

Serving students in Adams, York, and Cumberland Counties

A newsletter for the students, families and friends of River Rock

Spring Grove Campuses Join Forces with Regional Police

Southwestern Regional Police Sgt. Jack Greene and Officer Jamie Stalcup have joined forces with our Spring Grove and Day Treatment Campuses as our new Resource Officers. They provide support to staff and students by answering questions, helping out where needed, and simply getting to know the students one on one.

Sgt. Greene and Officer Stalcup alternate weeks that they are on-site. Both chose the opportunity to work with our students and staff, it was not mandated. Officer Stalcup said, "I hope to make a difference with the kids by helping them make right choices. I'm not here to pass judgment." He said it's been a good experience for both Sgt. Greene and himself.

They are looking forward to a great year at the Spring Grove Campuses.



Student Britnee Cone and Officer Jamie Stalcup



Officer Jamie Stalcup, Mr. Steve Capoferri, Mr. Brandon Hoff and Sgt. Jack Greene at our Spring Grove Open House

Recovery Guest Speaker

Ms. Barbara Genna of the PA Recovery Organizations Alliance spoke to the students at our Shiremanstown Campus in December. Barbara (B.J.) spoke about the potential impact of drug and alcohol addictions—the short and long-term physiological effects of drugs on the body and the mind. She also discussed the emotional impact that addiction had on her own life and the lives of those in her family.

Ms. Genna shared with our students her journey to recovery and her continuing struggle. She spoke of her many successes since overcoming her addiction, including attaining both an undergraduate and a graduate degree. The students were attentive to her story and asked lots of relevant questions.



Ms. Barbara Genna speaking to our students

Gettysburg Field Trip

When you think of a field trip to Gettysburg touring the battlefields usually comes to mind. But Mr. Karl Munscher had different plans for his Hellam Campus students. He took them to tour the Gettysburg Wyndham Hotel and Resort in mid-December. Mr. Brad Baer, General Manager of the hotel, along with Ms. Judy Wimmer and Ms. Melissa Loiselle gave our students a complete tour of the high-tech facility and grounds, while discussing career opportunities in the hotel and resort industry. The students saw first hand the daily operations of a hotel. They especially enjoyed the kitchen where they learned about high-end cuisine in a hotel and resort.

To round out the field trip, the students went to the Gateway Cinema and viewed the movie *Fields of Freedom*. Based on the discovered diaries of soldiers from both sides, the movie depicts two young men as they prepared for the bloody onslaught of Pickett's Charge.



Mr. Brad Baer



Ms. Judy Wimmer and Ms. Melissa Loiselle



Hellam Campus students pose in the presidential suite (above) and in front of the Gateway Cinema (right).



Coaches Corner

From Sports Master Munsch

River Rock Academy and River Rock Day Treatment has several staff members who coach sports. Sports Master Karl Munsch provides an update on their team's progress below.

Resource Officer Bruce Bartz is now a PIAA High School Basketball Official.

Beth Felix is Head Coach for Delone High School Girls JV Basketball. Their record is 10-0.

Karl Munsch, assistant coach at West York High School Football, won the Division 2 Championship, finishing 10-2 for the season.

Jen Reichard is Head Coach of Central High School Girl's Volleyball. The team finished the season 8-6, winning the last five games.

Todd Roberts, Assistant Wrestling Coach at Millersville University, is 1 and 4 at the moment but has young talent competing at the Division 1 level.

Brian Schmoyer is the Head Basketball Coach at Dover High School. The team is currently 10-6, beating top teams York High and West York.

John Walton, Head Junior High Basketball Coach at Boiling Springs is leading his team to a 5-3 record.

Rob Bozart, Head Wrestling Coach at Red Land is in a rebuilding year.

Tony Weaver is an assistant football coach at Delone High School. Coach Weaver's team finished 10-4 winning the Division 3 championship and the AA District 3 Championship.

Meet the Staff—Mr. Ryan Wall

Ryan Wall is the Social Skills Teacher at our Spring Grove Campus. In addition to seven years of experience within the alternative education field, Ryan's unique life experiences provide him with the foundation to work with our students.

Growing up, Ryan's home life was anything but normal for this Hanover resident. His parents divorced several times, giving him many stepparents and stepsiblings. A grandfather in Philadelphia, with whom he occasionally lived, provided him with stability at crucial times throughout his life. Ryan struggled in school. Sports, especially football, were his saving grace.

From age twelve to nineteen, he and his father lived in Colorado on a two acre fenced-in farm domesticating wolves. Ryan came to respect and love the wolves they raised. The wolves, in turn, recognized him as their master and displayed extreme loyalty, obedience, and submission.

Through this experience Ryan learned about family structure. Wolf packs are highly structured. They relate to each other by blood and family ties of affection and mutual aid. The hierarchy within the pack is complicated and respected by all members. Leadership within the pack is rarely challenged. Wolves can smell fear and will exercise their dominance and authority when they sense it. Ryan learned how to be the master of his pack of wolves.

What Ryan learned from the wolves translates into the classroom. Hierarchy within a classroom can be complicated. Students can sense fear or uncertainty, just as wolves can. They will challenge authority and attempt to dominate when they sense uncertainty. Ryan holds his students accountable for their behaviors. He is consistent and fair. He is the leader of his pack within the classroom.

Despite multiple obstacles in his life, Ryan has turned his life around. While working at Hoffman Homes he met Jenn Hoagland, a therapist. She was the girl of his dreams who quickly became the wife of his dreams! Ryan credits Jenn with keeping him on track and heading in the right direction. He is now working on his Master's Degree in Counseling at McDaniel College. We are proud to have Ryan working at River Rock Academy!



Mr. Ryan Wall with students in his classroom



Ryan in younger days with a wolf on his dad's farm in Colorado

Looking Ahead to Spring

February 18	School closed
March 21	School closed
March 24	School closed
April 11	Early dismissal

Our school calendar is subject to change due to snow make-up days. Please call your campus office if you have any questions.

The River Rock Gator is written, compiled, edited, and designed by Barbara Rodgers in the interest of RRA students, parents and Adams, Cumberland and York County School Districts.

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 Steve Capoferri—CEO
 Patti Shatto-Young—CBO
 Bob Howard—V.P. of Operations

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River Rock Academy

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Perfect Attendance

The students listed below had perfect attendance for October, November and December. They were rewarded with a River Rock snack gift card.

Students who had perfect monthly attendance with no time spent in the Resource Room were entered into a drawing to win a \$50.00 gift certificate to Dick's Sporting Goods for October, a Nano iPod for November and a pizza party for December.

October's winners of the gift certificates were Brooks Peters, Sean Cramer and Kayla Crespo. November's winners of the Nano iPods were Richard Estright, Geriel Natera, Thomas Prince and Ben Berrell. December's winners of a pizza party for four were Stephanie Rutherford, Joey Gaeckler, Shane Brent, and John Avila. Congratulations to all.



Mr. John Dechert (right), Director of the Shiremanstown Campus gives student Richard Estright the Nano iPod he won in a drawing for perfect attendance for November.

October

Jeremy Atchison
Shayne Augustyniak
Johnathan Avila
Chris Baker
Al-Leith Balleth
Dylan Barrett
Brandon Bedford
James Bennett
Channing Bixler
Casey Brammann
Shane Brent
Kinglsey Chikezie
Britnee Cone
Sean Cramer
Kayla Crespo
Will Cluclasure
Gage Dale
Sergio Diaz
Michael Gebhart
Noah Heck
Matthew King
William Landis
Jonathon Leonard
Sharelly Maldonado
Alterrick McCray
Michael McCray
Amanda McDonald
Ashley Mills
Travis Mitzel
Geriel Natera
Amber Penn
Brooks Peters
Thomas Prince
Nick Puelzt
Shane Sellers

Michael Soto
Travis Thomas
Nicole Walter
Katarina Warner
Matthew Weber
Matthew Wixom
Lanae Wood

November

Jeremy Atchison
Chris Baker
Mazie Beck
James Bennett
Benjamin Berell
Shane Brent
Kingsley Chikezie
Sean Cramer
Britnee Cone
Kayla Crespo
Gage Dale
DeVe'll Dickson
Brandon Duffey
Richard Estright
Kayla Feight
Mark Gebhardt
Steve Hollingsworth
Ben Hoover
Elijah Kelley
Matthew King
Billy Landis
Jonathan Leonard
Amanda McDonald
Ashley Mills
Geriel Natera
Shawn Nolder
Matt Nycum
Brooks Peters

Thomas Prince
Nicholas Puelzt
Henry Rausch
Matt Roque
Christopher Taylor
Gabrielle White

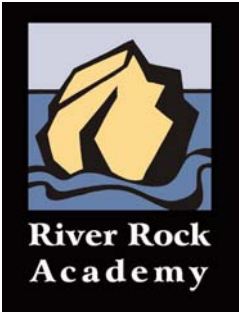
December

Andrew Anderson
Shayne Augustyniak
John Avila
Dylan Barrett
Casey Brammann
Shane Brent
Kingsley Chikezie
Jason Cool
Gage Dale
Sergio Diaz
Shane Dorsey
Brandon Duffy
Rachard Evans
Kayla Feight
Joey Gaeckler
Michael Gebhart
Bernell Hess
Tyson Hale
Steve Hollingsworth
Matt King
Kody Kissel
Joe Lambert
Steven Lauth
Jonathan Leonard
Dwayne Luckabaugh
Alterrick McCray
Michael McCray
Amanda McDonald

Aaron McMillion
Michael Melvin
Ashley Mills
Geriel Natera
William Nevin
Brooks Peters
Paul Pietrusza
Thomas Prince
Nicholas Puelzt
Henry Rausch
Aaron Rineholt
Kathryn Robinson
Matt Roque
Stephanie Rutherford
Darshan Santiago
Karen Stahle
Nate Stout
Evonnie Summerford
Christopher Taylor
Kevin Wardecker
Brooks White

*I am not judged
by the number of times
I fail, but by
the number of times
I succeed;
and the number
of times I succeed
is in direct proportion
to the number of times
I can fail
and keep on trying.*

~Tom Hopkins



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Three basic behavioral norms that are the foundation of River Rock Academy are:

- No student has the right to hurt, intimidate, or ridicule another student.
- Education and the classroom are sacred.
- Our school is sacred and we will always protect its property and belongings.

January 2008

Spring Grove Open House Photos November 9, 2007

Our Spring Grove Campus hosted our fourth York County Open House on November 9, 2007. School district personnel, probation personnel, friends and family attended the festive event and got to see the new River Rock Day Treatment Program which is part of the campus. Mr. Bob Howard said of the open house, “It was a great opportunity for us to

show the programs to our customers. We are very proud of what the staff and students at Spring Grove have been able to accomplish in a short period of time. This was their chance to ‘show off’.”



Second Chances

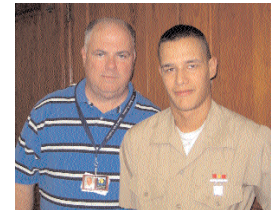
We all like to have a second chance, but how often are we offered one? Throughout this newsletter we read of people who have had an opportunity to have a second chance. As we start the second semester of this school year, remember this is a time for second chances! As students, you have the opportunity to use the support that your family, your school, and staff at River Rock are offering. Reach out and grab that help! Use us to help you improve your grades, get a job, return to school, or whatever you have your sights on! As parents, we can try to be mindful that our students are still in need of our guidance and they will still make mistakes! Remember, without mistakes there can be no success! As staff, we can continue to encourage students to make the changes necessary to achieve their personal goals. River Rock is the practice field! Without opportunities for mistakes and second chances in practice, none of us can get it right in the real game! Remember what it feels like to have a second chance, and then offer that gift to someone else!



Patti Shatto-Young, CBO

Former Student Visit

In November the Hellam Campus got a surprise visit by former student Joshua Sola, who graduated in June 2007. He looked quite different, dressed in a Marine Corps uniform. We had to look twice when we saw him.



Mr. Tony Weaver stands with former student Joshua Sola

Josh was on a ten day liberty leave and we appreciated his visit. Josh joined the Marine Corps last July and spent 13 weeks at Paris Island, South Carolina. After his leave of absence he was entering SOI (Standard School of Infantry) to become a combat engineer. His Marine Corps career goal is to become a drill instructor.

We asked him for advice for our current students and he said, “Given a second chance, you can do it! Apply yourself!” He said River Rock Academy was one of the greatest helps he ever had to turn his life around.

We’re proud of the success he has shown and we wish him well. Thank you for serving our country.