

SOUTHEAST DELCO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board & Community Update

Southeast Delco Board of Directors' Annual Organization Meeting

The Board of School Directors for Southeast Delco School District held their annual organization meeting on Monday, December 3rd. Mr. Donald Young and Mr. Ron Cabbage were unanimously re-elected to their board positions as President and Vice President.

Other business included the appointment of Robert DiOrio as District Solicitor and the approval of the 2013 Calendar of School Board Meetings.

The Board also reaffirmed their adoption of the Pennsylvania School Board Association's Standards for Effective School Governance and Code of Conduct for Board Members.



Front row, from left: Ms. Dorothy Gallagher, Ms. Lucy Lopez, Dr. Sharon Wilson, Ms. Theresa Harris-Johnson, and Student Representative Samantha Paules. Back row, from left: Mr. Robert MacGuire, Vice President Ron Cabbage, President Donald Young, Student Representative Nadav Green, Mr. Eric Mundy, Mr. Byron Mundy and Superintendent Dr. Stephen Butz

2013 Board Business Meeting Schedule

- January 24, 2013
- February 28, 2013
- March 21, 2013
- April 25, 2013
- May 23, 2013
- June 27, 2013
- July 25, 2013
- August 22, 2013
- September 26, 2013
- October 24, 2013
- November 21, 2013
- December 19, 2013

All regular board business meetings begin at 7:00 PM and are held at the Education Services Center at 1560 Delmar Drive in Folcroft.

Students Compete in Geography and Spelling Bees

District middle school social studies teachers are holding school-based National Geographic Bees at each of our schools during December. The winning student from each school will then move on to the state competition.

Enrichment teachers, Colleen DiMaggio and Betty Schellinger, plan to hold their middle school Scripps-Howard Spelling Bees during the last week of December in each school.

District Teacher Achieves National Board Certification

District administration is proud to announce that enrichment teacher, Ms. Colleen DiMaggio, has achieved the status of National Board Certification. Ms. DiMaggio completed the year-long program and through peer review, assessment, and examination has proven to the certifying body of the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards that she meets their high criteria for national certification.

Ms. DiMaggio is the district's first nationally board certified teacher. We currently have three other teachers working towards their certification.

Ms. DiMaggio is to be commended for her hard work and dedication to the teaching profession.

Cyber Learning at Southeast Delco

The district Cyber School is still going strong midway through its second year. We currently have 33 full-time or blended students enrolled and almost 200 students who are taking at least one course (mainly language and credit recovery) online.



Each regular education, full-time student is saving the district approximately \$4,500 and each full-time special education student is saving the district approximately \$18,000. Due to our partnership with K12 / Aventa, our cyber students are receiving the exact same curriculum they would receive if enrolled in a cyber charter school. In addition, we feel our ability to provide tutoring, mentoring, and a blended model offers a better option for students considering cyber learning.

Measuring Student Achievement

The district has contracted with Sungard to build, deliver, and analyze our local assessments and determine student progress. Currently, the district uses two types of standardized assessments: 4Sight benchmark assessments and curriculum embedded assessments. By using Sungard's Performance Tracker and Assessment Builder software, the district will combine the ability to create district-wide assessments and analyze scores across many different data points.

The district has already begun the work of aligning our assessments to standards and will move towards importing them into Assessment Builder in the spring. The goal of the program is to limit the amount of instructional time lost to testing and to gain more control over assessments.

Civil Rights Data Report

The district recently completed its annual civil rights data report. The report details a number of items, including suspensions, enrollments, special education, and achievement data. Each data point is broken down by school and demographics, such as gender and ethnicity. Any feedback received from the U. S. Department of Education will be shared with the Board.

Curriculum

The two common core reading programs selected to be piloted in the spring semester in grades K-5 by the literacy piloting committee are *Journeys* by Harcourt-Houghton and *Reading Street* by Pearson-Scott-Foresman. Piloting will begin across the district during the second semester with two teachers from each grade level.

Professional Development

Teachers in grades 1, 3, and 4 met with REACH Associates' Jody Pittock to create rubrics for the second mode of process writing: Opinion Writing. Ms. Pittock also modeled a lesson on teaching opinion writing for each group of teachers and met with middle school language arts teachers to review their literacy design collaborative teaching module. This process, which aligns with the common core, helps teachers design their curriculum to embed argumentative writing, one of the foci of the common core.



Induction for new teachers was held at Delaware County Intermediate Unit (DCIU) on December 10th. Andrew Coonrandt, Assistant to Mike Webb, Director of Quality Schools, met with our new teachers and gave them an overview of the services offered by DCIU. The teachers also had a tour of the facility, including the teacher center.

Teachers in grades K-8 reviewed student data and met on various topics ranging from a Project Read webinar to Reading Olympics. Teachers from the high school were invited to meet with math and science teachers to discuss the Algebra and Biology keystone assessments.

Dr. Butz and Dr. Watson met with middle and primary school reading interventionists to discuss the data on a variety of reading interventions being used with our students.

Future Board Meetings

Board Business Meeting	Thursday, December 20, 2012	7:00 PM	ESC
Committee of the Whole	Thursday, January 17, 2013	6:00 PM	ESC
Board Business Meeting	Thursday, January 24, 2013	7:00 PM	ESC

School Events

- ***Winter Break – No School for Students and Staff – December 24th – January 1st***
- ***Return to School for Students and Staff – January 2nd***
- ***Kindergarten Center - Parent Council – Dad’s Matter – January 15th – 8:20 AM***
- ***Martin Luther King Holiday – No School for Students and Staff – January 21st***
- ***APHS - Semester Final Exams – Early Dismissal – January 23rd and 24th – 11:00 AM***
- ***APHS – Semester Final Makeup Day – Early Dismissal – January 25th – 11:00 AM***
- ***Kindergarten Center – Report Cards / Parent Conferences – Early Dismissal – January 30th – February 1st – 12:45 PM***
- ***APHS – Professional Development for Staff – Early Dismissal for Students – February 6th – 11:00 AM***
- ***DTS, Delcrot, Harris, Sharon Hill Schools, and Kindergarten Center – Professional Development for Staff – Early Dismissal for Students – February 6th – 12:45 AM***
- ***District-wide - Professional Development for Staff – No School for Students – February 15th***
- ***Presidents’ Day Holiday – No School for Students and Staff – February 18th***