The Inaugural Phi Tang Memorial Award

On May 22, at the Academy Park High School Athletics Banquet, Malcolm Bevans was awarded the Phi Tang Memorial Award for the student athlete with the highest grade point average.

This award acts as a tribute to commemorate Phi Tang, a cherished Academy Park student who sadly passed away last summer. Phi was well-known for his intelligence, determination and endless pursuit of success. Phi ranked among the brightest students in his class.

Upon accepting the honor, Malcolm stated, “It was an honor to receive this inaugural award memorializing my close friend Phi. I hope the future winners of this award will be just as intelligent, confident, charismatic, and caring as he was; I feel that it would be a wonderful way to carry on his legacy.”

The Phi Tang Memorial Award reflects Malcolm’s success as a scholar, and the accolade will continue to preserve the beloved memory of Phi Tang.

#firstyear#firstplace

Academy Park’s poetry slam team, Poetic 101, took first place honors at the third and final round of competition at Philly Slam League’s PSL VIII on June 2 at the Gershman Y Theatre at University of the Arts. Comprised of 15 students and three coaches - Mrs. Sacrenty, Ms. Jetter, and Mr. Rob McFee - the team traveled to the Free Library of Philadelphia every Friday to compete against twenty other schools in the Philadelphia region.

The competition has three rounds and the last team standing after the third round is declared the champion of the slam! This year - amazingly their first year in the league - Academy Park took top honors.
APHS was incredibly lucky to have gained entry into the league this year, much less win the competition. Philly Slam League (PSL) is a prestigious nonprofit organization that seeks to give students a voice about issues that invoke passion and change in our community, country and the world.

In addition to congratulating the whole team, an extra shout out goes to Miatu Kormah who won second place and $100 in the All-Star Slam on Saturday night.

Click on the link to watch the championship performance:  https://youtu.be/ckxHTCXRdy0

**Helping to Build a Positive School Climate**

The Renaissance program at Academy Park has created a Facebook page called SE DELCO Spotlight. The purpose of the page is to highlight the awesome things happening in Southeast Delco schools and community. Community members, local law enforcement, local athletic clubs, school staff, alumni, and various other organizations within the district are encouraged to join the page and contribute information. The positive submissions do not need to focus strictly on current students. If there is a community member doing something great or an alumni giving back to the community or within the schools, we’d like to know about it.

The link to like and follow the page is https://m.facebook.com/SE-DELCO-Spotlight-203869237030519/

Please send all information via the Facebook messenger on the SE DELCO Spotlight page. We look forward to sharing all of the awesome things going on in the school community.

**Academy Park High School**

**National Honor Society Induction**

Twenty-one juniors and seniors were inducted into Academy Park's chapter of the National Honor Society on May 15. The four pillars of NHS are scholarship, leadership, service, and character. To be eligible, students must have a minimum unweighted GPA of 3.4, participate in extracurricular activities and show qualities of having excellent character.
The students spoke about the biggest influences in their lives and took the National Honor Society pledge to continue to embody the characteristics of the four pillars. They also heard congratulatory and inspirational messages from Principal Mr. Robinson and Superintendent Dr. Butz.

**Mr. Bevans Goes to Washington**

As the recipient of a scholarship from The Herb It Forward Foundation, Malcolm Bevans has been invited to attend a summit in Washington DC on June 14. Twitter HQ in Washington will be hosting an all-day summit for 40 rising college freshmen. As part of the day’s activities, Mrs. Michelle Obama will participate in an hour-long panel discussion and will answer questions from the students. In addition to their time with the former First Lady, participants will learn career building skills and receive advice for navigating college as part of the program.

Malcolm will be graduating this year. Get ready world – here he comes!

**STEM Scholar Honored**

Academy Park freshman Kathleen Lac was recognized as a STEM Scholar on May 2. Along with girls from several Delaware County public high schools, Kathleen was honored by the Eastern Delaware County Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in collaboration with Delaware County Community College.

Selected by their respective faculties, all of the honorees excel in science, technology, engineering and / or mathematics and have expressed an interest in a STEM career.
Scholarships Awarded to Graduating Seniors

The Collingdale High School Alumni Association presented their 2018 scholarships to 5 outstanding Academy Park seniors. Alumni president George H. Rendell expressed, “It was especially difficult this year for the committee to evaluate and choose from among the qualified scholarship applications we received.”

They Could Have Danced All Night!

Academy Park High School’s physical education department entered into a partnership with Dancing with the Students (DWTS), to bring ballroom dancing to Academy Park High School. The partnership was forged by assistant principal, Ms. Jaime Smyth, who worked with the non-profit group at her previous school and had great success with the program.

The talented DWTS instructors, Ms. K. O’Rourke and Ms. Taysha Canales, taught AP students the Waltz, the Swing, the Meringue, and the Tango! In addition to learning dance steps, the students developed skills in partnerships, etiquette and showmanship. Students had 8 lessons, one dress rehearsal and danced in a mirror ball trophy performance. They worked exceptionally hard and displayed stamina, perseverance and problem-solving skills.

The day 1, block 1 and 2 physical education classes participated in the activity. Several talented couples from each block walked away with a trophy for best in Waltz, Swing, Tango, and Meringue, while two other couples received a trophy for overall best dancers. Deddeh Salee (grade 11) and Fikayo Osho (grade 12) were honored with the Susan Shea Mirror Ball Trophy for bringing “light” and the spirit of the program to practice with them every day.
All of the students received a medal for participating in the event. The performances were the event of the season and truly something to see! Academy Park teachers and administrators were so proud of the students and grateful to DWTS for all their time and hard work. We look forward to participating in an ongoing partnership with DWTS.

Taking Their Show on the Road

Under the direction of music teacher, Ms. Kristina Cubbage, 24 members of the APHS band performed pregame at a Philadelphia Soul arena football game. Their performance was amazing. The students really enjoyed performing in front of such a large audience and being featured on the BIG SCREEN.

Darby Township School

Philadelphia Phillies Recognize DTS Student

The Philadelphia Phillies awarded Makayla Van (grade 6) the All-Star Student Award at a ceremony at Citizens Bank Park on May 21. Mrs. Melissa Cooke, Makayla’s 6th grade math teacher, presented Makayla with her award at the game. Makayla was given two complimentary Phillies tickets, a plaque and a Philadelphia Phillies bag full of memorabilia.

Makayla was nominated for this award in recognition of her fundraising efforts. Makayla helped sell candy grams to raise funds to pay for field trips. Congratulations, Makayla.
**Career Day at DTS**

Darby Township School hosted a career day on May 18. Students in grades 1 through 4 dressed in clothing that represented a possible future career. Students in grades 5 through 8 attended a career fair in the school gymnasium and had the chance to visit with representatives from 30 different businesses and organizations. Students were able to ask the representatives questions about their educations and careers.

**DTS National Junior Honor Society**

Twelve Darby Township School students were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) on May 21. The twelve new inductees have excellent grades, attendance and behavior and serve as role models for their classmates. The staff and fellow students are very proud of all of you.

**Cookout With Your Book Out!**

Darby Township School held a cookout for DTS families on May 18. After enjoying their hot dogs, chips and desserts, families played games, completed crafts, danced, and every child received a free book.

Almost 200 DTS family members attended the cookout. It was a fun filled evening and we hope to host similar events next year.

**Delcroft School**

**Young Poet Sydney Waddell**

Delcroft student, Sydney Waddell, earned 2nd place honors in the grade 8 category at the 2018 Young Poets of Delaware County contest. The contest is sponsored by Delaware County Library System, Delaware County Reading Council, Mad Poets Society, and Rose Tree Optimist Club. Sydney’s poem was recognized at an award ceremony on Sunday, May 6th at the Redwood Community Playhouse, along with Delcroft librarian, Ms. Gallagher.
Congratulations to Sydney for receiving this special recognition.

Click here to read "A Change In Me" by Sydney Waddell

Delcroft's National Junior Honor Society Induction

On May 21, students from throughout the district were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society. Students completed a rigorous application and referral process to qualify as a candidate for membership. Students apply for consideration in grades 6 and 7, in order to serve during their 7th and 8th grade academic years. Eleven students joined the existing National Junior Honor Society members. Congratulations to Kevin Celikay, Jenna Scott, Laila Jackson, Isabelle Krautheim, Marissa Gilbert, Kiona Lac, Theresa Jappah, Siyanni Lee-Rodriquez, Myriam Dao, Makayla Peterson, and Amirah Murray.

Harris School

Dressing For Success

Harris School held a “Dress Like Your Career” day for the entire school on May 18. Part of the requirements for Future Ready Index – a new Pennsylvania platform to measure school performance – is that students in grades 3 through 8 schools are required to have 2 career readiness experiences at the building level.

The first career ready event was held earlier in the school year. For the second activity, students in the lower grades were included in hopes of sparking the younger students’ interests and encouraging them to think about what they may do when they grow up. The students dressed in career appropriate attire and were encouraged to investigate what they will need to do to earn a position in their chosen field. The students then shared with their teachers and classmates what career they were thinking of pursuing and what they might have to do to achieve their goals.
Participation in this new event was very high. While not all of the students dressed up, they all investigated their career choices and participated in the discussions.

**Safety First**

On May 24, Harris held its yearly school evacuation drill. The drill is held to ensure that the emergency procedures in place are effective in the event of a real emergency. With the current climate of heightened awareness regarding school safety, this year’s drill seemed to have a more serious feel to it with the students and staff.

The drill was conducted in coordination with the Collingdale Police Department, under the direction of Chief Ken Felker and Bill Whitman, coordinator of public safety for the district. With almost 850 students and staff moving from Harris to the Collingdale Community Center, it is imperative that the drill is meticulously planned and executed.

The walk to the community center is approximately five blocks and requires a trek across MacDade Boulevard. Collingdale Police blocked the road to ensure safe passage across the busy intersection and the students lined up on the community center field. Once heads were counted, assuring that no one had wandered off, students and staff returned to Harris School. Following the drill, the Harris BERT team (Building Emergency Response Team) met to reflect and discuss the drill and its effectiveness.

The evacuation drill and the monthly fire and lock-down drills are all components of the school safety plan, which is followed and revised when necessary to ensure that students and staff are prepared in the event of an emergency.

**Harris Science Olympiad 2018**

On May 24, Harris students in grades 5 through 8 gathered in the gym to participate in the annual Science Olympiad. Working in teams of up to four, students first selected and completed an event in each grade. Then students competed against other grades in their selected event.

Only students in grade 5 competed in the first event, the penny boats, which served as an introduction to the Olympiads for the first timers. Students were given one piece of aluminum foil that was 30 x 30 cm and instructed to build a boat that would hold the most pennies without flipping or sinking.
The next event was the balloon powered race cars, where participants are challenged to create a balloon powered race car for maximum distance. Students are given a 9-inch balloon and a straw but must supply any other materials. The car must have at least 3 wheels and the wheels cannot be from a toy car. They must be made from something not originally used as wheels.

Next was the paper airplane challenge. Students constructed airplanes using one sheet of paper, and competed to see which plane could fly the farthest. The students must also attach a minimum of five weights to the plane. The fourth event was the straw bridge. Students were given 50 straws and two meters of tape to build a bridge that could hold the most amount of weight.

Lastly, there was the always popular egg toss. Students were instructed to design a container that would hold a raw egg, that when tossed over a bar at varying heights, would not break upon landing. The container could be no bigger than 20 x 20 x 20 cm. Students had to design a container that could open and close with no modifications and could not attach any form of a parachute to slow the descent of the container.

The students had a great time competing with and cheering for their classmates.

Sharon Hill School
National Junior Honor Society

Five Sharon Hill students were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) on May 21. The NJHS is an international organization founded in 1929 for middle school students. Students qualify based on outstanding academics and leadership. Sharon Hill staff are very proud of the students who earned their way into this organization.
Seyenth-graders at Sharon Hill School, along with over 100 students from the Upper Darby and William Penn School Districts, participated in the Stream Stewards program this spring where they learned about the importance of protecting their local waterways.

Students began the program in the classroom learning about watersheds and freshwater ecology and how these are impacted by our daily actions. During the second phase of the program, students took a field trip to Ridley Creek Park to conduct stream health surveys. Through this program, students developed a better understanding of why it is important to become stewards of the environment.

Fourth-grade students attended a trip to Adventure Aquarium. The trip consisted of STEM-based learning experiences where they were able to observe many aquatic species. Students were excited to experience the different exhibits, especially Creature Feature, Hippo Haven, Ocean Realm, Penguin Island, and the Shark Realm.
Career Day
Sharon Hill School hosted a career day on May 11. Several individuals from various professions presented to the students throughout the morning. The students were excited to learn about the different careers and perhaps begin to consider their future. The attendees asked many questions and took notes about the possibilities to come. Students were also allowed to dress as a profession they found interesting for their future.

Book Fair at Sharon Hill School
A Scholastic Book Fair was held at Sharon Hill School. Students and their families enjoyed examining the selection of books, which were age appropriate to a variety of students with a wide range of interesting and relevant topics.

Spring Concert
Middle school students performed in both band and chorus at their annual spring concert at Academy Park High School. Students entertained their families and friends with their musical talents. They were thrilled to show their progress since the winter concert and to raise spirits and spread joy through their music.
**Reading Olympics**

Sharon Hill was represented by two middle school teams at the 2018 Reading Olympics. Students worked diligently with staff throughout the school year to prepare for the competition.

The 6th grade team, The Wild Readers, and the 8th grade team, The Golden Readers, had to collectively read 40 books to prepare for the event. Students participated in 3 rounds of competition and were asked 40 questions per round. With families, staff and students cheering them on, both teams brought home white ribbons. The students are already discussing competing again next school year! Congratulations to the middle school teams; their hard work paid off.

**Jump Rope for Heart**

Students participated in a fund raising activity to support the American Heart Association on May 17. Jump Rope for Heart is an exciting event where students learn heart healthy skills, have fun jumping rope and raise money for a worthy cause; all at the same time. In addition to jumping rope, students also participated in a variety of physical activities throughout the school day. Students were excited to participate in another outreach program this year.
**Spirit Fundraiser**
Sharon Hill hosted a fundraiser at Chick-fil-A on May 16. Together as a community, money was raised to fund different student activities throughout the school year. It was great to see students, staff and parents enjoying themselves outside of the school setting.

This is one of the many events promoted by student council this year. We look forward to future fundraisers and working together for the benefit of our students.

**Poem In Your Pocket**
Students at Sharon Hill School joined with schools across the United States to celebrate Poem in Your Pocket Day. Students participated by selecting a poem, carrying it with them in a hand-crafted pocket and sharing it with others throughout the day. The students and staff thoroughly enjoyed all of the components of the activity and look forward to next year’s celebration.

**Kindergarten Center**

**Kindergarten Mobile Career Fair**
The Kindergarten Center hosted their second mobile career fair on May 11. Attendees included firefighters from the Goodwill and Briarcliffe Fire Stations and their firetrucks. EMTs from Fitzgerald Mercy Hospital brought their ambulance and police officers from Darby Township, Collingdale and Sharon Hill Police Departments came with their vehicles.
Always a favorite with the students, Mr. Joe Soriano appeared with his race car! The children asked questions about the presenters’ careers and were able to see their work vehicles up close. It was a great experience enjoyed by all.

**Pen Pals in South Africa**

Ms. Crossan's kindergarten class are writing letters to students in South Africa! The students are lucky to have the opportunity to send the letters to Ms. Hollie Citerone during her student teaching experience in South Africa. Ms. Citerone is the daughter of Mrs. Citerone, a teacher at the Kindergarten Center, and she will deliver the letters to her students. The students wrote about their school, their friends, and also asked many questions. The students are anxiously waiting to receive responses to their letters from their new friends!

**Pennies for Patients**

As an award for collecting almost $200 for the annual Pennies for Patients fundraiser, Mrs. Hunger’s kindergarten class enjoyed an Olive Garden luncheon on May 8. The children had a wonderful day celebrating together. They were so happy to contribute to such a worthwhile cause.