



Parkland School District
1210 Springhouse Road
Allentown, PA 18104
Contact: Nicole McGalla, Director of Community and Public Relations
Phone: (610)351-5630 Email: mcgallan@parklandsd.org

For Immediate Release: January 22, 2019

Parkland Reaches Teacher Contract Agreement

(Allentown) – The Parkland School District Board of School Directors and the Parkland Education Association (PEA) reached a 3-year contract agreement when the Parkland School Board approved a new contract on January 22, 2019. The District’s teachers ratified the agreement earlier in the day. The agreement will be in effect from September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2022. The PEA represents approximately 640 members, including teachers, nurses, guidance counselors and other professional staff.

The contract includes a 2.4% annual salary increase in year one, 2.4% salary increase in year two and 2.5% salary increase in year three. Stipend salaries for athletic coaches, department chairs and student activity advisors will increase at the same interval as the salaries each year.

Employees under this agreement will continue to have a choice between two medical insurance Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) programs. Employees opting to utilize the PPO 6 option will have increased employee contributions of \$300 per employee for single coverage and \$600 per employee for multiple party coverage during the term of the contract. Employees opting to utilize the PPO 750 plan, which has higher employee deductibles and lower employer premium costs, will have increased employee contributions of \$300 per employee for single coverage and \$480 per employee for multiple party coverage during the term of the contract.

Board President Lisa Roth stated, “We are so pleased to enter into an early bird agreement with our staff. We value our amazing teachers and appreciate that our staff continues to recognize that increases to healthcare contributions are necessary for the District to handle the rising cost of medical insurance. We thank the PEA for being a partner in helping us to manage tax payer funds responsibly and share in these rising nationwide costs.”

Mr. Richard T. Sniscak, Superintendent, stated, “Both parties acted professionally and collaboratively throughout the negotiations process. The end result is a fair contract that is fiscally

responsible, while rewarding our employees for their skills and dedication to the important and varied roles they play within Parkland.”

Sandi Gackenbach, President of the Parkland Education Association, offered, “The Parkland Education Association is grateful for the relationship it enjoys with its Administration and Board of Directors. Negotiations can be challenging, but when both sides have a vested interest in the fiscal health of our district and the success of our students, it is comforting to know that we have a cooperative relationship that meets the needs of both sides.”

###