



Delaware Military Academy



Congratulations to Cadet Lieutenant Nicholas Graham, pictured here with Senator Coons as he receives his Principal Nomination to the United States Naval Academy. See story below.

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December 18, 2017

Good Afternoon, Seahawk Nation,

Welcome to the last Commandant Corner of 2017! We have a short week with the cadets and then they are all yours for the 12 days of Christmas! Have fun, lol... We are full of **Bravo Zulus** as we end 2017 on a high note, so happy reading!

Here is what we have going on:

- ❖ **BRAVO ZULU!** Congratulations to *Cadet Lieutenant Nicholas Graham* who was awarded the Principal nomination to the United States Naval Academy from Senator Coons this past Friday. Nicholas is without question a young man with an unparalleled work ethic, uncompromising character and unwavering determination. Nicholas is relentless in his pursuit of goals and dreams, and it is absolutely fitting for him to be the recipient of Senator Coons's Principal Nomination to the United States Naval Academy. Nicholas is a young man whose outgoing disposition compliments his leadership abilities here at DMA, which will serve him well as a commissioned officer in the United States Navy. It is rare to witness a young man who is mature beyond his years and exhibits the moral compass that you find in some of our greatest leaders. His strong character is most impressive and you can always count on him to do the right thing, regardless of the circumstance. He is caring, strong, and a great teammate to all. Nicholas has strengthened DMA and the Corps of Cadets over the past four years and has devoted himself to making DMA a stronger school. The United States Naval Academy is making a very wise investment in this young leader. He **WILL** make them proud. Whether it is the United States Navy or the United States Marine Corps that he selects, one of the two branches will be getting a determined and highly capable leader. The good news is we as citizens will benefit with someone such as Cadet Graham leading our country into the 21st century. The DMA staff and administration could not be more proud of this young man and all his accomplishments. We wish you all the best!

- ❖ Tomorrow night - Tuesday, December 19th - we will hold the DMA Winter Choral Concert featuring the DMA Concert Choir at Cooke Elementary School, 2025 Graves Road, Hockessin, DE 19707 starting at 6:30 pm. Come out for an evening of fun and entertaining winter and holiday music. The cadets have been diligently practicing and preparing for this high-energy concert. The DMAMA will have spirit wear available at the concert.

- ❖ Fantastic academic news! As part of our Middle States accreditation, DMA collects data and sets academic goals for each of our classes. We look at the average score improvement from the PSAT8/9 to the PSAT 10 to the SAT in junior year. Our goal is an improvement of 20 points per year in each section of the test (that's a 40 point increase

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each year). We are pleased to share that our class of 2018 cohort showed a 67-point increase in the English (ERW) section and a 66-point increase in the Math section this year! That's a 133-point increase between the PSAT 10 and their SAT super score.!

BRAVO ZULU Class of 2018 ~ we are very proud of all they have accomplished!

- ❖ We started the incoming cadet interview process last week. Sometimes, it is hard to determine who is more nervous for the interview; the parent or the prospective cadet 😊. Based on our initial interviews, we should have yet another very strong class joining the Seahawk Nation!
- ❖ The following is from a gentleman who lives in Dover: “On 12/16/2017, I was at an event at the Delaware Veterans Cemetery in Bear Delaware, for wreaths across America. Your school/academy was present there, and I must say the young men and women of your school looked Exceptionally Sharp! The young men and women were very polished and polite. Even walking around talking to their other classmates they never lost composure and being a teenager this happens oh so often this day and time. So with this said whatever your staff does up there at your school /academy PLEASE I BEG YOU DON'T STOP! Hats off to all involved with discipline and guidance of these young men and women ...thank you all.” This is exactly why we talk to the cadets constantly about how recognizable they are in the community. Everything they do, good or bad is magnified tenfold when you are a cadet at DMA. The perception and standard the community and DMA has of our cadets is of excellence, camaraderie and pride and we will continue to instill and encourage our cadets to excel in all facets and be the best they can be! **BRAVO ZULU DMA!**
- ❖ Most of you probably know that the new trend with teens is “vaping” or “julling”. As ridiculous as that sounds, it is what teens are doing nowadays. DMA is making a concerted effort to provide our cadets further education about the dangers of this latest trend. Today and Tuesday our school nurse will be conducting a presentation about the **Effects of Vaping** during Naval Science classes. The point of the presentation is to provide awareness to our cadets about the potential effects of vaping to the body. As an FYI to our parents: Right now, studies show that three out of five high-schooler's use e-cigarettes or vape on a regular basis. We will do our best to steer our cadets away from this harmful trend. Please talk to your cadet as well about the long term effects this could pose to their health. If you would like a copy of the PowerPoint, please contact Mrs. Dolan. It is very well done.
- ❖ Sports Report:
 - The Ice Hockey team is now 4-0. They play this Friday night against Owen J. Roberts HS at 6:00pm at the Pond. Good luck!
 - Boys Basketball is currently 0-4. They have a big conference game against Archmere on Tuesday away. Good luck boys!

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- Girls Basketball is 2-0 after defeating DSAC foe Wilmington Charter. They play Archmere today at home and at St. Marks on Thursday night. Look for the team to participate in the Diamond State Classic at St. E's over the holiday break. Good luck girls!
- Our Dance Team will be performing at halftime at some of our home events. Keep a look out!
- Boys Swimming is now 1-1 after a close loss to Sallies, and the Girls Team is also 1-1 after losing to Ursuline. They take on Appo. today at home. Good luck!
- The Track Team competed in the AT&T Coaches Hall of Fame Invitational this weekend at the Armory in New York City over the weekend. They next compete on 1/6/18 at the Dickinson College Invitational.
- Wrestling participated in the 30-team Howdy Duncan Invitational this weekend at William Penn and finished 15th overall. Congrats! They have back-to-back away dual meets this week as they travel to Newark Charter on Wednesday and then to St. Marks on Thursday. Good luck.

We hope you have great rest of the week. On behalf of all of us at DMA, we wish you Happy Holidays, a very Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year to all!

Kind regards,

Anthony Pullella
Commandant

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