



The Dante Mattioni Division (DMD-043) U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps (USNSCC) program is sponsored by the Maritime Academy Charter High School. The unprecedented success of the program at the Maritime High School, has led to the creation of the Naval League Cadet Corps program at the Maritime Middle School. We currently have 17 students now participating as cadets in our high school. The USNSCC is a national youth leadership development organization that promotes interest and skill in naval disciplines while instilling strong moral character and life skills through leadership and technical programs modeled after the Navy's professional development system. Students are also taught self-discipline, patriotism, physical training, with an emphasis on academic excellence, high self-esteem, and personal achievement.



Cadets meet four hours a week, two hours on Tuesday and two hours on Thursday from 3pm to 5pm. Cadets complete courses in Basic Military Requirements (BMR) and training that is similar to what recruits learn in US Navy boot camp. High school Sea Cadets are eligible for a boating certificate which allows them to legally operate a water craft in Pennsylvania. The Naval Sea Cadets help with school-wide blood drives, and maintain a neighborhood veteran's park throughout the year, because community service is a priority for these young men and women; the concept of giving back is ingrained early in their upbringing. The Sea Cadet Honor Guard is often deployed to special school and community events, such as school graduation ceremonies and other maritime functions. All Sea Cadets must attend a two week Naval Sea Cadet Boot Camp within their first year in the program where they will learn more about Navy life, culture, history, survival swimming, close order drill, and military etiquette. Cadets frequently train with our local Coast Guard units.



The Sea Cadets of the Dante Mattioni Division have had an excellent year! They began the year with an overnight drill weekend Oct 19-20 with the USS NJ div. on board the Battleship NJ, we drilled with the Coast Guard at the local Station Oct 22nd and 29th. Thursday the 24th was a three hour evolution in the evening proudly displaying our after school programs. Saturday the 26th our cadets built a park in west Philly. Our cadets were called upon for an open house for our school to again speak about the Sea Cadet program and our school and summer opportunities. The cadets have also attended trips to Kings Point maritime college and Temple University.



MACS and the USCG signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement on October 8, 2019. We are the first school in the country offered this extraordinary opportunity. They will mentor our students and our Sea Cadets can enter the USCG with an automatic upgrade, in addition to a \$5,000 signing bonus. Captains Walsh and Anderson were both present for the MOU signing ceremony. We also had our Sea Shanty chorus present to sing the “Semper Paratus” theme song of the USCG. We are very hopeful that our students take advantage of this opportunity.



Two of our graduating senior cadets will be attending maritime schools or training! Cadet Estreya Aranda will be attending Massachusetts Maritime Academy and Cadet Jeffrey Wolf will be attending either the Coast Guard Academy or Coast Guard boot camp. Sophomore Cadet, Lucas Santos was our very first petty officer in the program and Skylar Hazelwood became the second very quickly. Both are eager to learn and advance at a very fast pace; they have signed up for online navigation training and cadet Hazelwood has doubled up and will also be in a Homeland security course. Our top cadets are also honored each quarter as one is selected for the sailor of the quarter.



Our program is run by Dave Hentnick, a retired Coast Guard Chief and the maritime studies teacher at the high school. His staff consists of school staff or Coast Guard members and include, Mrs. Karnes as the executive officer and the schools attendance coordinator, Mr. Wilson is the training officer and the Vice principal, Mrs. Gayot is the administration officer and substitute, BM2 Braga is our operations officer.

