

AROUND OUR SCHOOLS

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We're Off to See the Wizard of Oz!

The Coatesville Area Intermediate High School's Center Stage Drama Club will present "The Wizard of Oz" on February 28 and 29 in the CAIHS Auditorium, 1425 East Lincoln Highway, Coatesville.

The show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Students, parents, families, and community members are invited to attend.



CASD Cyber Academy Partners with Brandywine Virtual Academy

The Coatesville Area School District (CASD) has announced that its Cyber Academy is partnering with the Chester County Intermediate Unit's Brandywine Virtual Academy (BVA) to provide K-12 students with a blended cyber option that includes all the services that CASD has to offer.

Parents and students are invited to learn more about the new partnership at the Coatesville Cyber Academy Information Night on Thursday, March 5. The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. in

the CASH Large Group Room at Coatesville Area Senior High School, 1445 East Lincoln Highway.

Through the partnership with BVA, the Coatesville Cyber Academy will offer:

- More than 200 courses, including elementary through high school Honors, AP, and NCAA-approved classes.

HIGHLIGHTS

2 Surgery Lessons



3 Honor Guard Honors



6 Building Bridges



- Locally based, highly qualified, PA-certified regular and special education teachers.
- An array of student supports, including student-assigned teacher assistants and advisors, a virtual office for real-time, one-on-one support, a technology help desk, and a new BVA drop-in center for students to receive one-on-one guidance from teachers and teacher assistants.
- STEM Your Future program for grades 6-12 that provides monthly live STEM activities.
- Online STEM Academy for high school students.
- The opportunity to participate in Coatesville school clubs, sports, performing arts, and all available student services.

Healthcare Students Observe Robotic Surgery

Forty-five Coatesville Area School District students had an opportunity to witness a robotic-assisted surgical procedure at The Whitaker Center for Science and Art in Harrisburg on February 13.



The Career Connection Academy bused the ninth, tenth and eleventh-grade students to the Whitaker Center, where they joined about 100 students from other districts to observe the surgical procedure. The minimally invasive procedure involving a hysterectomy and appendectomy was livestreamed from the Penn State Hershey Medical Center.

Students were permitted to submit questions on an iPad to

the surgeon, who answered them throughout the surgery when possible.

During the robotic-assisted surgical procedure, the surgeon sat at a console viewing 3-D, high-definition images while using controls below the display to move robotic arms attached surgical instruments. The system translated the surgeon's hands, wrists and fingers movements into precise, real-time

movements of surgical instruments inside the patient.

After the surgery, the students watched a video of an active surgical room where the medical staff were interviewed. Each interviewee gave a description of his or her job duties, work schedule, and required education. They also shared their personal rewards of helping people live better lives and saving lives.

Reeceville Students Visit Delaware Museum of Natural History

Third-grade students at Reeceville Elementary School recently took a field trip to the Delaware Museum of Natural History to learn about various ecosystems.

Students participated in four centers that explored the wetlands, ocean, rainforest, and the savannah. They enjoyed hands-on activities where they learned about how animals interact with

their environment and how adaptations help the animals survive.

Students also explored the new Monarch butterfly maze and the Nature Classroom, where they were able to pet a bearded dragon.



Students Celebrate Black History Month with Art and Authors

Students in Roberta Presser’s painting class at Coatesville Area Intermediate High School (CAIHS) celebrated Black History Month by researching African American painters and creating their own works inspired by these artists.



Students had the opportunity to listen to and speak with New York Times bestselling author Jason Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds is also a Newbery Award Honoree, a Printz Award Honoree, a National Book Award Honoree, a Kirkus Award winner, a two-time Walter Dean Myers

Students also answered the questions, “Which artists would inspire you? And why?” Their art projects were featured in the school’s main display case.

Award winner, and the recipient of multiple Coretta Scott King honors.

Students also celebrated Black History Month with a special field trip. A group of CAIHS and Coatesville Area Senior High School students attended the Sixth Annual African American Read-In event held at the Ferguson Building in Philadelphia earlier this month.

Mr. Reynolds was recently appointed the Ambassador for Youth Literature by the Library of Congress. Every year, hundreds of celebrations of the African American Read-Ins take place across the country and around the world. These events feature the texts, talks, and discussions by and about African American authors and serve as a way to recognize and amplify their work.

AFJROTC Earns High Marks at Drill Competition

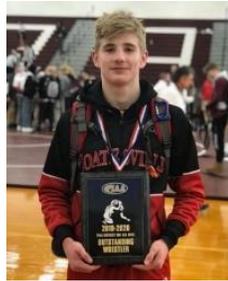
The AFJROTC Honor Guard Drill Team at the Coatesville Area School District earned a third-place trophy, and Cadet Nathan Felter won the drill down competition over hundreds of other cadets at the Academic Challenge last weekend. The competition was held at Sterling High School in New Jersey.



Coatesville Athletes in the Spotlight

Wrestler Wins PIAA District Title

Red Raider wrestler Nate Lucier captured the 2020 PIAA District 1 AAA Title at 120 pounds on February 22. He also was voted the tournament's Outstanding Wrestler. Nate moves on to the 2020 South East AAA Regional at Souderton this weekend.



Swim Team Picks Up More Wins

Congratulations to all the Coatesville Area School District's swimmers who competed in the Scott Elliott Ches-Mont Swimming Invitational on February 15. Special shout-outs to Ethan Moore and Kayla Bock for being the 50 Free Ches-Mont Champs. Ethan picked up wins in the 50 and 100 freestyle, and Kayla won the 50 freestyle.



Seniors Named to Big 33 Team

Coatesville seniors Ricky Ortega and Dapree Bryant have been selected to play in the Big 33 Football Classic on Monday, May 25. Also, Alyssa Shaffer was selected as a cheerleader for the game. Kickoff against the Maryland all-stars is scheduled for 2 p.m. at Central Dauphin's Landis Field in Harrisburg.



Elementary Classrooms Create Calming Corners



As part of the Coatesville Area School District's Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program, some classrooms in elementary schools are implementing Calming Corners.

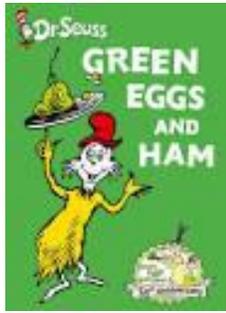
These corners allow students to take a break in the classroom when needed and return to class without disruption. The Calming Corner is an area within the classroom where students can go when they are upset. The corner is equipped with a bean bag, a timer, and ideas for coping strategies, such as focusing on their breathing, tracing a shape, or looking at a book.

Ready, Set, Read!

Teachers and students in many schools will celebrate Read Across America Week from March 2-6. The event not only celebrates Dr. Seuss' birthday, but also the importance of reading for all students.

Schools in the Coatesville Area School District are planning to celebrate the week in various ways. For example, Reeceville Elementary School is encouraging students to dress up with a different theme every day.

- Monday – “Fox and Socks.” Wear crazy socks.
- Tuesday – “Green Eggs and Ham.” Wear green.
- Wednesday – Wacky Wednesday. Dress wacky.
- Thursday – “Cat in the Hat.” Wear a hat.
- Friday – “I Am Not Going to Get Up Today.” Wear pajamas.



Rainbow Elementary Class Receives Books from Anonymous Sponsors

Students in Casey Craven's class at Rainbow Elementary School have each received one book a month, thanks to anonymous sponsors.

So far, the students have received and read “The Gruffalo,” “Spookley the Square Pumpkin,” “Ramona Quimby, Age 8,” “Benji's First Holiday,” “Snowmen at Night,” and “Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race.”



Sweetheart Dance Brings Out a Crowd

More than 300 students and family members attended Kings Highway Elementary School's Sweetheart Dance on February 21. Guests enjoyed dinner, choreographed and line dancing, excellent music, and spending time with family and friends. Priceless.



Cain Students Learn about Kindness

Students in the Coatesville Area School District are learning about the importance of kindness and how unkind words can have a lasting impact.

At Cain Elementary School, one of the District's behavior specialists gave a presentation showing how unkind words can hurt others. Each grade level was given a paper heart, and students were instructed to call the heart names and be mean to it, all the while crumpling it up into a ball. Then students were asked to apologize to the heart, uncrumple it, and try to flatten it. The students noticed the heart didn't return to the way it was.

The hearts are now hanging in the cafeteria with a sign that reads, "Before you speak think and be smart. It's hard to fix a wrinkled heart."



Building Bridges and Bird Feeders

Learning doesn't stop when the final bell rings in schools throughout the Coatesville Area School District. Students have access to numerous after-school activities.

Here's what students at two schools have been doing lately. The Stem Club at Kings Highway Elementary School has been having fun using various materials to build bridges and discussing which materials work best and why.

At East Fallowfield Elementary School, the Garden Club has been making awesome birdfeeders to help feed the hearty birds that didn't fly South for the winter.

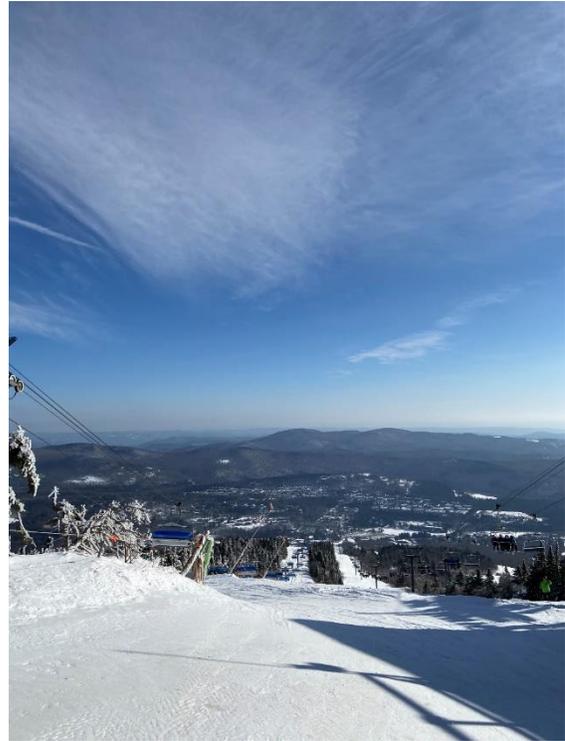


Ski Club Wraps Up Busy Season

This past weekend's trip to Mount Snow and Stratton, Vermont, capped off the Coatesville Area Senior High School Ski Club's season with two days of skiing in almost perfect conditions.

Ski Club Advisor David Sheller summed up the season this way: "Even though this has been a rough winter for those of us who love snow, the night trips we took still ended up being on nights when it was cold enough for the mountains to make snow. Also, Vermont has had some sizeable snowstorms over the past month, which allowed them to be pretty much 100 percent open (187 different trails between the two mountains)."

He also noted that last weekend "was a great weekend to ski/board. But more importantly, it was a great weekend to positively display some of the students from the Coatesville High School."



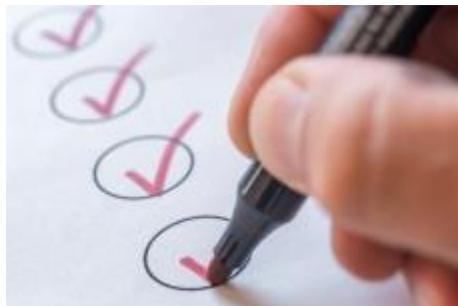
Next year's tentative schedule will look very similar to this year with trips to Big Boulder, Jack Frost, Camelback, Shawnee Mountain, and a Vermont weekend trip to Okemo, according to Mr. Sheller

Your Help Is Needed with the 2020 Census

Securing a complete and accurate count of every resident in the District is critical to ensuring proper annual allocation of federal funds including money for school programs and services such as Title I, special education, free and reduced-price lunches, and healthcare programs for children.

Attached to this week's newsletter is "Statistics in Schools and the 2020 Census." Please take the time to review this important document. By April 1, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Families will have three options for responding.

Please help secure appropriate funds for your community by completing the census online, by phone, or by mail. Thank you for your assistance.





Follow Us on Instagram

The Coatesville Area School District has a brand-new Instagram Page. You can follow the District at [Instagram CASD](#). CASD also has information posted on Facebook and Twitter.

This week, these seniors shared their college acceptances on CASD's Instagram page. Check it out today. Stay up to date on all that CASD has to offer.



Learn More about CASD Programs

"Around Our Schools" is a publication of the Coatesville Area School District. For more information on the District, visit www.casdschools.org and <https://www.facebook.com/coatesvilleSD/>. For questions about the articles, contact Jason Palaia, Director of Elementary & Secondary Education, 610-466-2400, Ext. 82444, palaiaj@casdschools.org.

Look for the next issue of "Around Our Schools" on March 13.