In This Issue

📅 Upcoming Events
💰 EFinance Update
公网,A
Department Spotlight
⏰ Communication Survey Results
A Message from the Executive Director

It's hard to believe we are already heading into the holiday season! Each and every one of our programs have been working hard and are relentless in their goals this year. As we approach Thanksgiving, I am thankful for all of the dedication and passion each of you bring to the DCIU.

Maria Edelberg, Ed.D
Executive Director, DCIU

Contents

03 Upcoming Events
04 Department Spotlight: Guest Teacher Program
05 Head Start
06 DCTS Events
07 EFinance Update
08 Wawa Autism Field Day
09 Marple Activities
10 Communications Survey Results
11 Staff Celebrations
12 Guess Who
13 Health and Wellness

REMINDER

The Food Drive deadline is November 16. Please bring in your non-perishable food items by that date so we can make sure families across Delaware County will enjoy a happy and hunger-free holiday season! The DCIU partners with the Delaware County Council, Department of Human Services, Department of Intercommunity Health, and Magellan Behavioral Health of PA to host this Food Drive. The organization with the least amount of food collected will get to see a member of their team dress up in a turkey costume! Be sure to participate in this charitable and fun Food Drive!
**Upcoming Events**

**Coffee with the Exec**  
November 12 | 7:00AM | Folcroft  
December 3  | 7:30AM | Marple  
Please join Dr. Maria Edelberg for coffee and conversation. Stay tuned for more dates and locations.

**ELECT Teen Parent and Family Forum**  
November 14, 2018 | 5:00 - 7:30PM  
Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital Auditorium  
Calling all ELECT students to bring their children, parents, or guardians to this special event focused on keeping families on track beyond high school! Please call 610-532-2811 to register by 11/9.

**Computer Science Education Week**  
December 3-9, 2018  
Stay tuned for DCIU programs' involvement in CSEW and visit www.csedweek.org for ideas and activities!
The Guest Teacher Program is a service DCIU offers to our local school districts to address the shortage of substitute teachers that many are facing. The program provides expedited evidence-based teacher preparation training to individuals with limited or no teaching experience in order to equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to serve as substitute teachers. Any individual with a bachelor’s degree (in any content area) from an accredited university is eligible to apply to participate in the program.

Upon completion of the program and receipt of their Type 6 Emergency certification from Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), each participant will be eligible to serve as a substitute teacher with any district participating in the DCIU Guest Teacher Consortium. Currently, there are eight school districts in Delaware County who participate in this consortium. The eight school districts include Marple Newtown, Upper Darby, Garnet Valley, Radnor, Rose Tree Media, Chichester, Southeast-Delco and Springfield. Participants of the program are also eligible to substitute teach in DCIU programs as well.

The most recent training program was held on October 29th and 30th and had seventeen participants. Over the course of the two day training, the participants were instructed by various education experts and received comprehensive training to prepare them for teaching. Trainings included focus on communication, cultural awareness, and recognizing and responding to behaviors. Many participants found the program to be very helpful and were very happy that it was offered. Alice, a participant who had heard of the program through a friend who is a daycare Director, said she really enjoyed the program and would recommend it to others.

The next training is scheduled for Thursday, January 3rd and Friday, January 4th.
**Madison Miracle Marchers**

On Friday, October 29th, the Head Start Madison students marched for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. While many other students their age could be found parading in Halloween costumes that day, these Head Start students were adorned in handmade signs and chanting "Fight On!" as they marched down the block.

Their teachers were in the spirit as well. Photographed below is Lisa Rideout holding the HOPE blanket she hand made.

**Fire Prevention Week**

Sharon Hill fire station hosted Head Start classrooms for Fire Prevention Week which began October 7th. Students were taught how to stop, drop, and roll, and what to do in an emergency. Ms. Monica of Room 1 even put on the firefighter gear! Each student was able to practice what they were taught so that they are prepared during a fire.
Tech Fest

On October 27, DCTS hosted its annual Tech Fest at Springfield Mall. The event was an opportunity for students and families to explore careers in technical education. This year the turn out was great and attendees loved the interactive experience that each program provided. They were able to hear first-hand from other students the details of each program and what their training entailed. Most DCTS programs were present at Tech Fest, ensuring attendees got a taste for everything DCTS has to offer!

Fall High School Counselors Breakfast

Delaware County Technical High Schools hosted a Fall High School Counselors breakfast on Thursday, October 18 at the Folcroft campus. School counselors from Delaware County school districts enjoyed a delicious breakfast prepared by the Culinary Arts and Hospitality students under the supervision of Chef Michael Fedeli, Culinary Arts Instructor.

Some highlights included a presentation by Dr. Linda Lomas, DCTS Supervisor of Student Services, reviewing the Future Ready Index requirements. Mr. Ronald Contrady, Principal of the Aston Campus highlighted the new Biomedical and Laboratory Sciences program and the implementation of the Project Lead the Way Curriculum. Ms. Megan Hanna presented information about dual enrollment opportunities with Delaware County Community College for students in the Auto Technology program.
EFinance Update

Over the last week, we received emails regarding the upgrade of the EFinance v5.2 (Pentamation) system. Below are some important updates:

1. All daily users of Pentamation should have access the new version of EFinance. While the login looks slightly different, most staff will notice little difference in their day to day use of the product.

2. All staff has access to Employee Access Center and the Mobile App for leave request and all other functions.

3. Staff will not be able to utilize the old version of the App. Once you update to the new app, end users of Leave Request will not experience any further impact from the upgrade on 10/26.

Work will continue over the next few weeks to update the workflow process in Employee Leave Request. Once the new workflow is built the Silverlight issue encountered by several internet browsers will be eliminated and approvals will be able to be completed within the App. Additional approval features will also be available in Employee Access Center to streamline the approval process. Once these updates are complete, a training guide and video will be developed and distributed to supervisors so they can share with staff.
On October 14, Wawa held its Annual Autism Field Day at the Rocky Run YMCA. The event is hosted each year in an effort to raise money for the DCIU and CCIU autism programs. Activities are organized by the wonderful Wawa managers and staff and include games, basket raffles, and 50/50 drawings.

This year the Low Incidence Program staff participated and was successful in helping to raise $2,147.00 for the DCIU! The proceeds came from the money raised through the basket raffles and 50/50 drawings. We are so grateful for the staff that participated in this event including field team members Jennifer Bathe, Jacob Haldeman, Brian Dunbar, Verona Stern, Kayla Kishbaugh, and Nicole Campbell, and volunteers Vanessa McAndrews, Maryanne Regan, and Susan Brousseau.

Thank you to all of those who participated in this event!
Philadelphia Zoo on Wheels Visits Marple

On Friday, October 5th, the Philadelphia Zoo on Wheels program visited the Marple Education Center (MEC). The Zoo on Wheels Program emphasizes the importance of cultivating empathy and connecting with animals. This program supported the students at MEC, who have been learning about animal ecosystems.

This interactive program shared some interesting animal facts and the presenters brought a few animals to show. The students were able to see a chinchilla, turtle, dove, and even a Madagascar hissing cockroach! Students were able to touch artifacts from the zoo, including a turtle shell and a snow leopard pelt. The students had a great time while learning many interesting facts about animals!

Halloween Fun

The Marple Education Center held a Halloween parade for students on October 31st. It was a beautiful day as the students enjoyed walking through school and parking lot dressed in their costumes.

A big thank you to Joe Flynn for organizing a special treat for the parents and teachers at MEC after the parade! Staff enjoyed celebrating Halloween themselves with the sweets and beverages.
Communication Survey Results

DCIU conducted a survey last year to give all employees an opportunity to provide feedback about internal communications practices at DCIU as an organization. Of the 923 people who received the survey, 338 responded (37 percent). Thank you to everyone who took time out of their busy day to openly share your thoughts and ideas. We know we asked a lot of questions, and we're grateful so many of you provided thoughtful feedback.

What We Learned

- Respondents felt that this survey was a good start, as it shows DCIU recognizes the importance of improving communication within the organization. Some suggested that it would be useful to get employees involved in the next steps to improve communication.
- Communication at DCIU could be more interactive and less narrative.
- Having more frequent staff and building meetings would help to keep everyone more informed as some expressed a desire for increased communication with their administrators.
- STARS and the Employee Recognition Dinner are good ways to recognize employees, but respondents also would like to see additional opportunities for recognition.
- The website has improved but could still stand to be more user-friendly.

What We're Doing

- Increased opportunities to communicate staff recognition and accomplishments including features on social media and in the DCIU Update newsletter
- Interactive communication and information sharing including:
  - Video Shorts Series focusing on the work of our various programs, services and individuals so that we can all learn more about other programs
  - Coffee with the Exec-informal meet and greet sessions with Dr. Maria Edelberg; to get to know her and each other and to talk about concerns, ask questions and receive updates

Please continue to share your celebrations and accomplishments, thoughts and ideas with us by contacting Theresa Marsden at tmarsden@dciu.org.
Staff Celebrations!

Births
• Sandy Butler welcomed her great grandson Samad and great granddaughter Leah!

Engagements
• Congrats to Tashia Crift on her recent engagement!
• Congrats to Adriene Irving on her son's recent engagement!

Welcome
Please welcome our newest DCIU staff members!
• Susan Brousseau, Student Services
• Nailah Harper, Early Head Start/Head Start
• Erin Velardi, OPTIONS
• Michael Cantlin, Intermediate Unit
• Theresa Marsden, Intermediate Unit
• Matthew Martin, Student Services
• Christine Samarin, Student Services
• Nicole Siering, Student Services
• Helene DePrinzio, Early Head Start/Head Start
• Benjamin Fountain, Intermediate Unit
• Jacob Haldeman, Student Services
• Louis Mobley, Intermediate Unit
• Samantha Osbourne, Teaching, Learning, and Innovation
Can you guess the administrator in this photo? DCIU Update will begin featuring staff profiles, and what better way than to get a baby photo preview each month! Take the survey below to guess and check in next month to see who this administrator is and learn more about them!

Take your guess here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3TMVJDP
What is Metabolic Syndrome?

The term metabolic syndrome is more and more common these days, but not everyone knows what it means. That’s why, this month, we’re focusing exclusively on issues surrounding this topic. But first things first—here’s a definition:

• “Metabolic” refers to biochemical processes that keep your body functioning normally and “syndrome” is a group of related symptoms.
• Simply put, “metabolic syndrome” is the name for a group of risk factors that increase your odds of developing serious health problems such as coronary heart disease, diabetes and stroke.

Your November Activity: Know Your Risk Factors

1. A large, round waistline. Excess fat around the stomach is a bigger predictor of coronary heart disease than excess fat stored in other parts of the body.
2. High triglyceride levels. Your body converts calories it can’t immediately use into triglycerides, which are a type of fat found in the blood. High levels also lead to coronary heart disease.
3. Low HDL cholesterol levels. The so-called “good” cholesterol, HDL actually helps remove cholesterol from your arteries. That means a low HDL cholesterol level can lead to clogged arteries and coronary heart.
4. High blood pressure. Blood pressure is a measure of the force of your blood pushing against the walls of your arteries as your heart pumps. High blood pressure can be a sign of tension or abnormal stress, and if it stays high over time, it can damage your heart.
5. High fasting blood sugar. Even mildly high blood sugar could be an early indicator of diabetes.