



# Delaware Military Academy

October 16, 2017

Good morning DMA,

We hope your last week was a little less challenging than ours was. As you are all aware, DMA Cadet Chris Lavelle, passed away last Friday afternoon. We want to extend our most heartfelt, deepest sympathy to the Lavelle family. Please know we are here for you and your cadets in whatever capacity you may need us. Here at DMA we spent the majority of the week doing our best to ensure our cadets were (and still are) receiving whatever it is they need to cope with the loss of their classmate.

We will never understand why, but are doing all we can to make our cadets realize that suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem. We will continue to bring awareness to this growing problem, and ask that you please reach out to us if you know of anything that your child is struggling with. We would much rather err on the side of caution (as I am sure you would) when it comes to those who mean more to us than anything in this world. Please, a simple phone call or email asking us to check in may make the difference.

To all of the families who have reached out and expressed your love and support to DMA, thank you. I apologize for not replying back individually to each of you, but please know it means a great deal to all of us to know you care and love your DMA family.

Many of you have asked how you can help. I would ask that if one parent would like to take the lead and set up a sign up genius then I will be more than happy to provide that information to all so you will know how you can assist. Please just email me if you want to be that person. Again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for helping us through this most trying time.

Here is your weekly update:

- ❖ DMA's Suicide Prevention and Awareness Committee was founded last year to help support the Seahawk Nation and its families through times of crisis. We also hope to raise awareness through participating in and organizing local events. Join the Delaware Military Academy SPAC as we walk to fight suicide in the Out of the Darkness – Wilmington, DE Walk. More information and sign ups can be found at this website.  
<https://afsp.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=162388>
- ❖ Underclassmen pictures will be coming home tomorrow. If you are unhappy with the pictures and would like to have them redone, please send the pictures back in with your cadet on Thursday during picture retakes. All retakes will be completed on Thursday morning.

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- ❖ Tomorrow, the US Navy will be visiting DMA with their STEM TOUR 2 Virtual Reality simulator. This is a 30-foot van that will be placed between the two DMA buildings. The program can accommodate 30 cadets an hour; they will be experiencing the virtual reality of driving a ship, fighting fires on a ship and various other Navy exercises. The cadets will have a great experience, and this opportunity promises to be a lot of fun. The program is only available every two years; we were fortunate to get this privilege.
- ❖ On Friday, October 13, thirty-seven DMA Cadets attended a field trip to the United States Naval Academy. The cadets had an opportunity to tour the yard with two of our alumni (1/C Wyatt Jennings and 2/C Derek Golembrosky), and participate in an admissions brief. In addition, the cadets toured the STEM facilities and explored the campus. If your cadet is interested in a service academy appointment in the future, please contact Mrs. Certesio to ensure they are included in future academy trips.
- ❖ The Business Department is looking for local business professionals to join the Business Advisory and Perkins Committee. Members meet once each quarter to decide on how best to spend the federal funds in the business classrooms, and to help keep the program evolving in a dynamic business environment. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Scott Green at [scott.green@dma.k12.de.us](mailto:scott.green@dma.k12.de.us)
- ❖ The PSAT/NMSQT has been rescheduled to Wednesday, October 25th. Juniors who previously registered, will take the exam the morning of the 25th then report to lunch and attend their afternoon classes. For all other cadets, this will be a typical school day. The PSAT 8/9 for freshman has been moved to November 15th. More information will be provided in the coming weeks.
- ❖ Next week will be our 2017 College Application Week. The week is designed to assist cadets with creating a post-secondary plan that is appropriate for them. This could be a four-year program, a two-year program, the military, an apprenticeship program, and so much more. We have lots of activities planned for the week and will have volunteers on hand to assist our senior cadets with completing college applications on Wednesday and Friday of next week. In order to be prepared for next week, please talk with your senior cadet about their plans. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Grant or Mrs. Certesio.
- ❖ Our 2018 Porthole (yearbook) is well underway. Only TWO WEEKS LEFT to take advantage of the lowest price offered for the year (\$75. On November 1, the prices will increase. To order, go to [www.YearbookOrderCenter.com](http://www.YearbookOrderCenter.com). Our order number is 16925. "Yearbook accessories" will be available to order later this week. Also the Porthole Staff welcomes any DMA-oriented photos taken of your cadets. Please email them to [dmaporthole@gmail.com](mailto:dmaporthole@gmail.com). Our goal this year is to represent all cadets well in the yearbook. With your help, this will happen.

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- ❖ Sports Report: Delaware Military Academy is sponsoring an ANCHOR DOWN 5K Run/Walk on Sunday October 29, 2017. Join us for a morning of fitness & fun! All proceeds benefit DMA Athletics. Complete Race info is available at: [www.uspsports.com/DMA5K10292017.htm](http://www.uspsports.com/DMA5K10292017.htm) For further info contact Mark McGee - [markmcgee@verizon.net](mailto:markmcgee@verizon.net)
  - The Football Team and Cheerleaders are now 5-1 after two tough battles. They lost a close game to D1 #5 ranked Hodgson then defeated district rival Archmere for the second year in a row. The team will play St. Mark's this Saturday night at Baynard. Good luck everyone!
  - Cross Country traveled to New York over the weekend and participated in the Manhattan Invitational. They will compete in a rare tri-meet TOMORROW afternoon at 3:30pm at Banning Park. It is not often that the team competes this close and on a weekday. PLEASE try and come out and show your love and support for the DMA Track Family! Anchor Down!
  - Field Hockey is now 5-5 after another big conference win over Charter last week. With five games left, the team is pushing for a possible playoff berth. They play at Red Lion tomorrow at 4pm. Good luck, ladies.
  - The soccer team continues to have a strong season, and is now 6-3-1. They take on Newark Charter on Wednesday followed by Newark on Friday. Good luck, guys!

The Seahawk Nation has laughed, cried, celebrated and been through more than our share of tragedy. No matter the situation, we have proven that when times are difficult and the seas are turbulent, Seahawk Nation ANCHORS DOWN and rides out the storm together. As always, if there is anything we can do to help, we are just a phone call, email, or short visit away.

Kind Regards,

Anthony Pullella  
Commandant  
Delaware Military Academy

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