

# Red Clay Consolidated School District

## eNews

November 17, 2017

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#### **“Giving Tuesday” to Benefit Red Clay Schools**

Superintendent Merv Daugherty is asking the Red Clay community to join in the global event #GivingTuesday on November 28 to benefit students and schools in the district.

Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving in the U.S., #GivingTuesday kicks off the holiday charitable season through social media and collaboration.

Similar to the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #Giving Tuesday is not about purchasing presents, it is global day dedicated to giving back to your community by making a monetary donation.

Organizers of the event urge people to find local charities in their communities to give, and Red Clay is asking people to consider donating to the Red Clay Education Foundation (RCEF).

The RCEF supports Red Clay students and schools by supplementing programs such as Dr. D’s Book Club, Water Wise Program, STEM Enrichment programs, College Scholarships, travel for Odyssey of the Mind, just to name a few.

Please read a letter from Dr. Daugherty [here](#). To make a donation to the RCEF, [click here](#).

#### **New Board Member Sworn into Office**



Jason P. Casper, Red Clay's newest Board of Education member, took his oath of office at the November meeting. The educator and funeral consultant was appointed last month and will serve through June 30, 2018.

Mr. Casper has served as a teacher in the Brandywine School District, as a funeral consultant in area funeral homes, and an instructor at two charter schools in New Castle County, where he also served on the Board of Directors. He is currently a driver's education teacher at the Delaware Academy of Public Safety & Security, where he also serves as the Varsity Boys Assistant Soccer coach. Mr. Casper has also worked in the funeral industry for more than 20 years, serving as an assistant and consultant.

He said he is a strong supporter of public schools and will work to serve the students and families of Red Clay. "It is truly an honor to be appointed to serve on the Board of Education for the Red Clay Consolidated School District," he said. "I am looking forward to being a part of this incredible team of dedicated volunteers to help provide the best educational experience for our students. Moreover, I am absolutely overwhelmed and humbled by the warm welcome that I have received from the entire "Red Clay Family". I will do my absolute best to serve the students and families of Red Clay, keeping the best interest of the children at the forefront of all our work."

Mr. Casper comes to the role with some training. While working as a social studies teacher and summer camp director at the Family Foundations Academy Charter School, he attended all of the required and recommended training for board members of a public school board. Mr. Casper holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Wilmington University, an Associates in Mortuary Science from the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science and has done graduate course work at the Delaware State University campus in Dover. He has also served as a three time past president of the New Castle Hundred Lions Club Foundation and is an active member of St. Joseph on the Brandywine Cemetery Committee.

## November Board of Education Meeting

- School Capacities Report
- Class Size Waiver Presentation
- College Success Report
- Superintendent's Report
- School Board Committee Reports

## Operation Warm Donates Coats at Lewis



Operation Warm and more than 30 M&T Bank volunteers visited the William C. Lewis Dual Language School on Tuesday to personally assist each child in selecting a new coat and help them write their name in the interior tag which reads, "Made Just for You."

M&T Bank and its employee volunteers gave away 500 brand-new winter coats to students at the school through its partnership with Operation Warm, a national nonprofit dedicated to providing winter coats to low-income children. Operation Warm believes providing a **brand new** winter coat to a child in need can be ‘more than a coat.’ Children living in poverty are accustomed to receiving second-hand clothing. By providing a new coat, especially around the holidays, you not only provide a child warmth, but a boost in joy and self-esteem. M&T Bank and Operation Warm have partnered for several years to help provide brand-new coats to children in need throughout the Delaware Valley. The organization's involvement came to fruition because of M&T's desire to support its community members, while also incorporating a great team building experience for its employees.

Lewis Principal Mark Phelps said a warm coat can sometimes mean a child will not miss school during the cold months. “As a school community, we could not be more pleased and grateful to be partnering with our friends at Operation Warm and M&T Bank in their efforts to provide a warm coat to every one of our students this winter,” he said. “The research speaks to the challenges that come along with bad weather and student attendance. When students have a warm coat, there is one less impediment to attending school during the cold winter months. Waiting at the bus stop is not as extreme of a challenge when you’re not out there shivering.”

### **Public Comment Sought on Anti-Discrimination Regulation**

Less than three weeks remain in the public comment period for a proposed regulation that would help prevent discrimination in our schools – 225 Prohibition of Discrimination regulation.

On July 17, Governor Carney directed the Delaware Department of Education to develop specific guidelines – by regulation – for school districts and charter schools to use in developing their own local policies that prohibit discrimination against students. In the months since, a team of stakeholders and community members drafted this anti-discrimination regulation. The team included the superintendents of Brandywine, Cape Henlopen, and Smyrna school districts, as well as parent representatives, students, other school leaders, and school board members from each county. The team also hosted evening public meetings in each county to gather more community feedback (find meeting notes and materials on a website dedicated to this effort).

This regulation will help districts and charters create consistent policies statewide that prohibit discrimination based on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, genetic information, marital status, disability, age, gender identity or expression or other characteristic protected by state or federal law. The effort also includes a model anti-discrimination policy that each district and charter could adopt, or tailor and adopt, to suit the needs of its students.

**SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENT:** DOE is now in the 30-day public comment portion of the process. Anyone can submit feedback to a dedicated email address, [DOEregulations.comment@doe.k12.de.us](mailto:DOEregulations.comment@doe.k12.de.us). Comments also may be mailed to: Delaware Department of Education, RE: 225 Prohibition of Discrimination, 401 Federal Street, Suite 2, Dover, DE 19901

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:** For additional information, including a copy of the draft regulation, and meeting notes, visit the website at <https://www.doe.k12.de.us/antidiscrimination>

### **Early College Academy Accepting Applications**

The dual enrollment program, Early College Academy (ECA) will be featured in an informational meeting for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents or guardians at Alexis I. DuPont High School, 50 Hillside Road, on Monday, November 20, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. The presentation is in advance of A.I. High's Choice Open House, scheduled for Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The ECA is entering its 4<sup>th</sup> year. Through a unique partnership with Wilmington University, ECA students can earn up to 31 college credits while simultaneously earning high school credits toward graduation. They can finish their first year of college while still in high school, saving up to \$10,000 if they were to continue their education at Wilmington University. Students in the ECA will have the opportunity to participate in sports and extra-curricular activities and take part in all the events available to A.I. students, including academic activities, electives and A.P. classes.

During the students' freshman through junior years, Wilmington University courses will be offered at A. I. High School and taught by A. I. faculty. Senior year, select courses will be offered on Wilmington University's campus. Students will receive a college transcript through Wilmington University, making them highly competitive for college acceptance. They will graduate from high school with a successful college experience and the mindset of a college student.

The Early College Academy is a new approach to high school, providing students the opportunity to simultaneously earn a high school diploma and college credits. Enrollment in ECA jumpstarts the college experience, transitioning students into a university community and exposing them to the rigor of college coursework while in a supportive environment. ECA students receive access to resources and materials that will assist them with their coursework.

A.I. High School is now accepting applications for consideration for admission into the ECA. Students not in the A. I. feeder pattern must fill out a choice application. For further information check the A.I. High School website or contact Jennifer Abernethy at 302-651-2626 Ex. 230 or [Jennifer.Abernethy@redclay.k12.de.us](mailto:Jennifer.Abernethy@redclay.k12.de.us).

### **Middle School Choral Festival Nov. 30**

The 2017 Middle School Choral Festival will be held on November 30, 2017 at John Dickinson High School Auditorium at 7:00 pm. Admission is free. Choirs from all our middle schools will be participating. The adjudicator for the festival is Dr. Kathleen Shannon, she is a regular music adjudicator for Festival Disney. Refreshments will be available to purchase from the Dickinson Support Association.

This program gives Red Clay the opportunity to showcase the abilities of our students and their choral directors. In addition, musical experiences offer students a lifetime of personal enjoyment and meaningful expression. Parents, friends, and community members play a vital role in supporting the Performing Arts Curriculum for all students. Please join us to share in the joyful sound created by these talented students.

### **Nutrition Jobs Available**

Are you looking for a fun and rewarding part time job that offers you the ability to work while your kids are in school? If so, look no further than Red Clay Café! Red Clay Café can offer you an opportunity to work in a school cafeteria serving nutritious meals to Red Clay students with a smile. If you are interested in applying, please visit us at the nutrition office to obtain a copy of the application or obtain a copy of the application from a Red Clay School Cafeteria or office near you. The Nutrition Office is located at 1798 Limestone Rd., Wilmington, DE 19804.

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

- **Schools Closed – Parent Conferences, Nov 20-21**
- **Schools Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday, Nov. 22-24**
- **Offices Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday, Nov. 23-24**
- **Linden Hill, McKean Choice Open House, Nov. 27, 6:00-8:00p.m.**

- Cooke, Dickinson (all programs) Choice Open House, Nov. 28, 6:00-8:00p.m.
- North Star, Stanton Choice Open House, Nov. 29, 6:00-8:00p.m.
- Diversity Committee Meeting, Nov. 30, 4:30p.m., District Office Board Room
- District Middle School Choral Festival and Art Show, Nov. 30, 7:00p.m., Dickinson
- Facilities Committee Meeting, Dec. 4, 6:00p.m., District Office Board Room
- Parent Advisory Council Meeting, Dec 4, 6:00 – 8:00p.m., A. I. Middle
- Warner Choice Open House, Dec. 4, 6:00 – 8:00p.m.
- Lewis Choice Open House, Dec. 5, 6:00 – 8:00p.m.
- Baltz Choice Open House, Dec. 6, 6:00 – 8:00p.m.
- Highlands, Skyline Choice Open House, Dec. 7, 6:00 – 8:00p.m.