



Southeast Delco School District

# *Knighly News*

Collingdale ★ Darby Township ★ Folcroft ★ Sharon Hill  
Communities

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## ***Academy Park High School***

### ***SeaGlide Competition***

Temple University and the Naval Surface Warfare Center - Caderrock Division (NSWCCD) hosted a group of Academy Park students at a two-day training to prepare for the upcoming SeaGlide Robotics Competition. Students from 22 area schools are slated to participate in the competition, which will take place in March 2018.

The students received instruction on underwater gliders and autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs). In teams, they built a basic SeaGlide and learned advanced Arduino coding. Moving forward, students will collaborate on modifications that will enable their glider to gather underwater data pertinent to the mission that will provide their craft with an edge in the competition. The student team will also work together on a research paper, create a commercial highlighting the abilities of their craft, participate in a panel discussion, and complete a performance demonstration.



Malcolm Bevans, a senior member of the robotics team, commented about the training, “The experience was very enriching, not only teaching us more about Arduino programming, but by providing insight into how to modify our SeaGlide craft, as well. It also gave us a great preview of what the competition has in store for us.”

The SeaGlide program’s mission is to impact high school students in the STEM meta-discipline and inspire them to pursue careers in engineering, science and technology through participation in a sports-like science and engineering-based robotics competition.

The SeaGlide program provides high school teams with an opportunity to expand their STEM engagement beyond what is currently offered in the current SeaPerch program.

### ***Inaugural Season for Girls' Soccer***

The Academy Park girls' soccer team completed their inaugural season. The program was initiated by Academy Park student, Maryam McClain. In the first year of competition, there were 23 students who participated in the program.



Academy Park social studies teacher and coach for the team, Mr. Erik Jones, set three main goals for the players as they progressed through the season.

- 1. Improve everyday while at practice**
- 2. Develop a team identity**
- 3. Have fun**

Mr. Jones stated, "During the season, the team accomplished all three of those objectives and are continuing to improve during the off season. It has been a pleasure to see the team progress and I cannot wait to see the continued development into next year."

The leading goal scorer this year was Blessing Worjloh (senior). The midfield was anchored by Natthaline Briggs (junior) and the defense was led by Maryam McClain and Camryn Washington (both seniors). The entire team's determination to better themselves and their passion for the sport is impressive. Congratulations ladies.

## ***Darby Township School***

### ***Dino Dig***

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, students in first and third grades enjoyed a presentation on rocks, minerals, fossils, and dinosaurs! The presentation featured an eight-foot triceratops skull that was discovered in 1996. Students had the opportunity to ask paleontologists, Roberta and Mike Strata, science questions and about their experiences.





### ***DTS Welcomes Girls Lead***

The Women's Resource Center is a local nonprofit agency that offers a *Girls Lead* program in local schools. Darby Township School has offered *Girls Lead* to select middle school girls to encourage building healthy relationships with peers, giving back to the community, and developing leadership skills.

The group will meet 12 times over the course of the school year, within the school day. The sessions focus on building communication skills, conflict-resolution, enhancing decision-making skills and problem-solving. As a group, the participants will create a Leadership Project to address a concern in the school or community.

Seats were limited to the first 20 completed applications, but we hope to continue this partnership for years to come so more students can participate in the future.

### ***Poster Contest Winners***

Darby Township School's student council sponsored an anti-bullying poster contest for grades 1 through 8. Students worked in groups during responsive classroom on Fridays in October to create a poster with an anti-bullying message. Posters were judged on originality, creativity and neatness.

Student council officers and teacher sponsors judged the entries and the winners were announced on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. The winners were treated to a pizza party and their posters were displayed in the main lobby of the school. Congratulations to our winners!



### ***DTS Gives Back***

The National Junior Honor Society held their annual Operation Gratitude Drive during the first week of November. Over a span of 4 days, they collected 12 bags of candy, 79 toothbrushes, 32 tubes of toothpastes, and 28 containers of dental floss for our troops. The Darby Township School's student council sponsored the annual can drive from November 6<sup>th</sup> through November 22<sup>nd</sup>. More than 2,000 cans were donated! The donated nonperishable items were donated to two local resources in Delaware County. The top three homerooms were awarded a dress down day.

### ***Perfect Attendance Counts at DTS***

Students who earned perfect attendance for the first marking period were allowed to dress down on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The celebration continued on November 21<sup>st</sup>, when students with perfect attendance enjoyed some extra gym time and pretzels that were donated by the PBIS team. We are proud of your hard work and commitment! Keep up the good work!

## ***Delcroft School***

### ***Substitute Teacher of the Month***

Congratulations to Mr. Brian McDonough who has been named Sub of the Month by Kelly Educational Staffing for the month of November. Mr. McDonough is a retired Southeast Delco School District teacher who has substituted in various buildings over the past 4 years.

Mr. McDonough retired from the district after 40 years of service. He began teaching at Delcroft School in 1973, after earning his Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from East Stroudsburg University. Born and raised in Scranton Pennsylvania, Mr. McDonough began his career in the Southeast Delco School District and taught grades 3, 4 and 6 throughout his long career.



Many things have changed since 1973; a postage stamp was 8 cents, gas was 65 cents a gallon and the average cost of a car was \$3,200. But one thing remained the same; Mr. McDonough inspires our students to do their best and is a valuable asset to our community. Once again congratulations to Mr. McDonough for this well-deserved recognition!

### ***Thanksgiving Baskets***

In November, the safety patrol coordinated Delcroft's annual canned food drive and collected 1,218 cans for Thanksgiving baskets! The 1,218 cans donated by students were combined with turkeys donated by staff members to provide 10 local families with Thanksgiving dinner!



Each homeroom competed to see which class would collect the most cans. Mrs. Power's class collected 129 cans, Mrs. Rattmann's class donated 84 cans and Mrs. Gordon's class donated 77 cans. Any items that were not used in the baskets were donated to First African Baptist Church. Many thanks to Mrs. DiDomizio and Mrs. Ortiz for organizing this important yearly project.

## ***Harris School***

### ***Clean Sweep at Harris School***

The Borough of Collingdale organized a *Clean Sweep Day* and on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, community members joined with Collingdale Council members and public works staff to clean the streets of trash and debris. As an integral part of the community, Harris staff, students and their families stepped up to do their part.



Under the direction of 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and NJHS sponsor Mrs. Rachel Strunk, members of Harris' National Junior Honors Society, worked diligently with younger students to pick up trash and leaves surrounding the school. The National Junior Honor Society is a national organization established to recognize outstanding middle school students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship.

The Harris team bundled up against the cold and showed great support and volunteerism to both the community and Harris School. Working together, Harris staff, students and their family members collected 22 bags of leaves and trash!

### ***Habitat For Humanity***

In addition to participating in the Collingdale Clean Sweep Day, for the second year in a row, the NJHS members at Harris School are collecting used jeans to donate to Habitat For Humanity. The donated jeans are turned into insulation for homes the organization is building in surrounding communities. The jeans drive runs through the first of the year. The goal for our National Junior Honors Society this year is to collect 100 pairs of used jeans. To date, NJHS has collected over 40 pairs and we still have over a month to go.

## ***Sharon Hill School***

### ***Kindness is Cool Challenge***

Sharon Hill School students created videos for anti-bullying. Students had a great experience working together and collaborating with their teachers. The winning homerooms included: 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – Ms. Schaffer, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade – Mrs. Blithe, 6<sup>th</sup> grade with the assistance of Mrs. Thomas, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade – Mr. Glover.

Congratulations to all students and staff who participated in this valuable project. Sharon Hill will continue to promote kindness and anti-bullying.





## ***All Aboard***

Sharon Hill students practice many different traits throughout the school year. We encourage our students to be productive citizens, both in school and in the community. Students practice various traits from the Six Pillars of Character – *Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship* – and are volunteering for service projects to demonstrate their pride and continued support of their community.

## ***PBIS***

Sharon Hill is supporting positive behavior by rewarding students for achieving appropriate district, school and classroom expectations. As a reward, eligible middle school students attended Arnold's Funplex and had an amazing time representing the Sharon Hill community. Elementary grades enjoyed different activities in the classroom to celebrate their success.

## ***Kindergarten Center***

### ***Thanksgiving at the Kindergarten Center***

On November 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, district kindergarten students celebrated a Thanksgiving feast. It is a tradition at the Kindergarten Center that all of the classes gather in the cafeteria to “reenact” the first Thanksgiving. The students dress up as pilgrims and Native Americans and the students perform Thanksgiving songs and poems.



After their performance, the classes have Thanksgiving trail mix or Thanksgiving fruit salad. It is a wonderful activity enjoyed by everyone!

### ***"The Boy Who Called Bully"***

Students at the Kindergarten Center enjoyed a performance by the Walnut Street Theatre on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Entitled "The Boy Who Cried Bully", the focus of the production was the challenging problem of bullying in schools and how to handle these difficult situations. The students learned critical lessons as they enjoyed a very entertaining show.

### ***A Time for Thanks and Giving***

One of the goals of the Kindergarten Center for the 2017 / 2018 school year is to organize various community outreach programs. The first endeavor was a canned food drive that ran from November 13<sup>th</sup> through November 20<sup>th</sup>. The students and teachers collected over 500 canned and non-perishable food items. The collection was then stored in a food pantry for distribution to Southeast Delco families. We greatly appreciated all the support to help Southeast Delco families in need!

## **SOUTHEAST DELCO SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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