

# District Highlights

## New Creative Arts/Morgan Village Academy Opens



(Left) Dr. Davida Coe-Brockington, principal, speaks to students, staff, parents and invited guests during the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Creative Arts/Morgan Village Academy.

(Below) School Development Authority's Chief Executive Director Marc Larkins looks on as Camden City Mayor Dana Redd addresses attendees at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



On Thursday, September 8, 2011, at 9:00 a.m., school officials, students, staff and the community marked the official opening of the district's newest school the Creative Arts/Morgan Village Academy. Principal Dr. Davida Coe-Brockington and Vice Principal Charles Dawson, joined district administrators, Mayor Dana Redd, Senator Donald Norcross, Assemblyman Gilbert L. Wilson, Camden City Councilperson Deborah Person-Polk, School Development Authority (SDA) CEO Marc D. Larkins and staff, Chanree Construction and members of the Morgan Village community for the ceremony.

The Creative Arts/Morgan Village Academy offers students a technology rich environment. The school is wired for internet access throughout and includes a media center, a full size gymnasium, cafeteria, and a theatre with the capacity to seat 350. Adjacent to the new school will be a bus loop, a parking lot and a recreation field. These areas will be defined after the demolition of the old Morgan Village Middle School.

The new grade configuration includes students in grades six through eight who will gain greater experience within the high school environment. These students will also be introduced to the diverse curriculum of the arts as well as incorporate the academics of the Common Core Standards which are national standards.



(Adults left to right) Patricia J. Kenny, Martha F. Wilson, Susan Dunbar-Bey, Principal Dr. Davida Coe Brockington, SDA's Chief Executive Officer Marc D. Larkins, Camden Mayor Dana Redd, Councilman Gilbert "Whip" Wilson, Senator Donald Norcross, and Councilperson D. Polk pose with students after ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Creative Arts/Morgan Village Academy on Thursday, September 8, 2011.



Student ambassadors from the Creative Arts/Morgan Village Academy pose for photo wearing their blazers before the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

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# Camden High School Marching Panthers Win at HU

CHS Band Photos by: Edwin DeVaughn



The Mighty Marching Panthers have done it again. On Saturday, October 22, 2011, the Camden High School Marching Band was named 1st Place Winners, Best Drumline, received a certificate for Outstanding Showmanship and Placed Third in the Field Show at Howard University's 2011 Eminence Homecoming Parade Competition in Washington, D.C.

Purple and gold uniforms swayed to the music as other bands watched the Marching Panthers strut their stuff in Howard University's courtyard for the band competition.

Band students began the weekend by dazzling the crowd at the Camden High vs. Cherry Hill West football game on Friday, October 21, 2011. They boarded a bus on Saturday morning for Howard University and returned to join the Camden Education Association then performed at Cooper River Park for the American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer Awareness Walk on Sunday, October 23, 2011.

Congratulations to the Camden High School "Marching Panthers" Band for their successful three-day weekend of performances.



# Around the District

Throughout the school year and during the summer months, Camden students and staff are busy with professional development, planning academics and other activities that enhance the educational experience.

Curriculum and instruction is supported through after-school activities, as well as culturally diverse programs. The following highlights are just of a few student and staff activities and events that began the 2011-2012 school year.

## Cream Students Plant Vegetable Garden

First Lady Michelle Obama's "Healthy Living Campaign" inspired Cream students to plant their very own vegetable garden. The garden consists of cabbage, collard greens, tomatoes, peppers and eggplants. This Healthy Living Campaign gives students the opportunity to get their hands into the importance of a garden and its nutritional value.

Under the direction of Principal Sandra Sims-Foster, Science Teacher Margaret Goode, Camden Police Officer James Melton, school staff and students, the Cream School garden was born.

Tasty dishes such as stuffed cabbage, cabbage corn bread, eggplant parmesan, and collard greens were prepared by staff for the students. Cream School looks forward to continuing First Lady Obama's "Healthy Living Campaign."



## Parent Involvement Workshop

During the first Parental Involvement Workshop of the year, parents received information on Bullying and Safety issues from the district's Executive Director of Safety and Security, Mr. Gaylen A. Conley. After the presentation, parents asked questions about bullying and received information on how to contact the director for more information. The next Parental Involvement workshop is planned for November 2011.

## Hatch Family School Student Competes for AIA Gandhi Award

Congratulations to Nabeelah Muhammed (Grade 7) Finalist, Kayla Evans (Grade 7), and Najuquan Ross, (Grade 9) of the Cooper B. Hatch Family School. These students competed in the sixth annual Association of Indians in America's (AIA), Mahatma Gandhi Peace and Harmony Awards Essay & Art Contest. The theme for 2011: "If we were to teach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with the children." Nebeelah, along with 19 other finalists, was invited to the Award Ceremony held on Sunday, October 2, 2011, at Princeton University. There, she competed with nineteen other students. The top three finalists received scholarships ranging from \$150 to \$300. Nabeelah Placed Third. Pictured is Nebeelah with her poster promoting a message of peace, racial and religious harmony, and tolerance.



## Families and After School Providers Meet At SES Fair

The Office of Grants, Federal and State Funds held their Annual Supplemental Education Provider's Fair on Monday, October 3, 2011, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Octavius V. Catto Family School. Parents, students, staff and the community mingled in the school cafeteria to receive information on state approved after school programs offered to district students. After a brief presentation by each vendor, attendees enjoyed refreshments provided by Aramark.

Vendors in attendance: 1 to 1 Tutor, Academic First LLC, Achieve High Points, All About The Children, Alternatives Unlimited, American Tutor Inc., Arline Institute LLC, Basic Learning Skills Inc., Boys and Girls Club of Camden County, Child and Family Solutions, Convenient Education Services LLC, Educate-Online Learning LLC, Educational Information and Resource Center (EIRC), Encore Educational Institute LLC, Innovadia LLC, It Takes a Family, Ivy League Tutor, Learn-It Systems, Let Me Learn Inc., Quadthink Education Network, Regional Enrichment And Learning Center (REAL), Rocket Learning Partners LLC, Rutgers Young Educated Scholars, Sankofa Educational Solutions LLC, and Stay On Top Tutoring Inc.



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### camden city public schools District Highlights

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