

Colonial Reporter

News from the Colonial School District • Fall 2018



COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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From the Superintendent's Office

By Dr. D. Dusty Blakey
Superintendent

Happy New Year!!! As we begin the 2018-2019 school year, it is a perfect time to reflect on a few of the accomplishments of the school year that just ended. We are excited to share updates on our existing programs and initiatives that will continue to strengthen "Colonial Nation." In this edition, we will continue to tell our story; one that highlights great news about our staff as well as proudly acknowledge recognitions of the many outstanding things happening throughout our district. Most importantly, we will continue to focus our efforts on providing all of our students with access to cutting-edge programming, as well as the opportunity to experience a well-rounded education.

We are committed to providing all students with access to their basic needs as well as provide them with rigorous and relevant learning experiences. Additionally, we are committed to keeping up with current and future trends in education, researching the ever-changing 21st century educational and employment demands, and developing meaningful business and community partnerships that enhance the educational experience and connect our students to the school and community. For example, this past school year, the George Read Middle School culinary arts team catered thirty-two events. They also teamed with the William Penn High School culinary program to provide scrumptious desserts for several events catered by their program. These opportunities provide our students the ability to directly apply the knowledge learned in class to real world events spawning the entrepreneurial spirit in both programs.

Additionally, the Colonial School District continues to be a leader throughout the state and nation in nutrition services. This past spring our Nutrition Services Supervisor, Paula Angelucci was recognized in Washington, D. C. by the School Nutrition Foundation as one of five national school nutrition heroes. Additionally, it is through her stewardship that our district, for the first time, is able to provide every student with a free breakfast and lunch. This program is paid for through the use of federal dollars based upon the number of meals served annually. Our district has also been recognized throughout the state as a leader in the

summer feeding program. The summer feeding program helps support our families' meal needs by providing meals within our community during the summer months to help close any food insecurities within the community. These programs, along with the produce grown by our Penn Farm students, provide our community with food all year long as well as provide our students an opportunity to learn about the power and importance of healthy eating and the benefits of good nutrition.

Lastly, did you know that William Penn Construction makes guitars? Construction teacher Mac Emerson and his construction program can now produce made-to-order guitars. A prototype guitar is on display at the Colonial School District Offices. For a nominal fee, the students can design the buyer a unique guitar that sounds better than one purchased at your local music store. Besides guitars, our high school construction program manufactures sheds, furniture and more. Why purchase from chain stores when you can buy direct from William Penn Construction and support our students and their program?

These programs are just a small example of the great things happening in Colonial. The 2018-2019 school year will continue to offer new and exciting opportunities for our students and families. As we begin this new year, our biggest initiative will focus on enhancing school safety and security. Recognizing the need for increased attention to school security, Colonial has hired five new armed constables to provide an additional layer of security for our secondary schools. Constables are retired law enforcement officials that are employed by the district and legally have many of the same rights as police officers. They will assist building administrators and School Resource Officers (SRO's) by building positive relationships with students and staff, determining safety protocol and conducting safety drills, monitoring school buildings and grounds, and serving as first responders in emergency situations. Currently, our constables are located in all of our secondary schools with additional coverage to assigned elementary schools.

Additionally, we are using one-time state security dollars, recently passed in the governor's budget, to purchase cameras for schools as well as communication devices throughout the district. We have already upgraded the cameras at William Penn. Soon, we will begin to redeploy the former Penn cameras as well as purchase new cameras for each school within the district. We are working with our lead constable and a security firm to develop a plan for camera placement and distribution for each school. The safety and security of our students and staff is our number one priority. We are continuously looking for ways to improve school safety within our schools. As a reminder, school secretaries should ask all adults picking up children for identification. Additionally, other protocol used to limit access into our schools may be employed throughout the district. Please know that these protocols are for your safety and for the safety of our students and staff. We can never take the safety of our schools and community for granted. But, all that we do cannot take the place of vigilance as a community. We ask parents to please monitor your child's social media accounts and activities, as well as talk to them about the importance of saying something if they notice anything unusual or out of the ordinary. Together, we can continue to make our schools a great place for learning and fun.

Colonial Benefits from Federally Subsidized Programs

Paula Angelucci
Supervisor, Nutrition Services

As the Supervisor of the Nutrition Services Division for the Colonial School District, I am extremely excited to announce that all students in the district will now receive free breakfast, lunch, and snacks thanks to a program subsidized by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) this school year! In the past, all schools except Gunning Bedford Middle School and William Penn High School met the federal requirements, but now, based on new calculations of homeless and needy students, all Colonial schools qualify for the free healthy meals prepared by our dedicated staff of nutrition services workers.

Last school year, 8,000 lunches and 6,000 breakfasts were served daily; that number is expected to increase by 10% this school year, that's an estimated 600-800 additional meals per day. The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 makes the universal meal service possible and eliminates the need for families to enroll for free or reduced meals.

Studies have shown how essential it is to fuel the mind with healthy, nutritious food. Simply put, hungry kids do not learn. If a student comes to school who did not eat the night before that child will be thinking more about when their next meal is, not focusing on their academics. At Colonial, our students start their day with a grab and go breakfast and have access to free healthy snacks like fruit or yogurt. Another federally subsidized program also allows us to serve free supper to student-athletes and others who stay after school for various clubs and activities.

Thanks to the Food Bank of Delaware, Colonial will continue its backpack program. This program allows the district to discreetly stuff the backpacks of 1,500 children identified as nutritionally fragile with enough food for the weekend or scheduled days off from school.

Students can still purchase additional meals and a la carte items like cookies, juices, and baked chips.

School gardens, another program supported through federal grants, not only teach children the science behind growing food, but gives them a new appreciation for the produce they harvest. Penn Farm, run by our students at the high school and supported by visiting students from our elementary and middle schools, also supplies our cafeterias with fresh produce. Our students are trying foods they've never had before like kale chips, and are discovering veggies really are good! In addition, our federally subsidized Summer Feeding Program is still in place. It allows us to offer free meals to children in the district and meals at a reduced cost to adults when school is out of session. The combination of all of these services ensures that Colonial's 10,000 students are provided with healthy meals all-year long.

Our Nutrition Services Division is proud of the holistic approach taken by this district to care for the nutritional needs of each and every student, and we thank the USDA for its financial support.



Colonial's Summer Feeding Program

With hot dogs straight off of the grill, hamburgers, and all of the fixings, Colonial hosted its first Annual WEBQ, a kick-off of the Summer Feeding Program. The federally subsidized program is run by the district's Nutrition Services Division which prepared more than 32,000 meals last summer. The free meals are served at various locations throughout the district to children under the age of 18, and at a nominal fee for adults.

"Hunger doesn't take a break over the summer," said Nicete Moodie, a representative of the American Dairy Association. The association sponsored the cook-out that featured face-painting, kid-friendly activities and of course, lots of ice cold milk! While the free meal and beverages were a big attraction, the biggest of all were two special guests. Former Ravens player Qadry Ismail and former Eagles player Jason Avant signed autographs, tossed some footballs and got the kids moving with fun, physical activities.

"I want kids to recognize the importance of being active and also eating healthy so they can increase their brain function and make better decisions and live healthier lives," said Avant. This school year 12 of the 14 schools in Colonial served free

breakfast and lunch, but next year all schools will implement the program. According to the Nutrition Services Division, 57% of Colonial's students experience some type of food insecurity which heightens during the summer months when school is out. Sharon Hughart, a mother of four, said she appreciates the Summer Feeding Program and all that Colonial does to make certain children receive nutritious meals, especially over the summer break.

"I think it's awesome! It costs a lot of money to feed kids during the summertime and knowing you can take them to get a good meal is very helpful," Hughart said. Robin Crossan, newly elected member of the Colonial Board of Education, is a former teacher and applauds the District for its Summer Feeding Program.

"It's good for the community. I think everyone benefits who participates and Colonial is doing a great job helping people in real situations."



Getting a Taste of Colonial

Colonial's award-winning Nutrition Services Division continues to attract national and international attention. Pictured are visitors from Ghana, Liberia, Mozambique, Nigeria and other parts of Africa, along with Central American visitors from El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Nicaragua. All came to learn more about Colonial's outstanding farm to school, mobile feeding, and Penn Farm projects, among other programs that benefit students and their families in the district.



Market Day at Wilbur

There are plenty of business-savvy students at Wilbur Elementary School thanks to a program initiated by the University of Delaware’s Center of Economic Education and Entrepreneurship. Fourth-grade students created their own society, complete with a name, a flag, and a currency. The currency, dubbed liberty bucks by the students isn’t real, but the lessons learned about making and selling products are, especially on Market Day when fellow students, their families, and staff use liberty bucks to purchase hand-made goods by those in the society.

“There are so many skills they pick up, and they become so engaged,” said Bonnie Meszaros from the University of Delaware. Meszaros trained Wilbur teacher Erin Boettcher about the program designed to help children learn about economic concepts like supply and demand. The students earn the currency by practicing good behavior which is recorded on a point system, something the students also created. Boettcher said many students learned through failures just like real entrepreneurs and had to make adjustments to their mini-businesses. Mark Caserta and his partner made pet rocks and soon figured out which were the top sellers and which weren’t.

“We made duplicates of the sharks because they were selling pretty well and I thought unicorns would be good for the girls and that’s selling really nice so those are our top two,” Caserta said.

Amy Caserta, who also teaches at Wilbur said she’s glad her son Mark and his twin brother Jason are gaining an understanding of business economics and good behavior at the tender age of ten.

Jake DiGennaro and his partner made and sold bracelets for \$2, but decided to charge \$3 for their top seller, bracelets made with a camouflage design.

“It shows us that you need teamwork and you need enough products to sell...it’s very fun and it teaches you skills you’ll use later on,” DiGennaro said.

Boettcher says the year-long program is filled with lots of fun, teachable moments and says, “To be honest, one of the greatest benefits is they enjoy doing it; for them, it’s their favorite part of the day!”



Colonial’s Rising Star

The movie Black Panther is a blockbuster hit, and one Colonial second-grader can boast that she helped promote the record-breaking movie. Tiana Sirmans has appeared three times on ABC’s Good Morning America (GMA) Show with stars of the movie. Her first appearance with a group of other children dressed in costumes and movie paraphernalia was with lead actor Chadwick Boseman. “It was amazing because we got to meet the actual Black Panther and I got touched on the shoulder by him so I was really happy!” the Pleasantville student said. Even though Tiana is only seven years old, she’s already considering performing arts or broadcasting as career options. While backstage at the studio she jumped at the opportunity to get some one-on-one time with GMA’s Robin Roberts. “I asked her if there were some tips she could give me because sometimes I get nervous when I’m doing stuff like that. She told me I just need to practice more talking into the camera and she said she had the same problem when she was little,” Tiana said.

Pleasantville Principal Jennifer Alexander is not at all surprised that Tiana was tenacious enough to stop the GMA anchor when she spotted her in the hallway backstage. “Tiana is a go-getter. She is one of those students who you just know will be successful at whatever she aspires to do,” Alexander said.

Tiana became a regular at GMA after modeling during fashion week in New York in September of 2017. That’s when her mother connected with the show’s recruiter for kids’s segments and Tiana has been making regular treks to GMA ever since. Tiffany Sirmans says she was thrilled when her daughter met Boseman, but was even more thrilled with her second GMA appearance with actress Dania Guria. Guria plays a powerful general in the movie based on a Marvel comic book series. “It’s great for little girls to see a movie on this level that shows women in such strong positions. I always teach Tiana that as a young lady she should always know her worth in life and that she has a voice and should not be afraid to use it,” Sirmans said.

It’s a lesson Tiana has gravitated to saying she outgrew her favorite sweater that had “Girls Always Win” written on it but “I actually think girls can do anything they want to.” It looks like this Pleasantville student can and will do just that; she will continue being a regular on GMA whenever children are needed. She has already been booked for a GMA segment with Chelsea Clinton who will be promoting a new book. “I always want her to feel confident that whatever her goals are in life, she can achieve them,” her mother said. It looks like Tiana Sirman’s journey from Colonial Nation to the Big Apple is just the beginning of her promising journey, one that she’ll always remember now that Black Panther is slated to be an iconic hit on the silver screen for generations to come.



“Operation Rest Easy”

What started out as a social studies lesson on the state of Delaware back in May turned into a building-wide community service project at Wilbur Elementary School. Teacher Angel Cassetta wanted her students to do a community service project that would impact the lives of impoverished children, so she did a little research. Cassetta learned about an organization called the Northern Star Children’s Foundation, Inc. that gives new pillows, towels, and washcloths to local homeless children. After partnering with the foundation, the Delaware City, and Christina Fire companies, “Operation Rest Easy” was born. The fire companies promoted the drive and collected donations at their stations, while Wilbur did a drive of its own.

“It just took off. I really thought we’d have a handful we could put in a trunk but we needed trucks!” said Cassetta.

Wilbur students alone donated more than 700 new pillows, along with wash cloths and towels, while teachers donated \$125. The generous donations brought tears to the eyes of Laurie Smith, The Delaware president of the foundation.

“It made me emotional because I’ve lived the life of homelessness as a child and I know how much little things can make a big difference. The partnership that our program was able to make with Wilbur is just great because it shows how so many people care about the kids,” said Smith.

Students counted and sorted the donations and were proud of their work. “I think it’s important because we have all that stuff in our home that we take for granted and they (homeless children) don’t have any of that,” said Parker Galiardo. Yasmine Wright agreed adding, “I think it’s really good that our teachers are teaching us at a young age that it’s important to give back to our community.”

Students like Hannah Truong felt especially good about the community service project because she liked the idea of children helping children.

“These kids deserve to feel good going to school in the morning,” Truong said. Who knows what Wilbur’s students will do this coming school year. In December students took the lead in a district-wide service project called “Batteries for the Battered,” with 7000 batteries and hurricane lamps sent to hurricane victims in Puerto Rico. Principal Beth Howell says “Operation Rest Easy” also was another demonstration of kindness and generosity that is an integral part of the culture at Wilbur. “Our students and staff never cease to amaze me when it comes to helping others and that makes me extremely proud,” Howell said.





Message from the Board President

By Ted Laws
President, Colonial Board of Education

This school year not only means new beginnings for our students, but also new beginnings for the Colonial Board of Education. Three new members have joined our ranks with another position still left vacant, ready to be filled by a citizen dedicated to seeing that our 10,000 students receive the best education while our employees receive the best professional services and development.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Robin Crossan, Ron Handy, and Ron Williams to the Board. Each comes with different backgrounds and skill sets, but all share the common belief that they can help the Colonial School District continue on its path to becoming one of the premier school districts in the state of Delaware. We are well on our way by offering outstanding programs, activities, and services for our students. Our new members have embraced our core belief that success can and is occurring in our district thanks to what we call the Power of WE. With a focus on the W's four pillars; early education, leadership and learning, innovation, access, and opportunity- the Power of WE has become more than a tagline, but rather a powerful force that has set Colonial apart from other districts not only in the state but across the country.

There has also been a shift in leadership on the Board. Lucy Kennedy accepted the responsibilities of vice president and I look forward to working closely with her. All of our Board members serve on a volunteer basis and have an unparalleled dedication to their duties and our district.

I would be remiss if I did not thank Bobby Benjamin for his tireless service. Mr. Benjamin retired from the Board after serving some 22 years; the longest running tenure to date. Richard Schiller, Jr., former vice president, also leaves the Board after 15 years. The Colonial School District is a better place because of the hard work, cooperation, and dedication of these two Board members.

I truly look forward to the coming school year and know that through the Power of WE, all challenges will be faced head-on by our new Board, while changes and improvements to our district will be embraced by all. Of course, we may not agree on every issue, but we all agree that we want the best for our students and staff. That is the oath we took and together we will serve with integrity and dedication. Welcome Board members, students, and staff!



Bobby Benjamin



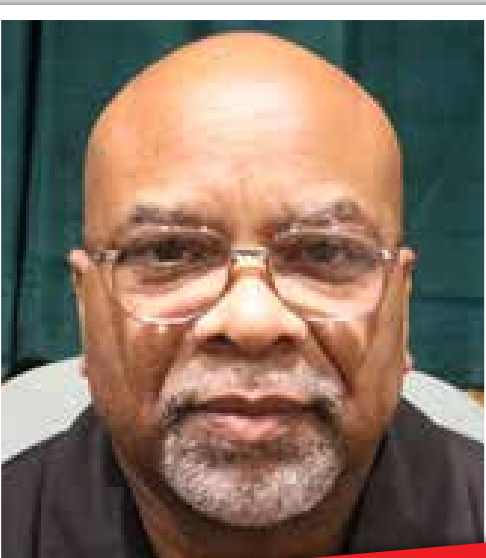
Rick Schiller

MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Robin Crossan

Robin Crossan and his wife Christine have lived in our district for more than 40 years, with three of their four children graduating from William Penn High School. Not only that, Mr. Crossan taught in Colonial for 40 years and was named Teacher of the Year for John G. Leach School in 2004.



Ron Handy

Mr. Handy has lived in Colonial for over 10 years but has been among family members living in the district since childhood. This father of seven raised three additional children and has 20 grandchildren, many of whom attend Colonial schools.



Ronnie Williams

A Colonial resident for the past ten years Mr. Williams has raised two children in the district, one of whom will graduate with the class of 2019. His professional background in finance at JPMorgan Chase will surely be an asset to the board, as will his former teaching experience in computer technology at an alternative school.

Tyler's Camp Comes to Colonial

For five weeks Rachael Sparks came to Castle Hills Elementary School to attend Tyler's Camp but didn't know about the camp's namesake, Tyler Brown. Brown, a Salesianum High School senior was struck and killed by a car in March of 2016. Brown, an artist, and aspiring architect, was passionate about community service and kids, so classmates and family thought it only fitting to name a free summer camp in his honor so children who otherwise couldn't afford it could experience five weeks of art, music, sports, and other enrichment programs.

"I think it's fun because you get to do things you've never done before like football, lacrosse, and hip-hop," said 10-year old Sparks.

"I like that we get to do different activities and improve ourselves," echoed Jack Jones, a fourth-grade student from Castle Hills.

Until this summer Tyler's Camp had only been offered to middle school students. While McCullough also held Tyler's Camp, Castle Hills is now the first to offer it to rising fourth and fifth-grade elementary students.

"We like to push the envelope when it comes to doing things for our kids. This gives us an opportunity to try something new, partner with an organization that's like-minded, and provide our students with access to opportunities," said Superintendent Dr. Dusty Blakey. Gunning Bedford Student Advisor Kim Hayman supervised the camp that offered students a chance to try things like yoga, lacrosse, STEM-related activities, music, arts, and literacy.

"They're exposed to things they've never been exposed to and that excites me, the kids really love it!" Hayman said. "We are broadening their horizon so they can do anything they want to do...just try it on, that's our motto." US Senator Chris Coons stopped by to visit the campers, especially since his son Mike was a popular counselor

and lacrosse coach for the kids. "I'm impressed with how rich, deep and well-run the different activities are here. It's great for the kids to be engaged in the summer to continue what happens during the school year," Coons said.

Governor John Carney also wanted to experience Tyler's Camp for himself so he exchanged his business suit for gym clothes and helped coach a session in lacrosse.

"I was having more fun than the kids. It's a little frustrating for them playing for the first time but it's great that they really focus on it and they really put so much energy and effort into it, but for me, it's just having fun," Carney said. Catherine Lindroth is the Executive Director of Tyler's Camp. According to her, Tyler's Camp reversed summer learning loss by more than 86% last year while 66% of the 2000 campers made literacy gains.

"What we try to do at Tyler's Camp is to create really small class sizes, no more than 10 and we try to expose them to so much, art, dance, technology...you're talking about new concepts and new ideas. We wanted to stretch their brains so they have a much, much bigger understanding of the world and what's possible for them," Lindroth said. Since Tyler's Camp was such a hit at Castle Hills and McCullough, Superintendent Blakey hopes to program returns to Colonial next summer.



Castle Hills' Writers Gallery

Students of all ages could be seen in the hallways of Castle Hills Elementary School. Some sat on the floor reading, while others grabbed cardboard bound books from strings that hung from wall to wall. This was the Gallery Walk at Castle Hills and in this gallery were 630 books written, illustrated and published by each and every student. The book writing project was a year in the making. Students and teachers wrote their own stories, some fiction, others nonfiction, but all were original.

"I thought it was really cool because I got to write a book and I worked really hard on it, it took a long time," said Davida Tetteh, a fifth grader at Castle Hills.

The title of Tetteh's book was "My Awesome Life," a story she wrote about a female superhero. The fifth-grader couldn't help but reach for another book about a superhero, this one written by a kindergarten student.

"It was cool because I don't think I was able to do that or tried to do that in kindergarten," she said.

Reading coach Caroline Hughes says the school-wide writing project is modeled after one that started in Argentina years ago when books were hard to come by for students there. She says Castle Hills teachers and members of a local church donated the thick cardboard boxes so they could be cut to make book covers, and art teachers helped the students make the illustrations. Some older children used computers for printing and clip art, while younger students were able to practice their handwriting skills.

"Just the excitement from the students has been really electric, and to see them putting comments in other children's books is really exciting. A lot came out of this project, more than we ever hoped for," Hughes said.

Deshawn Tovar knows exactly what he plans to do with his published book.

"I'm just going to keep it because later on, I want to be a teacher for the second-grade!" he said.

Getting children to strengthen their writing skills while taking great pride in their work was the goal of the self-publishing project, one that is likely to become a tradition at Castle Hills.



William Penn Student Receives Top Award

William Penn High School's Bryan Garduno, who graduated with the class of 2018, won the ACE! That's the architecture, construction, engineering award, with Garduno taking first place for Delaware in the national program. ACE matches industry mentors with high school students who are challenged to take part in projects, some of which are real, like the design of a local hotel. Garduno and other students at WPHS spent weeks working on an innovation challenge; this one to revamp the school's football stadium with lockers outside of the concession stands for the public. The tasks, from beginning to end, were divided among the students with mentors giving advice along the way. Garduno created a 3-D model, a project that earned him the top prize of a \$2,250 award.

"Our award winner takes great pride in his work and he is someone who is determined to pursue a career in engineering," said Joseph Jakubowski, a mentor, and geotechnical engineer. "I have observed him grow and mature throughout the last few years, and I think this award is a valuable investment in his future," he said. The afterschool program was one that Garduno says he has enjoyed since it first came to WPHS three years ago. "I always really looked forward to the meetings and was always very interested in the different topics. The mentors were always there and I always tried to stay engaged with them," Garduno said. As for being named the best in the state Garduno gave a humble response. "I see myself as wanting to learn more and be even better because I don't feel like I'm best yet," he said. Garduno plans to use the award money at the University of Delaware.



We are Leaders!

It's called "The Leader in Me," seven habits taught to elementary students designed to inspire children to be role models. New Castle Elementary School held a Leadership Day so students could show invited guests like police officers and community leaders how they embraced the seven habits. Among them is the first called "Be Proactive," which emphasizes responsibility and taking initiative. Another is "Put First Things First," which encourages students to spend time on the most important things before starting others.

"I hope that we're able to create leaders not just here at the elementary level, but take the characteristics that they're learning and apply them to middle school, high school, and beyond because someday these students will be our leaders of America," said former Principal Nneka Jones.

The students planned the entire day beginning with an introductory assembly for guests and then self-guided tours around the school so visitors could see the students in action while Jones and other teachers just observed. Visitors like New Castle County police Sr. Sgt. Wesley Reynolds were impressed with the maturity displayed by the elementary students. Reynolds praised Colonial for incorporating "The Leader in Me" concept in the daily lives of young students.

"It's very important because they are our future and we must reach them now," Reynolds said.

Gage Madonna, a then second- grade student, was among the children who chatted with Reynolds.

"When nobody's looking I do the right thing and I follow directions...that's how I am a leader!" Madonna told the police officer.

In May, the district sponsored the last of a series of Student Leadership Summits. Student leaders from all eight elementary schools gathered at William Penn High School for a day of break-out sessions and exercises focused on helping them become change agents and positive leaders.

"We hope all the students see themselves as leaders so we work on the different character traits. Each student has different strengths and when we get to pull these strengths together, what we can accomplish is really unbelievable," said math coach Michele Wolfe.

Malia Gamble was among the students who enjoyed the group activities and work done at the summit.

"I really liked the compliment challenge because when one person goes around saying a compliment to a person, the other person has to say two compliments back. I think it's teaching our fellow classmates to be kinder students," Gamble said.

In schools, students are given different challenges, some as simple as encouraging everyone to keep the bathrooms and hallways clean. The Student Leadership Summit was the second sponsored by the district, and it will be repeated this school year because teachers and administrators say they see fewer behavior issues, more open acts of kindness, and a greater focus on academics thanks to the student leaders who take what they learned at the summit back to their schools as role models for their peers.



Colonial Nation, Come Inside!

Shh! That's the only sound you usually hear at libraries, but that wasn't the case when the Route 9 Library and Innovation Center hosted Colonial Night. Inside, more than 300 people in the Colonial School District were greeted by students from Gunning Bedford Middle School playing steel drums, and there was a hum of excitement everywhere! A juggler kept some children entertained while others made art projects in the innovation room or played games with virtual reality headsets or remote-controlled robots. There was a Lego room for little ones and for those brave enough to try, a poetry slam, where people in attendance snapped their fingers to show support for students who shared their poetry, spoken word, or songs. The eatery was filled with families enjoying a free meal and representatives from Colonial and other community agencies manned tables with literature about everything from summer camps to pre-school.

"I am overwhelmed by the amount of interest that we have from the community. I'm just super happy to see everybody here smiling and engaged and just enjoying themselves," said Jessica Gibson. Gibson is a senior advisor for New Castle County's Division of Community Services. Since the library opened its doors in October of 2017, Gibson has been challenged with getting people, particularly adults, along the route 9 corridor to come inside the state-of-the-art facility saying many appear to be intimidated by its very existence because she believes they only have memories of traditional school libraries as children, where card catalogs rather than computers were used to even find a book of choice.

"My goal was that parents would come out and not just drop their children off. We have families that have never been here and look around, they're happy that they're here now," she said.

Like everyone else, Manaise DeBelle-Beaujour received a free book when she registered for a library card saying both of her young children had a great time at Colonial Night. Julia Rice said her preschooler loved playing in the Lego room and she confirmed just what Gibson said.

"I've seen this building before, driven by it, but never stopped to come in. Now that I know what's available for him and me, we can enjoy it as a family," Rice said.

Colonial administrators like former New Castle Elementary School Principal Nneka Jones were glad to have the opportunity to tell people about her school and its Chinese Immersion program, calling the evening a true example of community engagement. "We definitely



succeeded in bringing students and parents together at an event. The turnout was larger than expected, the kids are having a great time, the parents are having a great time and the Colonial Nation staff, and we're all having a great time!" Jones said.

As for the children, the first 100 received a free book and all scattered from one space to another seeking a new activity. "I really like how they did the whole thing," said Tiana Sirmans, a second-grade student at Pleasantville Elementary School. "They just had so many activities that they took time to prepare like the band, the poetry night, it was so nice. I thought it was wonderful and I want my mom to bring me back!" she said.

For Gibson, that's the happy-ending she hoped for with more great stories to tell if those who came to Colonial Night return to the library.



Who **WE** Are - District Office

The end of a school year always brings about opportunities to make staffing changes at all levels, Colonial's district office administration is not exempt and this spring there were a few changes we would like to share with our Colonial families. These changes reflect is the district's continued effort to consolidate responsibilities and reorganize the roles of administration in order to meet the increasing needs of students, while respecting the communities' expectation for fiscal responsibility.

Join us in welcoming new faces to the Colonial School District administrative team as well as familiar faces into different roles.



JEFFREY MENZER, ED.D.
Assistant Superintendent
Formerly Director of Schools (Secondary)



PETER LEIDA, ED.D.
Assistant Superintendent
Formerly Director of Schools
(Elementary)



HOLLY SAGE
Director of Student Services
Formerly Principal of George Read Middle School



JAMES COMEGYS
Director of Schools (Secondary)
New to Colonial, although a William Penn graduate, he was previously a Director of Curriculum in Red Clay School District.



NNEKA JONES
Director of Schools (Elementary)
Formerly the Principal of New Castle Elementary School

To share more information about these administrators and other staff, this fall the district will unveil the "Who WE are" campaign. The goal is to provide our community with information about various employees, students and parents and they make an impact on students in the district and our community.

Welcome to **Colonial** SCHOOL DISTRICT

Deanna Daly
Carrie Downie/ Wilmington Manor
@dea_daly

Introducing the Newest Members of Colonial Nation

With Bachelors in Fine Arts 2D and Art Education k-12, Ms. Daly will be inspiring some of Colonial's youngest artists at a few schools this year. Among her greatest accomplishments include earning two bachelor's degrees, having her artwork featured in DCAD promotional items and landing a job with Colonial!

Welcome to Colonial Deanna!
who WE are.
#powerofwecsd

Welcome to **Colonial** SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tierre Reed
New Castle Elementary
@TeeTheTeacher

Introducing the Newest Members of Colonial Nation

Ms. Reed joins the Colonial family after one year of teaching in Raleigh. Her favorite memory as a student has helped shape her teaching career. "A teacher telling me that I was capable of being a teacher, I just have to take my goals seriously and act according Or I won't be a teacher was life changing advice".

Welcome to Colonial Tierre!
who WE are.
#powerofwecsd

Welcome to **Colonial** SCHOOL DISTRICT

Stephanie Smith
Wilbur Elementary

Introducing the Newest Members of Colonial Nation

Her first year as a teacher in Colonial Nation, but not in the classroom. Stephanie comes to CSD after 12 years in Diocese of Wilmington. She draws her inspiration from her mother, who recently retired after teaching for almost 40 years.

Welcome to Colonial Stephanie!
who WE are.
#powerofwecsd

Welcome to **Colonial** SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ronald Shaw
George Read Middle School
instagram and twitter: @MrShaw_3

Introducing the Newest Members of Colonial Nation

Mr. Shaw joins the Knights for his 12th year of teaching. An accomplished educator passionate about social issues, he lists obtaining his Masters Degree in Education as one of his proudest moments. "I am inspired by the opportunity to serve. I have been privileged to learn that every day presents the chance to start anew, & only what you do in service will last long after you depart"

Welcome to Colonial Ronald!
who WE are.
#powerofwecsd



We Salute the 2018-2019 Teachers of the Year!

Mark McKenzie named Colonial School District 2019 District Teacher of the Year.

McKenzie, a chemistry teacher at William Penn High School, has taught in Colonial for four years. He shows his commitment to students daily by being a dedicated teacher and mentor. McKenzie takes a leadership role in Colonial's annual Relay for Life team, a cause he champions in honor of his wife who is a breast cancer survivor. He is a key member of Educators of Color, an organization charged with increasing the recruitment and retention of minority teachers, and helped develop another organization called Colonial Keepers, a group that collaborates with the business community to bring industry experts into the classrooms to share their professional experiences with students. "As educators, we have the noble task of preparing the next generation of leaders...Unlike other professions, a regular school day in the life of an educator begins the moment we awake, and ends sometime around 11:59 P.M.," McKenzie says.

The following were named Teachers of the Year at their schools:



Sarah Kise
Carrie Downie



Karin Elentrio
Castle Hills



Paul Rothbart
Eisenberg



Tainikka Saunders
New Castle



Angela Jackson
Pleasantville



Stephanie Alexander
Southern



Sophie Podolski
Wilmington Manor



Kristie Campbell
Wilbur



Caitlin Best
George Read



Alexandra Hudes
Gunning Bedford



Desiree Norwood
McCullough



Paige Morris
Wallin



Maryann Koziol
CEEP



Jennie Tacchi
Leach

Colonial Nation is proud to have such great teachers in our district!

Super Bowl Champ Remembers Southern Elementary School

When the Eagles won the Super Bowl, Emily Schussler, a teacher from Southern Elementary School, was thrilled, but she was even more thrilled when Brandon Brooks, a starting Pro Bowl guard on the team, mentioned her and his visit to her school in a pre-Super Bowl interview with the LA Times. That’s right, before facing the biggest game of his career Brooks thought of Schussler and meeting fifth-graders at the Colonial School!

“I felt honored that Brandon thought of me and he thought of his experience with us here at Southern,” Schussler said. That experience all started with a random request the teacher made on Twitter for Brooks to visit her school in February of 2017. Little did she know that he would not only come on a day after a snow storm, but that he would also be so candid; telling his own personal story about suffering an anxiety disorder. Brooks told the LA Times his anxiety is so debilitating he has missed games during his pro career and has even been hospitalized because he was so physically ill. Brooks won over Southern’s students with his motivational talk about overcoming fears and reaching goals. He even spoke one-on-one to a boy who suffers from so much anxiety

that teachers say the child often hides his head beneath a hoodie. Brooks also left the boy with a handwritten note.

In the LA Times article Brooks was quoted as saying, “I think when you get into this position, whether you like it or not, you’re on a platform. The good you can do from this platform far exceeds anything you can do individually.”

He was also quoted in the article saying, “In our game you’re looked at like a modern-day gladiator; nothing is supposed to affect you. You make a lot of money, so you’re not a human being. You’re not supposed to have emotions.”

According to a Colonial administrator who works with troubled students, the young boy Brooks connected with is showing progress, and is even hiding less under his hoodie- a huge win for him. As for Schussler, she says she’s delighted Brooks did just what he said he would in the LA Times article, he didn’t let anxiety overcome him and instead helped the Eagles make their historic Super



Bowl victory. As for Brooks mentioning her and Southern Elementary School in the LA Times interview Schussler said, “I grew up in Colonial and feel proud to represent the district and I’m just thankful for him and everything he’s done for kids who have anxieties and have pushed through their battles.”

Colonial Energy Program Update

Colonial School District is currently completing the final phase of our district-wide energy savings program. This program provided energy efficiency improvements throughout the District, those efficiency improvements will result in a forecasted \$490,000 annual savings to the district. These energy savings are used to pay for the upgrades so no public tax dollars were used for this program.

Some of the highlights include:

- Improved classroom and common space lighting through interior upgrades to LED lighting district-wide.
- Improved parking lot safety through upgrades to all LED exterior lighting district-wide.
- Additional exterior lighting installed at New Castle Elementary, Carrie Downie Elementary, McCullough Middle, and Castle Hills Elementary to fix some of the dark parking and walkway areas noticed during the lighting audit.
- District-wide boiler heating systems are now 100% clean natural gas.
- Better school comfort through improved heating and cooling system controls.
- Developing students into future environmental leaders through organized ‘Green Team’s at Wilbur Elementary, McCullough Middle and Wm Penn High School.
- Career talks provided from the project’s technical staff to high school STEM students at Wm Penn High.
- Over 90% of the work was designed and field-installed by local New Castle County based engineering and construction firms.

Colonial is proud to be an environmental leader both in Delaware and in K-12 Education.

Operation Hair Care

As students walked the halls of Eisenberg Elementary School Molly Perdue noticed something disturbing. Perdue, the family crisis therapist and food pantry coordinator at the school noticed some children hiding their unkempt hair under hoodies, while others stood out because their hair was uncut, tangled and unruly. It didn’t take Perdue long to realize most of the students were officially deemed homeless because they live in motels along routes 13 and 40.

“When parents are struggling financially the last thing they can afford is to take their child to a barbershop or salon. It’s heartbreaking to see these children walking around school ashamed of their appearance. I knew their self-esteem was at risk and decided I needed to do something,” Perdue said.

Perdue reached out to Colonial’s Public Information Officer, and out of that meeting “Operation Hair Care” was born. With one simple phone call, three hair stylists and one barber agreed to volunteer their services for a day at Eisenberg.

Crystal Calhum, owner of the Riverview Salon and Boutique in Delaware City, called her colleagues, saying they jumped at the chance to help. The foursome came to the school with everything needed to wash, cut and style the hair of students hand-picked by Perdue.

“We all want to give back, especially to children. It was a

pleasure to spend the day with these kids and to see the smiles on their faces once they saw their fresh new hair styles,” Calhum said.

Calhum and her team of volunteers promised to return this school year but Colonial administrators put their heads together and came up with a broader idea so more needy students in all eight elementary schools could be served. Talks are underway with the Paul Mitchell hair school where Calhum and the other stylists earned their cosmetology license. Under a proposed partnership, students from William Penn High School who have an interest in joining the cosmetology industry will come one day every marking period to job shadow, while up to 30 elementary students will receive one day of free basic hair care at the school four times a year.

“This is a win-win for everyone,” said Superintendent Dr. Dusty Blakey who views “Operation Hair Care” as another example of Colonial’s Power of WE mantra. “By forming this partnership with a local business, our high school students will be given access and the opportunity to see if cosmetology is good career pathway for them, while our neediest students will get the hair care they need,” Blakey said.

Students at the Paul Mitchell School will also benefit from “Operation Hair Care” by getting the training hours necessary to graduate and by fulfilling the company’s

philosophy of teaching the future professional stylists to be committed to offering community service; something alums like Crystal Calhum learned well.



Flyers Score at Gunning Bedford

Students at Gunning Bedford weren't even born when Bob "The Hound" Kelly scored the goal that won the Stanley Cup Championship for the Philadelphia Flyers, but the 1975 former hockey star captivated their attention when he visited the middle school. Kelly came to talk to students about how to be successful and to promote an educational program fully funded by the team that students had completed.

"Boys and girls you can do anything, nothing can hold you back with a positive attitude!" he said.

Kelly handed out signed hockey pucks to the kids who answered his questions correctly, but these weren't just ordinary questions. Each one was related to the computer-based Flyers STEM program. Anderson's inquiries confirmed what the children learned over the course of the program, that even things like a game of hockey are all related to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

"What attracted me was the science part of it. I didn't know hockey had anything to do with STEM in general," said Taylor Hicks.

Ella Augustine never connected hockey to STEM until she did the Flyers program. "I always thought that STEM was only learning, not having fun while you're doing it!" the 6th-grader said.

Teacher Megan Shannon was happy to see her students connecting the dots by realizing STEM is related to just about everything.

"It was awesome to see that they did it in one class and carried it over to another class," Shannon said.

Gunning Bedford and Pleasantville were the first schools in Delaware to use the free educational program provided by the Flyers Hockey team.



Heart of the Game

In one corner of the gym at McCullough Middle School, students were seen hovering over mannequins doing chest compressions, while in another students did aerobic exercises. Those with parental consent received EKG's to make certain their hearts were healthy. Other students went from table to table as representatives of local health organizations used displays and giveaways to educate them about things like the sugar content in commonly consumed drinks. All of this took place at McCullough's first health fair sponsored by an organization called Heart in the Game. Greer Firestone started the organization when his daughter Grace, an elite athlete with no family history of heart disease suddenly went into cardiac arrest while at school.

Grace survived, but her dad embarked on a mission to provide free EKG's to students and CPR training after learning one out of 100 children have some kind of heart condition that often goes undetected until it's too late. He also invited other health-related organizations to come to schools like McCullough.

"We actually want to make Delaware the most heart-healthy state and free EKGs statewide will take us on the path," Firestone said.

McCullough, Colonial's STEAM themed (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) school, was the perfect location for the Heart in the Game event because students with an expressed interest already take courses in allied health. Cayla Powell hopes to become a pediatrician.

"It's good to see these other people who have different jobs in the industry and seeing what they do and how they work with other people in the health industry. It's good to get different perspectives on everything," Powell said.

Brian Fernandez Nunez was among the students trained to teach his peers CPR using mannequins.

"What's exciting for me is seeing kids my age learning how to save lives by doing CPR....my little sister has asthma so it was important for me to learn," he said.

Allied health teacher Sandra Wilson-Hypes organized the health fair saying she knew the Heart in the Game organization was a perfect fit for McCullough, especially since so many of her students have aspirations of continuing their studies in health-related fields at William Penn High School.

"I have an absolute love and passion for this and seeing students at this young age being able to have this life-saving experience is so rewarding," Wilson-Hypes said.

While the health fair was a first for McCullough, Wilson-Hypes hopes it won't be the last and that others will be bigger and better in the future.



What's Happening

Bed Bath and Beyond High School

It's a tradition that started years ago when a Bed Bath and Beyond employee, also the mother of a graduating senior at William Penn High School (WPHS), convinced her company to give dorm supplies away to college-bound seniors. Today, the Senior Send-Off is a much-anticipated event with the store raffling off free supplies for one male and one female dorm room. From items as large as comforters and complete bedding to smaller items like hangers, the seniors jumped for joy when their winning ticket was randomly picked. Nick Lane won a Keurig coffee maker saying, "I think it's really awesome that Bed Bath and Beyond wants to give back." Lane is headed to the University of Delaware. "I'm really excited, excited to be on my own!" Just as excited is Nick's mother Pam who applauded the store and WPHS for hosting the Senior Send-Off. "I think it's awesome! I have loved WPHS since Nick was in the 8th grade and I just think it goes with what Penn has been doing his entire four years, encouraging the students and celebrating their success," Lane said.

Encouraging the college-bound students to continue on the road to success were two WPHS alums, Wali Rushdan, a Wilmington attorney and Chris Rossi, a Bank of America executive.

Rushdan told the seniors to enjoy the social aspects of college but to not lose focus on their scholastic goals.

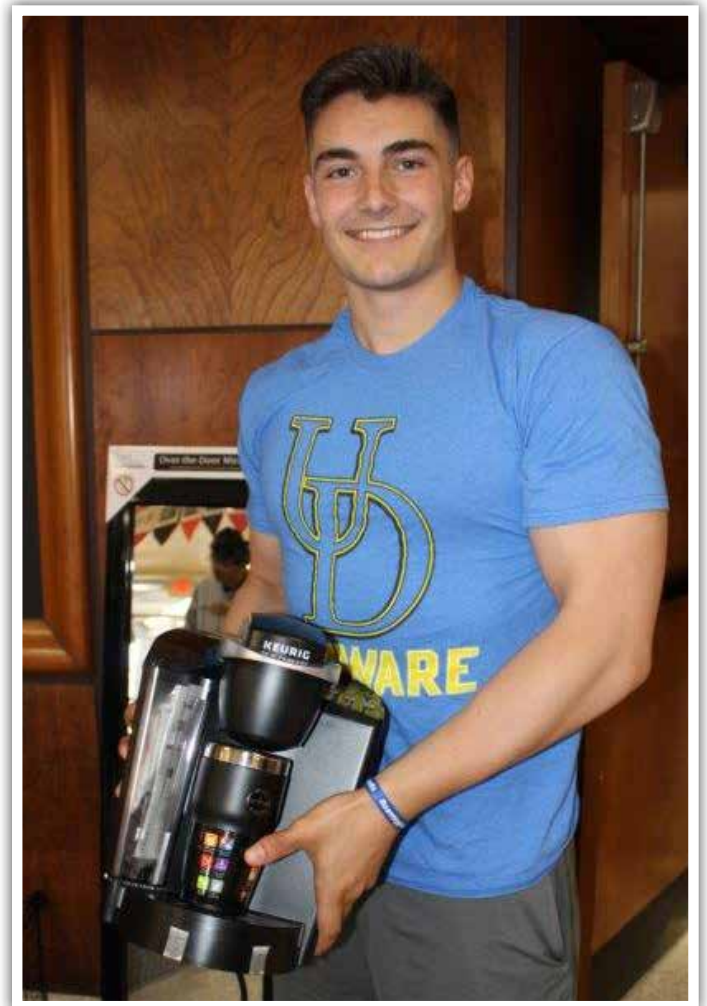
"Being your best comes at a cost, and not being your best also comes at a cost. It's called the pain of discipline vs. the pain of regret," Rushdan said. He warned the seniors not to opt for short-term pleasure or excuses to avoid pain, like studying for an exam, but to instead work hard to achieve success.

Rossi reminded the seniors to be proud of their high school achievements, and like Rushdan encouraged them to do their best in college. "Make good decisions and just think about the opportunities in front of you, apply yourself...that's what will lead to opportunities in your future," Rossi said.

The students repeated this affirmation that Rushdan hopes they'll remember for the next four years:

Good, better, best
Never let it rest
Until your good is better
And your better is best!

The affirmation was something Patrick Reeder was happy to take home along with a shower caddy filled with supplies he won from Bed Bath and Beyond. "I love it! It just lets us all embrace going to college. I've enjoyed high school but I'm ready to move on and enjoy life!" Reeder said.



Penn Construction Gets the Job Done

For years the sign at the entrance of the Rose Hill Gardens community wasn't very inviting to homeowners or visitors. Vandals had stolen many of the letters leaving community leaders to seek help from state lawmakers to make repairs. Estimates from DelDOT put the repair bill at \$5,000, but George Samuels knew there had to be a better, cost-savings solution. Samuels, president of the Rose Hill Civic Association, remembered a tour he took at several Colonial schools with fellow residents and Superintendent Dr. Dusty Blakey. He left impressed with a lot of things and remembered the work students were doing in the construction technology program at William Penn High School (WPHS). Samuels told local lawmakers to contact teacher Mac Emerson for help. That's exactly what State Representative JJ Johnson did and within weeks the sign that was a community eyesore turned into a source of pride. The students used power tools and mahogany wood to replace all of the letters.

"Oh my goodness! They used the second hardest wood known to man," Samuels said. "They used the best paint and finishes on them and the adhesive was top grade so it will be very hard to take them down and Mother Nature will never rot that wood, it's just that good," he said. Even better was the price, the students' handcrafted work was completed and installed for \$578, that's a whopping 12% of DelDOT's \$5,000 estimate!

"The student's did an excellent job at only a fraction of the cost of other quotes I received. I am very pleased with their work and I would recommend them to anyone," Representative Johnson said.

William Penn's construction tech students have done

other jobs in the community like building park benches for New Castle County, along with arbors and trellises made of cedar for the Amstel House in Old New Castle. The students have even learned how to make custom-made electric guitars, a new program that Emerson hopes to expand next school year. Emerson says staying engaged with the surrounding community gives students an opportunity to get real-world industry training while also giving them a sense of pride because their work is on public display and, as in the case of Rose Hill, enhances a community.

"This project is a great example of our students' ability to meet the needs of their community while learning techniques in fabrication and design to enhance their surroundings," said Emerson. "It allows the students to become more involved and produce a high-quality product with pride. The students will remember it every time they ride past Rose Hill Gardens and will be able to tell people they worked on the project for a very grateful community," he said.

Of the three students who were instrumental in handcrafting the lettering was Jonathan Rodriguez who lives in the community. The Rose Hill Civic Association recently honored him and gave him a monetary award. Emerson says he's proud of all of his students adding, "Gone are the days when kids made simple projects like birdhouses in construction tech classes. My students are meeting and in some cases surpassing construction industry standards. They're eager to learn and take on challenging projects at quite a cost savings to our clients because we basically charge for the materials; the profit for us is in the learning.

Soon an addition will be added to Rose Hill's new sign; a small plaque indicating that the sign was upgraded by Penn Construction. Anyone interested in having WPHS students work on private or community projects can contact Mac Emerson at (302) 323-2800 ext. 3127.



Before



After

g at William Penn

Pilot Program Proves to be a Plus

Jessica Knowles graduated from William Penn High School (WPHS) with more than a diploma. Like five out of eight students who participated in a new pilot program, she also left WPHS with a certificate in veterinary science. Knowles, who plans to major in veterinary medicine will attend the University of Delaware in the fall and decided to add the online certification program to her regular classroom curriculum as a way to get ahead of the incoming freshmen.

"This certification actually allows me to get a job in a veterinary clinic....I'll have something else to put on my resume that will give me a leg up in the job field," Knowles said.

The online veterinary science program took one semester to complete and was closely aligned with the curriculum taught by Animal Science teacher, Karen Ferrucci.

"William Penn is doing a great service by allowing our students to not only gain a strong career and the education, but they leave our campus with tools in hand that will be recognized in their community and fields of future employment," said Ferrucci.

Taylor Anderson Davis, Julianah Perialas, Sydney Poe and Laura Hernandez are the others who graduated from WPHS after taking the pilot certification program. Hernandez hopes to become a livestock veterinarian.

"Getting a job with animals is very hard to do either because of your age limit or your knowledge limit, but this will make it a lot easier now," she said.

Knowles, former president of WPHS's Future Farmers of America said students from other schools admire the various career certification programs offered at Penn because of the edge they give students going straight to college or careers after graduation.

"It really feels amazing! They are a little bit jealous of the opportunities I got here at Penn because I didn't have to pay anything out of pocket so it really opens doors for anybody who might not have the financial security others have," Knowles said.

Ferrucci says she'll continue to give students the opportunity to get certified before they graduate saying,

"I think it is important for students to earn something on their own with the major that they are passionate about."



Penn Construction Tech ProgramIt's Electric!

William Penn teacher Mac Emerson wanted his students to go beyond building simple projects like birdhouses, so now they can build fully functional custom-made guitars! This was the first, dedicated to the Colonial School District. The guitar is proudly displayed in the administration building in a wooden case also constructed by the students. With a kit valued at \$200, students make customized guitars worth \$800 or more depending on its details. Thanks to Emerson, Penn Construction Tech students are trained to do professional work that meets and often exceeds industry standards, and that's music to the ears of employers who want to hire our post graduate students. If you wish to have a custom-made electric guitar with your personalized design contact Emerson at (302) 323-2800; you can't beat the price, quality or detail!



Penn Farm Goes South

Produce planted and harvested by William Penn students at Penn Farm is always in demand. This summer alone more than 15,500 lbs. were consumed by Colonial schools and locals who love the fresh produce, but it was a recent request that came as a big surprise to Farm Manager Tody Hagerott. The general manager of The Olde Pink House in Savannah, Georgia contacted Hagerott requesting produce to be used in his restaurant on September 13 when the menu will have a Revolutionary theme. More specifically, Craig Jeffress wanted fresh produce from the oldest working farms in each of the original 13 colonies. "Research tells me that Penn Farm dates back to 1704. I would like nothing more than to include some of the produce from Penn Farm on the menu that night," Jeffress wrote.

Hagerott was quick to respond. He had students harvest and pack up winter squash, beets, honey, along with swiss chard, all bound for the Savannah restaurant.

"This is such a cool opportunity to showcase the food produced on the student-run portion of this farm, and the general manager promised to send pictures of the plated food that will be served!" Hagerott said.

The Olde Pink House paid for the shipping charges and made a donation, but Hagerott and everyone in the district's Nutrition Services Division agrees this was a priceless opportunity for students.



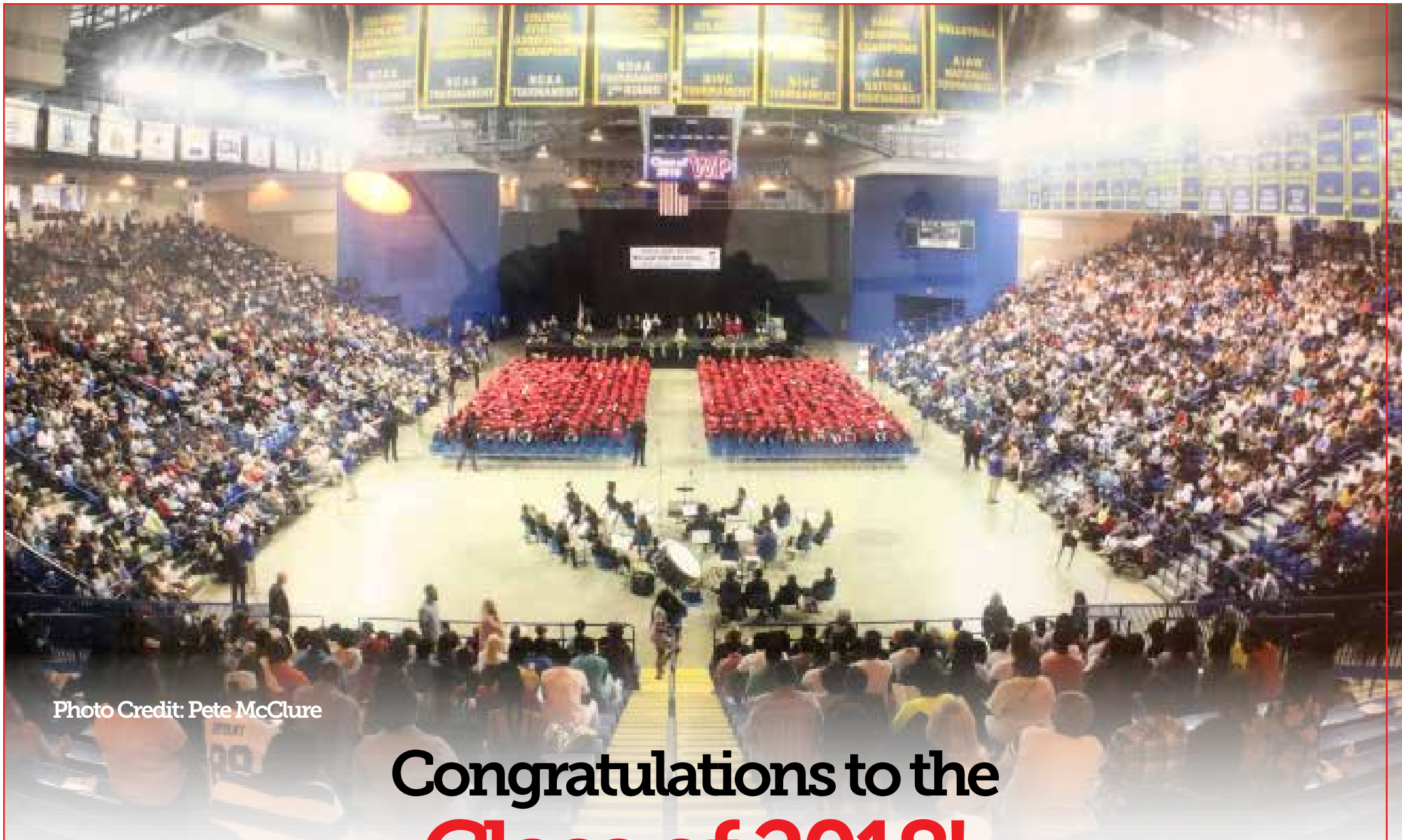


Photo Credit: Pete McClure

Congratulations to the **Class of 2018!**

In June of 2018, **492 students graduated**
from William Penn High School.
Colonial is proud to report the following:



225 (52.45%)
plan to attend
colleges or
universities as
full-time students

116 (27.04%)
will go to school and
work part-time

15 (3.50%)
will attend a trade
school

50 (11.66%)
will join the US
military

49 (11.42%)
plan to work
full-time

"Where Access Meets Opportunity"

4th Annual-Career and Transition to Adult Life Fair
Focus: Work-based Learning (WBL) & Career Development
Experiencing the Workplace

When: Wednesday, October 17, 2018

Where: The Wallin School

701 E. Basin Road. New Castle, DE 19720 Phone: (302) 323-2952

Time: 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM

- Students will be able to learn about different careers by participating in a career scavenger hunt and networking with the Colonial School District's Division of Human Resources.
- Students can also network with local businesses and organizations participate in opportunities such as employment, internship, mentoring, volunteering, and other career awareness opportunities.
- Vendors will be on hand for students and parents to talk to local representatives from colleges, technical and trade schools, military organizations, and businesses to receive information and resources on admissions, financial aid/scholarships, and transitional support and services for students with disabilities.
- Students and parents/guardians will also be able to have conversations with representatives about transitioning to adult life after high school.

The Staff at Wallin School Invites and Encourages Parents/Guardians to Attend.

Contact Jean Boyer or L. Clayton Washington for More Information
(Phone) 302-332-1472 ~ (e-mail) lavern.washington@colonial.k12.de.us

Please see the link for directions to the school. [Wallin School Google Map Direction](#)

*** Drawings for Prizes and Giveaways will be conducted ***

Parents/Guardians are Invited and Encouraged to Attend!

School Principal, Kevin A. White

**** ** ** ** ****

"There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly."

THOMAS R. CARPER
DELAWARE



January 8, 2018

The Wallace Wallin School
Colonial School District
701 East Basin Road
Wilmington, Delaware 19720

Dear Friends,

Congratulations on your 100th employment! This is quite a milestone, and I know that your dedication has had a tremendous impact on students across the state. Please accept my continued thanks for all of your efforts to ensure that Delaware's youth has worked-based learning (WBL) opportunities.

The Wallace Wallin School has worked hard to provide growth, higher education and employability for our youth throughout the state. It is impressive to see the WBL program grow from two employment opportunities to more than 100 in such a short amount of time. Through the schools decreased dropout rate and improved graduation rate, now over 44%, the WBL has contributed to Delaware's economic growth and the students' quality of life.

Again, congratulations and thank you for all that you do for this great state. Best of luck in all that lies ahead! On to 200!

With best personal regards, I am

Warmest congratulations !

Sincerely yours,

Tom Carper

Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator

WP Colonials Sports

Fall Sports Schedule (Subject to change)

Football

Date	Day	Time	Opponent	H/A	Location
9/8/18	Sat	2:00pm	Mergenthaler Vo Tech HS (MD)	H	Wm Penn HS
9/14/18	Fri	7:30pm	Middletown HS	A	Middletown HS-Cavalier Stadium
9/22/18	Sat	1:00pm	Caesar Rodney HS	H	Wm Penn HS
9/28/18	Fri	7:00pm	Newark HS	A	Newark HS
10/6/18	Sat	2:00pm	Concord HS	H	Wm Penn HS
10/13/18	Sat	10:30am	Hodgson Vo-Tech	A	Hodgson Vo-Tech
10/20/18	Sat	1:00pm	Salesianum School	H	Wm Penn HS
10/27/18	Sat	1:00pm	Delcastle HS	H	Wm Penn HS William Penn Homecoming
11/3/18	Sat	12:00pm	St. Georges Tech HS	A	St. Georges Tech HS
11/10/18	Sat	1:00pm	Appoquinimink HS	H	Wm Penn HS

Fri 11/16/2018 - Football Tournament-D1&D2 - 1st Round
Sat 11/17/2018 - Football Tournament-D1&D2 - 1st Round
Fri 11/23/2018 - Football Tournament-D1&D2 - 2nd Round
Sat 11/24/2018 - Football Tournament-D1&D2 - 2nd Round
Sat 12/01/2018 - Football Championship Game-Div.1
Sat 12/01/2018 - Football Championship Game-Div.2

Field Hockey

Date	Day	Time	Opponent	H/A	Location
9/11/18	Tue	4:00pm	Wilm Friends School	H	Wm Penn HS
9/14/18	Fri	3:45pm	St. Georges Tech HS	H	Wm Penn HS
9/18/18	Tue	3:45pm	Concord HS	H	Wm Penn HS
9/20/18	Thu	3:45pm	Delcastle HS	H	Wm Penn HS
9/26/18	Wed	4:00pm	Hodgson Vo-Tech	A	Hodgson Vo-Tech
9/28/18	Fri	3:45pm	Newark HS	A	Newark HS
10/1/18	Mon	3:45pm	Padua Academy	A	Forbes Field - NCC
10/6/18	Sat	5:30pm	Mt. Pleasant HS	A	UD - Rullo Stadium Turf Bowl at UD Rullo Stadium!
10/9/18	Tue	3:45pm	St. Elizabeth HS	H	Wm Penn HS
10/15/18	Mon	4:00pm	Ursuline Academy	H	Wm Penn HS
10/17/18	Wed	3:45pm	Middletown HS	H	Wm Penn HS
10/22/18	Mon	3:45pm	Brandywine HS	A	Brandywine HS
10/24/18	Wed	6:00pm	Appoquinimink HS	A	Appoquinimink HS
10/26/18	Fri	3:45pm	Red Lion CA	H	Wm Penn HS



William Penn High School Names New Head Football Coach & Athletic Director

William Penn scored two in one by naming Matthew Sabol as the new head football coach and athletic director. Sabol, a math teacher for 13 years at Penn, has worked in some capacity with the football team since being hired. Prior to being named the head coach, Sabol spent four years as defensive coordinator for the varsity team. “This has been a lifelong goal of mine. The kids here have been so good to me and I just can’t wait to give back to them,” Sabol said.

Sabol replaces Marvin Dooley who was the Colonials’ head football coach for five years and led the team to win the state championship in 2014. “There

have been a lot of strong figures in that position, it’s exciting and challenging!” Sabol said. Sabol acknowledges he and the team will need some time to rebuild because many starting varsity players recently graduated. “We lost a lot of playing experience, but we’ve got some great kids that have played some varsity time...we just have to put in the work and we’ll just keep picking up on the tradition that’s been built. It’s a new start for everybody which is a great thing too!” he said. Principal Dr. Brian Erskine says he has great confidence in Sabol and is looking forward to exciting games this season. “Matt bleeds cherry red and black and has earned the respect of our players and coaching staff. He has the leadership abilities needed to win games and ultimately another state championship,” Erskine said.

Boy’s Soccer

9/7/18	Fri	4:00pm	Wilm Friends School	A	Wilm Friends School - Mellor Turf Field
9/11/18	Tue	3:45pm	Tower Hill School	H	Wm Penn HS
9/14/18	Fri	3:45pm	Middletown HS	H	Wm Penn HS
9/18/18	Tue	4:00pm	Hodgson Vo-Tech	A	Hodgson Vo-Tech
9/27/18	Thu	3:30pm	Appoquinimink HS	H	Wm Penn HS
9/28/18	Fri	4:00pm	Seaford HS	A	Seaford HS
10/2/18	Tue	4:00pm	Newark HS	A	Newark HS
10/4/18	Thu	3:30pm	Concord HS	H	Wm Penn HS
10/9/18	Tue	3:45pm	St. Elizabeth HS	A	Kirkwood Soccer Club
10/16/18	Tue	3:45pm	St. Georges Tech HS	H	Wm Penn HS
10/20/18	Sat	1:00pm	St. Mark’s HS	A	St. Marks HS
10/22/18	Mon	4:00pm	Delcastle HS	A	Delcastle HS
10/25/18	Thu	3:30pm	Caesar Rodney HS	H	Wm Penn HS
10/27/18	Sat	10:30am	Design-Lab DE HS	H	Wm Penn HS
11/1/18	Thu	3:30pm	McKean HS	H	Wm Penn HS

Girls’ Volleyball

9/7/18	Fri	5:45pm	St. Andrew’s School	H	Wm Penn HS - Main Gym	triple header
9/12/18	Wed	4:45pm	Mt. Pleasant HS	H	Wm Penn HS - Gym#2	
9/14/18	Fri	5:00pm	Appoquinimink HS	H	Wm Penn HS - Gym#2	
9/17/18	Mon	5:45pm	Middletown HS	A	Middletown HS	
9/21/18	Fri	5:15pm	Delcastle HS	H	Wm Penn HS - Gym#2	
9/26/18	Wed	6:00pm	Concord HS	A	Concord HS	Triple Header
9/28/18	Fri	6:15pm	Tome School (MD)	A	Tome School	
10/3/18	Wed	5:00pm	Newark HS	H	Wm Penn HS - Gym#2	
10/8/18	Mon	4:45pm	Howard HS of Tech	H	Wm Penn HS - Gym#2	
10/10/18	Wed	5:00pm	ECHS@DSU	H	Wm Penn HS - Gym#2	
10/12/18	Fri	3:30pm	McKean HS	A	McKean HS	
10/16/18	Tue	4:15pm	DE Academy of Public Safety and Security		ASPIRA Academy	
10/17/18	Wed	5:30pm	Hodgson Vo-Tech	A	Hodgson Vo-Tech	
10/24/18	Wed	5:45pm	Dickinson HS	A	Dickinson HS	
10/26/18	Fri	5:15pm	St. Georges Tech HS	H	Wm Penn HS - Main Gym	

Unified Flag Football

9/18/18	Tue	3:30pm	Appoquinimink HS	A	Appoquinimink HS	Game played in Jaguar Stadium
9/25/18	Tue	3:30pm	Mt. Pleasant HS	H	Wm Penn HS	
10/2/18	Tue	3:30pm	McKean HS	H	Wm Penn HS	
10/9/18	Tue	3:30pm	Delcastle HS	A	Delcastle HS	
10/23/18	Tue	3:30pm	Newark Charter School	H	Wm Penn HS	
10/30/18	Tue	3:30pm	Middletown HS	A	Middletown HS	

Choose

School Choice Begins

Exciting things are happening in Colonial!



Quality Pre-K Instruction for 3 & 4 year olds

- All staff are Delaware certified
- Star Level 5 Program
- DE Office of Child Care Licensed (OCCL)
- Purchase of Care (POC) Accepted
- ECAP Slots Available (based in financial eligibility)
- Affordable rates for tuition paying families
- FREE breakfast, lunch & snacks
- Before Care & After Care Options
- Developmentally Appropriate Programming--Focusing on Language, Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Motor & Social-Emotional Skills
- Small Class Sizes with Low Staff to Child Ratios
- Parents as Teachers Playgroups and Family Nights
- New Directions Early Head Start Playgroups
- FREE Developmental Screening Offered for ALL Colonial Children Ages Birth-Age 5



Kindergarten Chinese & Spanish Immersion

The school day is divided into halves. Half of the day spent in the english classroom, half in the chinese or spanish classroom:

Subjects taught in the English Classroom:

- Language Arts
- Social Studies
- Bridging Lessons

Subjects taught in the Immersion Classroom:

- Math
- Language Literacy
- Science

Colonial
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Schedule a tour today!

Colonial.

November 5, 2018

Learn more about the options you have regarding your child's education!

Colonial offers your family opportunities to participate in many innovative programs & services



Theme Based Middle Schools

In an on-going effort to prepare students for the challenges of high school and beyond, Colonial has redesigned our three middle schools.

McCULLOUGH

• Science • Technology • Engineering • Arts • Math

GEORGE READ

• Agriculture • Culinary • Marketing • Accounting • Science

GUNNING BEDFORD

• Graphic Design • Digital Media • Visual & Performing Arts • Music • Fine Arts



A Comprehensive High School

William Penn High School has modern and cutting edge degree programs & equipment to prepare our students for college and careers...



STEM COLLEGE ACADEMY

• Agriculture
• Construction
• Engineering
• Allied Health Services
• Manufacturing
• Mathematics
• Science
• Information Technology



BUSINESS COLLEGE ACADEMY

• Air Force Jr. ROTC
• Culinary Arts
• Financial Services
• Marketing
• Business Administration

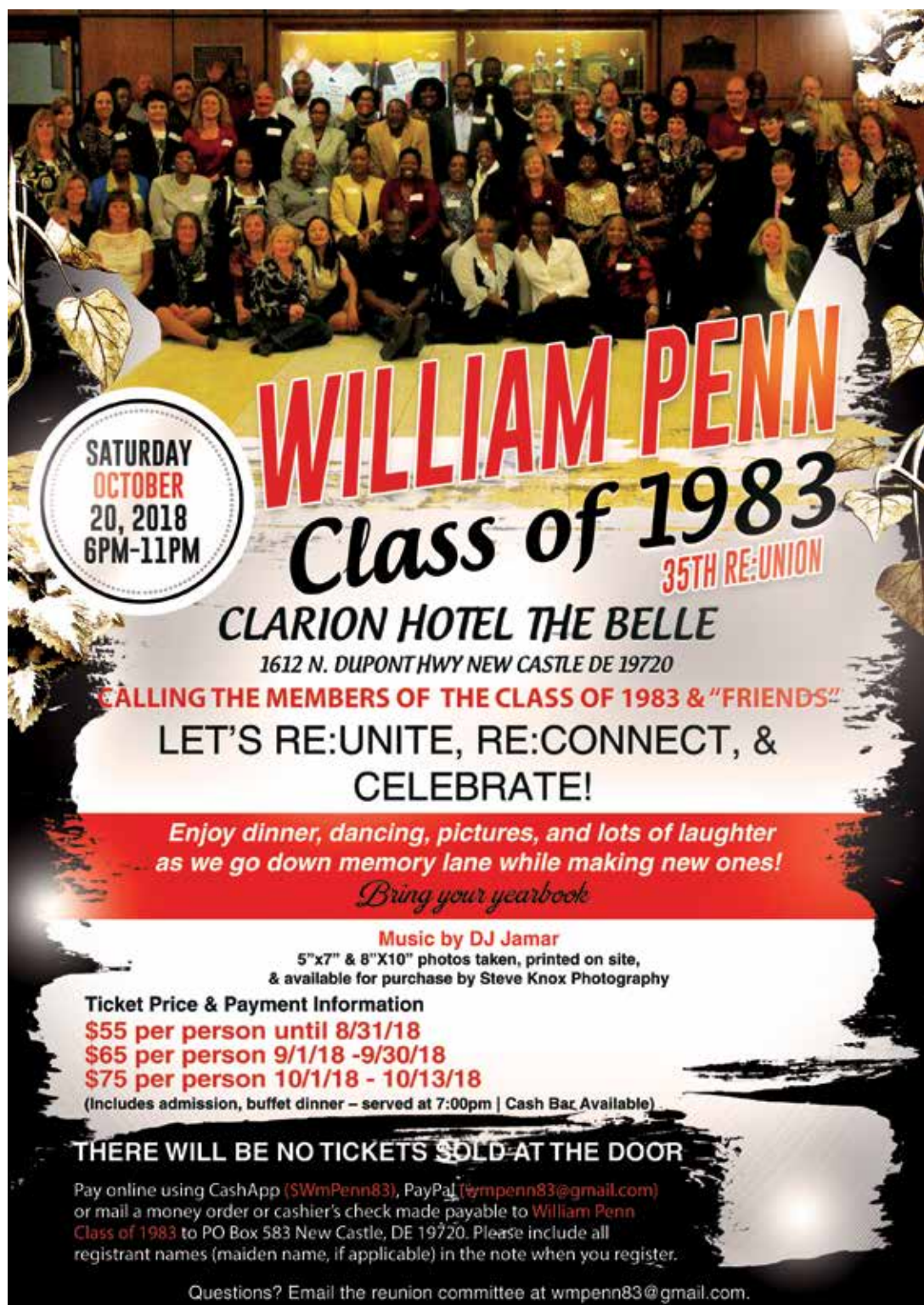


HUMANITIES COLLEGE ACADEMY

• Behavioral Sciences
• Education
• International Studies
• Legal Studies
• Communications
• Visual & Performing Arts

Call (302) 323-2700 • colonialschooldistrict.org

Community



WILLIAM PENN
Class of 1983
35TH RE:UNION

SATURDAY
OCTOBER
20, 2018
6PM-11PM

CLARION HOTEL THE BELLE
1612 N. DUPONT HWY NEW CASTLE DE 19720

CALLING THE MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 1983 & "FRIENDS"
LET'S RE:UNITE, RE:CONNECT, & CELEBRATE!

Enjoy dinner, dancing, pictures, and lots of laughter as we go down memory lane while making new ones!
Bring your yearbook

Music by DJ Jamar
5"x7" & 8"x10" photos taken, printed on site,
& available for purchase by Steve Knox Photography

Ticket Price & Payment Information
\$55 per person until 8/31/18
\$65 per person 9/1/18 - 9/30/18
\$75 per person 10/1/18 - 10/13/18
(Includes admission, buffet dinner - served at 7:00pm | Cash Bar Available)

THERE WILL BE NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR

Pay online using CashApp (SWmPenn83), PayPal (wmpenn83@gmail.com)
or mail a money order or cashier's check made payable to William Penn
Class of 1983 to PO Box 583 New Castle, DE 19720. Please include all
registrant names (maiden name, if applicable) in the note when you register.

Questions? Email the reunion committee at wmpenn83@gmail.com.

William Penn Class of 1978 40th Reunion

September 29th, 5:30-10:30 pm
Elsmere Fire Hall

\$50 per person

Certified check or money order... No personal checks

PO Box 343 • New Castle, DE 19720

Or at venmo.com/wp1978reunion

THE NEW CASTLE H.S. DE ALUMNI ASSOC., EST., 1914, welcomes the William Penn High School Class of 2019 to a great year.

While moving through your twelve years of study, have you begun to think about who you will be
as soon as you get that diploma in your hand?

The answer . . . you will be a member of a distinguished group of people, the alumni of William Penn High School.

The New Castle H.S. DE Alumni Assoc., Est., 1914, established in 1914, works to join together graduates of the New Castle area and to provide
a scholarship to assist students with some of the cost of furthering their education at a school or college of their choice.

The once yearly scholarship is awarded to a deserving student who applies and meets the qualifications we have established.

To have an application mailed to you, or for further information, please submit your request by sending a letter to:

New Castle H.S. DE Alumni Assoc., Est. 1914

RE: 2019 Scholarship Application

Gunning Bedford Middle School

801 Cox Neck Road, New Castle DE 19720

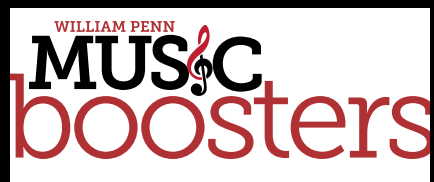
Applications for this scholarship must be submitted by: APRIL 1ST, 2019

The Alumni Association has monthly meetings.

If you are an alumni and would like to come to the meetings, please find us on Facebook where announcements are posted,

Also, we have fundraisers throughout the year for the scholarship fund and donations are also accepted.

We are looking forward to a very productive year!



Halloween Scramble

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Thursday - November 1, 2018
at Newark Country Club - Newark, DE

All proceeds support the WPHS band planned trip to Disney World in December

Event Schedule

10:30 AM Registration / Lunch

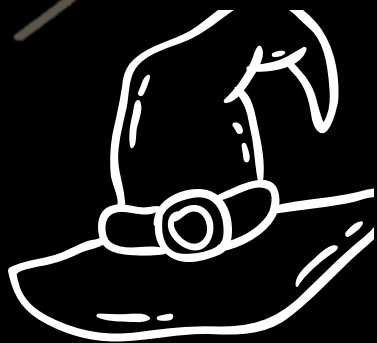
12:00 Noon Shotgun Start / Scramble Format
Beverages and snacks will be available on the course during your round of golf

4:30 / 5:00 PM Dinner / Auction / Awards

Add Excitement to your game!!!!

LINKS LAUNCHER AIR CANNON

- \$20 per player / \$60 for Team
- Each paying player gets to shoot the cannon 300+ yards on a par 4
- If entire TEAM participates your second shot is an automatic 8' Eagle Putt



Questions

- Bill Gardner at 302-235-2725 - bill@linksce.com
- Dawn Knowles at 302-383-9298
wphsmusicboosters@gmail.com

Register online at www.birdeasepro.com/WPMB

Photo



Gallery



WP
COLONIALS

Fall Festival & Homecoming

October 27th

9:30 am
Parade

Begins at Wilmington
Manor Elementary

10 am - 12:30 pm
Festival

- Performing Arts Showcase
- Penn Farm Petting Zoo & Hay Ride
- \$5 Pick a Pumpkin
- Kids Carnival with Moonbounces, Games, Prizes, Popcorn*

1:00 pm

Homecoming Football Game vs Delcastle

Did you know ?



Colonial Nutrition is on the move!

Colonial's Nutrition Services Division, under the direction of Paula Angelucci, has moved its headquarters to 161 Airport Road in New Castle (former DMV) where the district's Department of Transportation and Technology is also located.

To contact Nutrition Services, call (302) 323-2743 or contact paula.angelucci@colonial.k12.de.us.



Colonial has a dedicated group volunteers to oversee finances.

Members of the Citizens Finance Oversight Committee attend monthly meetings to review and discuss the district's financial information and provide recommendations and input to the district and board of education. Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 in the Administration building. You can attend a meeting to get more information or contact our Business Director Emily Falcon at 302-323-2729 or emily.falcon@colonial.k12.de.us.

Colonial Reporter

WRITER: Lauren Wilson

lauren.wilson@colonial.k12.de.us

LAYOUT & DESIGN: Gabe Phillips

gabriel.phillips@colonial.k12.de.us

People to Know

Colonial School Board of Education

- President - Joseph T. Laws, III - joseph.laws@colonial.k12.de.us)
- Vice President - Lucy Kennedy - margaret.kennedy@colonial.k12.de.us

Members:

- Leo Magee, Sr. - leo.magee@colonial.k12.de.us
- Ron Handy - brdhandy@colonial.k12.de.us
- Ronnie Williams. - rcwilliams@colonial.k12.de.us
- Robin Crossan - racrossan@colonial.k12.de.us

At the district administration office, the main number is 323-2700. The receptionist can direct your call or you can dial the following numbers:

- Superintendent - Dr. Dusty Blakey: 323-2710
- Assistant Superintendent - Dr. Jeffrey Menzer: 323-2710
- Assistant Superintendent - Dr. Peter Leida: 323-2702
- Business Division - Emily Falcon: 323-2729
- Curriculum & Instruction - Sherrie Clark: 323-2726
- Operations Division - Karen Gilbert: 323-2719
- Human Resources - Betsy Fleetwood: 323-2712
- Schools Division - Nneka Jones & James Comegys: 323-2716
- Student Services Division - Dr. Jon Cooper & Holly Sage: 323-2872
- Public Information Officer/Communications - Lauren Wilson: 323-2753
- Strategic Marketing Officer - Gabriel Phillips: 650-3213
- Choice - Angela R. Ferrante: 323-2702

Contact Us

Carrie Downie	323-2926
Colonial Early Education Program	429-4085
Colwyck Center	429-4085
Castle Hills	323-2915
Eisenberg	429-4074
George Read	323-2760
Gunning Bedford	832-6280
Leach	429-4055
New Castle	323-2880
Nutrition	323-2743
McCullough	429-4000
Pleasantville	323-2935
Southern	832-6300
Transportation	323-2851
Wallin School	323-2952
Wilbur	832-6330
Wilmington Manor	323-2901
William Penn	323-2800