A Message from the Executive Director

Happy spring! We are entering the homestretch of the school year and it feels wonderful to see the fruits of all the hard work that's been done these past few months. In May, we hope you will join us as we recognize some of that work at the Employee Recognition Dinner. You can also look forward to a new video series that will feature the wonderful work of our many programs. We strive to shine a light on our distinguished staff and look forward to a spring with many celebrations!

Maria Edelberg, Ed.D
Executive Director
Upcoming Events

Coffee with the Exec
April 8 | 7:00AM | TCA
April 15 | 8:00AM | Madison Head Start
April 29 | 8:00AM | Chester Township

Join Dr. Maria Edelberg for coffee and conversation!

Anxiety and Children with Autism
April 24 | 6-8:00PM | Morton

This workshop will provide an overview of anxiety and how it impacts your child on the autism spectrum. Contact Kelly Fager at kfager@dciu.org to register.

Employee Recognition Dinner
May 14 | 5:00PM
Springhaven Club, Wallingford

Invitation coming soon! Submit your Awards of Excellence nominations by Friday, April 5 to Adriene Irving at airving@dciu.org

Delaware County Hero Bowl
May 30 | 7:30PM
Cardinal O'Hara High School

Come out at support this football game to raise money for the Hero Scholarship Fund. Players from 25 Delaware County High Schools will be competing!

Loco Summer Robotics Camp
August 12-16, 2019

Registration is now OPEN for the LocoSummer Modern Robotics Camp! Click HERE for more information.

STEM Lending Library
Open House
April 8 | 4:00-6:00PM | Morton

Stop by to see what the Lending Library has to offer and learn the check-out process for equipment!
For a department only in its second year, Teaching, Learning, and Innovation has proven that its outstanding growth has no limits. As a resource to students and teachers seeking innovative learning practices, TLI has led the way toward new and advanced technologies and initiatives.

One area in particular that TLI excels in is STEM. With the growing need for a workforce that is highly efficient in STEM fields, TLI is meeting the demand of students interested in a hands-on STEM learning experience. This year, TLI has facilitated an array of STEM-related competitions including the Governor's STEM Challenge, the STEM Design Challenge, and the PA Media and Design Competition. All of these events are an opportunity to showcase the hard work and intellect of Delaware County students.

TLI also aims to expose younger students to STEM and give them opportunities that may not have been available. Outside of the competitions, TLI offers additional resources to teachers and students who may be new to the STEM environment and eager to learn more. The STEM Lending Library provides equipment and technology for teachers who wish to expand their educational reach through STEM. In line with this, TLI is working on its initiative to offer free computer science development workshops to for educators. The goal is to reach all educators, whether they teach kindergarten or high school and emphasize that it is never too early- or too late- to get involved in STEM.

STEM is only a glimpse of all that TLI has to offer. Continue to keep an eye out on all of the exciting competitions, workshops, and trainings coming in 2019-2020. Visit the TLI webpage HERE and to learn more about the STEM Lending Library, visit the Open House on April 8!
Head Start

Ms. Byrne’s and Ms. Jenkins’ class at Sharon Hill Head Start completed their Creative Curriculum Building Study, including, but not limited to, learning about what materials buildings are made of, what happens inside of these buildings, and who lives/works there. The students' buildings are on display in the Sharon Hill front lobby.

In addition, students in Ms. Davis’ and Ms. A's class also at Sharon Hill built an animal hospital out of boxes, as part of their building study. After their building fell, Ms. Davis encouraged the students to think about the kind of foundation they would need in order to keep the building from falling down again.

Delaware County Technical High School

On March 19, the Delaware County Technical High School inducted 56 students into the National Technical Honor Society! Congratulations to all of the student's who worked so hard for this achievement, and especially their instructors who led them to success.
The County Alternative School

On Wednesday, March 27, The County Alternative School boys basketball team competed in the Alternative League Championships. The championship is a three-game series and TCA tied with their opponent, Carson Valley, each winning a game before the third and final game played on March 27. The final game was well played and each team displayed their talent on the court. During the second half, TCA was down 57-44 but came back in the fourth quarter to finish regular time tied at 67-67. Overtime was sudden death, and Carson Valley made a free throw to win the game 68-67.

Though it was a sad loss, TCA should be proud to have finished the season in 2nd place and for putting on such a great performance in the championship. Great season, TCA!

Special Olympics Bocce Tournament

On Tuesday, February 26, Haverford High School hosted the 2019 Bocce Championship. Schools all across Delaware County came to compete for the chance to go to Hershey, Pennsylvania, for the state competition. Before the games began, the chapter's president, Annie Gable, and her buddy, Ian Creeley, carried the torch led by two Havertown police officers! Haverford High School placed 4th and 2nd in the competition.
Hearing Support

On Wednesday, March 13, students at the Swarthmore Rutledge School hearing support program were visited by a special group of people. Professor Steven Singer, from The College of New Jersey, and nine of his pre-student teachers came to present center-based science activities to the students. These lessons were planned by the students enrolled in the Teacher of the Deaf program following PA State Standards.

The hearing support team provided support and assistance during all activities. The students were divided into two age categories: K-1 and 3-5. The younger group studied science-ecosystems using a Disney theme, including the forest in the Jungle Book, the desert in The Lion King and the ocean in The Little Mermaid. The older group studied science and math, and focused on spring and plant growth. Hearing Support is excited for this new partnership!

Vision Support

On Thursday, March 13, Vision Support student Simon was invited to come to Glenwood Elementary School to speak to a group of students in Mrs. Rachel Pinsley’s 5th grade class. The students were doing a project studying about Louis Braille and wanted to interview a blind student who was a Braille reader. Thanks to Simon, and also his Mom for bringing him out, for giving a fascinating interview to the students. The interview is part of a podcast the students are creating which will be entered into a podcast contest with NPR (National Public Radio). Simon demonstrated a few of his devices including the Braille Note Touch as well as the Perkins Braillewriter. He also brailled the names of the students in special cards that they could take with them. Great job, Simon!
Delco HiQ Championship

On March 6, the top three Delco HiQ teams, Garnet Valley High School, Delaware County Christian Academy, and Radnor High School, competed for the coveted HiQ Champion title. It was an intense competition, and the students answered an impressive set of questions. The competition remained close in the early rounds; however, Garnet Valley pulled ahead and secured the win. Congratulations Garnet Valley!

Early Intervention Breakfast and Learn

On March 29, the Early Intervention program hosted legislators and their staff for a Breakfast and Learn. This event provided an opportunity for legislators to tour the new Aston facility and learn about the importance of preschool and special education funding. In attendance were State Representatives Leanne Krueger and Mike Zabel, along with staff from the offices of Senator Daylin Leach, Senator Tom Killion, and Representative Chris Quinn.

The morning began with a presentation by Meredith Adams detailing the programs the DCIU has to offer. After, legislators and staff had an opportunity to visit six different classrooms and see the important work being done by teachers to support their students. Attendees were appreciative of the opportunity to see these classrooms first hand and meet with the children.
Achievements

Congratulations to LaTasha Dotson for founding and launching her non-profit Get Up and D.O.I.T! The program provides mentoring for young women ages 13-19.

Congratulations to Michael McCormick for being promoted to Assistant Director of Early Intervention!

Congratulations to Joshua Fazio for being promoted to Supervisor of Operations and Facilities!

Births

Congratulations to Patty Coyle for welcoming a grandson on March 14!
Caroline Duda is the Director of Human Resources for the DCIU. Caroline was born and raised in Southern Lancaster County, on the Chester County line. She is married to Dave and they have one fur baby, Jake (an orange tabby). Caroline and Dave recently moved to Downingtown to split the difference between his work in Lancaster and her work at Morton.

Caroline enjoys spending time with friends and family, loves traveling, and is an avid Philadelphia Eagles and Michigan Wolverines fan. Caroline has spent her entire career in Human Resources in PA Public Ed, and is thoroughly enjoying her time at DCIU!

Guess Who

Time to guess again! Can you guess the administrator in this photo? He or he will be featured in our next Staff profile!

Click HERE to take your guess.
Health and Wellness

Time to DISCONNECT

Smart phones, and the distractions that come with them, are here to stay. But remember that you control how much digital media you let into your life and you can reduce your dependency with a little effort! A few tips to get started:

Out of Sight, Out of Mind
Working on a deadline or need to focus on a project? Silence your phone (or shut it off), and keep it out of sight until you decide to take a break. If you’re worried about missing something important, set a recurring alarm and briefly check your phone for notifications every 30-45 minutes.

Delete Apps and Unsubscribe from Emails
Next, take it a step further and “de-app” your phone and your inbox like you might de-clutter your room. It’s easy to get in the habit of checking certain sites and receiving emails or newsletters without really questioning why. If something has become a chore you don’t even enjoy, liberate yourself and delete the app or unsubscribe!

Adjust or Mute Specific Notifications
Go to your phone’s Settings and shut off notifications for any non-essential apps: games, podcasts, shopping apps, etc. You don’t need to interrupt your day with push notifications that you forget about right after you read them.

Set Some Rules and Log Off for Real
Unless you must be available for a specific emergency or important event, it’s okay to step away from your phone and focus on the here and now. It also helps to start with a few specific rules, such as eliminating screens:
• Two hours before bedtime.
• When spending time with friends and family.
• For specific blocks of time during the weekend.