



Delaware Military Academy

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Good morning Seahawk Nation,

We hope you had an enjoyable weekend and your week is off to a smooth start. Last Thursday, we held grade level assemblies. While we went over all of the normal topics of discussion, we did spend more time discussing what our cadets consider a good school and why. We talked about the importance of understanding that not only do they attend a school with an NJROTC program, but they also attend the school that is considered the “Flagship” of all NJROTC programs throughout the country. We talked about wearing the uniform with pride and respect, as they are honoring all service members (past and present) who defend our country and have fought and died for our way of life. We recognize they are teenagers and making them understand the significance of the uniform isn’t always the easiest, but with your help and support, and them hearing the same message at home will definitely help. Please have that discussion with your cadet and look them over before they leave the house.

We also talked about the cadets who came before them, the ones who really had nothing when the school first started and the importance of humility and taking care of what they do have now and treating it like their own home. We want our cadets to walk into a clean and safe environment each day and for us to be able provide them the very nicest amenities possible. I am certainly not saying the cadets are trashing the place, but being mindful will certainly make our school that much nicer.

Finally, we discussed the importance of supporting one another, which is something all of the cadets said is a trait of a good school. Yes, DMA has a phenomenal athletic program and we are extremely proud of how far it has come and it continues to get better, but we also have cadets involved in many other activities and clubs, which makes DMA unique and makes us an NJROTC program. We understand some of the clubs and other programs do not attract crowds or have events for spectators to attend, but nonetheless they are important and those cadets involved are representing DMA and making us look great!

Overall, it was not your everyday assembly, but then again DMA is not your everyday average school either and we don’t want our cadets or staff to be average. We want them to achieve greatness and win in life!

Here is your weekly report:

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- ❖ On February 7th and 8th the cadets participated in the annual Area Managers Inspection (AMI). The Area manager, CDR Jimmie Miller, came for the two days and thoroughly inspected every aspect of our program. All 581 cadets were personally inspected and all commodity departments were scrutinized. The outcome was a grade of “Outstanding” across the board in all areas. This is a feat not easily achieved, however our cadets made it look easy. This is a great step toward the program receiving the coveted “Distinguished Unit with Honors”. Great job cadets!
- ❖ Here is your DMA weather briefing... We have a storm developing out of the west which could produce significant accumulation in our area. The DMA Doppler is showing precipitation beginning at 9:00am, which gives the Commandant a headache on what decision to make regarding school delays or cancellation. Stay tuned to your remind for further updates☺.
- ❖ Please support sophomore cadet Callie Skurla who is participating in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Student of the Year campaign! Callie will be raising money and awareness for The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Callie’s goal is to raise \$50,000, which will go directly to LLS in support of its longstanding mission to find a cure for blood cancers and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. If you are interested in supporting Callie, please donate by March 16th. For more information please go to her fundraising page:
<https://events.lls.org/de/DelawareSOY19/cskurla>
- ❖ Attention females: The Girls Go Cyber activity by SANS is a free event for young women in high school that allows them to participate in assessing their skills related to cyber security. They can compete to win prizes, which are based on performance. Any questions should be directed to esecurity@delaware.gov
- ❖ DMA will host an academic preview night for our 9th through 11th grade cadets and parents on Thursday, February 21st at 6:30 pm in the mess hall. This will be an opportunity to learn about our honors, college level (AP and dual enrollment) and elective course options. We will also discuss the course selection process that will occur in the spring. In addition to our DMA teachers, representatives from Delaware Technical and Community College will be on hand to talk about the dual enrollment program and answer questions. We hope that you can join us.
- ❖ The February PTA meeting will be held on February 21st at 6:00 pm in McDonald Hall so parents can join the academic night at the conclusion of the meeting. See the school calendar for more information.

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- ❖ Final payments for junior class rings will be collected on March 5th during lunch. The representative from Balfour will be here that day to collect payments. All class rings will be distributed during our annual ring ceremony on March 19th. A postcard will be sent to each junior, from Balfour, indicating the final balance due. Please contact Balfour with any questions.
- ❖ There are a number of seniors, who have yet to complete their FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). This is required in order to qualify for any federal student loans, the SEED scholarship at DTCC or UD AA as well as many private merit based scholarships. We recommend that all seniors complete the FAFSA prior to March 1st at www.fafsa.gov Please contact Mrs. Certesio if you have any questions.

If you made it to the end of this lengthy Commandant's Corner then you deserve a little humor... What did one hat say to the other? You stay here, I'll go on ahead ☺. Have a great week and continue to instill Pride and Ownership in your DMA cadet.

Kind regards,

Anthony Pullella
Commandant

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