

October 14, 2009

**Special points of interest:**

- **PTA Meeting, October 21 at 6PM in the LHS Cafeteria**
- **Board of Education Meeting, October 21 at 7PM in the District Office**
- **Report Cards Issued November 9th**
- **Parent and Teacher Conferences will be held November 16th from 12:00 to 7:30PM.**

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Students show their school spirit during homecoming week.

# D.A.W.G.S.' News

Discipline, Achievement, Work Ethic, Goals, and Service



## Message from the Principal

I want to thank all of the parents, students, teachers, and support staff for a great beginning to our school year! All of us at Laurel High School hope that you and your child are having a great year as well.

Laurel High School welcomed many new faces this year to our team including a whole new science department. Mrs. Gormer and Ms. Wenzel come to us with many years of teaching experience from Delaware and New Jersey. They are joined by Ms. Brown, Mrs. Cass, and Mr. Prisco. We also welcomed a new face in the World Language Department, Ms. McColley. She is a recent graduate of the University of

Delaware and has done a great job bringing Spanish to life at Laurel High School. Mr. Temple is our new Agriscience teacher. He too is a graduate of the University of Delaware and a business owner for the past twenty plus years. His knowledge and experiences have been invaluable to our students in the Agriscience Pathway. Mr. Miller has joined the staff of Laurel High School as one of our Physical Education teachers. New mathematics teachers include Mr. White, Mr. Wright, and Ms. Ward. Finally, we welcome Mr. Bryan and Mr. Howard as members of our support staff. All of our new team members bring experience and a youthful

exuberance to Laurel High School. We look forward to our new team members making a positive impact on all of our students and families.

Also, the Laurel High School family continues to grow. This Fall we have welcomed the birth of Logan Keenan, Micah Niblett, Max Allen, Colin Sheridan, and soon to arrive Gallo baby.



Mr. Wright, Mrs. Gormer, Ms. Wenzel, Mr. White, Ms. Brown, Ms. Ward, Ms. McColley, Mr. Bryan, Mrs. Cass, and Mr. Prisco

## School Improvement—Year 2

Laurel High School is in its 2nd Year of School Improvement based on the federal guidelines of No Child Left Behind, NCLB. Our highest priority is to improve our students' achievement. We firmly believe that all children can learn and will achieve when parents are actively involved with their children's education. NCLB legislation encourages educators, parents and approved Supplemental Educational Service Providers to work diligently

together to incorporate additional services in these schools. Students in grades 9 and 10 who are identified as Below the Standard and/or Well Below the Standard in Mathematics will receive additional services during the school day. Additionally, Laurel High School has implemented an after school tutoring program to further assist students in the areas of math, science, social studies, and language arts. The tutoring

schedule is displayed on the back left edge of this newsletter. Our programs have been approved by the Delaware Department of Education and will provide your child with tutoring that is coordinated with the curriculum taught in our math classrooms. The extra supports during and after the school day will help all kids achieve success on the DSTP. For questions, please contact your child's guidance counselor.



Laurel High School  
Marching Band

## Tutoring

## Schedule

*Begins the week of*

*October 26th!*

*Credit Recovery*

*Tues & Thurs*

*3-4:30PM*

*Math*

*M-Th*

*3-4PM*

*Science*

*Tues & Thurs*

*3-4PM*

*Social Studies*

*M-Th*

*3-4PM*



[http://  
www.lhs.laurel.k12.de.us/](http://www.lhs.laurel.k12.de.us/)

## Marching Band Wins 1st Place!

On Saturday, October 3, 2009, the Laurel High School Marching Bulldogs placed first in their class at Appoquinimink High School's Tournament of Bands Invitational. The ensemble's score of 82.35 is their highest score in the last 8 years and is a testament to the hard work and dedication of its 50 marching members. Currently, the band is ranked second in Group 2 Regional Class for all of Tournament of Bands (TOB) which includes programs in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia,

and parts of Ohio, New York and North Carolina.

Drum majors Amber Cooper (senior) and Liz Waite (sophomore) led their peers to victory as they conducted the musical selections: Alacran, El Gato Triste, Los Conquistadores, and Fiesta Bahia. Section captains Brandon Niblett (junior) and Maura Pusey (junior) were instrumental in preparing their sections for all the performances this season, leading their sections by example and serving as mentors to

rookie members. Drumline captains Justin Collins (senior) and Corey Johnson (senior) as well as stationary percussion ensemble captains Taryn Laux (senior) and Heather Melvin (senior) swelled with pride as their sections received the award for Best Percussion. Guard captains Kirstin Cook (senior) and Kari Noftsinger (senior) also demonstrated their Bulldog Pride when the colorguard was recognized as Best Auxillary in their class. Great job Marching Band!

## What is your Career Pathway?

Laurel High School has added a new pathway for the 2009-2010 school year, Criminal Justice.

This pathway is designed for students who wish to have a career in law enforcement and/or pursue a law degree. Students who chose the Criminal Justice Pathway will complete courses titled; Pre Law, Introduction to Criminology, Introduction to Psychology. Students are also encouraged to take a fourth level course titled Advanced Placement Psychology. For more information on the

Criminal Justice Pathway please contact Ms. Joseph at [ejo-seph@laurel.k12.de.us](mailto:ejo-seph@laurel.k12.de.us)

Laurel High School offers a wide range of career offerings for students. Students can complete one or more of the following Career Pathway options;

- Agricultural Structures
- Business—Marketing
- Criminal Justice
- Early Childhood Education
- Horticultural Sciences
- Performing Arts

• Visual Arts  
Laurel High School also plans to add a Biomedical Pathway for students interested in a career in medicine. The pathway is part of our District Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, STEM, initiative. Stay tuned for more information on our Biomedical Sciences Pathway. For more information on our Career Pathway options contact your child's guidance counselor Mrs. Sessoms or Mr. Giles.

## Parent Teacher Association-Lets Get it Started!

More than 85 research studies conducted over the past 30 years prove that kids do better when parents are involved. Grades are higher. Test scores improve. Attendance increases. Involved parents understand the challenges schools face and become part of the solution. By developing a closer relationship with parents, student achievement

improves, and the school develops a positive reputation in the community. PTAs frequently coordinate production of a school newsletter and information fliers, keeping the entire school community informed of current events, issues, and accomplishments. Regular meetings allow PTAs to share information with members. Does this sound excit-

ing to you? If so, we need your help. One of our goals this year is to create an active parent teacher association, PTA, at Laurel High School. Help us make this happen by attending our first meeting will be October 21, 2009 from 6-7:00PM in the high school cafeteria. Together we can improve the school experience for all students and families at Laurel High School.