



The Cheetah Pause ...

Delaware Community School Newsletter

November 2021

A note from Dr. Stacy Dobbs, our principal

It is hard to believe that it is already the end of the first quarter! **Delaware Community School** is focused on the continued growth of our students. Our end goal is to help our students become educational advocates for their own learning, by using data to help make decisions about their strengths and areas for improvement. There is not an expectation of perfection; however, there is an expectation of trying their best and of making personal growth.

Our students have been working diligently on understanding what it

means to be a student – and their daily job to take personal responsibility in taking a leadership role in becoming a life-long learner. They are active participants and valuable team members who engage daily. Students set academic goals and work towards achieving them. They are creating these goals using data, and then using data to achieve and/or revise their goal. In addition, all our students strive daily to follow the **3 Bs: Be Safe. Be Respectful. Be Responsible.** Every day, they focus on not only knowing what the words are *(Continued on page 2)*



HANDS-ON SCIENCE



Regeneron scientists paid virtual visits to every Delaware Community School third grade on Oct. 22 and guided students in hands-on STEM experiments about buoyancy, density and the components of blood, to name a few of their tasks..

SAVE THE DATES!

NOVEMBER

- 24 Parent-Teacher Conference Day, no school for students
- 25-26 Thanksgiving break, no school

DECEMBER

- 3 School picture makeup day
- 8 PTA meeting, 6 p.m.
- 24-31 Holiday break, no school

JANUARY

- 3 Back to school
- 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day, no school



City School District of
ALBANY

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

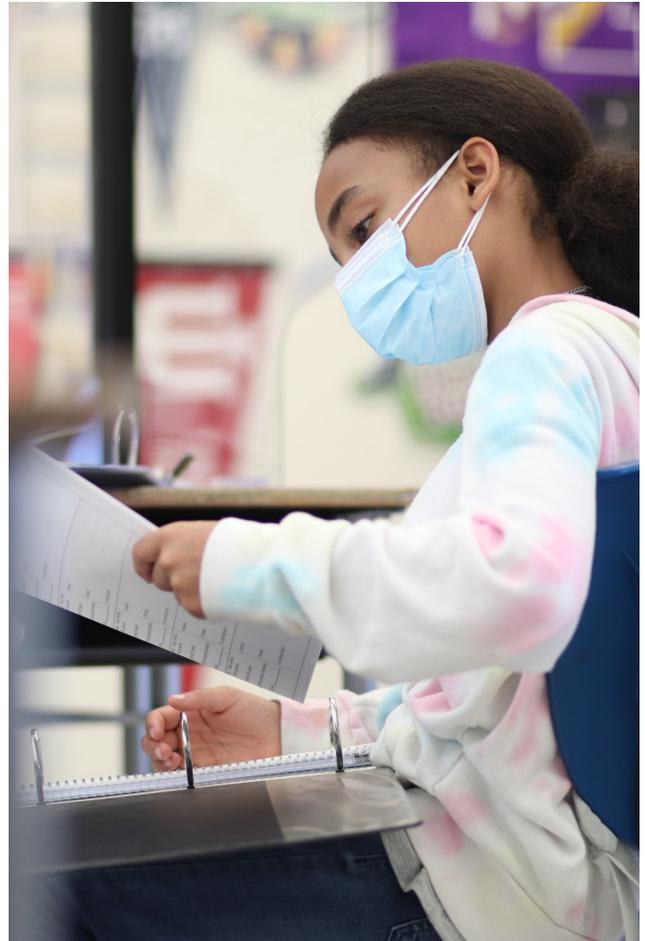
Students benefit in many ways from being in school: in their academic and social-emotional growth, and in the supportive relationships they build with peers, teachers and staff members.

Attendance matters in a student's success starting as early as kindergarten. Missing even two days every month causes students to fall behind. By sixth grade, chronic absence is a leading predictor that a student will drop out of high school. By ninth grade, regular attendance is a better predictor of graduation than eighth-grade test scores.

Students are expected to be in school every day unless they are sick, have a medical appointment or have a religious reason. If your student is absent, you must provide a written excuse for every absence or late arrival. The excuse must be signed and dates and reasons for the absence or lateness.

Being on time for school is part of having good attendance! Missing 5-10 minutes of class might not seem like much, but it adds up. Every time your child comes in late, they start the day playing catch-up. Help your child be successful and get them to school on time.

Delaware Community School is committed to working with you to help your student have great attendance! Please contact Mr. Griffin, our Home School Coordinator if you need additional support regarding attendance.



(Principal's message, continued from page 1)

and mean, but most importantly, they are showing this through their actions.

Our **faculty and staff** work diligently each day to help our students grow. They provide quality instruction that focuses on high expectations, while understanding the whole student. They use data to understand academics and behaviors. They use interventions within their classrooms and work with support personnel to remediate any areas of need. They sit on multiple committees that meet and plan throughout the school year. They attend PTA meetings and work to find creative ways to provide real life experiences for our students. Delaware Community School is fortunate to have such a committed team of educators.

Parents and guardians play an equally critical role in student academic and behavioral achievement. We are continuously working to partner with you. Our recent

PTA sponsored Trunk or Treat is one example. There were so many families that either participated or attended. It's wonderful to see our students outside of the building engaged in fun family events. We are looking forward to our next event. We can't wait to see you there.

I appreciate all your support and efforts at home to maximize our student's growth. I encourage you to continue the conversations at home about data and being an educational advocate, such as trying their best, being actively engaged in the lessons, raising their hand to ask questions, knowing their data, setting goals, reading and problem solving through something that may be challenging, and more. I truly believe that if we empower them to be reflective on their own learning, we will provide a strong foundation for life-long learning.