In This Issue

Upcoming Events

Department Spotlight:
Early Childhood Education

Our first Staff Profile and many program events and highlights!
A Message from the Executive Director

The holidays are upon us and it’s hard not to fall into the excitement of the season! November was a busy month as always with American Education Week and various events across all programs. I’d like to welcome the new principal at our Folcroft campus, Mr Daniel Palmer. The DCIU is excited and privileged to have him join our team. As we head into Winter Break, I wish you and your loved ones a very Happy Holidays and relaxing and joyous break!

Maria Edelberg, Ed.DA
Executive Director, DCIU
Upcoming Events

DCIU Job Fair
January 10, 2019 | 4 PM – 7 PM
DCIU Conference Center – Morton

The Job Fair will feature 13 school districts with full time and part time opportunities. Click HERE to register.

Coffee with the Exec
December 10, 2018 | 8 AM
Madison Regional Head Start
January 7, 2019 | 8 AM
Chester Township High School
January 14, 2019 | 7:30 AM
Sharon Hill EI; 8 AM High School

Please Join Dr. Maria Edelberg for coffee and conversation!

Guest Teacher Program
January 3–4, 2019
DCIU Morton

A Training Program for individuals seeking certification for substitute teaching! Apply at www.dciu.org/GuestTeacher

Google CS First Workshop
December 12, 2019 | 9 AM – 3 PM
DCIU Morton, Room 154

DCIU and Google are offering this free professional development workshop for educators to learn about computer science curriculums! Register at bit.ly/CSFirst1212

Instructional Leadership Speaker Series
December 17–18, 2018 | 8:30AM – 3:30PM
DCIU Morton Conference Center

A great opportunity for teachers to learn best practices for leadership in the classroom! Click HERE to register.

The PASCD Evaluation Leadership Academy
January 11 | February 12 | March 12
8:30AM – 3:30AM | DCIU Morton

The PASCD Evaluation Academy targets administrators who have an interest in gaining knowledge of effective teacher evaluation. Register at www.pascd.org.
As Early Intervention educators continue to forge new and advanced learning paths in the classroom, they also seek the counsel of colleagues in their field in order to stay informed on best practices and techniques when educating students and their families. In an effort to facilitate this desire for continued learning, the DCIU Early Intervention program, in conjunction with Neumann University, hosted an Early Intervention Conference on November 3rd.

The conference was held at Neumann University and featured presentations and workshops from educators across the region. Presenters and attendees were not only from Delaware County, but also Philadelphia and Montgomery County as well. With approximately 150 attendees, the conference was very well received and was a wonderful opportunity for educators to connect with others in their field. A full day of sessions ensured attendees experienced a variety of topics as well as hearing from many different personnel in Early Intervention. Outside of the presentations, there were vendors providing different supplies and literature for teachers.

The conference was the first of its kind for the DCIU Early Intervention staff and proved to be a successful way for educators to learn and connect regarding common concerns. One of the major focuses was on building communication skills with parents and maximizing the information parents receive and retain through educating them as well. The conference also provided educators the tools and resources to share this information with parents that may not be familiar with the field and are new to these classrooms. Teachers find that when parents are equipped with the proper referrals and resources, it provides students with a smoother transition and acclimation to their programs.

Early Invention staff recognize that emotional support extends beyond the classroom. This conference was a wonderful way to highlight the many ways that a community can provide emotional support for young children using the proper procedures. Extending this education the family is an important step in a child’s growth in the classroom and on an emotional level. The Early Education staff is excited by the success of the conference and looks forward to future opportunities to educate the community!
On Monday, November 5, TCA raised $550 for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, to be donated to the Susan G.A Komen National Foundation. Participating staff donated ten dollars each for themselves and an additional ten dollars to sponsor a student in the First Annual Staff vs Student Baggo Tournament.

Eighteen teams comprised of both students and staff competed in the tournament. Competition was intense as students and faculty contended in single game elimination. In the student final a sophomore team ultimately defeated a junior team in a passionate game that had to be extended into two extra frames. Their forceful play was not enough however, to defeat staff champions Mike Davis and William Cruice, who held on to claim the overall title.

On Monday, November 19, TCA held a Trauma presentation for students led by presenters who are experts in the field of Trauma Informed Care. The presentation was an opportunity for students to discuss stress, adversity, and trauma with one another and learn techniques to cope with these feelings.

Students worked in groups with the goal of understanding the impact of trauma using specific examples they experience in their own lives or that they have seen in the community. The students made safety plans for when they are feeling triggered or overwhelmed. They shared their own techniques for handling stress, including deep breathing, playing sports, and listening to music. The presenters also had students give examples of external resources when they are overwhelmed. Many students agreed that a supportive adult that listens and understands is an important coping resource.

Thanksgiving at TCA
The students, staff, and a few DCIU administrators enjoyed a Thanksgiving meal together on November 21 at TCA. Kudos to the chef and students for a delightful meal!
International Festival

On Wednesday, November 21st, the Low Incidence Program students participated in an International Festival that introduced them to the cultures and customs of Italy, Germany, Jamaica, and South Korea.

Each class "traveled" to a new "country" classroom where they made crafts, ate local cuisine, and learned vocabulary words in a new language. Students crafted face masks and enjoyed jerk chicken in Jamaica; decorated paper plates of spaghetti and enjoyed pasta in Italy; colored booklets and tried kimchi in South Korea, and created flags and ate sausage and sauerkraut in Germany. After the lessons, students had their passports stamped and packed their suitcase with their new crafts.

Haverford Life Skills

The Best Buddies Trip to Owen J. Roberts Fall Fest on October 24th was a chilly, yet enjoyable occasion. Peer buddies from many different high schools came together to spend time with one another and enjoy the many activities offered, including playing games and making crafts.
Making Muffins

On November 29th, Early Intervention students had an opportunity to learn how to make muffins with the help of the DCTS Culinary Arts program. Students were taught the process of baking and with the assistance of their teachers, scooped the muffin mix into the tin pans and were able to enjoy the finished product! The students also played with the toy kitchen set which helped them engage with kitchen items and learn their different uses in cooking and baking. They even had their own chef hats!

STEM Saturdays

Students in grades 3-5 and 6-8 had a blast at DCIU STEM Saturday on November 3. Students had the opportunity to participate in educational gaming that challenged them to build their own video games to solve real world problems.

Students had access to technology devices available through the DCIU STEM Lending Library and learned how to bridge coding and programming with physical computing through the use of tools like Ozobots, Makey Makey, Spheros and more.
EPS Mock Crash

On November 20th, DCTS Folcroft held a mock crash demonstration presented by the Emergency and Protective Services Program.

Police Department, Fire Department, and EMT officials from the region all assisted in the demonstration that provided the students with comprehensive insight into the strategy and training required to handle such situations. The crash included DUI actors and the officers explained the procedures used when vehicle collisions occur between two parties. The emergency personnel did a great job emphasizing the impact reckless or drunk driving can have.

Holiday Cards for Veterans

The Aston Township Parks and Recreation Committee along with the Rockdale Art Center collect items for care packages to be distributed to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Coatesville, PA. In addition, there is a Card Writing Campaign to offer holiday wishes to Veterans during this season.

On November 28, DCTS Aston students took the time to make cards that will be included in the care packages. Students got creative and wrote inspiring messages to uplift veterans this holiday season.
American Education Week Luncheon

On Friday, November 16 the DCIU hosted its annual American Education Week Luncheon. The DCIU invites superintendents, assistant superintendents, School Board presidents, and Teacher's Association presidents to join this luncheon and celebrate the achievements in education of the past year.

This year all fifteen Delaware County school districts were represented and enjoyed a presentation by the keynote speaker, Mr. Michael Robinson. Mr. Robinson is the Director of Community Outreach and Hiring at Temple University and provided an exciting speech on building your brand of education and the impact education has on our future. Attendees also enjoyed artwork provided by the students of Southeast Delco school district and music by the Penn Wood High School Jazz Band.
In our last issue, we featured a baby photo for staff to guess which administrator would be featured in our first Staff Profile. The majority of you guessed correctly- Dr. Maria Edelberg!

Having been with DCIU for nearly 28 years, in a variety of positions, in October 2015 Dr. Edelberg was named Executive Director. Dr. Edelberg began her career at DCIU in 1990 as a teacher at the Community School starting the Intensive Emotional Support program. She also spent three years in Early Intervention teaching preschoolers during summer Extended School. Dr. Edelberg held positions as Supervisor of Special Education, Assistant Director of Special Programs, Director of Special Programs, and Assistant Executive Director.

Dr. Edelberg received her Doctorate, Educational Leadership from Immaculata University in 2012, her PA Letter of Eligibility Certification in 2008 and her Principal Certification in 2009. She also earned her Supervisor of Special Education Certification from Penn State University in 1999, her Master of Education in Special Education in 1989 from West Chester University and her Bachelor's Degree in Special Education in 1984 from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Edelberg has a wealth of knowledge about special education and the IU, and is fully vested in and committed to moving the IU forward, and continuing to provide the highest quality service in order to meet the needs of the school districts, communities, parents, and students that we have the privilege of serving.

Guess Who

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

Take your guess.
Vanessa McAndrews welcomed her son, Jaxson Ryan on October 29. Congratulations!

In Remembrance

Kathryn E. Macaulay, “Kate,” age 56, of Glen Riddle, PA, and Wildwood, NJ, passed away on Friday, November 16, 2018 with her loving family by her side. Kate was a teacher for 18 years at the Delaware County Technical School. Kate enjoyed all things musical, especially singing. She was an avid Harry Potter fan and was overjoyed when she would visit Universal Studios. Kate enjoyed spending time at her shore house and was devoted to her family and cherished spending time with them. She had a special place in her heart for her fur baby, Lily.

A celebration of Kate’s life will be held on Sunday, December 16th from 2:00-6:00PM at the Delaware Veterans Post #1, 2535 Veterans Drive Wilmington, DE 19810.

Suzanne Mallaghan-Rasco, a School Psychologist in the Non-Public Program of Pupil Services of DCIU, participated in an International Dragon Boat Race in Florence, Italy in July 2018. Suzanne is a member of the Hope Afloat Dragon Boat Team in Philadelphia. It is a team composed entirely of Breast Cancer survivors. The team practices throughout the year and has moved up a division within the past year. Out of 126A international teams, Hope Afloat came in 26th! All on the team enjoyed racing and visiting Italy!
Welcome!

Please welcome our newest DCIU staff members!
- Heather Stottlemyer, Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Learning (CIPL)
- Sydney Tassone, CIPL
- Brittany Reid, Head Start
- LaToya Sparks, Head Start
- Aaliyah Hughes, Head Start

New Folcroft Principal Appointed

The DCIU welcomes Mr. Daniel Palmer to his new role as the Principal at DCTS Folcroft! Mr. Palmer began on December 3rd after almost five years as the Assistant Principal at Sun Valley High School in Aston. Mr. Palmer said it is his goal to continue and build upon the rich tradition at the vocational and technical school in preparing Delaware County’s students for the next phase of their lives, whether it be career or continued education.

Mr. Palmer shares, “I am very grateful and honored to be selected as the new vocational and technical school principal and am truly excited to work with the great students from across the county and the fantastic school staff,” Palmer continued. “I am eager to contribute my twenty years of educational knowledge and experience, while also learning a tremendous amount from the teachers and staff.”

A Birthday Treat

Thank you to Erin Sparicio, Early Childhood teacher at DCTS Folcroft, for surprising her student Jannah with a birthday cake this past month! It was a very special treat that lifted the spirit of her student. Happy birthday Jannah!
As great as it is, the holiday season is also a bit of an assault on your health. Busy schedules make it difficult to exercise or cook healthy meals; good-natured co-workers, friends and family offer more homemade snacks and treats; holiday parties overflow with savory sides, sugary desserts and alcohol; and the stress of family gatherings can sap the energy needed to leap over these obstacles.

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**Keep your routine**
Regular sleep, exercise and diet will help you feel in control and have a massive — and entirely positive—impact on your stress level.

**Admit when you need support**
There’s never shame in feeling overwhelmed. Stress-related health issues are known to spike when our schedules are hectic and new stressors are introduced. If you need to take a break or get some help, do so!

**Know your budget**
Extra rounds of drinks and bursts of generosity add up in a hurry. Determine how much you’re willing to spend in advance and stick to your decision!

**Don’t over-schedule**
Overextending yourself doesn’t do anyone any favors. Keep the peace and enjoy your time with friends and family by only agreeing to take on assignments you know you can handle.