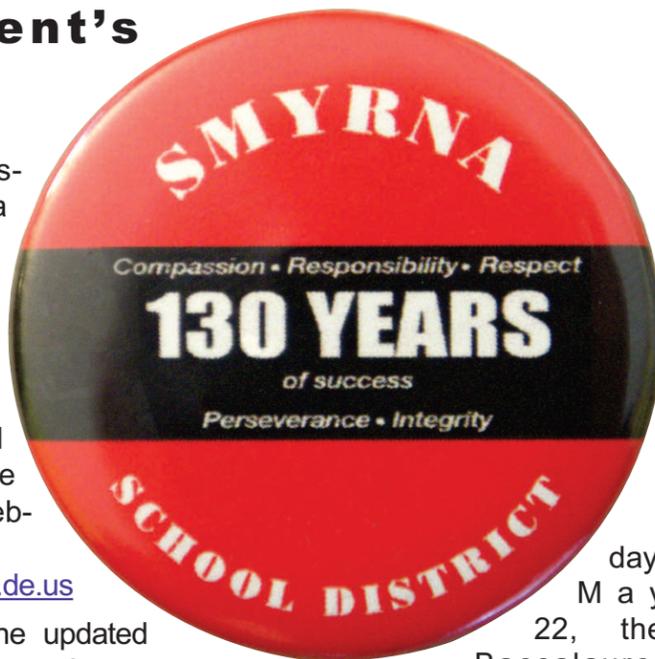
wonderful blessing it is to be a part of this outstanding school family.

More fabulous news about the Smyrna School District can be found on our website:

[www.smyrna.k12.de.us](http://www.smyrna.k12.de.us)

by clicking on the updated March 2014 "State of the District". This report is published each year and contains "indicators of progress" towards our mission and our goals plus information on numbers of students and staff.

The class of 2014 graduates on Saturday, May 31, 2014 at 10 a.m. on the Charles V. Williams Athletic Field. With 321 members this class is the 130<sup>th</sup> class to be awarded a Smyrna High School diploma. Events that will point to how outstanding the class of 2014 is include: the Annual Athletic Awards Ceremony on Thurs-



day, May 22, the Baccalaureate at Saint Polycarps Church of Smyrna, 135 Ransom Lane, on Wednesday, May 28; and the Senior Awards on Thursday, May 29 will all point to how wonderful and outstanding the Class of 2014 is. Congratulations to each member as they begin the next phase of their life.

Thank you, as always, for your support of the Smyrna School District family and our community core values of perseverance, respect, responsibility, integrity, and compassion.



## Smyrna's Educational Support Person of the Year

Each year, the district staff members nominate an Education Support Professional (ESP) from their building. ESPs include custodians, paraprofessionals, secretaries, and technicians. Smyrna is fortunate to have many dedicated support professionals that help our buildings run and our children flourish. In order to be considered for the ESP award, the person must be a full-time district employee, have worked in the district for three years, and be a member of the Smyrna Educators Association. Once selected by the building, a district-level committee reviews the nominee applications to select a district ESP. The committee looks for someone who promotes a positive image, demonstrates strong involvement within the district, shows personal involvement in the educational process, and exhibits outstanding practices in his or her area.

This year, Ginger Barkley was selected as Smyrna School District's Education Support Professional. Mrs. Barkley is the secretary in Smyrna High School's student support office. She goes above and beyond to ensure parents receive communication and a team comes together to talk about the needs of students. Mrs. Jarrell reported, "On a daily basis, one can find Ginger helping a student, staff, or parent with an issue or concern, no matter how big or small." Mrs. Barkley is also very involved in the community. She

volunteers for both Little Wrestlers and the Smyrna Clayton Little League Association. As Mrs. Cook, building principal, explained, "She (Mrs. Barkley) knows what is happening in our school and in our community, and does her best to portray both in the most positive light possible."



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## CLAYTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### Clayton Elementary Honors Support Staffer & Teacher of the Year!



**Mrs. Kate Kleinot: 2014-2015 TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

Congratulations to Mrs. Kate Kleinot for being selected as Clayton Elementary School's Teacher of the Year for the 2014-2015 school year! Mrs. Kleinot graduated in 2005 from the University of Delaware with a Bachelor's degree in Education and then returned to

earn her Master's of Instruction in 2011. Mrs. Kleinot has worked at Clayton Elementary since 2006 and previously worked one year in the Christina School District.

In her spare time, she enjoys reading, interior decorating, and traveling. She lives in Dover with her husband and dog, Sasha.

Kate Kleinot is an outstanding representative of the teachers at Clayton Elementary and we are proud that she has been selected as Teacher of the Year for the 2014-2015 school year.

**Mrs. Kay Grabowski: 2014-2015 EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL**

Congratulations to Mrs. Kay Grabowski for being selected as Clayton Elementary School's Education Support Professional of the Year for the 2014 - 2015 school year! Mrs. Grabowski has worked for the



Smyrna School District for 20 years, 16 years at Clayton Elementary as a Title One Para and currently as an Intervention Support Para/ Attendance Secretary. She worked at North Smyrna Elementary four years as a CLP Para.

Mrs. Grabowski loves spending time fishing with her husband and cheering for her Philadelphia Eagles! She cherishes the time spent with her sons and their wives, and especially her time with her three beautiful grandchildren, Kate, Jack and Ian.

Clayton Elementary is proud to have Kay Grabowski as the Education Support Professional of the Year.

### BUDDY BENCH



Bullying is something that happens in schools every day. Here at Clayton Elementary School, they are taking every step possible to prevent bullying not only in the classroom but also on the playground. Wilmington University School Counseling Intern Dina Samonte with the help of School Counselor Gayle Bernhard and Principal Debbie Chadwick have implemented a "Buddy Bench" for the playground. The "Buddy Bench" is a way to help deal with playground exclusion. Any student who is sitting on the bench will be asked by other students to join in or will play with another activity of their choice from the

"Buddy Box" of assorted games and toys they have provided for the children. No child should ever be left alone on the playground or feel as though they have no one to play with. Playground loneliness and bullying tends to be a major problem in a lot of elementary schools. Clayton Elementary School strives to ensure their students are being responsible, respectful, compassionate, showing perseverance, and integrity in the classroom as well as on the playground. Building new friendships and ending playground bullying is the ultimate goal of the "Buddy Bench."

*see Buddy Bench pg 4*

### First Grade News

The first grade classes at Clayton Elementary are busy this spring! We just completed our Solids and Liquids Science kit and are looking forward to beginning our final kit, Organisms. We will conclude this Science kit with a field trip to Killens Pond State Park. We will take part in the "My Life at the Pond" program, where the students will learn what a habitat needs to be a home and the creatures that call Killens Pond their home. They will get to explore the habitats and take a hike on the Pondsides Trail to search for animals that make their homes along the pond's edge, as well.

Mrs. Massey's class has been working on creating an Insect Museum to display in the school. The Insect Museum was a weeklong project that the students worked on in class and at home. Each student chose an insect and wrote a report, providing facts and information about their insect. They also created some impressive displays for each insect!

Students in Mrs. Cianci's class have been working on insect diagrams. Teams are choosing two insects to compare. They will use a Venn diagram to show how the insects are alike and different.

*See First Grade News pg 4*



### Kindergarten Events

During the month of March, Ms. Kate Marvel, from the Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve, came to talk to the children about wildlife from our area. She brought samples of pelts that the children were able to touch. She also discussed the unique footprint that each animal makes and the children were able to match them to the correct animal.

In May, we will be visiting the Middletown High School Farm. Cheryl Vest and the agriculture department set up centers that are run by the high school students. These are hands on learning experiences that the children find highly motivating. The farm also has quite a few animals that the children are permitted to pet and interact with. The highlight of the day for the children is getting to sample the homemade ice cream.

### Third Grade Does Hagley

*Sarah Mills*



During the month of February the third grade team traveled to The Hagley Museum in Wilmington, Delaware. Students were able to see where the DuPont's lived and worked long ago. While on the field trip we traveled back in time and witnessed what life was like during the Industrial Revolution. Students learned about the daily chores of a family during that time in history. In the foreman's restored home we baked cookies in a wood stove, did laundry on a wash board, dressed up in the clothing of the times, used an old fashioned iron, and washed dishes using the water from the well. At Brandywine Manufacturer's Sunday School on Workers Hill, the students learned short lessons typical of a nineteenth-century school. After that, we relocated to The Factory System Workshop. Students formed an assembly line to make labels for gun powder kegs. Each child had their own special job to keep the production line running smoothly. When the trip was done, most of the children agreed that although they had a blast, life today seems a lot less strenuous than back in those days. Oh, the benefits of technology!

### Clayton Science Trip: Aquatic Habitats

On Wednesday, May 14, fourth grade at Clayton Elementary will be taking their final field trip of the year. The grade level will be visiting the Baltimore Aquarium and Inner Harbor. This trip ties into their studies in science with "Structures of Life." During this science kit, students have been observing the structures of crayfish and Bess Beetles. The aquarium will give the students the opportunity to observe other aquatic creatures in their "natural habitats" and compare the structures to those they study in class. Students will learn how different animals have adapted to survive in their environment and how different structures aid these animals in their survival. The students, parents, and teachers are excited to go and become part of "an underwater world" for the day.

### Tobacco Prevention Games Where Students Say No



Smyrna School District has again received a grant to help educate students, in grades K-12, on Tobacco Prevention and assist with cessation at the High School. Funding for this grant, totaling \$8822.00 is provided by the Delaware Health Fund and managed by the American Lung Association of Delaware. The funds are used to promote an anti-tobacco message throughout the district. Students who are current smokers and/or tobacco users can seek tobacco cessation services through the Wellness Center. Individual counseling sessions using the NOT (Not on Tobacco) program are available to all students in grades 9-12. This program is known to be an effective tool for cessation and reduction. It is a structured approach to cessation. Students learn to identify their reasons for smoking, healthy alternatives to tobacco use, and people who will support them in their efforts to quit. Although prevention is the key, it is important that students have a place to turn to for assistance with quitting.

Many children admit to having their first cigarette by the age of 11 and being addicted to tobacco products by age 14. According to the American Lung Association, smoking costs the United States over \$193 billion dollars annually. This includes loss of productivity and direct health care expenditures. This is an extremely large sum of money to be spent in an economy that does not have room for frivolous spending.

A group of students at the intermediate schools participated in this year's Homecoming parade representing the Anti-Ash Brigade. They shared their tobacco free message as they marched along the parade

*see Tobacco Prevention pg 4*

# NORTH SMYRNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Mrs. Stephanie Greim: 2014-2015 EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL

Congratulations to Mrs. Stephanie Greim for being selected as North Smyrna Elementary School's Education Support Professional of the Year for the 2014-2015 school year! Mrs. Greim has worked for the Smyrna School District for the past four years at North as our library para-professional. Mrs. Greim loves spending time with her husband and two children. She is a tremendous asset to North showing great energy and organization. We are proud to have Mrs. Greim as our Education Support Professional of the Year.



## Girls On The Run Is So Much Fun!!



Girls on the Run is off to a "running" start. The girls are having a ball learning valuable lessons that not only build inner strength but also fuels them as they prepare for the upcoming 5K in Milford, DE. The coaches and volunteers are all very proud of this group of girls!! You Rock!!!!

**Quote of the Day:** "Don't be Afraid to be Amazing" *Andy Offutt Irwin*

## Fourth Grade is Keeping Busy

Joann McMillan, our professional puppeteer from the Flying Hearts Theater in Oklahoma, is on her way back after Spring Break for her annual visit. This will be her seventh year challenging our fourth graders to become puppet masters. Your children will be enthusiastically investigating and constructing puppets to enrich their Structures of Life Science Investigations. Students have already started by researching their plant or animal organisms and are currently writing and informational research report. Joann will then guide them through the steps to creating life-sized puppets. The two-week program starts on April 28 and will culminate with a performance to the school introducing them to the magical

world of puppetry on May 9. Parents are welcome!

We will also be going on another field trip on May 20. We will be going to the St. Jones River to learn more about our Structures of Life and the John Dickinson Plantation to learn more about Delaware history. This field trip will be both fun and very informational. Finally, we walked over to JBM Intermediate School last week to watch their musical "Seussical." We do think all of our students enjoyed the performance and some are anxious to be a part of the JBM's drama club next year. We will be walking back over to JBM one more time on May 21 to tour the school and learn more about what is offered to our rising 5th graders.



## Ms. Dianna Ferris: 2014-2015 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Ms. Dianna Ferris for being selected as North Smyrna Elementary School's Teacher of the Year for the 2014-2015 school year! Mrs. Ferris graduated from Wilmington University in 2009 with her Bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education. She earned her Graduate Degree in Applied Educational Technology in 2011. Ms. Ferris has worked at North Smyrna Elementary since 2009 teaching one year in third grade and four years in second grade. In her free time she enjoys running with her dog and our Girls on the Run team. Ms. Ferris demonstrates great dedication to her students. We are very proud to have Ms. Ferris representing North Smyrna Elementary.

## NES Gym/Health Fun

Spring is in the air!!! - Along with all the extra activities children get involved in outside of school, we have a lot of fun activities going on in gym/health class as well, with bowling and volleyball units as well as the End of Year Fitness Gram. We also have Special Olympics Soccer Skills coming up on Thursday, May 22.

*see NES Gym pg 4*

## North Smyrna Elementary makes cards, bookmarks and wrote letters to troops

Several of our classes wrote letters to the 238th Aviation Unit of the Delaware National Guard who are currently deployed to Kuwait. This was also very special to our North family because Mrs. Carden's daughter and Mrs. Emerson's husband are part of this unit.



## Counselor's Corner

Let's see what is happening with our classroom guidance lessons. Topics covered over the last few months include Tolerance and Respect, Bully Prevention, Career Awareness, and Personal Safety. Our Kindergarteners and First graders got to meet "Greenie" and learned that words can hurt, leaving "scars" within us. Second graders made an occupational worm including careers for each letter of the alphabet. Our third grade enjoyed a tasty treat while

comparing Tootsie Roll Pops to our own inner and outer shells. Fourth graders presented the book ONE to each grade level during anti-bully week, teaching our younger students that it only takes one person to stand up for someone being bullied or devalued.

Small groups met for about six weeks over the winter. The winter weather made consistent weekly meetings a challenge, but the students and teachers did a great job

adjusting their schedules accordingly. Small groups included topics of friendship skills, self-esteem, being a successful student, and impulse control.

Currently our students have written letters and made cards for the 238th Aviation Unit of the Delaware National Guard who is deployed to Kuwait. We were able to collect over 400 cards and letters from our North Smyrna Elementary students! The troops

*see Counselor's Corner pg 4*



## The Cat in the Hat Visits Pre-K Classes

*In celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday the Cat in the Hat paid a visit to some of our Pre-K classes.*

## Music News

The third and fourth grade classes all recently finished a STOMP project which not only helped on collaborating together as groups, but, also introduced the concept of composing simple rhythms and performing into the music classroom. All of the third and fourth grade classes will be working on recorders during apportion of each class for the remainder of the year. Recorders are a fantastic way for students to learn about notation,

parts of the music staff, problem solving, practice, and giving those who would like to join band someday a great experience and stepping stone.

Kindergarten, first, and second grade have a lot of fun learning about various topics in music class including telling the difference between high and low, long and short, soft and loud, exploring our voices and xylophones all while playing games, singing songs, and dancing.

*see Music News pg 4*

## North Smyrna Elementary's Garden Club



Ms. Johnson and her Garden Club have done an exceptional job getting our garden ready for spring. The children enjoyed planting different types of herbs, vegetables and flowers.



## North Smyrna Elementary School Daily Schedule 2013-2014

8:15-3:45	Teacher Workday
8:15-8:35	Cafeteria Open for Breakfast
8:20	Students Enter Building
8:35	Late Bell/Morning Announcements
8:30-3:30	Student Day
3:25	Dismissal
8:30-11:00	PreK AM
12:30-3:00	PreK PM

# SMYRNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Meet SES Teacher of the Year Lauren Bundek!



This year's Teacher of the Year at Smyrna Elementary is the multi-talented Lauren Bundek! Lauren works with our ESP of the year, Cindy Atkinson, in our multi-age classroom. Thank goodness Lauren is such a great teacher ~ she works with 12 students that have a range of ages and abilities, and is able to bring out the very best in each one. Lauren loves her job, and is always looking for a way to reach her students that may not learn in conventional ways. She is a huge asset to our school and to her students! Congratulations, Lauren!

## Funds Raised for Ronald McDonald House Charities, McDonald Appears



In December 2013, Smyrna Elementary School participated in the district wide fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House Charities, whose mission is to create, find and support programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children. Through the efforts of staff and students, SES raised over \$450. The homeroom that raised the most money was treated to a visit from Ronald McDonald and a McDonald's lunch. Mrs. Rushe's kindergarten class was the top fundraiser for Smyrna Elementary this year and is pictured here with Ms. Wheeler.

## Smyrna Elementary School End of Year Happenings

- May 22:** Special Olympics Soccer Competition at St. Andrew's
- May 23:** 4<sup>th</sup>-grade to visit JBM
- May 26:** SCHOOL CLOSED (Memorial Day)
- May 28:** 3<sup>rd</sup> - grade to Fort Delaware
- May 29:** 4<sup>th</sup>-grade talent show (1:30)
- May 30:** Field Day
- June 2:** 1<sup>st</sup>-grade to Big Oak Park
- June 3:** KN Promotion Ceremony
- June 4:** 4<sup>th</sup>-grade picnic
- June 4:** 12:30 dismissal
- June 5:** 4<sup>th</sup>-grade "Fly Away"
- June 5:** 12:30 dismissal
- June 6:** STUDENT FINAL DAY (10:30 dismissal)
- Aug. 25:** First day of 2014/15 School Year for students

from Buddy Bench pg 2

The groups of third and fourth grade students pictured have worked together to come up with ideas, rules, and made posters to promote the "Buddy Bench" throughout the school. The students have met with Ms. Samonte and Ms. Bernhard over several weeks to discuss the "Buddy Bench" displayed on the playground. Each of these student has played a major role in the implementation of the "Buddy Bench" at Clayton Elementary School. The staff and students would also like to thank Lowe's Home Improvements for their generous donations to make all of this possible.



## Clayton Physical Education

Lauren Shanklin

Now that spring is finally here, we are getting back outside and having a great time exercising! The younger students worked on volleying, jump roping, and parachute this winter. The third and fourth grade students concentrated on basketball and jump roping. The third and fourth grade students just completed the state mandated Fitnessgram testing. Now the younger students will be outside practicing their throwing and catching skills while the third and fourth grade students will be learning about rugby. In May, all the students will start practicing for Field Day!

Back in February, our second through fourth grade students participated in our 8<sup>th</sup> annual Jump Rope for Heart event. Our students raised over \$5,200 for the American Heart Association! Emma Kassner was our top fundraiser raising \$180. All the students did a fabulous job! Thank you to all the community members who contributed and made our event a huge success.

We also had a Family Fitness

from Counselor's Corner pg 3

are excited to receive their mail, which is being sent this week.

Classroom guidance lessons will continue through the month of May covering topics including emotional management and problem solving skills.

*If we had not winter, the spring would not be so pleasant. If we did not sometimes taste adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome.—Anne Bradstreet.*

Night for second grade in January. The students and parents did a great job participating in a variety of fun fitness stations. Also in January, many of our third and fourth grade students participated in Family Zumba Night. Jennifer Seaward from Fitness Made Fun did an awesome job teaching us all types of cool dance moves! In health, our fourth grade Anti-Ash Brigade leaders will be hosting their last Stay and Play Tobacco Free Carnival for the rest of the school. The 20 fourth grade leaders have done a great job all year educating the other students about the dangers of smoking.

Field Day will be held on Friday, May 23, starting at 8:45 am. Students will be participating in stations in the morning and the 50 yard dash and tug-a-war in the afternoon. The rain date for Field Day is Tuesday, May 27.

Please remember to encourage your child to get out and exercise this spring and summer. Try to make exercising a family habit!! Enjoy the warm weather!

from Music News pg 3

We will be continuing over the next few weeks to work on self-space and learning to appropriately play various percussion instruments in class, all while having plenty of fun.

from Tobacco Prevention pg 2

route. These children serve as role models in teaching other children to say "No" to tobacco. At Clayton Elementary School, their PE and health teacher, Lauren Shanklin will educate every student on the dangers of tobacco through carnival games provided by the American Lung Association. These games are a fun way for kids to learn the facts about the hazards of tobacco use. Our goal is to keep the students of the Smyrna School District Tobacco Free.

## SES Third Grade Reader's Theatre



from L to R: Nathaniel Hornberger, Anthony Wilkinson, Layne Carter, Nicholas Crawford, Andrew Foster, Eddie Clements, Brian Wright

Students from Mrs. Newman's class perform their student-directed and performed Reader's Theatre as part of their new Common Core State Standards-based Wonders Reading Curriculum.

## MUSIC NEWS RELEASE

Fourth Graders at Clayton Elementary School are learning about music... and getting a little history lesson along the way. Their Spring Musical which premiered on May 7, depicted the monumental journey of Captain Meriwether Lewis and Captain William Clark. In addition to singing, dancing, and playing instruments, students learn about the famous expedition that defined America. Main characters Lewis, Clark, Charbonneau, Sacajawea, York, and their Newfoundland Dog, Scannon, are played by: Cameron Edge,

Evan McClymont, Bradley Evans, Diana Perez, Kevin Woodruff, and Tyler Downward respectively. Emily Fowler stars too as modern day school girl Cassie, who gets a "surprise" visit from the explorers, as well as a first-hand account of their exciting adventures. Fourth graders will also showcase their recorder skills, as they perform Wayfaring Stranger, a song that was popular during the time of the Lewis and Clark expedition. We are almost ready to set sail up the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean, and present our musical entitled THE ADVENTURES OF LEWIS AND CLARK!

from First Grade News pg 2

Mrs. Metz's class has just finished Unit 4 in Reading and is currently testing on it. Unit 4 was all about animals and the students really enjoyed it! Koko the Gorilla was among the favorites! The students were amazed at all that Koko is able to do; such as communicate with people through sign language, take care of her very own pet, and paint!

The students in Mrs. Sheehan's class are perfecting their "how-to" writing pieces. Each student chose a pet and a task required to care for that pet. They had fun writing about how to care for their pets!

from NES Gym pg 3

The most exciting activity we have coming up is field day! Field day will be held on Friday, May 23, with the rain date scheduled for Wednesday, May 28.

Please aid in the attempt to have the healthiest, happiest students around by stressing overall health as well.

from Hagley Trip pg 5

by an operating waterwheel, a turbine-powered roll mill, a steam engine, and a water weight activity. At the conclusion of their visit, many children were astounded by the fact that many children in the late 1800s only attended school once a week. While you would think that perhaps this idea may appeal to many children, we were pleasantly surprised when our students told the tour guides that they would prefer their school experience!!!!

## SUNNYSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### Kindergarten Corner

Sunnyside Kindergarteners are Springing into Action! February was a busy month for us! In between all the snow days, we were able to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School (by dressing like we were 100 years old), the 101<sup>st</sup> Day, and Valentine's Day. We Marched into Spring, by "marching against Bullies," as part of our Anti-Bullying program. We also took advantage of the windy weather, by flying kites with our families! We had the opportunity to "dress to impress" and visit a theater to view a play, early in April. In addition to April Showers, we celebrated Spring with a Luau themed party and an egg hunt. We have been busy, blossoming into First Graders!



### Family Math & Literacy Night

Sunnyside Elementary had Family Math/Literacy Night on Thursday, May 15, from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Families were invited to celebrate reading and math by playing educational games! Some of the activities included: making glyph cookies (decorating cookies based on directions given), IPAD games, Goldfish Math, Recipe Creations, dice games, popcorn word problems, puppet stations, and pattern necklaces. It was all about having fun and discovering activities that families can participate in that encourage good, fun learning.

### Jessica Marston Sunnyside's Teacher of the Year!



Becoming a teacher was an easy decision in my life. From a young age, I was surrounded by many family members that valued education by showing a love for teaching. My mother, cousin, and uncle were all educators and played a key role in molding my future. I graduated from Wilmington University in 2009 with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a minor in Special Education. That summer, I was offered a job at Sunnyside Elementary School in the Smyrna School District. Over the last five years, I have enjoyed becoming a member of the Sunnyside Team. Throughout my teaching years, my love for children, eagerness to make a difference, and the support of my family has empowered me to strive to be the best educator.

Sunnyside second graders learn about government and colonial life with a field trip to Dover. Students visited a variety of museums and did hands on activities to preview the next social studies unit, Writing Stories of the Past. Students visited the John Bell House where they experienced life growing up in the 1800's. Then to the Bigg's Museum to view hand stitched embroidery, furniture, and paintings of the 1800's. They finished the trip by comparing the Old State House with the new Legislative Hall where Colonial Dan led them through how laws were passed. Many of the second graders exclaimed as they were leaving that it was the BEST field trip and can't wait to tell their parents about it.

### Second Grade is Re-Living History, Writing Stories of the Past

Sunnyside second graders learn about government and colonial life with a field trip to Dover. Students visited a variety of museums and did hands on activities to preview the next social studies unit, Writing Stories of the Past. Students visited the John Bell

House where they experienced life growing up in the 1800's. Then to the Bigg's Museum to view hand stitched embroidery, furniture, and paintings of the 1800's. They finished the trip by comparing the Old State House with the new Legislative Hall

where Colonial Dan led them through how laws were passed. Many of the second graders exclaimed as they were leaving that it was the BEST field trip and can't wait to tell their parents about it.

### Sunnyside Elementary - Fourth Grade

Currently our Sunnyside Superstar fourth graders are studying about economics and the importance of business. This school year our students are taking part in a hands on Junior Achievement program called JA BizTown. Over the last few weeks, students have learned about

work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy to prepare them for our upcoming field trip to JA BizTown in Wilmington on May 7. On the field trip, the students are looking forward to entering into the world of working adults. Students will become working citizens and be assigned a job that they applied for in class; all students are eager to get their first pay check! Everyone is excited to use their skills and knowledge acquired during in class lessons.

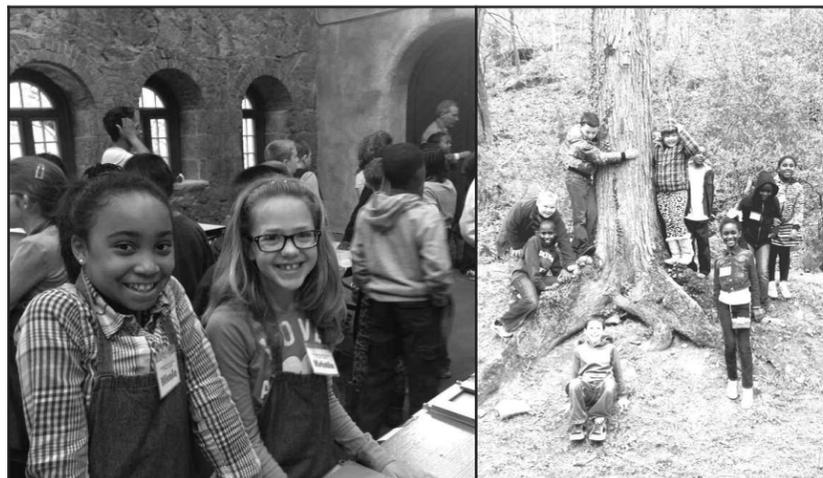


### Third Grade Hagley Trip

On April 29, Sunnyside Elementary third graders braved the wind and rain to explore the Hagley Museum! The children were able to discover the extraordinary links between history, science, and technology as they learned about the Industrial Revolution and Hydropower (Water power). The children participated in a production assembly line to make labels for powder kegs. They also helped prepare these kegs for shipping. They learned about how this factory system was developed during the Industrial Revolution and learned

how important it is to gain your education! Our Sunnyside Superstars also took an outdoor walking tour that explored the evolution of power used to run the mills along the Brandywine River. Through the different models and real life exhibits, the children were able to understand the principles of energy and power as illustrated

*See Hagley Trip pg 4*



### Pond Life and Their Habitats Studied at Killen's

On a beautiful, sunny day in April, first graders at Sunnyside traveled to Killen's Pond to learn more about pond life. Once they arrived, they were met by knowledgeable and engaging tour guides that took them on a memorable adventure through the woods and down by the pond. The visit consisted of four stations along with a picnic lunch under the trees. On a nature walk through the woods, they searched for animals in their habitats. They learned more about frogs and animal tracks. The brave ones even got to touch turtles and snakes! Their favorite part was when they used nets at the edge of the pond to catch organisms. In

class, students are building aquariums that resemble pond life with freshwater plants and animals. Be sure to quiz them

on what they know about pond life. They are sure to WOW you!



Donna Cantillon has always operated under the guiding principle, "a healthy student is a better student", and to that end, she has worked diligently to manage students' health concerns so that they are ready and able to perform to their optimum capacity. Her school nurse office was always calm, soothing, and relaxed despite the multitude of issues that regularly pass through her doorway. Mrs. Cantillon has been Sunnyside's school nurse these past six years, and her support of and communication with parents/guardians and the school



### Sunnyside Says Goodbye...

staff has always been exemplary. Sunnyside wishes you a lengthy, healthy, and happy retirement, Mrs. Cantillon!! Thanks for taking such good care of our students and staff... you will surely be missed!!

## CLAYTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

### Mrs. Heather Moyer is the 2014 Clayton Intermediate School Teacher of the Year!



Clayton Intermediate School is proud to announce Heather Moyer as our 2014 Teacher of the Year! As Reading Specialist for fifth and sixth grades at CIS, Mrs. Moyer holds a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. Mrs. Moyer spends her time outside of CIS, volunteering as a team mom and board member for the Smyrna/Clayton PopWarner League. Watching her children, Hunter, Halie, and Cole, all of whom are

Smyrna School District students, participate in sports and school events keeps her and her husband, Hal, extremely busy.

When asked how she felt about receiving the Teacher of the Year Award, Mrs. Moyer stated, "I was honored and humbled to represent such a fabulous group of teachers." Mrs. Moyer enjoys teaching because of the relationships that she forms with students. She does her best to help her students feel comfortable and confident while learning. Observing her students social and academic growth is incredibly rewarding to Mrs. Moyer. As the Reading Specialist, Mrs. Moyer enjoys working on reading skills and strategies with a small group of students because it allows for true collaboration among the students. The students feel very comfortable working in the small group setting because the pressures of the large classroom are eliminated. Having the ability to diversify instruction to meet the needs of all her students and analyzing their data to see their individual growth throughout the year is another aspect that Mrs. Moyer appreciates.

Mrs. Moyer feels fortunate to be a member of the CIS Team. She believes, "The staff and administrators at CIS are absolutely the best. We work cooperatively and collaborate on many different ideas and tasks. Everyone works together in a positive way with the students' best interests in mind. The staff at CIS has a common goal - the success of our students." Mrs. Moyer has a few goals of her own. Her personal goal this year is to participate in more community service events. As the student council advisor, she coordinates community service events; however, she would like to serve the Smyrna Clayton community by getting more involved and helping the needs of local families. Mrs. Moyer's professional goal is to work collaboratively with other teachers to align all of the common core standards with the current curriculum.

Mrs. Moyer stated, "I feel extremely blessed to be part of Smyrna School District as a teacher and as a mom of students in the district. As an employee I feel supported and encouraged to do my very best. I continue to learn every day, whether it is from another teacher, administrator, or even a student. As a mom, I have watched my children grow up in this community and thrive academically, socially, and athletically." The CIS Team wishes Mrs. Moyer the best of luck as she progresses through the Teacher of the Year process.

### CIVIL WAR: STEP Students Creating a Quilt of Understanding

The STEP students at CIS have been busy the past few months learning about the Civil War and the Underground Railroad. In our Civil War Unit, we learned about the history of the war, background information about the leaders of the war, and about slavery and how the slaves escaped. Students researched information about these leaders and significant people that contributed to the Civil War in some way and presented their information to the class. They also took part in a web quest that allowed them to gain insights into what a slave did on the plantation and how they were treated.

We are currently working on African American Quilting Traditions and the meaning of the quilting patterns. For example, the diamond was very prominent in African American tradition. The diamond is symbolic of the cycles

of life. Each point represents a stage in life: birth, life, death, and rebirth.

During the slavery years, members of the Underground Railroad would use quilts to send messages. Log cabin quilts made with black cloth were hung to mark a safe house of refuge. Some quilts

marked escape routes out of a plantation or county, others marked the stars that would act as a night time map through the country to freedom.

Finally we wrapped up our unit on the Civil War with our field trip to Fort Delaware in Port Penn on May 16.



Picture shows students working on their own quilting pattern.

### Clayton Intermediate Student Council News

The is a very active group of students, working to promote school spirit and provide community support. The entire month of February was "Pennies for Pasta" and homerooms collected money to donate to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The students raised \$1,600, which was double our amount collected last year. As the winning homeroom, Mrs. Craig's class received an Olive Garden lunch reward.

Our St. Paddy's Day CIS Dance was a huge success thanks to our Student Council representatives. There was dancing, food, and a lot of fun! We even played games and students could win iTunes gift cards. The reps are constantly trying to come up with ways to promote school spirit and have had many school spirit events this year, such as career day, crazy hair day, mix match day, and crazy sock day; just to name a few. May Madness is coming up where we will have competitions at lunch among homerooms. The winning class will be awarded a prize.

The CIS Student Council officers attended "Legislative Day" in Dover and were able to tour historical Dover, Legislative Hall, and the DE Archives, where we viewed amazing displays depicting the Underground Railroad.



On February 19, the officers along with a few representatives presented a power point to the Smyrna School Board showcasing our successes thus far and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. The officers have completed a scrapbook and submitted it to the Delaware Association of Student Councils (DASC). The theme of the scrapbook is "Setting Our Sails for Success" and includes items such as our goals and objectives for the year, school spirit events, community service activities, and fundraising activities. The officers will be attending the Spring DASC Conference where all of our hard work will be recognized and members can run for a state officer position for next year.

The student council is very hard working and extremely dedicated to making CIS a great place to be. As their advisers, Mrs. Moyer and Mrs. Yerkes are so proud of the accomplishments of the student council this year.

### Clayton Character Champions

Students at Clayton Intermediate School have continued to demonstrate important core values throughout the course of the year. These values are recognized every month by the PBS committee. The Clayton Character Champion program gives students a chance to nominate their peers or teachers for various core val-

ues. The core value for January was Generosity. The student winners were Amaya Ridgeway and Morgan Donahue for fifth grade, and Jamie Cleary and Adebola Gbadebo for sixth grade. The core value for February was Initiating Respect. The student winners were Hannah Osborne, Lily Wynne, Gabrielle Treadwell, and David McKowen, all students are from fifth grade. The teacher winners were Mrs. Judy and Mrs. Moyer. For March, the core value was Integrity. The student winners were Keira Anderson, Amanda Allison, Sarah Coverdale, and Anna Soldano, all students are from fifth grade. The teacher winners were Mrs. Hoyer and Mrs. Webb. We look forward to the students finishing out the year strong and still demonstrating their personal best each and every day.

### After Teaching Primary Students Over a Decade, June Craig Serves Another Score with 6th Graders! Looking Forward to Retirement this Summer

The staff at Clayton Intermediate School would like to wish Mrs. June Craig a very happy retirement! June is retiring at the end of the school year after teaching for 37 years.

June graduated from the University of DE in December of 1976 and started her career as a sixth grade teacher at Redding Middle School in the Appoquinimink District in January of 1977. After teaching there for a year and a half, she taught K-5 Special Education students in Cecil County, Maryland for seven years. June was then hired by the Smyrna School District, where she taught grades 2, 3, 4 and 5 at North Elementary before moving to JBM (Smyrna Middle School at that time) in 1993 as a sixth grade teacher. She has been teaching sixth grade ELA ever since.

Once retired she plans to spend time with her husband Glenn and son Zach, as well as her five cats. She also plans to do some gardening and home improvements and would like to do some travelling.

June says that she loves teaching in the Smyrna district and that she especially loves it when her former students become teachers. She looks forward to not setting an alarm clock and never waking up in the dark again!

Mrs. Craig is a wonderful teacher who has touched the lives of thousands of students over the course of her career. She will truly be missed by her CIS family. We wish you all the best, June!

### "Read Across America" *continued from back page*

Magician Richard Benninghoff joined the students at lunch sharing the "magic of reading."

In addition to guest readers and speakers, we kicked off an AR competition awarding top readers. Students read and quizzed on over 1700 books in one month.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who took the time to share their love of reading with our students.



## JOHN BASSETT MOORE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

### Mrs. Deisem honored as the 2014 JBM Teacher of the Year

John Bassett Moore Intermediate School is honored to have Mrs. Laurie Deisem as our 2014 Teacher of the Year! In her second year at JBM and eighth year teaching in the Smyrna School District, Mrs. Deisem teaches 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Working with the most amazing teaching partner, Mr.



Ryan Matthews, Mrs. Deisem loves teaching Math since it tends to be the most challenging subject for students. She strives to connect math to real life experiences to build student confidence and support their success. "Teaching is more than just teaching for me. It's learning about my students as a whole. If I can understand them and can teach them in a variety of ways then I can make them academically successful. Each one of my students is unique! I need to tap into their unique qualities and structure my academics around that! My favorite thing about teaching is making lifelong connections with my students and their families," stated Mrs. Deisem.

Mrs. Deisem received her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Wilmington University and her Master's Degree in Educational Administration from the University of Scranton. Mrs. Deisem spends most of her free time with her husband, Mark, an Associate Principal at Smyrna High School, and their daughter, Katie. Mrs. Deisem also enjoys coaching cheerleading year round in New Jersey.

Mrs. Deisem was very humbled when she was announced as JBM's Teacher of the Year. She said, "There are so many deserving candidates and I was honored to be the one chosen." Mrs. Deisem loves that she is able to represent JBM since she feels that JBM is the best! "We have the most supportive staff and community. The administration at JBM fosters an environment that promotes collaboration and the desire to prove one self. This extends beyond the staff and trickles down to the students."

One of Mrs. Deisem's goals is to become an administrator. She knows that being an administrator would allow for her to advocate on a higher level for the students and families. We at JBM are happy to have Mrs. Deisem represent JBM this year and wish her the best of luck as she proceeds into the next step of the Teacher of the Year process.

### Kindness Sends Bullies Marching

At last! Spring has arrived and with it a buzzing of many activities. Our students "Marched out Bullying" during the Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week by wearing green on Monday to represent not being mean, Tuesday students wore sunglasses because the new "cool is kind", mismatched shoes for Wednesday to stand up and be strong against bullying, on Thursday the students wore hats to show that they stood above others in a good way, and culminating on Friday everyone wore red and white to unite against bullying.

Mr. Matthews sparked Spring Fever with the wonderful sport's themed raffle basket. Mrs. Tobey will be surprising us after Spring Break with a new raffle basket for May. We thank Mrs. Weeks for offering her sign language classes to our students on designated Fridays of the month. Stay tuned for the next morning announcement.

Mrs. Crawford has shared that she will be offering a craft in the month of May, too.

Refreshed and renewed returning from Spring Break, our students will burst into the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of DCAS testing. Mrs. Demnicki and Mrs. Flairty's classes have prepared a very special testing survival kit to be distributed to each student during homerooms to remind them of how proud we are for doing their best! Just to show how proud we are, students will be rewarded for their efforts from Fall to Spring test results if they show any kind of growth they will receive a frozen treat at lunch with a ticket from their teachers. Students who earn a PL 4 in Math or Reading will receive an invitation to view a movie in the auditorium. Last but not least, all students meeting their Target Goal will participate in the much anticipated Sports-A-Palooza held on May 29, weather permitting.

### WE'RE RECYCLING!!



a free visit, and they learned many cool facts. First, we got a tour of the recycling grounds. The students didn't realize that demolition and construction items, as well as electronic waste, are collected here, along with all other recycling from the entire state of Delaware! Next, we saw an informative video about how single-stream recycling items are sorted. You can see this video as well as take an interactive tour at <http://www.dswa.com/>. Finally, the kids broke up into small groups and went around to the centers, playing games and completing educational activities about recycling. As the club's coordinator, I would highly recommend this trip to any science teacher, Girl/Boy Scout troop, or other interested organizations. It was a lot of fun and we learned a ton!

JBM's Go Green Club 6<sup>th</sup> grade members recently took a field trip to the DSWA's Recycling Center and Environmental Education Building in New Castle. It was

### JBM Celebrates Seventh Annual Read Across America Event

*continued from back page*

From 9:00-9:30 there was a school-wide Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) time.

Throughout the day, over 30 guest readers from the community came to JBM to read to the students. Guests included businessmen, firemen, college athletes, policemen, a board member, servicemen, a judge, a senator, readers from the Institute of the Blind, and more. Each guest was assigned to one of the classes at JBM and read a favorite book to the class. What a special treat for our students!

A special thank you goes out to all of our guest readers from the community for donating their time to make our program unique. Numerous Language Arts teachers helped with the coordination of guest readers. Thank you all for your efforts!



### JBM's Geography Bee 2013-2014



Most students look forward to spring break. For Jackson Reynolds, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at JBM, spring break usually includes a road trip. Between school breaks and summer vacation, Jackson has traveled to 23 states and one country. His destinations have included Key West, Niagara Falls, the Grand Canyon, and Jamaica. Jackson's travels have resulted in more than fun memories. These trips also provided great information to help him prepare as a semifinalist in the 2014 Delaware State Geography Bee. On April 4<sup>th</sup>, Jackson represented JBM at Wild Quail

Country Club competing against students across the state. With his parents there to cheer him on, Jackson was challenged by geography questions of all types. Jackson admits he was nervous at first, but once the competition started he "got into the hang of it again." Jackson's aptitude for geography influences his goals for the future. He would like to travel to as many places as he can in his lifetime with Italy being at the top of his list.

Congratulations, Jackson, on a job well done! You represented JBM well!

### What a Wonderful World... MAP!

JBM has just purchased a wonderful world map for students. The map is located just outside the library and is 9' by 16'. Students in fifth grade have been interacting with the map as they study different regions and countries around the world. Students have been learning about how to read maps, finding out about different cultures, and how to research information using a world atlas. With the addition of this wonderful map, students have been able to see their world, locate their countries and where they are in reference to Smyrna. What a wonderful addition to our school.



### J.B. Moore Student Council News

Have you ever danced in the dark? In January, the students at John Bassett Moore did just that when the student council hosted our first ever Glow Dance. We wore neon and fluorescent clothing, turned off the lights in the gym and turned on the black lights. Our gymnasium was transformed into another world, as we sang and danced along with our friends and music by our very own disc jockey, Mr. Matthews. We sold glow sticks, glasses, necklaces and bracelets. We even had a giant slide in the gym. It was an incredible night!

In March, the students participated in JBM's version of March Madness. This friendly classroom competition involved participation in various events such as eating dangling donuts, shooting baskets off of their partners head, completing a word search and hula hooping in our cafeteria during lunches. All month long, students performed in

order to score points for their homeroom. The winning homerooms were, Mr. Matthews, Mrs. Thorstenson, and Ms. McGowan/Ms. Selby. It was a lot of fun to watch and participate.

We also had a collection called Pennies for Pasta, in which we collected money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. John Bassett Moore collected over \$1,200. It was great to see all of the compassion and kindness that came pouring out of everyone's pockets in the month of March.

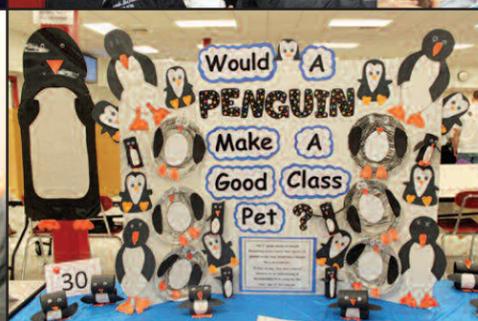
The student council has been so amazing this year. Thank you to all of the members for your hard work, as well as the study body for all of your participation. Special thanks to the officers, Amy Ndiaye, Haley Ryan, Kayla Tippit, Jenna Carroll and Taylor Steele. What an awesome year!



# I Love Smyrna S.D.

A special thank you goes out to the following:

- American Legion Ambulance
- Animals Helping Humans
- Anytime Fitness
- Asbury United Methodist Church Youth Group
- Athletic Boosters
- Atlantic Apothecary
- B/G Club 21st Century Science & Math/DE Workforce
- Bayhealth Medical Education Department
- Bethel A.M.E. Church
- Blood Bank of Delmarva
- Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge
- Boy Scouts of America
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware
- Caesar Rodney Chapter, DE Society, Sons of the Amer. Revolution.
- Carl King Tire of Smyrna
- Catamount Enterprises
- Centennial United Methodist Church
- Child Death, Near Death, & Stillbirth Commission
- Christ Care Unit Missionary Baptist Church
- Christian Care Imaging Services
- Christian Motorcycle Association
- Christiana Care Physical Therapy Plus
- Citizen's Bank of Smyrna
- Citizens' Hose Co.
- Clayton Fire Company
- Clayton Lions Club
- Clayton Police Department
- Club Z! In-Home Tutoring Services
- Comcast
- County Line 4-H
- Delaware Combat Sports, LLC
- Delaware Hospice
- Delaware State University
- Delaware Tech, Terry Campus
- Delta Kappa Gamma Women in Education
- Department of Children, Youth and Families
- 11th Democrat District Committee
- 14th/28th District Dem
- 15th/29th District Dem
- 28th/29th District Rep
- Duck Creek Historical
- Ducks Unlimited Qu
- Environmental Outp
- Ewell's St. Paul United
- Faith Baptist Church
- Faith Church of the
- Fearn-Clendaniel Ar
- First Presbyterian C
- Flying Dragon Taekw
- Friends of Belmont I
- Friends of Duck Cree
- Gentle Touch Family
- Gift of Live
- Girl Scout Cookies
- Girl Scout Registrat
- History of Smyrna
- Holly's Club of Smyr
- Hydrocephalus ASSO
- Man Band
- I3A Construction, LL
- It's All About You Ma
- JBM/SHS Alumni
- Kent County 4-H
- Korean War Vets
- Larkin's Bus Service
- Lisa A. Fagioletti, D
- Loving Care Nursery
- M & T Bank
- Mamie A. Warren Se
- Mary Kay
- Miss Utility of Del-M
- New Horizon Adult C
- Odd Fellows Café'
- Operation Christmas
- Orthodontics on Silv
- Pancreatic Cancer A
- Pat's Pizza





# Day Feb. 22, 2014

ing groups and businesses for their support:

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 Republican Committee  
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 Action Network

PNC Bank  
 Powerhouse Ministries, Inc.  
 Premier Physical Therapy & Sports  
 Performance  
 Prevention & Behavior Health  
 Services  
 Pure Wellness  
 RE/MAX Results Team  
 Read Aloud Delaware  
 Relay for Life  
 Smyrna Citizens Committee  
 Smyrna Downtown Renaissance Assoc.  
 Smyrna Lions Club  
 Smyrna Opera House  
 Smyrna Police Department  
 Smyrna Public Library  
 Smyrna Wesleyan Church  
 Smyrna Woman's Health  
 Smyrna/Clayton Boys & Girls Club  
 Smyrna/Clayton July 4th Assoc.  
 Smyrna/Clayton Little Lass  
 Smyrna/Clayton Little League  
 Smyrna/Clayton Ministerium  
 Smyrna/Clayton Pop Warner  
 Smyrna/Clayton Rotary Club  
 Smyrna/Clayton Sun Times  
 St. Peter's Episcopal Church/St.  
 Peter's Preschool  
 The Academy at St. Polycarp  
 The Children's Secret Garden  
 The First National Bank of Wyoming  
 The Tabernacle Church  
 theMISSION  
 Thomas' Accounting/T.Co.  
 Productions, LLC  
 Veterans United Outreach of Delaware  
 VFW Ladies Auxillary, Post 8801  
 Vietnam Veterans of America,  
 Chapter 850  
 Westside Medical  
 Willis Ford & Willis GM AutoMall



## SMYRNA MIDDLE SCHOOL

### Q & A with SMS Teacher of the Year: Heather Marr

**Why did you become a teacher, was there a teacher that inspired you?** - I always knew I wanted to be a teacher; I would play school when I was younger and made my sister be my student. I had a teacher in high school, Mr. Joseph, which made me realize I did in fact want to teach as my career. I would help students with their algebra work if they didn't catch something or understand something from class. I even tutored some after high school.



**Where did you go to college?** - I attended Shepherd College, in Shepherdstown, WV from 1988-1991; finishing at Delaware State College, in Dover, DE between the years 1990-1993, earning my

undergraduate degree. I studied further at Delaware State University, from 1997-2004, for my master's degree

**How long have you been a teacher and have you taught anywhere else other than Smyrna?** - I have taught in Smyrna School District at the Smyrna Middle School for 19 years. Before starting here, I taught from November, 1994 through June, 1995 as the Business Education teacher at DAPI, Inc., the Delaware Adolescent Program. While there I taught high school females who were pregnant or recently given birth and opted not to stay in their home districts during that time.

**Do you have a passion you want to share with students?** - My passion for technology would be one thing I would want to share with students. Technology is an amazing thing if used properly and at the right time. Students today are fortunate, and unfortunate, at the same time. They have never needed to look up information from an encyclopedia for a report or use several books to find information on a topic. Students can be constantly entertained, music, games, etc. They don't need to find ways of being entertained. They also miss out on things because they are too wrapped up in their electronics. They think, "I'll just text so and so," instead of calling that person on the phone or meeting them face to face. One thing I try to stress to them is to "look up." I even found a video on YouTube entitled "Look up" that I want to show the students before they leave to put a story to what I have been telling them.

**What makes Smyrna School District a great place to teach?** - Smyrna School District is a great place to teach for several reasons. The biggest reason is that everyone is family. There is always someone you can talk to, ask questions of, and get help from. It doesn't matter if they are in another school or not. The teachers work together and stick with and up for each other. Another reason is administration backs the teachers and will go to them if there is a problem with a student to hear both sides of the story; they don't just take the students side. It may be because Smyrna is a small town, but everyone pulls together for the good of the cause and will step up to help any of the teachers that may need it. From helping out a coach for a track meet when they are short handed to donating sick days to a teacher whose son is facing cancer. I'm proud to work in Smyrna and I'm proud that my own children are in the Smyrna School District.

### SMS Math League Competitors.

This year over 20 students participated at the regional level in the Delaware Council of Teachers of Mathematics sponsored Math League competitions.

From the teams, twelve students have advanced from the regional level and will compete at the State Invitational on April 1, (8<sup>th</sup> grade) and April 3, (7<sup>th</sup> grade).

Seventh grader, Romy Patel earned 3<sup>rd</sup> place individually, eighth grader, Samuel Mace earned 1<sup>st</sup> place and 2<sup>nd</sup> place was awarded to 8<sup>th</sup> grader Matthew Perrine.

The following individuals will represent Smyrna Middle School at the State Invitational in April:

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Roberto Mercado, Maximus Morrissiey, Malav Patel, Romy Patel, Keegan Holt, Kyle Venarchick

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Ryan Dean, Chris Kline, Samuel Mace, Matthew Perrine, Alec Shalk, Ariel Immel

### PTSO Goes Skiing!

With the snowy winter this year, the SMS PTSO sponsored a ski trip to Big Boulder in February. Both parents and students enjoyed a day of skiing, tubing, and snowboarding fun. Many reported that it was quite a cold day!



### Science Field Day at Smyrna Middle School

Over one hundred and twenty students were selected to participate in the Science Field Day, which was held on April 17. It was a fun day filled with activities and experiments.

Thirty students from each team participated. They were part of a four-person group. Their group included one student from each of the four teams at SMS. Each group participated in a friendly competition that involved seven different activities, trying to earn the most points. The event and the awards assembly was held in the gymnasium.



### SMS Spread the Word!

During a week in March, SMS students signed a pledge that is displayed in the school to "Spread the Word to end the Word." SMS worked in cooperation with SHS to educate our students about kids with disabilities and use the districts core values to be kind to each other. The banner has over 800 student names on it along with the 80+ staff members. Way to go SMS!

### STATE CONVENTION

The Smyrna Middle School FFA Chapter has been gearing up for the 84th Annual Delaware State FFA Convention which will take place March 26 and 27, at the University of Delaware. Throughout the Convention, students will compete in contests, attend leadership and team building workshops, attend sessions, listen to motivational speakers and connect with fellow FFA members throughout the state. The following are a list of Career Development Events and FFA members who will be competing at this years State Convention.

#### Parliamentary Procedure-

The purpose of the Novice Parliamentary Procedure CDE is to introduce FFA Members to parliamentary procedure and how to conduct an efficient meeting. Students participating: Taimira Ramseur, Leann Standridge, Larah Cox-Simpson, Erin Richard,

*see SMS FFA Convention pg 15*

### Scholastic Art Awards

Smyrna Middle School is pleased to announce the winners of the 2014 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. 19 pieces of artwork were entered and 18 were chosen as winners. Congratulations to the following students



**Hunter Moyer** 1 gold key, 1 silver key; **Cathryn Shahan** 1 gold key, 1 honorable mention; **Lauren Williams** 1 gold key, 1 honorable mention; **Noah Burns** 1 silver key, 1 honorable mention; **Gary Cimiglia** 1 silver key; **Alexus Meeks** 1 silver key; **Kevin Capel** honorable mention; **Owen Dill** honorable mention; **Morgan Holman** 2 honorable mentions; **Melody Warner** honorable mention; **Tawny Williams** honorable mention; **Tyler Yeomans** 2 honorable mentions

A reception was held on Feb 8 at Delaware State University. The general public was able to see their work. Go Smyrna Eagle artists!!

### SMYRNA MIDDLE FFA RECAP OF 2013-14 YEAR

Over the course of the year, the Smyrna Middle FFA Chapter has been very busy. In October we attended the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky participating in the National Agriscience Fair Competition. Students were awarded silver medals and represented our Chapter and State with utmost professionalism and we are very proud of all of them.

We had a wonderful group attend the Delaware State FFA Convention in March. Thirteen of our FFA members competed in various career development events. Anna Coppage placed 5<sup>th</sup> in "Prepared Public Speaking". Ceci Carter competed against numerous high school and middle school students in the "Junior Extemporaneous Speaking CDE" - she placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the State. The "Parliamentary Procedure" and "Opening and Closing Ceremonies" teams both placed 2<sup>nd</sup> which was comprised of Cassidy Cook, Taylor Davis, Leann Standridge, Erin Richard, Taimira Ramseur, Alanna Kempenski, and Larah Cox-Simpson. The "Milk Quality and Products"

team placed 5<sup>th</sup> as a team and was comprised of Alexis Pierce, Grace Sweetman, Marcanthony Smith, and Justin Johnson who also placed 9<sup>th</sup> individually.

During this school year we have also participated in numerous community service events such as Adopt-A-Family and donated painted pumpkins and holiday favors to Green Valley Pavilion Nursing Home. We also hosted a Teacher Appreciation Day during FFA week at our school delivering flower arrangements made by the students to each teacher.

On April 16, SMS FFA hosted their annual FFA Banquet to recognize seventh and eighth grade FFA members for their accomplishments over the course of the year. The Banquet was filled with laughter, joy, awards, a slide show, and of course desserts! Thank you to all the parents, members and administration for all your support! In addition, SMS FFA hosted their first Annual Beef Brisket BBQ Dinner that same evening which was a huge success; selling over 100 meals! We would like to thank all of our

*see SMS FFA Re-Cap pg 15*

## SMYRNA HIGH SCHOOL

### Ryan Buchanan: SHS 2014 Teacher Of The Year

Like many teachers, I was very affected by my former teachers. In particular, I was heavily influenced by my High School English teachers, as they made me ponder, question, reflect, and reason. From them I developed my firm belief that education is empowering and ignorance is limiting. I conduct my life in a constant effort to study,



absorb, and experience all aspects of life. I have an overwhelming intellectual curiosity; when I discover a new and foreign concept I immediately endeavor to learn all that I can about it. This is what drives me on a daily basis and is what I hope my students develop within themselves. This can be seen in my classroom as I advocate for students to pursue their own thoughts. I prefer students looking for personal answers to authentic curiosity versus looking for the "right" answer to preconceived questions. I encourage students to take responsibility for their own education and demand more from themselves and those around them. Only when we strive to know for our own sake, do we truly become educated.

### Smyrna High Math Leaguers Make State

The 2013-14 school year is the thirty-seventh year of operation for the Delaware Secondary School Mathematics League. The purpose of the Delaware Secondary School Mathematics League is to cultivate an interest in mathematics through team competition. At the high school level there are two groups, Grade 9, and Grades 10-12. Schools are separated into geographic regions for regional competitions. Upon completion of the four regional meets, the top scoring teams and the top scoring individuals from each region are invited to participate in the Invitational Meets. This year, three of our Smyrna High Math Leaguers placed in the regional competition and earned their right to attend the Math League Competition. The competition took place Monday, March 31 2014.



At the district level, Leandra Gantzer placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in the 10-12 grade division. Andrew Morrison placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the 10-12 grade division. Jacob Racer placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade division. We are very proud of this hard working group of students who take pride in their academic abilities.

### Blue-Gold Club Coach Children's Motor Skills

The Smyrna High School Blue-Gold Club participated in the First Annual Special Olympics Young Athletes Day at North Elementary School on Friday, April 11. Twenty high school students and over 100 Pre-K students participated in activities that focus on fun and are important to mental and physical growth. This is a unique sport and play program for children with intellectual disabilities and those without. Children ages 2 1/2 to 7 enjoy games and activities that develop motor skills and hand-eye coordination. Young Athletes is an early introduction to sports and to the world of Special Olympics. The children learn new things, play and have lots of fun!



### Family "Date" Night Fund Raiser

The Smyrna High PTSO & Lettermen's club came together recently to help out 2 families facing extraordinary circumstances. On March 15, the cafeteria of SHS was transformed into a welcoming place for the first "My First Date" dance. Little Eagles in grades 2-4 were invited to come share in a positive experience for their first date. The elementary students were treated to a positive first dance with an adult in their lives. Dad and daughters, moms and sons, grandparents and guardians served as the first date for their students.

Local photographers volunteered their time to help make the night special. Selena Francis-Hall, Paul Pruitt, and Ginger Barkley set up a "formal" picture booth and a table of props for funny pictures. Also, donating time was Mike Czetli a local DJ who volunteered to play music for the night.

Also donating their time was a group of SHS FCCLA and FEA students. Who crafted take home picture frames from popsicle sticks with the little Eagles and worked concessions for the night.

The night was also completed with a generous donation from Chick-Fil-A for the refreshments for the event. Pictures are available on the SHS website for those who attended.

### Polar Bear Plunge: "Freezing for a Reason"

Smyrna High School once again participated in Cool Schools at the Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics Delaware on Sunday, February 2. The plunge was held at Rehoboth Beach and at 1:00 pm. The Special Olympics Delaware Cool Schools challenge is a unique team-building activity that combines fun, courage, school spirit, and community service for a great cause. The Smyrna High Splashing Eagles chilled out and joined thousands of other brave Polar Bears for the coolest thing they did in 2014. We were freezing for a reason! Promoting awareness, acceptance and respect through Special Olympics Project Unify.



### Smyrna High School Final Examination Schedule 2014

#### Senior Final Examinations

Monday, May 19	Per 6 & 8 Exams
Tuesday, May 20	Per 5 & 7 Exams
Wednesday, May 21	Per 2 & 4 Exams
Thursday, May 22	Per 1 & 3 Exams

Seniors are expected to take their exam during their **REGULARLY SCHEDULED TIME PERIOD OF THE DAY.** Attendance is mandatory on all exam days

#### Underclassmen Final Examinations

##### Tuesday June 3

Pd. 2 - 7:30-8:45 (75)
Pd. 4 - 8:50-10:05 (75)
Pd. 6 - 10:10-11:25 (75)
<b>Dismissal: 11:30 AM</b>

##### Wednesday June 4

Pd. 1 - 7:30-8:45 (75)
Pd. 3 - 8:50-10:05 (75)
Pd. 5 - 10:10-11:25 (75)
<b>Dismissal: 11:30 AM</b>

##### Thursday June 5

Pd. 7 - 7:30-8:45 (75)
Pd. 8 - 8:50-10:05 (75)
PBS Carnival 10:10-11:20 (70)
<b>Dismissal: 11:30 AM</b>

- Should inclement weather cause school to be cancelled prior to the exams, the dates may be changed.
- Should inclement weather interrupt the examination schedule, the originally scheduled examination(s) will be administered upon return to school.
- **Students must remain in their assigned areas during the entire exam period.** Students scheduled for SSR, student aide, library aide or anyone not scheduled for an exam must remain in their assigned areas with the teacher to whom they are assigned during the exam period.
- Attendance will be taken during each exam period.

#### Makeup Exams

Students must make arrangements with their teachers for makeup examinations. An **excused** absence is **required** for a student to make up an exam.



#### Important Dates

- May 19-22:** Senior Exams
- May 22:** Senior Picnic & Athletic Awards Ceremony
- May 27:** Class Trip to Six Flags
- May 28:** Baccalaureate
- May 29:** Graduation Practice & Senior Awards Ceremony
- May 31:** Graduation Ceremony

**FCCLA and the Human Services Pathway Fought the Winter Weather and Won!**

FCCLA rose above the elements and received medals for all our competitors at the State FCCLA Conference on April 1, at Dover Downs. The winners were Gabby Jones, earning Silver in the Teach and Train category, Alexis Williams earning a silver in the Illustrated Talk category, Chantelle Rhoades earning a gold in the Focus on Children single category, Darian Kinney and Courtney Holcomb earned silver in the in the Life Event Planning category and Brianna Distler and Allison Hubert earned the top gold medal in the Focus on Children team event. The top gold medalists are eligible to attend the National FCCLA Conference which takes place this year in Texas. All the projects focused on family concerns, including topics such as single parenting, teen pregnancy, money management, and the educational needs of children. Mrs. Stacy Cook was named State FCCLA administrator of the year for her support to the student organization here at Smyrna High school.

An FCCLA project that went very well this winter was "Jeans 4Teens" which acquired 175 pairs of jeans donated by teens for other teens in need. Another winner was the Love Letters campaign, where over 100 Valentines were created as part of a "Meals on Wheels" and "Do Something.org" campaign to address the issue of isolation among home bound senior citizens. The Valentines were attached to the elderly individuals' lunch containers and dropped off with the meals.

Even though planning was a challenge due to the weather, Bayhealth Hospital sent their Career Internship Team to Mrs. Dries's Family and Community Services class to discuss opportunities in the health field. Students learned that there are many options aside from direct patient care that may be interesting for them to pursue. Tips on interviewing, appropriate attire and work ethic were also covered.

Students in Early Childhood and Family and Community Services devoted a significant amount of time to completing the Career Cruising program sponsored by

*see FCCLA pg 15*

**Smyrna FFA Holds Awards Banquet**

The Smyrna Chapter held its 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Parent & Member Awards Banquet at Smyrna High School on Tuesday, April 15, 2014 to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of students enrolled in the Agri-Science program and FFA Chapter. Numerous members and guests attended the function, which kicked off with the posting of colors by the ROTC. The Delaware FFA Association was also on hand to deliver greetings to members of the Smyrna FFA program.

Several sets of awards were presented to deserving students of the Agri-Science program. Ten members of the Smyrna received their Chapter Degree, which is designed to recognize second year members who have been active, and have invested \$150 or spent 45 hours involved with their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) project. Those members included: John Barkley, Gabby DiRusso, Tyler Gaynor, Samantha Jamison, D. Kyle Lewis, Tyler Niblett, Annalise Stilwell, Jason Voss, Allison Wheatley, and Payton Zolper.

Special appreciation awards were presented to members of the Smyrna High School community. SHS Principal Mrs. Stacy Cook and SHS Substitute Teacher Mr. John Kowalk received the Honorary Chapter FFA Degree for their support of FFA student activities. Ms. Logan Bishop, student teacher from the University of Delaware was presented a special token of appreciation for her role in the classroom. Mr. Barry Larkin and Mrs. Ginger Barkley were thanked for their daily support of students and presented with the FFA Blue & Gold Award.

Academic Achievement Awards were presented to students who maintained an 85% average or better in their respected Agricultural pathway. Student recognition included:

**Agricultural Mechanics I-** Hunter Anderson, Lindsey Asbury, Vincent Barone, Rasheed Cobb, Brandon Colon, Angela Haldas, Tyler Hartsock, Chancellor Hemphill, Bryan Horton, Jarren Jenkins, Charles Kelchner, Latrelle Lee, Velvin Morgan, Jeffrey Norvell, Presley Nyandemo, Ryan Owens, Zach Parker, Aaron Souder, Joseph Thomas, Zach Tilley, Jeremy Virdin, Nasir Wayman and Dylan Wilson.

**Agricultural Mechanics II-** John Barkley, Owen Cahall, Jeff Campbell, Moses Carter, Gary Deppish, Evan Gallaher, Jared Gillis, Matt Hoffman, Ryan Holman-Dickson, Jake Mitchell, Tyler Niblett, Nick Pierce, Brandon Pierson, Kevin Polk, Zach Reynolds and Jared Zolper.

*see FFA Banquet pg 14*

**Jobs for Delaware Graduates**

Jobs for Delaware Graduates' mission is to enable student achievement in academic, career, personal, and social success. This spring has provided several opportunities to support this cause

Our state Competitive Events Conference was held on Friday, April 11, at the Dover Dover Downs Rollins Center. Congratulations go out to JDG seniors Samantha Capel, Marshay Dickerson, Essence Forbes, and Othniel Edmond who earned a spot in the Team Challenge Quiz Bowl finals over 16 other teams.

Diana Wilson was a finalist in The Employment Interview event. In addition, as JDG state vice-president, Diana conducted the general session's programs due to the state president being ill. All finalized results were announced at the state awards luncheon May 2, at the Modern Maturity Center, Dover.

Classroom activities included verbal presentation and telephone skills workshops for juniors. Seniors developed portfolios to present in interviews and sophomores created their own businesses as they explored the world of entrepreneurship.

In addition to the classroom, state competitions, and guest speakers from the business community, students conducted a civic project at Pinnacle Nursing Home and were active participants at "I Love the Smyrna School District Day."

**Smyrna BPA Students earn honors at state leadership conference**

Students in Smyrna Business Professionals of America demonstrated their workplace skills learned through business education curriculum by earning honors at the Delaware BPA State Leadership Conference held at Dover Downs on Feb. 27.

The Smyrna BPA Chapter was recognized for their participation in a variety of community service events by earning BPA Cares Awards for Special Olympics and Safety Awareness. Adrian Beatson, Alyssa Mears, Andrew Morrison and Diana Wilson were also awarded with the coveted Torch Award. Torch Awards are a way for students to show their involvement their community and Business Professionals of America.

There were 45 students that attended the State Leadership along with advisors Angie Hewes, Lori Holford, Kevin Rudolph, Jessica Scott, and Alexandra Ulrich. Students attended workshops, sessions, and participated in the Workplace Skills Assessment Program competitive events to bring awards home in the areas of finance, business administration, digital communications, management, marketing and communication and information management.

There were 35 students that earned top awards and qualified to attend the upcoming national BPA Conference in Indianapolis, IN in May. Students won the following awards:

Advanced Accounting: Andrew, Morrison, 1<sup>st</sup> place, Hunter Pritt, 5<sup>th</sup> place

*see BPA Leadership pg 15*

**NOTICE OF FERPA RIGHTS**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age the following rights:

**Inspection**

You may inspect the student's education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access. You should submit to the Principal a written request identifying the record(s) you wish to inspect. The Principal will notify you of the time and place of inspection.

**Amendment**

If you believe education records are inaccurate, you may request the records be amended. Such a request must be in writing, and directed to the Principal. The request must identify the part of the record you want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate. If the District denies your request, the District will notify you of the decision, advise of the right to a hearing, and provide the hearing procedures.

**Consent**

You have the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without

consent. One exception permits disclosure without consent to school officials with legitimate educational interests. School officials include District employees, Board members, a person or company retained by the District to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist), or a parent or student serving on a committee or assisting another school official. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the District will disclose education records without consent to officials of another district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

**Complaint**

You may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-4605

**Smyrna Success at 84<sup>th</sup> Delaware FFA Convention**

Twenty-eight Smyrna FFA members, four advisors and one student teacher traveled to Clayton Hall at the University of Delaware on March 26-27, 2014, to attend the 84<sup>th</sup> Delaware FFA Convention. Along with Middle and High School Chapters around the state other attendees to the convention included chapters from Delaware Technical and Community College, Delaware State University and University of Delaware. Members attended to participate in a number of activities including Career Development Events (CDEs), State Officer Nomination Committee, Delegates, Leadership Workshops, and other sessions and events for an action packed two days at the University of Delaware.

- Results:
- 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter Scrapbook
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter Banner
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Parliamentary Procedure (Allison Wheatley (Chair), Gabby Virdin, Gabby DiRusso, Payton Zolper, John Barkley & Meghan Yerkes)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Junior Extemporaneous Speaking (Ashley Hurd)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Senior Prepared Public Speaking (Sarah McHale)
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Meats Evaluation (Sarah McHale - 5<sup>th</sup> Indiv., Tyler Hartsock, Tyler Gaynor & Ryan Harris)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Agricultural Sales (Rebecca Wroten - 6<sup>th</sup> Indiv., Laura Federico - 8<sup>th</sup> Indiv., Kyle Chillas - 9<sup>th</sup> Indiv. & Derica Nymakaei)
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Dairy Foods (Katie Norvell, Jenna Scuse, Jared Zolper and Brendan Cook)
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Floriculture (Leandra Gantzer-4<sup>th</sup> Individual, Heather Tolliver & Gabrielle Ramsey)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Agricultural Processing Placement Proficiency (Jason Voss)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Beef Production- Placement Proficiency (Jen Savin)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Equine Science Placement Proficiency (Taylor Dixon)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Equine Science Placement Proficiency (Cassidy Middleton)
- State Degree Recipients (Brendan Cook, Amber Counsellor, Laura Federico, Tyler Hartsock, Amanda Hotaling, Sarah McHale, Jenna Scuse, Heather Tolliver & Gabby Virdin)
- State Star Agri-Science (Heather Tolliver).

While attending the convention students also had the opportunity to attend a special hypnotist show run by Patrick Grady of Wahoo, Florida. Other special guests included National Eastern Region Vice President, Wes Davis from West Virginia, as well as other state officers from Virginia, Washington and North Carolina, who presented workshops for Delaware FFA members. The County Representatives were also announced and Sarah McHale was selected to be the 2014-2015 Kent County Representative. At the end of convention, members were definitely inspired and excited by the two days of the best that FFA has to offer.

**SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
2013/14 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

<b>MAY</b>	May 26	Memorial Day – School Closed
<b>JUNE</b>	June 3-5	1/2 day Inservice (9-12)
	June 4-5	1/2 day Inservice (K-8)
	June 6	Last Pupil Day
	June 9	Last Teacher Day

The calendar is based on legislation requiring students to attend school 440 hours (kindergarten), 1060 hours (grades K-11), and 1032 hours (grade 12) - with no minimum number of days. The extra hours for students can be banked for inclement weather; however, teachers will have to make up inclement weather days in order to reach the 188 teacher days required by law. Any inclement weather days will be made up by staff immediately following the last teacher day.

*Approved by Board of Educaiton, March20, 2013*

## A PARENT'S RIGHT TO KNOW

Under the **No Child Left Behind Act** a parent has the right to know the following information:

- » The qualifications of the school staff providing instruction to their child.
- » Their child's level of achievement in each state academic assessment.
- » Whether their child has been assigned to or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher of a core academic subject who is not highly qualified.

Upon the parents request the school is to provide the following information:

- » Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade level and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- » Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- » The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any graduate certification or degree held by the teacher and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- » Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and if so their qualifications.

The following letter will provide details on how parents may easily access information regarding their child's teacher(s).

Dear Parent:

As a parent of a student in the Smyrna School District you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct your child. Federal law allows you to ask for cer-

tain information about your child's classroom teachers, and requires us to give you the information in a timely manner if you ask for it. Specifically, you have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers:

- » Whether the Delaware Department of Education has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
- » Whether the Delaware Department of Education has decided that the teacher can teach in a classroom without being licensed or qualified under state regulations because of special circumstances.
- » The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- » Whether any teachers' aides or similar paraprofessionals provide Title I services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

A website has been setup for you to obtain this information at: <http://deeds.doe.k12.de.us> You may access this information by going to this website and click "Parents/General Public" on the left-hand side of your computer screen. Click "Search" for an employed Delaware public / charter school educator." Enter the last name of your child's teacher and click "search." Click the "profile" link after your child's teacher's name. You will find the teacher's certification under "credentials" and college major under "qualification."

If you are unable to obtain the necessary information, you may call you child's principal for this information, or our Personnel Office at (302) 653-8585.

### 200 Administration and Operations

#### 258 Federal Programs General Complaint Procedures\*

##### 1.0 Programs Covered by the Complaint Process

This complaint process shall apply to the following programs: Title I Part A Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies; Title I Part B-1 Reading First; Title I Part B-2 Early Reading First; Title I Part B-3 William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy Program; Title I Part C Education of Migratory Children; Title I Part D Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth Who are Neglected, Delinquent, or at Risk; Title I Part F Comprehensive School Reform; Title I Part G Advanced Placement; Title II Part A Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund, Grants to States; Title II Part A-5-2151(B) School Leadership; Title II Part D 1 and 2 Enhancing Education Through Technology; Title III Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students; Title IV Part A Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities; Title IV Part B 21st Century Community Learning Centers; Title V Part A Innovative Programs and Title V Part B-1 Public Charter Schools.

**2 DE Reg. 217 (8/1/98)**

**7 De Reg. 161 (8/1/03)**

##### 2.0 Right to File a Complaint

An organization or an individual may file a complaint regarding an alleged violation of Federal Program Statutes or regulations by the Delaware Department of Education or the Local Education Agency. For purposes of this regulation, a Local Education Agency shall also include charter schools. A written and signed complaint shall be filed with the Delaware Department of Education.

- 2.1 The complaint shall include a statement specifying the alleged violation by the State Education Agency or a Local Education Agency. Such statement shall include facts and documentation of the alleged violation.
- 2.2 The Delaware Department of Education shall investigate the complaint and issue a written report including findings of fact and a decision to the parties included in the complaint within sixty (60) working days of the receipt of the complaint. An extension of the time limit may be made by the Delaware Department of Education only if exceptional circumstances exist with respect to a particular complaint.
- 2.3 The Delaware Department of Education may conduct an independent onsite investigation of the complaint, if it is determined that an on site investigation is necessary.
- 2.4 The complaint shall allege a violation that occurred not more than one (1) year prior to the date that the complaint is received.

**2 DE Reg. 217 (8/1/98)**

**7 De Reg. 161 (8/1/03)**

**12 DE Reg. 208 (08/01/08)**

##### 3.0 Complaint Made to the Local Education Agency

An organization or an individual is encouraged to file a written, signed complaint with the Local Education Agency, prior to submission of the complaint to the Delaware Department of Education, concerning an alleged violation by the Local Education Agency of a Federal statute or regulation that applies to the Local Education Agency's program.

- 3.1 The complaint shall include a statement specifying the alleged violation by the Local Education Agency. Such statement shall include facts and documentation of the alleged violation.
- 3.2 The superintendent or the agency head of the Local Education Agency shall investigate the complaint and issue a written report including findings of fact and a decision to the parties involved in the complaint within sixty (60) working days of the receipt of the complaint,

- 3.3 An appeal of the Local Education Agency decision may be made by the complainant to the Delaware Department of Education. The appeal shall be in writing and signed by the individual or by an individual representative of the organization making the appeal. The Delaware Department of Education shall resolve the appeal in the same manner as a complaint, as indicated in 2.0.

**2 DE Reg. 217 (8/1/98)**

**7 De Reg. 161 (8/1/03)**

**12 DE Reg. 208 (08/01/08)**

##### 4.0 Review of Final Decision by the U.S. Department of Education

Any party to the complaint has the right to request that the Secretary, U. S. Department of Education, review the final decision of the Delaware Department of Education. The request for an appeal of the decision to the Secretary, U. S. Department of Education, shall be made in writing to the Delaware Department of Education within sixty days of the receipt of the decision.

**2 DE Reg. 217 (8/1/98)**

##### 5.0 Complaints and appeals to the Delaware Department of Education shall be mailed to the following address:

Secretary of Education  
 Delaware Department of Education  
 401 Federal Street Suite 2  
 Dover, Delaware 19901-3639

\*IDEA Part B, as amended, has other specific remedies and procedural safeguards specified under Section 615 of the Act to protect students with disabilities. See 14 DE Admin. Code 923 Children with Disabilities Subpart B General Duties and Eligibility of Agencies.

**2 DE Reg. 217 (8/1/98)**

**7 De Reg. 161 (8/1/03)**

**12 DE Reg. 208 (08/01/08)**

### TITLE I NOTIFICATIONS

In the Smyrna School District, the faculty of each elementary school is committed to providing a quality education for all students and recognizes the essential role of parents and the value of their input. We believe a partnership must exist and we strive to promote communication and participation of parents in the education of children. To learn about ways that you can be involved in your child's education, please visit the Title I portion of our website and read through the Parent Involvement information. You may find this information at:

[http://www.smyrna.k12.de.us/specialservices/title\\_1](http://www.smyrna.k12.de.us/specialservices/title_1)

**Dr. Rachael S. Rudinoff**  
 Supervisor of Special Services  
 E-Mail

Office: 302 653-3135  
 Fax: 302 653-2766  
[rachael.rudinoff@smyrna.k12.de.us](mailto:rachael.rudinoff@smyrna.k12.de.us)

from FFA Banquet pg 12

**Agricultural Mechanics III-** Brendan Ayala, Kory Bowersox, Kyle Cadmus, Amber Counsellor, Jordan Harrington, Cassidy Middleton and John Richardson.

**Agricultural Structures I-** Kristian Ashman, John Barkley, Emanuel Beckett, Jacob Blake, Nathan Bowers, Nathaniel Bryant, Chris Buntin, Synthia Burcham, Shelby Caballero, Brandon Cahall, Shawn Dulin, Angela Haldas, Gary Hall, Malcolm Hall, Dakota Kollar, William Marlin, Andrew Naylor, Tyler Niblett, Kevin Polk, Nolan Rutherford, Cole Sebastianelli, Khiry Sudler, Josh VanBilliard, Jeremy Virdin, Jason Voss, Josh Wootten and Nate Yerkes.

**Agricultural Structures II-** Brenden Ayala, Brandon Bishop, Justin Bowens, Kyle Cadmus, Rasheed Cobb, Ashley Coppage, Amber Counsellor, Laura Fedrico, Hunter Melson, AJ Mitchell, Stephen Pine and Jared Zolper.

**Agricultural Structures III-** Alex Cosme, Justin Gordy, Eddie Holman, Ryan Holman-Dickson, Vince Jubilee, Aleyyo Monsanto, Richard Muniz, Zachary Parker, John Richardson, Chris Scott and Michael Taraschi.

**Animal Science I-** Gabrielle Ayala, Casey Bell, Morgan Burnett, Tiffany Caballero, Kylie Chillias, Brian Davis, Katelynn Fuhr, Sonia Gonzalez, Danielle Hoffman, Ryan Holman-Dickson, Ashley Hurd, Lindsey Jones, Brianna Lewis, Camryn Markel, Jocelyn Morneau, Jocelyn Morneau, Derica Nyameke, Kathleen O'Brien, Hunter Parsell, Cole Sebastianelli, Savannah Swanson, Lillian Sweetman, Tiara Vazquez, Kylie Womer, Rebecca Wroten, Meghan Yerkes and Zachery Zlock.

see FFA Banquet next column

## DISTRICT DIRECTORY

**CLAYTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 653-8587**  
Mrs. Deborah Chadwick, Principal  
Mr. Mikell Reed, Associate Principal  
Nurse **653-3147**

**NORTH SMYRNA ELEMENTARY 653-8589**  
Mrs. Kelly Holt, Principal  
Mrs. Stephanie McGuire, Associate Principal  
Nurse **653-3145**

**SMYRNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 653-8588**  
Mr. David H. Morrison, Principal  
Katherine Wood, Associate Principal  
Nurse **659-6286**

**SUNNYSIDE ELEMENTARY 653-8580**  
Mrs. Kathleen Castro, Principal  
Mr. Patrick Grant, Associate Principal  
Nurse **653-2762**

**CLAYTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 653-2761**  
Mr. David Paltrineri, Principal  
Mrs. Deborah Judy, Associate Principal  
Nurse **653-3271**

**JBM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 659-6297**  
Mrs. Elyse Baerga, Principal  
Mrs. Deborah Judy, Associate Principal  
Nurse **659-6280**

**SMYRNA MIDDLE SCHOOL 653-8584**  
Mr. Steven Gott, Principal  
Dr. John Jingeleski, Associate Principal  
Mrs. Aerin Donovan, Associate Principal  
Guidance **653-8308**  
Nurse **653-8823**

**SMYRNA HIGH SCHOOL 653-8581**  
Mrs. Stacy Cook, Principal  
Mr. Clarence Davis, Dean of Discipline  
Mr. Marcus Deisem, Associate Principal  
Mrs. Tonya Pierce, Associate Principal  
Mr. Leon Clark, Associate Principal  
Nurse **653-3137**

**CENTRAL OFFICES 653-8585**  
Mrs. Deborah Wicks, Superintendent  
Mr. Patrik Williams, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Alexander Shalk, Director of Curriculum  
Mr. Jerry Gallagher, Director of Finance  
Mrs. June Wicks, Supervisor, Reading & Instruction  
Mr. Todd Seelhorst, Supervisor Human Resources

**CHILD NUTRITION OFFICE 653-3134**  
Mrs. Melissa Sayers, Supervisor

**MAINTENANCE OFFICE 653-3132**  
Mr. Scott Holmes, Supervisor Systems & HVAC  
Mr. George, Wicks III, Supervisor Facilities & Operations

**SPECIAL SERVICES OFFICE 653-3135**  
Dr. Rachael Rudinoff, Supervisor

**TECHNOLOGY OFFICE 653-2754**  
Mr. David M. Brown, Supervisor

**TRANSPORTATION OFFICE 653-3142**  
Ms. Sharon Almondo, Supervisor

### SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT'S NOTICE OF RIGHTS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment affords parents, students who are 18, and emancipated minors the following rights regarding the District's conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams.

**Protected Information Surveys**  
The District is required to obtain consent permitting your child to participate in certain school activities, or you may elect to opt out of such activities. These activities, known as protected information surveys, include a student survey, analysis, or evaluation concerning one or more of the following:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parents;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;

7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

**Notice & Opportunity To Opt Out**  
At the start of each school year, the District will notify you of dates of the following activities, and provide an opportunity to opt a student out of participating in such activities:

1. Any protected information survey, regardless of funding source;
2. Any non-emergency, in-vasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing, or to sell or

otherwise distribute the information to others.

Inspection

You may, upon request, inspect the following:

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional materials used as part of the educational curriculum.

Adoption of Policy

The District will adopt policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The District will notify you of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes.

Complaint

If you believe your rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-4605

from FFA Banquet prev. column

**Animal Science II-** Gabby DiRusso, Lauren Ide, Miranda Morris, Sierra Sarver, Alison Sayers, Annalise Stilwell, Elizabeth Stulir, Jason Stypinski, Allison Wheatley, Jacey Young and Payton Zolper.

**Animal Science III-** Cody Biddle, Alex Cosme, Kaitlin Euren, Samantha Greim, Kiersten Haas, Malcolm Hall, Ryan Harris, Tyler Hartsock, Brittany Klase, D. Kyle Lewis, Sarah McHale, Katelynn Norvell, Ashley Taylor and Gabrielle Virdin.

**Animal Science IV-** Leah Blair, Brendan Cook, Taylor Dixon and Jared Zolper.

**Environmental Science I-** Tiffany Caballero, Cole Distler, Zachary Holmes, Allison Hubert, Emaline Innerarity, Justin Lemmon, Avery McMullin, Nathan Metts, Miranda Morris, Kathleen O'Brien, Ceasar Pereira, Kayla Radford, Gabrielle Ramsey, Jack Rutherford, Hunter Shane, Victoria Shane, Ashley Simpson, Ryan Stypinski, Savannah Swanson, Victoria Tolson, Dylan White, Zachery Young and Zachery Zlock.

**Environmental Science II-** Logan Girton, Amanda Hennen, Corey Keen, Jason Mackey, Curtis Mitchell, Jocelyn Morneau and Jason Stypinski.

**Environmental Science A.P.-** Leah Blair, Shannon Kerrigan, Avery McMullin, Kayla Radford, Jennifer Savin and Heather Tolliver.

**Plant Science I-** Ethan Abbott, Nathaniel Bryant, Jeff Campbell, Brendan Cook, Corey Everage, James Hall, Kaila Hindt, Tia Keeler, Avery McMullin, Joshua Meixell, Tyler Meixell, Kristen Moore, Jack Rutherford, Bethany Schneider, Taylor Smith, Jasmine Sullivan, Lillian Sweetman, Noah Taylor, Abigayle Troiani, George Wilson, Kamry Wilson and Josh Wootten.

**Plant Science II-** Hailey Boots, Shakar Herod, Ryan Holman-Dickson, Zackary Holmes, Samantha Jamison, Curtis Mitchell, Katelynn Norvell and Brandon Workman.

**Plant Science III-** Morgan Brady, Leandra Gantzer, Jennifer Savin, Jenna Scuse, Heather Tolliver and Zachary Voss.

Chapter Fundraising awards were presented to the top salespeople for their involvement in Citrus and Strawberry Sales this school year. Citrus awards went to 1<sup>st</sup> Place- Ryan Harris, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place- Dylan Wilson and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place- Jocelyn Morneau. Strawberry awards included: 1<sup>st</sup> Place- Dylan White, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place- Amber Counsellor, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place- Taylor Dixon.

Zach Tilley received special recognition for his winning Chapter T-Shirt Design entitled, "On A Mission- To Protect Tradition." Zach's design was used on the official chapter t-shirt this year and he received \$50 for his efforts.

Ten AgriScience students received Proficiency Awards for their active Supervised Agricultural Experience projects. The following were praised for their performance and qualified for a \$25 incentive. Agriscience- Heather Tolliver, Agricultural Fabrication- Zach Voss, Agricultural Mechanics Repair- Kyle Cadmus, Agricultural Sales & Service- Brendan Ayala, Beef Production- Jennifer Savin, Diversified Agriculture- Jared Zolper, Diversified Livestock- Brendan Cook, Equine Science- Taylor Dixon and Cassidy Middleton, and Small Animal Care- Leah Blair.

The highlight of the evening was the recognition of Star Awards. Meghan Yerkes was named the 2013-14 Star Chapter Greenhand., Meghan was recognized as the outstanding first year FFA member for her participation in coursework, academics and FFA involvement. Ms. Yerkes served on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Place State Parliamentary Procedure CDE team for Smyrna High School.

Taylor Dixon was named the 2013-14 Star Chapter FFA Member. Taylor served as Chapter President and received many top honors last month at the Delaware FFA Association Convention.

Jennifer Savin, received the DeKalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award. This honor has been presented since 1947 to outstanding high school seniors with a superior record of scholarship, leadership and agricultural work experience. Smyrna FFA is pleased to continue this tradition of recognizing an outstanding senior student.

The Smyrna FFA Chapter also inducted the 2014-2015 chapter and they included: President, Sarah McHale; Vice President, Gabrielle Virdin; Secretary, Allison Wheatley; Treasurer, Jenna Scuse; Reporter, Gabby DiRusso; Sentinel, Tyler Hartsock; and Historian, Ashley Hurd.

The Smyrna FFA chapter was chartered in 1976 and operates under the direction of Agricultural teachers Keith Shane, Jay Davis, Sarah Bell and Kellie Michaud. The Smyrna AgriScience program is one of the largest high school program in the State of Delaware and provides instruction to over 454 students.

### NOTICE CONCERNING DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN STUDENT INFORMATION

The Smyrna School District ("the District") may disclose certain information, known as directory information, in its discretion without consent. Parents, or students eighteen years of age or over, may refuse to permit the release of any or all directory information. If you do not want directory information released, you must send written notice annually to the Superintendent of the District (at the address listed below). Such notice must be received within 30 days of the publication of this notice. The following student information is directory information: (1) name, (2) address, (3) telephone number, (4) date and place of birth, (5) major field of study, (6) grade level, (7) participation in officially recognized activities and sports, (8) weight and height of members of athletic teams (9) dates of attendance, (10) degrees and awards received, (11) the most recent previous education agency or institution attended by the student and (12) photographs of students in school or school activities provided the photographs do not reveal information concerning academic placement.

Smyrna School District  
Superintendent  
82. Monrovia Ave.  
Smyrna, DE 19977

### COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION OF SEX OFFENDERS

While community notification of sex offenders is the responsibility of local law enforcement, the Smyrna School District believes it has an appropriate role to play in improving community awareness of the potential threat posed by sex offenders. This includes a responsibility to educate our students about personal safety and to let you know when an offender is living in our district or has enrolled in public school. Each of our schools and the district office has this information in a binder available for your review.

**DISTRICT NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY****TITLE VII, TITLE IX, and Section 504 Compliance Notification**

The Smyrna School District does not discriminate in employment or educational programs, services or activities based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability in accordance with state and federal laws, as required by Title VI and VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, and the Federal Occupational Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Inquiries should be directed to the Smyrna School District Superintendent, Administrative Office, 82 Monrovia Ave. Smyrna, DE 19977. Phone: (302) 653-8585.

*El distrito escolar Smyrna no discrimina en empleo o programas educacionales, servicios o actividades, basados en raza, color, religion, nacionalidad, sexo, edad o discapacidad en conformidad con las leyes estatales y federales*

It is also the policy of this District to ensure that curriculum content and instructional materials used by our schools reflect the cultural and racial diversity found in our country, and to create an awareness of the rights, duties, and responsibilities of each individual as a member of the multi cultural, nonsexist society.

Inquiries about compliance with Title IX, Title VI, or VII may be directed to the compliance coordinators appointed in the district.

**COMPLIANCE COORDINATORS**

The following individuals have been appointed to serve as the District's compliance coordinators. These coordinators can be contacted at the following locations.

**TITLE VII: CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1974**

(Nondiscrimination in employment practices)

**TITLE IX: CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1972**

(Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex, educational programs)

Compliance Coordinator  
**Patrik Williams,**

*Assistant Superintendent*  
82 Monrovia Ave.  
Smyrna, DE 19977  
(302) 653-8585

**SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973**

Compliance Coordinator  
**Dr. Rachael Rudinoff,**  
*Supervisor of Special Services*  
Special Services Office  
22 South Main St.  
Smyrna, DE 19977  
(302) 653-3135

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) OF 1982**

Compliance Coordinator  
**Scott Holmes,**  
*Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds*  
Thomas D. Clayton School  
80 Monrovia Avenue  
Smyrna, DE 19977  
(302) 653-3132

**NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX**  
(Compliance Violation Grievance Procedure)

Any student or employee of the Smyrna School District shall have the right to file a formal complaint alleging noncompliance with regulations outlined in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 or in

**Level One – Principal or immediate supervisor (informal)**

A student with a complaint of sex discrimination shall discuss it with the teacher, counselor, or principal.

**Level Two – Title IX Compliance Officer**

If the grievance is not resolved at level one and the student wishes to pursue the grievance, the student may formalize the grievance by filing a complaint in writing on a Compliance Violation Form, which can be obtained from the Title IX compliance officer. The complaint shall state the nature of the grievance and the remedy requested. The filing of the formal written complaint at Level Two must be within 21 days from the date of the event giving rise to the grievance, or from the date the grievant could reasonably become aware of such occurrence. The grievant may request that a meeting about the complaint be held with the Title IX compliance officer. A minor student may be accompanied at that meeting by a parent or guardian. The Title IX compliance officer shall investigate.

the complaint and attempt to resolve it. A written report from the compliance officer about action taken will be sent to the grievant with 21 days after receipt of the complaint.

**Level Three – Superintendent**

If the complaint is not resolved at Level Two, the grievant may proceed to Level Three by presenting a written appeal to the Superintendent within 15 days after the grievant received the report from the compliance officer. A decision will be rendered and conveyed to the grievant by the Superintendent or his/her designee within 15 days after receipt of written appeal.

**Level Four – Other agencies**

The grievant may file formal complaints with the Delaware Civil Rights Commission or other agencies available for mediation or rectification of affirmative action grievances, or may seek private counsel for complaints alleging discrimination.

Note: The District appoints compliance coordinators for Title IX, Title VII and for Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as required by law. These compliance coordinators serve as grievance officers and are responsible for the District's efforts to comply with nondiscrimination requirements under Title IX, Title VII, and Section 504.

*from SMS FFA Convention pg 10*

Taylor Davis, Alanna Kempenski, Cassidy Cook

Milk Quality and Products - The purpose of the FFA Milk Quality and Products Career Development Event is to promote practical learning activities in milk quality and dairy products, as well as assisting students in developing team decision making skills. Students Participating: Justin Johnson, Grace Sweetman, Alexis Pierce, Marc-Anthony Smith

Extemporaneous Speaking- The Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE is designed to develop the ability of all FFA Members to express themselves through a 3-5 minute written speech on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. Students Participating: Cecilia Carter

Prepared Public Speaking - The Prepared Public Speaking CDE is designed to develop agricultural leadership, communication skills and promote interest in leadership and citizenship. Students are to present their prepared 3-5 minute speech during this event. Students Participating: Anna Coppage

*from SMS FFA Re-Cap pg 10*

supporters!

On May 15, the SMS FFA traveled to the Herr's Snack Factory and Angus Farm to tour the facility.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

On May 29, we will host SMS FFA Field Day and induct the 2014-2015 officers.

**CONGRATULATIONS 2014-2015 FFA OFFICER TEAM:**

Kaylee Dulin – President  
Kenley Cook – Vice President  
Leah Gaynor – Secretary  
Taylor Davis – Treasurer  
Bray Fedele – Reporter  
Lexus Deneumoustier – Sentinel

**DELAWARE STATE FAIR:**

SMS FFA is busy preparing for the Delaware State Fair! We will be training the following Career Development Event Teams: Dairy Judging; Dairy Handlers; Livestock; Agronomy; Landscape, and Horse Judging. If any FFA members is interested in competing in these contests, please see Mrs. Huford or Mrs. Freimuth.

**Annual Public Notice of Nondiscrimination**

*(As required by the 1979 Guidelines for Eliminating Discrimination in Vocational Education Programs (34 CFR Part 100, App. B, IV-0))*

Smyrna School District is pleased to announce that it is offering, among other programs, the following Career and Technical Education Pathways for the 2013-14 school year:

**Smyrna High School Agriscience**

*Courses are offered as part of five pathway strands:*

**Animal Science:** Animal Science I, II, and III, Agribusiness  
**Natural Resources:** Natural Resources and Environmental Science I, II & III  
**Plant Science:** : Plant Science I, II & III  
**Power & Systems:** Power & Tech Systems I, II, and III  
**Structural Systems:** Structures I, II, and III

**Business**

*Courses are offered as part of two pathway strands:*

**Accounting:** Accounting II, III and IV.

**Business Information Technology:** BIT II, III and IV.

**Administrative Services:** Admin Services II, III, and IV

**Marketing Management:** Marketing Management II, III & IV

**Family and Consumer Sciences**

*Courses are offered as part of two pathway strands:*

**Early Childhood Education:** Early Childhood Education I, II & III

**Family & Community Services:** Family & Community Services I, II & III

**Jobs for Delaware Graduates**

JDG is designed to help students reach academic and career goals. The four goals are: leadership development, citizenship service, social awareness, and career preparation. **Courses offered are:** JDG II, III, IV

Admission to these programs is open to all students enrolled in Smyrna High School. Enrollment in higher level courses often requires a pass in lower level courses in the same pathway.

The Smyrna School District does not discriminate in employment, educational programs, services or activities based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in accordance with state and federal laws. The District offers additional services to students with limited English language skills or with disabilities so that they may benefit from these programs. For additional information and assistance, please contact:

**School Admissions Programs**

Stacy Cook Principal  
Smyrna High School  
500 Duck Creek Parkway  
Smyrna, DE 19977

*from FCCLA pg 12*

the state of Delaware. This program takes students from their career interests all the way to career options and college opportunities. It is also a tool that can be adapted over the student's high school career and helps build resumes and other tools that will be helpful upon entering the work world. Parents are requested to log in and review and discuss their child's work. It was exciting to see some of the supportive and enthusiastic comments left by the parents after their review.

Students in the second level of Family and Community Services tried on service learning by developing their own projects to address needs in the community. The students researched social issues of their choice related to the Human Services pathway, such as suicide prevention or parenting support, and designed activities to alert the community to these issues. They shared these projects with their classmates in oral reports. Not only did they learn about addressing the issues in the community, they also learned that they can make a difference even as teens.

In February, Ms. Nigge-meier's Early Childhood students planned and manned a reading room with a Dr. Seuss theme on I Love Smyrna School District Day. Books were donated through a grant by Mrs. June Wicks, so the children had a Dr. Seuss book to take home! The ECE program is teaming up with FEA to permit students to complete a Teachers Academy. This rigorous combination of child development and elementary education training will prepare students for their role as future teachers and administrators.

*from BPA Leadership pg 12*

Economic Research Team: Alison Sayers, Allison Wheatley, Stacey Staley 1<sup>st</sup> place; Fundamental Word Processing: Frantz Desir, 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Advanced Spreadsheet: Haley Lloyd, 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Integrated Office: Ashley Morris, 1<sup>st</sup> place, Adrian Beatson, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Alyssa Mears 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Basic Office System & Procedures: Jacob Mitchell 1<sup>st</sup> place, Mia Yong 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Database Applications: Mecca Andrews, 1<sup>st</sup> place; Administrative Support Research Individual Alexis Williams 1<sup>st</sup> place, Aaron Sarkissian 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Computer Network Technology: Tyler Niblett 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Jager Schmid 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Accounting with Quickbooks: Brandon Marcum 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Presentation Management Individual: Emma Lendorio 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Computer Animation Team: Shelby Caballaro and Drew Forrester, 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Fundamental Desktop Publishing: Kendra Williams, 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Fundamentals of Web Design: Jarren Wilson 4<sup>th</sup> place, Cicero Lemmon 5<sup>th</sup> place; Computer Modeling: Danger Morrissey 4<sup>th</sup> place; Small Business Management Team: Danger Morrissey, Jordan Yeomans, Stefan Burgoyne 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Human Resource Management: Brandon Harper 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Parliamentary Procedure Team: Andrew Morrison, Gretchen Farrow, Hunter Pritt, Chris Deslongchamp, Aliyah Navarro, Nathan Seward, 1<sup>st</sup> place; Advanced Interview Skills: Gretchen Farrow 1<sup>st</sup> place; JaQuan Anderson 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Presentation Management Team; Caitlyn Ramsey, Dominique DeMoe, Haley Lloyd and Robyn Corso 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Admin Support: Robyn Corso 4<sup>th</sup> place; Parliamentary Procedures Concepts: Andrew Morrison, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Hunter Pritt, 3<sup>rd</sup> place; and IT Concepts: Stefan Burgoyne 5<sup>th</sup> place.

Chris Deslongchamp and Andrew Morrison are also retiring BPA State Officers. For them, state conference is "where all our hard work as state officers gets recognized as members from around the state travel to compete and attend workshops to enhance our leadership, business, and technological skills." Chris Deslongchamp said, "It was fun to see all the smiling faces as students attended workshops, competed, made new friends, and created memories that

would last a life time. I personally found amusement and pleasure when students came up to me and told me that this was the best State Leadership Conference they have ever attended." This was the first time 1<sup>st</sup> place Database Applications winner Mecca Andrews participated at the BPA SLC and she agreed. Mecca said "The best things were the workshops and the awards ceremony. The care package workshop was really fun and I enjoyed making packages for the children. It was also fun to meet new people."

Smyrna students and advisors were grateful to have the support of their conference guests Superintendent Debbie Wicks, school board members Vetra Evans-Gunter and Kristi Lloyd, Associate Principal Marc Deisem, and Director of Curriculum Dr. Alexander Shalk. They are impressed at how successful students are at rising to the occasion and demonstrating a high level of achievement. Dr. Shalk said, "I was proud of how successful our students were in the competition and with how much grace and professionalism they accepted the recognition they achieved. As a networking tool and an opportunity to demonstrate learning at the highest level, the conference is integral to preparing our students for future success."

**The Just Believe in Me Scholarship**

The JBM PTO would like to announce the creation of a scholarship for graduating seniors. We have partnered with the Boys and Girls Club of the Smyrna-Clayton area to provide two \$500 scholarships for students whom have attended JBM and also been a member of the Boys and Girls Club. We would like to continue to support our students as they further their educations beyond our district in any way possible. Students may attend any post graduate school, including a trade school, to receive the award. We are looking forward to the first award-winning applications!

# SMYRNA JOINS NATION IN "READ ACROSS AMERICA" CAMPAIGN



**CIS: Authors, Volunteers, & a Multitude of Books, Unveil the Magic of Reading**

Despite the snow, CIS managed to kick off a successful first annual Read Across America event with over 40 guests throughout the community coming in to read to each classroom. Guests consisted of police officers, air force sergeants, high school cheerleaders and basketball players, pastors, librarians, cafeteria managers, ambulance personnel, and many others.

Guest speakers also joined our school to take part in the celebration of reading. Author Chrysa Smith gave an inspiring presentation to the CIS students on the creative writing aspect of books. Author Lisa Williams shared her writing experience on her book *The Christmas Hippo*. Doug Grudzina gave a presentation from the publisher's perspective. Finally,

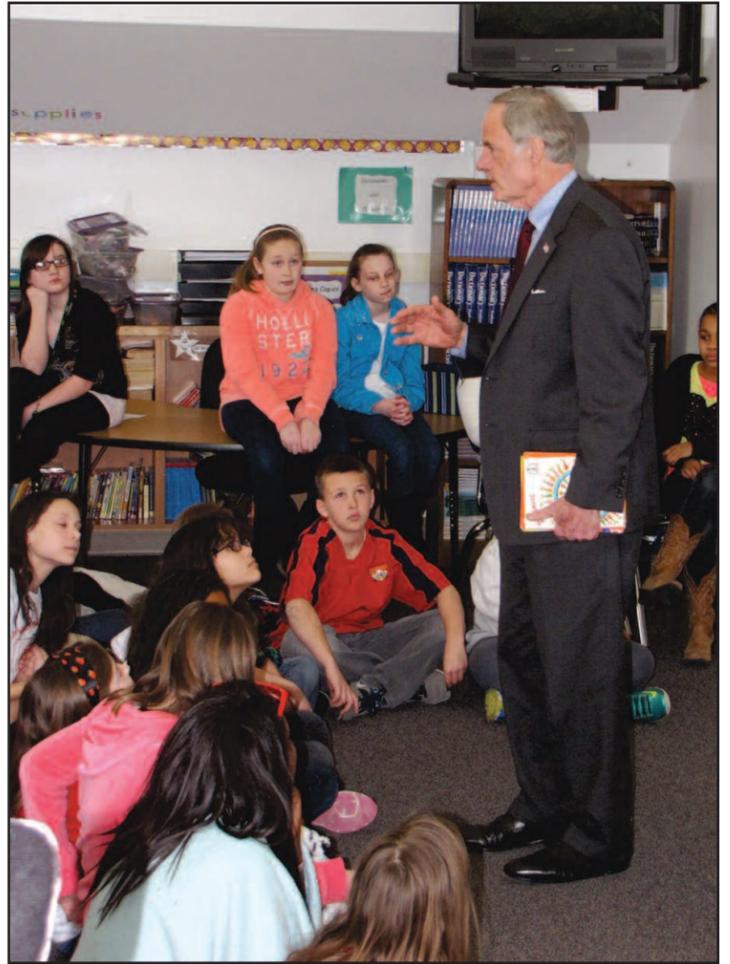
*see Read Across America pg 6*

## JBM Celebrates 7th Year!

During the month of February, the entire school participated in a reading contest. As part of the regular curriculum, students already read and take tests for the Accelerated Reader program. Books range in point value from 0.5 points to over 25 points. Point value depends on the difficulty and length of the book. For the contest, students did the same thing, but teachers kept track of how many points their class earned. For the month of February, JBM students earned a total of 3,470.3 points! The winner of the reading contest this year was the Red Team who earned 1791.2 points!

Each student on the winning team was given a goody bag with reading treats and PBS tickets. Also throughout the month, a drawing was held and the winning students were given a JBM Read Across America t-shirt.

*see JBM Celebrates pg 7*



## Smyrna Farmers Donate \$2500 to Chapter



With the ever changing and growing agricultural industry, new opportunities and programs are around everywhere to help keep the agricultural industry strong in American communities. In 2011, a program called The American Farmers' campaign, which is sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, was launched to advocate and celebrate the farmers of today and modern agriculture. This Spring, local Smyrna farmers Whitney &

Jonathan Snow won the \$2,500 donation and graciously selected Smyrna FFA as the 2014 recipient. This is Smyrna FFA's third time receiving the donation and the chapter appreciates how our alumni come back and recognize what a special program we have at Smyrna High School. The money will be used towards scholarships and other educational activities for members.

## North Smyrna Elementary Makes Cards, Bookmarks & Sends Letters to Troops



*see page 3 for story*

## SMS Band Performs at Blue Rocks Game

On April 9, over 400 students from SMS attended a Wilmington Blue Rocks game in support of the SMS band who performed "America the Beautiful" on the field. The students had a wonderful time and represented the middle school and the

Smyrna community so well. Two of our students had the opportunity to participate in some stadium fun and one chosen student from a raffle, Caitlin McCutchen, threw out the first pitch.



## Student Government Gives from the Heart



The Student Government Association worked hard this spring to achieve the Core Value of Compassion. The SGA hosted two blood drives in honor of Colby Atkinson, a Smyrna High School student diagnosed with leukemia. Over the last few months, Colby has received over 100 blood transfusions and the drives were held to help replace the blood that Colby has used in his fight against leukemia. In February, the students of Smyrna High School donated and in March, the staff of Smyrna School District donated. Everyone was truly supportive because between the two drives, Smyrna School District donated 105 pints of blood. Coupled with the fall blood drive, Smyrna has donated 170 pints of blood this year. True Compassion!!