

Red Clay Consolidated School District

eNews

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Hurricane Relief Drive Launched by Red Clay

The Red Clay Consolidated School District will be collecting new and unused items at all of its schools through September 22, 2017. Please consider joining us in this effort to fill a bus with supplies to help those affected by the recent hurricanes.

Watch today's announcement by Superintendent Merv Daugherty: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q9XxwVyyM00>

Wellness Center Opens in Conrad



Officials gathered at Conrad Schools of Science last week for the official opening of a School-Based Health Center – known as a Wellness Center - which will offer comprehensive medical and mental health care to students.

Superintendent Merv Daugherty was joined by State Representative Kim Williams, who was instrumental in securing state funding to open the center. Also in attendance were Red Clay Board of Education members Adriana Bohm and Martin Wilson, Conrad Principal Mark Pruitt, and representatives from Christiana Care.

The centers are operated by a partnership that includes Christiana Care, and the Delaware Division of Public Health, Department of Health and Social Services.

Wellness centers, because they are located right in the school, help students overcome many obstacles to receiving good health care. The center offers comprehensive medical and mental health care, treatment and health education to promote a healthy lifestyle.

“It’s another way that school districts serve young people,” said Dr. Daugherty. “I’m glad we can do it.”

Services offered at the center include:

- Physical examinations for sports, camp, school or pre-employment
- Health screenings
- Women’s health care
- Treatment for minor illnesses and injuries
- Nutrition and weight management

“It’s a multi-disciplinary team that works together,” said Kathy Cannatelli, Administrative Director of the centers for Christiana Care. “It’s a nice, complete blanket of care.”

Students must enroll in the center to take advantage of the services provided. Consent forms for parents or guardians of students under the age of 18 are available in the center.

Red Clay Sponsors Regional English Language Conference

The Red Clay Consolidated School District is sponsoring a regional English Learner Conference in October to empower all students and families who speak English as their second language.

Red Clay staff, families and community members are invited to attend the half day conference on Friday, October 6 at Cab Calloway School of the Arts. The conference will take place from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and is designed to provide support for families who face language challenges as well as for the Red Clay staff and community members who work with them. The English Learner Conference theme, “Success for All” addresses the need to support the different challenges English Learner students and families face including academic, social and cultural issues. Also included is a workshop addressing the rights of immigrant families. Participants will learn ways to make instruction more effective and how to empower English Learners to be engaged in the community around them.

Each participant will have the opportunity to attend two one hour workshops and listen to keynote speaker Nigel A. Caplan, PhD., an associate professor at the University of Delaware English Language Institute. Workshop themes include instructional strategies that address the domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing; effective instruction for elementary and secondary English Learners; immigrants’ rights; mobility challenges of migratory students; language differences vs. disability; and peer-led discussions that share challenges and solutions.

Registration is \$25 per person with the fee being waived for Red Clay employees. To register for the conference visit the website www.rcsuccessforallconference.com. Checks should be mailed to:

Red Clay Consolidated School District
1502 Spruce Ave.
Wilmington, DE 19805
Attn: Balbina Ventura

For further details or questions about the conference contact April Anderson, program coordinator, at 552-3714 or april.anderson@redclay.k12.de.us.

H.B. duPont PTA Receives School of Excellence Designation

H.B. duPont Middle School PTA was one of only 141 local PTA units across the country to receive the 2017-2019 School of Excellence designation from the National PTA School of Excellence Program. This award recognizes H.B.’s year-long commitment to create stronger family-school-community connections, enrich the educational experience and engage more families in the school improvement process.

H.B.’s PTA is dedicated to supporting programs to enhance students’ academic and social middle school experiences and help teachers purchase materials needed in the classroom. Principal, Jason Bastianelli said, “H.B.’s PTA is an amazing group of volunteers. They work tirelessly so our school can accomplish our goals and dreams. We are extremely honored to be recognized as a PTA School of Excellence. Throughout the School of Excellence process, we received a lot of great advice from the National PTA, which we implemented. Specifically, we continued having our school counselors meet with students from

our three feeder elementary schools to ease their transition, we improved our publicity of the phenomenal job our counselors do of teaching 7th and 8th grade students about their high school options, and we renumbered the school to make it more user friendly. The excellent advice we received, led H. B. duPont to be even better.”

In addition to the National PTA School of Excellence designation, the H.B. PTA was named a recipient of the 2017 Mary Lou Anderson Arts Enhancement Grant and will receive \$1,000 from the National PTA to support arts projects during the 2017-18 school year. This is the first time Delaware has had a PTA unit earn multiple awards/grants within the same school year. This accomplishment supports H.B.’s ongoing commitment to the mission of the PTA in serving their students and the school community.

Back to School Nights in September

Back to School Night open houses provide an opportunity for parents to make a connection with their child’s classroom teacher or teachers, obtain an overview of the school year and become acquainted with classroom rules and procedures.

While it is not a time for conferences about individual students, Back to School Night is a time for parents to learn about expectations and events that teachers have planned for the school year. Information about daily schedules, behavior management, subject area content, and methods of learning and grading may also be discussed.

Classroom teachers often suggest ways for parents to become involved in their child’s education and offer tips on how to have a successful school year. Communication between home and school is vital to student achievement.

Below is a schedule of upcoming open houses which are held from 6:00 – 8:00p.m.

September 11	Cab Calloway and Conrad
September 12	Shortlidge, Marbrook, RPES, RPLC, Cooke, Forest Oak, Richey
September 13	Baltz, BSS, Heritage, Highlands, Lewis, Linden Hill, Mote, North Star, Shortlidge, Warner
September 14	Middle Schools
September 18	McKean
September 19	Dickinson
September 20	First State School
September 25	Meadowood Pre-K & MTP

Family Resource Fair Adds Literary Focus

Red Clay has partnered with the News Journal to present the Imagine Delaware Literacy Fair, sponsored by Nemours, in conjunction with the highly popular Red Clay Family Resource Fair on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at John Dickinson High School.

Plans for the Literacy Fair include guest celebrity readers and speakers who can offer parents tips on how to help their children with reading. More information on the Literacy Fair will be released shortly.

More than 100 vendors typically attend the Family Resource Fair, from schools to community agencies which offer support to children and their families. The event is free to the public and does not require registration.

Free Bike Workshop Sept. 11

A free Bike Maintenance Workshop for Employees, Parents, and students will be held on Monday, September 11th from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Stanton Middle School Auditorium. Want to learn the basic rules of the roads, how to fix a flat tire, dropped chain, or just how to fit yourself to a bike? RSVP by September 8th to Jessica.farrand@redclay.k12.de.us. Light refreshments provided.

Red Clay Dads Day: Tuesday, September 19

This school year, the Red Clay Consolidated School District invites you to participate in a special event to celebrate and encourage the involvement of fathers and father figures in the lives of their children—starting with a trip to school. Please join us as we recognize and celebrate our Red Clay dads, father figures and male role models. On this day, we are asking all who are available to accompany their child(s) to school in the morning. Red Clay has chosen this day as a celebratory occasion. Our event is not designed to exclude anyone. While some schools will have individual events during the day, the request is the morning accompaniment. Sign up here: <https://goo.gl/forms/Bf7iVELixR5UoKLT2>

Bike to the Bay with Red Clay

Bike to the Bay with Team Red Clay October 7th - Parents & Students Welcome! Red Clay is committed to providing the best environment for our students to grow, and that includes their role models (you!) being fit and challenged to grow as well. This Fall 2017, Red Clay will host another employee wellness challenge that will focus on movement and fitness. The Bike to the Bay will be the fun, challenging culmination of the efforts to increase physical fitness. There will be a pre/post party and spirit benchmarks along the way that will make this event one not to miss!

If you participate in Bike to the Bay, you can ride as little as 20 miles and as much as 100 miles, it's up to you! Don't have a bike? The Newark Bike Project and Urban Bike Project of Wilmington have bikes for rent or purchase at discounted rates and are excited to work with Red Clay employees, parents and students (12 and up) to find bikes to train and ride Bike to the Bay with.

Volunteers are always needed! If you do not want or can't ride in Bike to the Bay but would like to be a part of Team Red Clay, you can sign up to volunteer at one of the spirit benchmark stops for Red Clay or help set up the pre/post parties. Students over the age of 12 are welcome to sign up with Team Red Clay if they have a guardian to ride with them. All parents are also welcome to ride with Team Red Clay and promote fitness in our community!

Sign up today here on our Team Page! <http://main.nationalmssociety.org/goto/RedClaySD>

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Back to School Night – Conrad & Cab Calloway, Sept. 11, 6:00-8:00p.m.
- Parent Advisory Council Meeting, Sept. 11, 6:00-8:00p.m., Baltz

- Back to School Night – Shortlidge, Marbrook, RPES, RPLC, Cooke, Forest Oak, Richey, Sept. 12, 6:00-8:00p.m.
- Community Financial Review Committee Meeting, Sept. 12, 6:30p.m., Brandywine Springs Teachers’ Lounge
- Back to School Night – Baltz, Brandywine Springs, Heritage, Highlands, Lewis, Linden Hill, Mote, North Star, Warner, Sept. 13, 6:00-8:00p.m.
- Back to School Night – Middle Schools, Sept. 14, 6:00-8:00p.m.
- Back to School Night – McKean, Sept. 18, 6:00-8:00p.m.
- Red Clay Dads Day, Sept. 19
- Back to School Night – Dickinson, Sept.19, 6:00-8:00p.m.
- Back to School Night – First State School, Sept. 20, 6:00-8:00p.m.
- School Board Meeting, Sept. 20, 7:00p.m., Cab Calloway
- **Schools Closed – Rosh Hashanah (Offices Open), Sept. 21**

