

# PRIDE & Joy Newsletter

Maryland State Department of Education  
Bernard J. Sadusky, Interim State Superintendent of Schools

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Issue 8

Welcome to MSDE \* Academic Accolades \* Professional Strides \* Stork News

“There is no passion to be found in playing small—in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living.”  
~ Nelson Mandela

## Professional Achievements

**Young-chan Han**, in DSFSS, published works can be found in Eileen Kugler’s Book, [Innovative Voices in Education: Engaging Diverse Communities](#). Young-chan’s chapter, “*From Survivors to Leaders: Stages of Immigrant Parent Involvement in Schools*,” introduces a conceptual framework on four stages of parent involvement.

**June Wachira**, in OSI, graduated from the University of Baltimore and earned a Bachelors Degree in Accounting. A native of Kenya and despite the challenges of assimilating to a new country in 2000, June has shown determination and resilience in pursuing her academic goals.

**Jillian Storms**, in DBS, has several reasons to celebrate. Her daughter, *Katherine Elicker*, received a “Presidential Award for Academic Achievement” and she was also selected to participate in the Chesapeake Bay Foundation’s Leadership Training Program.

DOI is pleased to announce that **Jan Arnold** will be honored with the “Outstanding Professional Award” by the Eastern District Association of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Dance, and Recreation next month, in Boston.

**Beth Shevitz**, a teacher at Newport Mill Middle School and daughter of **Linda Shevitz** in the Equity Office, has been selected by the Los Angeles based Grammy Museum to bring a number of 8th grade students to the White House for a special program coordinated by First Lady Michelle Obama. The program is a student workshop with American blues singers and musicians to learn about creating and performing music.

**Eva Bobic**, in DOI, a Dean’s List graduate from the University of Maryland University College earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Information Assurance/Cyber Security. Eva received a COMP TIA Security Plus Certificate with a perfect score of 900.

**Dashae DeWitt**, son of **Wanda DeWitt** in DORS, was featured in a Melwood News Article titled, “*Ft. Meade Contract Marks New Era for Melwood*,” and he was also asked to take part in a television commercial. *Deshae* jumped at the opportunity when informed by his counselor at DORS. The work represents a new era in Melwood’s history supporting people with disabilities—the contract will employ as many as 120 people and up to 62 people with special needs.



**Carolyn Ali**, in DBS, is so proud of her daughter, *Jada Oliver*, who graduated from Frostburg State University earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mass Communications—minor in Public Relations with focus in Event Planning.

**Nina Mezu**, daughter of **Alicia Mezu** in DSFSS, graduated in January from Towson University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Molecular Biology-Biochemistry Bioinformatics. We send many well wishes as *Nina* continues on her academic path by pursuing admission to pharmacy school in the fall.

## YOU GO, GIRLS!

“Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.” ~  
*Henry David Thoreau*

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## “PRIDE Maryland Public Schools”

Now, more than ever, is an opportune time to nominate our MSDE colleagues for their personal and academic achievements, contributions to public education, and always going the extra mile to serve.

Nominate any individual or group that creates and exudes a sense of **PRIDE** at the Department.

### Welcome to the MSDE Family!

Dia Adams, DAA  
Tolulope Adesina, DAA  
Julie Amstutz, DAA  
Dora Barraza, DAA  
Priscilla Caporaletti, JSE  
Oscar Commodore, JSE  
Elizabeth Flow-Delwiche, DAA  
Michael English, Sr., JSE  
Mary Forman, JSE  
Matthew Goetz, JSE  
Zakiyya Holmes, DECD  
Danielle Jefferson, JSE  
Lisa Joseph, DSE/EIS  
Kimberly Marchman, DSE/EIS  
Rosemarie Martin, JSE  
Vanessa Martinez, JSE  
Hope Millington, JSE  
Sheila Murdock, JSE  
Vanessa Palmer, JSE  
Vincentra Parker, JSE  
Sheila Parker, JSE  
Poinsettia Peterson, JSE  
Phyllis Roberson, JSE  
Sherry McCall Ross, JSE  
Steven Serra, OS/OHR  
Patricia Smart, JSE  
Lynneliz Smith, JSE  
Rousana Soto, DECD  
LaCheyna Sparrow, JSE  
Danielle Susskind, DAP  
Megan Sweat, DBS  
C. Anthony Thompson, JSE  
Anna Toye, JSE  
Tyra Williams, DSE/EIS

### Welcome to the World!

**Bill Cappe**, in DAP, is smitten by the arrival of *Grant Ely Cappe*, born on January 19th. *Grant* weighed in at 8 lbs., 7 oz. Big brother, Hunter William Cappe, now 3 1/2, is elated to have a little brother, as are his parents, Michael and Jessica Cappe.

The 1st grandchild of Interim State Superintendent **Bernard Sadusky** arrived on December 18th. *Michael Andrew Cuches* already has his grandfather wrapped around his finger.



### Extra-Special Deliveries



**Sue Schaffer**, in DORS, is ecstatic over the arrival of her granddaughter, *Hava Anoushka Schaffer*, born on June 18th to proud parents Mike Schaffer and Marisa Levy.

**Jilda Scott**, in OS, is beaming with joy over the birth of Baby *Savaughn* who weighed in at 8 lbs., 2 oz. Her grandson was born on January 19th to son Darrell and Jolanda. *Savaughn* joins big sister Amaica.

It's official! **Zina Spriggs**, in DECD, is a member of the Grandmothers' Club. Granddaughter, *Nyla*, was born on January 24th at 5.84 lbs., 19.5 in. *Nyla* is home doing well and Grandma is so overjoyed!

“Service is what life is all about.” ~ *Marian Wright Edelman*

“A baby is born with a need to be loved...and never outgrows it.” ~ *Frank H. Clark*

Submit your “Good News” stories for the next PRIDE & Joy Newsletter—April 2012