



# AROUND OUR SCHOOLS

## ISSUE 15 – FEBRUARY 25, 2022



As we near the end of the month of February, we reflect on a month of celebration for the lives and work of African Americans throughout history. Coatesville Area School District's mission is clear - Rich in Diversity. Committed to Excellence. Our Board of School Directors and the CASD administrative team is committed to promoting equity and inclusion in every one of our schools and buildings. We know that sharing the rich cultural diversity within our communities makes us stronger as we seek to address and eliminate perceptions and bias and aid our understanding of each other.

The history of our community is one that was formed and shaped because of our diversity and this month is a special time to reflect, engage, and to educate ourselves on the people and innovators that have contributed to building our great nation. W.C. Atkinson M.D. is an example of an innovator and leader for social justice in the Coatesville community who in 1936, after being rejected to join the staff of Coatesville Hospital, built a five-bed hospital next to his home, which grew to 60 beds. He served as medical director and chair of the board of directors. He was interested in creating a place African Americans could go and be treated as human beings and with dignity. In addition, W.C. Atkinson M.D. distinguished himself as the First African American physician in the city of Coatesville in 1927, a co-founder of the NAACP Coatesville Branch, was the First African American president of the Chester County Medical Society and was recognized as General Practitioner of the Year for the PA Medical Association. The resilience, excellence, and strength of our neighbors is a story of perseverance and courage.

Throughout this month, classrooms across the district have engaged in activities to recognize and honor the triumphs and struggles of African Americans who helped make this country great. Activities ranged from school-wide announcements, to writing pieces, to research projects, to dance parties featuring African American musical artists.

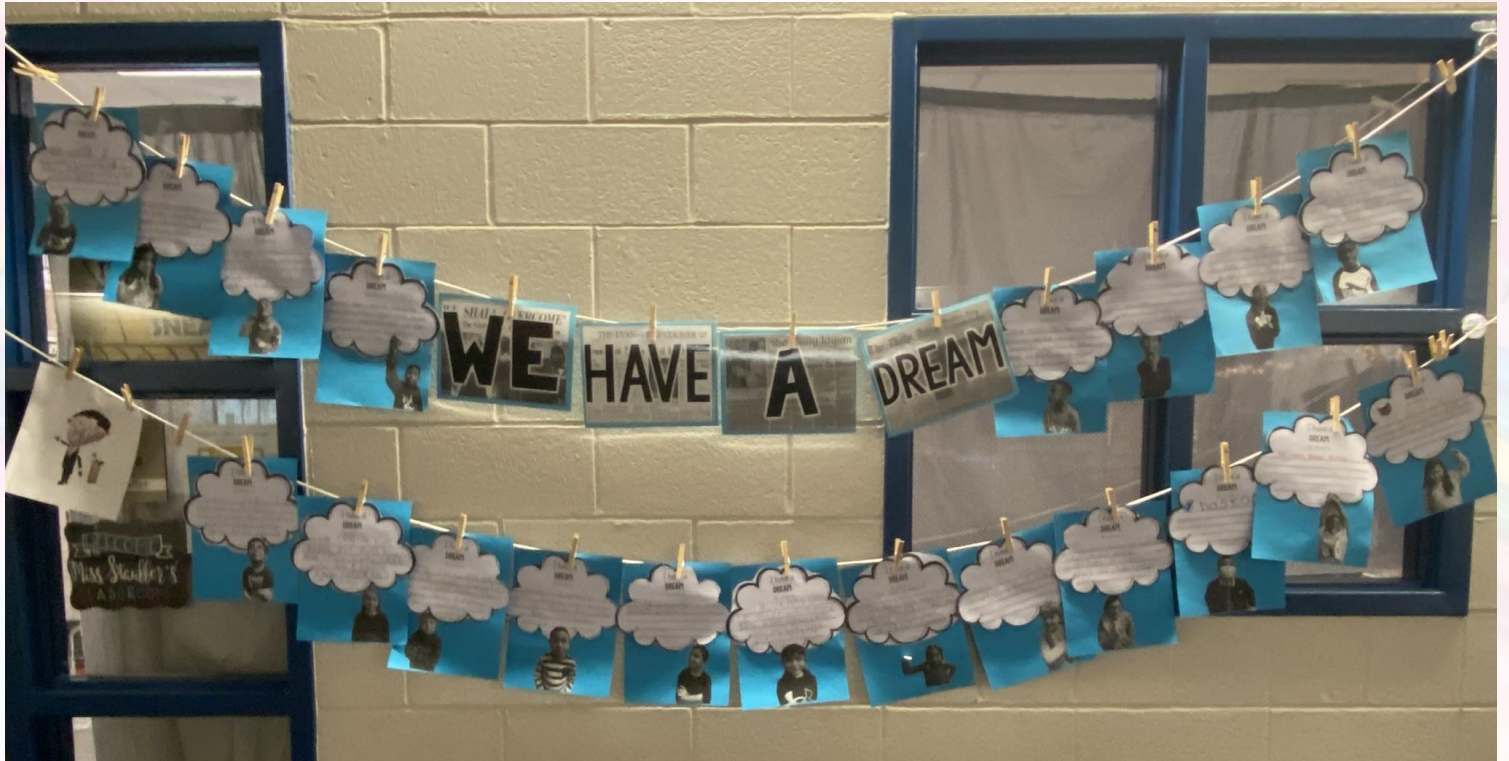


# Celebrating Black History Month

Rainbow Elementary School is proud to join our nation in honoring Black History Month. The celebratory month, also known as National African American History Month, is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in the story of the United States of America.

During the month of February, Rainbow Elementary's morning announcements took students on a journey through time, across borders, and even space to provide them with a snapshot of the infinite number of contributions African American changemakers have brought to our world.

Each Monday, a short biography was read during morning announcements. Students were asked to listen for a quote that then became the inspirational message of the week.



## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Welcome Class of 2035! Kindergarten Registration is officially open!

The Coatesville Area School District is so excited to begin its partnership with you to prepare your child for his or her future. A child's early years are the foundation for success both academically and emotionally. The kindergarten registration process can be completed online. Please access the **2022-2023 Kindergarten Registration** form by clicking on links here: [English](#) [Spanish](#)

In addition to basic information about your child, please be prepared to upload copies of the following documents:  
(1) Birth Certificate (2) Immunization Records (3) Proof of Residency

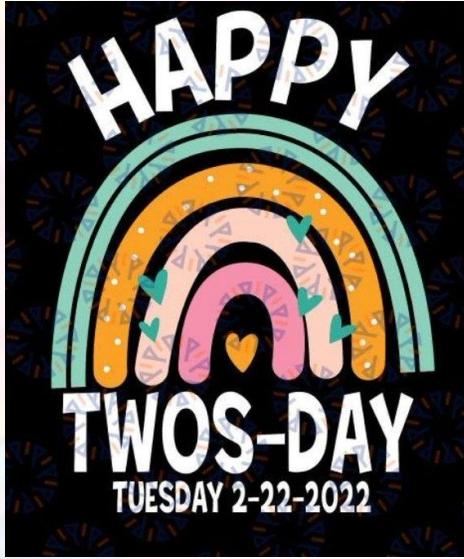
Please click [here](#) to determine which Elementary School your child will attend. Check that school's website for upcoming in-person registration dates.

Should you have any general questions or concerns pertaining to the online registration process, please do not hesitate to contact our central registration team at 610-466-2400.



# Celebrating Twosday on 2/22/22

Students across the district celebrated Twosday on February 22, 2022. This kind of palindrome date (which means it reads the same backwards and forwards) is always an interesting occurrence. Except for 2/2/22, the last time we experienced a date with all the same numbers was 11/11/11 and the next time will be 3/3/33! For such a rare occasion, students and staff went all out! Everywhere you turned, you could find a tutu, tie, tie-dye, or other festive attire. Thank you to all who participated and made Twosday one to remember!





# Periodic Table of Black History

Mr. Hoffman led the CASH Science Department's development of a creative Black History Month display. Each square of the 'periodic table' holds the name and story of a famous Black American.

## Caln Students Focus on Impactful Individuals

Caln students continue to learn about influential Leaders and Individuals during Black History Month!

Caln students have been continuing to engage in activities and lessons to learn about influential figures in Black History. Each day, students are learning about a new individual and their impact on the nation or the world, during the announcements. Throughout the month of February, there have been articles, book links, and highlights about influential figures, that parents could review with their students. All Caln teachers have had specific activities and lessons that they have engaged in throughout the month, such as:

- Interactive read-alouds to learn about a variety of African Americans who contributed to the Civil Rights Movement
- Learning pairs to compare and contrast leaders' objectives, actions, and successes
- Reading about important leaders in Black history and writing summaries of each influential figure they read about
- Researching influential African American people and creating informational booklets
- Researching influential leaders and inventors that changed our world and presenting to the class
- Learning about Influential Musicians such as Jimi Hendrix and B.B. King and will compose their own 12 bar blues





# First Grade Science Cycles

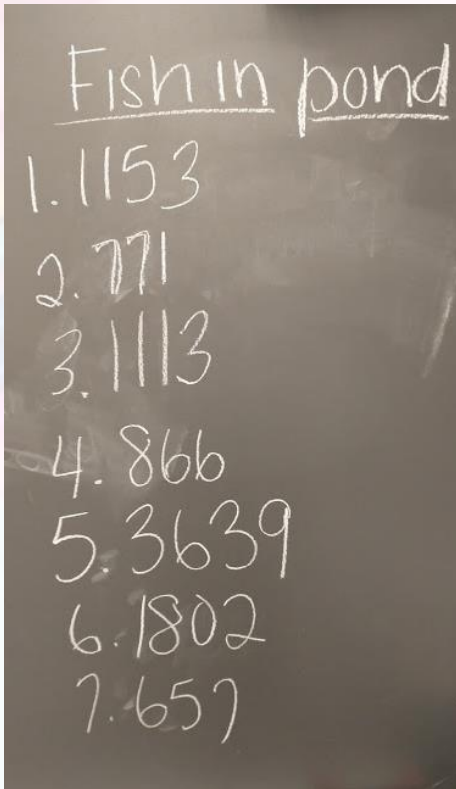
As part of the Open Court program, Mrs. Norton's first graders just finished their reading unit theme on Science Cycles. They read and learned about the life cycles of water, insects, and flowers. The class observed the plant cycle by planting seeds and watching the roots develop, the sprout come through the soil and now they have the plant. The students are eagerly waiting for the flower!



## Algebra Applications

Mrs. Pearson's and Mrs. Barlip's Algebra students learned about Tagging Fish as they used proportional thinking to estimate the population of fish in a lake. Fish biologists need to keep track of fish populations in the waters they monitor. This number fluctuates throughout the year, however, as fish move in and out of the lake. Therefore, biologists need a way to gather current data quickly and inexpensively.

The class objective was for students to apply their proportional understanding to solve an application problem. The class "lake" was a giant container with "fish" (Goldfish crackers). Their task was to determine the number of fish in their lake as accurately as possible *without* counting the fish. The class conducted a lab where they pulled out a net full of fish, tagged them (replacing them with pretzel fish), and then returned them to the "lake". The class did a few catches and collected data on how many tagged fish verses total fish were caught in each net. They used proportional reasoning to estimate the total fish in their lake!





# Fifth Grade Girls Visit Fluxspace



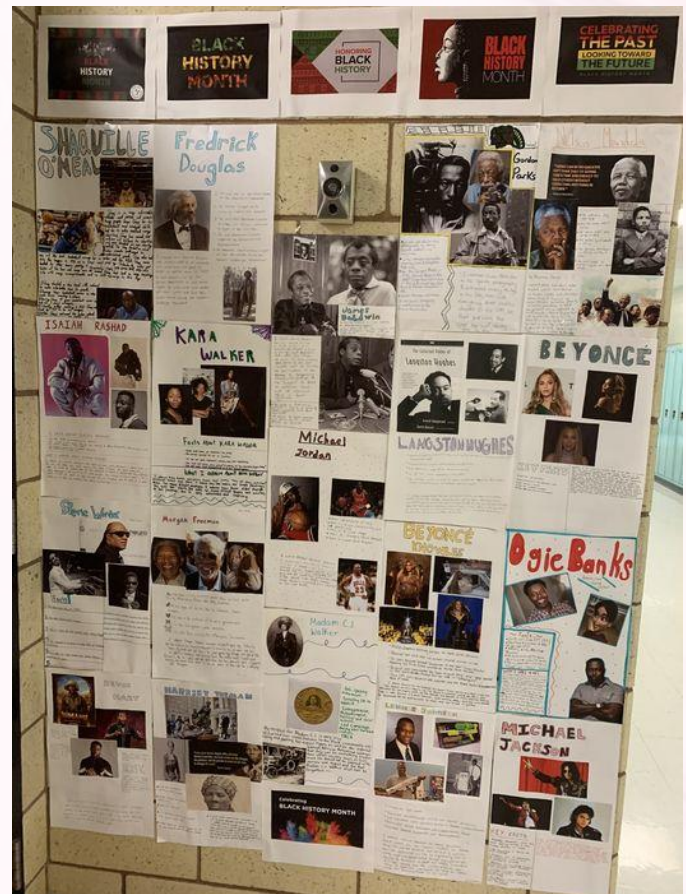
This week, fifth grade girls were invited to Fluxspace to engage in a day of innovative thinking and problem solving. Teams were provided with a small bowl of materials and were told to construct the highest tower possible that could support a ping pong ball. The students were able to work collaboratively to solve any issues that arose during the design process. Once the towers were complete, the students needed to deconstruct and reuse the same materials to create a catapult that would send their ping pong ball the farthest. Each team brought unique ideas to the table and found various solutions to the common problem. Caln Elementary teacher, Ms. Rainer remarked, "What a great opportunity for our girls. They can't stop talking about it! You should have seen all of their creative minds at work!"

Following lunch, students were encouraged to explore the different areas and labs set up within Fluxspace. They took a virtual rollercoaster ride in the immersive Igloo experience, visited the STEM lab, and got to observe a robotic dog and drone security system being tested in the parking lot.



## Recognizing Influential Figures

For Black History Month, ninth grade students in Mr. Raibley and Mrs. Holley-Sheppard's English classes researched influential African Americans and created posters about the individual's life accompanied by a paragraph about why they admired them.





# Robotics Club Goes to State Finals

Robotics just finished up a fun and exciting season with the last State Qualifier on Sunday at Emmaus High School. One can tell from the picture at the event that they have grown into a tight group of friends. Team #20094 Raiderbots Squared has qualified for the Pennsylvania State Championship on March 12. Team #13669 Raiderbots had an impressive showing and had made big strides in the performance of their robot in the last two weeks but did not qualify for the state championship. These students have done so well, and we wish them the best of luck at the State Championship representing Coatesville!



***Team members in the picture at Emmaus qualifier:***

*Team 20094 Alvin Tolden (Driver and Team Captain), Chloe Crane (Operator), Chaelee Crane (Coach), Gavin Raezer (2<sup>nd</sup> operator), Michael Ventrella (2<sup>nd</sup> driver) Magali Cruz-Villegas (programmer). Not pictured: Shannon March, Ryan Manthey and Aidan O'Neal.*

*Team 13669 Michael Williams (Coach and Team Captain) Liam Ventrella (Driver) Antonio Garcia-Reza (operator) Magali Cruz-Villegas (programmer) Chelsea Campos (2<sup>nd</sup> programmer) Jordon Nichols (2<sup>nd</sup> operator). Not pictured: Jacob Foster.*

# Sprinkle Kindness Everywhere

Miss Kriston's class at East Fallowfield Elementary spent Valentines Day showing kindness! The class wrote about how they show kindness and made a doughnut with sprinkles to go along with their writing.

**Keep being kind, Kindergarten!**





# East Fallowfield Creates Digital Presentations

The fourth grade students at East Fallowfield Elementary traditionally host a Black History Month Wax Museum, but since COVID, have had to switch gears from the whole school assembly format to an electronic format. This year, students used FlipGrid to create their presentations, which allows us to share them beyond school walls to bring awareness of these important figures to the entire school community.

*Please click on the photo of each influential person you'd like to learn more about.*



**Althea Gibson**  
*Presented by  
Zamaya J.*



**Marsha P. Johnson**  
*Presented by  
Greyonni S.*



**Simone Biles**  
*Presented by  
Brielle M.*



COATESVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

**SPRING COACHES WANTED!**

Join the team and be part of our awesome athletic department!

8TH GRADE GIRLS LACROSSE  
7TH & 8TH GRADE SOFTBALL  
ASSISTANT BOYS TENNIS  
7TH GRADE TRACK

Apply Today at <https://bit.ly/CASDjobs>



**Save the Date**  
Saturday  
MARCH 5, 2022  
10 am - 12 pm

**Raider Bots FLL EXPO**

Workshops & Stations Include:  
**3D Printing - Coding - Legos**  
**Live Demos - & much more**

WHERE:  
**CASH HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM**

DONATIONS ARE WELCOMED  
CONCESSION STAND AVAILABLE



# Recognizing Raiders: Employee Spotlights

We are so lucky in the Coatesville Area School District to have some of the most dedicated and caring teachers and staff in the world! This year, we want to highlight a few of our favorite teachers and staff who help us learn and grow every day.

## Dr. Pam Bisazza Rainbow Elementary

Dr. Bisazza is a Reading Specialist at Rainbow Elementary School. She provides expert instruction and leadership to support the MTSS framework. Dr. Bisazza is an active member in the Rainbow Community. When she is not actively working with students in small groups, she supports the Reading Olympics team, plans Spelling Bee, plans Parent Engagement Nights, and is a member of Rainbow's Leadership team. She is always willing to pitch in and lend a helping hand to support students and staff. We are happy that she is #teamrainbow!"

- Maria Stauffer, Rainbow Elementary Principal



## Theodore Sterious CAIHS

"Mr. Sterious goes above and beyond to make sure his students not only understand math, but they want to work on assignments on their own! Mr. Sterious gives freely of his own time for students who choose to take advantage of his after-school tutoring! Mr. Sterious has made such a difference in my son's confidence with a subject he has always struggled with. It's not every teacher that can take the time to stay after and put in the extra one-on-one time students need! Mr. Sterious needs to be recognized because he is a very special and caring teacher! We wanted him to know how much we appreciate him!"

- Ángel Fierro, CAIHS Parent



## Recognizing Raiders

Nominations are welcome from anyone who recognizes the excellence in someone who dedicates their time to our schools and always goes the extra mile! Please use the form below to nominate someone to be recognized in our next issue!

[EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION FORM](#)



February 21-25, 2022

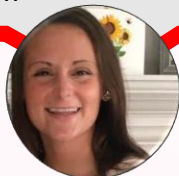


## PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Public Schools Week is an annual celebration that brings together school leaders, educators, parents & community leaders to recognize the importance of our nation's public schools. Caln Elementary celebrated this week by asking the staff why they love their school...

**"Public schools have the most passionate and dedicated teachers, who make it their mission to be lifelong learners to support our students in every way possible. We provide students with quality learning where they are given opportunities to discover learning in authentic learning environments."**

*- Ms. Olsen*



**"We go the extra mile to provide safe and welcoming classroom communities where all students feel valued and accepted."**

*- Ms. DeFazio*



**"I want to create equal opportunities for all my learners to have exciting and engaging learning activities in our public education programs. We are dedicated to supporting our students and ensuring their success."**

*- Mr. Maxwell*



Our students, staff, and community make us Coatesville Proud every day!

## School Board Updates

The Coatesville Area School Board met on Wednesday, February 23, 2022. The full meeting agenda can be found [here](#) and you can watch the recording [here](#).

The first presentation of the night came from Rainbow Elementary. The Rainbow Reps are a group of students who were chosen via an application and screening process to serve on the school's Student Council. You can watch that presentation [here](#).

Junior Class Representative Alison Scheivert presented the Student Representative Report, which you can watch [here](#).

Superintendent Tomás Hanna provided his [remarks](#) concerning recent district happenings and the Health and Safety plan. Listen to that report [here](#).

Director of Pupil Services Brenda George and Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Don Corry presented on the current practices concerning student discipline in the district as well as the supports available to our students who need them. You can view that presentation [here](#).

Director of Educational Services Jason Palaia and Administrators Casandra Jones and Lynn Mancinelli presented the School Board with recommendations for the adoption of a new Core ELA program for grades K-7 as well as supplemental resource adoption in the areas of ELA and Math. You can view that presentation [here](#). In an effort to provide full transparency of the ELA Program Selection process, all documents and meeting notes are available on the [Educational Services Department website](#) by clicking the link under the February 23, 2022 presentation document.

There were a number of public comments made concerning a variety of non-agenda items. You can hear those public comments [here](#).



**Coatesville Area School District**  
Inspiring. Educating. Advancing.