Academy Park Graduation

Academy Park High School celebrated its 36th Commencement Ceremony on Tuesday, June 12th. Students, staff, families, and friends gathered at Neumann University to honor the 270 graduating seniors and celebrate their achievements.

Principal Nate Robinson presented the Valedictorian and Salutatorian awards to Mr. Malcolm Bevans and Miss Amy Deng, respectively. Amy urged her classmates to “Try to live in the moment, this day will turn into memories” in her speech to classmates, while Malcolm proclaimed, “We’re the best kept secret in Delco. Let’s show the world just what this community has to offer.”

The board, administrators, teachers, and support staff are extremely proud of our graduating seniors and wish them continued success in all their future endeavors.

Malcom Bevans Meets Former First Lady

As reported in the June district newsletter, class Valedictorian Malcolm Bevans, did indeed, go to Washington. Two days after graduating on June 12th, Malcolm wasted no time starting his life after high school by attending a full-day summit for 40 rising college freshman in Washington, DC. Part of the day’s activities included an hour-long panel discussion with former First Lady Michelle Obama. You can watch a video of the panel discussion by clicking here. Malcom addressed the panel first and asked Mrs. Obama about her experiences as a first generation college student.

Malcolm will be attending Swarthmore College in the fall. He promises to keep in touch.
2018 / 2019 Final Budget
At the board committee of the whole meeting on Thursday, June 21st, a thorough final budget review will take place. This review will include an analysis of the district’s 2017 / 2018 year to date budget, including the projected level of the general fund balance at the end of June 2018.

After this review of the current budget, a balanced budget will be presented and the significant impact of the required program reductions needed to get to a balanced budget will be considered. A balanced budget, which does not use any money from the district’s fund balance, will require significant additional staffing reductions over what was included in the proposed budget.

Any changes to the final budget must be completed prior to June 22nd to allow for the business manager and superintendent to make the necessary adjustments and provide the final budget for school board and public review.

The Southeast Delco Board of School Directors will be asked to approve the 2018 / 2019 final budget at the Thursday, June 28th school board meeting. In addition to the meeting scheduled for June 21st, numerous meetings and budget work sessions have been held over the past months with administration and board members, including a line by line review of revenue and costs.

Community members are encouraged to attend both meetings. The budget is available for review on the district website at www.sedelco.org.

Summer Tutoring Update
Summer tutoring is funded through the 21st Century and Title I grants. Approximately 500 students will receive tutoring services this year. Classes will begin on June 21st and run through July 26th and will be held Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The program is being held at Darby Township School.

Students will receive instruction in Read 180, language arts and math, and participate in various activities, including arts and crafts, library and physical education. The reading program is science-based and when completed generates individual student writing projects.

Through our partnership with the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, FREE, healthy meals for breakfast and lunch will be served to all district children between the ages of 1 to 18. Sponsored by the federal government food program, breakfast will be served from 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. and lunch will be available from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Children do not need to be enrolled in tutoring to receive breakfast and lunch. They only need to be on-site at DTS during the time meals are being served.

Academy Park Summer School
Summer school will be available to Academy Park students who did not pass major course work during the regular school year. Three sessions will be held each day, Monday through Thursday from June 25th to July 26th at 7:30 am to noon. Classes will not be held on Wednesday, July 4th.
Students will pay $40 per course, with registration occurring the week before the program starts.

Extended School Year Program

Approximately 298 students will receive Extended School Year (ESY) services this summer. The ESY program will begin on June 25th and run through July 26th. Classes will be held Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Classes will not be held on Wednesday, July 4th. ESY is funded through special education and supplemented with ACCESS reimbursements. The program is being held at Harris School and includes:

- Intensive research-based instruction in reading
- Intensive research-based instruction in math
- Occupational and physical therapy, speech / language, and counseling services
- Positive behavior support program to encourage positive social behaviors and improved work habits
- Social skills training
- Work study program
- Community classroom living and learning program
- Weekly swimming trips to Briarcliff Swim Club

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires school districts to provide ESY services for students who meet certain criteria. The Individual Education Plan (IEP) team must consider the following factors to determine who is eligible to receive these services; however, no single factor will be considered determinative:

- Whether the student reverts to a lower level of functioning as evidenced by a measurable decrease in skills or behaviors, which occurs as a result of an interruption in educational programming (Regression)
- Whether the student has the capacity to recover the skills or behavior patterns in which regression occurred to a level demonstrated prior to the interruption of educational programming (Recoupment)
- Whether the student's difficulties with regression and recoupment make it unlikely that the student will maintain the skills and behaviors relevant to IEP goals and objectives
- The extent to which the student has mastered and consolidated an important skill or behavior at the point when educational programming would be interrupted
- The extent to which a skill or behavior is particularly crucial for the student to meet the IEP goals of self-sufficiency and independence from caretakers
- The extent to which successive interruptions in educational programming result in a student's withdrawal from the learning process
- Whether the student's disability is severe, such as autism / pervasive developmental disorder, serious emotional disturbance, severe mental retardation, degenerative impairments with mental involvement and severe multiple disabilities
2018 / 2019 Budget Timeframe
June 21, 2018 Committee of the Whole – Budget Work Session
June 28, 2018 Board Meeting – Adopt Proposed Final Budget

Future Board Meetings
Board Business Meeting Thursday, June 28, 2018 7:00 PM
Committee of the Whole No meeting in July
Board Business Meeting Thursday, July 26, 2018 7:00 PM