Early College High School collection

Repository: Delaware State University Archives
William C. Jason Library
1200 N. DuPont Highway; Dover, DE 19901
302-857-6130

Creators: Dr. Evelyn A. Edney, administrator of the Early College High School at Delaware State University

Date: 2011-2019
Location: Row 8, Bay A, Shelf 2
Extent: 1 linear ft.
Language: English

Source of Acquisition: Dr. Evelyn A. Edney, Administrator of ECHS

Accruals: Anticipated

Conditions Governing Access: This collection is open to public viewing with no restrictions.

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Scope and Content:
The Early College High School (ECHS) collection contains records pertaining to the formation and development of the school. Major records include a copy of DSU’s 2011 application to the Delaware Department of Education for the formation of a charter school, a press release and program from the 2014 ribbon cutting ceremony, Echelon yearbooks, and a DVD and program from the first-ever graduation ceremony in 2018. Box two of the collection is comprised solely of artifacts: two graduation gowns and caps, three tassels, and a t-shirt.

Administrative History:
In 2011 Delaware State University applied to the Delaware Department of Education to found a charter school. The purpose of the school was and is to provide students with a high school diploma while also offering the opportunity to earn between 30 and 60 college credits. More specifically, the Early College High School is STEM-focused and encourages degrees and careers in (1) Agriculture and Human Ecology, (2) Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Technology, and (3) Health and Sport Sciences.

The ECHS opened its doors to students on August 25, 2014. The school was established at the Living Learning Commons, a former hotel located a half mile north of the main Delaware State University campus. The inaugural class was comprised of 132 ninth graders. The school’s ribbon cutting was formally held a several days later on September 2, 2014. During the first four years of operation the ECHS grew in student body by approximately 100 students each year. As the inaugural class rose each year, subsequent grade-levels were added. This period of growth culminated in the school’s first-ever graduation on May 14, 2018.

The ECHS functions much the same as a traditional high school with athletics, student organizations and extracurricular activities, homecomings, etc. The program is non-residential and the students are Delaware residents.

Arrangement:
Box 1 of this collection is arranged according to alphabetical order by subject. Box 2 is comprised of artificial items.
Box and Folder Listing:

Box 1:
- Delaware Department of Education Charter School Application, December 31, 2011
- Diploma cover, 2018
- Echelon yearbook, 2017
- Echelon yearbook, 2018 [2 copies]
- Echo magazine featuring the Early College High School, fall 2014
- ECHS flyer, c. 2018
- *The HBCU Advocate* newspaper featuring ECHS graduation, May/June 2018
- Hollingsworth, Dr. Reba Ross legacy luncheon, July 29, 2017
- Poetry Slam, Volume 2, issue 1, April 26, 2018
- Ribbon cutting ceremony, September 2, 2014
- Rotaract club induction, c. 2017
- Secretary of Education Scholar’s dinner photographs, April 2018
- 2018 Senior awards and graduation DVD, May 15, 2018
- 2018 Senior awards and graduation program and invitations, May 15, 2018
- 2019 Senior awards and graduation and invitations, May 14, 2019

Box 2, Artifacts:
- Graduation gown and mortarboard, blue (female), 2018
- Graduation gown and mortarboard, red (male), 2018
- Ribbon cut for the opening of ECHS, September 2, 2014
- Tassel, blue and red and silver colored “‘18” adornment, 2018 [3 count]
- T-shirt, white with ECHS in red lettering, 2018

Colophon: Items in this collection were originally loaned to the DSU archives for an archival exhibit that contrasted the university’s first laboratory/high school with the modern ECHS. The exhibit was installed for the duration of the 2018-2019 school year. The items were formerly accessioned into the archives in June 2019. The collection was processed July 2019 by R. Scherry.