

Smyrna Messenger



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

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Winter Edition

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Smyrna Board of Education

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Schools

Smyrna High	653-8581
Smyrna Middle	653-8584
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Smyrna Elementary	653-8588
Clayton Elementary	653-8587
North Smyrna Elementary	653-8589
Sunnyside Elementary	653-2808

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From the Superintendent's Desk...

Fall Message from Deborah D. Wicks

"Happy New Year 2016" to the Smyrna School District Community on behalf of our Smyrna School District Board of Education. During the 2015-2016 school year the Community Core Value is respect, which was defined many years ago by a community committee as "having a high regard for oneself and others. This would include self-worth, pride, physical well-being, contentment, peace, humor, appreciation for differences and individuality, fairness, respect, and tolerance. This may include faith in God.

During "I Love the Smyrna School District" day on Saturday, February 27, 2016, we will celebrate the annual Values Essay Contest Award Ceremony in order to honor this year's role model of respect, Smyrna School Board of Education President Ronald Eby. Mr. Eby has served the Smyrna School District for 50 years. A record that will be hard for anyone to match.

Ron Eby was born in Lancaster, PA in 1941. He graduated from J.P. McCaskey High School in Lancaster in 1959, and West Chester State College in 1964. Upon graduation Mr. Eby moved to Smyrna to take a Smyrna School District teaching position. During that first year, he was also the Junior High School Boys & Girls Intermural Coach, the Head Wrestling Coach, and the Junior Varsity Baseball Coach. After 10 years of teaching and being the Head Wrestling Coach, he became the Athletic Director while still continuing as a teacher and wrestling coach. In 1975, after receiving his Master's Degree from the University of Delaware he became the High School Assistant Principal while still continuing as the Athletic Director and Wrestling Coach. As Smyrna's head wrestling coach



President Smyrna School District Board of Education

(1964-1977), Mr. Eby compiled a 123-20-3 record and was twice named as both Henlopen Conference and State Coach of the Year. In 2000, Mr. Eby was inducted into the Delaware Wrestling Hall of Fame. This award was a testimony to his 13 years as a championship coach and a dedicated Athletic Director for 21 years. In November 1994, he was promoted by the Board of Education to be the Assistant Superintendent and served in that position for 10 years until he retired in 2004.

Mr. Eby is currently involved in many leadership activities: Member of the State Wrestling Committee (1968-present), Member of Delaware Wrestling Alliance (2007-present), Kent County Board of Assessment appointment (2005-present) and Board Member of Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association appointment (2008-present).

As a 40-year employee of the Smyrna School District, he worked with five superintendents and stated that he believes in the importance of sports and other activities in keeping students in-

terested in school. "It's the other half of education, sports teaches all kinds of disciplines like following rules and regulations, sportsmanship and how to handle failure and turn it into success."

Past Assistant Superintendent Clarence "Buddy" Lloyd stated that as his first wrestling coach, Mr. Eby's greatest gift was that he was a motivator. He was able to get the best out of people.

Currently, he is President of the Smyrna School District Board of Education and has been a member for the last 10 years, serving two terms. In his many roles over 50 years with the Smyrna School District, he has possessed the knowledge and skills to influence school policy, to apply regulatory standards, and to understand our school's political system. His many years of participating in School Board meetings, reviewing Board Policy, and planning School Board elections gives him a solid base of knowledge, about which objectives support our educational system and which objectives do not. He is firm in his convictions and projects a positive image. He uses active listening skills that add to his ability to make fair decisions. He is able to disagree with persons without being disagreeable. He is adept at keeping communication flowing. His pride in the Smyrna School District athletes and their coaches shows by his attendance at multiple sports events each year.

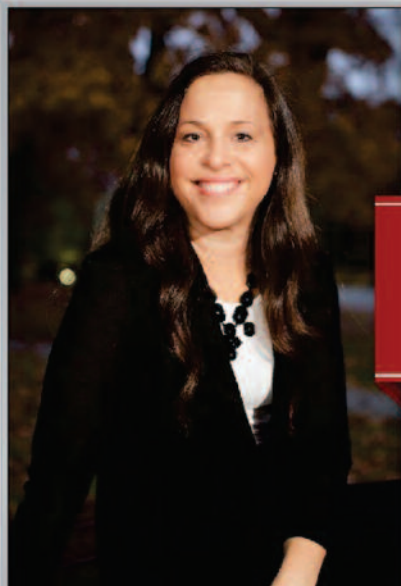
In conclusion, Ron Eby has been an excellent administrator and Board member who has maintained a positive and respectful rapport with all stakeholders in the Smyrna School District. He is an outstanding role model for young and old. His 50-year faithful commitment to education exceeds any other staff member in the district. *He is our 2016 Role Model of Respect.*

Superior Teacher: Coming to a Billboard Near You!

— 2016 DELAWARE —
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

SANDRA HALL
North Smyrna Elementary School

SMYRNA
School District



CLAYTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

First Graders Busy Themselves with Reading & Science



The first grade classes at Clayton Elementary are working hard and are excited about some new adventures they have experienced lately! All of the classes have started Accelerated Reading at this point. The students are reading their AR books and taking quizzes frequently in order to reach their marking period goals! We have also had the chance to work on research projects in Reading and have loved the experience of working with a group and finding information about different topics!

Our annual Polar Express day was a great success! The students were excited to spend the day working on activities and crafts that go along with the story. We finished the day by watching the movie and enjoying a yummy hot

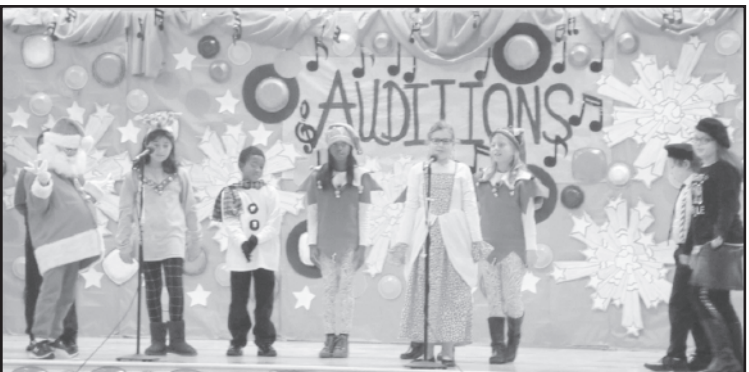
chocolate treat. The first grade classes were also very excited about the annual sing-a-long and holiday fun they took part in! When we return from the break, we will be starting a new science kit: Solids and Liquids. Throughout this kit, the students will heighten their awareness of the physical world. We will learn that matter exists in three forms: solids, liquids, and gas. We will observe differences between solids and liquids and conduct experiments to describe what happens when solids and liquids are mixed together. We will also be taking a field trip to the DASEF Environmental Outpost at Big Oak Park to participate in the "Between & Beyond Solids and Liquids" program.

Building Bridges for Understanding



Second graders began their Science Unit on Bridges with a visit to DASEF's Environmental Outpost where they participated in the "Bridges: Spanning with Strength Program." Students were introduced to the bridge design and construction process. They were also able to explore this further through small group problem solving exercises. Students are very excited to learn more about Bridges!

A CHRISTMAS LINE! A North Pole Musical



On December 17, Fourth Graders at Clayton Elementary School presented the brand new Broadway style musical entitled, **A CHRISTMAS LINE!** Students performed the North Pole Musical by Andy Beck and Brian Fisher to a full house of family and friends! Main characters

see *CESA Christmas Line* pg. 8



Clayton Elementary School

Stephanie McGuire
Principal

An Adventure of a Lifetime: Fourth Grade Field Trip

What an exciting adventure it was! On Wednesday, November 18, 2015, Clayton Elementary students, chaperones, and staff ventured to the Adventure Aquarium as part of their studies in science and reading. For many students, this was their first visit to the Adventure Aquarium where they interacted with animals that they have never seen before the field trip. Upon arrival, we traveled around the world on a breathtaking encounter during the *Great White Shark 4D* movie. The experience "unraveled the mystery of one of the ocean's most mysterious inhabitants." Everyone "plunged into the excitement of coming face to face with this iconic predator on the verge of extinction."

After viewing the movie, we continued by visiting the Adventure Aquarium's "Zones" where visitors can dive into learning about a variety of animals with amazing adaptations on display. According to the students, some of the "Not to Miss" Adaptation Exhibits included:

Zone A-Shipwrecked and Ocean Realm, Horseplay- Students learned about all about seahorses which are the "slowest swimming fish in the ocean."

Zone B-Stingray Beach Club- Students touched and interacted with the stingrays which are a "cartilaginous fish related to sharks."

Zone C-KidZone- Students viewed the Flashlight Fish, "small, somewhat deep water fish that use bioluminescence as their adaptation for survival."

Zone D-Hippo Haven and Shark Realm- In the Hippo Haven, students learned all about Hippos and even watched a hippo feeding. In addition, the Shark Realm Exhibit surrounded students with "30 sharks—Nurse sharks, Sand Tiger sharks, and Sandbar sharks." Some students even had the opportunity to communicate with a SCUBA diver by using dive signs. Adventure Aquarium cast members were available to answer questions.

Additional exhibits on the schedule included the following Touch Exhibits: Touch-A-Shark, Stingray Beach Club, Shows and Feedings, Hippo Feed and Talk, Penguin Feeding and Talk, Dinosaurs of the Deep, and Meet the Divers! According to the Adventure Aquarium, "Don't just look -

touch! Every child has a natural curiosity to explore, and children of all ages learn to truly appreciate nature by connecting with it by touch. Adventure Aquarium recognizes this and offers a number of exhibits catering to this desire to explore."

The objectives of the field trip were clearly met because students were able to:

- Define adaptation and describe reasons that animals have developed adaptations.

- Understand the difference between a physical and behavioral adaptation.
- Describe some physical and some behavioral adaptations that animals can utilize.

Delaware Standards SS, SS7, SS8

A special thank you goes to the Clayton Elementary PTO for their gracious donation towards the 4th grade field trip! Overall, the visit was filled with fun and learning—an experience we will never forget...

Kindergarten News

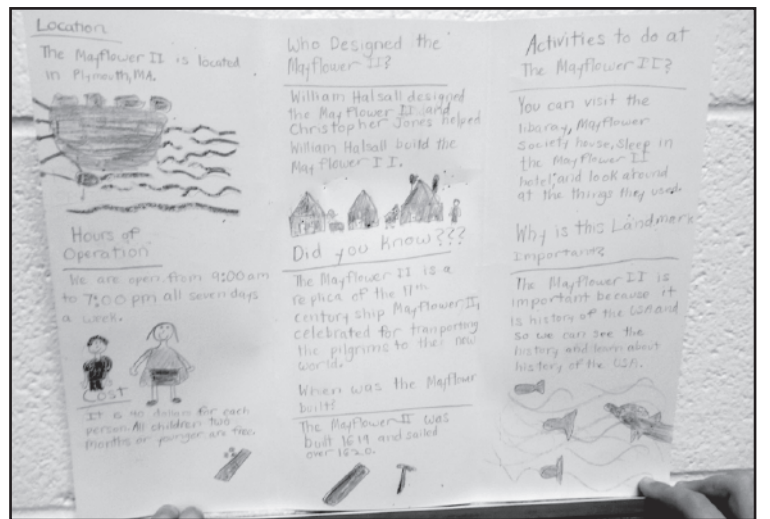


Clayton Elementary Kindergarten went on a field trip to Loblolly Acres in Woodside to visit the farm/pumpkin patch. The children had a great time walking through the petting zoo and seeing baby chicks. They enjoyed a wagon ride through the woods and had a chance to play on the giant slide.

We have also been busy learning about traditions in America and around the world. We

studied about the pilgrims and Native Americans and Thanksgiving customs. In December, the students learned about holidays and traditions of other countries. These activities took place with the children moving from room to room and making crafts. This tied in with the social studies curriculum and taught an appreciation of other's customs.

Third Grade: Travel Brochures Aboard



During the first marking period at Clayton Elementary, the third graders delved into a research-based project. Students investigated different landmarks around the United States. We learned about the location, the significance of the landmark to our country, the date it was established or built, and other interesting facts. All the information was compiled into a brochure advertising the famous place. Students also included specific information

about visiting the landmark, such as the cost to visit and hours of operation. Illustrations and photographs were used to highlight what you would see if you were to visit the landmark today. Our students worked so diligently. We're proud and excited to show off their hard work and creativity. The brochures are so incredible that you might be ready to jump on a train or plane to visit each of the landmarks!

NORTH SMYRNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Read for the Record



On Thursday, October 22, 2015, Smyrna High School fall athletes participated in *Read for the Record*. This is a global campaign which generates public support for high-quality early learning. This is the world's largest shared reading experience! Students from North Smyrna Elementary School, as well as millions of other children worldwide, enjoyed listening to this year's campaign book, *Not Norman: A Goldfish Story*, written by Kelly Bennett.

Anti-Bully Week



North Smyrna Elementary held their Anti-Bully week the week of October 5 - 9. The students at North had themed days all week with one day being "It's Despicable to Bully". On this special day we even had "Mr. Minion" visit the students!

As part of Anti-Bully week not only did we have themed days we held an Anti-Bully Poster contest. The winners of the contest were able to ride in the homecoming parade on North Smyrna's float!

In addition to all the other fun activities that week, we created a "Cape of Kindness." When a student or staff witnessed someone doing something "kind", they would fill out a star and it was added to the "Cape of Kindness". Each grade level had a different color star and the grade level that had the most stars won an ice cream party.

Flyers Visit North Elementary!!!



In December, representatives from the Philadelphia Flyers visited our fourth grade students for a program called "Faceoff for Fitness." Members of the Flyers Fan Development department conducted this 45-minute program during their physical education class. The objective of the program is to heighten awareness and provide information to help kids make positive nutritional and behavior choices.

See Flyers Visit story & team picture pg. 8

Kindergarten News!!!

It has been a busy few months for our Kindergarten classes at North Smyrna Elementary. In October we discussed pumpkin and visited Filasky's Pumpkin Patch. We began our science kit dealing with trees. We took a nature walk and discovered the trees in our area and planted several trees in the playground. We compared leaves and nuts from the different trees in our recess yard.

In November, we celebrated Thanksgiving by making turkey masks. *see NSES Kindergarten News pg. 8*

DE DOE Declares North's Early Childhood Program "Star Level 5"



Smyrna School District's Early Childhood Program was designated a Star Level 5 program, effective June 10, 2015. Delaware Stars for Early Success is Delaware's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) administered by the Delaware Department of Education. Participation in Stars is encouraged, but optional for child care providers (home and center-based), and Early Childhood Programs within schools. Programs are rated on a variety of aspects, including furniture, play materials, interactions between adults and children, program procedures, etc. A Star Level 5 is the highest level to obtain. The Early Childhood staff at Smyrna School District put in countless extra hours during breaks, before school, and after school, to reach this achievement. Smyrna School District was the first public school district in Delaware to obtain a Star Level 5 rating for the entire program!

Delaware State Police Visit North



Members of the Delaware State Police Mounted Patrol Unit visited North Smyrna Elementary thanks to the coordination of CLP teacher Maria Gygrynuk. Our CLP students were able to interact with the horses and police officers which helped the students learn about respect, responsibility, security and safety.

The Delaware State Police Mounted Patrol Unit has been in existence since 2012 and performs in ceremonial functions, patrols neighborhoods throughout the state, engages in crowd control and assists other officers in areas where patrol cars cannot go.

The troopers and animals go through hours of training so the horses can rely on their riders and not panic in tense situations. Because the animals have better vision to either side, they rely on their riders to spot danger directly ahead.

The horses are boarded at stables near the James T Vaughn Correctional Center where prisoners in the Central Violation of Probation

See DE State Police pg. 8

Fourth Grade Visits Kalmar Nyckel!!

The fourth grade students started the year learning about Delaware. First they discovered the shape of Delaware through mental mapping. Then the students mapped cities, counties, waterways, and surrounding states. After studying geography, fourth graders dived deeper into the history of our state. At the end of the unit, they visited the shipyards in Wilmington where the Swedish ship, Kalmar Nyckel, is docked. They were able to sail down the Christina River discovering where the Swedes first landed on the blue rocks. Once the sail was complete, students then went to several different stations including the Water Craft of the World, cannon, rope tying, and artifacts stations. Even a sudden rain shower did not dampen their spirits or enthusiasm. It was a great day!

Congratulations Mrs. Sandra Hall: Named Delaware's Teacher of the Year!!!



Mrs. Hall is among our fourth grade teachers. Education is a second career for Mrs. Hall. After several factors during her adult life Mrs. Hall decided to pursue education as a profession.

Mrs. Hall's philosophy of teaching:

She believes every child is unique. Each comes with a story. The children she works with daily have struggles outside of school that she cannot imagine. It is her job as their teacher to understand their stories, help them learn and grow as individuals, and make their school experience academically challenging and positive. To accomplish this, she knows both compassion and passion. She takes the time to get to know her students, understand where they come from, and meet their physical and emotional needs first. When they are frustrated in class, when their homework is not done, or when their behavior is challenging, it is not about the academics, it is about their story. She takes the time to be their counselor, their cheerleader, and their provider before she can tackle academic instruction. Understanding, accepting, and facilitating their story must come first, then today's lessons can be accomplished.

Stack It Up World Record Set



Our students participated in a cup stacking program called "Stack It Up," which is part of the World Sport Stacking Association. The students helped set a new Guinness World Record for "Most People Sport Stacking at Multiple

Locations in One Day." The new Guinness World Record is now 618,394! We had 400 students participate!! This stacking program helps the students with the motor skills, hand eye coordination and team building.

Family Fun Night



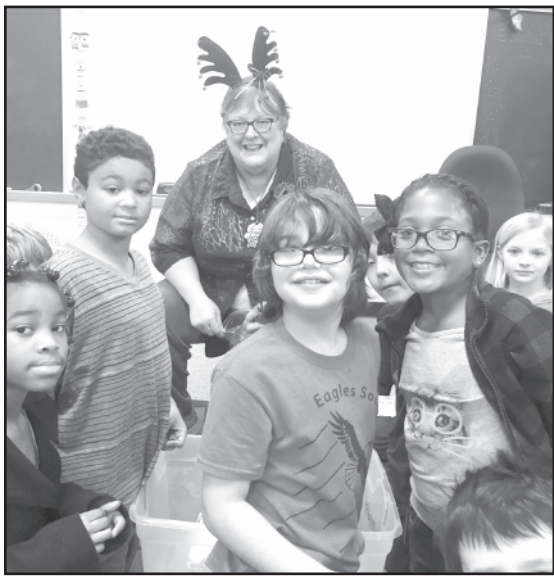
We held our annual Family Fun Night on Thursday, December 3, 2015. We had many winter and winter themed activities that focused on math and reading! Students created super hero mask, played different math type games and had story time.

SMYRNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mrs. Melvin is Smyrna Elementary's... **Education Support Person of the Year!**

Mrs. Chris Melvin was chosen by her peers as Educational Support Professional of the Year for her dedication to the students and staff at Smyrna Elementary. Mrs. Melvin started working with the Smyrna School District in 1993 as an Inclusion Aide and has been working in her current role as the library paraprofessional at Smyrna Elementary for over 20 years. Prior to that, Mrs. Melvin worked as a dental assistant and as a flight school manager. She has been married to her husband, Burt, for 35 years. She is the mother to Richard and grandmother to two young girls of which she is very proud.

Mrs. Melvin's colleagues note how, "every decision she makes takes the students' best interests into account" and that she cares deeply for each of her students and "what they're learning inside and outside of school." Mrs. Melvin describes herself as "blessed to have the best job in the world."



Smyrna Elementary School would like to congratulate Mrs. Chris Melvin for being nominated as the 2015-16 Educational Support Professional of the Year.



Smyrna Elementary "Little Eagles" give a big thumbs up to support Smyrna High School "Big Eagles" in their bid for the Football State Championship title.



Smyrna Elementary Third Graders taking in a live performance of *The Nutcracker* at Delaware State University, dressed in their theater elegance!



Smyrna Elementary School would like to thank D by D Printing for donating a new front entrance sign to us.



Mrs. Evans and Mrs. VanName's second grade students pose in period clothing during their visit to Hagley Museum in Wilmington.



Smyrna Elementary second grade students practice writing with quill pens during their visit to Hagley Museum in Wilmington.

SES Funds Over 200 Family Nights at the Ronald McDonald House!

Smyrna Elementary School is proud to have participated in the annual Ronald McDonald Share a Night fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Smyrna Elementary School raised over \$3000 which will allow for over 200 nights for families to stay near their sick

or injured children while in the hospital. Our original goal was to raise \$750, but our Smyrna Elementary community clearly showed their compassion to far surpass our target. Miss Cantillon's homeroom, who raised over \$700 alone, will receive a visit from Ronald himself in February.

SMYRNA E.S. DAILY SCHEDULE

8 am to 4 pm
Main Office Hours

- 7:15 am Breakfast Club Opens
- 8:10 am Cafeteria Opens
- 8:20 am Students Permitted to Class
- 8:30 am Homeroom Begins & Cafeteria Closes
- 8:35 am Homeroom Late Bell
- 3:25 pm Walkers / Car Riders / KN, 1st grade bus dismissal
- 3:30 pm 2nd, 3rd, 4th grade bus dismissal

Parents should only seek early dismissals of their children prior to 3:00 p.m. On half days, walkers will be dismissed at 12:25; bus riders will be dismissed at 12:30.

Mark your calendar...

- 01/18 – School Closed – Martin Luther King Jr Day
- 01/22 – End of Second Marking Period
- 01/25 – Full Day In-service
- 01/29 – Report Cards issued
- 02/15 – School Closed – President's Day
- 02/17 – School Board meeting at JBM Intermediate School (7:00)
- 02/25 – Mid-Marking Period
- 02/26 – Full Day In-service
- 02/27 – I Love the Smyrna School District Day

SES Special Olympics



What does unity mean to you? To the fifty nine members of the Smyrna Elementary School Special Olympics Team it means friendship, acceptance, and FUN!

On Friday, November 13, 2015 our athletes and unified partners participated in the Basketball Skills Competition hosted by Smyrna High School. In the weeks leading up to the competi-

tion the students were partnered together as a team while they practiced a range of skills from controlling the basketball to dribbling, passing, and shooting.

On the day of the competition, athletes and unified partners won many medals and ribbons for their first through fourth place finishes. Indeed, FUN was had by all.



Smyrna Elementary School first graders hearing about Fire Prevention and Safety at Delaware State Fire School.



Mrs. Fardoulis giving instructions to her first grade class while visiting the Delaware State Fire School.



Special Olympics

SUNNYSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Winter Musical "FLAKES!"

The Sunnyside Music Department has once again put on an amazing Winter Concert this year! The second grade students opened the show with their Winter Musical "FLAKES!" The singing was spectacular and the dance moves were mesmerizing! You can certainly tell that the students worked extremely hard to put on a fabulous show!

The Second Grade Musical was followed up by the Third and Fourth grade Sunnyside Chorus. The chorus performed several numbers including "Winter Wonderland /Let It Snow," "Winter Sun/Winter Fun," and one of the crowd's favorites, "Deck The Nutcracker Hall." The evening was full of the Holiday Spirit and the au-

dience left with smiles and wonderful memories.

Last week, the chorus performed for the Clayton Tree Lighting Ceremony. In January, we have been invited to sing "God Bless America" at a Delaware 87er's Basketball game! The Chorus will also be singing at a Blue Rocks game this Spring!



Sunnyside Students Write Code!

All of our Sunnyside superstars participated in **The Hour of Code**, during Computer Science Education Week, December 7-13. Students at Sunnyside were among 7 million other children, worldwide, that wrote over 8,412,317,091 lines of code.

Students embraced the challenge head on. Our Kindergarten and First Graders explored code writing with the free app called Scratch Jr. Students in second, third, and fourth grade wrote lines of code through online tutorials at www.code.org. At the website they had the option to write code for the Star Wars and Minecraft applications.

Response to Intervention (RTI): Global Read Aloud

Students in Reading RTI with Mrs. Maffett, were excited to participate in the **Global Read Aloud** this year. Each grade bracket was assigned a book, or series of books, to read from October 5, through November 13, 2015. The books were read aloud by the teacher for the majority of the six weeks. Occasionally, we were able to listen to the author of the stories read a chapter aloud on Youtube. Fourth grade students listened to the book Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt. Second and Third grade students listened to The Year of Billy Miller by Keven Henkes. Kindergarten and first grade students listened to a series of picture books by Amy Krouse Rosenthal including: Chops-ticks!, Duck! Rabbit!, and Exclamation Mark.

We were able to respond to questions presented by the authors and students around the globe using web resources such as Padlet, Google Docs and Write About. We were also able to share our thoughts about the characters and events in our books using these web resources. This is something we are looking forward to participating in again next year! Check it out at:

<http://theglobalreadaloud.com>

BEES!

Second graders at Sunnyside elementary were visited by over 70,000 bees in the month of October to enhance the science unit study of INSECTS. Local beekeeper, Robert Bauer, brought to school an observation hive along with honey for students to observe, taste, and learn about bees. Students were treated to a hands-on lesson about the life-cycle, anatomy, and the socialization bees along with understanding how they relate to other insects. The biggest challenge for the students was to find and recognize the queen bee in the observation hive. It's harder than you think.



Students Honor Veterans at Breakfast

Sunnyside Elementary was proud to honor our Veteran's On November 9. We asked family members of our students to join us for a breakfast followed by a ceremony to recognize all they have done for our country.



Fourth Grade News

Fourth graders at Sunnyside are off to a great start this 2015-2016 school year! This is our first year departmentalizing all but one classroom and they have done a great job transitioning and taking on this big responsibility. They are already preparing for fifth grade when they will have to do the same thing.

Students participated in Delaware Day where they were taught a lesson on the Constitution and how

Delaware ties into that. They were put into collaborative groups to research different topics within Delaware Day. The end result was a poster that displayed their knowledge in a creative manner.

Aside from their wonderful academics, students have also shown such a display of generosity by donating to the Ronald McDonald fund, providing canned goods and non-perishables for those in need, and giving hats and mittens for the

See SSES Fourth Grade pg. 8

Kindergarten Happenings

Sunnyside Kindergarteners have had tons of fun so far this year! In October we visited Wicked R Ranch, where we enjoyed a hayride and pony rides. In November we spent time learning about the first Thanksgiving and talking about what we are thankful for.

December has been packed with lots of learning and fun! We visited Coleman's Tree Farm, where we got to cut down a tree and make a wreath. We also took time studying winter holidays around the world. We look forward to a wonderful winter...let it Snow!



Shining out the Bullying



Sunnyside Elementary students and staff participated in our district wide anti-bullying week. We had a fun filled week that focused on "Shining out the Bullying." Our students participated in a drawing contest and signed a pledge against bullying. Each day the students participated in activities focusing on bullying prevention.

We created a compassion chain and all the students were given opportunities to write down acts of kindness throughout the week. We had a BMX assembly to teach anti-bullying strategies. Sunnyside Elementary always encourages our students to go above and beyond to demonstrate acts of kindness.

Holidays Around the World

First Graders at Sunnyside took time to celebrate diversity this holiday season. They did book studies and activities to celebrate Hanukkah,

Kwanzaa, and Christmas. Students enjoyed learning about the differences between the holidays and how they are celebrated. However, students realized that no matter what the holiday, we love to spend these special times with the people we care about!



2015/16 Sunnyside PTO Officers

- President**
Amy Retzlaff
- Vice President**
Peter Retzlaff
- Secretary**
Brianna Maffett
- Treasurer**
Bobbi Jo Webber
- Box Tops Chair**
Melinda Hayes
- Book Fair Coordinator**
Dashaye Burton

SUNNYSIDE PTO MEETS
(Monthly on the third Monday @ 7:00 pm. See our website)

All are welcome!

SUNNYSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHEDULE

- 8:15 First Bell Rings/ Breakfast
- 8:20 Students report to class
- 8:30 Class begins
- 8:35 Late bell rings

- Lunch Schedule:**
- 10:15-10:45 1st Grade
 - 10:50-11:20 Kindergarten
 - 11:25-11:55 2nd Grade
 - 12:00-12:30 3rd Grade
 - 12:35-1:05 4th Grade

- Dismissal**
- 3:10 Safety Patrol reports to duty
 - 3:15 Car Riders Dismissed
 - 3:25 Bus Riders Dismissed

CLAYTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Bullying Prevention Awareness Month



On Friday, October 9, 2015, the staff and students of CIS came together to create an Anti-Bullying message in recognition of Bullying Prevention Awareness Month. Four hundred eighty five students from CIS, including the teachers and additional staff created an Anti-Bullying message, "CIS INITIATES RESPECT" to support our district wide Anti-Bullying commitment.

The picture was taken with the assistance of the Delaware State Police helicopter. Master Corporal T.J. Aube and Master Corporal Joseph Thuet, along with Mrs. Irene Buscemi and Mrs. Jacqui Yerkes took the aerial picture of the staff and students.

During the week, the students also participated in activities that included giving compliments to others, signing a school wide

poster to pledge against bullying, wearing red to show unity, and each student received a "RESPECT" bracelet to remind them to show respect towards others. Students also participated in a book mark contest to create an Anti-Bullying/Respect message.

The book mark winners included:

- Fifth Grade:**
 Mrs. Webb's Class
 Jared Williams
 Ms. Erisman's Class
 Julianna Daniello
 Mrs. Everhart's Class
 Kihangu Waweru

- Six Grade:**
 Mr. McClain's Class
 Isabel Wilson-
 Ms. Campbell's Class
 Chase Correll
 Sarah Cain



Laura Virdin: Paraprofessional

My name is Laura Virdin, I am thrilled to be fifth grade support paraprofessional at Clayton Intermediate School! I am from Hartly but, have lived in Clayton for the past 11 years. After having an inspirational first grade teacher, I decided I wanted to change the world too, teaching has been my passion ever since. I graduated in 2013 from Wilmington Uni-



versity, with my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education (K-6).

For the past two years, I worked as Reading Interventionist paraprofessional at Booker T. Washington in Dover. Before graduating, I student taught Sixth grade at William Henry and third

See Laura Virdin opposite Corner

Daily Schedule 2015-16

- 7:00 am **Breakfast Club Begins
- 8:20-8:35 Students Enter Building/Home-room
- 8:35 am Late Bell & Announcements
- 3:27 pm Walkers/Car Riders Dismissed
- 3:29 pm 5th Grade Bus Dismissal
- 3:31 pm 6th Grade Bus Dismissal
- 3:35 pm Buses depart

**Breakfast club services will not be available during a two-hour delay

Halloween Dance



What an amazing turn out for our Halloween Dance on October 30! Over 300 students came in costume for a great time! The grade six Math/Science Department would like to thank all of the volunteer chaperones for all of their help keeping an eye on the kids. We couldn't have done it without the help of the super supportive parents of CIS students! The dance helped raise money for the Math and Science Field Trip to Six Flags America coming up in May! With dance tickets, food, drinks, and candy sales we raised over \$2,500 to help defray some of the cost for that trip! Thank you to everyone who came! It was a great time!

Clayton Intermediate Fire Prevention Essay Winners

Clayton Intermediate School is proud to announce that we had two students receive honors at the Kent County Fire Prevention Awards Ceremony at the Carlisle Fire House in Milford, Delaware. In the fifth grade, Alexia Inof won first place for her essay on *Fire Safety in the Kitchen*. In sixth grade, Leandro Villanueva won second place for his essay on *Outdoor Fire Safety*. Both students will have their papers submitted to the state competition. The state winners will be announced in January at the Cheswold Fire Company. We are very proud of our two students and wish them the best of luck in this competition!



Annual Craft Fair



On Saturday, November 21, Clayton Intermediate held its annual Craft/Vendor Fair. It was a great success. Many vendors and crafters were here to sell their products and many people from the community came out to show their support. We appreciate all of the help from the school volunteers, teachers, custodians, administration, and student

volunteers. We couldn't have done it without the help and support from such a great staff and group of volunteers. Thank you to all of the students and staff for their donations to the amazing raffle baskets! All of the money raised from vendor table rentals, food, and raffles goes directly to the students of Clayton Intermediate.

Yvette Burgos... New Secretary



My name is Yvette Burgos. I reside in Dover, DE with my hard working husband, and two handsome young sons. We are a very busy family. Our interests and activities are vast and varied. Travel, football, soccer, band/chorus, and fun runs are all activities that the Burgos Bunch partakes in. We are on the go all year long and wouldn't have it any other way. I have enjoyed my time at CIS thus far. I feel like I fit right in. I'm retired Air Force. I'm used to soaring on high with eagles.

Heather Passero: Part-time Step Teacher



My name is Heather Passero and I am excited to be part of the Clayton Intermediate School family! I am a graduate of West Chester University with a Bachelor's of Science in Elementary Education. I come to Smyrna School District from five years in Colonial School District. I live in Smyrna and my children attend Smyrna Elementary School. We enjoy spending time together on the weekends and taking family vacations to the beach in the summer. I also enjoy reading and staying active! I ran my first half marathon last spring and came in seventh in my age group. I look forward to challenging my students and working collaboratively with the staff here at Clayton Intermediate School throughout the remainder of the school year

Laura Virdin from opposite Corner grade at Clayton Elementary in 2012. Coincidentally, many of those third grade students I worked with are now sixth graders at Clayton Intermediate. I feel so fortunate for the opportunity to see their growth and success! In my free time I enjoy reading, listening to music, and spending time with my friends and family. I am elated to be teaching at CIS, and working with such a wonderful team of staff and students!

JOHN BASSETT MOORE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

New Staff At John Bassett Moore



New Office Staff Member

Hello. My name is Lisette Barnes and I am the new secretary at JBM. I was born and raised in New York and moved to Delaware in 2000. I have 4 wonderful children who are all a part of the SSD family. I enjoy shopping, reading, traveling and spending time with my family. I am looking forward to being a positive role model for the students at JBM.



New Art Teacher

My name is Jenna Davis and I am thrilled to join John Bassett Moore's family as the art teacher. My career in education began four years ago as a Paraprofessional and Substitute teacher for the Smyrna School District. I love being a part of the Smyrna community. I am a Smyrna High 2010 alumnus. In high school I participated in both the visual and performing arts. I graduated from Wilmington University with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and obtained my certification in Special Education and Art. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family and traveling.



New Technology Teacher

My name is Victor Bogia. I was born and raised in Delaware. I love computers, sci-fi movies and collecting things! I am the new technology teacher at JBM. I look forward to preparing your students for the future in the world of technology.

GIS Day

JBM's grade five STEP program attended the 8th annual GIS Day on Wednesday, November 18, at the Air Mobility Command Museum in Dover, Delaware. GIS

Day is an international event held on the Wednesday of National Geography Awareness Week. Students had the oppor-

See GIS Day pg. 8



John Bassett Moore's National Geographic Bee

On December 9, 25 students arrived in room 203 prepared to demonstrate their knowledge of geography in the preliminary round of the JBM National Geographic Bee. They answered questions about world geography, cultures, and historic places. The students had a great attitude and cheered on their classmates after concluding each round. The 25 students were selected by their high achievement on the first round of the geography bee during which all students completed a 50 question geography assessment in their classroom. The preliminary round identified the next

10 students who will complete in JBM's final competition scheduled for Thursday, January 14. This competition will produce one winner who will complete an additional assessment in order to participate in the state competition in April.

Geographic Bee Preliminary Competition Participants

Leah Bonsignore, Donovan Clark, Ryan Conway, Brooke Duke, James Godard, Connor Hetteroth, Madison Arsenault, Dylan Booth, Alexis Buss, Patrick Crutchfield, Sarah-Ashley Dinsmore, Cheyenne Hill, Cameroon Hood, Sa-

vana Kopach, Robert Mace, Nathan Merrill, Nicholas Miller, Ian Murphy, Aidan Nix, Sabrina Richards, Dylan Sipple, Samuel Stewart, Elayna Tush, Lawrence Tyrell, and Ben Washburn.

Geographic Bee Top 10

Madion Arsenault, Alexis Buss, Donovan Clark, Patrick Crutchfield, Sarah-Ashley Dinsmore, Connor Hetteroth, Cameron Hood, Aidan Nix, Lawrence Tyrell, Ben Washburn.

Congratulations to all of our student participants and good luck to the 10 students who will complete in the next round!

FALL FESTIVAL

Student Council and many others worked so hard on the fall fest. It was a great turn out and everyone had so much fun! We also love to give back to our community and make a difference in the world. A project that the Student Council group is working on at this moment is donating things to The Hospital for the Chronically Ill. The types of donations we are

accepting are items such as clothes and toiletries. Unfortunately, we are accepting items such as mouthwash, razors, and shaving cream.

Coming in January, we are donating to the SPCA (this is an animal rescue shelter). We are donating items such as money, supplies, and blankets.



Parent Information Night

Parents, staff, and students came together on November 17 for JBM's second Parent Information Night. During the two hour session, participants had the opportunity to explore all JBM has to offer our students and families. Everyone received a schedule that allowed them to select the sessions they wanted to attend. These sessions included Common Core Math and Reading, Smarter practice test sessions, and information on the Smarter score reports. Parents also received information on resources to help students at home. Student performances by our 5th and 6th grade bands and chorus were interspersed through the sessions. There was even a sneak preview of the Fall performance of "After Hours" by our drama students! We appreciate the support from our parents and students who attended!

Drama Club: After Hours

Fifth and sixth grade students performed "After Hours" for their fall show. It was a comedy about a small clothing store after hours. When the lights went out for the evening, the two store front mannequins would come to life. The discovered a male mannequin in a crate left in the store. The three would have return to their mannequin state when customers approached.

When they came alive again, they heard a strange sound. They froze just in time when two burglars came in. The mannequins

See Parent Night pg. 8



JBM Student vs. Teacher Basketball Game

JBM sponsored our annual Student vs. Teacher's basketball game, which raised money to support our Drama Club. Special thanks to the staff, students, and parents who helped make this event possible.

See more basketball pictures on page 8



SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S NEWS

CES A Christmas Line from pg. 2

Santa, Mrs. Claus, Seymour, Randie, Cameron, Cocoa, Cinnamon, Nog, and Stage Manager were played by: Brandon West, Hailey Ennis, Wynston Walcott-King, Cheyenne Martin, Christopher Cuellar, Karys Bernhard, Elise Carter, Amber Sirrell, and Kylie McGuire respectively. The full-scale musical included several BIG dances, as students "cut a rug" with Cane Dancing, Hip Hop, and Jazz. A beautiful lyrical style ribbon dance featured our own in house ballerina, Alina Bartlett. Students also showcased their recorder skills with a jazzy performance of "Deck the Halls." Amazing scenery depicting the lights, camera, action theme, AND the North Pole was created by our talented Art Teacher, Monica DeHart. The Clayton Elementary Third Grade Chorus put everyone in holiday spirits too with dancing flashlight choreography in "Holiday Lights." Their stirring performance of the traditional Jewish song, "Hanukah" featured skillful xylophone playing along with special effects: gong, finger cymbals, wind chimes, and tambourine. "Let it Go" featured soloists: **Cadence Baker, Taylour Deshields, Aubrey Downward, and Ashley Kassner.** "When Christmas Comes to Town" featured soloists: **Clayton Lloyd and Patrick Watts.** Students got a taste and glimpse of the Big Apple right here in our little town of Clayton, as they stormed the stage and rocked the house Broadway style!

Flyers Visit from pg. 3

ioral choices. Kids were taught about proper day-to-day nutrition and were informed about several ways in which to be physically active. The Flyers will also be here for a Teamwork Assembly in February where we will welcome the Flyers legend Bob "The Hound" Kelly.



SSES Fourth Grade from pg. 5

upcoming cold months. This combination of both intellect and compassion make these fourth grade Sunnyside student's true superstars!

DE State Police from pg. 3

Center care for them. Then in return the prisoners receive certification credentials that may help them work in farming or at race tracks once they are released.

The students really enjoyed their time with the troopers and horses.

NSES Kindergarten News from pg. 3

crafts in each room such as vests, drums, Native American head-dresses, Pilgrim hats and satchels just like the Wampanoag's and Pilgrims wore. We also made corn muffins, butter, cranberry relish, and pumpkin pies, which we ate at our Thanksgiving feast later that day. The children had a wonderful experience and truly un-



Special Olympics

We are happy to announce that JBM competed in its annual Basketball Skills Competition at Smyrna High School in October. Our team of Unified Partners and Athletes did an awesome job! We returned to JBM with eight GOLD medals, six SILVER, and eight BRONZE. All of our ath-

letes had a great time encouraging others and trying their best at dribbling, shooting, and passing. Our "Girls on the Run" and "Heart and Soul" teams came and cheered us on every step of the way! Way to go JBM Eagles!! Practices will start up after winter vacation for our Spring competition of soccer skills. Mrs. Laura Collins is the Program Director for JBM. For more information or questions you can contact Mrs. Collins at laura.collins@smyrna.k12.de.us.



derstood why we celebrate the holiday.

We were visited by the Delaware State Police's mounted division. We learned about the horse used by the department and what they

do throughout the state. They were enormous and very friendly. The students had a great time!

We hope you and your families had a healthy and happy holiday!

6th Grade: Franklin Institute Field Trip

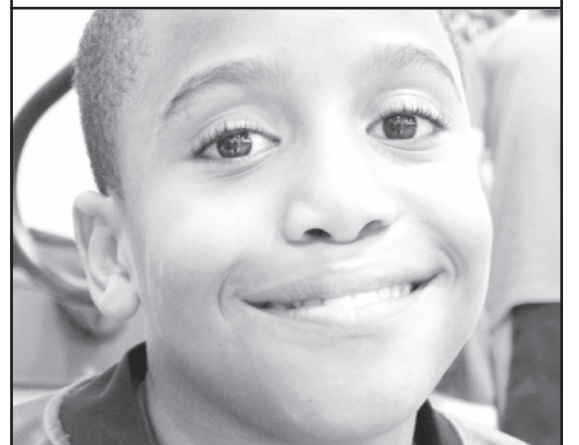


Parent Night from pg. 7

messed around with the burglars and finally foiled their attempt at robbing the store. The students did a fantastic job on stage. The night was full of fun and laughter.

The students at JBM will next be performing "Peter Pan Jr" the musical. Look for that performance in the spring.

JBM Student vs. Teacher Basketball



GIS Day from pg. 7

tunity to participate in a variety of activities that provided a broad experience of how geography is used and why it is so important. Some of the activities included viewing the Mobile Command Unit, touring the airplanes, using the flight simulator, and other activities relating to working with GIS/GPS systems and compass navigation. The students, teachers, and chaperones enjoyed our geography adventures!



North Smyrna's contest winners ride on Anti-Bullying Poster parade float.



Mrs. Fortner and Mrs. Harding celebrating Downs Syndrome Awareness with star kindergarten student, Molly Coleman.



Cathy Austin, Education Support Professional of the Year (ESP), with JBM Principal, Elyse Baerga.

SMYRNA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Fire Prevention Essay Winners Announced

Recently, the Kent County Fire Prevention Essay winners were announced and we are pleased to announce the winners. Pictured from left to right, grade 8 winner **Camryn Leppy**, grade 8 winner and second place in Kent County **Jason Callahan**, grade 7 winner and first place in Kent County **Easley Pierson**, and grade 7 winner **Alyssa Ide**.



The 212 Program Partners SHS with SMS

Through supporting our District Core values of Compassion, Integrity, Perseverance, Responsibility and Respect, Smyrna Middle School is proud to introduce the 212 Leadership Program to a select group of grade 8 students that were nominated by their teachers. The mission of the Smyrna Middle 212 Leadership Program is to embrace the leadership skills that are already noticed in the nominated students, and to have them collaborate with other student leaders in the schools to discuss a variety of topics. The idea to bring this program to our students originated from Elana Montejo, an empowered junior at Smyrna High School, in coordination with the HighSchool's Link Crew Program. The program is design to promote the importance of hard work and leadership, promote more confidence in one's own leadership abilities, reach important leadership, communication, and teamwork skills, and

continue the positive relationship between Smyrna Middle and Smyrna High. The 212 Leadership Program is a joint effort of several Smyrna High School and Smyrna Middle School students, and has staff advisors from both schools, as well. Through partic-

ipation in this program, it is the intent to have each participant excited and ready to take on leadership opportunities as they come, whether big or small, with self-recognition of their own leadership potential.



JDG Visits the Delaware Food Bank & Lends a Helping Hand

In November, members of the Job for Delaware Graduates program and Mrs. Young their advisor took a trip to the Delaware Food Bank to learn about their programs and offerings and also took part in volunteering for the day. Stu-

dents took time to prepare meals for the backpack program provided by the Delaware Food Bank each week to more than 5,000 students in the Kent County area.

See SMS JDG Pictures Page 14.



FFA Gives the Gift of Sharing



The month of December brings people together and here at Smyrna Middle School students simply love to share. At their recent FFA meeting, students had the opportunity to participate in their annual gift exchange.

Students had participated in a team building activity while during the activity students continued to exchange their gift with other students. At the conclusion of the activity, the gift that each student possessed was

See FFA Gives Gifts pg. 14

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK AT SMS

During the week of October 5-9, Smyrna Middle School students participated in their anti-bullying week in a worldwide effort to combat bullying. Activities were planned

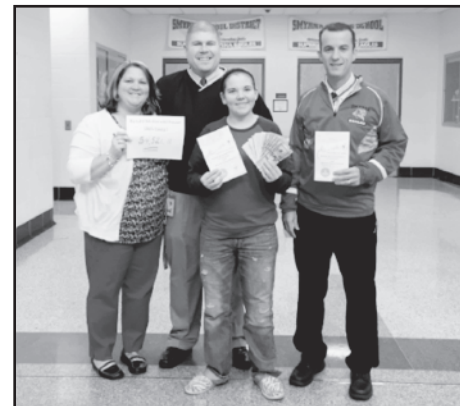
throughout the week and included wearing blue, wearing a Hoodie to be a "Goodie," wearing a Sports Jersey to "be a Good Sport," wearing a Hat to "put a Lid on Bullying" and fi-

nally wearing Red for Smyrna Pride. A homeroom t-shirt competition took place that Friday for the most Red shirts. Pictured are some of our homeroom winners.



Student Raises Thousands for Charity

Jenna Rae Donovan is a seventh grader at Smyrna Middle School. She joined the district in 4th grade. When she heard that SSD was doing a fund drive for Ronald McDonald House, she went home and told her parents that she wanted to collect the most money in her class. Each year, as a family, the Donovan's contributed to this worthy cause by saving and collecting soda can tab tops. Not only did she collect the most in her class, she surpassed everyone in her school at CES. Ronald McDonald came to visit her room with happy meals for everyone!



Last year, Jenna had a relative born that utilized the Ronald McDonald House. Jacob Earl Kampen was born on December 29, 2014 with a condition known as Pierre Robin Sequence. Pierre Robin Sequence results in a cleft palate and a retracted jaw. Jacob had a difficult airway and was on a respiratory monitor 24/7. During this difficult time, his family was able to stay at the Ronald McDonald house. Having this option made a big impact on their family as they were able to remain close to the hospital and bring Jacob's two siblings with them for his surgery. The Ronald McDonald house offered lots of activities, movies, an outside playground, as well as a place where parents and families facing similar situations could congregate and find camaraderie. That's, not to mention a full kitchen to cook in and several free meals, giving his family a secondary option to the hospital cafeteria. Jacob is a complete joy to his family and those that he meets.

This year, Jenna worked harder than ever to reach out to as many people who would hear her. She raised her personal high collection of \$2,100! Through the years, Jenna has raised \$3,920 and collected over 300 pounds of can tab tops for Ronald McDonald House.

This year's collection combined with her fellow students and the staff at Smyrna Middle School raised a school and district record of \$4,667.75 for a single school. Smyrna Elementary ran a close race behind collecting \$3,500! As a district, Smyrna schools raised \$13,762.37. Compassion is not only one of our five core values, but a trait that we as Eagles live by daily. Congratulations to all of the members of the Smyrna School district on a job well done!



SMYRNA HIGH SCHOOL

SHS All State Choir



Smyrna High School recently hosted the auditions for the Senior High All State Choirs. Students from all over the state auditioned for the membership into this prestigious chorus. Our choral department had fifteen students who prepared and auditioned for this group! We are proud to announce the following students will be representing Smyrna in February participating in the 2015 All State Senior Chorus: Chloe Pyle, Careliz Ayala and Callie Keen. They look forward to preparing themselves for this event!

On December 9, 2015 the choral and instrumental departments presented their holiday concert. The concert choir and the select ensemble both enjoyed sharing the music they had prepared over the last three months. I have enjoyed this time getting to know the students and becoming apart of the SHS family.

Family, Career & Community Leaders of America

Our club has grown in size! We have been working hard to not only build our chapter, but make an impact on our community. Here are just a few of the highlights from this year:

In October, FCCLA babysat during JROTC's quarter auction. We had a blast dancing, coloring, singing and getting ready for Halloween.

On December 4, we have hosted our annual Winter Wonderland event and it was a great success. We had a cafeteria full of eager kids and supportive community members.

At the moment, our club is preparing for our State Leadership Competition which will take place early this spring. To prepare, we are working on some community service events.

Also happening this spring is our first annual FCCLA Spring Fling. Coming up later this year, FCCLA will be conducting our Jeans-For-Teens annual clothing drive and hosting our own Quarter Auction with BPA on March 11. Please come out and join in on the fun!

NY Trip features Multi-Disciplinary Artist



The Frida Kahlo Art Garden is exclusively at the New York Botanical Garden. Students learned about the wonderful life and art of Mexican Surrealist Painter Frida Kahlo. Poetry, botany, and art combined to make a great presentation of this great historic figure. Students were moved by the green space in the middle of New York City and all of the great varieties of plants on hand, particularly flora found in Kahlo's native Mexico.

Boys Basket Ball Team Exhibit Core Values at William Penn Game.



The Key Club at William Penn High School was having a "Toys for Tots" charity drive at the Smyrna William Penn Boys Basketball game at WPHS on 12/10. The Boys Basketball Team caught wind of this event and decided to bring toys to add to their collection. Each member of the Varsity Basketball Team walked a

toy to the lobby and placed it in the collection bins. The Administrators and Athletic Director at WPHS were extremely enthused and thankful. The Smyrna Boys Basketball Program was happy to be able to contribute to their cause and demonstrate the core values of the Smyrna School District.

Williams & Matusевич Lead Educators Rising

Lauren Williams and Mallory Matusевич were selected to serve on the Delaware Executive Council for Educators Rising. Lauren Williams is serving her year as the State Secretary, while Mallory Matusевич is serving as the State President and National Vice-President. During the summer, these two students were able to attend a State Officer training to serve as the First Officers under the new name Educators Rising. Educators Rising recently underwent a name change from the previous Future Educators Association. Williams and Matusевич have served the first part of this year preparing the state for the transformation and presenting at various conferences. The students also attended and

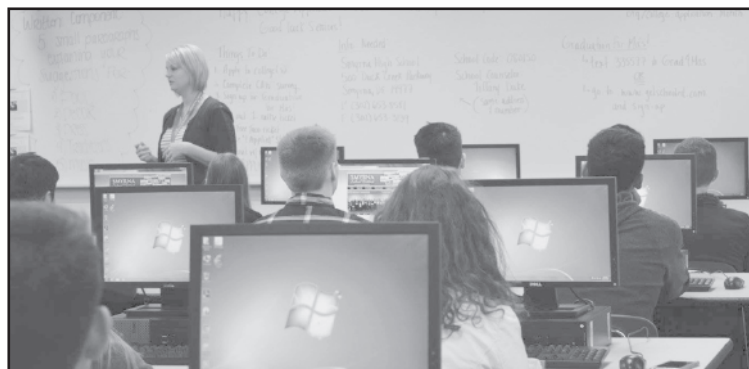


presented at multiple CTSO state level trainings. The duo has been busy planning the State Conference that will take place in December and will lead the way for the new Teacher Preparation Academy offered by Delaware Department of Education.

College Application Week

November 16-20 was College Application Week at Smyrna High School. Students in all grade levels participated in various college-going activities during the week. Seniors had the opportunity to complete college applications

during their English classes, with help from school counselors and volunteers from local colleges and the Delaware Department of Education. Pictured is Mrs. Duke, twelfth grade counselor, giving a group of seniors instructions as they prepare to complete their college applications.



Smyrna High School students and staff participated in the College Application Week door decorating contest in November. Pictured are the doors of Mrs. Ulrich and Mrs. Ramirez's classrooms.

Smyrna High School Midterm Examination Schedule 2015-16

Day 1

Wednesday
Jan. 20, 2016

Pd. 2 -7:30-8:55 (85)
Pd. 4 -9:00-10:25 (85)
Pd. 6 -10:30- 11:55(85)
Dismissal: 12:00

Day 2

Thursday
Jan. 21, 2016

Pd. 1 -7:30-8:55 (85)
Pd. 3 -9:00-10:25 (85)
Pd. 5 -10:30- 11:55(85)
Dismissal: 12:00

Day 3

Friday
Jan. 22, 2016

Pd. 7 - 7:30-8:55 (85)
Pd. 8 - 9:00-10:25 (85)
Dismissal 10:30

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 SAT Prep, Student 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 with documentation is required for a student to make up an exam.

212 Leadership Program

Elana Montejo



When the dreams of the youth are nurtured and inspired early, students are much more motivated to reach them. The 212 Leadership Program was created to do exactly this: to help young leaders in Smyrna's community realize that they have great potential, and encourage them to exercise this potential through teamwork, good character, and service. The program takes a group of fifteen outstanding tenth grade mentors from Smyrna High School, and once a month we travel to Smyrna Mid-

dle School to work with a group of thirty exceptional eighth graders. This allows us to build a bridge between the two schools and create a bond, hopefully making the start of high school not as nerve wrecking. Through presentation and team building activities, not only does the high school team help to teach leadership, but also inspire the eighth graders to get involved when they reach the high school community, and ultimately achieve their dreams.

Eagles Cross Country News

Both the Boys and Girls Cross Country teams have completed another wonderful fall season. The teams each had many accomplishments. The Male Eagles team finished the season with an 8-4 winning record, 3rd in Kent County, 5th in the Henlopen conference and 12th in the Division 1 state meet. Individually, junior Tosin Ibironke had a remarkable first year running accomplishing

1st team all-county, 1st team all-conference and the esteemed 2nd team all-state with a 5th place finish in the Division 1 state meet. He is the first runner from Smyrna to make 2nd team all-state since 1995. Senior Adam Bailey also helped lead the team in points making 2nd team all-conference. Other notable team members were senior Captain RJ Kerley, junior Chase Archangelo, senior Mike Hunter, and rising star

See Cross Country News pg. 13

Link Crew Spot Light

John Haller



Far too often it is heard through the halls of Smyrna High School students say “If only I had done better” or “If I could only re-do my freshman year.” Students are living day to day with bruised GPA’s and regrets about their lackadaisical approach to the first year of high school. Hindsight is always 20/20 but the goal of the Link Crew club is to make present sight clear for Freshman students at Smyrna High.

The Club Link Crew, was created in the 2012-2013 school year and has been aiding first year students and juniors at Smyrna High School ever since. The goal of the club is two-fold: one, to help first year students feel welcome and prepared for their high school experience and two, to develop and utilize Juniors in the school as leaders. In the three years that Link Crew has been running, over 100 juniors have been put into the position of leading and helping over 300 first year students.

Every month throughout the year, groups of two leaders meet with 10 to 12 first year students for about 20 minutes during the school day. Meetings are focused

around building relationships between the students and discussing topical information that the leaders have been prepared to share. Such topics include, time management skills, communication skills, test taking skills, and motivational skills. The junior leaders are put into the unique position of leading a group session and teaching their peers from expert data and personal experience. The goal of each meeting is to encourage and equip the first year students to do the best they can by giving them relevant information that they can use the moment they are taught it and onwards. Leaders are also encouraged to keep in touch with their first year students throughout the month, as accountability partners and to build community between classes in the school.

In addition to the student meetings, the junior leaders are required to attend club meetings. During these times the juniors reflect on previous meetings, are prepped on the next lesson and help each other on how to present information better.

Through an interview process, there are 20 who were accepted as link crew leaders. Ten groups of two leaders, leading about 11 students each, are helping over 100 freshmen this year! We had two group meetings so far this year, debuting a school wide advisory lesson where our leaders provided insight on time management.

Overall the club is dedicated to helping first year students succeed, resulting in lower school failure rates, attendance, and behavioral issues. By building community and having students reach out to each other, Link Crew is making Smyrna High School a better place!

Transitional Life Skills Program

Monica Kreck

The Transitional Life Skills Program began at the Smyrna High School this year. This program is



designed for special needs students providing on site job coaching, vocational opportunities, and inclusion opportunities, as well teaching them necessary life skills. The TLP was formed by Anna Marie Farro and her staff, Erik Warner and Monica Kreck.

The Caesar Rodney School District has partnered with Smyrna High School to provide a unique opportunity for their students. Ms. Farro and her staff have designed a program for students to be educated in the least restrictive environment possible. The focus is on social skills, self-advocacy and independence. Our students are working alongside traditional students in classes such as Multi-Media, Physical Education, Health, Plant Science and Painting and Drawing.

The students at Smyrna High School,

as well as the staff and administration, have welcomed our students with open arms. They are kind, caring, and supportive. Our students now have opportunities that they have not had available to them in the past; opportunities to attend pep rallies, homecoming parade, school dances, sporting events, community trips and class instruction that is led by their peers.

We are seeing tremendous growth in our students. They are so proud of their accomplishments and their new friends. On site, our students are laundering the varsity jerseys for the Smyrna 2015 DIAA Championship Football Team. They are assisting the ROTC program with recycling for the school and working in the school copy center, delivering to teachers throughout the building.

Each day our students are going off site to learn necessary job skills that will stay with them after graduation. They work at Asbury



Special Olympics Basketball Skills Challenge

The Smyrna School District participated in the Special Olympics Basketball Skills Challenge on November 6. More than 300 athletes and unified partners (peers without disabilities) from all the elementary and intermediate schools located in Kent County. The Smyrna High School Jr. ROTC presented the colors while members of the Regiment of Red played the National Anthem and the event was opened by Principal Stacy Cook. Special Olympics Delaware’s continued success is a result of the thousands of volunteers who unselfishly give their time and talents and whose commitment and effort, much of it behind the scenes, makes this event possible. Over 115 student volunteers from the Project Unify/Blue-Gold Club worked together to make the



event run smoothly led by the Special Olympics Youth Activation Committee Members from Smyrna High School Hannah and Chloe Griffiths as well as Advisor Whitney Reed-Pierson. The next two Special Olympics Skills events for the Smyrna School District will be bowling in February and soccer in May. The Project Unify/Blue-Gold Club also participates in the Cool Schools Program during the Polar Bear Plunge in February under the name Frozen Feathers and Advisor Whitney Reed-Pierson participates in Over the Edge repelling off a 17 story building in Wilmington in May. These students truly demonstrate the Smyrna School District’s Core Values of Compassion, Responsibility, Respect, Perseverance and Integrity.



Jobs for Delaware Graduates State Leadership Conference



Delaware Career Association chapter president, Sonia Gonzalez, conducted our annual Initiation and Installation Ceremony November 20th and initiated 62 students into the Delaware Career Association. Several Parents, Administrators, and Jobs for Delaware Graduates’ State Staff members were in attendance.

JDG officers and Representatives attended the annual Leadership Conference at the Modern Maturity Center in November. There, they participated in leadership and teambuilding workshops and voted for the 2015-2016 State-Leadership Team.

Guest speakers in class have included Representatives from the Military and a Mental Health Agency. Also a presentation on admissions guidelines for Delaware Tech was made by a DTCC Admissions Counselor.

Students also conducted their annual “Operation Yuletide” visit to Loving Care Daycare in Smyrna. JDG students merrily assisted the little ones with arts and crafts, story time, and play activities. This was our program’s fifteenth

annual visit to the daycare to spread holiday cheer to some of the community’s children.

JDG participants once again shared in the brochure sales fundraiser to support chapter civic and state DCA events. Students coordinated the sales and distribution of delightful seasonal treats among their many supportive customers.

This fall JDG partnered with Students in Action, a National Organization on Volunteerism, in presenting the Jefferson Award for outstanding community service efforts in our school. Each month, JDG students will recognize a deserving individual/and or organization for their service during the morning announcements.

Jobs for Delaware Graduates and the program’s Delaware Career Association student organization enjoyed a very successful fall. Returning members welcomed new members in fulfilling the organization’s mission statement: JDG enables students to achieve academic, career, personal, and social success.

FFA NEWS

WINNER DECLARED FOR CHAPTER T-SHIRT CONTEST

This past fall, the Smyrna FFA Chapter held its annual chapter T-Shirt design contest. There were numerous entries, which got narrowed down to seven finalists and were displayed in the Agri-Science classrooms. MVP members were asked to vote on their favorite shirts design. After the votes were cast, the winning design was created by Cristy Cruz from Mr. Shane's Animal Science class. Ms. Cruz will receive a \$50 prize for her winning design at the chapter banquet this spring. Her concept design can now be seen in red and blue on white T-shirts that our chapter members proudly wear at Smyrna High School.



"PROJECT YOU" CONFERENCE

On November 24, first year members gathered in the cafeteria to explore future opportunities that they acquire through FFA. Members were educated by our chapter officers on opportunities in their freshmen, sophomore, junior and senior years at Smyrna High School. Members also acquired tools to expedite their leadership abilities. Through all these stations, members enjoyed fun activities to put into play the skills learned throughout the day. State FFA President Evan Davis and State Secretary Shannon Thorpe were in attendance to present a station on FFA opportunities beyond high school. We hope everyone enjoyed their time and learned all they can do throughout their time as an FFA member and beyond

McDonald House from back page

\$80,000 for this worthy and local cause. The Ronald McDonald House gives parents a safe and comfortable place to sleep, encouraging them to wake up with hope to start a new day. We are honored to donate and support the Ronald McDonald House each year. Students' perseverance and compassion has helped us to reach and exceed our goal and expectations each year. One student in particular, Jenna Donovan, has been the single most ardent supporter. See a feature article about her efforts on the Smyrna Middle School's page, 9.



For years to come we hope the Smyrna School District can continue to surpass our goals and never give up!

SMYRNA'S FINAL RODEO IN KENTUCKY

Erin Walker, Eagle Eye Reporter

Smyrna High School FFA students joined thousands of FFA members from all across the country at the 88th National FFA Convention and Expo Oct. 28-31 in Louisville, Kentucky. SHS students participated in competitive events, listened to motivational speakers and took part in educational workshops.

A highlight was the Smyrna FFA Chapter earning a two-star rating in the National Chapter Award program. The National Chapter Award program recognizes FFA chapters that successfully plan and implement a diverse program of activities for the year. Only the state's top three gold chapter award winners (or 10 percent) are eligible to compete for the National FFA Star Chapter Awards. Members also earned awards for placing in the National Agri-science Fair, Parliamentary Procedure and Dairy Handling Career Development Events (CDE's).

Junior Parliamentary team mem-

bers Jessica Bright, George Class-Peters, Cassidy Cook, Justin Johnson, Erin Smallwood, Trey Thompson, and Chelsea Wix placed in the top 25 of the nation. The Senior Parliamentary CDE team of John Barkley, Gabby DiRusso, Hunter Melson, Jake Mitchell, Allison Wheatley, and Meghan Yerkes received bronze in the nation. Cassidy Cook also earned 10th in the nation for Dairy Handling.

This is the third time senior FFA chapter president Allison Wheatley has attended national convention, but the first for winning a national award. "Competing at national convention proves to me that all of our hard work did actually pay off in the end and that all the training we have done the last three years for this event was very worth it," said Wheatley.

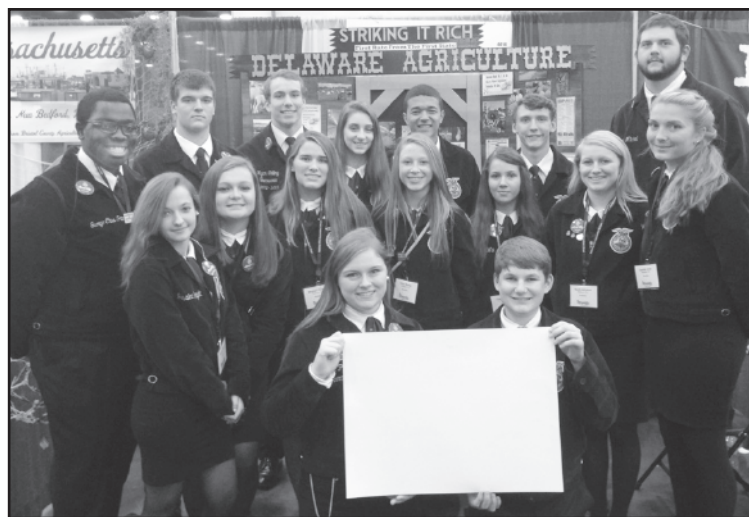
George Class-Peters and Erica Malloy placed eighth in the nation for their Agri-Science Fair project on Environmental Systems. Stu-

dents are expected to conduct a scientific research project pertaining to the agriculture and food science industries and present their findings to a panel of judges with a display and a report. Guy Doron and Kayla Johnson placed 11th nationally for their Agri-Science fair project on welding in Power and Structural Systems division.

Brendan Cook, Taylor Dixon, Amanda Hotaling, Morgan Jewell, Emily Smith and Tommy Smith were among American FFA Degree recipients. The American FFA Degree is awarded to members who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to FFA and made significant accomplishments in their supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs). Less than half of one percent of all FFA members earn the American FFA Degree according to the National FFA Organization website.

The Smyrna FFA Chapter also responsible for hosting the Delaware Hall of States Display, which was created by members of the Smyrna FFA Chapter this past Summer as it won first place at the Delaware State Fair and earned the right to be displayed during the Convention & Expo in Louisville. The chapter would like to thank the Delaware Department of Agriculture, the Delaware Soybean Board and the Smyrna/Clayton Southern States Cooperative for assisting in sponsoring the display.

This was the final year for the National FFA Convention being held in Louisville, Kentucky. Next year, the event will be moving back to the headquarter city in Indianapolis, Indiana.



SMYRNA FRESHMAN ATTEND IMAGED

On October 7, 2015 six students from the Smyrna FFA chapter attended the IMAGED Leadership Conference at the Duncan Center in Dover. These members included: Taylor Davis, Bray Fedele, Amanda Wasser, Leann Standridge, Josh Johnson and Tanner Wynne. The conference is an FFA initiative designed to teach communication and leadership skills to freshman agricultural science students, who have been identified as future chapter leaders.

The one day event featured workshops and opportunities to work with other up and coming leaders from throughout the State of Delaware. The chapter would like to thank Mrs. Sarah Bell for chaperoning the event on behalf of the Smyrna chapter.

"We learned a lot of leadership ac-

tivities and FFA skills," states Taylor Davis. "I really enjoyed working together with all of the students who were at the conference," said Bray Fedele when questioned about

the benefits of the event. The conference informed attendees about SAE's, CDE's, and the potential for future growth in the National FFA Organization.



SMYRNA FFA ANNOUNCES CITRUS WINNERS

The Smyrna High School FFA Chapter had a successful Citrus Fundraiser in the month of December. The annual event is always the biggest fundraiser for the chapter, with a variety of citrus and nuts available. These healthy items are a big hit, especially around the holiday season. The top three sales were: 1st Place- Dylan Wilson, 2nd Place-Taylor Brittingham, and 3rd Place-Emily Youngcourt. These salespeople will be recognized at the Chapter Banquet in April with incentive checks and plaques. The

top forty sales will qualify for a field trip to be determined in the spring. Over 125 students worked hard to sell and deliver the citrus. The Smyrna FFA Chapter uses the money we earned to pay for trips to state and national convention and daily supplies. The Smyrna FFA Chapter would like to thank everyone that bought, sold, and stayed after to sort fruit.

The students that sold up to \$250 received full credit for their Supervised Agricultural Experience, which is a grade due every marking period. Those that sold up to

\$200 qualify to go on the annual citrus incentive trip. Those members that sold up to \$150 got their nationals dues paid or paid back, which is \$10. If \$100 of products were sold, students received their FFA participation grade, which is needed each marking period. Also, the AgriScience class that sold the most received a pizza party incentive.

If you didn't participate or place an order this year, remember the annual traditional will return next school year!

**SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
2015/16 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

JANUARY

January 4	School Reopens
January 18	Martin Luther King Day – School Closed
January 20-22	1/2 day Inservice (Grades 9-12) Exams
January 22	End of Marking Period
January 25	Full day Inservice (All)
January 29	Report Cards Issued

FEBRUARY

February 15	Presidents' Day – School Closed
February 25	Mid-marking Point
February 26	Full day Inservice (All)

MARCH

March 4	Progress Reports Issued
March 25-April 1	Spring Break – School Closed

APRIL

April 4	School Reopens
April 8	End of Marking Period
April 15	Report Cards Issued
April 26	Full day Inservice (All)

MAY

May 9	Mid-marking Point
May 13	Progress Reports Issued
May 20	Last Senior Day
May 30	Memorial Day – School Closed

JUNE

June 2-6	1/2 day Inservice (9-12)
June 3-6	1/2 day Inservice (K-8)
June 7	Last Pupil Day
June 8	Last Teacher Day

The calendar is based on legislation requiring students to attend school 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 Education, March 17, 2015

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 certain

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.

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

Dr. Rachael S. Rudinoff Office: 302 653-3135
Director of Special Services Fax: 302 653-2766
 E-Mail rachael.rudinoff@smyrna.k12.de.us

from Cross Country News pg. 10

Robert Eskridge!

The Lady Eagles, a team of only 9 strong runners, finished the season with 6-6. The Ladies finished 4th in the county, 6th in the conference and 11th in the division 1 state meet. Individually, Freshman Abby Mace and Sophomore Naomi Bowser lead the team in points. Abby Mace had an inspiring first season finishing 3rd in the country and conference and 11th in the state! She accomplished 1st

team all-county and all-conference. Naomi, the returning powerhouse from last year, finished 6th in the county, 6th in the conference and 13th in the state earning her 1st team all-county and conference as well! Other notable runners this year were senior Mallory Matusевич and rising young runners Alexcia Bardenlavens and Cathryn Shahan.

TITLE 14 EDUCATION DELAWARE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

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,

TITLE 14 EDUCATION DELAWARE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

- 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)

DISTRICT DIRECTORY

CLAYTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	653-8587
Mrs. Stephanie McGuire, Principal Mr. Mikell Reed, Associate Principal Nurse	
NORTH SMYRNA ELEMENTARY	653-3147
Mrs. Kelly Holt, Principal Mrs. Stephanie Smeltzer, Associate Principal Nurse	
SMYRNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	653-8588
Mr. David H. Morrison, Principal Mrs. Katie Wood, Associate Principal Nurse	
SUNNYSIDE ELEMENTARY	653-2808
Mrs. Deborah Judy, Associate Principal Mr. Patrick Grant, Associate Principal Nurse	
CLAYTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL	653-2761
Mr. David Paltrineri, Principal Mrs. Cynthia McNatt, Associate Principal Nurse	
JBM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL	659-6401
Mrs. Elyse Baerga, Principal Mrs. Cynthia McNatt, Associate Principal Nurse	
SMYRNA MIDDLE SCHOOL	659-6297
Mrs. Elyse Baerga, Principal Mrs. Cynthia McNatt, Associate Principal Nurse	
SMYRNA HIGH SCHOOL	653-8584
Mr. Steven Gott, Principal Mrs. Aerin Donovan, Associate Principal Mr. John Camponelli, Associate Principal Guidance	
SMYRNA HIGH SCHOOL	653-8308
Mrs. Stacy Cook, Principal Mrs. LaTonya Pierce, Associate Principal Mr. Leon Clarke, Associate Principal Mr. Clarence Davis, Dean of Discipline Mr. Marcus Deisem, Associate Principal Nurse	
SMYRNA HIGH SCHOOL	653-8823
Mrs. Stacy Cook, Principal Mrs. LaTonya Pierce, Associate Principal Mr. Leon Clarke, Associate Principal Mr. Clarence Davis, Dean of Discipline Mr. Marcus Deisem, Associate Principal Nurse	
CENTRAL OFFICES	653-8581
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 Ms. Angela Socorso, Supervisor Human Resources	
CHILD NUTRITION OFFICE	653-3137
Mr. Roger Holt, Supervisor	
MAINTENANCE OFFICE	653-3134
Mr. Scott Holmes, Supervisor Systems & HVAC Mr. George, Wicks III, Supervisor Facilities & Operations	
SPECIAL SERVICES OFFICE	653-3132
Dr. Rachael Rudinoff, Director	
TRANSPORTATION OFFICE	653-3135
Ms. Sharon Almondo, Supervisor	

From *FFA Gives Gifts* pg. 9

theirs to keep. It was a great team building activity and the students thoroughly enjoyed their gifts.



SMS JDG Pictures from page 9



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 fol-

lowing:

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

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.

Delaware Department of Education Tobacco Regulation 877

Delaware Department of Education Tobacco Regulation 877 prohibits the use and distribution of tobacco products by all staff, students, visitors, and parents in school buildings, on school grounds, in school leased or owned vehicles and property, and all school affiliated functions, on and off school grounds. Tobacco Regulation 877 means a healthier, safer school environment for everyone.

SMS Student of the Month

This school year, each month students are selected from each of our core content and related arts classes that have exemplified the 5 core values. These students are announced and their picture is placed in our school's main lobby. So far this year, we have had 4 students who have received Student of the Month more than once. Pictured from left to right is **Lilly McIntosh, Sam Brittingham, Bella Tiberi, and Colin Hood**. Congratulations to all of our Students of the Month so far this school year.



October

- ELA
- Science
- Social Studies
- Spanish
- PE
- Health
- Art
- Ag
- CTE
- Chorus
- Band
- HomeEc
- Level IV

Grade 7

- Alaura Gummerson
- Stephanie Hernandez
- John Geist
- Sydney Harrison
- Gabrielle Treadwell
- Deanna Sinclair
- Bella Tiberi
- Lauren Summers
- Emily Spohr

Grade 8

- Chloe Mackinder
- Sarah Charles
- Jordan Cianci
- Qadir Lewis
- Jalin Adger-Thomas
- Kayla Wilson
- Brenndan Ferrell
- Delany Tome
- Christopher Marr

- Teyonna Tucker
- Trenyce Hopkins
- Ian Brooks
- Brianna Lemon

November

- Math
- ELA
- Science
- Social Studies
- Spanish
- PE
- Health
- Art
- Ag
- CTE
- Chorus
- Band
- HomeEc
- JDG

Grade 7

- Sammy Brittingham
- Sammy Brittingham
- Regan Marr
- Jakisha Woods
- Ryan Blair
- Logan Unterreiner
- Bella Tiberi
- Emily Spohr
- Shelby Fedele
- Zachary Larkin

Grade 8

- Jason Adger-Thomas
- Emma Zeitler
- Colin Hood
- Sam Carre
- Taylor Hinson
- Mia Davis
- Aison Anderson
- Triasa Birely
- Colin Hood
- Adelaide Simmons

- Alex Hudson
- Mya Stinson
- Gina Hannum
- Kayla Briscoe

December

- Math
- ELA
- Science
- Social Studies
- Spanish
- PE
- Health
- Ag
- CTE
- Chorus
- Band
- HomeEc
- JDG
- Level IV

Grade 7

- Sarah Reed
- Teia Hudson
- Lily McIntosh
- Bella Tiberi
- Evan Boyles
- Tristan Wright
- Anthony Foraker
- Alexandra Espinal

Grade 8

- Jackson Reynolds
- Olivia Reynolds
- Spencer Frawley
- Kierra Moore
- Amey Ndiaye
- Emmanuel Freeman
- Faith Young
- Daniel Saamoi
- Leila Sebastian

- Lily McIntosh
- Shelby Alexander
- Sammy Brittingham
- Julianna Armstrong
- Azmere Hall

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.

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 2014-15 school year:

Smyrna High School Agriscience

Courses are offered as part of five pathway strands:

Animal Science: Animal Science I, II, III, & IV

Natural Resources: Natural Resources and Environmental Science I, II & AP

Plant Science: Plant Science I, II & III

Power & Systems: Power & Tech Systems I, II, III, & IV

Structural Systems: Structures I, II, & III

Business

Courses are offered as part of two pathway strands:

Accounting: Accounting II, III & IV.

Digital Business Communica-

tion: DBC II, III & IV.

Administrative Services: Admin Services II, III, & 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 or community 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 passing grade 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

Or, the three administrators listed center-left of this page.

Smyrna Eagles Winter 2016 Sports Schedules

Girls Varsity and JV Basketball

Date	Time	Teams	H/A	Opponent
01/05/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	A	Polytech
01/08/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	A	Cape Henlopen
01/12/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	H	Wilmington Christian
01/14/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	A	Dover
01/19/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	H	Sussex Central
01/21/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	A	Wilmington Charter
01/26/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	A	Sussex Tech
01/29/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	H	Newark
02/02/16	4:00 & 5:15	JV/V	A	Concord
02/04/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	A	Caesar Rodney
02/09/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	H	Polytech
02/11/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	H	Lake Forest
02/17/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	H	Cape Henlopen
02/19/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	H	Dover
02/23/16	4:00 & 5:15	JV/V	A	William Penn

Freshman Boys Basketball

Date	Time	H/A	Opponent
01/05/16	4:00	H	Polytech
01/08/16	4:00	H	Cape Henlopen
01/14/16	4:00	H	Dover
01/20/16	4:00	H	Middletown
01/26/16	4:00	H	Sussex Tech
02/05/16	4:00	H	Caesar Rodney
02/09/16	4:00	A	Polytech
02/16/16	4:00	A	Cape Henlopen
02/18/16	4:00	A	Salesianum
02/19/16	4:00	A	Dover

Indoor Track & Field

Date	Time	H/A	Opponent
101/02/16	8:30	A	S. Maryland Track Classic
01/03/16	9:00	A	N5CTA Indoor Track Meet
01/06/16	2:00	A	Worcester Co. Track Meet
01/10/16	9:00	A	N5CTA Indoor Track Meet
01/17/16	9:00	A	Bears HS Invitational
01/21/16	2:00	A	Henlopen Championship
02/06/16	10:00	A	DIAA State Championship

Wrestling

Date	Time	Teams	H/A	Opponent
01/06/16	Tri Meet	JV/V	A	McDonogh & Calvert Hall
01/08-9/16		V Only	A	Virginia Duals
01/13/16	6:00 & 7:00	JV/V	A	Sussex Tech
01/16/16		JV/V	H	Eagle Classic Tourn.
01/20/16	5:00 & 6:00	JV/V	A	Polytech
01/22/16	6:00 & 7:00	JV/V	H	Cape Henlopen
01/27/16	5:00 & 6:00	JV/V	H	Caesar Rodney
01/29/16	5:00 & 6:00	JV/V	A	Malvern Prep
01/30/16	6:00 & 7:00	JV/V	H	Milford
02/03/16	5:00 & 6:00	JV/V	H	Salesianum
02/05/16	5:00 & 6:00	JV/V	A	Sussex Central
02/16/16		V Only	H	DIAA State Dual Meet

Boys Basketball

Date	Time	Teams	H/A	Opponent
01/05/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	H	Polytech
01/08/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	H	Cape Henlopen
01/12/16	4:00 & 5:30	JV/V	A	Wilmington Christian
01/14/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	H	Dover
01/16/16		V Only	A	
01/19/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	A	Sussex Central
01/26/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	H	Sussex Tech
02/02/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	H	Concord
02/05/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	H	Caesar Rodney
02/09/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	A	Polytech
02/11/16	5:30 & 7:00	JV/V	A	St. Elizabeth
02/13/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	H	Sussex Central
02/16/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	A	Cape Henlopen
02/18/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	A	Salesianum
02/20/16	6:00 & 7:15	JV/V	A	Dover
02/23/16	5:00 & 6:15	JV/V	H	Al duPont

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Boys and Girls Basketball

Date	Time	Order	H/A	Opponent
01/06/16	4:00	Girls/Boys	H	Mariner MS
01/07/16	4:00	Boys/Girls	A	Woodbridge MS
01/11/16	4:00	Boys/Girls	H	Sussex Academy
01/13/16	4:00	Girls/Boys	A	Fifer MS
01/20/16	4:00	Girls/Boys	H	Dover Central MS
01/27/16	4:00	Girls/Boys	A	Laurel Intermediate MS
02/01/16	4:00	Girls/Boys	H	Milford MS
02/03/16	4:00	Girls/Boys	A	Providence Creek Academy

Wrestling

Date	Time	H/A	Opponent
01/06/16	4:00	A	Mariner MS
01/13/16	4:00	H	Fifer MS
01/20/16	4:00	A	Dover Central MS
01/25/16	4:00	H	Delmar HS/MS
01/27/16	4:00	H	Laurel Intermediate MS
02/01/16	4:00	A	Milford MS
02/03/16	4:00	H	Woodbridge MS
02/06/16	9:00	H	Mid Schools Wrestling Classic



STATE CHAMPIONS!



The Henlopen Conference Champion Smyrna Football Family finished a historic season with 12 wins and avenging their lone loss to Salestianum by winning the State Championship 32-26 in overtime!

Quarterback Nolan Henderson continued his stellar career, re-writing school, conference, and state records for passing. The junior Captain finished with 3297 yards passing and 36 touchdowns—both of which are believed to be state records. Henderson also notched 1st team All-State honors.

Will Knight had a fabulous year, gaining 2015 yards and 33 rushing touchdowns. The sophomore captain was a threat to the passing game as well with 310 yards and 4 touchdowns. The 1st team All-State running



Back and Offensive Player of the Year added another scoring pass to teammate Jared Gillis versus rival CR. Will set a state record in scoring with 324 points (25.5 pts/game) and 51 2pt conversions!

The receiving corps, led by seniors Brandon Bishop, Charlie Taylor, Donte Ritchie, and Jared Gillis had a tremendous season both catching and blocking. 1st Team All-State Donte Ritchie led all Eagles with 1181yds on 49 catches and an astonishing 15 TDs. 2nd Team All-State Bran-

don Bishop finished with 665yds on 41 catches and 6 TDs. Charlie Taylor, named the FoxSports 1290 Player of the Game in the finale capped off his career with 45 catches for 777yds and 8 total touchdowns (including a kick return in the championship game). Newcomer Jared Gillis finished the season strong by adding another 13 catches for 290yds and 2 touchdowns.

The offensive line was led by senior Terren Carter and junior Jerren Carter who both earned 1st team All-State. seniors Phil Nix and Evan Gallaher both earned all-conference



honors. sophomores Robbie Robinson and Mike Carrow combined for 13 starts at right guard. Jamal Pope, Gabe Balascio, Hunter Moyer, and Brent Young all got significant playing time to solidify the unit.

The defense was led by a dangerous crew of linebackers in juniors Eli Hutchinson, Josh Hutchinson, and sophomore Diron Accoo. junior Danny Quiros and senior Steven Wolski played well. Eli Hutchinson earned 2nd team All-State honors and Accoo earned all-conference honors.

The defensive line was anchored by 2nd team All-State Jeff Campbell who returned from a serious knee injury during

his junior campaign. sophomore Anthony Delre played well at both tackle and end, and all-conference Jamier Smith combined with seniors Reggie Seymour, and Jamal Price to wreak havoc on opposing offensive lines. sophomore Desmond Wilson had another nice season at Defensive tackle.

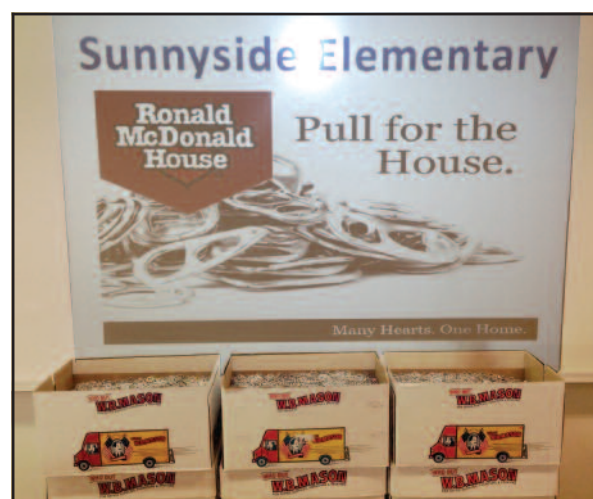


The defensive backs were led by 2nd team All-State Rodney Ruff returning Starter Safety, Jake Kaiser. Cornerbacks were asked to cover the opposing teams' best athletes man-to-man and Clevon Witkowski, Jamal Powell, Jeremy D'Aguiar, Jake Soroko, and Keshawn Tolbert stepped up in big games to stop the big play. Moses "Deuce" Carter was a great vocal leader at free safety and helped make all adjustments smooth.

The special teams unit, consisting mostly of young players, did a terrific job in springing Deuce Carter for 2 return TDs and provided outstanding field position in our games. junior Anthony Mannino kicked 7/22 outside kicks recovered by our coverage team. Larsen Wilson and Danny Quiros led our team in special teams tackles throughout the season.

This senior class has undoubtedly left its mark on our program. The legacy of hard work and dedication, togetherness, and a "never fail" attitude is one that will be felt for years to come. As a program we are extremely proud that we could bring the state championship to our community and share the pride with you!

District Children Display Core Values by Raising Record Donations for Ronald McDonald House



The Smyrna School District administration, teachers and support staff continuously seek ways to instill our community core values into the minds of our children. Each year the Smyrna School District raises over \$10,000 for the Ronald McDonald House of Wilmington's "Share a Night" program. In addition to the monetary fundraiser the schools collect pop tops which in turn the Ronald McDonald House turns them in for money. This year's fundraiser total was \$13,762.37, which is the largest amount we have raised. To date the Smyrna School District has collected over

See McDonald House pg. 12 to continue story. See pages 4, 5 & 9 for School Stories about student fundraising for Ronald McDonald House.

Ronald McDonald Share a Night

School	Amount	Teacher
Sunnyside ES	\$1,209.24	Marston
Clayton ES	\$1,817.85	Russell
Smyrna ES	\$3,058.51	Cantillon
North Smyrna ES	\$421.85	Pre-K
Clayton IS	\$964.60	
John Bassett Moore IS	\$635.12	
Smyrna Middle	\$4,667.75	
Smyrna High	\$887.45	
Total	\$13,662.37	

SMYRNA SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION
39TH ANNUAL SMORGASBORD
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2016
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Adults: \$10.00 Children: 12 & UNDER \$5.00
 3 & UNDER FREE



SMYRNA HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| ROAST BEEF | SEAFOOD SALAD |
| TURKEY | MACARONI SALAD |
| BAKED HAM | GREEN BEANS |
| PEAS & DUMPLINGS | SCALLOPED POTATOES |
| MEATBALLS | MASHED POTATOES |
| CHICKEN | SUCCOTASH |
| COLESLAW | BROCCOLI SALAD |
| SALAD BAR | PUDDING |
| PASTA SALAD | PRETZEL SALAD |
| | ASSORTED DESSERTS |

COFFEE, ICE TEA, MILK
 BENEFITS SSNA SCHOLARSHIP FUND