The following information has been collected from CSD administrative departments and reflects updates on key programs, priorities and initiatives. Items specifically related to the progress of Cheltenham’s strategic plan, "Five Pathways, One Destination," are noted along with specific plan pathways. To access the plan and a description of each pathway, click here.

* School reopening-related projects and initiatives are not included in this publication.

**OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

Seven Cheltenham High School students are among a cohort of local high school students who started their dual-enrollment course and leadership modules at Arcadia University through the Center for Black Educator Development. The cohort also includes six Parkway West High School students and one Abington Senior High School student. Launched in June 2019, the Center for Black Educator Development is revolutionizing education by dramatically increasing the number of Black educators so low-income Black and other disenfranchised students can reap the full benefits of a quality public education. The organization seeks to reclaim power and honor the legacy inherited from those who struggled to commit the deeply subversive, ultimately liberating, act of teaching. [Strategic Plan Pathway 1: Curriculum and Instruction] [Strategic Plan Pathway 5: Communications and Engagement]
CSD STEM Director Dr. Brian Reilly participated in this school year's initial STEM Coalition meeting. Judd Pittman, special consultant to the secretary of education for STEM, led the presentation, which included a review of the work conducted in 2019-2020 and Pennsylvania Department of Education's (PDE) continued commitment in developing a vision for STEM education. The Pennsylvania STEM Coalition is a statewide, cross-sector network representing more than 430 stakeholders with a focus on equitable access to STEM learning experiences for every learner, from early childhood to higher education. The Pennsylvania STEM Coalition has worked on a common vision for STEM; monthly virtual statewide STEM collaboration meetings; Pennsylvania’s computer science initiative; expansion of STEM Ecosystems; and formation of the PAsmart Initiative.

Director of Secondary Education Ms. Charlene Collins met with Special Education Transition Coordinator Mr. Gus Eckhart, Director of Student Services Dr. Cheryl Horsey, Special Education Supervisor Dr. Ian Sanberg, and CHS Vice Principal Ms. Christine Zubairu to review alternative graduation pathways and the implications for special education students. Once the guidelines are released, Mr. Eckhart will follow up with the MCIU to determine which programs meet the standards as presented in Act 158.

Cheltenham Director of Secondary Education Ms. Charlene Collins has taken advantage of several opportunities to attend learning experiences to support our diverse student body, including:

- "Work-Based Learning and Career Connections Opportunities," an introduction to Nepris, a platform which connects teachers and students with industry experts from around the globe virtually. As the district continue to explore ways to provide college and career opportunities to students, Nepris empowers students to tie relevant interests and exposure to course content within specific pathways. Teachers can request speakers based on career interest, race, gender and geographic location. Nepris houses a video library and users can research and compare job descriptions, salary, and education requirements.

- "Teacher Supports: Guide for School and District Leaders," a College Board presentation reviewing its expanded resources for teachers to utilize in hybrid, in-person or virtual models. Additional resources include unit instructional videos posted to its website for teachers to utilize in their AP classrooms. Teachers must register via the College Board to access the instructional resources. Enhancements were to ensure all students have access to resources 24/7 to support their success in AP courses and on the AP exam. Ms. Collins shared
OFFICE OF INNOVATION

The Department of Innovation continues to support students, families, teachers and administrators in navigating various systems, educational technology tools and learning protocols while the district is engaged in a distance learning model. Training for ClassLink, the new single sign-on platform, was provided for grade K-12 teachers in three different sessions. Two application libraries have been created in ClassLink for teachers and students to add apps to their own ClassLink LaunchPad. The teachers' library has 13 applications, while the students' library has six. Each week, new applications will be added based on district subscriptions and/or the approval and vetting of teachers’ requests. [Strategic Plan Pathway 1: Curriculum and Instruction] [Strategic Plan Pathway 3: Professional Learning]

• CSD Assistant Superintendent Dr. Tamara Thomas Smith and STEM Director Dr. Brian Reilly met with Elkins Park School Principal Mr. Brian Wallace to discuss the need for additional instructional technology support at the elementary level. On September 28, teacher Mr. Kevin Murphy (K-6) joined Ms. Tami Flood (7-12), Mr. Tom Cook (7-12) and Ms. Amy Flynn (K-6) as teacher leader supports during virtual learning as well as any future hybrid scheduling. Ms. Lisa Rock continues to support K-12. [Strategic Plan Pathway 1: Curriculum and Instruction]

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STUDENT SERVICES

Nearly four years ago, the district forged a relationship with Salus University in Elkins Park to provide free vision care to CSD students through the university's mobile vision care initiative for school-age children, also known as the "vision van." Through the initiative, clinical providers and interns from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry (Salus University's founding college) provide free vision screenings and eyeglasses to economically disadvantaged and uninsured public schools children. Salus also provides eye care students in the Jenkintown, Abington and Souderton school districts. The mobile unit includes equipment to complete a comprehensive vision exam, along with an optical area where the children choose and are fitted for glasses. Family consent is obtained prior to any screenings offered to students. CSD School Nurse Coordinator Ms. Alex Knab and Director of Student Services
Dr. Cheryl Horsey have been communicating with representatives from the university regarding ways to offer vision screenings this school year while adhering to the district’s health and safety protocols. [Strategic Plan Pathway: 4 Holistic Experiences]

- CSD Home and School Visitors Ms. Jennifer Mosher and Ms. Jessica Keene recently attended the Student Assistance Program Council meeting hosted by the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit. Representatives from various school districts and mental health and drug and alcohol treatment agencies were in attendance. The meeting featured a round table discussion in which service providers shared provisions that have been made to render particular services in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and school district representatives shared ways to support students in a virtual learning setting. [Strategic Plan Pathway: 4 Holistic Experiences]

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BUSINESS OFFICE

CSD's 1:1 Chromebook initiative spans grades 5-12. Tech Director Mr. Chris Barone and Business Manager Ms. Cara Michaels continue to find opportunities to expand and support the initiative. The board approved their recommendation to purchase 900 Chromebooks for grades three and four at the October legislative meeting. The three-year lease agreement of $247,718.46 (about $82,572.82 a year) is structured the same as the other lease agreements and has been reviewed by the solicitor’s office. Ms. Michaels requested the order be submitted immediately in order for CSD's order to be queued with the manufacturer. Due to the overwhelming demand for Chromebooks, orders are taking months to fulfill, but these are expected in January 2021 at the earliest.

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RECENT COMMUNICATIONS FROM ADMINISTRATION

- High School Fall Athletics Receives Go-Ahead for Workouts (September 11, 2020)
- Fall Sports Alternate Season to Begin in March (October 8, 2020)
- Family Remote Learning Survey Letter (October 9, 2020)
- Update from Superintendent Dr. Wagner Marseille (October 14, 2020)

As part of CSD's commitment to keeping you informed, please see below a series of frequently asked questions (FAQs). CSD will continue to formulate additional FAQs as needed.

- FAQ No. 1 (August 7, 2020)
- FAQ No. 2 (August 14, 2020)
- Special Education FAQs (August 19, 2020)
- Technology FAQs (September 4, 2020)
UPCOMING LEGISLATIVE BOARD MEETINGS

Until further notice, the Cheltenham School District Board of School Directors will host its legislative meetings via Zoom on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Cheltenham residents, tax payers and school district employees are encouraged to join the meeting at cheltenham.org/zoom, and submit agenda and non-agenda questions or comments at the requested time during the meeting to csdboardmeetingcomments@cheltenham.org. Viewers can "tune in" at cheltenham.org/stream, Comcast Ch. 42, or Verizon Ch. 1960. An archive of past streamed board meetings is available online.

The remainder of this year's schedule is below: