

UPPER DARBY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Royal Scroll

“Honoring A Diverse Community Where All Students Achieve”



SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER



Daniel McGarry

During the month of September, I had the opportunity to reintroduce myself to members of the Upper Darby School District community during morning and evening Meet and Greet sessions at each school. I reviewed several District projects that included our facilities study, 5 year equity plan, curriculum improvements, and our grant writing efforts, particularly in the areas of safety and security improvements.

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BHMS Student 8th Grade Nhi Lang is Making a Difference

BHMS's 8th grader **Nhi Lang** is an exceptionally gifted student and a hard worker who is also a respectful role model for her peers. She has consistently made the honor role and loves to get involved in extracurricular activities. She has been a part of the Kodiak Registry since she started at BHMS. Through the Kodiak Registry, Nhi set a goal to have her essay read at the Kodiak luncheon. She met that goal as a 7th grader! She has learned that you feel better about yourself when you are helping others.



Spotlight on IT Tech Drew Happold



Drew Happold

Drew Happold was recognized and acknowledged for introducing students in Drexel Hill Middle School seminar classes, taught by Dr. George Hight, to programming and coding skills. Drew introduced the Dot and Dash robots that had been purchased by the district. The units have made a significant impact on the teacher and his students. Mr. Hight wants everyone to be aware of how much he values the assistance and support of district employees, like Drew. Drew went above and beyond the parameters of the job and provided the seminar classes with time and materials. This leaves a positive effect on Dr. Hight's students.

KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM NIGHT

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On September 19th, parents joined teachers for Curriculum Night at the **Kindergarten Center**. Teachers shared important aspects of our Language Arts and Mathematics Curriculum.

Parents were introduced to key components of our programs that children use on a daily basis to learn new concepts. Parents enjoyed visiting classrooms and talking to teachers as they explored what kindergartners are expected to learn throughout the school year to prepare them for first grade. Each parent was given a bag full of learning tools for their child.

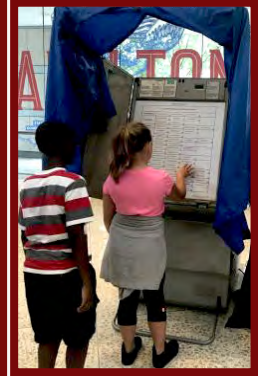
KCenter's Second Theme



Students of the **Kindergarten Center** began their second theme in the Storytown Program, *Families!* This theme explores the many different types of families in our classroom community, as well as their diverse traditions. The essential question of this theme is *What people make up your family?* The students will also focus on the skills of generating and answering questions and making

predictions. Kindergarten students will also learn the letters c, o, a, g, d, and s. High frequency words “the” and “go” are introduced. This theme is full of fun fictional stories that depict different types of families.

Fourth Grade Enjoys Free Admission to the Constitution Center



September 17th, Constitution Day, was a very special learning opportunity for our Fourth Grade students. We were fortunate to obtain a grant for free admission for the entire class to visit the Constitution Center. Students were actively engaged during the field trip and learned a lot about the history of the Constitution. Social Studies activities prior to and after the visit enabled the students to become familiar with the United States Constitution and its importance. Different levels of government were also addressed so that the students gained an understanding of how the branches work together. Students experienced many hands on activities and really enjoyed the day.



WELCOMES OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Garrettford



MEET ROBIN THORUM,
OUR NEW
LEAD TEACHER

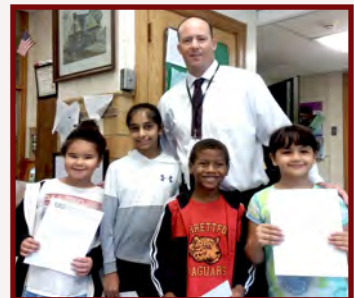


MEET MRS. BURBIDGE,
OUR NEW
FIRST GRADE TEACHER



MEET MRS. JESSE,
OUR NEW
READING SPECIALIST

- FOUR GARRETTFORD STUDENTS WIN IN THE UD FIRE PREVENTION POSTER CONTEST



PRINCIPAL BRYDGES,
AURELLE T., CHRISTIAN M.,
LINA B., AND HARLENN K.

Aronimink's Walk to School Day



Walk to School Day at Aronimink placed an emphasis on the education of children. The National Center for Safe Routes to School encourages communities to walk and bike safely to school. At Aronimink, we encourage families to choose to walk or bike to school, as opposed to drive, whenever possible.

Art News



Grade 1

First graders met Mr. Roy G. Biv and are discovering the shapes and color (Art Elements) by creating a portrait of him. They will also create a setting for Mr. Roy visiting our very own **Aronimink**.

Grade 2

Second graders are designing a house and will be printing it in a setting of their own creation.

Grade 3

Third grade students have completed a 3D composition of organic shapes using hot and cool colors.

Grade 4

Fourth graders used lines and patterns to create a radial design.

Grade 5

Fifth grade students have been challenged with analyzing and recreating zentangles so they can eventually design their own. Their final composition will include their unique designs. ~Mrs. York, Art Teacher/Librarian

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Primos's Mrs. Ebony



Met Mrs. Ebony — An interview by Hassan Abdelaal and Prathyush Karthikeyan. We went downstairs and went to the office to interview Mrs. Ebony. First, we introduced ourselves to Mrs. Ebony. We asked her five questions. This is our report.

Q: When is your birthday? **A:** August 18th

Q: When did you join Primos Elementary? **A:** I started on July 23rd.

Q: How many years have you been at Primos? **A:** I have been a part of Primos for 3 years, but I have been in the office for 3 months.

Q: What do you like to do at home? **A:** Relax and watch TV.

Q: Do you have any children? **A:** One daughter, one stepson, and a cat named Fifi

Primos's Student Gets Citizenship Award



Congratulations, Damian Woodarski! Damian Woodarski was presented a Citizenship Award from Senator McGarrigle at the October School Board Meeting. Mr. Rogers and many **Primos** teachers were on hand to cheer for Damian as he walked through the hallway.

Highland Park's First Grade News



The first grade students visited the Lankenau Hospital Education Center to participate in their *Be a Buddy, Not a Bully* program. The students had a wonderful time learning important skills not only in how to deal with bullies, but also in how to be confident in themselves and be good friends to others.



NED's Kindness Adventure



3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students participated in an assembly to promote a positive and caring school climate. Through the use of storytelling, music, interactive videos, and magical illusions, our HP students went on quite an adventure to Africa! Students learned that although we might all be different in our own way, we ALL have something in common!

Hillcrest Fourth Grade News

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB CONTEST WINNERS



Mrs. Rosser's class is showing off some of the new books they were able to get this month thanks to Scholastic Book Clubs and author James Patterson. Mrs. Rosser entered a contest over the summer to win \$500 and 500 bonus points through a giveaway sponsored by Scholastic Book Clubs and James Patterson. Room 215 started the year by making a list of books they would love to have for their classroom. The next day, Mrs. Rosser received a letter that she had been selected as one of 4,000 winners out of 127,000 teachers who had entered!



Library News



Students are learning where their favorite subjects are located and keeping in mind that any Library they go to — Middle School, High School, college, and public — will be set up the same way.

We have added a comfy reading chair to the Library! Students are able to earn a seat each Library class by maintaining good Library etiquette. We have had a steady stream of winners enjoying a comfy seat since the start of the school



year. Awesome job, Hillcrest readers!

WESTBROOK PARK'S FANTASTIC FOURTH GRADERS



Fourth graders are working as geologists and are observing the physical properties of rocks and minerals. They have been working in small groups and have been writing detailed observations on what they have noticed. They then share their scientific observations

with their classmates.

AUTISTIC SUPPORT CLASS



This month the 4th & 5th Grade Autistic Support students went swimming at the Upper Darby High School pool! We got dressed in the locker room, practiced safety around and in the pool, and got changed to go back to Westbrook Park. Visiting the pool helps us work on our self-care skills and following directions, and it provides for a fun sensory

activity. Everyone had a wonderful time, and we are excited to go again soon!

UPPER DARBY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

October was Fire Prevention Month. The Upper Darby Fire Department visited our schools and conducted unannounced fire drills. Emergency Preparedness drills are an important part of keeping our school community safe. The Public Safety Department, along with the Upper Darby Police Department, conducted unannounced lock down drills in our schools in September and October. This is also a good time to remind parents and guardians to keep all emergency contact information up to date. The school may need to call you during or after an emergency. Your child will only be sent home with an adult listed.

The Public Safety Department would like to welcome our new Public Safety Officers: Amanda Lawrence, John Richardson III, and Kevin Mahoney. Officers Richardson and Lawrence are assigned to the Upper Darby High School. Officer Mahoney is assigned to Beverly Hills Middle School. They are all welcome additions to our staff.

Facilities Department News



As summer turns to fall, UD's Facilities Department kicks into high gear! Heating season began October 15th, and our HVAC team is working diligently to make certain that our boilers are running at maximum efficiency to provide warmth for students and staff.

Our fields take a pounding from football and soccer this time of year, but, thankfully, our grounds crew can now shift from grass cutting to turf management. It takes a lot to keep the fields playable in all types of weather, but our grounds crew always meets that challenge head-on and takes great pride in our fields. Fall will also bring leaf clean up for our hard-working men and women in the grounds department.

Additionally, supplies are being ordered for the winter months ahead. Our bins for rock salt for our parking lots and calcium chloride for our sidewalks are filled and ready to handle whatever the winter might bring.

Transportation News

The UD Transportation Department wishes our outgoing Transportation Supervisor, Marco Sordi, the best of luck in his new role with the Unionville-Chaddsford School District. Thank you to Marco for all you did for our district! Please join us in welcoming our new Transportation Supervisor, Duane Johnson. Duane has been a bus driver for the district after retiring from the YMCA.



Almost the entire bus fleet has been installed with GPS from Verizon NetworkFleet to help ensure efficiency of the Transportation Departments operations.

Congratulations to Asia Barnes on passing her CDL Road Test on 10/15/2018!

CENTRAL REGISTRATION/ATTENDANCE SERVICES



Please visit the district website for the link to our online registration system and the number for our Central Registration office. While initial registration must be done online, a visit to the Central Registration office is required to verify required paperwork and finalize the process. Thank you for your cooperation.

DHMS's Citizen of the Month



Charlotte Wismer is our Citizen of the Month

The Citizen of the Month Award seeks to recognize a student who is respectful in and out of the classroom environment, works to help their peers, and has the courage to do the right thing even when it is unpopular or difficult.



Fall Clean Up Day at DHMS



Thank you all of the DHMS families and faculty who helped to beautify our school on fall clean up day.

We were very busy weeding, mulching,

planting trees, working on our mosaic mural and cleaning up campus.

BEVERLY HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL FLING



On Friday, September 28th, we had our annual Social in the cafeteria after school. Over one hundred students showed up to have a great time dancing,

eating, and socializing with friends. We had a great turn out for staff helpers as well; everyone seemed to have a great time. All of the proceeds from the dance will be going to help the CORE programs at Beverly Hills, including Kodiak Club, student rewards and student incentives. Thanks to all who came, helped out, and had fun!

Staff Members of the Month



Lora Kelly

I'm excited to say that this is my 4th year here at Beverly Hills. I graduated with my Associate's Degree from Delaware County Community College and continued to finish at West Chester University with my Bachelor's in Psychology.



Corey Carchidi

Ms. Carchidi has been teaching science at BHMS for 6 years. She teaches primarily 7th grade science with one 8th grade science class. Ms. Carchidi is currently studying for her masters at West Chester University, majoring in geoscience.

UDHS Movie Night



Over 400 hundred UDHS students came to the Performing Arts Center Friday, October 12 to watch the hit 2018 thriller, A Quiet Place. According to high school English Department teacher, Chris Nielsen, *"The students were fantastic and had a great time! Everyone in attendance really seemed to enjoy themselves."*

UDHS Athletics



Congratulations to Senior Lexie Witmer on an outstanding Volleyball season. She is recognized as this month Royal Athlete. She achieved her 1000 dig in the game on October 15th. She is also a standout softball player and has committed to play at Washington College.



Athletes of the Week

Congratulations to our Fall Athletes of the week.



Denize Cisco
Girls Cross Country



Marson Weh
Football



Andrew Kane
Golf

SAVE THE DATES!

JANUARY 19, 2019

Gala Concert



JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

A celebration of the outstanding music programs of the Upper Darby School District and a benefit for the Upper Darby Arts & Education Foundation!

3 PM - 5 PM

UPPER DARBY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

FEBRUARY 23, 2019

New for 2019!



LUCK IS ON YOUR SIDE!

Gather your friends and come out to enjoy a Casino Night, and let the games begin! Shake, rattle and roll for a night of non-stop fun. A great night out to support the Upper Darby Arts and Education Foundation!

2019 Acorn Award Honoree:
UD Alumnus, William (Bill) Gaul

6 PM - 11 PM

DREXELBROOK CATERING & SPECIAL EVENT CENTER

MAY 18, 2019

SCHOENER 5K RUN • 1 MILE WALK FESTIVAL OF UPPER DARBY ARTS



TWO EVENTS IN ONE DAY - FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

Proceeds support the Schoener MusicMan programs. Register in early spring!

7:30 AM - 3 PM

ARLINGTON CEMETERY & UD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

SENKOW'S STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



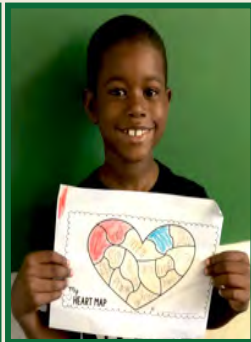
Congratulations to this month's student of the month recipients! All of these students did a fantastic job showing good citizenship. The theme for next month's student of the month is *"Safety and Self Control."*

First Grade News



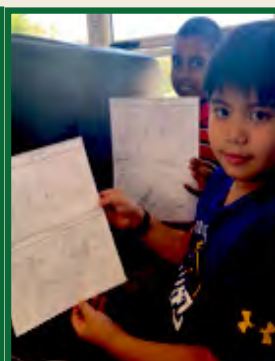
Ms. Bowden's first grade class is proud to show off their apple trees. Ms. Henry's fifth grade class helped the 1st graders make apple prints with real apples.

BYWOOD'S SECOND GRADE STUDENTS



Second graders in Ms. Crosby's and Mrs. Foley's classes have mastered their hallway behavior. Both classes have 100% on the line, hands safely by their sides, and voices off. Way to go second grade!

Fifth Grade Students



This month our 5th grade students visited the Philadelphia Art Museum. Students had the opportunity to view artwork and even get a lesson from the staff.

Students really enjoy taking this trip every year.

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Charles Kelly's Fire Prevention Poster Contest Winners



The Upper Darby Fire Department has been promoting fire prevention in the community for 25 years with their annual Fire Prevention Parade. In addition to the parade, the Upper Darby Fire Department hosts a poster contest for 1st through 5th grade students. Congratulations to our winners: Ruzianna R. (2nd place) and Keanna S. and Shalil R. (Honorable Mention).



1st Grade and 5th Grade Buddies



First grade and Fifth grade students are paired up to become yearlong buddies. The buddies met for the first time in the first-grade classrooms to get to know each other by completing a questionnaire together and sharing their dance moves.

Stonehurst Appreciates Mr. Brad



Stonehurst appreciates Mr. Brad and all he does to make sure our school is well kept. He is helpful to the staff and students.

STONEHURST OCTOBER STUDENTS' OF THE MONTH ARE SHINING WITH TRUSTWORTHINESS!



Stonehurst Hills values promoting genuine character and encouraging our students to exhibit these traits throughout the entire day. Each month students are chosen from each class if they exemplified the highlighted trait.

Stonehurst Third Grade Spotlight



Third grade junior scientists in Ms. Lydon's class at Stonehurst Hills are learning about how water expands and contracts. When water is heated, the molecules expand and travel up the straw tube creating thermometers. As we put the thermometer bottle in ice water, the molecules contracted and the colored water went down the straw tube, just like a real thermometer!



Superintendent's Corner

Continued from page 1



Daniel McGarry

Several common themes emerged from the conversations I had with families from each school: bullying and student conduct concerns, communication concerns related to school safety, and a desire to see our school infrastructure and facilities improve. I appreciated the many central office administrators who joined me during these sessions as well as the support from the Board of School Directors. What we all gathered from these Meet and Greets was that our current system of relying on school board meetings and committee meetings to engage our community and the public does not seem to be hitting the mark. These face to face forums allowed the District the opportunity to dispel recent information about the online threats to our high school, the concerns related to the athletic fields in Clifton Heights, and the District's overall facilities plan. As an administration, we will continue to look into forms of communication that will better inform our community members so that they can become more engaged in our schools. I will be meeting with all Home and School Presidents throughout the school year in order to continue to communicate key topics and areas of focus for the District in the hopes that the information will trickle down to each school community. Our first meeting is October 16 at 6:30 p.m. As we continue to work on pushing out and receiving information from the public, I wanted to highlight two recent news articles and a special community event that point out just how inclusive and special this school district is.

In recent news, the Delco Times noted a parent's joy in sending her child to middle school here in the Upper Darby School District after struggling to feel included in another neighboring school community. I share this not to celebrate the struggles of another community, but to point out that our community is special. This was especially evident last month when Dr. Council and I attended Upper Darby Township's International Festival. It was awesome. A member of the Liberian Community on his radio show interviewed Dr. Council and me, and he asked us how this was possible. *"How does this community and District bring so many people with so many different backgrounds and beliefs together?"* As the Acting Superintendent, I wanted to find something poignant and noteworthy to say, but the reality is, this is just who we are. We embrace culture. We celebrate our diversity. Then just this past weekend, I read a Philadelphia Inquirer article on the recent appointment of a Supreme Court Judge. The article was written by a reporter who grew up in the Upper Darby School District who shared her experience as it relates to her understanding of students growing up in private schools. Her article and her experience highlighted what is so special about this community. This community and our schools are filled with GOOD people who are HARDWORKING and deserve all that they EARN. Our community represents the REAL world. I went back and forth with the Manager of Media Services, Dana Spino, about this article, and we both agreed that these two recent articles are messages about the essence of Upper Darby School District that have also been captured through the initial research of the Branding Campaign. In December, we will be providing the Board and the Public with an update on our Branding Campaign. Speaking of GOOD, HARDWORKING people, I'd like to recognize some of the wonderful students and staff members of this great district. Last month, I received a call that we had the marching band ready to head to a competition, but no buses at the high school to take them. Due to a clerical error, the bus garage was not aware of the Saturday competition, but at a moment's notice, Amy Moskowitz, Transportation Operations Assistant, was able to pull together four drivers on a Saturday morning to transport our students. I'd like to thank and show my appreciation to Amy and our drivers Aleko Ndini, Tim Halli, Julie Laury and Brandon Diggs for caring about our students and going above and beyond the call of duty.

Similarly, we had a situation in September that involved PECO and caused there to be no power at Beverly Hills Middle School over a weekend. Without a bit of hesitation, our Assistant Manager of Facilities gave up his weekend to be present at Beverly Hills to provide assistance to PECO and to communicate updates to our administration. I'd like to recognize Tim Leaf for caring as much as he does about our district.

Our students are also doing incredible things. Each year, middle school students have the opportunity to participate in the Philadelphia Young Playwrights Monologue Festival through the guidance of their 8th grade English teachers. This year, we had winners selected from both DH and BH to have their monologues performed at the festival.

Congratulations to the following current UDHS students for their winning 8th grade entries: Shane Kennedy, Sebastian Mostek, Sarah Salhi, and Malik Perry-Fulford.

And, finally, we are thrilled to have had one of our seniors named as a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist. This is an incredible accomplishment for someone who works hard and earns this recognition. Congratulations, John Rybnick.

✓ CHECK IT OUT → UDHS ROYAL BLOG

If you have not already, please be sure to check out the blog that some of our students have started to get the good news out about UDHS. They are working hard at this and would love to see some of us adding comments. They have already had thousands of views! <http://voicesofupperdarby.blogspot.com/>

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