



PINE-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Personal Growth | Resiliency | Innovation | Diverse Opportunities | Engagement



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



DR. BRIAN R. MILLER

Greetings to the Pine-Richland Community!

The annual report provides an opportunity to reflect on the past year and look forward to the future at Pine-Richland. We have completed one of the most unusual periods in educational history in the United States. During the 2021-2022 school year, 99+ percent of students attended in-person throughout the entire school year. We also offered a fully virtual K-12 learning option for families. Before moving further in this message, I want to take a moment to share my heartfelt gratitude for the teamwork, flexibility, **resiliency**, and **innovation** shown by students, staff, and the community. While challenges to education were felt across our country, the approach at Pine-Richland provided continuity and quality.

The very first reflection is that we have so much to celebrate! It is incredible to read about the accomplishments of students, staff, and the school district as a whole. We are fortunate to offer a wide range of **diverse opportunities** through our academic programs and extracurricular activities. Highlights of those activities and the results are captured in our annual report. The range of programs helps to promote **engagement** from our students and also provides opportunities for parents to be connected to their children.

During the last month or so, I had the privilege to spend a full day in each grade level from kindergarten through the 12th grade. This "Day in the Life of a Student" experience allowed me to see the educational programs and services through the eyes of the students and staff. It highlighted **personal growth** in the developmental changes that occur from one grade to the next. The culture of each school was positive. Although each building has its own identity, the consistency of student experience through courses, curriculum, interventions, and master schedule was evident. The MAAPE Excellence Award earned by PRSD this year reflects the level of organizational performance.

The **bolded words** in this message comprise our **PRIDE values**. We hope that the summer provides opportunities for all to relax, rest, and recharge. Congratulations to the Class of 2022! For everyone else, we look forward to the 2022 - 2023 school year. Thank you for your continued support of the Pine-Richland School District.

Respectfully,

Brian R. Miller, Ed.D., Superintendent



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[DID YOU KNOW THAT...?]

- > The **Mid-Atlantic Alliance for Performance Excellence** program named **Pine-Richland School District a 2021 Excellence Award recipient**. The Excellence Award is the alliance's highest award level. PRSD is only the seventh organization to earn the Excellence Award in the past 15 years and the first education sector excellence awardee.
- > **U.S. News & World Report** ranked **Pine-Richland High School** sixth in Allegheny County, seventh in the region, and 26th in the state in its "**Top High School**" rankings for 2022. In addition, the report ranks PRHS at 863 out of 24,000 public schools across the U.S. Criteria used include state math and reading scores, graduation rates, and the degree to which schools prepare students for college-level work using advanced placement exam data as a benchmark.
- > **The Pittsburgh Business Times** ranked **Pine-Richland School District** eighth in southwestern Pennsylvania based on standardized test scores. The **2022 PBT Schools** ranking is the first since 2020. In 2021, the publication used data from the 10 previous years for its "Decade of Excellence" rankings, putting the district eighth in the ranking system.
- > **Pine-Richland Middle School** is one of only two schools to be re-designated a fifth time in the past 15 years as a **PA Don Eichhorn Schools: "School to Watch"** as part of a recognition program developed by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform. Only 14 schools in Pennsylvania hold the title.

Educational Model and Continuum (During COVID-19) & Transforming the Future (Post COVID-19)



Virtual and in-person learning models were available in the 2021-2022 school year. The Transforming the Future Leadership Council met with approximately 50 representative members of the school and community (e.g., teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, technology coaches, students, parents, etc.). As a result of the reduced enrollment in PRVA+ and a myriad of other factors summarized by the district team at the board meeting on April 4, 2022, the administrative recommendation for the 2022-2023 school year was to “pause” virtual learning. Determinations for the future of virtual and possibly blended learning options will be considered throughout the 2023-2027 Strategic Planning Process.

Common Assessments & Collaborative Discussions to Drive Instruction

As the district continues to mature in understanding and using common assessments, the focus for this year was “data for action.” The power of the common assessment designed by classroom teachers is in the collaborative analysis. Those teaching the same course come together to review the results of the common assessment and determine areas of strength and opportunities for individuals or groups of students. The district identified areas of strength across the district in this year’s Academic Achievement and Growth Report (AAGR). In the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), common assessments are primarily Tier I interventions. They are designed to guide teachers in making immediate modifications

to how they support each student based on the assessment results. Examples include small group instruction during class, RAM time adjustments, or flexibly regrouping students during academic support at the middle school. The Special Education & MTSS programs are being finalized as a part of the In-Depth Program Review (IDPR) process. The use of data from assessments and screeners to match students to relevant interventions will be further refined as a part of this process. These data maps in the district are referred to as “decision trees,” which are being fully updated for staff members supporting each tier of the MTSS process.

School Culture

For 2021-2022, topics related to diversity, educational equity, and inclusion were addressed to help strengthen and improve the cultures of all of our schools. Linked to other areas, such as the RAMS Way, this initiative is built on the foundation of establishing relationships with each other to better understand and appreciate our similarities and differences. We know that when students and staff feel safe, confident, and comfortable, their ability to focus on teaching and learning increases.

Over the past two years, the district has worked with staff, students, families, and our school board to increase awareness and understanding of these important topics. Building-level teams

designed developmentally appropriate learning activities and in-depth program review recommendations linked to this initiative are being implemented (e.g., core text evaluation process and the integration of curriculum-aligned current events). In the spring, the district conducted an internal audit to identify strengths and opportunities related to district, school, classroom, and teacher practices that support diverse, inclusive learning environments. The analysis of those results, along with our annual stakeholder surveys, were shared in the summer. This continuous feedback loop between students, staff, and the community will help guide the district and schools in making future recommendations and ongoing adjustments.

School Safety, Security, and Culture

The district continues to take a strategic approach to the topic of school safety, security, and culture. Fostering a safe and positive school environment sets the foundation for learning. As a district, PR focused on a wide range of actions to strengthen that culture. The district reviewed, amended, and the board approved a revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NRPD providing for a School Resource Officer (SRO) position within the district. Continuing for the 2021-2022 school year, the SRO has worked in conjunction with the district’s

safety and security coordinators to provide additional safety and security measures with a greater police presence at the secondary campus. The district’s Emergency Operations Plan and MOU were also board-approved for 2022-23. The district continues to implement a series of actions related to safety, security, and culture to strengthen the school environment. For example, the visitor management system through Raptor will be expanded to assist with crisis training and response. The enhancements include additional safety resources for staff and

first responders to use for more effective communication and quick reference to safety/security practices that can be easily accessed during drills and actual events. A quarterly key partner meeting was held with NRPD on June 13, 2022, to review a range of topics. Tabletop training exercises will be held in the summer with additional training provided to staff in the fall. Students will also participate in drills and curriculum. The threat assessment procedures were reviewed and include an emphasis on reporting concerns
Continued on page 48

Sustainability



As part of the district's strategic plan, we have a long-term goal to consider and evaluate opportunities to promote sustainability and reduce the environmental footprint. During the 2021-2022 school year, several facilities and operations-based action items were identified for implementation including bulb replacement and energy awareness messages; paper reduction; preventative testing; propane bus extension; green cleaning products; leveraging Sapphire (paperless processes/warehousing); HVAC studies; and the establishment of a leadership council. The new sustainability leadership council has been formed, made up of students, teachers, principals, district office staff, board members, custodial and maintenance staff, students, parents, community members, and key partners, such as the food service and transportation vendors and township supervisors, totaling 46 invitees. By engaging this cross-section of relevant stakeholders, the district hopes to best inform work, gain pertinent insights, and remain accountable for outcomes. In pairs from each school, 12 students were invited to take part in this leadership council. Each pair will work together to provide insights into the voice of students within each building. Sharing the feedback and ideas from the student body will allow them to engage with one another in PR's first six-school club. Students leading in this role will be helping to set direction and work collaboratively to create a more sustainable district. This behavioral change involves student participation and collaboration, promoted by the staff, and supported by families and the community. Most recently, the district was able to provide good news about the electric bus vehicle program supported through a pilot program with Student Transportation of America (STA).

Student Transportation to Expand Electric Vehicle Program into Pennsylvania

Student Transportation of America (STA), an industry leader in student transportation, safety, and fleet services, is pleased to announce that with the help of the State of Pennsylvania and a grant from the Driving PA Forward-Truck and Bus Fleet Program, the organization is now expanding its electric vehicle (EV) pilot program into northern Pittsburgh. The move into Pennsylvania will mark a new milestone in the organization's ongoing effort to introduce battery-powered buses to city, suburban, and rural communities across the nation. Through the grant, three new electric school buses will be integrated into STA's current fleet serving the Pine-Richland School District.

"We are thrilled that STA was awarded a grant from the Driving PA Forward-Truck and Bus Fleet Program," said Gene Kowalczewski, Chief Operating Officer, STA. "This grant will go a long way to help us reach our company goals for greater sustainability. We are grateful for the support of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and our partners at the Pine-Richland School District who recognize the value that electric vehicles bring to the transportation industry."

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection recently awarded STA the grant to use toward the purchase of the new vehicles. The EV buses will supplement STA's existing fleet of propane school buses serving routes in the Pine-Richland School District. STA has engaged International to manufacture the new buses and anticipates delivery of the new vehicles in 6 – 12 months. With the help of Duquesne



THROUGH A GRANT, THREE NEW ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUSES WILL BE INTEGRATED INTO STA'S CURRENT FLEET SERVING THE PINE-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Light, STA will be able to update its existing bus terminal servicing the district by installing Level 2 Electrical Vehicle charging stations.

"We are extremely excited for Pine-Richland School District to be part of a pilot program for electric vehicle buses," said Superintendent Dr. Brian Miller. "When we began our relationship with STA almost seven years ago, we chose to operate a propane fleet. Last summer, we extended the contract with STA as a key partner for another seven years with a continued emphasis on our propane fleet. The opportunity to be part of this EV pilot aligns directly with our strategic focus on sustainability. We are so proud and excited to see the environmental impact of this pilot and to use it as an opportunity to learn."

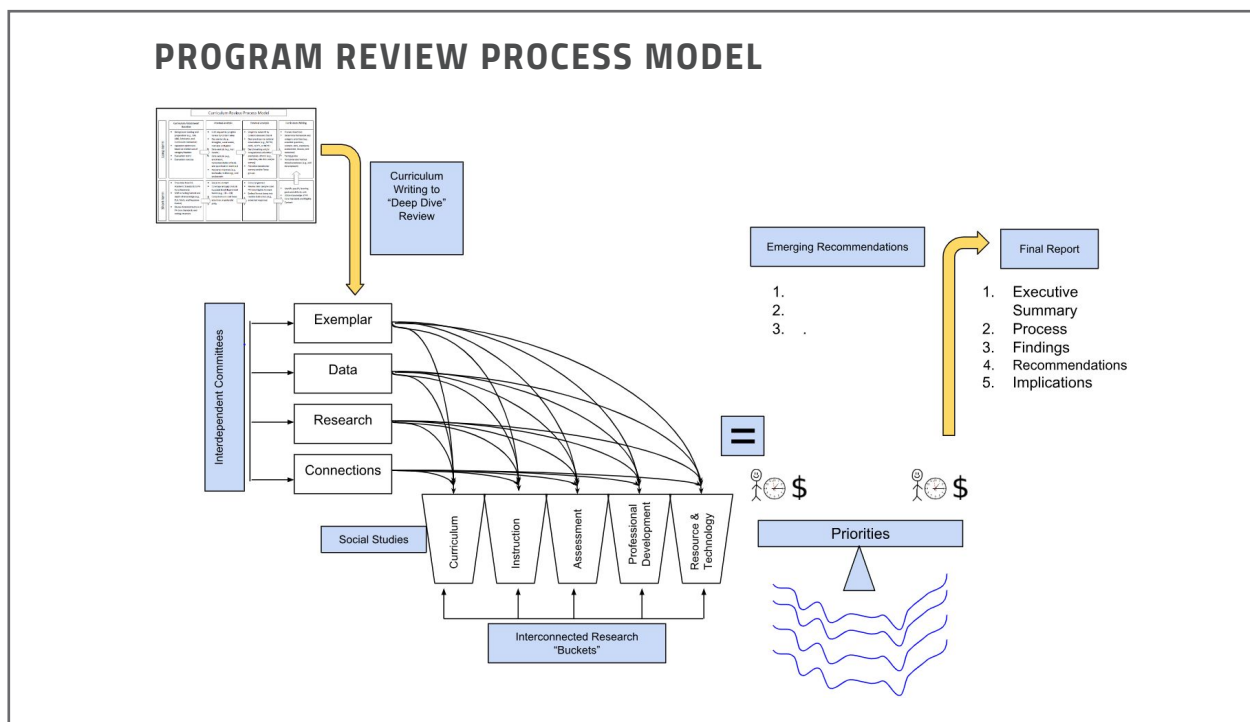
To date, STA has replaced more than 2,700 diesel-engine school buses with alternative-fuel vehicles. The company has received a Green Fleet Magazine Sustainability All-Star Award for its leadership in the space. Through the help of grants, incentive projects, strategic partnerships, and investments, STA plans to continue to expand its electric bus initiative into additional markets.

In-Depth Program Review Study Phase

Art, World Language & MTSS-Special Education

The Art and World Language Departments completed the study phase of the In-Depth Program Review process. These departments have followed the traditional process for program evaluation. Teacher and staff participants were organized into subcommittees (i.e., Research, Exemplar Schools, Data/Information, & Connections) and completed interdependent work. This process serves as the engine that drives continuous improvement in educational programs. As the process unfolds, there are numerous opportunities for stakeholder input from students and parents. Final reports and presentations were completed in June 2022 for implementation beginning in the 2022-2023 school year.

The Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) and special education program review required a modified approach. The committee was split into two groups. One has focused specifically on the MTSS process and interventions, and the other has focused specifically on each of the support programs (e.g., learning support, emotional support, life skills support, and autism support). The final report and presentation were completed in June 2022 for implementation beginning in the 2022-2023 school year.



In-Depth Program Review Implementation Phase

Science; Health & PE; Math; Business & Computer Science; Social Studies; Gifted &/or Highly Achieving; English Language Arts; Library; Music

Building administrators, senior leadership team members, department chairpersons, and teachers are implementing recommendations from the in-depth program reviews with increased coordination of work between departments where recommendations are aligned and integrated. Through this coordination, the district can achieve integration and alignment of desired outcomes and approaches. PR will be focusing on the implementation of these recommendations to ensure that they are felt at the classroom level and reflect consistent deployment. Throughout, the team will continuously revise its process. The action plan work has continued for all departments that are in the implementation phase of the in-depth program review process. A few examples include

the development of an English Language Arts (ELA) Core Text evaluation process to determine which core text will remain in the ELA curriculum and which core text will be removed or added. The business department unveiled its financial literacy website. This site was designed for students who do not take the personal finance course, so all can benefit from learning key financial literacy concepts. Finally, the K-12 social studies department has collaborated on best practices for discussing current events with students. Professional development sessions have been designed to help guide teachers in navigating the sometimes difficult conversations that occur when current events are discussed.

PR Earns Top Mid-Atlantic Alliance for Performance Excellence Award



PINE-RICHLAND IS THE FIRST ORGANIZATION IN THE EDUCATION SECTOR TO EARN A MAAPE EXCELLENCE AWARD.

The Mid-Atlantic Alliance for Performance Excellence (MAAPE) program named **Pine-Richland School District a 2021 Excellence Award** recipient. The Excellence Award is the alliance’s highest award level.



MAAPE PRESIDENT AND CEO BOB BITNER PRESENTS DR. BRIAN MILLER, SUPERINTENDENT, WITH PR’S AWARD.

“Notably, Pine-Richland School District will be only the seventh organization to earn the Excellence Award in the past 15 years and the first education sector excellence award winner,” said Mr. Bob Bitner, MAAPE president and CEO.

By earning the Excellence Award, the district will receive an invitation to apply to the national Baldrige program in the future.

Mr. Bitner presented the award to a group representing staff, students, parents, senior leadership team, administrators, board members, community, and members from the townships, Senate, and House of Representatives on January 6, 2022.

MAAPE, a 501(c)3 organization serving Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, is focused on helping organizations achieve improved levels of performance by identifying and recognizing role-model

organizations and sharing their best practices and strategies. MAAPE is one of 31 state and regional Baldrige-based award programs across the country. MAAPE applicants are evaluated in seven areas defined by the Baldrige criteria: leadership; strategy; customers; measurement, analysis, and knowledge management; workforce; operations; and results. All applicants receive written feedback reports summarizing organizational strengths and opportunities for improvement.

“The MAAPE Excellence Award is an incredible honor and ultimate recognition of a team effort over many years that reflects all staff and the entire organization. The mission, vision, values, and strategic plan at Pine-Richland serve as the compass and map for continuous improvement for our students and families,” said Superintendent Dr. Brian Miller. “The Baldrige Performance Excellence Framework is a tool that helps organizations improve. We appreciate the feedback about district strengths and our opportunities for improvement.”

As a final step in the evaluation process, more than 60 members of the Pine-Richland staff and board, including teachers, paraprofessionals, secretaries, custodians, principals, district administrators, and directors, participated in a comprehensive three-day virtual site visit.

Various members of the staff shared their reflections about this recognition and the growth at PRSD over the years:

- > “This award is significant and results from our administration’s sustained intentional effort to work collaboratively and cooperatively with all stakeholders to solve short-term and long-term challenges,” said PREA President Mr. Vins. “As a third-grade teacher and the president of the Teachers’ Association (PREA), I am fortunate to have the opportunity to be a part of our district and this unique process.”
- > “Over the past several years, I have witnessed a shift from a focus on individual improvements to an overall emphasis on core processes in our school system,” said Principal Steve Smith. “This shift has kept us away from creating a ‘flavor of the month’ process improvement program to truly developing a culture that embraces continuous improvement.”

- > "Our district commitment to mental health and wellness programming provided both inside and outside our schools has been strengthened by our continuous improvement mindset," said Lead Psychologist Dr. Maura Paczan. "One example is the partnership with a third party for delivery of a full continuum of mental health services."
- > "In over ten years working for Pine-Richland, the district has provided staff members at all levels and all positions with professional development opportunities," said PR Educational Support Professionals Association President Susan Torchia. "We are proactive in keeping support staff current and up-to-date with continuing education as we work together to support students."
- > "As an academic leader serving in a variety of roles for many years, I have been able to witness, through various lenses, our district's commitment to excellence," said Librarian Beth Shenefiel. "We are consistent in our efforts to continuously improve, through thoroughly researched processes and stakeholder input, and with a focus on excellence in teaching and learning."
- > "I am proud that Pine-Richland is invested in strengthening and growing the role of music in the district through the In-Depth Program Review," said Music Department Chair Lee Rickard. "Every step of the way, the music professionals were valued stakeholders in the development and implementation of departmental goals."

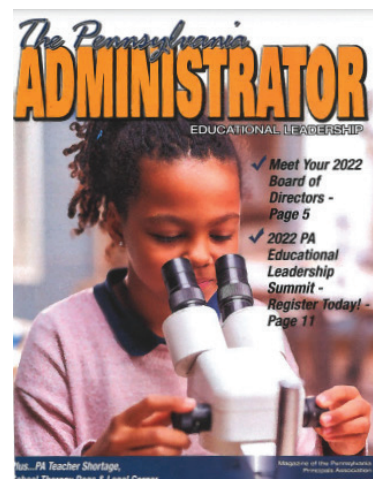
Through its strategic planning process for 2019 - 2023, the district identified the "Pursuit of Excellence" as a category with long-term and short-term goals to work through the MAAPE and BPE programs to drive continuous improvement in process and results. This commitment is visually reflected by the green continuous improvement loops and results histogram.

"Excellence needs to be discussed on two levels, functional and human. People and organizations can achieve performance excellence while disregarding the means to the end. There is something to be said for accomplishing excellence on both levels," said PRSD Board member and treasurer Marc D. Casciani. "We are humbled to receive this award, which affirms our ability to perform at a very high level in an honest, reliable, and honorable way. We are good stewards of the resources and talents to which we have been entrusted."

The Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award recognizes exemplary U.S. organizations and businesses that demonstrate an "unceasing drive for innovative solutions to complex challenges, visionary leadership, and operational excellence." The Baldrige Award is the highest level of national recognition for performance excellence that a U.S. organization can receive.

In the Pittsburgh region, Massaro Construction Group and the Center for Organ Recovery & Education (CORE) earned MAAPE Excellence Awards. In 2020 in the MAAPE Regional program, Pine-Richland earned the Mastery Award.

School board member and legislative representative Dr. Carla Meyer reflected on continuous improvement by sharing, "When the Pine-Richland School Board received the 2019 PASA-PSBA Innovation Award, the best practices for leadership and governance reflected in that recognition emerged from the deliberate effort of the Team of 10 + 1 toward process improvement and the DECIDE model for decision-making." These efforts align directly with the pursuit of excellence.



PA ADMINISTRATOR: EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP MAGAZINE

PRSD was recognized at MAAPE's 16th Annual Conference on January 27, 2022. Dr. Miller, Dr. Kristen Justus, assistant superintendent for elementary education, and Director of Communications Rachel Hathhorn were featured keynote speakers. The trio gave a presentation on "The Pursuit of Excellence: Inside - Out." In addition, the topic and PR best practices were featured in the winter 2022 edition of the "PA Administrator Educational Leadership Magazine." In addition, Dr. Miller and Dr. Justus were also invited to host a MAAPE webinar, which focused on process development and improvement, on May 19, 2022.

For more information on MAAPE, visit <https://midatlanticape.org/>.

Superintendent Earns Distinguished Alumni Award



Pine-Richland Superintendent Brian Miller was named a recipient of the 2022 Duquesne University School of Education Distinguished Alumni Award. Recipients of this award have demonstrated a strong track record in their respective fields, and show visionary leadership and dedication to excellence. Dr. Miller was recognized on May 14, 2022. He earned a Doctor of Education degree from Duquesne University in May 2009.

District Offers Paperless Option

While the Pine-Richland School District has curbed the use of paper through the years, the annual report is the only document mailed to the community. The document provides residents with a snapshot of the budget, academic achievement report, and positive achievements earned by students and staff. If you would like to be removed from the annual report mailing list for further savings, please take a few minutes to submit your information by visiting www.pinerichland.org/paperless.

Pine-Richland Middle School Redesignated as Don Eichhorn Schools: School to Watch



STUDENTS WHO HELPED SHOWCASE SOME OF THEIR FAVORITE PROGRAMS DURING A SCHOOLS TO WATCH CELEBRATION TAKE TIME FOR A PHOTOGRAPH.

Pine-Richland Middle School is one of 14 exemplary Middle Grades Schools in Pennsylvania that has been redesignated as PA Don Eichhorn Schools: School to Watch (PA STW) as part of a recognition program developed by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform.

"I would like to thank the students, staff, and the entire Pine-Richland School District community for their commitment to education as PRMS has been redesignated as a Pennsylvania Don Eichhorn Schools: Schools to Watch," said Dr. David Kristofic, PRMS principal.

PRMS is one of only two schools to be redesignated a fifth

time in the past 15 years. PA State STW Director Bruce Vosburgh was on hand on May 24, 2022, as the school hosted a celebratory session in the school library. Student groups (Student Government, Leaders Club, RAMS Way Club, and PRTV) set up stations with their sponsors to talk about some of the school activities that make PRMS special.

"Earning this recognition for the fifth time is an honor for our entire school community," said Mr. Jacob Minsinger, PRMS assistant principal. "Thank you for your support!"

In partnership with the Pennsylvania Association for Middle-Level Education (PAMLE), Duquesne University, Edinboro University, Kutztown University, and the Horace Mann Service Corporation, The Pennsylvania Schools to Watch recognized PRMS at the Pennsylvania Association for Middle-Level Educations State Conference on February 27, 2022, in State College. The school was recognized nationally in Washington, D.C., at the National Forum's National Schools to Watch Conference on June 23-25, 2022. Dr. Kristofic and Mr. Minsinger presented at the conference about developing and refining teams to support all middle school students. In that presentation, he discussed the importance of having RAMS Way and MTSS teams in addition to the interdisciplinary teams at each grade level and engaged participants in a reflection activity and action planning around the teams at their schools.

PA STW State leaders selected each school for its Academic Excellence, Developmental Responsiveness, Social Equity, and Organizational Structures and Processes. In addition, each school has strong leadership, teachers who work together to improve curriculum and instruction, and a commitment to assessment and accountability to bring about continuous improvement. Bruce Vosburgh, PA State STW director, stated, "We congratulate these schools for being places that do great things for all of their students. These schools demonstrate that high-performing middle grades schools are places that focus on academic growth and achievement. They are also places that recognize the importance of meeting the needs of all of their students and ensure that every child has access to a challenging, high-quality



DR. DAVID KRISTOFIC, PRMS PRINCIPAL, AND MR. JACOB MINSINGER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, SHARE BEST PRACTICES AT THE NATIONAL SCHOOLS TO WATCH CONFERENCE.

education. In addition, each of these schools has successfully been able to provide a quality education to their students either through a hybrid, total virtual, or in-person model over the past few years. These schools have proven that it is possible to overcome barriers to achieve excellence, and any middle-level school in any state can truly learn from their examples.”

The Schools to Watch selection process is based on a written application that requires schools to show how they met criteria developed by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform. Schools that appeared to meet the criteria were then visited by state team members, who observed classrooms, interviewed

administrators, teachers, students, and parents, and looked at achievement data, suspension rates, quality of lessons, and student work.

Schools are recognized for three years, and at the end of three years, they must demonstrate progress on specific goals to be redesignated. Unlike the Blue Ribbon recognition program, Schools to Watch requires schools to not just identify strengths, but also focus on areas for continuous improvement; thus the three-year redesignation. The redesignation process is based on the school's continued growth since its last STW recognition.

District Completes Campus Improvements

Major projects in 2021-22 included updates to:

- > Middle school library (carpet, paint, furniture, & graphics)
- > High school library (carpet, paint, & furniture)
- > High school & middle school campus parking lot paving & seal coating
- > High school tennis courts (new asphalt & playing surface)
- > High school pool locker room (new floors, paint, doors, & benches)
- > High school pool scoreboard (replaced)
- > High school classrooms (new carpet & paint)
- > Ram Cage bleachers (installed)
- > Ram Cage concession (benches & tables installed, interior cabinetry & concession equipment installed)
- > Middle school gymnasium (installed)
- > High school & stadium (metal roofing completed: year 2 of 2)
- > Hance, Wexford, and middle school exterior entrances (refreshed, washed, & painted)



Library Redesign at PRMS and PRHS

The Pine-Richland High School and Middle School libraries completed projects to improve the use of the physical library space. Using the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) National standards as a framework, librarians Kristen Rowe (PRMS) and Brent Pollack (PRHS) set design priorities that would allow the students to have access to flexible and collaborative spaces. The

purchase of flexible furniture, including tables, chairs, and shelving, and additional improvements such as mobile charging stations and flexible whiteboard panels, allow students and staff to easily adapt the physical space for their specific learning needs. Many of the elementary libraries have library redesign projects scheduled for the 2022-23 school year.



PRHS LIBRARY



PRMS LIBRARY

Librarian Beth Shenefiel Serves on PSLA Subcommittee



Eden Hall Librarian Beth Shenefiel is a member of PSLA's Intellectual Freedom Task Group, a subsection of the Pennsylvania School Librarians Association's (PSLA) Advocacy Committee. The goals of this newly formed task group are to monitor intellectual freedom issues in the Commonwealth, to provide information, guidance, and support to school libraries and librarians in which a book or other information is challenged, and to promote greater awareness among PSLA members of intellectual freedom and censorship of libraries and librarians. The task group formed in the spring of 2022 and their work is ongoing.

LIBRARIAN BETH SHENEFIEL (RIGHT) TAKES A LEAD ROLE IN PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION INITIATIVES. SHE IS SHOWN HERE WITH WEXFORD ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL KELLY GUSTAFSON (LEFT) WHO ALSO TAKES A LEADERSHIP ROLE.

Principal Is Featured Panelist at National Conference

Wexford Elementary Principal Kelly Gustafson was featured on a panel of superintendents and principals at the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) 2021 National Conference. The panelists participated in a conversation about what administrators need and expect from their school librarians and school libraries and how administrators can empower school librarians to impact teaching and learning. Mrs. Gustafson has been working closely with AASL for the past two years as part of the AASL School Leader Collaborative, an initiative sponsored by OverDrive, that aims to champion the vital role of the school librarian in the educational community. Conference attendees were invited to submit panel discussion questions before the conference. The panelists, including Mrs. Gustafson, shared insights to empower the school librarians in attendance to build stronger relationships with their administrators and advocate for the importance of school libraries.



PRINCIPAL KELLY GUSTAFSON (SECOND FROM RIGHT) IS SHOWN HERE PARTICIPATING IN A NATIONAL PANEL.

Director of Communications Named PenSPRA President-Elect



Pine-Richland School District Director of Communications Rachel Hathhorn was named president-elect of the Pennsylvania School Public Relations Association. She served as vice president/president-elect for the state organization and has served on the executive board since 2009 as programming chair for Western Pennsylvania, helping the organization to lift up best practices and to organize professional development opportunities for school communication professionals. Hathhorn retired from PRSD in June of 2022 in order to relocate.

PR Earns National Communication Awards



Pine-Richland School District earned three national communication awards. The National Public Relations Association announced on June 16, 2022, that Pine-Richland earned a national award of merit for the Spotlight on Learning website and national honorable mentions for its Excellence in Education video segments and the "Embracing the Next Steps" Annual Report.



ERIN HASINGER
DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNICATIONS



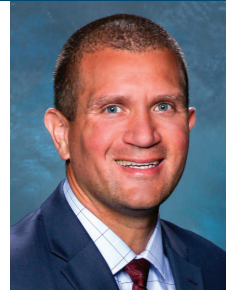
JOSEPH GIRONDA
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS



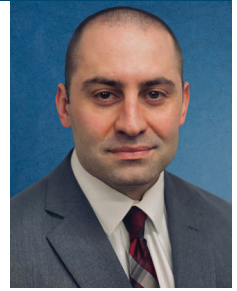
JAMIE RUCKER
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
OF FACILITIES



SARAH DINDAK
HR SPECIALIST



FRANK HERNANDEZ
PRHS PRINCIPAL



MICHAEL BARLAK
PRHS ASSISTANT
PRINCIPAL

District Welcomes New Employees

During the 2021-2022 school year, Pine-Richland School District welcomed new faces to the administration including Director of Communications Erin Hasinger, Director of Athletics Joseph Gironda, Assistant Director of Facilities Jamie Rucker, and Human Resources Specialist Sarah Dindak. In technology, system administrators Jason Metro and Donald Nicotero joined the team along with help desk technicians Luke Pieszak and Greg Maleckar.

PINE-RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL

At Pine-Richland High School, new faces include Principal Dr. Frank Hernandez, Assistant Principal Michael Barlak, paraprofessional Bonnie Hoolahan, counselor Anthony Rock; teachers Leonard Caric, Michael Moody, Olivia Snow, and Stephen Tapas; maintenance employee Robert Barnes; and custodians Sydney Bucknum, Mandy Cumberland, Tiffany Jakovac, Alexander Petroff, Alfred Porco, Robert Proudfoot, and Brady Zimmerman.

PINE-RICHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

The team welcomed custodians Jeffrey Capo, Thomas Diaz, and Mary Dietrich; paraprofessional Lori Kurtzhal; and teacher Jenna Mansfield to Pine-Richland Middle School.

EDEN HALL UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Eden Hall Upper Elementary welcomed cafeteria/kindergarten aide Lisa Rizzo; custodians Christina Bordini and Kurt Kulhanek; paraprofessionals Julie Ferketic, Tina McCune, and Ikhlasah Woodburn, and teacher Nicole Kelly.

HANCE, RICHLAND & WEXFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

At the primary level, cafeteria/kindergarten aides Dana Kinder, Marlena Kozminski, and Patricia Moeller; paraprofessionals Brittany Caldwell and Kaitlyn Lockard; and secretary Mary Brennan joined the team at Hance Elementary School. At Richland Elementary School, cafeteria/kindergarten aides Kristy Burja, Karin Byrne, and Jennifer Sirianni; and paraprofessionals Kari Jones, Dana Nolan, Hyunhee Park, Brenda Proudfoot, Jessica Thompson, Lora Weinman, and Marc Yeadon joined the team. At Wexford Elementary School, cafeteria/kindergarten aides Janet Cook, Robin Jamison, and Leonard McHugh; custodian Zachary Huber; and paraprofessional Mallory Zufall also joined the team.

PR Honors Retirees

Pine-Richland School District is recognizing staff members who retired during the 2021-2022 school year. These special individuals incredibly logged more than 351.5 years while serving the district.

From the Pine-Richland Central Offices, Director of Communications Rachel Hathorn retired due to relocation. From the high school, English language arts teacher Jeff Byko, physical education and health teacher Jon Conner, paraprofessional Carol Reichhold, science teacher John Slick, and custodian Frank Undercuffler retired. From Eden Hall Upper Elementary School, paraprofessionals Kelly Boscarino and Diane Edwards, fourth-grade teacher Carol Lamagna, secretary Suzanne Spakauskas, and nurse Terry Wentz said goodbye. From Hance Elementary, third-grade teacher Pamela Beauseigneur, paraprofessional Brenda Elser, and second-grade teacher Maureen Juliano retired. From Richland Elementary, the district bid farewell to custodian Frank Ludwik and paraprofessional Patricia Noble. From Wexford Elementary, third-grade teacher Lisa Olson retired. On behalf of the district and school board, the administration shared its appreciation of each retiree who has dedicated his or her time and talent to serving the students of Pine-Richland School District.



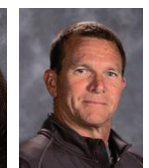
**PAMELA
BEAUSEIGNEUR**



JEFF BYKO



**KELLY
BOSCARINO**



JON CONNER



**DIANE
EDWARDS**



**MAUREEN
JULIANO**



**CAROL
LAMAGNA**



FRANK LUDWIK



**PATRICIA
NOBLE**



LISA OLSON



JOHN SLICK



**SUZANNE
SPAKAUSKAS**

“The study of Physics fundamentally changes the way one thinks. The highlight of my career was simply the opportunity to engage in this process with so many wonderful young people and to experience the ups and downs with them as their minds expanded and their ability to think analytically grew in ways that they could not have foreseen.”

— PRHS Science Teacher John Slick

DISTRICT / STAFF UPDATES



DR. BRIAN MILLER, THE ADMINISTRATION, AND THE SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNIZE RETIREES INCLUDING HANCE ELEMENTARY TEACHER MAUREEN JULIANO, WHO FINISHES UP AN INSPIRING GOODBYE SPEECH.



DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES JEFF ZIMMERMAN (LEFT) AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES JAMIE RUCKER (RIGHT) RECOGNIZE CUSTODIAN FRANK UNDERCUFFLER WHO RETIRED FROM THE DISTRICT AFTER 17 YEARS.



PINE-RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL RETIREE CAROL REICHHOLD IS SHOWN HERE CELEBRATING THE PRHS CLAPOUT FOR SENIORS.

Sodexo Continued to Offer Free Meal Service

Throughout the pandemic, the United States Department of Agriculture facilitated a child nutrition nationwide waiver that was extended through the 2021-2022 school year. This waiver applied to the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program that is administered at Pine-Richland School District through Sodexo. Pine-Richland families benefited from free meals throughout that time. **The waiver expired in June of 2022.**

2022-2023 PINE-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEAL PRICES



	PAID K-6	PAID 7-12	REDUCED K-12	FREE K-12
DAILY MEAL	\$2.50	\$2.75	\$0.40	\$0
RAM MEAL	\$3.00	\$3.25	\$0.40	\$0
BREAKFAST	\$1.30	\$1.30	\$0.30	\$0

LEFT: STUDENTS ENJOY LUNCH AT WEXFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

How to Set Up Food Services Account for Children

Please note that a free online account can be set up at www.schoolcafe.com to monitor student balances and to request automatic low-balance email reminders. If paying by check, please provide the student's name and student ID number. Checks should be written out to Pine-Richland Cafeteria Fund (PRCF) and mailed to the PR Food Services Department, which is located at 702 Warrendale Rd., Gibsonia, PA 15044. If you would like to place any restrictions on your student's meal accounts, please contact us at 724-625-3550.

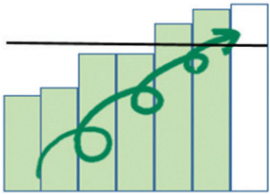
Participate in Food Service Advisory & Wellness Committee

Please consider contacting Sodexo Food Services Manager Diane Bucknum at 724-625-3550 to serve on the Pine-Richland Food Service Advisory and Wellness Committee. The purpose of the committee is to provide information about food services at Pine-Richland and to gather feedback and suggestions from the larger community to share with the food service management team. The committee also addresses the

wellness needs of the students, which include nutrition, activities, and/or mental health. The committee is made up of administrators, board members, teachers, parents, and students. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in discussions regarding menu planning, food products, nutrition, and needs associated with the sustainability of food service to serve the needs of the community.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & GROWTH REPORT

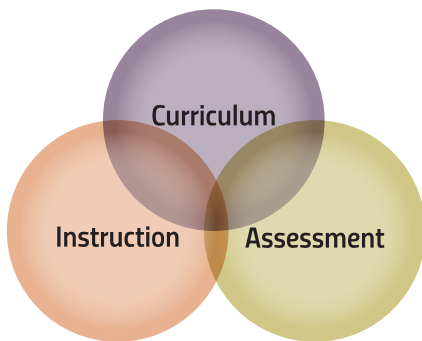
District Presents Ninth Annual Academic Achievement & Growth Report



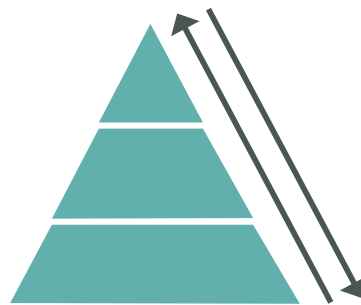
The mission of the Pine-Richland School District is to focus on learning for every student every day. The vision at PRSD emphasizes the fact that learning is reflected in both achievement and growth. In the ninth year of publication, the format and structure of this report have been refined each year to provide descriptive statistics and analyses across a series of standardized assessments.

Within the Baldrige Performance Excellence framework, "LeTCl" is used as an acronym to describe evaluation factors for reviewing results (i.e., Levels, Trends, Comparisons and Integration). We have again utilized those factors in evaluating the results. Various types of PSSA and School Performance Profile comparisons with high performing schools and school districts are included in our presentation this year. We plan to further strengthen this approach in future years for the other assessments. The emphasis on both process and results is captured in the image below.

MODEL FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING



MULTI-TIER SYSTEM OF SUPPORT



- > ELA and Math Decision Trees
- > Research-Based Interventions

CONTINUUM OF SERVICES



- > Special Education
- > Gifted Education
- > Other Programming

As a district, we are focusing on process and results. Building principals, assistant principals, Academic Leadership Council Members, and our K-12 classroom teachers have been actively engaged in the development of these reports annually. We have been intentional in celebrating strengths and identifying opportunities for improvement. The results in this report are directly integrated with other strategic initiatives related to the model for teaching and learning, in-depth program review, curriculum review process, and instructional strategies focus. Short-term and long-term goals of the strategic plan influence the educational program for students and the learning results. Within the strengths, we are working to highlight areas of success and effective instructional integration, assessment analysis, and revisions to curriculum and have lifted them up through the examples discussed as a part of the accompanying Joint Governance Committee meeting, as shared by our educators engaged in the

"The mission of the Pine-Richland School District is to focus on learning for every student every day. The vision at PRSD emphasizes the fact that learning is reflected in both achievement and growth."

direct work. We intend to communicate this knowledge and key learning across our organization through our Academic Leadership Council, principals, and grade level/departmental teams to continue our focus on success and iterations of improvement.

Given the impact of the pandemic, all state-based standardized testing for the PSSA and Keystone exams were halted in 2019-2020 and then began again in 2020-2021, but with interpretive cautions issued. Consequently, the data represented in the tables are *Continued on page 14*

Continued from page 13

reflective of data from the 2018-2019 school year as most recent for those assessments, with updates for 2019-2021 being made only for the SAT, ACT, and AP exams. While testing did occur in the 2020-2021 school year for the PSSA and Keystone exams, the Pennsylvania Department of Education issued a memo cautioning against the comparisons and trends based on the number of factors that differ between the 2020-2021 school year and prior years within an organization and the many non-standardized differences in the learning models between school districts within that year, “necessitating caution in the interpretation and use of results” (PDE, 2021). It is important to note that although Pine-Richland School District used the originally-designated testing window in the spring of 2021, districts across the Commonwealth were permitted to defer testing until the Fall of 2021. As such, the State will not be finalizing assessment results for all PA schools until February of 2022. Even at that time, districts are urged not to compare results given the lack of standardization in many aspects. Recommendations were made to: (1) Focus on describing and contextualizing performance; (2) Use results and other evidence to inform plans for the 2021-2022 school year; and (3) Avoid data comparisons and attributions (PDE, 2021). As such, these results are pulled into their own section for full transparency and to prevent comparison to other years of performance.

As a disclaimer to all who review this report, it is important to note the narrow focus on standardized achievement test results (i.e., PSSA, Keystone Exams, SAT, ACT and AP). These are important and high stakes assessments. However, we also know that measures of school effectiveness and learning are far more comprehensive than the information in this report. Those measures include a holistic look at our schools and students, such as: classroom-based assessments, school climate, participation in extra- and co-curricular activities, graduation rates, attendance, discipline, post-secondary readiness, social-emotional development, wellness and more.

Our focal question continues to be: How do we focus on academic learning for every student every day? The learning system at Pine-Richland School District is illustrated by the Model for Teaching and Learning image, allowing us to focus on Data for Action.

Key highlights of this year’s report include:

- > Focused attention on using data to support student learning with an emphasis on local assessments, universal screeners, and common assessments
- > Streamlined reporting of key measures with an intentional separation of results from 2020-2021 from that of prior years
- > Continued focus on data for action in its second year with an expansion of common assessments to include collaborative analysis and revision to instructional strategies, curriculum, and identified resources and/or the assessment structure and questions to be more effective in our approach to learning

Areas of action include:

- > Continued examination and revisions of curriculum, assessment and instruction at all grade levels
- > Integration of regular, collaborative data analysis to replicate best practices among teachers
- > Understand the expressed differences in mastery among our learners and their pandemic educational model experiences and effectiveness (e.g. common assessment analysis and action plans)
- > Ensure alignment and effectiveness of MTSS interventions to meet students’ unique needs
- > Establish a systematic approach and consistent implementation of curricular resources and instructional strategies

PSSA and Keystone Information

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessments (PSSAs) test student skills in mathematics and English language arts in grades three through eight and in science in grades four and eight. The following performance levels are used: Advanced (Superior Academic Performance), Proficient (Satisfactory Academic Performance), Basic (Marginal Academic Performance), and Below Basic (Inadequate Academic Performance).

The Keystone Exams are end-of-course assessments designed to assess proficiency in the following subject areas:

- > Algebra I (PR grades 7-10)
- > Biology (PR grades 9-10)
- > Literature (PR grade 9)

PSSA and Keystone exams from the 2021 school year are available on the district website. Due to COVID-19, the Pennsylvania Department of Education does not recommend publishing results.



PRHS NINTH-GRADER TIFFANY GATHERS AND SOPHOMORE MACKENZIE ROY TAKE MATH TO A PRACTICAL LEVEL BY HELPING EDEN HALL UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS LEARN TO CALCULATE A BUDGET DURING A FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM.

AP Results and Findings



2021 AP TEST SCORECARD*

Pine-Richland results are compared to national and state scores.

Pine-Richland	Total AP Students	Total AP Tests Taken	# Students Scoring 3+
2021	504	1108	358
2020	458	971	371
2019	515	1028	376

- > In 2020, 458 different students took at least one AP exam. In 2021, 504 different students took at least one AP exam.
- > The percentage of students scoring a 3 or greater dropped in 2021 back to a more typical level—71%. Most 2021 exams were taken in a traditional, in-person format.
- > Students took AP exams in 24 different subjects during the 2021 school year. Of those 24 subjects, the average score was 3.47.
- > In the 21 subjects with greater than 10 test takers, 71% of the subject average scores were greater than a 3.0.

*2022 results not available at time of publication.

- > Advanced Placement (AP) exams were taken online for the first time in 2020 due to the Coronavirus. Fewer students participated as a result of the pandemic's impact but the percentage of students scoring a 3 or greater increased.

SAT Results and Findings

- > For the 2021 SAT, Pine-Richland students outperformed global and state groups.
- > Pine-Richland male students (625) outperformed female students (602) in the SAT mathematics section; whereas female students' average performance on evidence-based reading and writing was higher than male students' average score (F-611, M-599).
- > Average SAT scores for all students increased from 2020 to 2021.
- > ACT participation rate increased from 2021 compared to 2020. Composite scores for both Pine-Richland male and female students are higher than state and national averages.
- > For the past nine years, Pine-Richland students have outperformed students in Pennsylvania and in the United States in all subject areas.



2021 SAT SCORECARD*

Pine-Richland results are compared to national and state scores.

2021	Evidence-Based Reading & Writing	Math
Pine-Richland	605	614
Pennsylvania	566	557
All Test Takers	533	528

- > The composite score for Pine-Richland students was higher than the past eight years—27.2.
- > Current top decile data is not yet available. In 2021, PRSD students scored higher in all categories compared to the 2019 top decile scores.

Future Ready Index

The Pennsylvania Department of Education utilizes the Future Ready PA Index as a method of evaluating schools in a more holistic manner than the SPP alone, utilizing a "dashboard model to highlight how schools are performing and showing progress on multiple measures" (PDE, 2018).

The Future Ready PA Index:

- > Increases an emphasis on student growth measures, which incentivizes a focus on all learners and is less sensitive to demographic variables.
- > Measures English language acquisition among EL students, not simply performance on a test of grade-level ELA standards.
- > Incentivizes career awareness instruction beginning at the elementary level.
- > Addresses the issue of unequal weighting of content areas in the current School Performance Profile.
- > Provides indicators of student success after graduation.
- > Increases the emphasis on student access to course offerings such as Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, college credit, and Career Technical Education programs of study.
- > Allows LEAs to include locally-selected reading assessment (grade 3) and math assessments (grade 7) as additional snapshots of student progress.
- > Incentivizes schools to offer career pathways that culminate in high value, industry-recognized credentials.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Academic Excellence



KEVIN FRENZ
WINNER



NICHOLAS LABUDA
WINNER



ELIANA LAZZARO
WINNER



ANDREW NI
WINNER



JEFFREY OCK
WINNER



ANABEL PEASAH
WINNER



ETHAN JANCY
FINALIST



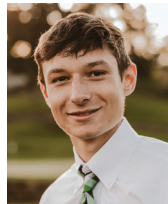
TADG MANNA
FINALIST



AMISH SETHI
FINALIST



AUDREY DEKUNDER
COMMENDED



MATTHEW FARMAR
COMMENDED



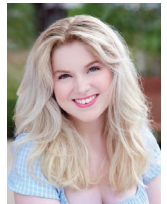
CHRISTOPHER FISHER
COMMENDED



RAND HASAN
COMMENDED



ROBERT HELMSEN
COMMENDED



PATRICIA HOLMES
COMMENDED



NEGEIN IMMEN
COMMENDED



AYDEN LAMPARSKI
COMMENDED



COLBY OHLUND
COMMENDED



COLIN OHLUND
COMMENDED



JUSTIN PUTHENPURAYIL,
COMMENDED



JESSICA STELLA
COMMENDED



CALLIE STOLTZ
COMMENDED



CAROLYN WILLIAMS
COMMENDED

Six seniors were named National Merit Scholarship Winners by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation program: Kevin Frenz, Nicholas Labuda, Eliana Lazzaro, Andrew Ni, Jeffrey Ock, and Anabel Peasah. These students, along with Ethan Jancy, Tadg Manna, and Amish Sethi earned finalist status in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Corporation program. They are among 15,000 finalists who were named on February 7, 2022, in the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Seniors Audrey DeKunder, Matthew Farmar, Christopher Fisher, Rand Hasan, Robert Helmsen, Patricia Holmes, Negein Immen, Ayden Lamparski, Colby Ohlund, Colin Ohlund, Justin Puthenpurayil, Jessica Stella, Callie Stoltz, and Carolyn Williams were named commended in the scholar program. These students are being recognized for their outstanding work on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Pine-Richland High School junior Elizabeth Shaffer was selected as a Coolidge Scholar. The Coolidge Scholarship is an annually awarded presidential scholarship that covers a student's tuition, room, board, and expenses for four years of undergraduate study. The scholarship is administered by the state estate/foundation of former President Calvin Coolidge. It also covers attendance at annual meetings with other scholars and various networking opportunities in Washington, D.C., and in Vermont at the Coolidge estate.



ELIZABETH SHAFFER

TOP THREE

Pine-Richland High School hosted graduation for the 336 members of the Class of 2022 on June 10, 2022. Andrew Ni was named valedictorian, while Amish Sethi and Audrey DeKunder were named salutatorian and tertiary, respectively. This year, seniors applied to 2,407 colleges and universities, and the PRHS Guidance Office sent 2,471 teacher letters of recommendation for members of the Class of 2022, who earned \$4,447,350 in scholarships. The top five reported majors include business/finance, engineering/biomedical engineering, computer science, biology/chemistry/environmental science, and nursing.



SALUTATORIAN AMISH SETHI, TERTIARY AUDREY DEKUNDER, AND VALEDICTORIAN ANDREW NI PREPARE TO RECEIVE THEIR DIPLOMAS ON JUNE 10, 2022.

Eden Hall Upper Elementary School earned top awards in the Math Kangaroo USA International Math Competition. Fourth-grader Jackson Lion earned first place. Teachers Jennifer Kopach and Joanna Sovek said this is the first time that Eden Hall ever had a student place first on the test. He earned an incredible 100% on the test. In addition, fourth-graders Jackson Weakland placed 19th and Riya Kulkarni placed 17th. Sixth-grader Hans Jhamb placed 19th in the competition. For more information on the competition, visit: <https://mathkangaroo.org/mks/>.



JINWON JANG

Pine-Richland High School is recognizing graduate Jinwon Jang for being named a 2021 International Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar from the Class of 2021. The distinction is awarded to students who display exceptional achievement across a variety of disciplines. Students must score a 3 or higher on 5 or more AP Exams. Jinwon is the first Pine-Richland student to earn the international distinction. An additional 183 students at Pine-Richland earned recognition in the AP Scholars program with various distinctions including AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Distinction, and AP Scholar with Honor.

Arts & Music

Several Pine-Richland High School students earned awards in the 2022 Western Pennsylvania Regional Scholastic Art & Writing Competition, hosted at Seneca Valley High School on March 19, 2022. They competed against students from more than 43 schools. Junior Kayla Karmanos was named an American Visions Nominee for her "Tug of War" drawing and illustration. In all, only five are picked from each region. Kayla also earned six Gold Key awards along with senior Ayla Chandola (3), junior Kate Lindrose (2), and senior Delaney Rich. Some students also earned Silver Key awards including Ayla, senior Reid Duncan (2), senior Paul Howell (2), Kayla (4), Kate, senior Caroline Vidic, and senior Joshua Yoon (2). In addition, the following students earned 48 honorable mentions: seniors Rhian Bruce (2), Ayla Chandola (7), Reid Duncan (3), Christopher Fisher (1), Emma Hoffman (4), Caitlin Howard (1), Paul Howell (3), Katarina Hudock (1), Kate Lindrose (1), Delaney Rich (1), Caroline Vidic (2) and Joshua Yoon (12); juniors Hailey Dolney (3), Kayla Karmanos (3), and Noah Moskala (3); and sophomore Riley Turner (1). Each year, a panel of artists, art educators, and other art professionals judge thousands of submissions in their regional competition, which recognizes work in several categories, including writing, film, sculpture, fashion design, photographic, comic art, design, and more. Students earning the Best of Show Nominee Award and Gold Key Awards will have their work judged at the Scholastic National Awards competition in New York, NY.



(FAR LEFT) PRHS ART TEACHERS RAMON RILEY AND MARY ANNE ANDREASSI (FAR RIGHT) ARE SHOWN HERE WITH STUDENTS REID DUNCAN, CHRISTOPHER FISHER, JOSHUA YOON, RILEY TURNER, AYLA CHANDOLA, EMMA HOFFMAN, KAYLA KARMONOS, HAILEY DOLNEY, AND KATE LINDROSE FOLLOWING THE 2022 WESTERN PA REGIONAL SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING COMPETITION.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Senior Ayla Chandola was named the grand prize winner in the 17th Congressional District of Pennsylvania's 2021 Congressional Art Competition. Ayla won the competition with her computer-generated and mixed media artwork, which was entitled "Nature's Power." As part of the grand prize, Ayla's artwork will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol Building along with the other winners from across the country. Ayla was invited to Washington, D.C., to attend a reception hosted by the Congressional Institute to honor all of the competition winners.



SENIOR AYLA CHANDOLA IS SHOWN HERE WITH HER MASTERPIECE "NATURE'S POWER."

ALL-STATE PERFORMERS



NORA RUSSELL



GRACE HAZLETT



GABRIELLE BOUDREAU

Three Pine-Richland High School students were selected by the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) for the PMEA All-State programs held April 6-9, 2022: senior Nora Russell for choir, junior Grace Hazlett for orchestra, and sophomore Gabrielle Boudreau for band.



(L-R) STUDENTS MARYN MCDOWELL, JOHN "MAX" TAMBURRI, ANDREW CASSISI, ZOXY CAMPBELL, SAMUEL WELLIVER, KIERAN ANDERSON, MARISSA MANN, AND EMILY MALECKAR PARTICIPATED IN THE 2022 PMEA DISTRICT 1 ELEMENTARY BAND FESTIVAL.

Several Eden Hall Upper Elementary sixth-graders participated in the 2022 PMEA District 1 Elementary Band Festival at Hampton Middle School on March 4-5, 2022, including Kieran Anderson, Zoey Campbell, Andrew Cassisi, Emily Maleckar, Marissa Mann, Maryn McDowell, John "Max" Tamburri, and Samuel Welliver.

Senior Nora Russell and her brother, sophomore Owen Russell, were selected to participate in the PMEA District Chorus on February 10-11, 2022, at East Liberty Presbyterian Church.



EIGHTH-GRADERS AVERY MILLS, MORGAN RADI, ELLIE DEMANN, AND CLAIRE DOSCH PARTICIPATED IN THE PMEA JUNIOR HIGH DISTRICT ORCHESTRA.

Four students were selected for the PMEA Junior High District Orchestra hosted on Feb. 18-19, 2022, at North Hills Middle School: ninth-grader Claire Dosch, eighth-graders Avery Mills and Morgan Radi, and seventh-grader Eleanor DeMann.

Several sixth-grade students were selected for the PMEA Elementary String Festival hosted on April 22, 2022, at East Allegheny High School: Linus Daniels, Katherine Lennie, Zoey Campbell, Divyanshi Mishra, Kaylee Meyers, and Samantha Angelo.



SIXTH-GRADERS LINUS DANIELS, ZOEY CAMPBELL, DIVYANSHI MISHRA, KAYLEE MEYERS, AND SAMANTHA ANGELO WERE SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PMEA ELEMENTARY STRING FESTIVAL.



STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN A WORKSHOP BEFORE THE PITTSBURGH PUBLIC THEATER SHAKESPEARE MONOLOGUE & SCENE CONTEST.

Pine-Richland High School sophomores earned honorable mentions in the Pittsburgh Public Theater Shakespeare Monologue & Scene Contest in February 2022. They included Chloe Kassalen (Isabella), "Measure for Measure"; Lauren King (Helena), "A Midsummer Night's Dream"; Sydney Rovnan (Cleopatra), "Antony and Cleopatra"; Brianna Thel (Hermione), "The Winter's Tale"; and Madelyn Walzer (Hamlet), "Hamlet."



RYAN NOIR

Eighth-grader Ryan Noir, who plays the clarinet in the Pine-Richland Middle School Concert Band and the Pittsburgh Youth Concert Orchestra (PYCO) Symphony Orchestra, was selected for the Seton Hill University Youth Honors Concert Band. The Youth Honors Concert Band performed on January 22, 2022, at the Seton Hill University Performing Arts Center.

Juniors Ryan Daniels and Grace Hazlett and senior Nicholas Labuda were also selected for the PYCO Symphony Orchestra, which played at Carnegie Hall.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

PRHS STUDENTS EARN TOP DRAMA AWARDS.



Sixteen Pine-Richland High School students earned awards in the 2nd Annual Prime Stage High School Drama Awards program in April for their play, "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time." Junior Noah Moskala won Best Actor; junior Brynn Surloff and ninth-grader Jillian Uzelac tied for Best Actress; senior Zoe Katres won for Best Student Stage Manager; the team of seniors Nathan Cottrell, Daniel Ford, and Gavin Neill and freshmen Alexis Verba and Wesley Wright won for Best Student Lighting Design; ninth-grader Ava

Malara won for Best Student Prop Design; the team of senior Nathan Cottrell and junior Jack Exline won for Best Student Use of Creative Technical Effects; and the team of seniors Zachary Baic and Carson Kopp, junior Patrick Jones, and sophomore Jordan Becker won for Best Student Sound Design. The play also was awarded Best Overall Production. Juniors Gwendolyn Roman and Katarina Walko and ninth-grader Kiera Moskala were nominated for Best Supporting Actress under the direction of Director Kathy Morrissey.



PRHS STUDENTS ATTEND THE ANNUAL GENE KELLY AWARDS PROGRAM IN MAY AND LEARN THE PRODUCTION EARNS BEST ALL STUDENT ORCHESTRA.

Pine-Richland High School students performed "Shrek, the Musical" in March. The production involved lively musical numbers and revolving scenery. Senior Logan Krushinski played Shrek, senior Patricia Holmes portrayed Fiona, and junior Jack Exline played Donkey. The production was produced by Kathy Morrissey and directed by Sarah McGraw Krushinski. Visit www.pinerichland.org/musical for the complete list of cast and crew. The production won Best Student Orchestra in the annual Gene Kelly Awards in May. PRHS received nine nominations: Best Actress (Patricia Holmes), Best Actor (Jack Exline and Logan Krushinski), Best Crew/Technical Execution, Best Student Orchestra, Best Vocal Ensemble, Best Costume Design, Best Lighting Design, and Best Dance Ensemble.



PRMS PRESENTED "WILLY WONKA, JR." UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MARY LYNN DUGAN. THE MUSICAL WAS PERFORMED ON THE MIDDLE SCHOOL STAGE ON JANUARY 27, 28, AND 29, 2022.



STUDENTS PERFORM DURING A LIVELY SCENE OF "WILLY WONKA, JR."



SENIOR PATRICIA HOLMES IS SHOWN HERE PORTRAYING FIONA, SENIOR LOGAN KRUSHINSKI AS SHREK, AND JUNIOR JACK EXLINE AS DONKEY IN THE SPRING MUSICAL.

STUDENTS EARN MID-ATLANTIC HIGH SCHOOL PRODUCTION AWARDS

Pine-Richland was nominated for four 2022 Mid-Atlantic High School Production Awards. They were announced virtually on May 19, 2022. PRHS earned the following nominations: Arts and Entertainment/Cultural Affairs with the entry, "Rebel Bred Clothing," made by seniors Carter Cato and Patrick Demitras; Short Form with the entry, "What Keeps You Up at Night," made by sophomore Quinn Martin; PSA with the entry, "Safety Chimp," made by senior Geneva Doughty; and Commercial with the entry "Take Creative Writing," made by seniors Geneva Doughty, Joselyn Henry, and Magdelyn English. Geneva, Joselyn, and Magdelyn's entry "Take Creative Writing" won the award for Best Commercial. The competition comprised of 23 schools from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and the Delaware region.



RAMMY FILM FESTIVAL RECOGNIZES TOP ENTRIES

The Rammys hosted its 12th Annual Film Festival on May 20, 2022. The top winners included Pine-Richland Middle School eighth-grader Sophia Priore, who earned first place in directing for the video "Self Conscience" in the K-8 Directing category. Senior Lia Meijer earned the PRHS directing award for her video "The Sunglasses Gaze." The Normandeau Family (Rowan) earned first place in the 48-Hour Challenge. Sophia also earned the Best in Show Award. Visit www.pinerichland.org/prtv/rammys to watch this year's ceremony, watch all the individual entries, and learn more about our annual film festival.

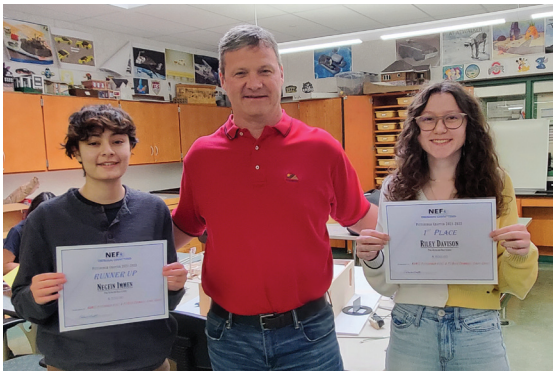
PRHS STUDENTS EARN GENE KELLY AWARD NOMINATIONS FOR THEIR PRODUCTION OF "SHREK, THE MUSICAL."

Career Education



Five Pine-Richland High School students were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society at A.W. Beattie: seniors Enzo Giconi (carpentry/building construction), Darcy Lund (culinary arts), Taylor McWilliams (surgical sciences), and Ashley Obermeier (early childhood education), and junior Grace Neuhart (advertising design). To be considered for the honor, A.W. Beattie students must maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale in their home school districts, have at least a 95 percent grade in their CTE program, and have an exemplary attendance record.

SENIOR DARCY LUND WAS NAMED VICE PRESIDENT OF THE FAMILY, CAREER, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA (FCCLA) ORGANIZATION. FCCLA IS A NATIONAL CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION FOR STUDENTS IN FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES EDUCATION IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS THROUGH GRADE 12. DARCY IS A CULINARY STUDENT AT A.W. BEATTIE CAREER CENTER.



(LEFT) SENIORS NEGEIN IMMEN AND (RIGHT) RILEY DAVISON ARE SHOWN HERE WITH PRHS TEACHER JEFF MAPLE AFTER EARNING DRAFTING AWARDS.

Two Pine-Richland High School seniors earned awards in the NEF-National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) Design Drafting competition. Riley Davison earned first place with a cash award of \$800, and Negein Immen earned runner-up with a cash award of \$350 in the 2021-2022 Pittsburgh Chapter competition. The Design Drafting Competition is a contest designed for high school seniors and college students. The contest provides recognition to students for creative design, successful problem solving, and craftsmanship in preparing architectural drawings.



SENIOR GRAYDON SHERRON (FAR RIGHT) WAS ONE MEMBER OF A.W. BEATTIE'S FOUR-PERSON CARPENTRY AND BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TEAM TO EARN SECOND PLACE IN A NATIONAL COMPETITION.

A.W. Beattie's four-person carpentry and building construction team earned second place in the Secondary-Construction Management category of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) Student Competition in Orlando, Fla. Pine-Richland High School senior Graydon Sherron earned the accolade along with team members from Northgate and North Allegheny. The career center's teams have placed fourth or better for five consecutive years. Forty-five teams representing universities, community colleges, high schools, and career technical schools across the U.S. participated in the annual student competition. During the fall semester, students form teams and prepare a written proposal to solve real-life construction management problems.

History, Foreign Language, and Geography



MALLORY AMMERMAN



FIONA CASALE



SANIKA DAS



EVELYN LAWLER



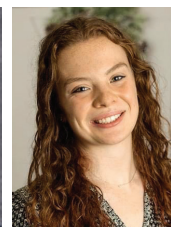
AVERY MILLS



KELSEY NEILL



RYAN NOIR



KATHERINE YANNI

Pine-Richland students earned top awards at the Pittsburgh Regional National History Day Competition sponsored by the Heinz History Center on March 25, 2022. Junior Katherine Yanni placed first in the

individual website category and was eligible for the state competition in Scranton. Katie completed a website entitled "First Ladies: Debate and Diplomacy Behind the Scenes" that explores the roles first ladies

of the United States played in our more modern post-WWII era. Eighth-grader Ryan Noir won first place in the Junior Individual Website category for "The XYZ Affair: Debate and Diplomacy Between France and the United States." Eighth-graders Mallory Ammerman, Avery Mills, and Evelyn Lawler took second place in the Junior Group Website category for "The Founding and Development of the United States Treasury," and were eligible to compete in the virtual National NHD Contest. Eighth-grader Kelsey Neill was awarded third place in the Junior Individual Performance category for "Marie Antoinette: The Debate and Scandal Behind the French Revolution." Eighth-graders Sanika Das and Fiona Casale earned an honorable mention for "The Compromise of 1850." Teachers Len Caric and Eric Brown earned Senior King awards, and teacher Joseph Bailey earned a Junior King Award for having first-place winners at the junior and senior levels of competition.

Leadership

The Pine-Richland High School/Mars Air Force JROTC program Varsity Drill Team participated on March 13, 2022, in the Tecumseh High School Air Force JROTC Regional Drill Meet, which is the launching pad to Nationals in Dayton, Ohio, and Daytona Beach, Fla. The team competed in four of seven events and qualified for nationals for the first time in the AFJROTC program history. The cadets earned second place in the Female Color Guard category, commanded by junior cadet Jasmine Christner and first place in the Varsity Armed Drill Team category, commanded by junior cadet Emma Terpstra. Junior cadet Isabella Christner placed in the Top 10 Knockout category.



CADETS EARN TOP AWARDS QUALIFYING FOR A NATIONAL COMPETITION ON MARCH 13, 2022.



AFJROTC CADETS PARTICIPATED IN A DRILL MEET IN ERIE, PA.

AFJROTC cadets earned top awards at a drill competition at McDowell High School in Erie, including 1st Place JV Armed Drill Team commanded by sophomore cadet Jack Harris; 1st Place Varsity Unarmed Drill Team commanded by senior cadet Caitlin Howard; 1st Place Female Color Guard Team commanded by junior cadet Jasmine Christner; 2nd Place JV Color Guard Team commanded by sophomore cadet Alanna Shaw (Mars); 2nd Place Varsity Color Guard Team commanded by

junior cadet Jasmine Christner; 2nd Place JV Unarmed Drill Team commanded by sophomore cadet Jaden Persaud; 2nd Place Varsity Armed Drill Team commanded by junior cadet Emma Terpstra; 3rd Place Uniform Inspection Team commanded by senior cadet Caitlin Howard. The cadets also were awarded 2nd Place Overall. Knockout winners included junior Madelyn Ostapchenko (Mars), sophomore Stephen Parker (Mars), and ninth-graders Alexander Friedrich, Ryan Galbraith (Mars), Erin Kemp (Mars), and Jack Riggio (Mars), with 1st place in JV Knockout going to sophomore cadet James Cerny and Varsity Knockout going to sophomore cadet Mackenzie Roy.



GIANNA ROTELLI

Junior Gianna Rotelli received the AFJROTC and Air Force Association Leadership Award. She was the only cadet selected in Pennsylvania. She goes on to compete for a top cadet award to be presented in Washington, DC.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

LEADERSHIP CONTINUED



AFJROTC CADETS TOOK AN OVERALL FIRST-PLACE WIN AT THE PARKERSBURG SOUTH DRILL COMPETITION.

The AFJROTC program earned first place overall at the Parkersburg South Drill Meet. Student awards included 1st Place in Uniform Inspection commanded by senior cadet Caitlin Howard; 1st Place in Varsity Unarmed Drill Team commanded by senior cadet Caitlin Howard, 1st Place in JV Unarmed Drill Team commanded by sophomore cadet Jaden Persaud, 2nd Place in JV Armed Drill Team commanded by sophomore cadet Jack Harris, and 2nd Place in JV Color Guard commanded by cadet Alanna Shaw (Mars). Winners of the Knockout included first-place winner sophomore cadet Mackenzie Roy, second-place winner sophomore cadet Nate Huerbin (Mars), and sophomore cadet Tyler Brown (Mars), who earned third place.

AFJROTC cadets hosted a drill competition on December 4, 2021, and earned first place overall. First-place awards included: JV Unarmed Drill Team commanded by sophomore Jaden Persaud, Varsity Unarmed Drill Team commanded by senior Caitlin Howard, Varsity Armed Drill Team commanded by junior Emma Terpstra, Varsity Color Guard commanded by junior Jasmine Christner, Academic Bowl Team commanded by junior Gianna Nicotra and Uniform Inspection Team commanded by senior Caitlin Howard. Caitlin and Jaden, along with sophomores Tyler Brown and Mackenzie Roy and ninth-grader Reva Kalbhor, were Knockout winners.



PRHS/MAHS AFJROTC CADETS HOST A DRILL COMPETITION AT PRHS ON DECEMBER 4, 2021.



(LEFT) JUNIOR MAXINE GILL AND (RIGHT) SOPHOMORE JOCELYN RICH RAISE A COMBINED \$88,000 FOR THE LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) recognized Pine-Richland High School junior Maxine Gill and sophomore Jocelyn Rich for their achievement of raising more than \$88,000. Jocelyn and her team

“Rende Strong” raised an incredible \$57,961.96! Jocelyn ran her campaign in honor of her friend Colin Rende. Maxine and her team “Cancer Sucks” raised an incredible \$30,368. Students of the Year is a seven-week fundraising challenge where high school student leaders raise money and awareness for the fight against blood cancers. This year’s campaign kicked off on February 11, 2022, and culminated at the Grand Finale Gala on April 1, 2022. The funds raised benefit the LLS mission: to find a cure for leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin’s disease, and myeloma, and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families.



SECOND-GRADER ELLA BOYERS IS NAMED A KIDSBURGH KIND KID.

Richland Elementary second-grader Ella Boyers was named a Kidsburgh Kind Kid for the week of October 4, 2021, and was featured on the Kidsburgh website. Ella was nominated and chosen for the award for helping pick up litter in her neighborhood.



SENIOR NORAH CARTER IS NAMED A TOP 10 OUTSTANDING YOUNG CITIZEN.



SENIOR HALEY KATZFEY



SENIOR SARAH VIGNA

Pine-Richland High School seniors earned Outstanding Young Citizen Awards, which honor the best and brightest in the community who exhibit a balance of serving others and maintaining an outstanding academic record. Senior Norah Carter was named to the Top 10. Seniors Haley Katzfey and Sarah Vigna were among only 100 who earned Outstanding Young Citizen Awards in the region.



PRHS MEMBERS OF FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA EARN TOP AWARDS.

Forty-one Pine-Richland Future Business Leaders of America students qualified to compete at the State Leadership Conference in Hershey, Pa. The students attended leadership and professional development workshops, competed in individual events, and networked with other student leaders from across the state under the direction of teacher Laura Blaze. Fifteen Pine-Richland students placed in the top 10 and seven qualified for nationals, held in Chicago, Ill. in June. Students who qualified for nationals include seniors Colton Boyd (4th/management information systems), Thomas Cornelius (3rd/job interview), Marc Huber (1st/marketing), Carson Kalpakis (4th/management information systems,) and Seth Sudac (4th/networking infrastructure), junior Benjamin Rishel (2nd/organizational leadership), and sophomore Jayden Lahoti (2nd/business calculations).

In addition to those qualifying for nationals, other PR students placing in the top 10 include seniors Abigail

DeWick (9th/management information systems), Alex Erlain (6th/management information systems), Amanda Marburger (9th/business management), Esai Morse (6th/management information systems), and Natalie Zentz (6th/business management), junior Megan Roskoph (5th/business management), and sophomores Joshua Honick (5th/introduction to business concepts) and Sofia Morse (6th/management information systems).

The following students competed at states: seniors Pamphile Beau, Aanya Gupta, Olivia Hillman, Logan Krushinski, Justin Leeper, Jack Maurer, Michael Mengine, Luke Pieczynski, Taylor Shriber, Halley Snyder, and Gabriel Youchak; juniors Connolly Barrett, Garrett Barth, Andrew Cerminara, Jason Cole, Joshua Folmer, Bradford Gelly, Max Heckert, Lucas Mahsoob, Robert Noir, John Rottinghaus, Grant Smith, Haden Snyder, Alexander Vasile, and Hannah Young; and sophomore Benjamin Baileys.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



ANUKTA ASHOK



GRACE LENNIE



RYAN NOIR



JOSHUA OKLEJEWSKI



BRAYLEN PRICE



ADAM PROCTOR



KAHLER SALVA



TEAGAN YUROCKO

Pine-Richland Middle School proudly presented eighth-grade awards on May 17, 2022. Joshua Oklejewski and Kahler Salva were chosen for the American Legion Award for demonstrating honor, courage, leadership, patriotism, scholarship, and service. Both were presented with certificates and medals. Six students received the Pittsburgh Foundation award, funded by the Elva K. Williams Memorial Fund and awarded for kindness and consideration toward others: Anukta Ashok, Grace Lennie, Ryan Noir, Braylen Price, Adam Proctor, and Teagan Yurocko.

Performance



The Pine-Richland High School Dance Team participated in the Universal Dance Association Home Technique Summer Team Camp and received several awards, including qualifying for the UDA National Competition. At the camp hosted at PRHS, the girls learned innovative choreography, attended daily technique classes, participated in team-building activities, and were judged on their home team competition routine. The team was awarded the highest honor: the team blue ribbon and a superior rating for their home team dance, which qualified the team for the UDA Nationals. Senior captains Amelia Baileys, Gianna Reighard, and Angelena Seman all achieved the UDA Varsity Spirit All-American Award for excellence in the All-American Dance Competition. They were invited to perform in the Varsity Spirit Pearl Harbor Memorial Parade in Honolulu, Hawaii, in December 2021, and the Varsity Spirit Spectacular Parade and Orlando Thanksgiving Tour at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida, in November 2021. All team members received blue ribbons (highest honor) for their two new routines taught and performed at camp, pom and kick. The team and Coach Kathy Deal received the Squad Credentialing Award in recognition of active participation in and completion of the Varsity Spirit Summer Camp Dance Squad Credentialing Course for school dance teams.

(FRONT ROW: L-R) SENIOR CAPTAINS ANGELENA SEMAN, GIANNA REIGHARD, AND AMELIA BAILEYS, (SECOND ROW: L-R) JUNIORS OLIVIA ROCCIA AND ELIZABETH NIELSEN, (FOURTH ROW: L-R) SOPHOMORES ELLA SCHNEIDER, ALETA AMEND, CHARLOTTE BAIC, AND LILY HEILIGENSTEIN, (BACK ROW: L-R) NINTH-GRADERS ARIANNA LEDUC, SOPHIA REIGHARD, COURTNEY GOCHIS, MAURA SCIULLO, AND SAVANNAH LOVINK PARTICIPATE IN UNIVERSAL DANCE ASSOCIATION CAMP AWARDS PROGRAM.

Several Pine-Richland youth basketball teams qualified for the 2022 Pennsylvania Middle School Basketball Championship held in State College on Friday, March 18, 2022. All three girls travel basketball teams (fourth, fifth, and sixth grade) and the fourth-grade boys travel team participated, and the fourth-grade girls team won gold.

GIRLS YOUTH BASKETBALL



Science & Technology



(L-R) ELEMENTARY TEAM MEMBERS MYRA MATAI, DEV CHOKSI, FINN FLAHERTY, MICAH EZOLT, AND ATHARVA NAGRATH EARN SECOND PLACE AT THE PA ODYSSEY OF THE MIND COMPETITION.



MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAM MEMBERS SIDNEY RICE, SOFIA DENT, KIMAYA MATAI, LOGAN SPITZ, NOAH EZOLT, AND DOMINIC DENT EARN SECOND PLACE AT THE PA ODYSSEY OF THE MIND COMPETITION (NOT PICTURED: LUCA BOUDREAU).



HIGH SCHOOL TEAM MEMBERS NICOLAI EZOLT, CONNOR FOOTE, LUKE RIDGEWAY, AVYU NAGRATH, HELEN MAO, AND PRISHA DARGAN AT THE PA ODYSSEY OF THE MIND COMPETITION.

Pine-Richland students competed at the Odyssey of the Mind (OM) state finals at Lock Haven University on April 2, 2022. Eden Hall Upper Elementary fourth-graders Myra Matai and Atharva Nagrath, Wexford Elementary third-graders Dev Choksi and Micah Ezolt, and Pine-Richland Virtual Academy third-grader Finn Flaherty earned second place in the state competition on April 2, 2022, at Lock Haven University. Their solution focused on saving the environment and involved making a Rube Goldberg machine that resulted in a chemical reaction. The middle school team of Pine-Richland Middle School eighth-grader Kimaya Matai, seventh-graders Dominic Dent, Sofia Dent, and Noah Ezolt, PA Cyber Charter School student Luca Boudreau, and North Allegheny students Sidney Rice and Logan Spitz earned second place at the state competition. They also won a Ranatra Fusca award, the most prestigious award in all of Odyssey of the Mind. Their solution involved making a giant music machine in which glass marbles on a spinning drum hit copper pipes to perform a team-created song. This machine was powered by gravity. Pine-Richland High School sophomores Nicolai Ezolt, Connor Foote, Avyukta Nagrath, and Luke Ridgeway, ninth-grader Prisha Dargan, and North Allegheny student Helen Mao earned second place at the state competition. They wrote and performed an entire musical production, including original lyrics and music composition. It included a nine-foot color-changing background, team-created puppetry, and a skit that changed from grayscale to color. Students then went on to compete at the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals at Iowa State University in May against over 80 teams in their age divisions. OM is an international creative problem-solving organization in its 42nd year. Approximately 30,000 people attend this tournament each year. Pine-Richland students compete under the direction of Coach Ezolt, who owns STEAM Studio.

Students from the Pine-Richland High School Advanced Video Production and TV Production classes attended the 2022 Digital Media Arts Consortium's Student Competition Awards at Robert Morris University on April 7, 2022. Student videos competed against schools in the tri-state area and were judged by industry professionals, RMU faculty, and high school teachers. Senior Geneva Doughty won Best in Category for Animation and sophomore Quinn Martin won Best in Category for Documentary. Quinn, along with junior director Brayden Perry and junior crew member Francesco Zottola, received the Award of Excellence for Live Event, PRTV Club.



STUDENTS COMPETE AGAINST OTHER STUDENTS IN THE TRI-STATE AREA.



PRHS STUDENTS EARNED VIDEO PRODUCTION AWARDS.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



SREYASHI MONDAL

Pine-Richland High School junior Sreyashi Mondal earned the 2022 Western Pennsylvania Affiliate Award for Aspirations in Computing. The award, sponsored by the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT), recognizes 9-12th grade students for their computing-related achievements and interests as part of an effort to encourage a diverse range of students to choose careers in technology. Award recipients were selected from more than 3,500 applicants from all 50 U.S. states, Washington, D.C., Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, U.S. overseas

military bases, and Canada for their outstanding work.

Pine-Richland High School seniors earned second place in the 17th annual BotsIQ, a regional competition at Robert Morris University on March 2, 2022, in a gladiator-style mash-up of bots created by students. Seniors who competed include Benjamin Buszinski, Laura Crnarich, Megan Crnarich, David DeFrancis, Riley Davison, Ben Friedrich, Negein Immen, Keara Jorgensen, Sophia Malara, Teagan Rowland, Shane Rupert, Zachary Szelc, and Trent Vacula.



Pine-Richland High School students competed in the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association Chapter competition for Region 1. Winners in the Computer-Aided Drafting Engineer category included junior Brandon Wees (first place), freshman Owen Kaufman (second place), and junior Mathew Yurocko (third place). Brandon also placed fifth in the Dragster Design category. The student team placed first in Robotics and Systems Engineering at the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association (TSA) State Competition on April 20-23, 2022. The student team included juniors Dylan Satina, Brandon Wees, and Mathew Yurocko, sophomore Ethan Priore, and freshman Owen Kaufman.

SPONSOR EVAN CLARK, FRESHMAN OWEN KAUFMAN, JUNIORS DYLAN SATINA, BRANDON WEES, AND MATHEW YUROCKO, AND SOPHOMORE ETHAN PRIORE CELEBRATE A FIRST-PLACE WIN AT THE PA TSA COMPETITION.

Speech & Writing



SENIORS MATTHEW FARMAR, CALLIE STOLTZ, MILES BROWN, TADG MANNA, ANDREW NI, AND AMISH SETHI EARN FIRST PLACE IN A WORLD DEBATE COMPETITION.

A team of students from Pine-Richland High School bested a field of high schools from around the globe to win the 21st Annual Brewer Foundation/New York University International Public Policy Forum (IPPF) debate competition and a \$10,000 grand prize. Seniors Miles Brown, Matthew Farmar, Tadhg Manna, Andrew Ni, Amish Sethi, and Callie Stoltz make up the 2021-2022 Pine-Richland High School Team, under the direction of PRHS Teacher Jeff Byko. The teams that competed in the IPPF Finals on April 30, 2022, were the final Elite Eight to emerge from a field of more than 120. The teams debated the topic: "Resolved: On balance, the hegemony of the United States dollar is detrimental to the world economy." In New York, *Continued on page 48*



EDEN HALL UPPER ELEMENTARY STUDENTS BECOME PUBLISHED WRITERS.

Edén Hall Upper Elementary students earned first place in a national writing contest. Forty-five students participated in the young writers' contest called "A Wander in the Woods." Students submitted a mini-saga of a maximum of 100 words focusing on a woods theme. Published authors from Pine-Richland Middle School and Edén Hall Upper Elementary include seventh-graders Jack Ball, Jack Beatty, Lyla Boulanger, Annabelle Burk, Ella Davis, John English, Mihir Harinath, Kellan Kozar, Natasha Kuciak, Lucas McLane, Elise Metzler, Loren Prisuta, Lorenzo Rotelli, Naomi Stewart, Gabriel Stulak, Ella Trygar, Ethan Villgran; sixth-graders Everett Anderson, Zoey Campbell, Josephine Christy, Rylan Corbin, Reagan Corgin, Joslynn Dember, Elizabeth Feterik, Adeline Hudeck, Marissa Mann, Jacob Mazefsky, Maryn McDowell, Elliana Myers, Rowan Moody, Gwynn Powell, Morgan Stout, Amelia Van Meter, and Brooke Wollenschlaeger; fifth-graders Emelia Amato, Zoe Auerbach, Rachael Bummer, Lindsay Eckman, Myraa Gupta, Cannon Huffman, Kendall Hughey, Landon Johnson, Emilia Lazzaro, Dheepthaa Ravichandran, Garrett Schumacher, and Katelyn Vertullo.

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

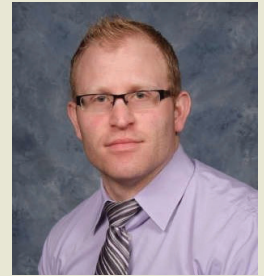
The mission of Pine-Richland athletics is to enhance and support the overall educational mission, vision, and values of the district. Our athletic programs serve as an integral component of the school district with a commitment to academic excellence and a healthy learning environment for everyone. Athletics enhance the intellectual and social development of everyone involved in helping each person grow through experiences and to prepare for the next steps.

Collectively, we hope that our teams, exhibiting consistent effort and sportsmanship, will generate prideful excitement throughout the community, giving our community members another reason to be proud of PR. The values of the PRSD Athletic Department

align tightly with the district PRIDE (Personal Growth, Resiliency, Innovation, Diverse Opportunities, Engagement) values.

As I reflect upon the 2021-22 school year and look ahead to the 2022-23 school year, my message to our students remains constant. Focus on the lifelong relationships you've established during your time at Pine-Richland. The importance and significance of these relationships will serve an important purpose in your personal development in preparation for a successful life!

Sincerely,
Joe Gironda
Director of Athletics



JOE GIRONDA
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Baseball

PHOTO COURTESY OF GAMEON PHOTOGRAPHY



COACH KURT WOLFE

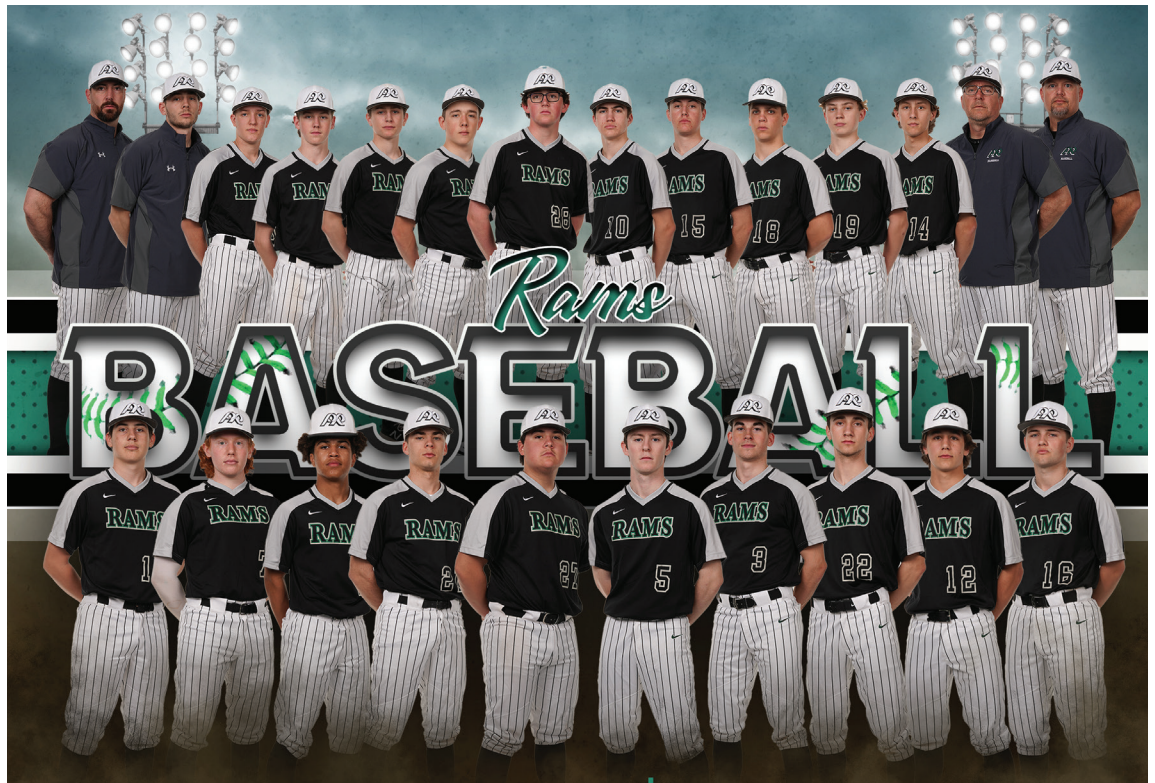


PHOTO COURTESY OF GAMEON PHOTOGRAPHY

2021-2022 PRHS BOYS BASEBALL TEAM

The Pine-Richland High School Boys Varsity Baseball Team participated in the WPIAL Class 6A Quarterfinal against the Butler Golden Tornado on May 23, 2022. The final score was 5-0 with Butler taking the win. The seventh-grade baseball team enjoyed an undefeated 18-0 season, while the eighth-grade team went 19-2 and won the February Finale, a year-end tournament held in Elizabeth. Freshman Anthony Mengine was named to the WPIAL All-Section Class 6A Section 1 First Team. Senior Tyler Armstrong and juniors Owen Henne and Joseph Perry were named to the Second Team, and seniors Joseph Connell and Andrew Swartout, and junior Jacob McGuire earned Honorable Mention. Coach Kurt Wolfe earned the WPIAL All-Section Class 6A Section 1 Coach of the Year. Senior Tyler Armstrong signed to play at East Georgia State College.

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Basketball

The Pine-Richland High School Boys Varsity Basketball Team advanced to the Quarterfinals of the WPIAL playoffs but was stopped by Fox Chapel on Friday, February 25, 2022, with a final score of 77-67. The team finished with a record of 12-12. Seniors Joseph Dudkowski and Luke Shanahan were named to the WPIAL All-Section Class 6A Section 1 First Team. Senior Andrew Swartout was named to the Second Team, and senior Jameson O'Toole earned Honorable Mention.



2021-2022 PRHS BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

PHOTO COURTESY OF GAMEON PHOTOGRAPHY

The Pine-Richland High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team finished their season with a 7-15 record. Junior Kaili Doctor was named to the WPIAL All-Section Class 6A Section 1 First Team. The team is excited to welcome new Head Coach Gabby Baldasare. Coach Baldasare has spent the last two seasons at Moon Area School District, leading the team to the playoffs in both seasons.



2021-2022 PRHS GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

PHOTO COURTESY OF GAMEON PHOTOGRAPHY



HEAD COACH GABBY BALDASARE

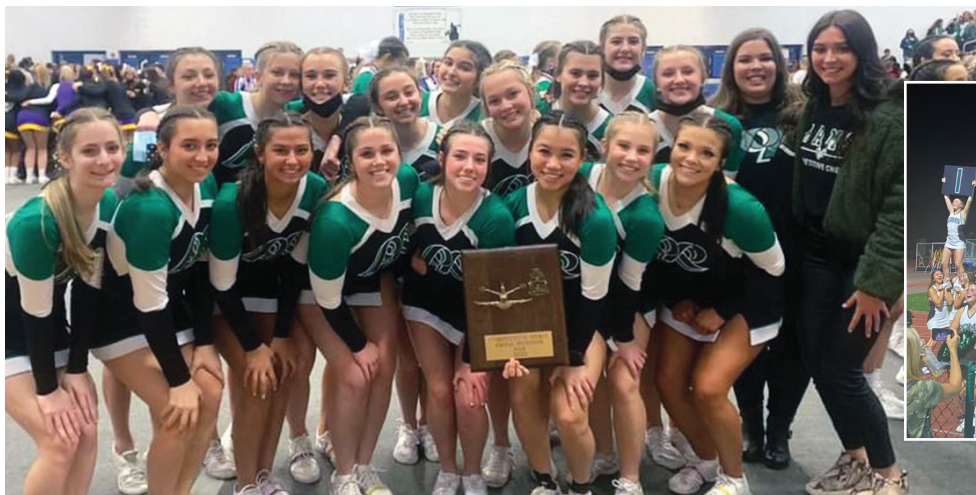
Bocce



THE 2021-2022 PRHS BOCCE TEAM EARNED A CHANCE TO MOVE ON TO THE STATE COMPETITION IN ITS FIRST YEAR.

In only its first year of existence, two of Pine-Richland High School's bocce teams competed in the Northeast Division Finals, with the first-place team moving on to states on March 24, 2022, in Clarion, where they placed fifth. Athletes included senior Eric Bilger, juniors Ian Fischer and Brett Jaksec, sophomore Abram Morris, and freshmen Cody Day and Benjamin Dudkowski. Their partners include junior Emma Hohos, sophomores Avery Hoffman, Leah Martin, Morgan Neuner, and Mia Orsini, and freshman Cole Silipo.

Cheerleading



2021-2022 PRHS COMPETITIVE
CHEERLEADING SQUAD



THE SIDELINE CHEERLEADERS PUMP UP
THE CROWD AT HOMECOMING.

The Pine-Richland High School Varsity Cheerleading Competition Team competed at the PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships on January 28, 2022, and qualified for finals on January 29, 2022. The team made it to the semi-final round, competing against 39 AAA small varsity teams in the team's division where only 50% of the teams made it to the second day of the competition. The team qualified for the National High School Cheerleading Championship (NHSCC) at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando, Fla.,

on February 11-13, 2022, following a regional competition on November 14, 2021, at Slippery Rock University, competing in the small varsity division against teams from around the country. Team members who competed included seniors Abigail DeWick, Amanda Marburger, Lily Maurer, Carly Newport, and Sarah Vigna; junior Lucy Kimmel; sophomores Brynn Cassidy, Kate Chrystal, Nina Didiano, Sophia Gierl, Chloe Montani, Ava Spacciapolli, and Lauren Wood; and ninth-graders Macie Boyd, Taylor Brown, Kailyn Goltz, and Hailey Hagmaier.

Crew



JUNIOR FOUR TEAM



FRESHMAN NOVICE FOUR TEAM

Members of the Pine-Richland High School Crew Team placed third at the Midwest Scholastic Rowing Association (MSRA) Championship Regatta. Competing against 47 other schools, juniors Jordan Arthur, Asher Landis, and Nolan Martin, and sophomores Liam Francis and Ben Pickels took bronze in the Men's Junior Four, while junior Aidan Tobin, sophomores Brooks Robb and Mantavya Vashishth, and freshmen Owen Jones and Parker Mehlhorn took bronze in the Men's Freshman/Novice Four. The Men's Junior Four won an automatic bid to compete at the Scholastic Rowing Association of America National Championship, Pine-Richland's first automatic bid, where they placed 13th.

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Cross Country

2021-2022 PRHS GIRLS
CROSS COUNTRY TEAM



2021-2022 PRHS BOYS
CROSS COUNTRY TEAM



The Pine-Richland High School Cross Country Team participated in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association State Championships in Hershey on November 7, 2021. Runners included seniors Audrey DeKunder, Elizabeth Hunkele, Nick Labuda, Catherine London (alternate), and Meredith Price, juniors Breanna Franchak and Natalie McLean, sophomore Angelina

Hunkele, and ninth-grader Mary Claire Daniello. Meredith took home a medal with her 17th-place finish. The girls team finished seventh in the girls AAA race. Nick finished 166th in the boys AAA race. The Cross Country Team also competed in the WPIAL Championships on October 28, 2021, at California University of Pennsylvania.

Fencing

The 2021-2022 season marked a huge improvement. With at least five teammates for each of the girls and boys fencing teams, the team returned to high school competition, competing against other schools in the Greater Pittsburgh area. While it was a true rebuilding year, both the girls and boys teams managed at least one victory over other schools! So much experience was gained, and the team is positioned well for next season with many returning athletes. The fencing teams look forward to bigger and better success and more fun in the 2022-2023 season!



2021-2022 PRHS GIRLS FENCING TEAM



2021-2022 PRHS BOYS FENCING TEAM

Field Hockey



2021-2022 PRHS FIELD HOCKEY TEAM

The Pine-Richland Field Hockey Team earned the WPIAL title for the third year in a row by defeating North Allegheny 3-1 on October 30, 2021, advancing to the PIAAs where they fell to Central York. The team allowed only four goals for their entire undefeated regular season and received the 2022 All-State Team GPA Award. This is the third year in a row (fourth in five years) that the team was the undefeated AAA Section Champions and third year in a row (also fourth in five years) that they were the undefeated WPIAL Champions.

Seniors Sadie Baratka, Fiona Kortyna, and Rylie Wollerton were named to the 2021 National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) High School Impact Senior Team. Seniors Sadie Baratka, Fiona Kortyna, Laura Krill, Grace Merlack, Clare O'Connor, and Rylie Wollerton, and juniors Rylee Branscum, Danielle Deer, Caroline Gentile, Kayla Karmanos, Madison Lennon, and Emma Westerhoff were named to the 2021 NFHCA High School National Academic Squad. Senior Riley Kirby was named an NFHCA 2021 Division III Scholar of Distinction for achieving a minimum GPA of 3.9 through the first quarter.

Danielle Deer and Fiona Kortyna participated in the 2022 USA Field Hockey National Indoor Tournament Pool Championship, and Rylie Wollerton and ninth-grader Georgia Rottinghaus participated in the 2022 USA Field Hockey Nexus Championship.

The following players were named to the 2021 State All-Academic Team: seniors Sadie Baratka, Riley Kirby, Fiona Kortyna, Laura Krill, Grace Merlack, Clare O'Connor, and Rylie Wollerton, and juniors Rylee Branscum, Danielle Deer, Caroline Gentile, Kayla Karmanos, Madison Lennon, Emma Westerhoff, and Mary Wymard. Fiona Kortyna, Georgia Rottinghaus, Mary Wymard, and Rylie Wollerton were named 2021 WPIAL Field Hockey 3A All-Stars, and Sadie Baratka and Laura Krill earned 2021 WPIAL Field Hockey 3A All-Star Honorable Mentions. Senior Fiona Kortyna signed to play at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Senior Rylie Wollerton was nominated for the 2021-2022 All-USA Today Field Hockey Player of the Year Award. Only 24 students across the country were selected and will vie for the national field hockey player of the year award. She was named to the 2021 NFHCA High School All-Region-Pennsylvania Region First Team, named the 2021 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Player of the Year, named the 2021-2022 Armstrong Coaches Roundtable Female Athlete of the Year, earned 2021 NFHCA High School Third Team All-American status and was named NFHCA High School Player of the Month in October 2021. Rylie scored her 100th career goal on September 20 and will play field hockey this year at the University of Louisville.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MADIA PHOTOGRAPHY



SENIOR RYLIE WOLLERTON

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS



PHOTO COURTESY OF GAMEON PHOTOGRAPHY

2021-2022 PRHS FOOTBALL TEAM

Football



NEW FOOTBALL COACH
JONATHAN LEDONNE

The Pine-Richland High School Football Team advanced to the WPIAL semifinals in November, falling to Penn-Trafford and ending their season with a 7-5 record. Seniors Jalen Klemm and Alex Gochis and junior Andrew Mellis were named to the Class 5A Northeast Conference Team First-Team Offense. Seniors James Domer and Jeremiah Hasley and junior Ryan Palmieri were named to First-Team Defense. Senior William Brooks Eastburn, junior Jacob Beam, and sophomore Ryan Cory were named to the Second-Team Offense. Seniors Brandon Ansell and Connor Lenz were named to the Second-Team Defense. Seniors Colton Boyd and

Samuel Greene and juniors Max Heckert and Bradford Gelly were honorable mentions. Seniors Colton Boyd (Marist College), Jacob Domer (Clarion University), Alex Gochis (Duquesne University), Jeremiah Hasley (Duke University), Jalen Klemm (Kansas State University), and Connor Lenz (Duquesne University) signed to play college football. The team thanks Coach Steve Campos and welcomes new Head Coach Jonathan LeDonne for the 2022 season. Coach LeDonne has been with Penn Hills High School for the last five years, winning a PIAA Championship, WPIAL Championship, and three conference championships and earning a 46-14 record.



2021-2022 PRHS BOYS VARSITY GOLF TEAM

Golf

The Pine-Richland High School Boys Golf Team finished a great season with an 8-6-2 record. The team placed fifth in the Gary Garrison Tournament in August. Seniors Andrew Ni and Gabriel Youchak and juniors Liam Daniello, Tobias Kitay, Blaise Masciantonio, and Mason Peterson all participated in the WPIAL AAA Section 3 Boys Individual Qualifiers.



2021-2022 PRHS GIRLS GOLF TEAM

This year, the Pine-Richland High School Girls Golf Team saw record numbers as many new students joined. The team saw extensive contributions from freshmen and new sophomore golfers. The team looks to build upon the consistent improvement made this year and seeks to continue to drive interest and participation in the program while setting new standards of excellence.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MADIA PHOTOGRAPHY

Gymnastics

The Pine-Richland High School Gymnastics Team placed sixth at the WPIAL Team Championships on February 11, 2022, at Moon Area High School. The individual finals were hosted on February 12, 2022. Individual qualifiers included sophomore Nadia Constantakis (Advanced All-Around), junior Kyleigh Hughes and sophomore Grace McDermott (Intermediate I–All-Around), junior Ava Romano and ninth-graders Caitlin McDermott and Sydney Rovnan (Intermediate II–All-Around), senior Jessica Stella (Intermediate I–Vault and Beam), and junior Megan Sharp (Intermediate I–Vault). Nadia Constantakis placed second on uneven bars, sixth on balance beam, and sixth all-around. Senior Madeline Komoroski signed to compete in gymnastics at the University of Maryland.



2021-2022 PRHS GYMNASICS TEAM

PHOTO COURTESY OF MADIA PHOTOGRAPHY

Hockey



PHOTO COURTESY OF GAMEON PHOTOGRAPHY

2021-2022 PRHS HOCKEY TEAM



COACH JORDAN YOKLIC

The Pine-Richland High School Varsity Ice Hockey Team beat Central Catholic in overtime on March 7, 2022, 2-1, at the Baiert Ice Complex. PRHS advanced to the Penguin Cup Semifinals at the RMU Sports Complex and was stopped by Peters Township 5-0. Five varsity players were named to the 2022 PIHL All-Stars and participated in the All-Star Game on April 3, 2022, at the Alpha Ice Complex: seniors Alex Erlain, Carson Kalpakis, Michael Mengine, and Esai Morse, and junior Daniel Mooney. Coach Jordan Yoklic was also named as an All-Star coach.



2021-2022 PRHS INLINE HOCKEY TEAM



2021-2022 MIDDLE SCHOOL INLINE HOCKEY TEAM

The Pine-Richland High School Varsity Inline Hockey Team earned the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Roller Hockey Championship title. The team competed against North Allegheny for the championship title on March 12-13, 2022. The Pine-Richland Middle School Inline Hockey Team earned the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Roller Hockey Championship title. The team competed against Upper Saint Clair for the championship title on March 5, 12, and 13, 2022.

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Lacrosse



COACH DAVE OFFNER

2021-2022 PRHS BOYS VARSITY LACROSSE TEAM



The Pine-Richland High School Boys Varsity Lacrosse Team finished their season 7-10 after falling to Penn-Trafford in the first round of the playoffs. Senior Levi Krebs was voted All-Section and All-WPIAL. Senior Graydon Sherron was named All-Section. Senior Tristen Taylor signed to play at Lake Erie College, and senior Levi Krebs signed to play at Washington and Jefferson College. The team welcomed Dave Offner as the head coach for the 2021-2022 season. He is a familiar member of the PR family as he was an assistant coach previously. The Pine-Richland High School Girls Varsity Lacrosse Team ended their 12-7 season with a trip to the WPIAL Consolation Game on May 26, 2022, at Robert Morris University.



2021-2022 PRHS GIRLS VARSITY LACROSSE TEAM

Soccer



2021-2022 PRHS BOYS VARSITY SOCCER TEAM

The Pine-Richland High School Boys Soccer Team finished their season with a 6-9-2 record. Senior Zachary Palko was named to the Big 56 Boys Soccer All-Section First Team. Senior Evan Dougal and juniors Cale Klaff, Benjamin Rishel, and Colin Zvejnieks were named to the second team. Senior Justin Bang earned honorable mention status. Senior Evan Dougal signed to play soccer at Penn State Behrend. The Pine-Richland

High School Girls Soccer Team played in the first round of the WPIAL playoffs, falling to Peters Township and ending their season with a 5-10 record. Senior Jaclyn Murray was named to the All-WPIAL team. Jaclyn and juniors Kiley Hassinger and Kate Lindrose were named to the Big 56 All-Section Second Team and junior Manon Prokesch earned Honorable Mention.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEDIA PHOTOGRAPHY

2021-2022 PRHS GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER TEAM

Softball



PHOTO COURTESY OF GAME ON PHOTOGRAPHY

2021-2022 PRHS GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL TEAM

The Pine-Richland High School Girls Softball Team finished the season with a 12-6 record, advancing to the second round of the playoffs against North Allegheny. Six members of the team earned All-Section Honors from the Western Pennsylvania Big 56: senior Gabriella Aughton and sophomore Jocelyn Langer were named to the First Team, senior Alexia Brown, sophomore Marissa DeLuca, and ninth-grader June McCune were named to the Second Team, and sophomore Mackenzie Gillis earned Honorable Mention. Seniors Harley Aguglia (University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg), Gabriella Aughton (Boston College), Alexia Brown (Penn State Behrend), and Anna McKenna (Allegheny College), signed to play college softball.

Swimming & Diving

Eleven Pine-Richland High School swimmers qualified for PIAAs in March at Bucknell University: seniors Will Laubacher and Trent Vacula, juniors Delaney Allen, Justin Bogacz, Matthew Carper, Mila Cribbs, Eleah Dickson, and Elizabeth Shaffer, sophomore Reece Rupert (alternate) and ninth-grader Sarah Shaffer. At WPIALs, the Girls Team placed 6th overall, while the Boys Team placed 11th overall. Seniors Will Laubacher signed to compete at College of Wooster and Shane Rupert signed to play at Penn State Behrend.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEDIA PHOTOGRAPHY

2021-2022 PRHS SWIMMING & DIVING TEAM

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PHOTO COURTESY OF LA PHOTOGRAPHY



2021-2022 PRHS BOYS VARSITY TENNIS TEAM



2021-2022 PRHS GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS TEAM

PHOTO COURTESY OF LA PHOTOGRAPHY

Tennis

The Pine-Richland High School Varsity Boys Tennis Team ended their season with a team section record of 6-2. Seniors Ethan Silipo and Braiden Smalley represented the team in the section doubles tournament at North Allegheny High School on April 22 and earned a spot in the WPIAL doubles tournament on May 4. The Pine-Richland High School Varsity Girls Tennis Team competed in the first round of the WPIAL Team Sectionals Tournament on October 12. Junior Lily Hynds and sophomore Rachel Smith competed both in singles and doubles, while seniors Isabella Calabrese and Haley Katzfey competed in doubles. The team earned an overall record of 7-4 and a section record of 6-2.

Track & Field

Fourteen Pine-Richland High School Track and Field athletes competed at the PIAA State Championships on May 27 and 28, 2022, in Shippensburg. In the girls 1600 meters, junior Natalie McLean placed fifth (4:56.54—school record), and senior Meredith Price placed 12th (4:59.45—1st in heat and #2 all-time PR). In the boys 4x100 meter relay, the relay team earned fifth place (42.86) and included senior Joseph Dudkowski, juniors Bradford Gelly and Luke Rudolph, and sophomore Nicholas Hartwick (alternates senior Alex Gochis and junior Evan Royal). In the boys 200 meters, Nick Hartwick placed 20th (22.89). In the girls 4x400 meter relay, the team placed 20th (4:07.83) and included seniors Elizabeth Hunkele and CJ Williams, sophomore Angelina Hunkele, and ninth-grader Abigail Satina (alternates senior Stella Fannie and junior Kate Lindrose). In the girls 3200 meters, Natalie McLean placed third (10:37.47—school record) and Meredith Price placed fourth (10:38.66—#2 all-time PR). In the boys high jump, Joseph Dudkowski tied for 12th (6-0).

Seniors Elizabeth Hunkele (University of Pittsburgh) and Meredith Price (Utah State University) signed to run track in college.



2021-2022 PRHS BOYS TRACK TEAM

PHOTO COURTESY OF MADIA PHOTOGRAPHY



2021-2022 PRHS GIRLS TRACK TEAM

PHOTO COURTESY OF MADIA PHOTOGRAPHY

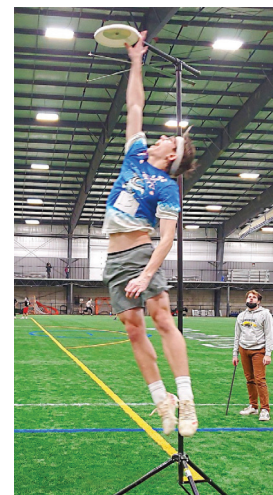
Ultimate Frisbee



ULTIMATE PLAYERS DONATE TIME TO HELP WITH AN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM.

Pine-Richland High School senior Reid Duncan was selected to join the 2022 Pittsburgh Thunderbirds professional ultimate disc team as a rookie. He is one of the youngest players to ever join the team. He will be competing over the summer with an adult league called the Pittsburgh Stealers and will try out for the highly competitive Pitt Men's Ultimate team as a freshman in the fall. The team volunteered with a local nonprofit

organization Inspired Hearts and Hands to conduct an after-school program for elementary school students in Butler on November 16, 2021. Led by co-captain Reid Duncan with the assistance of co-captain senior Matt Farmer, the boys worked with about 20 children, teaching them how to throw and catch a disc through a variety of games and drills. Female players practiced and are looking for members to make up their team in 2022-2023.



SENIOR REID DUNCAN IS SELECTED FOR A PROFESSIONAL ULTIMATE DISC TEAM.



2021-2022 PRHS BOYS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM



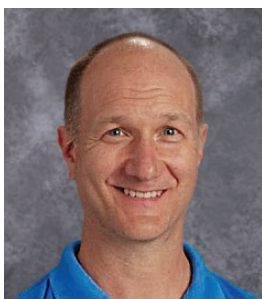
2021-2022 PRHS GIRLS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Volleyball

The Pine-Richland High School Girls Volleyball Team advanced to the second round of the WPIAL playoffs on October 28, 2021, falling to Moon Area High School, 3-2. The team finished the season 11-6. Senior Sophie Catalano and junior Kaili Doctor were named to the WPIAL All-Section Class 4A First Team, and senior Makayla Roy and junior Katherine Yanni earned Honorable Mention. Katherine was named a 2021 Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Volleyball Academic All-American Award recipient. AAU Volleyball recognizes student-athletes from across the United States for their excellence in academics in addition to their athletics. Katherine was one of 39 athletes selected from Pennsylvania for this prestigious award. Sophie Catalano signed to play at Clemson University next year. The boys volleyball team is working to improve for next season. The team welcomed Chris Rotelli as head coach in March of 2022. He previously coached the middle school boys volleyball team during the 2020-2021 school year.

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Wrestling



ASSISTANT COACH ROBERT HUNT WAS NAMED SECTION ASSISTANT COACH OF THE YEAR.



2021-2022 PRHS VARSITY WRESTLING TEAM

SENIOR KELIN LAFFEY AND JUNIOR ANTHONY FERRARO QUALIFIED FOR THE PIAA STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP.



Senior Kelin Laffey placed sixth in the PIAA Wrestling Championship in March, ending his season with a 27-2 record. Junior Anthony Ferraro also qualified, placing fourth at WPIALS and bringing his season record to 36-6. Seven other Ram wrestlers competed at WPIALS, including senior Shane Simpson, juniors Dante Cruz, Jacob Lukez, and Joseph Schneck (sixth place), sophomore Cole Wilson, and freshmen Dominic Ferraro and Quinn Foster. Dominic, Kelin, and Joseph were each named Section Champion. Kelin was selected to represent the WPIAL in the 48th Annual Pittsburgh Wrestling Classic on Friday, March 25, 2022. The Wrestling Classic, dubbed "The Rose Bowl of Wrestling," is the premier high school all-star dual meet in the country. Kelin is one of 12 wrestlers

to represent the WPIAL against an all-star team from the state of Indiana. Kelin reached 101 career wins this season. Dominic was the only freshman to win a 2022 WPIAL AAA Section 3 Title and only the second for Pine-Richland in over 10 seasons. The Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches Association (PWCA) named Jacob to the All-State Academic First Team and Joseph to the Second Team. Each year, PWCA selects an All-Academic Team of student-athletes who excel both on the mat and academically. Coach Robert Hunt was named Section Assistant Coach of the Year. Eighth-grader Maclane Miller placed third at the Pennsylvania Junior Wrestling State Championships. He also placed first at the Keystone State Championships Junior Qualifiers. Seventh-grader Max Kohser placed second, and seventh-grader Peyton Ferguson placed fourth.

FALL SPORTS REGISTRATION

Students in grades 7-12 should register for sports using Healthy Roster.

- > **Fall Sports Registration** - Due Friday, August 5
- > **Winter Sports Registration** - Due Friday, November 11
- > **Spring Sports Registration** - Due Friday, February 24

Families must use Healthy Roster to register for each sport season and to provide all PIAA and AHN paperwork for interscholastic and club sports for grades 7-12 only. This is a one-stop-shop for families, allowing for clear communication and an efficient use of our resources.

All physicals must be dated after June 1, 2022, and need to be completed and submitted prior to the official start of practice.

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

The Pine-Richland Athletic Hall of Fame honors and recognizes those associated with Pine-Richland athletics who have experienced significant accomplishments in their chosen sport or sports. Members of the third annual class of 2021 were inducted before the PRHS football game on October 1, 2021, and included the following inductees:



THE 1970 PINE-RICHLAND FOOTBALL TEAM WAS THE SECOND TEAM TO EARN A WPIAL CHAMPIONSHIP IN SCHOOL HISTORY. THE TEAM WAS UNDEFEATED IN 1970, POSTED SIX SHUTOUTS, AND ONLY ALLOWED TWO TOUCHDOWNS. QUARTERBACK MIKE BUTERBAUGH WAS NAMED THE WPIAL MVP. MIKE BUTERBAUGH, ED FLEMING, PAUL KEIL, CHIP KOHSE, CHUCK KRATZ, KYE RICHARDSON, AND NORM WIRTH WERE NAMED CLASS A ALL-STARS.

ART BOSETTI



Mr. Art Bossetti graduated from Pine-Richland in 1968 as a four-sport athlete—football, track, wrestling, and basketball. He was a captain of the football and track teams for three years. He was the WPIAL co-MVP as a running back in 1967 and the Rich Mar Rotary Outstanding Athlete of the Year in 1968. Art set the Pine-Richland

100-meter dash record which stood from 1968-2017. He also set the school rushing record in football in 1968 with 1,298 yards. He ended his PR career with 11 Division 1 scholarships and continued his playing career at Duke University.

JOHN HEROLD



Mr. John Herold, who graduated from Pine-Richland in 1970, was a member of the football team and the track and field team. In 1969, he was the WPIAL Class MVP of the year as a running back. He also played safety and was a standout on special teams. In track, John held the school record in the 220 meters with a time of 22.8 seconds. After his senior year in

football, he was nominated for the Pennsylvania Big 33 All-Star Team and continued his playing career at West Virginia University under Coach Bobby Bowden.

CAITLIN MOLLOY



Ms. Caitlin Molloy is a 2009 graduate of Pine-Richland High School. Caitlin was a member of the PRHS Swimming Team. She served as team captain as a junior and senior and is currently #6 on the all-time points scoring list. She held team records at the time of her graduation in the 500 freestyle, 200 freestyle, 200 individual medleys, and as a

member of the 400 freestyle relay team. She was a three-time PIAA state place winner and was named All-State Honorable Mention in 2006, 2008, and 2009. In 2008, she was named All-American by the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association which was the first ever for a Pine-Richland student-athlete on the swim team. She continued her athletic career at Boston College.

JAY NOVAK



Mr. Jay Novak, who graduated from Richland High School in 1986, was a member of the track and field team. Jay was the 1986 PIAA State Champion in the 3200 meters and runner-up in the 1600 meters. He was the AA WPIAL Champion in the 1600 meters in 1984 and 1986 and the 3200 meters in 1986. In 1984 and 1985, he was the AA WPIAL champion

in cross country. Jay is the record holder at Pine-Richland in the 1600 meters with a time of 4:10.9. He is currently listed in Pine-Richland's all-time top 10 in five track events (1600 meters, 3200 meters, 800 meters, 400 meters, and 4x800 meter relay). He was the all-time points scorer in track and field in his high school career and in a season. Jay continued his athletic career at Penn State University.

MICHAEL VAN SICKLE



Michael Van Sickle graduated from Pine-Richland in 2005 as a three-sport athlete—golf, basketball, and baseball. Michael was a three-time PIAA individual qualifier in golf and a two-time WPIAL golf individual champion. In 2004, he was the West Penn Golf Association Jr. Player of the Year. Michael went on to play collegiately at Marquette University where he was conference player of the year in 2009. He played on the PGA Tour, Web.com Tour, Canada PGA Tour, and the Latin-America PGA Tour.

AROUND THE SCHOOLS

Around Pine-Richland School District

Here is a pictorial peek around the school district from the primary and upper elementary to the secondary schools. There was a lot happening during the school year!



WEXFORD ELEMENTARY HOSTED A RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR THE SCHOOL'S NEW PAVILION THANKS TO THE PTO.



THIRD GRADE STUDENTS AT HANCE ELEMENTARY CREATED TIME CAPSULES FOR THEMSELVES, WHICH WILL BE OPENED WHEN THE STUDENTS GRADUATE IN 2030.



EDEN HALL UPPER ELEMENTARY TEACHERS COMPLETED A "FROGGER-LIKE" OBSTACLE COURSE AND ATTEMPTED TO AVOID GETTING HIT BY WATER BALLOONS. STUDENTS EARNED THE OPPORTUNITY TO LOB WATER BALLOONS AT THE TEACHERS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR BY EXHIBITING RAMS WAY BEHAVIORS.



PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS HELP BEAUTIFY SNOW PLOWS FOR PINE TOWNSHIP TO ADD A LITTLE ARTISTIC FUN DURING THOSE WINTER MONTHS.



EMPOWERING WORDS NOW SERVE AS INSPIRATION TO ALL WHO ENTER RICHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WHERE VISITORS ARE GREETED BY A NEW MURAL WALL.



THROUGH THE BRIDGES COMMUNITY PROGRAM, (L-R) SOPHOMORE OWEN BROOKS, JUNIOR TYLER DERKS, SOPHOMORE BENJAMIN PICKELS, FRESHMAN CREW FENTON, JUNIOR BRADY MULLAY, AND SOPHOMORE LIAM FRANCIS PLAN TO SPEND THEIR SUMMER WORKING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC HELPING TO MAKE AN OLDER FARMER A HOMEOWNER BY BUILDING A HOME FOR HIM.

RIGHT: AT THE END OF THE ANNUAL COLOR RUN, PARTICIPANTS GATHER TOGETHER AND THROW LEFTOVER CHALK INTO THE AIR, CREATING AN EXPLOSION OF COLOR. THE COLOR RUN IS HOSTED BY THE PEER-TO-PEER CLUB TO RAISE MONEY FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION.



EDEN HALL UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART CLUB STUDENTS BEGAN WORKING ON RAM AND BUTTERFLY SCULPTURES AS FOURTH GRADERS AND THEN COMPLETE THE ART AS SIXTH GRADERS. THE SCULPTURES SYMBOLIZE SYNDROME AWARENESS AND AUTISM AWARENESS. (L-R) FOURTH-GRADERS ATHARVA NAGRATH AND KRISTINA LEE, ART TEACHER KATELYN TRONETTI, AND FOURTH-GRADERS ZOHA YASIR AND DONOVAN DEHART ARE SHOWN HERE PROUDLY SHOWCASING THE WORK THAT WILL BE DISPLAYED AT THE SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES OFFICES.



PINE-RICHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL HOSTS A VIRTUAL READING PROGRAM FOR THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS DURING READ ACROSS AMERICA. STUDENTS STUDYING VIRTUALLY ALSO PARTICIPATED.

PINE-RICHLAND OPPORTUNITIES FUND



Pine-Richland Opportunities Fund Highlights 2021-22 School Year

PROF Awards More Than \$23,000 to Pine-Richland Staff

QUICK FACTS

- > The Pine-Richland Opportunities Fund (PROF) is a non-profit, 501(c)3 education foundation committed to enriching and investing in the experiences of every Pine-Richland student through staff grants, student scholarships, and community partnerships.
- > Since 2013, PROF has awarded over \$275,000 in grant funds to PRSD staff. Funding priority projects for student enrichment is a key component of our mission. This year, PROF partnered with the district to fund important mental health resources benefitting staff and students. Additionally, PROF collaborated with Pine Township and PRSD to provide grant funds to beautify our district with the gift of student art talent.
- > In that time, PROF partnered with community organizations and businesses to award \$339,500 in cash scholarships to graduating seniors. PROF's scholarship sponsors provide game-changing funds to students while also recognizing their outstanding achievements during their time at PRSD.
- > PROF proudly partners with community businesses for our Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program. NextTier Bank, Huntington Bank and Trumbull all provide funding for Advanced Technology, STEAM Grants, and hands-on learning experiences. PROF welcomes the opportunity to share the benefits of the EITC program with area businesses. Please visit www.prof-fund.org for more information.

PROF PARTNERS WITH WEXFORD ELEMENTARY PTO FOR "WEXFORD LIBRARY BUILDS THE DREAM" \$9,000 GRANT AWARD

PROF is proud to partner with Wexford Elementary School's PTO to renovate the Wexford Elementary Library. A school library of the 21st Century is dynamic and ignites critical thinking. It provides students with the skills needed to analyze, form, and communicate ideas in many ways. Funds awarded will help renovate the existing space to provide those needs while supporting current and additional equipment for creative STEAM projects with Wexford's MakerSpace. An outcome of the district's Library In-Depth Program Review is a recommendation to "redefine the design and use of the physical library spaces to provide efficient access to resources, flexibility, and accommodations to support the diverse needs of our learners as they think, create, share, and grow."

Continued Partnership—Hance Habitat—Phase 3

\$2,000 GRANT AWARD



PROPOSED OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

Hance Elementary School continues to look to provide students with diverse opportunities for learning both inside and outside the classroom. During this final phase of development, PROF granted funds to assist in the creation of an amphitheater to create a comprehensive outdoor classroom with ample flexible seating options. Part of the 2019-2023 district strategic plan is continued focus on implementing K-12 Education Corporation Partnerships along with STEAM integration focused on design, energy, and environment. Enhancing the amphitheater area of the outdoor classroom area will enable students to directly relate these concepts and apply them to the real world.

Meet PROF's Board

PROF's trustee board is comprised of dedicated volunteer community leaders: President Eric Giesecke, Vice President Jason Merante, Treasurer Jim Neill, Governance Officer Richard E. Bauer, DMD, MD, Laura Ball, Courtney Leigh Beisel, Charles Berry, Keri Brown, Laura L. Carlson, Leslie Craven, Jennifer Gebrosky, Amy Gillespie, Jennifer Husted, Brian Sava, Stacey Silipo, and Robin Tino. PROF's Executive Director is Deborah Lund.

PROF Needs Your Support

PROF's grant projects impact your students directly! Several projects, including Wexford Elementary School's Build the Dream Library Project and Eden Hall Upper Elementary School's Discovery Center need your support. Please donate today to impact your child's experience—www.prof-fund.org/grants.

Help us further our mission by providing important programs and scholarships—donate today by visiting www.prof-fund.org or support us through United Way Donor Option number 921848. Companies supporting PROF may be eligible for substantial tax credits through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program.

Pine-Richland Opportunities Fund
PO Box 248, Wexford, PA 15090
724-625-7773
www.prof-fund.org
United Way Donor Option #921848
EIN #25-1732737

PROF Supports Eden Hall Upper Elementary Discovery Center with \$5,000

EHUE's Discovery Center will create an outdoor learning environment directly impacting approximately 1,100 students and 120+ staff. Classrooms will be able to utilize the outdoor area for all subjects, improving active student engagement. Students will experience STEAM lessons and hands-on experiences in the outdoors, and the space will also provide a direct connection to the EHUE MakerSpace area in the library. Additionally, by

allowing for more outdoor learning opportunities, students will save energy in their classroom and learn about the benefits of the environment and interconnection with the real world. Teachers will promote and provide real-world application problems, along with investigation and problem-based learning. Providing such a space will enable teachers to engage students in science and develop skills through diverse opportunities and experiences provided by their environment with a focus on STEAM education.

PROF's FAST Grants Program Provides Pilot Funding

\$4,690 TOTAL FAST GRANT AWARDS

PROF's FAST Grant Application streamlines the grant request and approval process for applicants. If a grant request is \$1,000 or less, PROF will consider a FAST application to evaluate and respond quickly. The grant will be evaluated similarly to the full grant application. In the 2021-22 school year, PROF provided \$4,690 in FAST grants to staff including:

- > **Fab Lab Trays**—All Primary Buildings—\$849
- > **Video Equipment for Science**—Eden Hall Upper Elementary—\$848
- > **Tunnel Art Project**—Pine Township, Pine-Richland High School—\$993
- > **Hybrid Hillside Project**—Hance Elementary School—\$1,000
- > **Diverse and Inclusive Library Books**—Wexford Elementary School—\$1,000



PROF PROVIDES FUNDING FOR VIDEO EQUIPMENT FOR SCIENCE PROJECTS AT EDEN HALL UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.



PROF TRUSTEES AWARD \$46,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO PRHS SENIORS ON JUNE 8, 2022.



PROF FUNDS A BOOK PROJECT THROUGH WEXFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

PROF and Community Partners Award \$46,000 in Scholarships

On June 8, 2022, PROF awarded 19 scholarships to 31 Pine-Richland High School seniors totaling \$46,000. Scholarship recipients were recognized in a multitude of areas including service and volunteering, leadership, interest in STEM and fields that help others, resiliency, performing arts, musical talents and kindness, financial need, and more. PROF trustees sponsored two scholarships: the PROF Impact Scholarship (\$11,500) that awards students based on their involvement in the community and the potential impact the award can have to assist their educational goals, and a PROF Community Scholarship (\$2,500) highlighting student experiences and interactions with PROF-funded educational grants and interaction with faculty or fellow students.

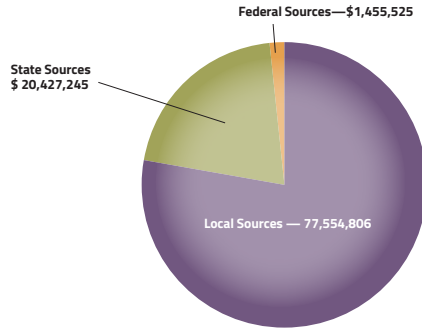
- > **Christian Cochran Memorial Scholarship—What's Good About Today?** – Mercedes Foster (\$1,000) and Katarina Hudock (\$1,000)
- > **Diversity in Technology and Engineering Scholarship** – Negein Immen (\$1,000)

- > **FBLA Scholarship** – Jack Maurer (\$2,500) and Thomas Cornelius (\$2,500)
- > **Hance Elementary PTO Scholarship** – Nora Russell (\$500)
- > **Kenneth M. Young Public Safety Scholarship** – Evan Dougal (\$1,000)
- > **Kyle Pomerleau Memorial Scholarship** – Saige Schultz (\$1,000) and Negein Immen (\$1,000)
- > **Martha King Memorial Scholarship** – Samantha Snyder (\$1,000) and Tyler Armstrong (\$1,000)
- > **Monica Young Memorial Scholarship** – Ayla Chandola (\$1,000)
- > **Musical Boosters Scholarship** – Catherine Merigliano (\$500), Aiden Frick (\$500), and Ryan Goldberg (\$500)
- > **Pasquinelli and Erie Insurance Scholarship** – Andrew Swartout (\$3,000)
- > **Pine-Richland Choral Boosters Scholarship** – Norah Carter (\$500) and Grace Merlack (\$500)

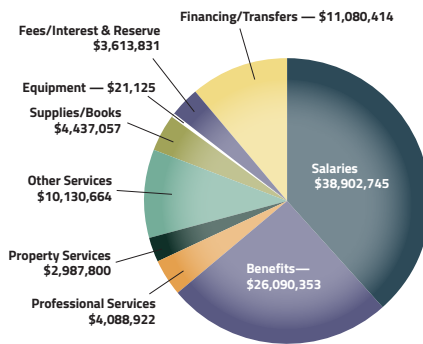
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Board Approves Budget for 2022-2023 with No Tax Increase

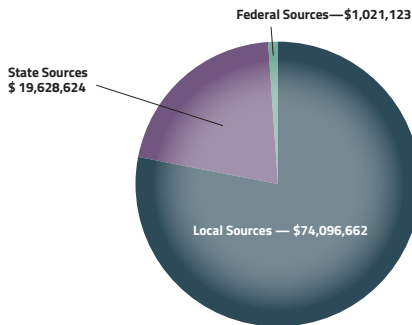
2022-2023 Budgeted Revenue



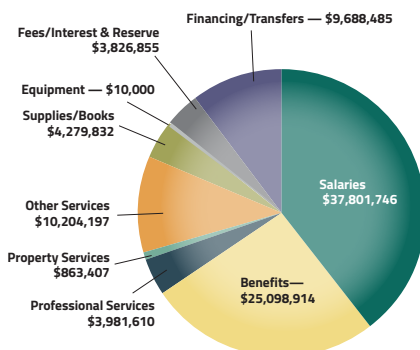
2022-2023 Budgeted Expenditures



2021-2022 Budgeted Revenue



2021-2022 Budgeted Expenditures



The Pine-Richland School Board approved the general fund budget for the 2022-2023 school year with total expenditures of \$101,352,911 and total revenues of \$99,437,576 with utilization of fund balance for capital improvements in the amount of \$1,915,334. The board maintained the following tax rates for the fiscal year 2022-2023 with no increase:

- > Real Estate Tax rate of 19.5867 mills (no increase)
- > Earned Income Tax of 0.5 percent
- > Act 511 Per Capita Tax of \$5 for individuals age 18 and older
- > Pennsylvania School Code Per Capita Tax of \$5 for individuals age 18 & older

COST-SAVING MEASURES

The district has addressed the financial climate and has looked at several alternative revenue sources and cost-saving measures for the past several years. Some of them included:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Energy Curtailment Program | Rebates & Commissions |
| Facility Rental Agreements | Advertisements |
| Grants & Donations | Student Activity Fees |
| Parking Fees | |

During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the district terminated one swap transaction and refinanced the associated bank loan resulting in savings to the school district. The district will continue to monitor each debt instrument for additional refunding opportunities to achieve savings and lower interest costs, if possible.

INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYER SAVINGS OPPORTUNITIES

- > The board approved the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution for the upcoming tax year. The resolution provides for property tax reduction through a "homestead or farmstead exclusion," which is provided by the state gaming industry/casinos. Residents should have an application on file with Allegheny County indicating the house they live in is their homestead. They will also receive a reduction in assessed value for their school tax. Each approved homestead will receive a real estate tax reduction in the amount of \$221.82.

- > In January 2022, the board approved a property tax rebate program for all qualifying senior citizens, widows, and widowers for the 2021 calendar year. The application reflected a due date of June 30, 2022. If the filer meets the criteria, he or she could see anywhere from \$250 - \$650 in tax rebates.

BUDGET BALANCING ACT IMPACTED BY VARIABLES

As you know, balancing the budget can be extremely difficult. Some of the variables that factor into the district's budget include:

Salaries & Wages – Personnel costs for administration, faculty, and support staff represent 64.13% of total annual budgeted expenditures. These expenditures are established by collective bargaining agreements and compensation plans.

Employer Benefit Costs – The district's employer contribution rate for the Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS) will increase to 35.26% of salary costs from 34.94% in 2021-2022. That translates to about \$507,634 (or \$226,480 in increased costs to the district after receiving state funding for retirement contributions) in the 2022-2023 budget. This rate is set by the PSERS Board of Trustees and mandated by state legislation.

Premium Costs – Allegheny County Schools Health Insurance Consortium medical premium costs will increase by 8% for covered employees. Dental insurance premiums will be held with no increase, and vision insurance premiums will increase by 3%. Overall group health insurance expenditures for the District are budgeted to increase by \$442,777.

Tuition Expenditures – The district is required by law to pay tuition costs, which are projected at \$1,371,421 for 2022-2023, for students who reside in Pine-Richland to attend cyber/charter schools. None of these costs are reimbursed by the state. For more information on the budget, visit www.pinerichland.org/budget.

School Directors Visit Schools

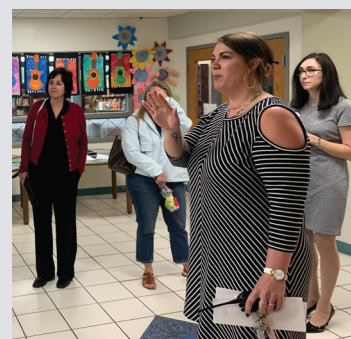
The board visited Pine-Richland Middle School to get an up-close look at student work by visiting the library, collaboration room, and a world language classroom. During the directors' visit to the high school, they visited the library to talk to high school senior leaders and visited the art rooms and a classroom. At Eden Hall Upper Elementary School, the board discussed PROF grants and looked at a book vending machine and the outdoor classroom space. They also learned more about the special education program, RAM Time, and world language. At Richland Elementary School, school leaders highlighted art and the autistic support program, and looked at some building projects such as the auditorium, foyer, and the library refresh.



BOARD MEMBERS VISIT A HIGH SCHOOL ART CLASSROOM.



THE BOARD GETS A PEEK INTO THE COLLABORATION ROOMS, WHICH SPARK STUDENT IMAGINATION AT PINE-RICHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL.



ABOVE: PRINCIPAL JENNA SLOAN SHARES INFORMATION ABOUT SOME OF THE FACILITY PROJECTS AT RICHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.



LEFT: PRINCIPAL STEVEN SMITH TALKS TO BOARD MEMBERS ABOUT PROGRAMS AT EDEN HALL UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

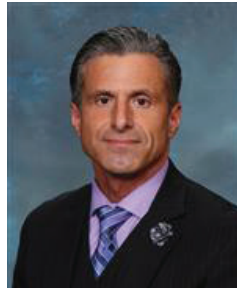
School Board Reorganizes



MR. GREG DITULLIO
BOARD PRESIDENT



MRS. AMY TERCHICK
BOARD VICE PRESIDENT



MR. MARC CASCIANI
BOARD TREASURER



MRS. CHRISTINA BRUSSALIS
DIRECTOR



MR. JOHN JOSEPH CASSIDY
DIRECTOR



MRS. LISA HILLMAN
DIRECTOR



MR. PETER LYONS
DIRECTOR



DR. MATTHEW MEHALIK
DIRECTOR



DR. CARLA MEYER
DIRECTOR

Pennsylvania school boards are governed by nine elected directors. Four newly elected school directors were sworn into office on December 6, 2021. Solicitor Donald Palmer administered the oath of office to Mrs. Christina Brussalis (Region 2), Mr. Joseph Cassidy (Region 3), Mrs. Lisa Hillman (Region 1), and Mrs. Amy Terchick (Region 2). The new directors will serve a four-year term ending in 2025.

In addition, the board reorganized and elected Mr. Greg DiTullio as president and Mrs. Amy Terchick as vice president.

The board also made several appointments:

- > Mrs. Hillman was appointed as the legislative representative to the Pennsylvania School Boards Association for a one-year term through December 2022.
- > Mr. Joseph Cassidy was appointed as a representative to the A.W. Beattie Career Center Joint Committee for a two-year term expiring in December of 2023, and Dr. Matthew Mehalik for a one-year term expiring in December of 2022.
- > The board appointed Mrs. Amy Terchick as a representative to the Pine Township Parks and Recreation Board for 2022.
- > The board appointed Mrs. Christina Brussalis as the 2022 liaison to the Pine-Richland Opportunities Fund Board of Trustees.
- > Mr. Peter Lyons was appointed as a Food Service Advisory & Wellness Committee Representative.
- > Mrs. Dana Kirk, director of financial and operational services, was reappointed as a delegate to Allegheny North Tax Collection Committee with Mr. Marc Casciani, who was appointed a fifth time to serve as board treasurer, and appointed to serve as an alternate.

Also serving on the Pine-Richland School Board is Dr. Carla Meyer. Mrs. Barbara Williams serves as board secretary. Review director biographies and find more school board information at www.pinerichland.org/board.

At the meeting on November 15, 2021, the board recognized outgoing directors Mrs. Christine Misback, Mr. Matthew Moye, Mrs. Katarzyna Swope, and Mrs. Amy Hayden for their dedication to the board.

Continued from page 3

through Safe2Say Something, TIP Line, and/or a trusted adult at school. Additionally, the communication system between the district's safety/security team and first responders was updated to provide for immediate, clear connections. The district has also recommended, and the board approved, a new school-based mental health program for K - 12 schools through Glade Run.

Continued from page 28

Pine-Richland advanced over the Ministry of Education, Singapore, in the quarterfinal round and Amity Regional High School from Woodbridge, Connecticut, in the semifinal round, before facing Potomac Oak from Rockville, Maryland, in the finals. The top eight teams competing in the IPPF Finals represented schools in five U.S. states, Canada, and Singapore. The finals allowed students to participate in oral debates in front of some of the world's foremost experts in debate, business, law, and politics.

Continued from page 45

- > **Pine-Richland Choral Boosters**—William B. Machiko Scholarship – Nora Russell (\$1,000)
- > **Pine-Richland High School PTO Scholarship** – Trevor Strohm (\$1,000)
- > **PROF Community Enrichment Scholarship** – Amish Sethi (\$2,500)
- > **PROF Impact Scholarship** – Kylee Wargo (\$7,500) and Lia Meijer (\$4,000)
- > **Richland Elementary PTO Scholarship** – Rachel Bashe (\$500)
- > **Rich-Mar Rotary Club Scholarship** – Andrew Swartout (\$1,000), Ava Cardinali (\$1,000), John Brown (\$1,000), and Thomas Cornelius (\$1,000)
- > **Ryan Malady Memorial Scholarship** – Connor Lenz (\$2,000)
- > **Veterans Memorial Scholarship** – Evan Dougal (\$1,000)
- > **Wexford Elementary PTO Scholarship** – Thomas Cornelius (\$1,000)

For descriptions of scholarships, please see our Scholarships web page at www.prof-fund.org/scholarships.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



CAROLINE DAWSON

Pine-Richland High School Class of 2021 graduate Caroline Dawson won third place in the Grove City College Elevator Pitch Competition for her business idea Safe and Tasty—a food truck free of major allergens that promises delicious food for everyone with no worry. She was one of 130 entries in the commercial enterprise category and one of the few first-year students to earn accolades.



HALEIGH ALBRECHT

Pine-Richland High School Class of 2021 graduate Haleigh Albrecht was named an All-American in Girls Lacrosse. Haleigh was one of seven athletes selected to earn this award from Western Pennsylvania. This title is awarded to lacrosse athletes all across the United States. A USA Lacrosse All-American is a player who demonstrates superior skills and techniques while also possessing exceptional game sense and knowledge. Recipients of this title are considered one of the best players in the United States. Haleigh now plays for Lafayette College.

2021

2017



JAKE PEDERSEN

2017 Pine-Richland High School graduate Jake Pedersen is touring with the national production of "Wicked." Jake plays the role of Boq, who is a resident of Munchkinland. Jake began acting in sixth grade when he was cast in "Les Miserables" at Eden Hall Upper Elementary School. While in high school, he starred as Joseph in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," among others. He also studied with the Pittsburgh CLO Academy of Musical Theater, Jeter Backyard Theater, and the Wexford Acting Studio. Jake credits the high school musical program, under the leadership of Ms. Sarah McGraw Krushinski, for helping him. He graduated from The Pennsylvania State University with a bachelor of fine arts degree in musical theater in 2021.



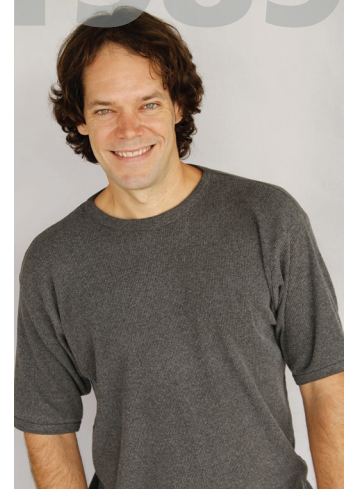
THOMAS HANULAK

2017 Pine-Richland High School graduate Thomas Hanulak was named First Team All-American by "USA Lacrosse Magazine." He was also named Second Team All-American by the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association. Thomas plays lacrosse for Seton Hill and led the team with 46 goals this season.

2017

1989 Richland High School graduate Sean Freeland produced and starred in a music comedy feature film entitled "Electric Jesus," released on November 2, 2021. Mr. Freeland portrays Kasper Kapelrud, a Norwegian heavy metal fan who is never up to any good. He has also starred in shows such as "Ozark," "The Walking Dead," "Nashville," and "Constantine," among others. The film is about a girl who runs off with a touring Christian hair metal band during the summer of 1986. The movie stars Brian Baumgartner (Kevin from "The Office") and Judd Nelson ("The Breakfast Club"), along with an ensemble cast of talented up-and-coming young actors. Chris White wrote and directed the film and his wife Emily Reach White served as executive producer. Daniel Smith of Danielson wrote all of the original music for the film with Chris White writing the lyrics.

1989



SEAN FREELAND

ANNUAL NOTICES

Introduction

Parents/guardians should take time to review the district's annual notices. These annual notices include information about regular education, special education, and gifted education services. These notices also provide details of the district's public outreach and awareness system as well as screening procedures. Pine-Richland School District (PRSD) provides a free and appropriate public education for all students including students requiring special education services. This includes provision of education and related aids, services, or accommodations, which are needed to afford each qualified student with a disability equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits from educational programs and extracurricular activities without discrimination, to the same extent as each student without a disability, consistent with federal and state laws and regulations.

Each year the district publishes these notices along with other pertinent information families need to know about school district operations and expectations at www.pinerichland.org. Families without internet access should contact PR Communications Director Erin Hasinger at **724-625-7773**, ext. **6202**.

Annual Notices

You can visit www.pinerichland.org/annualnotices for more about student services and more details on the following:

- > Armed Forces Recruiting
- > Attendance
- > Bullying/Cyberbullying
- > Child Abuse
- > Concussion Management
- > Diabetes Management
- > Education for Homeless Youth
- > Electronic Devices
- > Enrollment of Students
- > Federal Programs Title I
- > Food Allergy Management
- > Free and Reduced Lunch
(Visit www.compass.state.pa.us for info & application)
- > Gifted Education Services & Screening & Evaluation
- > Hazing
- > Health Examinations/Screenings
- > Homebound Instruction
- > Independent Educational Evaluations
- > Immunizations and Communicable Diseases
- > Interscholastic Athletics
- > Language Instruction Educational Program for English Learners
- > McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- > Medication
- > Meetings
- > Migrant Students
- > Notice of Recommended Assignment (NORA)
- > Notice of Recommended Educational Placement (NOREP)
- > Notice of Rights Regarding Education Records
- > Possession/Administration of Asthma Inhalers/Epinephrine Auto-Injectors
- > Protected Handicapped Students: Chapter 15
- > Review of Instructional Materials by Parents/Guardians and Students
- > Right to Know Act
- > School Wellness
- > Screening, Evaluation & Placement Procedures
- > Searches
- > Services for Preschool-Age Children with Disabilities
- > Services for School-Age Exceptional Children

- > Services for Students in Nonpublic Schools
- > Special Education
- > Special Notice Regarding Directory Information
- > Standards for Victims of Violent Crimes
- > Student Recruitment
- > Student Rights & Responsibilities
- > Student Services
- > Sudden Cardiac Arrest
- > Tobacco & Vaping Products
- > Video and Photographs*
- > Weapons

**Any parent/guardian wishing his or her student not to be photographed or videotaped for use on the website, social media or outside media outlets, should contact the PR Director of Communications no later than Sept. 15 via ehasinger@pinerichland.org.*

Attendance

The board requires that school age students enrolled in district schools attend school regularly, in accordance with state laws. The educational program offered by the district is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation in order for students to achieve academic standards and consistent educational progress. You can visit www.pinerichland.org/Page/1842 for more about **Policy 204**. The district revised this policy in 2021.

Discipline Code

The purpose of the PRSD Discipline Code is to present standard behavioral expectations based on school board policy for all students in the district. Parents are encouraged to become familiar with the PRSD Discipline Code and to review these documents with their children. Parents, guardians, and students are also referred to Board Policy 218 of the board policy manual for additional information regarding the discipline code, student conduct, and consequences of inappropriate or proscribed behaviors and conduct. In the event of any conflict between the terms of the discipline code and any board policy, the applicable board policy will control and take precedence. To review this document, which contains everything from attendance, unlawful harassment, bullying to bus expectations, visit www.pinerichland.org/disciplinecode.

Public Outreach & Awareness System (Child Find)

PRSD uses a public outreach awareness system to locate and identify children thought to be eligible for special education within the school district's jurisdiction. The district provides details of where to find out more information about the district's special education and early intervention programs through announcements on PR-TV (broadcasted throughout the community), in the annual report (distributed to residents, township buildings, and libraries) and via electronic communications (e-notices and website).

Discrimination and Harassment

The board declares it to be the policy of this district to provide an equal opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential through the programs and activities offered in the schools without discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability.

The district shall provide to all students, without discrimination, course offerings, counseling, assistance, employment, athletics, and extracurricular activities. The equitable distribution of district

resources is one means the district shall use to ensure all students receive a quality education. The district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and mental impairments that constitute handicaps and disabilities, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations.

Discrimination is inconsistent with the rights of students and the educational and programmatic goals of the district and is prohibited at or, in the course of, district-sponsored programs or activities, including transportation to or from school or school-sponsored activities.

The board also declares it to be the policy of this district to comply with federal law and regulations under Title IX prohibiting sexual harassment, which is a form of unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex. Such discrimination shall be referred to throughout this policy as Title IX sexual harassment. Inquiries regarding the application of Title IX to the district may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education, or both.

Annual notices are required for the PRSD website and related publications. Violations of this policy, including acts of retaliation as described in this policy, or knowingly providing false information, may result in disciplinary consequences under applicable Board policy and procedures.

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a report, and the investigation related to any form of discrimination or retaliation, including Title IX sexual harassment, shall be handled in accordance with applicable law, regulations, Policy 103 and related administrative regulations, and the district's legal and investigative obligations.

Complaint Process

The school board encourages students and parents/guardians who believe they have been subjected to discrimination or harassment to promptly report such incidents to designated employees in accordance with PR School Board Policy 103: Nondiscrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students and 103.1: Nondiscrimination - Qualified Students with Disabilities, which can be found on the PR Policy Manual, which is linked to the district's website. Complaints of discrimination or harassment shall be investigated promptly, and corrective action will be taken for substantiated allegations. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the district's legal and investigative obligations.

Students and third parties who believe they or others have been subject to discrimination, Title IX sexual harassment, and or retaliation for reporting of such should promptly report such incidents to the building principal, even if some elements of the related incident took place or originated away from school grounds, school activities or school conveyances. A person who is not an intended victim or target of discrimination but is adversely affected by the offensive conduct may also file a report of discrimination

The building principal shall promptly notify the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator of all reports of discrimination, Title IX sexual harassment or retaliation. The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant regarding the report to gather additional information as necessary and to discuss the availability of supportive measures. The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures.

Compliance Officer /Title IX Coordinator

Mr. Brian Glickman
Director of Human Resources
702 Warrendale Road
Gibsonia, PA 15044
724-625-7773 x6201

Section 504 Coordinator

Dr. Maura Paczan
Lead School Psychologist
Richland Elementary
3811 Bakerstown Road
Gibsonia, PA 15044
724-443-7230 x6503

Related policies include:

Policy 103

Nondiscrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students

Policy 103.1

Nondiscrimination: Qualified Students with Disabilities

Policy 104

Nondiscrimination in Employment Practices

Policy 247

Hazing

Policy 249

Bullying/Cyberbullying

Policy 824

Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries

AR 103.1

Nondiscrimination Qualified Students w/Disabilities Grievance Process

AR 103A

Nondiscrimination in School & Classroom Practice Complaint Procedures

AR 103B

Nondiscrimination in School & Classroom Practice - Gender & Gender Identity

AR 103C

Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures & Grievance Process

Visit www.pinerichland.org/nondiscrimination for more details on the above procedures and policies.

Surveillance Cameras & Audio Recordings

Under School Board **Policy 817 (Use of Video Surveillance Cameras)**, the district is permitted to use video surveillance in any school building, on school district property, or on any transportation vehicle being used by the district. The district does monitor district buildings, property, and transportation vehicles with surveillance cameras and individuals using any such facilities should expect that such surveillance may occur. In addition, the use of audio recordings is permitted on school district transportation vehicles (Policy #810.2). The district began recording audio on all equipped buses beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

Food Service & Student Wellness

For more information on the free and reduced meal program and online application go to, www.compass.state.pa.us

In 2018, the school board approved a revised **Policy #808 Food Services** as well as an administrative regulation, which addresses student meal balances and unpaid meal charge procedures.

Pine-Richland School District recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' physical well being, growth, development, and readiness to learn. The board is committed to

providing a school environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition education and promotion, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. In a healthy school environment, students will learn about and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices that can improve student achievement. In November of 2017, the board approved a revised **Policy 246 Student Wellness**.

Child Abuse (Policy 806)

The board requires district employees, independent contractors, and volunteers to comply with identification and reporting requirements for suspected child abuse, as well as the training requirement for recognition and reporting of child abuse to comply with the Child Protective Services Law and the School Code. To read the entire policy visit www.pinerichland.org/healthwellness and click on Child Abuse Policy.

Complaint Process (Policy 906)

The board welcomes inquiries, suggestions, and constructive criticism from parents/guardians, district residents, or community groups regarding the district's programs, personnel, operations, and facilities. The Board adopts this policy to establish procedures for seeking an appropriate resolution to complaints. To review more details about the complaint process, visit www.pinerichland.org/complaintprocess.

Confidentiality

In **Confidential Communications of Students Policy 207**, the board directs school personnel to comply with all federal and state laws, regulations, and Board policy concerning confidential communications of students. To review the guidelines of the policy, please visit www.pinerichland.org/confidential.

Public Attendance at Events (Policy 904)

The board welcomes the public at all activities and school-sponsored events, but, the Board also acknowledges its duty to maintain order and preserve school facilities during such events. To view Policy 904 visit www.pinerichland.org/community and click on Public Attendance at Events. The overview will contain more information about tobacco use, free admittance, and service animals.

Student Insurance

The board recognizes the need for insurance coverage for unforeseen accidents that may occur to students in the course of attendance at school or participation in the athletic and extracurricular programs of the schools. The board shall provide parents/guardians the opportunity to purchase insurance coverage, at no cost to the board, for injury resulting from accidents sustained by students in school programs, school activities, and while traveling between home and school other than on a school bus. The premium will be paid by the parents/guardians. The board shall maintain insurance coverage by a qualified insurer over and above the first responsibility of family coverage at no cost to the student for injury resulting from accidents sustained while participating in an interscholastic sports program, the cheerleader program, and band program. You can visit www.pinerichland.org/insurance for more information on the student insurance carrier.

Parents/guardians looking for help for health insurance can review more information about the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). CHIP

is there for your kids with quality, comprehensive health insurance coverage for routine doctor visits, prescriptions, dental, eye care, and much more. Visit www.pinerichland.org/insurance for more information.

Student Fundraising

Fundraising activities must comply with **School Board Policy 229 (Student Fundraising)** and must be requested in writing to the building principal or director of athletics on a district-approved form. The form must be reviewed and approved at the building/athletic office before any such fundraising can take place. No student instructional time may be used for fundraising. Visit www.pinerichland.org/booster for policy information and forms.

Student Survey

Policy 235.1 sets forth guidelines regarding the conduct of surveys and the collection and use of information for marketing purposes, consistent with law and regulations. To read the entire policy, please visit www.pinerichland.org/surveys.

Student Assistance Program (Policy 236)

The district reinforces the connection between emotional well-being and student success through a continuum of the school and community mental health supports. The Student Assistance Programs and School-Based Mental Health Services are available in all PR schools, K-12. Specifically, all staff members (administrators, teachers, counselors, nurses, coaches, bus drivers, custodial staff, food service personnel) are trained annually on risk factors and warning signs of suicide and appropriate responsible reporting procedures (Observe, Listen, Refer). The district and school suicide prevention coordinators continue to provide age-appropriate curriculum for students K-12 in the development of resiliency, understanding good emotional and physical health, protective factors, healthy coping and problem-solving skills, responsible reporting, and identifying trusted adults at school and in the home environments. Anyone can refer a student to SAP when they are concerned about someone's behavior. Students can go directly to the SAP team to ask for help. The SAP team contacts the parent for permission to proceed with the SAP process. Visit www.pinerichland.org/sap for more information.

Suicide Awareness, Prevention, and Response (Policy 819)

The board is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its students and the school community. Policy 819 supports the provision of a comprehensive district program designed to promote behavioral health and prevent suicide. The Board directs the district to provide education on youth suicide awareness and prevention; to establish methods of prevention, intervention, and response to a suicide attempt or suicide death; and to promote access to suicide awareness and prevention resources. You can view the Suicide Awareness, Prevention, and Response site via www.pinerichland.org/suicidepolicy.

Board Policies & Discipline Code

All school policies can be accessed at any time by visiting www.pinerichland.org/policies. Policies are updated in a cyclical manner. Families should review the policy manual and discipline code annually. You can find the discipline code by visiting www.pinerichland.org/disciplinecode.

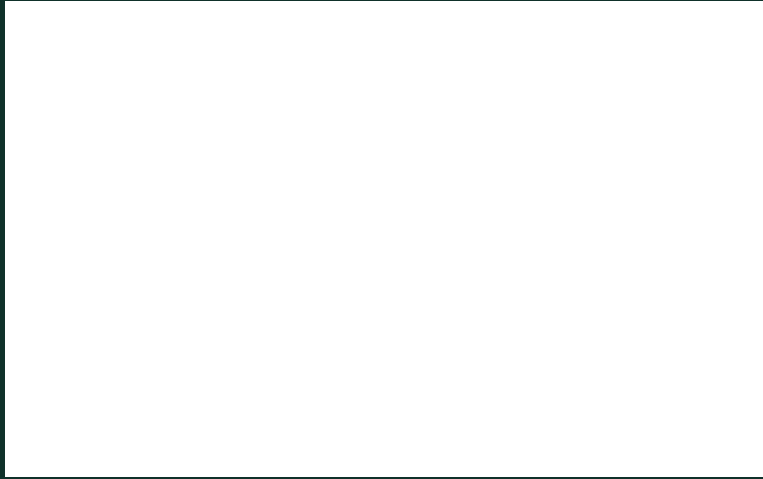


PINE-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

702 Warrendale Road

Gibsonia, PA 15044

Nonprofit Org.
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Pittsburgh, PA
Permit #4123



FAREWELL TO 2021-2022

MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2022 WAIT TO RECEIVE DIPLOMAS
DURING COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES ON JUNE 10, 2022.

