Pennsylvania System of School Assessments (PSSA)

Each grade 1-8 school is preparing to take PSSAs during the month of April. Starting on April 14th, each student in grades 3 through 8 will begin their PSSA testing in English / Language Arts, which has traditionally been known as the Reading PSSA. This year the Reading and Writing tests will be combined.

The following week, beginning on April 20th, students will take the Mathematics portion of the PSSAs; which will complete the testing for most students. However, students in grades 4 and 8 will finish their PSSAs by completing the Science assessment during the week of April 27th. We wish all students good luck as they have worked extremely hard preparing for this yearly assessment.

Summer Programs

The school district is preparing for the end of the school year by finalizing plans for summer school and tutoring. This year’s summer programs will be held at Harris School, Darby Township School, and Academy Park High School starting at the end of June.

Please begin looking for information from the district regarding summer programs towards the end of May. If you have any questions about summer programs, you can contact your child’s school or the office of the Assistant Superintendent at (610) 522-4300, extension 5315.

2015 / 2016 Proposed Final Budget

There will be a budget presentation at the Board Committee of the Whole meeting on April 16th at the Educational Service Center. The Board of School Directors will be asked to approve the 2015 / 2016 Proposed Final Budget at the April 23rd Board Business meeting.

The proposed final budget includes an index tax increase of 2.8% and usage of approximately $1,500,000 of fund balance. A 2.8% increase for the average taxpayer is an annual increase of approximately $75.00. State and Federal revenues are only estimated at this time. The district will not know the amount of revenue that it will receive from State and Federal sources until the Governor’s budget is adopted.

The Department of Education’s deadline to notify the district of homestead tax reduction is May 1, 2015.

The budget is still a work in progress. The district intends to adopt the Final Budget at the May 28th Board of School Directors’ monthly meeting.
School Districts Lobby for Support of After School Programs

Pat Alford, Southeast Delco’s 21st Century Grant Coordinator, joined other Pennsylvania delegations of the 2015 Afterschool for All Challenge on visits to legislators in Washington, DC on March 4th.

Teams from all 50 states converged on Capitol Hill to ask local Senators and Members of the House of Representatives for their support of funding for afterschool programs through the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grants.

Looking to the Future

Students from APHS attended the Delaware County Community College’s STEM evening program on February 26th. Businesses in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematical fields were present, as well as 4 year colleges that DCCC students feed into at the completion of their community college program.

Extended School Year

The special education department is gearing up for the extended school year program (ESY). The program provides continuous academic instruction for grades K - 12 students with disabilities who may regress during the summer. The program runs from June 29th to July 30th. Students who attend ESY participate in intensive reading and math instruction, positive behavior support plans, and have the opportunity to swim weekly at Briarcliff Swim Club.

Autism Awareness

April is Autism awareness month. The Delcroft School will be hosting an autism awareness night on Tuesday April 24, 2015 from 5:00 to 8:30 PM. There will be community agencies that provide services to students with autism, a sensory play area, raffle baskets, and light refreshments.

Public Safety Department

The district’s newly hired safety/security officer, Mr. Levi Tucker, has been assigned to the Darby Township School where he has been well received by both students and staff. His first two weeks have focused on training, review of district policies, familiarization of departmental reports, practices and procedures, and on-line instruction to work through various State and Federal certifications.

The Public Safety Department has just confirmed with Delaware County Emergency Services (EMS) that the district will be conducting a Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Point of Distribution (POD) set-
up drill on June 17th at Academy Park High School. This drill is part of an on-going, 5 year preparedness program conducted by the Delaware County EMS and school districts in the county.

The evaluation of the closed circuit television (CCTV) system at Academy Park High School continues. Two different types of cameras from a different vendor than the cameras that are already being tested have been added to the second floor area near the main gymnasium.

**District Musical**

The 40th Annual Southeast Delco District Musical presentation of *Peter Pan* will be held on the following dates and times:

- **Friday, May 8th**: 7:30 PM
- **Saturday, May 9th**: 1:00 PM and 7:30 PM
- **Friday, May 15th**: 7:30 PM
- **Saturday, May 16th**: 7:30 PM
- **Sunday, May 17th**: 1:00 PM

Advance tickets are $8 for adults and $7 or students and children. The matinee shows are $6 for children 12 and under. There will also be a "Neverland Party" for kids prior to the matinees for $10 per child and includes Peter Pan themed snacks, activities and cast meet & greets (Peter, Wendy, Captain Hook and more!) Tickets at the door for all ticket types and shows will be $10. District employees are entitled to one free ticket. To order tickets or for more information on the Southeast Delco District Musical visit our website at [www.sedelcomusical.com](http://www.sedelcomusical.com).

**Upcoming School Events**

Mark your calendars! Students and staff have been working hard to prepare for the following upcoming events:

**Spring Concerts**

- **Darby Township School**: Monday, May 11th, 7:00 PM
- **Sharon Hill School**: Tuesday, May 12th, 6:30 PM
- **Delcroft School**: Thursday, May 14th, 6:30 PM
- **Academy Park High School**: Wednesday, May 20th, 7:00 PM
- **Harris School**: Thursday, May 21st, 7:00 PM

**Science Fairs – Grades 4 & 5**

- **Darby Township School**: Monday, May 4th
- **Delcroft School**: Tuesday, May 5th
- **Sharon Hill School**: Wednesday, May 6th
- **Harris School Science Fair**: Thursday, May 7th
- **District-wide Science Fair**: Thursday, May 14th at Darby Township School

Times for the Science Fairs are not yet determined. Information will be posted on the district website calendar at [www.sedelco.org](http://www.sedelco.org) as soon as it is available.
Future Board Meetings

Proposed Budget Review and Committee of the Whole  Thursday, April 16, 2015  6:00 PM
Board Business Meeting  Thursday, April 23, 2015  7:00 PM
Committee of the Whole  Thursday, May 21, 2015  6:00 PM
Board Business Meeting  Thursday, May 28, 2015  7:00 PM

School Events

- PSSA English Language Arts – Grades 3 – 8 – Tuesday, April 14th – Friday, April 17th
- Academy Park High School – Parent / Teacher Conferences – Wednesday, April 15th – 5:30 – 8:00 PM
- Academy Park High School Junior Prom – Friday, April 17th – 7:00 PM – The Oaks Ballroom
- PSSA Mathematics – Grades 3 – 8 – Tuesday, April 21st – 23rd
- Mock Reading Olympics – Grades 4 & 5 – Friday, April 24th – 9:00 – 10:30 AM - Darby Township School
- Mock Reading Olympics – Grades 6 – 8 – Friday, April 24th – 10:30 – Noon – Darby Township School
- County Reading Olympics – Elementary & High School – Monday, April 27th – 6:00 PM – Springton Lake Middle School, Media
- Autism Awareness Night – Tuesday, April 28th – 5:30 – 7:30 PM – Delcroft School
- PSSA Science – Grades 4 & 8 – Tuesday, April 28th and Wednesday, April 29th
- National Honor Society Induction Ceremony – Wednesday April 29th – 7:00 PM – Academy Park High School
- County Reading Olympics – Middle School – Thursday, April 30th – 6:00 PM – Springton Lake Middle School, Media
- Poetry in Your Pocket Day – Grades K – 2 – Friday, May 1st
- National Teacher Appreciation Day – Tuesday, May 5th
- Early Dismissal – Wednesday, May 6th – APHS / 11:00 AM – Grades K – 8 / 12:45 PM
- Math Mania Night – Wednesday, May 6th – 5:30 – 7:30 PM – Darby Township School
- Progress Notices Issues – Friday, May 8th
- District Literacy Through the Arts Night – Monday, May 18th – 5:30 PM – Academy Park High School
- Memorial Day Holiday Monday, May 25th – No School for Students or Staff
- Senior Prom – Friday, May 29th – 7:00 PM – Adventure Aquarium – Camden, NJ