



WINTER-SPRING 2009

APPOQUINIMINK REPORT

A new look for Silver Lake Elementary



Cover Photos: Covered walkways will soon grace the front and side entrances of Silver Lake Elementary School. Renovation work will continue inside with an expansion of the parent/visitor area.

This summer, we will begin renovations at Silver Lake Elementary School. The project, which was approved by our community in the 2006 referendum, will create an entry canopy at the front of the school, with a smaller canopy at the side entrance to provide shelter from the elements for walkers, bike riders and car riders when they arrive in the morning. Inside, a new glass vestibule will dramatically increase the amount of available light. Office space will be reconfigured to create better access for parents and visitors, add additional bathrooms, a workspace for teachers, a conference room and a new nurse's office. Finally, we will replace the curtain

Inside you'll find news about renovations at three more schools, your invitation to the Education Fair, opportunities to earn college credit in High School, a Summer School update and more!

separating the gymnasium from the cafeteria with a moveable partition to increase safety.

This project is set to begin in June 2009, immediately following the last day for teachers, and should be completed by the time our students report to school in the fall.

Because heavy construction will be taking place at the entrance of the building, we will temporarily relocate the Silver Lake Office to Everett Meredith Middle School for the summer. Parents who need to register their student, or have questions or concerns that must be addressed in person, will be redirected by signage to Silver Lake's temporary office location.

The Appoquinimink Report offers information and updates to friends and supporters of Appoquinimink Public Schools. To request a copy, contact the Public Information Office at 302.376.4109.

Dual enrollment courses offer college and high school credits

As part of our commitment to 21st Century learning, we continue to expand opportunities for students to earn college credits while enrolled in High School.

Wilmington University

Now in its third year, Wilmington University's College in High School initiative makes it possible to earn transferrable college credit while taking courses at Middletown High that count toward high school graduation. Course offerings currently include math, psychology and sociology. Students meet one to two afternoons a week with an instructor and continue their learning online in a 15-week hybrid course.

Superintendent Dr. Tony Marchio explained, "The earlier a student can have his interest and needs met for college, the earlier he or she will start to commit to goals and get some direction in their lives," he said. "We are looking for innovative ways to make these connections happen."

University of Delaware

In Fall 2009, the district will embark on a new partnership with the University of Delaware to provide dual enrollment opportunities in four online courses: 1) Principals of

Biology with lab, 2) Human Heredity & Development, 3) Nutrition Concepts, and 4) Philosophies of Life.

In Spring 2010, we will begin offering seniors Critical Reading & Writing, the entry-level English class required for all University of Delaware freshmen. Prerequisites for admission to U of D's freshman-level English class include: A grade of A- or better in college preparatory English (B or better in AP & Honors-level English classes).

These two programs (University of Delaware, Wilmington University) offer a wonderful benefit for students," observed MHS principal Donna Mitchell. "Not only do our teens earn college credit, successful completion of a college-level course gives our grads an extra edge when applying to colleges and universities. Admissions officers appreciate the fact that these are students who have already demonstrated they have the ability to handle the rigor of college courses."

To make these courses available to as many Appoquinimink families as possible, both universities have agreed to offer the programs at a greatly reduced tuition fee.

The University of Delaware will be offering college credit for selected high school courses in fall 2009.

Pictured here: Old College at UD's main campus.



Photograph: Eric Crossan

FREE Workshops

The Parents Academy offers timely information & expert presenters. Programs are free, with child care available on site. Registration is not required. Workshops are held at the Appoquinimink Training Center, 118 South Sixth Street, in Odessa (formerly the Corbit School).

Internet Safety Education

March 23, 2009 | 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Learn how to keep your child safe online. We'll provide you with information about the dangers that exist on the Internet, policies parents can put in place, and access to free software that will help you monitor your home computer.

Basic Nutrition for Active Families

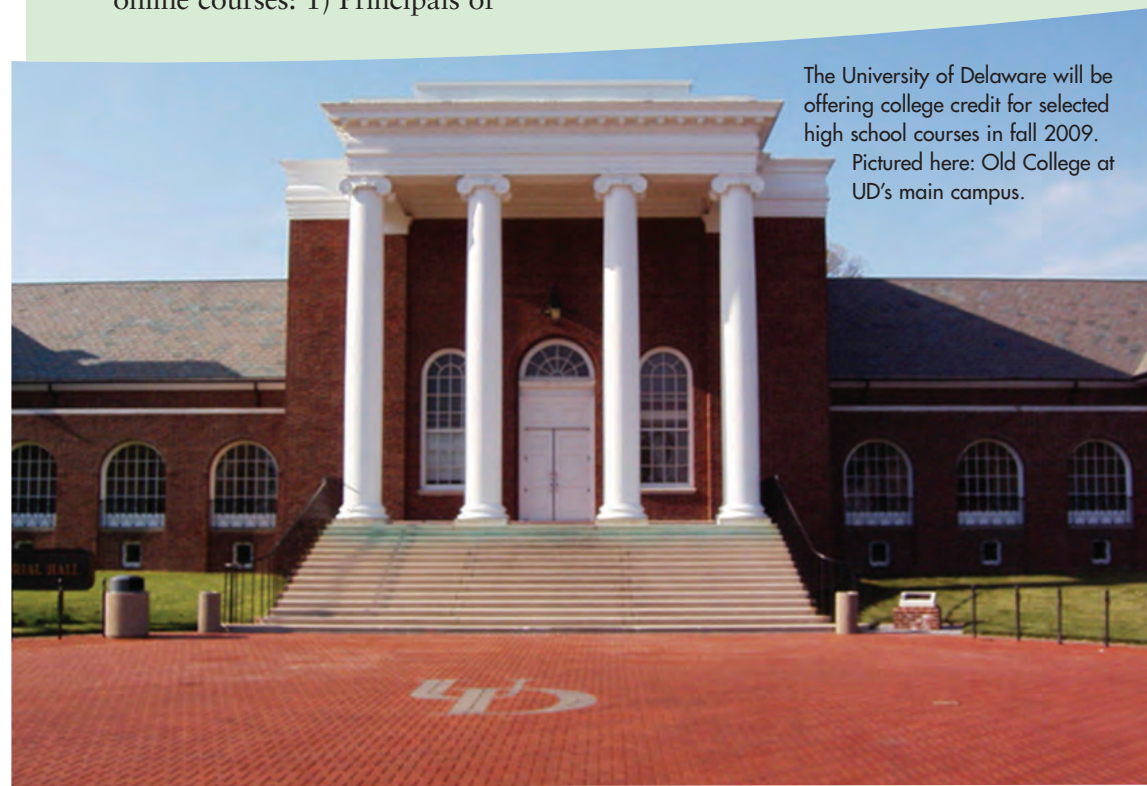
May 27, 2009 | 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Join us for a discussion about the latest recommendations for children's nutrition, tips for surrounding your family with healthy options, and tools for creating a positive relationship with food & exercise.

Stay Sharp with Summer Reading & Academic Maintenance

May 27, 2009 | 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Summer provides unique opportunities for learning, skill-building and skill maintenance. Please join us as we identify fun activities that will keep your child stimulated and prevent him/her from losing ground this summer.





11th Annual Education Fair: May 16

Join us on Saturday, May 16

10 a.m. till 2 p.m.

at Appoquinimink High School

Experience the fun and adventure of the Education Fair where play and learning connect! Your family will enjoy wildly imaginative activity zones featuring hands-on art, science, math, social studies, English, floriculture, nutrition and more. Or just sit back and enjoy a performance by one of our talented student groups. There's something for everyone.

For information on sponsorship opportunities for your organization, call the Public Information Office at 376-4109.

SUMMER SCHOOL AND ENRICHMENT CAMPS

The Appoquinimink School District is committed to providing support during the summer months for our most vulnerable learners and for those families seeking enrichment opportunities for their students.

GRADES K-5

Summer Extended Learning

Younger students who have been struggling in the classroom and/or on the state's standardized tests, will be invited to attend a four-week program, July 13-August 6 at Brick Mill Elementary. Classes meet Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m., and feature small class size and personalized instructional strategies. There are no costs associated with this program. Transportation will be provided. An attendance policy is in effect for this program.

Summer Enrichment Camps

A variety of half-day programs, featuring creative opportunities in science, language, technology, music, art and more will be available. A course guide, listing dates, times, fees and transportation information will be sent home with students later this spring.

GRADES 6-12

DSTP Summer School

For Middle and High School students, Summer School is mandatory whenever a student scores a "1" on the math or reading portion of the state's standardized test, the DSTP, and does not meet other indicators as determined by the district for that grade level. This program will be held Monday through Thursday, July 13-August 6. Grades 6-8 will attend a program at Alfred G. Waters Middle School. Classes for Grades 9-12 will be held at Appoquinimink High. There are no costs associated with this program. Transportation will be provided.

Tuition-based Summer School

Students in Middle or High School who have failed a "core" course (in other words, a course required for promotion to the next grade) have the option of participating in a tuition-based program over the summer months to make up school year credits. Transportation is NOT provided for the tuition-based program. Grades 6-8 will attend classes at Alfred G. Waters Middle School from July 13-August 6. Grades 9-12 will attend classes at

Appoquinimink High from June 22-August 4. Letters will be sent home to qualifying students later this spring. Parents who have questions or concerns about this program should talk to their home school.

Summer Enrichment Camps

A variety of half-day programs, featuring creative opportunities in science, language, technology, music, art and more will be available. A course guide, listing dates, times, fees and transportation information will be sent home with students later this spring.

If you have questions regarding any of these programs please contact:

Elementary School Programs

Dr. Debbie Panchisin
302.376.4270 phone
debbie.panchisin@appo.k12.de.us

Middle & High School Programs

Dr. Eileen McAllister
302.376.4286 phone
eileen.mcallister@appo.k12.de.us

School Board Elections: May 12

The Appoquinimink School District is seeking candidates for an at-large seat on the Board of Education. District residents, 18 and older, can request a filing packet from the Department of Elections for New Castle County.* Information and materials are available by calling the Department of Elections. Forms must be notarized and returned to the Department of Elections no later than Friday, March 6, at 4:30 p.m. Elections will occur on Tuesday, May 12, with voting from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at these locations: Appoquinimink Training Center, Cedar Lane Elementary School, Everett Meredith Middle School, Louis L. Redding Middle School, Middletown High School, Olive B. Loss Elementary School, and Townsend Elementary School.

Role of the Board

The Board of Education serves as a trustee for Appoquinimink Schools. Board members represent the views of the community in matters affecting education. They set policy, approve educational goals and curriculum changes, and act on recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools. The Board has fiscal responsibility for approving the annual budget and maintaining a balanced budget at the end of the year.

Time Commitment

Board members meet monthly and participate regularly in workshops and training. Board volunteers are also active in recognition programs, special events and advocacy efforts. The term of service is five years with an option to run for re-election. This is an unpaid, volunteer position.

Meetings

Appoquinimink's Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at the Teacher Training Center in Odessa. A schedule and information are posted on the district website, apposchooldistrict.com under the BOARD button.

* District employees are not eligible to serve on the School Board.

Staffing Directions

In February, the district began the recruitment process for administrative positions needed to open a new elementary school and accommodate anticipated retirement and transfers. Hiring will be completed by late spring, with new administrators joining our team on July 1, at the beginning of the new fiscal year.

The teaching staff at Bunker Hill will be identified through a transfer process that is already underway. Any new teachers hired will reflect gains in enrollment beyond current levels. We plan to identify the Bunker Hill staff team in time to meet with their new principal and train over the summer.

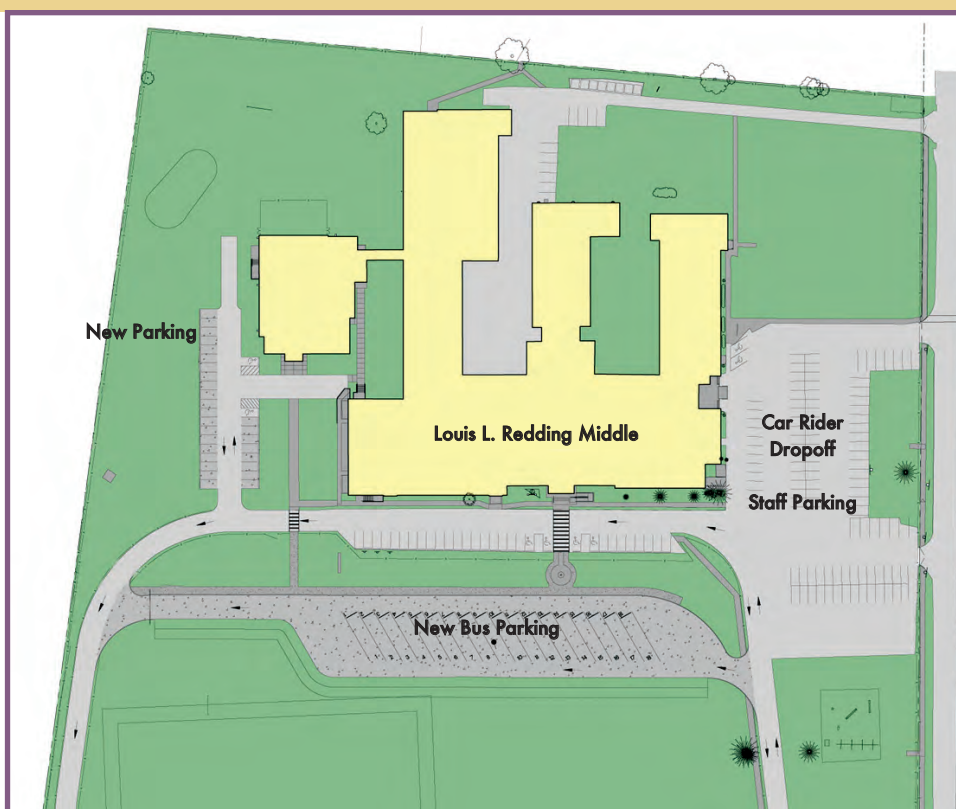
If you would like more information about these or other openings, visit the employment section on our website, apposchooldistrict.com.

Administrative hiring will include:

Bunker Hill Elementary
Principal & Assistant Principal

Everett Meredith Middle
Principal

Middletown High
Principal

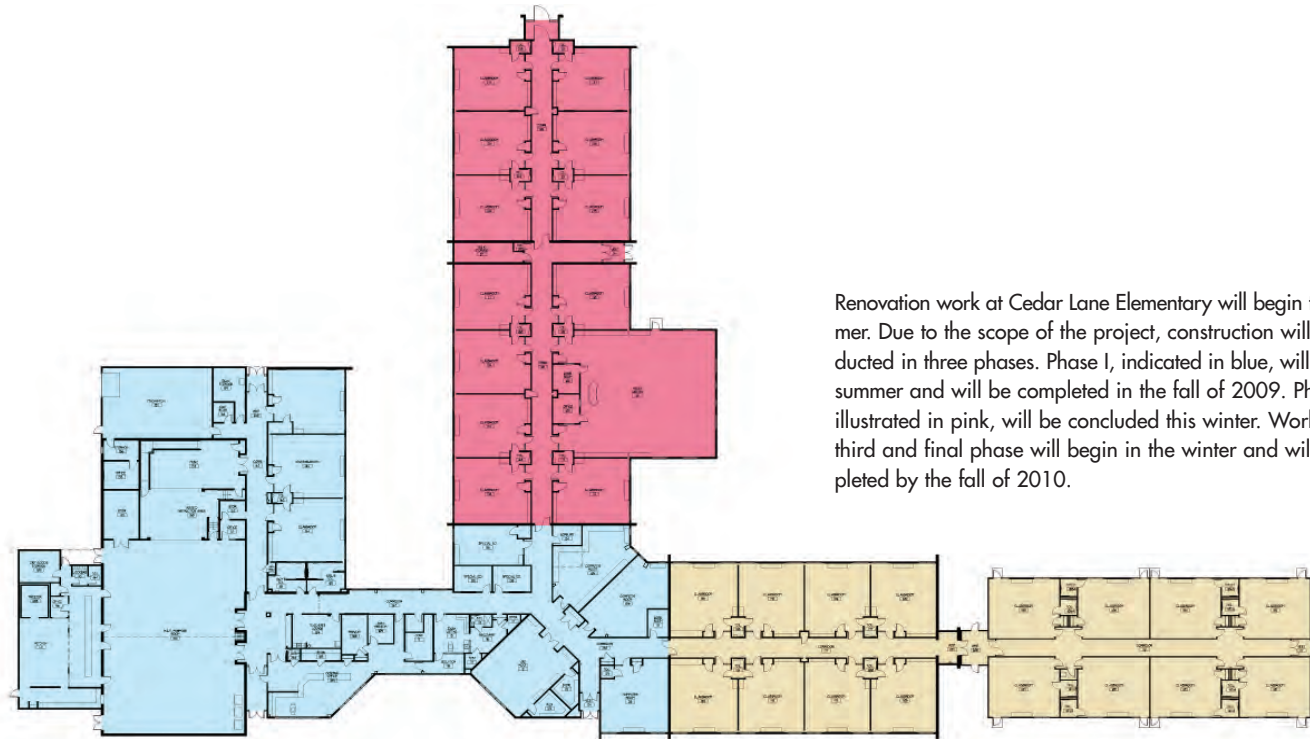


Summer construction at Louis L. Redding Middle addresses traffic safety

This summer, a new bus parking lot will be created at the front of Louis L. Redding Middle School.

Space will be claimed from a grassy field directly in front of the school so that bus riders will no longer compete with pick-up and drop-off traffic from car riders.

The boys and girls locker rooms at the historic school are also slated for refurbishment this summer. We'll be completely replacing the lockers, restrooms and flooring in that area.



Renovation work at Cedar Lane Elementary will begin this summer. Due to the scope of the project, construction will be conducted in three phases. Phase I, indicated in blue, will begin this summer and will be completed in the fall of 2009. Phase II, illustrated in pink, will be concluded this winter. Work on the third and final phase will begin in the winter and will be completed by the fall of 2010.

Cedar Lane Elementary readies for major renovation

In addition to building new schools, it's vitally important to maintain our existing facilities. That's why, this summer, we will embark on a massive renovation project at Cedar Lane Elementary School.

The project, approved by voters in the 2006 referendum, includes installation of energy-efficient heating, air conditioning and lighting systems, fire sprinklers, a new roof, and technology enhancements that will benefit instruction. Classrooms will receive new cubbies, shelving, and doors while student bathrooms will be renovated. The offices will be reconfigured for better parent access, and a small conference room, new nurse's office and bathroom will be added.

The scope of work is too large to accomplish in just one summer. So, a phased-in process will begin this June, with work continuing throughout the school year and final completion scheduled for August 2010. To ensure that the instructional

process is not affected, it will be necessary to vacate some sections of the building during the school year. Working with Cedar Lane's teachers and administrators, we have developed a plan that is safe, orderly and minimally disruptive.

Work will begin in the front portion of the school this summer, resulting in the temporary relocation of Cedar Lane's offices to nearby Alfred G. Waters Middle School. This phase should be completed by the time our students return in August.

In order to accomplish the remaining two phases of the renovation, Cedar Lane's fifth grade classes and their teachers will be moved into Alfred G. Waters Middle School next fall, where they will occupy one wing of the school. Water's close proximity to Cedar Lane (the two schools share the same campus) means Cedar Lane's fifth graders will continue on the same daily schedule, with the same buses, instructors and administrators as in prior years. In fact, students will enjoy all the same classes, activities and opportunities and will be considered part of the Cedar Lane family.

The following year, when construction is completed, the fifth grade will return to their home school.

Administrators joined Cedar Lane staff in December to discuss the transition plan. On March 3, the parents of rising fifth graders have been invited to an information meeting with Superintendent Marchio, Cedar Lane Principal Donna Kolakowski and Alfred G. Waters Principal Jim Comegys at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium of Waters Middle School where they will have an opportunity to ask questions, tour the school and discuss the renovation plan in more detail.

When the weather turns warm this spring, fourth and fifth graders from Cedar Lane will enjoy their own tour and orientation program.

Parents who are unable to attend this meeting are encouraged to email the Superintendent with their questions and suggestions.* We will be developing a frequently asked questions sheet to help keep families informed and involved as the process unfolds.

*Send questions to: Tony.Marchio@appo.k12.de.us

Bunker Hill Dedication: August 19, 2009

We invite parents, students & members of the community to join us on Aug. 19, at 6:30 p.m., for the dedication of Bunker Hill Elementary School. The gala event will include tours, light refreshments, and a chance for our students to visit their classrooms where they will meet with teachers.

When our new school opens, it will feature a design that supports 21st Century teaching and learning. Innovations include: 1) Moveable classroom walls that can be reconfigured to support a variety of learning needs and styles; 2) Learning “pods” anchoring each wing with technology stations and tiered reading nooks, 3) Indoor and outdoor stages, 4) A broadcast & recording room, 5) Multi-media centers in each classroom, and 6) A cafeteria design that features smaller seating groups and improved acoustics.



Bunker Hill Elementary features a two-story design and is located by Appoquinimink High.



Middletown's new animal science lab, affectionately nicknamed "The Barn," will open in 2010.

Middletown High to begin agriscience addition

MHS is poised to begin construction on a new animal science lab that will house agriscience classrooms, laboratories and bathrooms, with outside access for the pick-up and delivery of livestock. The 8,600 square foot addition will be accessed by a hallway in the vocational wing.

A second project will convert the existing family and consumer science classroom into a fully-functioning culinary arts kitchen modeled after the facility at Appoquinimink High.

The school's construction trades lab will be expanded, fire alarm wiring and phone systems will be replaced, and wear and tear to floors, ceilings and walls will be addressed.

Finally, a portion of the commons area will be renovated to create space for a bank in the school. Our school business partner, Wilmington Trust, hopes to kick off student training programs at both Middletown High and Appoquinimink High next year for the student-run facility.

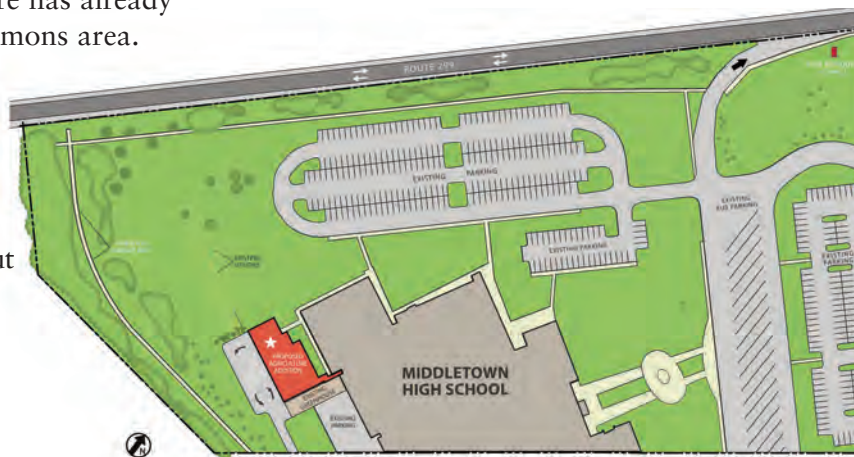
A new student store has already opened in the commons area.

This scope of the construction project means that work will begin this summer and continue throughout the 2009-2010 school year.

Building Utilization Committee to meet

Appoquinimink's Building Utilization Committee (BUC), a group made up of representatives from the school and community, will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, at the Appoquinimink Training Center to review enrollment figures and the impact of the current economic climate on the district's long-range facility plan.

The group will offer a report to the public at the March 10, Board of Education Meeting, scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at the Teacher Training Center, 118 S. Sixth Street in Odessa. Parents and the community are invited to attend this briefing. Minutes from the meeting will also be posted to school and district websites. For more information, contact the Superintendent's Office at 476-4101.



Volterra in Delaware: Our first Artist in Residence Program

Master stone carver Roberto Chiti arrived in Appoquinimink in February. Mr. Chiti will be working with middle and high school students at three schools (Everett Meredith Middle, Middletown High, Appoquinimink High) in a six-week residency program that will explore the art and artistry of stone carving and its historic & cultural significance to Italy.

The visit will include instruction in sculptural techniques for working in stone and hands-on projects for our students.

The program will conclude with an exhibition combining works on loan from the historic Volterra Alabaster Museum and our own student-made sculptures. The three-month show, entitled "The Sculpture of Light: Volterra, Italy in Delaware" will be hosted by the Biggs Museum of American Art in Dover, Delaware from April 4 through June 21, 2009.

Parents and the community are invited to attend a gala reception for the show on April 4, beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Biggs Museum.

The City of Volterra, Italy is underwriting all costs for transporting and insuring pieces from their priceless collection and has provided the alabaster (1,100 pounds) which will be used for instructional purposes. Appoquinimink's International Education Program is funding the six-week residency for Mr. Chiti. The Biggs Museum of American Art is our host for the exhibition.

This is the first year for our *Artist in Residence Program*, part of the district's international education initiative. In 2010, school organizers hope to bring an international guest artist to conduct a music workshop with elementary school students.



Guest artist Roberto Chiti will be joining us for a six-week residency this spring. Chiti is a master stone carver from Italy. He'll be working with middle and high school students using alabaster supplied by the City of Volterra, Italy. We hope you'll join us for our showcase event when student works will be displayed alongside famous sculptures from the Volterra Alabaster Museum in a special three-month show at the Biggs Museum of American Art in Dover.

A look at upcoming events

High School Preview Night.....	March 18
DSTP Math	March 11-12
DSTP Reading	March 16-17
Junior Prom	March 21
Sculpture Show, Biggs Museum	April 4-June 21
Spring break holiday	April 10-17
Teacher of the Year announced	April 28
Teacher Appreciation Week	May 3-9
Advanced Placement exams	May 4-15
School Nurse Appreciation Day	May 6
Math 24 competition	May 7
School Board election.....	May 12
Education Fair	May 16
Senior exams, grade 12	May 18-20
DSTP Science, grades 8 & 11	May 19
DSTP Social Studies, grades 8 & 11	May 20
Senior Prom	May 21
Memorial Day holiday	May 25
Grade 12 graduation.....	May 26
Final exams, grades 9-11	June 1-4
Last day of class for Preschoolers.....	June 4
Last day of school, Grades K-11 (half day).....	June 5

For information on student performances – band, chorus, plays & musicals – and your child's Talent Development Showcase, check your school newsletter and website.



Appoquinimink School District

THE WORLD IS OUR CAMPUS

APPOQUINIMINK SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Tony Marchio, Superintendent
313 South Fifth Street, PO 4010
Odessa, DE 19730-4010
302.376.4128 Main Office

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Middletown, DE

- 1 Central Administrative Offices, 313 South Fifth Street, PO 4010, Odessa, DE 19730, 302.376.4128
- 2 Alfred G. Waters Middle, 1235 Cedar Lane Road, Middletown, DE 19709, 302.449.3490
- 3 Appoquinimink Adult Continuing Education Programs, 120 Silver Lake Road, Middletown, DE 19709, 302.378.5037
- 4 Appoquinimink Early Childhood Center, 502 South Broad Street, Middletown, DE 19709, 302.376.4400
- 5 Appoquinimink High, 1080 Bunker Hill Road, Middletown, DE 19709, 302.449.3840
- 6 Appoquinimink Training Center, 118 South Sixth Street, Odessa, DE 19730, 302.376.4128
- 7 Brick Mill Elementary, 378 Brick Mill Road, Middletown, DE 19709, 302.378.5288
- 8 Bunker Hill Elementary (Opening Fall 2009), 1070 Bunker Hill Road, Middletown, DE 19709
- 9 Cedar Lane Early Childhood Center, 1221 Cedar Lane Road, Middletown, DE 19709, 302.449.5873
- 10 Cedar Lane Elementary, 1259 Cedar Lane Road, Middletown, DE 19709, 302.378.5045
- 11 Everett Meredith Middle, 504 South Broad Street, Middletown, DE 19709, 302.378.5001
- 12 Louis L. Redding Middle, 201 New Street, Middletown, DE 19709, 302.378.5030
- 13 Middletown High, 120 Silver Lake Road, Middletown, DE 19709, 302.376.4141
- 14 Olive B. Loss Elementary, 200 Brennan Boulevard, Bear, DE 19701, 302.832.1343
- 15 Silver Lake Elementary, 200 East Cochran Street, Middletown, DE 19709, 302.378.5023
- 16 Townsend Early Childhood Center, 10 Brook Ramble Lane, Townsend, DE 19734, 302.378.9960
- 17 Townsend Elementary, 126 Main Street, PO 369, Townsend, DE 19734, 302.378.5020

ECRWSS
Residential Customer

Thank You!

For more than a decade, Appoquinimink has been Delaware's fastest-growing school system. This fall, our enrollment swelled by more than 500 new students. The construction projects described in this newsletter are part of a long-range facility plan designed to respond to our unprecedented growth and were funded through the generous referendum support of our community in an initiative passed in 2006.



The Appoquinimink School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, age, disability, marital status, national origin, or other legally protected categories in its educational programs, activities, employment, or student admissions policies or practices. Inquiries regarding compliance with the above can be directed to **Section 504 Contact:** Kittie Rehrig, Supervisor of Student Services, Appoquinimink School District, 313 South Fifth Street, PO 4010, Odessa, DE 19730. Section 504 Coordinator's Responsibilities: To coordinate the Appoquinimink School District's efforts to comply with the disability discrimination laws. **Title IX Contact:** Matt Fallis, Director of Personnel, Appoquinimink School District, 313 South Fifth Street, PO 4010, Odessa, DE 19730. Title IX Coordinator's Responsibilities: To coordinate the Appoquinimink School District's efforts to comply with and carry out the District's responsibilities under Title IX, including any investigation of any complaint alleging noncompliance with Title IX or alleging actions which would be prohibited by Title IX.