

# Red Clay Consolidated School District

## eNews

October 6, 2017

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## English Learners Conference Draws Hundreds



More than 200 people attended the Red Clay regional English Learner Conference on Friday, October 06, 2017. The one day conference was organized to empower all students and families who speak English as their second language. “Since 2013, our English Learner population has increased by 70 percent. Today was a day to increase awareness, provide solutions and focus more efforts towards our community,” stated Carol Beck, Supervisor of ELL.

Red Clay staff, families and community members attended the conference at Cab Calloway School of the Arts. The conference was designed to provide support for families who face language challenges as well as for the Red Clay staff and community members who work with them.

Attendees had the opportunity to attend two one hour workshops and listen to keynote speaker Nigel A. Caplan, PhD., an associate professor at the University of Delaware English Language Institute. Workshop themes included instructional strategies that address the domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing; effective instruction for elementary and secondary English Learners; immigrants’ rights; mobility challenges of migratory students; language differences vs. disability; and peer-led discussions that share challenges and solutions.

The English Learner Conference theme, “Success for All,” addressed the need to support the different challenges English Learner students and families face including academic, social and cultural issues. Additionally, there was a special

workshop addressing the rights of immigrant families. Participants expressed their thankfulness and appreciation for a conference that focused on the needs of the English Learner community.

### **Workshop Series Empowers Parents**

A new workshop series to help parents realize their potential as an advocate and find their role in the school community is being offered in Red Clay.

Family and Community Engagement (FACE) of Red Clay is designed to help parents build strong family/school partnerships, improve interactions between parents and teachers, develop collaborative relationships with others and identify cultural strengths to incorporate in the school community. It is a partnership with the Parent Advisory Council for Education (PACE) and sponsored by Title 1.

Sessions meet once a month on Monday evenings at A.I. Middle School and Warner Elementary School and begin at 5:30p.m. with dinner followed by a program beginning at 6:00p.m. Child care is provided. The next workshop will be held on Monday, October 16 at Warner Elementary School.

Tizzy Lockman, Director of PACE will facilitate discussions based on the book, “Beyond the Bake Sale – The Essential Guide to Family and School Partnerships” by Anne T. Henderson. The book includes tips from principals and teachers, resources and practical advice for improving teacher-parent interaction. Sample topics of discussion will include recognizing your role as an advocate and how to empower others for self-advocacy. “The whole purpose of the program is to help parents learn strategies of student advocacy and to create better parent-teacher relationships,” said April Anderson, McKinney-Vento liaison and coordinator of the workshops.

To sign up or for more information contact April Anderson at 302-552-3714 or [april.anderson@redclay.k12.de.us](mailto:april.anderson@redclay.k12.de.us) or Amy Klein at [amy.klein@redclay.k12.de.us](mailto:amy.klein@redclay.k12.de.us).

See below for the upcoming program calendar.

October 16	Warner
November 20	A. I. Middle
December 18	Warner
January 22	A. I. Middle – MLK Day
February 26	Warner – President’s Day
March 19	A.I. Middle
April 16	Warner
May 21	A.I. Middle (final meeting)

### **Choice Information Night Coming Up**

Have questions about the School Choice law, Red Clay policies, or one of our schools? Get answers at the District School Choice Information Night on October 17, 2017 at Cab Calloway School of the Arts from 6 to 8 p.m.

Red Clay staff have planned a presentation on choice, the application process, and timeline. There will also be time for questions from the audience.

After the presentation, parents will have an opportunity to speak with school representatives who will attend the event. Parents can learn more about schools they are considering at individual Choice Open Houses held at each school.

The Delaware School Choice Law allows for families to apply for a seat in any school, regardless of where they reside. This year, the open application timeframe for school choice will run from Monday, Nov. 6, 2017 to Jan. 10, 2018.

### **Cab Enrollment Committee to Meet**

A newly formed committee which will review enrollment procedures at Cab Calloway School of the Arts will hold its first meeting on Oct. 12, 2017 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the boardroom at district offices, 1502 Spruce Avenue. The agenda for the meeting can be found [here](#).

Board Member Cathy Thompson introduced a resolution to form the committee in July, which stated that while Cab has taken steps to increase the number of Red Clay students attending the school, the committee would be charged with creating a concrete plan to further increase attendance of Red Clay students, especially those students who have been under-represented at the popular school.

The resolution called for the committee to present its plan to the Board of Education at the March 2018 meeting, with an aim to go into effect in the 2019 school year.

The agenda calls for an overview of the Red Clay Choice program, an overview of Cab's program and mission and discussion on future meeting dates and topics for discussion. The meeting is open to the public and time has been allotted in the agenda for public comment.

### **Wellness Challenge to Focus on Fitness**

The Great Red Clay Wellness Challenge returns to a school near you.. this time with a *focus on fitness!*

On October 16 through October 20<sup>th</sup>, do not miss your opportunity to sign up for the Fitness Focused Wellness Challenge. The challenge will start on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and run for 8 weeks, concluding on December 15<sup>th</sup>, just in time for the holiday season. During the challenge, participants will be tracking minutes of physical activity completed with a goal of increasing their activity levels. As with the previous wellness challenge, weekly information and wellness tips will be sent to all registrants to keep you focused on your fitness goals, as well as promotions to keep you engaged. However this time around, it does not stop with just the employees. This challenge has an added layer, dual accountability. For this challenge, registrants will have the option to sign up as individuals or as a mentor. If signing up as a mentor, the goal will be to add more minutes of physical activity into their classrooms to benefit the students, while the students also work to hold the teacher accountable to reach their own fitness goal! The school wellness chair in each building will help with building promotions and introduction to this challenge. Employees will be responsible for reporting their minutes of activity in Schoology. A video tutorial will be sent out with step by step instructions on how to track your fitness *Schoology style*. We hope to see a healthier and happier you at the "*finish line*" on December 15<sup>th</sup>!

### **Red Clay Sponsors Regional English Language Conference**

The Red Clay Consolidated School District is sponsoring a regional English Learner Conference in October to empower all students and families who speak English as their second language.

Red Clay staff, families and community members are invited to attend the half day conference on Friday, October 6 at Cab Calloway School of the Arts. The conference will take place from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and is designed to provide support for families who face language challenges as well as for the Red Clay staff and community members who work with them. The English Learner Conference theme, "Success for All" addresses the need to support the different challenges English Learner students and families face including academic, social and cultural issues. Also included is a workshop addressing the rights of immigrant families. Participants will learn ways to make instruction more effective and how to empower English Learners to be engaged in the community around them.

Each participant will have the opportunity to attend two one hour workshops and listen to keynote speaker Nigel A. Caplan, PhD., an associate professor at the University of Delaware English Language Institute. Workshop themes include instructional strategies that address the domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing; effective instruction for elementary and

secondary English Learners; immigrants' rights; mobility challenges of migratory students; language differences vs. disability; and peer-led discussions that share challenges and solutions.

Registration is \$25 per person with the fee being waived for Red Clay employees. To register for the conference visit the website [www.rcsuccessforallconference.com](http://www.rcsuccessforallconference.com). Checks should be mailed to:

Red Clay Consolidated School District  
1502 Spruce Ave.  
Wilmington, DE 19805  
Attn: Balbina Ventura

For further details or questions about the conference contact April Anderson, program coordinator, at 552-3714 or [april.anderson@redclay.k12.de.us](mailto:april.anderson@redclay.k12.de.us).

#### **Family Resource and Literacy Fair on Nov. 4**

Red Clay's 11<sup>th</sup> annual Family Resource and Literacy Fair, hosted by the Red Clay Parent Advisory Council (RCPAC) and Title 1 will be held on Saturday, November 4 at John Dickinson High School (1801 Milltown Rd., Wilmington, DE). It will take place from 10:00a.m. to 1:00p.m. in the school auxiliary gymnasium and cafeteria.

This year, Red Clay has partnered with the News Journal to include the Imagine Delaware Literacy Fair, sponsored by Nemours. The Literacy Fair will include guest celebrity readers and speakers who can offer parents tips on how to help their child with reading.

No registration is needed for this free, fun-filled family event for students, their families and the community. The presence of close to 100 vendors provides opportunities to gather information and learn about strategies that improve student achievement and contribute to a healthy lifestyle. Families will be able to obtain information about Red Clay schools, services and programs from school and district representatives. Attendees can look forward to:

- Fun and educational children's activities
- Wellness and health screenings, including a flu shot clinic
- Interactive fitness activities
- Informal question and answer sessions with school district experts
- Displays and exhibits from close to 100 community partners and educational agencies
- Giveaways and refreshments

#### **Bike to the Bay with Red Clay**

Bike to the Bay with Team Red Clay October 7<sup>th</sup> - Parents & Students Welcome! Red Clay is committed to providing the best environment for our students to grow, and that includes their role models (you!) being fit and challenged to grow as well. This Fall 2017, Red Clay will host another employee wellness challenge that will focus on movement and fitness. The Bike to the Bay will be the fun, challenging culmination of the efforts to increase physical fitness. There will be a pre/post party and spirit benchmarks along the way that will make this event one not to miss!

If you participate in Bike to the Bay, you can ride as little as 20 miles and as much as 100 miles, it's up to you! Don't have a bike? The Newark Bike Project and Urban Bike Project of Wilmington have bikes for rent or purchase at discounted rates and are excited to work with Red Clay employees, parents and students (12 and up) to find bikes to train and ride Bike to the Bay with.

Volunteers are always needed! If you do not want or can't ride in Bike to the Bay but would like to be a part of Team Red Clay, you can sign up to volunteer at one of the spirit benchmark stops for Red Clay or help set up the pre/post parties.

Students over the age of 12 are welcome to sign up with Team Red Clay if they have a guardian to ride with them. All parents are also welcome to ride with Team Red Clay and promote fitness in our community!

Sign up today here on our Team Page! <http://main.nationalmssociety.org/goto/RedClaySD>

### Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Diversity Committee Meeting, Oct. 9, 4:30p.m., District Office Board Room
- Facilities Committee Meeting, Oct. 9, 6:00p.m., District Office Board Room
- Cab Calloway Choice Meeting, Oct. 12, 6:00-7:30p.m., District Office Board Room
- FACE of Red Clay Parent Workshop, Oct. 16, 5:30p.m., Warner
- District Choice Information Night, Oct. 17, 6:00p.m., Cab Calloway
- School Board Meeting, Oct. 18, 5:30p.m. – Interviews with Board Candidates, 7:00p.m. – Meeting, Cab Calloway
- Diversity Committee Meeting, Oct. 26, 4:30p.m., District Office Board Room
- End of First Marking Period, Oct. 27
- **Schools Closed – Grading Day, Oct. 30**

Delaware Report Card seeks feedback to help families access more meaningful education data



The Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) is hosting Community Conversations in October to gain feedback on the elements, priorities, and common terminology it plans to include on its upcoming Report Card website. Delaware's Report Card will refine how DDOE communicates with families and the community its progress, performance, and programs in Delaware education, and replaces the state's current [School Profiles](#) site for accessing education data.

“The Delaware Report Card will help families and the community access data in a more meaningful way so that we're all making informed decisions based on the same information,” said Secretary of Education Dr. Susan Bunting. “We need people to attend the Community Conversations and provide constructive feedback. The Report Card has the potential to become a valuable tool that truly engages the public and consequently improves Delaware's education system.”

Delaware's Report Card will re-design School Profiles to provide families and the community with more comprehensive education data at the state, district, charter school and school levels. DDOE has focused the initial redesign on defining which data to present and how to make the data easier to digest. Research shows that with increased access to meaningful data, parents, community members and other stakeholders become better prepared to engage in public education decisions.

Delaware will work on the Report Card design through the 2017-2018 school year. October's Community Conversations are the first step in the public feedback process. In early 2018, the Department will ask the community to come together again to provide additional feedback on how the Report Card will visually represent data and on the site's navigation design. Delaware is federally required to publish its Report Card by December 31, 2018.

The Delaware Report Card is part of Delaware's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) state plan, which was [approved by the U.S. Department of Education](#) in August. The items listed on the

Report Card are required either federally, by the state, or are part of the [Delaware School Success Framework \(DSSF\)](#) system, which is Delaware's system to measure and publicly report on multiple areas of school success.

The public is invited to join any of the Community Conversations events below. Please RSVP at <https://www.doe.k12.de.us/reportcard>. For questions or comments, contact [Delaware.ReportCard@doe.k12.de.us](mailto:Delaware.ReportCard@doe.k12.de.us).

#### Community Conversations:

- Monday, October 9, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Beacon Middle School Cafeteria, Cape Henlopen School District
- Thursday, October 12, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Warner Elementary School Library, Red Clay Consolidated School District
- Wednesday, October 18, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Dover High School Cafeteria, Capital School District
- Monday, October 23, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – MOT Charter High School Cafeteria MOT Charter School
- Tuesday, October 24, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Laurel Middle High School Cafeteria Laurel School District

This information also is available online here:

<http://news.delaware.gov/2017/09/28/delaware-report-card-seeks-feedback-help-families-access-meaningful-education-data/>

<https://www.doe.k12.de.us/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=4&ModuleInstanceID=20&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=21157&PageID=1>

On October 15th, EDge Broadcasting will host our first concert open to the public. Jonah Matranga is touring the USA to promote his new book, "Alone Rewinding: 25 years of fatherhood and music". The concert will be held at the Thomas McKean Auditorium at 7pm with doors opening at 6:30pm. Tickets can be purchased at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3093629> or at the door. Tickets are \$9 - \$18

On October 16th the students of Thomas McKean high school will film a book promotion and appearance for an assembly in our school. Students will get a behind the scenes look into the life of a musician who has toured the world.

*[Jonah Matranga bio:](#)*

Jonah Matranga is essentially unique. His music is somewhere in between Prince, Bjork and The Clash, but it doesn't really fit into any genre.

Over the last 20 years, he's fronted influential post-hardcore band Far, along with lots else (onlinedrawing, New End Original, Gratitude, Camorra, etc).

Jonah has played with, collaborated with, and influenced artists from Frank Turner to Kimya Dawson to Deftones to Sepultura to Jimmy Eat World to Fort Minor to Lupe Fiasco and lots more.

Jonah has played as many house shows as he has huge festivals, and he brings the same thing regardless of where he's playing: ambitious songwriting, weird wit and honesty, and an interest in making it personal, direct, and fresh every time.

PRESS:

You may know singer-songwriter Jonah Matranga from his various group projects—Far, Gratitude, New End Original and the anagrammatic onlinedrawing, but, music made under his own name still sounds as sweet... Matranga may have done his best work while flying solo.

-ALTERNATIVE PRESS

A loose, free-roaming approach to songwriting that pushes his music beyond the normal sad-sack singer/songwriter clichés-PITCHFORK

One of music's most charismatic, tuneful, purist geeks

-ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

He never disappoints.-BROOKLYN VEGAN

One of the most influential artists out there. -INTERPUNK