



The Cheetah Pause ...

Delaware Community School Newsletter

October 2023

A note from Dr. Stacy Dobbs, our principal

Happy Fall, DCS Families! We are thrilled to start off our new academic year with exciting opportunities for **parent involvement!**

Join our Parent-Teacher Association (PTA). By becoming a PTA member, you play a crucial role in shaping the school experience for your child. It's an excellent way to connect with other parents, stay informed about school events and contribute to the positive growth of our school community. Joining is easy! Please reach out to your child's teacher for a sign-up form!

STEM Night. Get ready for an evening of discovery and fun at our upcoming STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) night Oct. 12 from 5-7 p.m. This FREE event is designed to engage students and families in hands-on activities and interactive games.

Scholastic News. Great News!! We were able to purchase Scholastic News and Science News for students in grades 1-5 this year! Students will receive this

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SAVE THE DATES!

OCTOBER

- 9 No school, Columbus/Indigenous People Day
- 11 PTA meeting, cafeteria, 6 p.m.
- 12 STEM Family Night, gym, 5-7 p.m.
- 16 School Picture Day
- 26 Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4-7 p.m.
- 27 No school for students, Parent-Teacher Conference Day
- 28 Trunk or Treat, 5-7 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 10 No school, Veterans Day

MEET KELLEN JOHNSON

My name is Kellen Johnson and I'm your new Home School Coordinator at Delaware Community School. I am happy to be here and look forward to working with you!

I've worked in the City School District of Albany for 20 years, and during that time I built many relationships with students, parents and staff.

I came up through the Albany public school system and graduated from Albany High School. I attended several colleges and gained work experience in many different fields, even as far as running my own security company. I've also coached basketball for almost 25 years and have

countless hours of community service with organizations that support families such as the City of Albany Department of Parks and Recreation, Hood's House of Hoops, Catholic Charities, YMCA, Healthy Together (platformed by Unite Us) and A.D.O (A Different Outcome).

Working with such organizations gave me sensitivity to the cultures and lifestyles of others. I am elated to be part of DCS and I know we'll all have a great year!

A home school coordinator is the bridge between families, our school and the community. If you need help with attendance, behavior support or anything else, please contact Mr. Johnson at (518) 475-6766.



OUR AMAZING COMMUNITY

Sept. 21 was “**Special Person Bring Your Child to School Day**” at Delaware Community School, and we were thrilled to host a breakfast for students and the important person or people who brought them to school.

It was exciting to have the cafeteria filled with so many members of our school community, and we look forward to seeing a lot more of all of you at events in our school this year!



A **HUGE THANK YOU** to our community partners for their continued support with our school garden and our **Friendship Garden**. Mary Cosgrove from Albany Goes Green and retired DCS teacher Susan Fowler worked with our students during the summer during Book Club and STEM Camp. They spent countless hours in the gardens keeping them beautiful, teaching our students and working with the community. There is a new mural in the Friendship Garden, and it looks awesome!

‘No Place for Hate’

In the 2022-23 school year, Delaware Community School achieved a “No Place For Hate” designation and received a gold star ranking for going above the requirements for this Anti-Defamation League Program to create a learning community of inclusivity, respect and equity.

This year, we’ve started up that program again under the leadership of our fifth-grade Cheetah Coalition. They will be leading school wide projects to promote diversity and inclusiveness across grade levels. Stay tuned to learn more!

(Principal’s message, continued from page 1)
news weekly. Scholastic News allows students to stay aware of current events. This cultivates an interest in the world around them. Scholastic News also has an interactive website that families can use! Look for a letter coming home next week with information on how to access it from home.

I look forward to seeing you at all of our school events this year! Together, we can make this school year a truly enriching experience for our students.



We’ve had a great start to the 2023-24 school year!

COME AND JOIN US!

Delaware Community School
Presents:

Join us for fun, STEM activities, games, STEM builds, experiences and much more!

**Family STEM Night
In Space**

Thursday, October 12th
5:00-7:00 pm
In Our Gym
FREE EVENT!

Students: Pick up a yellow ticket at the door and spin for a prize

Snacks, drinks, prizes and photo areas

Questions: Email dwhipple@albany.k12.ny.us

Breakfast starts: 8:40 a.m.
Classes start: 9 a.m.
Pre-K students dismissed: 3 p.m.
All others dismissed: 3:30 p.m.

OUR SCHOOL DAY