



### ***“Internet Essentials” Helps Bridge the Digital Divide for Southeast Delco Families***

Internet Essentials from Comcast (under the guidance of the FCC) is helping bridge America’s digital divide. The program provides affordable Internet access, the opportunity to purchase a computer, and training to low-income Southeast Delco families with at least one child receiving free or reduced lunches under the National School Lunch Program.

An entire household will be eligible to participate in the program if it:

- ★ Is located where Comcast offers Internet service;
- ★ Has at least one child receiving a free or reduced school lunch through the National Free School Lunch Program;
- ★ Has not subscribed to Comcast Internet service within the last 90 days; and
- ★ Does not have an overdue Comcast bill or unreturned equipment.

Once in the program, participants receive fast, affordable Internet service for \$9.95 per month, plus tax, the option to purchase a computer for just \$150, and access to free digital literacy training. To learn more about the program or to apply, please call 1-855-8-INTERNET (1-855-846-8376) or visit [InternetEssentials.com](http://InternetEssentials.com).

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

#### ***Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships***

#### ***Will Lead Staff and Students to Higher Levels of Achievement***

School-wide goals for Academy Park are linked to statewide test achievement. We aspire that all of our students be proficient on the new Keystone Exam. We aim to get this accomplished via Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships. High quality, effective instruction (Rigor) is at the heart of all we plan to do. Positive relationships matter between and among adults and students because they lead to engaged students. Finally, connecting positive relationships with effective instruction creates the relevance in learning for students.

We believe that every student can show continuous growth academically, academic performance is a direct result of high quality instruction and that family, community, and staff must commit to learning for every student and the pursuit of excellence in education.

Plans for the school this year are to involve the community as much as possible. We intend to change the way Back to School Night is held. The school wants to offer the event as a gallery walk, as opposed to the typical classroom visits. We will also be continuing to facilitate the Rising Scholars program to improve the climate of our building. While the grant that funds the program is complete this year, we hope to keep it running in years to come. Third, we will put our new facility on display as it goes through the phases of renovations.

We believe that these things will be key in influencing students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade to attend APTS in the fall of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.

### **Upcoming Academy Park High School Events**

#### **October**

10/12	Progress Reports 1
10/19	Homecoming – APTS vs. Chichester – Knight Field – 6 PM
10/23 – 10/24	PSSA 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Retests

#### **November**

<b>11/06</b>	<b>Professional Development Day – No School for Students</b>
11/09	End of Marking Period 1
11/16	Report Cards
<b>11/22 - 11/24</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday - No School for Students or Staff</b>

## **Darby Township School**

### **Setting Expectations and Recognizing Achievement**

This year's motto at Darby Township School is *Honor Among Knights* and we have very high expectations for our students to embody that motto in classrooms, hallways, the cafeteria, library, on buses, and in all aspects of their lives.

We will be celebrating and recognizing specific characteristics in our *Citizen of the Month* program. September was the month of DEEDS and teachers recognized one student in each homeroom that exhibited the most commendable Knightly deeds.

Students are also recognized on a daily basis by teachers who reward them with DTS dollars for their Knightly behaviors. They can use the DTS dollars to shop from the school store that operates on Fridays during lunches.

Teachers also have the opportunity to nominate their colleagues to "be Knighted" on a weekly basis.

Once again, the focus is on increasing academic performance at Darby Township School. Teachers are working collaboratively to plan interventions and classroom lessons geared towards helping struggling students, while maintaining the proficiency levels of our high performing students.

### ***Fine Dining on Fancy Fridays***

In an attempt to promote and reward good behavior and citizenship, the second grade team created a special *Fancy Friday* table where well-behaved second grade children were permitted to eat. Going forward, each teacher will pick three children weekly to sit at similar *Fancy Friday* tables.

The hope is that acknowledging and celebrating students who are making good choices and doing the right things will inspire other children to strive to be good citizens of DTS.



### ***Please Exit the Building***

Darby Township School held its first evacuation drill on September 7<sup>th</sup>. Students were exemplary in following the evacuation drill procedures and this is a reflection of our teachers' expectations and clear directives.



**Darby Township School students line up during first evacuation drill of new school year**

### ***DTS Home & School Association***

The DTS Home & School held their first meeting on Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup>. There are several family oriented activities planned for the 2012 / 2013 school year.

### ***Upcoming Darby Township School Events***

#### **October**

- 10/12 Progress Reports 1
- 10/18 Home & School Meeting – 7:00 PM

#### **November**

- 11/06 ***Professional Development Day – No School for Students***
- 11/09 End of Marking Period 1
- 11/19 – 11/21 Parent Teacher Conferences - Report Cards

## Delcroft School

### Delcroft School Rocks!!

This year, Delcroft School is continuing our focus on school-wide Positive Behavior Supports (PBS). Each homeroom has a jar in the main hallway display case in which colored “rocks” are placed each time the homeroom is “caught” following Delcroft Expectations. Homerooms can also earn rocks through homeroom checks, which focus on being on-time, following directions, homework completion, uniforms compliance, and classroom preparedness.



When a homeroom earns a rock, the teacher’s name and homeroom number are broadcast during the morning announcements and a certificate is placed on a banner in the hallway for the entire school community to see. Once a jar is filled, that homeroom receives a reward provided by Mrs. Ray and Ms. Burch. After a homeroom earns a reward party the jar is then emptied and the process begins again.

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Students also are able to earn *Delcroft Dollars*. All staff members and various community members receive *Delcroft Dollars* to distribute to any Delcroft student who goes out of their way to show respect, accept responsibility, display appropriate manners, or assist others.



Twice a month, students can cash in their *Delcroft Dollars* at the Delcroft school store or redeem them for cool prizes. Students are responsible for keeping their *Delcroft Dollars* in a safe place, just like real money.

These Positive Behavior Support efforts are aimed at helping to promote a safe climate throughout the building, where students are eager to be caught being responsible, respectable, and caring members of the school community and beyond at all times.

## **Upcoming Delcroft School Events**

### **October**

10/12 Progress Reports 1

### **November**

**11/06 Professional Development Day – No School for Students**

11/07 Academic Achievement Award Assembly – 9 AM

11/07 Picture Retake Day – 9 AM

11/09 End of Marking Period 1

11/19 – 11/21 Parent Teacher Conferences - Report Cards

## **Harris School**

### **The 3 Bees**

The start of the 2012 / 2013 school year at Harris has been better than ever. Teachers and students hit the ground running, focusing on literacy and building climate. The staff at Harris is working to ensure that students get the world class education they deserve, right here in Collingdale.

Over the summer, Harris' leadership team met to discuss what we could do to continue to improve Harris. One of the topics that kept coming up was the discussion of expectations, specifically behavioral expectations. To help with the overall school climate and student behavior we are focusing on a set of school rules called the *3 Bees*.



#### ***Be Ready and Responsible***

We participate during classroom instruction

We come to school prepared and ready to learn

We take ownership of our actions

We follow adult directions

We apply effort and turn-in assignments

## **Harris Rules The 3 Bees**

#### ***Be Respectful***

We speak kindly to adults and peers

We respect school and personal property of others

We treat others the way we expect to be treated

We offer to help others

We take turns



#### ***Be Safe***

We keep our hands, feet, and objects to ourselves

We obey the "Hand Signal"

We walk quietly in the hallway

We promptly arrive/return to our assigned area

We clean-up after ourselves

The *3 Bees* were created and implemented a few years ago to address student behavior in a positive way by outlining behavioral expectations. They were successful in addressing many issues that arose over the years. However this year, with the creation of the Harris climate committee, it was decided that the *3 Bees* needed to be expanded. So each grade level was asked to create a set of rules that were reviewed by the climate committee and incorporated into one school-wide standard of behavior.

The *3 Bees* were introduced to parents at Harris' Back to School Night in September and were very well received. The plan is to hold grade level assemblies to explain and promote the expanded *3 Bees* to students. The hope is that this will lead to a common language in our school and that everyone will refer to the same rules no matter what grade they might be in.

While Harris is already a pretty great place to come to school, the goal is to make it even better. Studies show that for students to be successful they need to feel safe in school. So anything we can do to ensure that a 100% of our students feel safe we will do and hopefully the *3 Bees* will help with that goal.

### ***Upcoming Harris School Events***

#### **October**

10/10	Picture Day
10/12	Progress Reports 1
10/19	Harris Home and School Picture Night – 7 PM

#### **November**

<b>11/06</b>	<b><i>Professional Development Day – No School for Students</i></b>
11/09	End of Marking Period 1
11/16	Harris Home and School Picture Night – 7 PM
11/19 – 11/21	Parent Teacher Conferences - Report Cards

### ***Sharon Hill School***

#### ***A New School Year Kicks Off***

Summer has come and gone and students and staff have returned to Sharon Hill School and are now back in the swing of things! It was exciting to meet our first graders and other new students during the first days of school. All of the students were excited to meet their teachers and to jump start a new school year that will be packed with lots of fun and success.

So far, our first Positive Behavior Incentive Support (PBIS) Owl ticket winners were selected and won cool prizes like *Owl Bucks*, yearbooks, and ice cream certificates. Our students in grades 3 - 8 have already gotten into gear and have taken their first round of Benchmark assessments.

This year, our goals are to provide a safe and positive school climate to improve student achievement through implementing engaging instruction, and to be a school that focuses on the social and academic growth of our students. We plan to accomplish these goals by effectively and consistently implementing a school-wide positive behavior incentive program, daily responsive classrooms, relevant professional development for staff, and meaningful and effective interventions for all students.

We look forward to a wonderful and successful school year!



All smiles, ready to begin grade 3



Students in grades 4 and 5 wait for the bell to ring

## **Upcoming Sharon Hill School Events**

### **October**

- 10/12 Progress Reports 1
- 10/22 – 10/25 Red Ribbon Week
- 10/26 Fall Positive Behavior Social – 8 AM – 9 AM

### **November**

- 11/05 Science Fair Projects Due
- 11/06 Professional Development Day – No School for Students**
- 11/09 End of Marking Period 1
- 11/19 – 11/21 Parent Teacher Conferences - Report Cards
- 11/28 District-wide Middle School Science Fair

## **Kindergarten Center**

The Kindergarten Center held an Open House on September 5<sup>th</sup>, allowing parents and students to meet their teachers and visit their classrooms. Attendance for the event was excellent and the response was very positive. In addition to classroom visits, parents were encouraged to attend sessions where information was provided on arrival and dismissal procedures and other beginning of year items.

For the first two days of the 2012 / 2013 school year, students were split into two groups. Half of the Kindergarteners began on September 6<sup>th</sup> and half began the first day on September 7<sup>th</sup>. Dividing the group allowed teachers and specialists to improve the first day experience for everyone. Starting with smaller numbers allows staff to comfort students' fears, orient parents to routines, and decrease the traffic challenge that comes with having all Kindergarteners begin the same day.



Back to School Night was held on September 13<sup>th</sup>. The event was scheduled early in the year to allow for a smooth opening. Teachers reviewed with parents the Kindergarten Center curriculum, assessments, and routines. The cafeteria was overflowing with parents attending their first Back to School Night.

### ***Upcoming Kindergarten Center Events***

#### **October**

10/12	Progress Reports 1
10/16	Literacy Open House – Kid Writing – 6:60 PM – 7:60 PM
10/24	Highland Orchards Field Trip – Group 1
10/25	Highland Orchards Field Trip – Group 2
10/25	Fall Harvest Festival

#### **November**

<b>11/06</b>	<b><i>Professional Development Day – No School for Students</i></b>
11/08	Picture Retake Day
11/09	End of Marking Period 1
11/19	Safe Touch Program
11/20	Safe Touch Program
11/19 – 11/21	Parent Teacher Conferences - Report Cards

## **Southeast Delco School District**

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