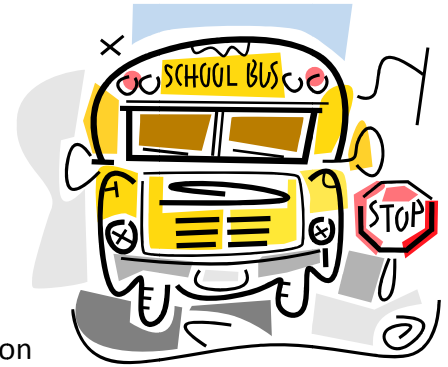


# Southeast Delco School District Board & Community Update

## *2012 / 2013 School Year Kicks Off*

Students and staff returned to the district to begin the 2012 – 2013 school year. Prior to welcoming students, the teaching staff attended two days of professional development on September 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Students in grades 1 through 9 began the new year on Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Freshman at Academy Park had the entire school to themselves for their first day of high school on Thursday and a day off on Friday, when students in grades 10 through 12 returned for their first day.



The Kindergarten Center split the class and had boys report on Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup> and girls on Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. All district students in all grades reported on Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>.

## *First Day Back to School for Southeast Delco Students*



*Academy Park High School*



*Darby Township School*



*Delcroft School*



*Harris School*



*Sharon Hill School*



*Kindergarten Center*

## *Annual Back-To-School Luncheon*

The First African Baptist Church recognized the hard work of district staff at their annual back to school luncheon on Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Former district teacher, Dolores Ellison, served as Mistress of Ceremonies. Students who are also church members warmly welcomed and provided assistance to each person as they arrived.

A delicious buffet of soup, salad, and sandwiches was prepared by church members, as well as a desert table that was overflowing with fruit, and home-made cakes and puddings. Several staff members were spotted making more the one trip to the desert table.

Many thanks go out to Reverend Dr. Dent and the congregation of the First African Baptist Church for their kindness and generosity. Southeast Delco is fortunate to have such a committed and caring community partner.

## *Cyber Program*



The Southeast Delco Cyber program has already surpassed last year's enrollment numbers. Currently, there are 25 cyber students enrolled, 13 of which were previously enrolled or intended to enroll in a Pennsylvania cyber charter school. Each student who enrolls in the Southeast Delco program rather than an out of district charter school saves the district approximately \$4,000 per year. If the student has special education needs, the savings can go as high as \$18,000 annually. Savings aside, we firmly believe the district offers a better program, including tutoring, technical school classes, and other supplemental support and activities. Kudos go out to Academy Park teachers, Ms. Stephanie Geist and Mr. Lance Bogash, for helping get the program off to a smooth start this year.

## *Teaching & Learning*

### *Curriculum*

Seven district fourth grade teachers are involved in the PA Resources Council's Watershed Awareness program. Each classroom will have a one-hour presentation, which complements their science program. The presenter, Diana Andrejczak, will be using an EnviroScope for her work with each classroom.

Dr. Watson met with district reading interventionists to discuss Common Core's Complex Text and Reading Olympics' kick-off. Discussion centered on interventions and the District Family Reading Night to be held in May.

The district is implementing a new a new high-intensity reading intervention in our primary grades to help struggling students achieve reading proficiency. Leveled Literacy Intervention will be taught by district reading interventionists and special education teachers in very small groups of students.

Teachers in grades 1, 3, and 4 have received their new writing curriculum and students will begin their unit on writing personal narratives, along with grades 2 and 5, who piloted the new writing curriculum last school year.

Grades K – 5 teachers are implementing Go Math, the new Common Core Math program. They will have additional training in the program on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

Five middle school math teachers are piloting the new Common Core Holt McDougall Math Program. Other teachers will pilot the Common Core version of their current series, Connected Math.

### *Professional Development*

Fifteen new teachers were welcomed to the district for the 2012 / 2013 school year and attended New Teacher Orientation on August 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The District will also host several student teachers from Widener, Neumann, West Chester, and St. Joseph Universities. In addition, college students who are majoring in Education but have not reached student teacher status will be observing in our classrooms this fall.



District teachers attended four days of professional development, two in August and two in September, in preparation for the new school year. District administrators attended training at the Delaware County Intermediate Unit (DCIU) on teacher effectiveness on August 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Administrators received instruction on the new Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) Teacher Evaluation Process, which the district is piloting this school year. Teachers will be subsequently trained in this new process.

Academy Park High School Principal, Dr. Edward Small, along with Ms. Kim Brown, Director of Special Education, and Dr. Monica Watson, Director of Teaching and Learning attended a forum at DCIU concerning the PA Assessment Transition plan. Districts in Delaware County came together to ask questions of PDE about the implementation of the new Keystone testing to be administered this school year to some 8<sup>th</sup> grade and high school students.

### *Future Board Meetings*

Committee of the Whole	Thursday, September 20, 2012	6:00 PM	ESC
Board Meeting	Thursday, September 27, 2012	7:00 PM	ESC

### *School Events*

- Back to School Nights:
  - Sharon Hill School – Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 PM
  - Academy Park High School – Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 PM
  - Darby Township School – Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup> – 7: 00 PM
  - Delcroft School – Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM
- Professional Education Day (Act 80) – District-wide – October 8<sup>th</sup>
- Progress Report 1 – October 12<sup>th</sup>
- PSSA 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Retests – October 23<sup>rd</sup> and October 24<sup>th</sup>