



# AROUND OUR SCHOOLS

ISSUE 45 – APRIL 21, 2023



Our schools have been celebrating Autism Awareness Month throughout April. Reeceville Elementary has engaged in several activities throughout the month that honor their friends and family members with Autism. Each class read the book “The Girl Who Thought in Pictures” by Dr. Temple Grandin and completed activities after reading to reflect on what they learned. Dr. Temple Grandin is an adult with Autism who wrote this book so others could understand how individuals with Autism sometimes think differently. You can listen to this story read aloud [here](#).

In addition to activities in the classroom, students also participated in school-wide activities including the creation of a puzzle piece mural and participation in a spirit week. Puzzle pieces have become a symbol for Autism awareness. Each student in the school decorated a puzzle piece. Once the mural is complete, it will be a beautiful reminder that “everyone fits in.” Each day of Reeceville’s spirit week was specially designed to teach students more about Autism.



## Important Upcoming Dates

PSSA TESTING BEGINS  
April 24, 2023

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
April 25, 2023



## CASH Students Travel Around the World

During our recent Spring Break, CASH students were out exploring the world! The German Club traveled to Europe and took a tour through Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, and France. They got to see many historical landmarks including the famous Neuschwanstein Castle and they even toured a Swiss chocolate factory. The Spanish Club traveled to Puerto Rico where they learned about San Juan, took salsa dancing lessons, went zip lining, kayaked, and explored caves! During their travels they were able to sharpen their language skills and see firsthand the culture they had been studying. All students represented Coatesville well and the chaperones were happy to see them embrace a new culture and make amazing memories!



## Students Compete in Reading Olympics

On Wednesday, April 12 the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading Olympics team competed at TCHS Brandywine's campus. Our students did so well! They earned 49 points and red ribbons. Congratulations to Ms. Kaptur and our Reading Olympics team for all their hard work.





## Connecting Coatesville

Last Thursday evening, the Coatesville Area School District hosted Connecting Coatesville, an event to celebrate the diversity of our community. It was an amazing night filled with information, community partners, music, food and fun! More than 330 people attended the to learn more about our school district and community resources that are available to them. Everyone loved seeing the performances from Sistah Mafalda and her drum and dance troupe, grabbing dinner at some of the food trucks, and enjoying the beautiful evening with friends and family!



## SpringMath in Action!



SpringMath is a math intervention program that the district formally adopted at the end of last school year. The program is designed to be engaging, fun, and effective, and can be tailored to meet the specific needs of each student. Students complete fact fluency probes daily, and throughout this year we have seen students make great strides in their math skills! Students and teachers love the collaboration that the program encourages. Pictured here, Ms. Wilson-Stenz's second grade class at Rainbow Elementary is working hard with their partners to solve those math facts!



## Students Engage in Open Court Reading



*Tracy Shuler works with CASD students on a sequencing activity (above). Tracy has been working with Open Court Reading for over 20 years!*

While state testing season often signals that the school year is ending, learning is still in full swing in the Coatesville Area School District. Over the last several weeks, coaches from McGraw Hill visited our elementary schools to provide support with Open Court Reading, the district's core English Language Arts program, which was adopted by the school board last spring. The coaches were extremely impressed with the district's strong first year implementation. Teachers were grateful for the additional support and feedback provided by the coaches. "Our teachers have embraced Open Court Reading, and I couldn't be happier. Implementing a new core program is hard work, and our teachers have risen to the challenge," shared Casandra Jones, Curriculum Supervisor.

Classroom work from CASD has been featured on the Open Court Reading User Community page, which is viewed by teachers all over the board. Mrs. Hines's class at East Fallowfield is finishing up OCR Unit 3, Our Heritage, Our History. Throughout the unit, students learned about people throughout our history, who came from different cultures and backgrounds. They read a variety of selections that taught them about the immigrant experience and explained why people came, and still come, to live and work and dream in this country. Students in Mrs. Hines's class enjoyed sharing stories about their own heritage. Students reflected individually on where their ancestors lived and located that place on a map.

East Fallowfield Principal Melissa Willis shared, "I had the opportunity to participate in this classroom conversation and I was so impressed with the level of engagement from all students. Students were excited and proud to share their family history with their classmates. While one student shared, the other students were attentive and ready with thought-provoking questions. It was awesome to see our students make connections to each other, their concept board, to their prior learning all while celebrating the beauty in our differences."



## Brandon Graham Visits Student Athletes

Last week, student athletes at the high school campus received a visit from Brandon Graham of the Philadelphia Eagles! Graham was interviewed by Rob Maaddi of "Faith on the Field" podcast and the two discussed the importance of making good decisions now, as they will ultimately lead you on a successful path in the future. Graham told students, "make the hard choice to do the right thing rather than make the easy wrong choice."





## Students attend JROTC Military Ball

The JROTC Military Ball was held on Saturday April 15. In addition to numerous cadets earning local and national awards, the seniors were given their call signs. Brandon Shilling, who served as Mr. Vice during the military ball, was voted Mr. AFJROTC and Ashley Menas was voted Miss AFJROTC. Great work!



## Mrs. Delp Accepts Literacy Kits from Kia America

Rainbow first grade teacher Mrs. Delp accepted a donation of Literacy Kits from Kia America. The kits were presented by Danielle Sipala (Kia of Coatesville), Jacob Sipala (Kia of Coatesville), and James Hannah, Aaron Morina and Robert Joyce (Kia America).

Kia America, Inc. awarded Reading is Fundamental (RIF) with a grant to support a Books for Ownership program for Title I. In conjunction with the grant, Kia selected Rainbow as their Philadelphia area recipient of Literacy Kit Program. Rainbow students in third through fifth grade will receive a literacy kit containing three books, a bookmark, book tags, and a literacy activity.





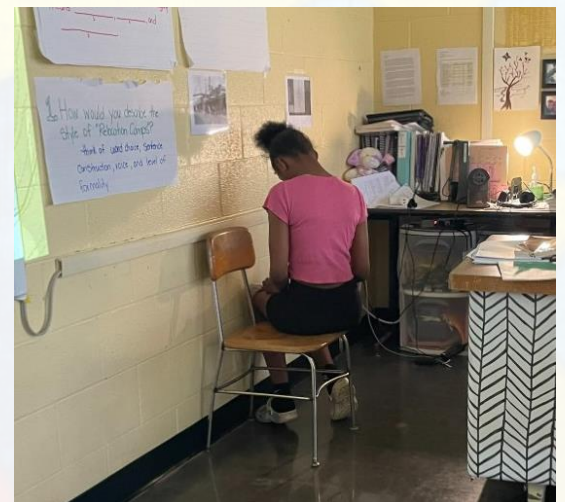
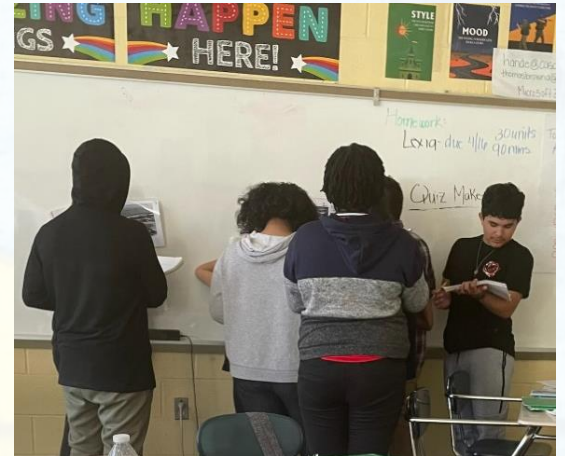
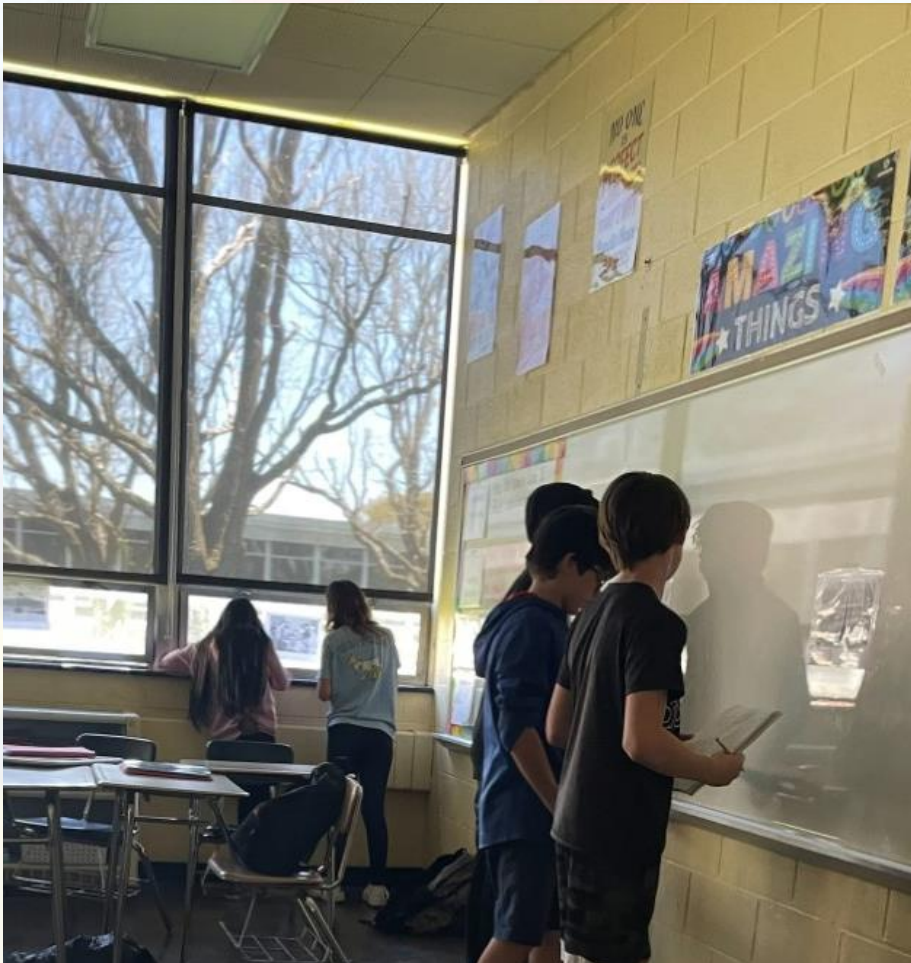
## ME WE CITY Visits East Fallowfield

Last Friday morning, East Fallowfield was happy to welcome the Me We City Initiative led by Pastor Robertson, a former East Fallowfield parent. The initiative has visited various CASD schools in the morning during student arrival with the goal to support students' motivation, happiness, and unity by giving students encouraging positive praises as they enter our school buildings. The students loved seeing the signs and hearing words of affirmation as they walked in to school on Friday morning. It was a lovely way to start the day!



## Students Study WWII Photography

In Ms. Hand's 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA class, the students have been studying the effects of World War II on individuals in the United States. While reading *Farewell to Manzanar*, students did a "gallery walk" and studied pictures by various photographers during WWII and during the internment of the Japanese.





## Employee Spotlight: Lisa Barlow

"Mrs. Barlow is the phenomenal English as a Second Language teacher at Kings Highway and East Fallowfield Elementary Schools. She works so hard to make sure her students at both schools receive the supports that they need. Mrs. Barlow goes above and beyond in helping our students and their families feel connected and part of the school community despite the language barriers that may exist. She is organized and efficient and always willing to help others. Keep up the great work, Mrs. Barlow! You are appreciated!"

*- Submitter wishes to remain anonymous.*

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! We want to highlight the teachers and staff who are making a big impact on our students and families. If you have a special story to share about someone who works in our district, REACH OUT! Your story could land them a spotlight in a future issue of Around Our Schools.

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE A NOMINATION](#)

## Algebra Egg Hunt

Mrs. Pearson's Algebra 2 classes completed an egg hunt around their classroom this week. Hidden inside each egg was a math problem that reviewed key concepts in Algebra 2. Students solved each problem before re-hiding the egg in the classroom for another student to find! The students had an "eggscellent" time on their Algebra Egg Hunt!





# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Welcome Class of 2036!

Kindergarten Pre-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 **2023-2024 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.



# JOB FAIR



Become a  
**HERO**  
in your community

**MAY 6, 2023**  
**10am-12pm**

**Coatesville Area Intermediate High School**  
**1425 E Lincoln Hwy, Coatesville, PA**

#### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

School Bus Driver • Sub Driver

Trip Driver • Bus Monitor

Non-CDL Van Driver

**Test Drive A  
School Bus**

**Questions? Call 484-999-2051**



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- ☒ Her Big Future. *Su gran futuro.*



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Greater Coatesville Girl Scouts Service Unit 607

Adult Volunteers Needed!

Contact us to find out how YOU

and your Daisy (Grades K-1) can become Girl Scouts at

[https://www.gsep.org/en/events/recruitment-events/learn\\_more.html](https://www.gsep.org/en/events/recruitment-events/learn_more.html)

¿Te gustaría ser voluntaria?

Envíame un correo electrónico o envíame un mensaje de texto  
Correo electrónico: [gsep.serviceunit607@gmail.com](mailto:gsep.serviceunit607@gmail.com)  
Teléfono: 610-996-0135

Crystal Arnold - Service Unit 607 Manager  
Email: [gsep.serviceunit607@gmail.com](mailto:gsep.serviceunit607@gmail.com)  
Mobile: 610-996-0135

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The Coatesville Youth Initiative's  
**Youth & Community Clothing Closet and Resource Outlet**

**The Benner Building  
545 E Lincoln Highway  
Coatesville, PA 19320**

The "Outlet" was developed in partnership with the [Coatesville Area School District](#), as a place for youth and community members to get free clothing, school supplies, non-perishable food items, cleaning supplies and other resources.

**What's in the Outlet?**

**In the Outlet you will find**

- School Supplies
- Clothing –youth, adults, male & female.
- Bicycles
- Cleaning Supplies
- Non-perishable Food Items
- Miscellaneous Items



If you are interested in volunteering or donating to *The Outlet*, please contact Charlotte at 610-380-0200 ext. 205 or [charlotte@coatesvilleyouthinitiative.org](mailto:charlotte@coatesvilleyouthinitiative.org)

**Youth & Community  
Clothing Closet and  
Resource Outlet**



**Hours of Operation**

**Monday – Thursday  
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

**Friday  
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

**Tuesdays  
4:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

**Tuesday evenings are By Appointment Only!**



Operated by  
**The Coatesville Youth Initiative**  
545 E Lincoln Highway,  
Coatesville PA 19320.

[www.coatesvilleyouthinitiative.org](http://www.coatesvilleyouthinitiative.org)

The Coatesville Youth Initiative is an independent 501(C)3 organization.

## School Board Updates

The Coatesville Area School Board met on Tuesday, April 11, 2023. The full meeting agenda can be found [here](#) and you can watch the recording of the meeting [here](#).

This evening's meeting had five presentations. You can view those presentations here:

1. Chester County Intermediate Unit (CCIU)  
Budget Presentation - Dr. George F. Fiore, Executive Director, and Joseph P. Lubitsky, Director of Administrative Services
  - a) [View Presentation](#)
  - b) [Attachment](#)
2. 2023-2024 School District Budget Update - Catherine Van Vooren, Ed.D., and Lori A. Diefenderfer
  - a) [View Presentation](#)
  - b) [Attachment](#)
3. Music Department Update – Gabriel Hughes and April Mullen
  - a) [View Presentation](#)
  - b) [Attachment](#)
4. Secondary Math Core Program Selection – Lynn Mancinelli and Rebecca Pearson
  - a) [View Presentation](#)
  - b) [Attachment](#)
5. NAACP Partnership – Casandra Jones and Cassandra Burgess
  - a) [View Presentation](#)
  - b) [Attachment](#)

The Board voted to create a Director of Special Education position to divide the responsibilities that currently fall under Pupil Services. You can hear the rationale for that decision [here](#).

The Board voted to approve seven new teaching positions that have been identified as necessary to best support our students.

Public comment can be heard here: [\[1\]](#) [\[2\]](#) [\[3\]](#) [\[4\]](#) [\[5\]](#)



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**HIRING!**

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