

PINE-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT



2018

KINDNESS ROCKS!

"It is so important to be nice to others so they are happy. If people are happy, they can help make others happy."

Nino Sciulli, Wexford Elementary Third Grader

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



DR. BRIAN R. MILLER

It is with PRIDE that we share the 2017-2018 Annual Report with our students, parents, staff, and community. The PRIDE acronym reflects the district values of personal growth, resiliency, innovation, diverse opportunities, and engagement. This report highlights each of those values and provides a summary of educational programming and the associated results. The report is a celebration of the past year and also provides insight into next steps.

In addition to student and staff success, Pine-Richland is celebrating 60 years of tradition! We have planned and are planning a variety of activities and events to celebrate the rich history of the district and the community. We will share "Spotlight on 60 Years" stories through our website and other communications this year. These stories will be shared at concerts, athletic events, and other meetings. We are also designing some interactive concepts for the whole family. See page 44.

As you have seen and heard, the strategic plan is used to drive action at Pine-Richland. Updates of this work are reflected in this report. As we enter the 2018 - 2019 school year, we will refine and implement our next strategic planning process for the years 2019 - 2023. This is an exciting time to reflect on the past, consider current strengths/opportunities, and determine priorities for the future.

Thank you in advance for reading this report and for your continued support of the Pine-Richland School District.

Respectfully,



Brian R. Miller, Ed.D. Superintendent

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COVER PHOTO: (L-R) WEXFORD THIRD-GRADER NINO SCIULLI, RICHLAND ELEMENTARY FIRST-GRADER CHYLAR CAMP, HANCE ELEMENTARY FIRST-GRADER KHADIJAH AHMED, AND HANCE THIRD-GRADER EDDIE CHEN ARE KNOWN FOR ALWAYS LIFTING OTHERS UP AND GOING OUT OF THEIR WAY TO SUPPORT THEIR PEERS. DISTRICT-WIDE, STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN VARIOUS PROJECTS TO HELP OTHERS. READ MORE ON PAGE 10.

[DID YOU KNOW THAT...?]

- US News & World Report ranked Pine-Richland High School second in Allegheny County and eleventh in the state in its "Top High School" rankings for 2018. In addition, the report ranks PRHS at 691 out of 20,500 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 out of 105 districts in the region in its 2018 list of rankings by examining scores from the Pennsylvania System of School Assessments and Keystone exams.
- Wexford Elementary School was named a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School, one of only two named in PA in 2018. This distinction acknowledges Wexford's commitment to sustainable practices and its leadership in facilities, health, and environmental education.
- The Pine-Richland High School World Languages Department earned the 2018-2019 Globe Award through the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA). To be recognized high schools must submit documented evidence that they meet the rigorous criteria established by PSMLA.

STRATEGIC PI

2015-2019



The Pine-Richland School District is entering the final year of the 2015-2019 strategic plan. The process to begin developing a new plan is already in the early stages. As we look back, significant progress was made this year. The following goals were accomplished:

- In-depth program review of math and business/computer science.
- Initial implementation of in-depth program review recommendations (science & health/physical education).
- Implementation of the new universal screening assessment (STAR 360) & cognitive abilities screener (CogAT 7).
- Strengthening technology integration, digital citizenship & cyber security.
- Designing and deploying a step-by-step guide for common local assessments.
- Introduction of a Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) Model for highly achieving & gifted students.
- Evaluation of the managed print/copy services contract.

Teaching & Learning

GOAL: In-depth program review of math and business/computer science

During the 2017-2018 school year, this short-term strategic goal continued with refinements to the process. The committee developed a set of recommendations based upon internal and external findings and established an implementation timeline with associated cost estimates.

Mathematics

The recommendations from the in-depth mathematics program review include: adopting and communicating the mathematics department philosophy and vision; integrating standards of math practice and conceptual understanding into curriculum along with instructional strategies including number talks and realworld applications; developing common assessments; providing professional development for staff; evaluating resources and implementing new K-5 mathematics program; developing partnership opportunities; and making additions/deletions and modifications of courses within the program of studies. The implementation of these recommendations will range from months to years depending on the complexity of the action steps.

Science, Health & Physical Education

A number of recommendations from the 2016-2017 science, health, and physical education program reviews were implemented during the 2017-2018 school year. A few examples include a significant adjustment to the sixth-grade program to ensure students received science instruction every day; the addition of advanced placement physics to the high school program of studies; the integration of "brain-breaks" into courses throughout the district; and revised health curriculum in grade eight and grade nine health. Implementation plans will continue into the 2018-2019 school year including writing health curriculum for grades K-7; and providing professional development to science teachers related to science and engineering practices including cross-cutting skills, and the integration of life, physical, earth/space, and engineering/technology concepts throughout the curriculum.

Business & Computer Science

Business and computer science recommendations include: adopting and communicating the business and computer science department philosophy and vision; integrating grade-span competencies into the K-12 curriculum; increasing learning opportunities related to computational thinking and problem solving; linking "soft skills" (writing, speaking, and collaborating) learning experiences into all courses; developing common assessments; developing partnership opportunities; embedding financial literacy concepts into the K-12 curriculum; adding/deleting and making modifications to courses within the program of studies; providing professional development for staff; and reviewing and evaluating resources. Similar to mathematics, the implementation of these recommendations will range from months to years depending on the complexity of the action steps.

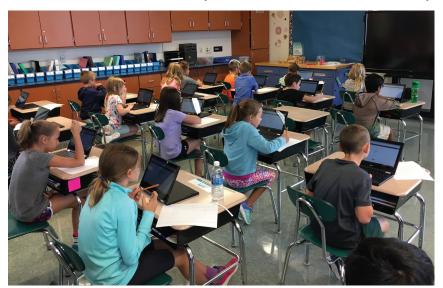


ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS WORKED ON THE BUSINESS/COMPUTER SCIENCE PROGRAM REVIEW DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR. (L-R) HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER VAL KLOSKY IS SHOWN HERE WITH RICHLAND ELEMENTARY TEACHER IAN MONTGOMERY.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-2019

Teaching & Learning

GOAL: Implement Universal Screener (STAR 360) & Aptitude Screener (CogAT 7)



STUDENTS AT EDEN HALL UPPER **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ARE SHOWN** HERE TAKING THE STAR 360 UNIVERSAL SCREENER.

The district implemented STAR 360, a computeradaptive universal screener for reading and math in grades K-7. Students took three benchmark assessments to identify enrichment or remediation needs, while also measuring student growth. Assessment data was reviewed, updating the

Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) decision tree data points to ensure instructional responsiveness. Letters communicating student performance results are sent home after each benchmark. Additionally, parent permission forms were sent at the conclusion of the 2017-2018 school year for students qualifying for remedial supports at the start of 2018-2019 to get their interventions in place as soon as possible.

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT 7) was implemented for the first time for students in second and fifth grades as a universal ability screener. The results provide valuable information to the educational team about a student's ability level in comparison to students in their grade nationally. This assessment is being utilized to identify students in need of enrichment and has been incorporated as one component of the gifted screening matrix. A new gifted matrix was rolled out for each grade level at the start of the second semester, reflecting this new data point as well as the STAR 360 assessments. This tool will help us to better identify student needs and to ensure that all students in need of differentiated instruction or services are identified for further assessment.

Teaching & Learning

GOAL: Strengthen Technology Integration (K-12), Device Deployment (K-6), Digital Citizenship & **Cyber Security**

The district continued to use the BrightBytes survey tool this past year to collect data on the adoption and use of technology. The technology department has also been refining internal and external system settings with a critical focus on the security hardening of both on-site and cloud-based systems. The department engaged teachers and other stakeholders in the selection of new devices across the K-12 grade spans, including interactive display boards at the secondary level and new touchscreen equipment in the computer labs at the primary buildings.

Teaching & Learning

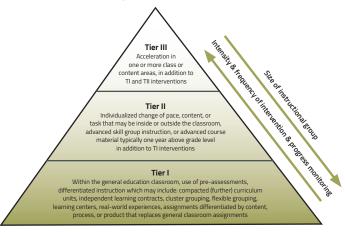
GOAL: Design & Deployment of Step-By-Step Guide for Developing Common Assessments

During the year, the K-12 district assessment team reconvened to focus specifically on the development of a step-by-step guide for designing and implementing high-quality common assessments. During professional development, teachers were organized by grade level/ department/vertical teams to develop assessments for a specific course. The assessment produced was then utilized by the relevant teachers. The results were reviewed by collaborative teams to gauge student learning and share best practices across teachers to enhance future results or to make recommendations for curricular changes. During the course of the 2018-2019 school year, additional common assessments will be developed and student results will be analyzed to continuously improve instruction, assessments, and curriculum.

Student Services & Programs

GOAL: Introduce MTSS Model for Highly Achieving & Gifted Students

The Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS) Model for Highly Achieving and Gifted Learners has been introduced to the staff members, expanding the model of responsiveness beyond that of students' remedial needs. The district developed four voiceover presentations that were shared with all teaching staff members with the goal of strengthening the understanding and full implementation of the model. The decision trees and resources to support learners are being updated at the K-8 grade level with plans to expand this process at the high school level for the 2018-2019 school year.



Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) Model for Highly Achieving & Gifted Learners

Finance & Operations

GOAL: Evaluate Managed Print/Copy Services

The agreement with Ricoh, the vendor who provides copier and print management services for the district, expires in December of 2018. A Request for Information (RFI) document was issued to vendors in February. Representatives had the opportunity earlier this spring to present to a review committee. Cost proposals are being gathered from three vendors for the committee to make a contract recommendation this fall. By reviewing Ricoh and other competitors, the district can ensure services are not only competitively priced but also reflect advanced technological features.

Food Service Whips Up Updates



AN ELEMENTARY STUDENT ENJOYS PASTA FOR LUNCH.

Sodexo, Pine-Richland School District's food service provider, is incorporating some new changes when it comes to meal account balances. The changes are the result of new requirements under the PA School Code. The district updated its Food Services Policy 808 to reflect requirements and include the following updates:

 Schools must provide a school meal to each student,

regardless of whether the student has money to pay for the meal or has a negative balance in his/her school meal account unless a student's parent/guardian has specifically provided notice to withhold a school meal. You can send a written request or complete an online form at https://goo.gl/GPBt6H.

- Meals served to students will not be removed or exchanged as a result of an overdrawn meal account or free/reduced status. The student will be permitted to have the items without discussion. The meal and/or items will be charged to the child's account.
- Students will not be reminded of their current balance at the register. Students may request their balance from the cashier. All balance notifications will be sent directly to a parent/guardian's email on file, or a letter will be mailed to a parent/guardian's address on file.
- In the event that a student's meal account is over a negative balance of \$50 and three email and/or letter attempts have been made to collect the debt without response, the district may use a third-party collection agency to complete the collection process.

2018-2019 PINE-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEAL PRICES

	PAID K-6	PAID 7-12	REDUCED K-12	FREE K-12
DAILY MEAL	\$2.35	\$2.60	\$.40	\$.00
RAM MEAL	\$3.00	\$3.25	\$.40	\$.00
BREAKFAST	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$.30	\$.00

Other Important Points

- Parents/guardians are responsible to monitor & keep student meal accounts funded at all times.
- A free online account can be set up at www.schoolcafe.com to monitor student balances & to request automatic low balance email reminders.
- If you are unable to pay for meals, please visit www.compass.state. **pa.us** for information regarding the free & reduced meal program.

NOTES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

District Welcomes New Employees in 2017-2018 & 2018-2019



MS. BOBCHAK
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/
RECEIVABLE SPECIALIST



MS. KUZILLA PRINCIPAL



MRS. GUSTAFSON PRINCIPAL



MS. SVILAR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



MR. ROBERT PUSKAS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



MRS. GIRAN PRINCIPAL

PINE-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Pine-Richland School District welcomed new employees during the 2017-2018 school year. At the district level, PR welcomed Nicole Bobchak as the accounts payable/accounts receivable specialist.

PINE-RICHLAND HIGH & PINE-RICHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOLS

At the high school, transition counselor Stephanie Svilar was named assistant principal along with Robert Puskas. Shawn McCartan, who joined PR from Grove City School District, was hired as the new transition counselor. PRHS also welcomed paraeducators Amy King, Alexia Meijer, Ami Moore, and Rachel Wilson; and custodians Justin Dilley, Robert Ehrman, Myka Lewis, Mark Undercuffler, and Shawn Undercuffler. The high school also welcomed new teachers Tracy Kuchnicki, Alicia Metzger, Darren Myzak, Tracey Settembrino; and nurse Shelly Elbel. At the middle school, teacher Teree Gayle joined the team along with paraeducators Patricia Jones, Rebekah Motta, Anne Serafini, and Karrie Wagner.

EDEN HALL UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

At Eden Hall Upper Elementary School, Paula Giran, who joins us from the Norwin School District, was named assistant principal. Secretary Melissa Kortyna and teachers Nicole Berezo, Andrew Whitt, and Kirsten Zimmerman joined the team along with playground and cafeteria monitors Loni Gillis and Emily Powell.

HANCE, RICHLAND & WEXFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Greta Kuzilla, who was serving as an assistant principal at Eden Hall Upper Elementary, was named principal of Hance Elementary School. She joins Amy Strayer who was hired as a paraeducator. Richland Elementary School welcomed playground and cafeteria monitor Jennifer St. Clair. At Wexford Elementary School, Kelly Gustafson, who was most recently serving in the Greensburg Salem School District, was named principal. Wexford also welcomed Joseph Yusko as custodian.



(L-R) TEACHER PATTI WHITE, NURSE MARY BETH CHIPS, PRINCIPAL JOHN MAYBERRY, PARAEDUCATOR EILEEN BRENNAN, AND PRHS PARAEDUCATOR SHERRY ESSER ARE SHOWN HERE WITH FOURTH-GRADER RYAN KATZFEY WHO WON THE 2018 FUTURE CHEF CHALLENGE AT EDEN HALL FOR HIS WINNING RECIPE OF ASPARAGUS WRAPPED BULGOGI OVER LEMON BUTTER RICE. IN HONOR OF RETIREE RECOGNITION, SODEXO AND RYAN TEAMED UP TO PROVIDE A RETIREE RECEPTION THAT INCLUDED HIS WINNING DISH.

District Honors Retirees

The district recognized valued staff members who retired in 2017-2018. Since the last annual report, the latest class of retirees has logged nearly 342 years of service. Dr. John Mayberry, Hance Elementary principal, logged 39 years – the most within the latest class of retirees. Retirees include:

Pine-Richland School District

Athletic Office Secretary Mary Seaman Custodian John Harford Maintenance Employee Ron Keibler

Pine-Richland High School

Paraeducator Sherry Esser Teacher Sue Baillie Teacher Diane Duryea Teacher Patti White

Pine-Richland Middle School

Guidance Counselor Marcie Thomas

Eden Hall Upper Elementary School

Guidance Secretary Margie Becker Teacher Janet Bock

Richland Elementary School

Paraeducator Terry Medwig

Hance Elementary School

Principal John Mayberry Paraeducator Eileen Brennan Teacher Megan Kruth

Wexford Elementary School

Nurse Mary Beth Chips

Teacher Named Champions of Learning Finalist



TEACHER CARIN LIBERATI SORTS OUT READING MATERIAL.

Hance Elementary Teacher Carin Liberati was named a Champions of Learning Awards Teaching finalist and was recognized at a special awards program on April 7, 2018, at the Pittsburgh Marriott Center. The annual event is a celebration for those in the region who have dedicated their time, talents and/or resources to create and expand learning opportunities for our youth.

Mrs. Liberati has been teaching in the Pine-Richland School District since 1991 and has had the privilege to teach at all of the primary schools in Pine-Richland including Hance Elementary School, where she is a reading specialist. In the past, she has taught kindergarten and first grade.

Mrs. Liberati is best known for her flair for using rhyming to teach reading strategies to children. She even incorporated rhyming in a book she wrote entitled "Flergin McGergin."

Teacher Earns Regional Advisor of the Year Award

Pine-Richland High School Teacher Brittany Adams was awarded the Regional Advisor of the Year award. She will now move on to the competition for the State Advisor of the Year Award. PRHS Principal Nancy Bowman surprised Mrs. Adams by helping present the award to her at the Pennsylvania Student Council Regional Meeting at Mt. Lebanon High School on March 1, 2018. PRHS student government representatives Lauren Juncal, Jessica Lott and Rhys Rocher were on hand to present on how to successfully plan a community outreach project at that meeting under the direction of Mrs. Adams and teachers Sarah Thearle, and Beth Sipe. Also attending were Pine-Richland Middle School students Grace Merlack, Tara Staresinic, Kesar Sampat and Sreyashi Mondal.



(L-R) TEACHER BETH SIPE, JUNIOR LAUREN JUNCAL, SENIOR RHYS ROCHER, TEACHER BRITTANY ADAMS, SENIOR JESSICA LOTT, AND PRINCIPAL NANCY BOWMAN CELEBRATE MRS. ADAMS' RECOGNITION.

Eden Hall Celebrates PA Distinguished Principal



Eden Hall Upper Elementary School Principal Steven Smith was honored as Pennsylvania's 2017 National Distinguished Principal. Mr. Smith received the award at the national conference Oct. 12-13, 2017 in Washington, D.C., and was recognized locally at the PA Principals Association State Conference in Cranberry Township on Oct. 15, 2017. Mr. Smith and his assistant principals Joseph Domagala and Greta Kuzilla were published in the September edition of the PA Administrator Educational Leadership magazine. The article focused on Eden Hall Upper Elementary School's approach to challenging students to grow academically, socially and behaviorally as well as empowering teachers to lead the way.

PRINCIPAL STEVEN SMITH ATTENDS A NATIONAL CONFERENCE, WHERE HE IS HONORED AS A 2017 PA NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL.

STAFF NOTES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



MR. MATT ROBERTS, TEACHER

Teacher Earns Outstanding Educator Award

Pine-Richland High School Teacher Matt Roberts was named a University of Chicago Outstanding Educator Award Winner. Noah Adams, a 2017 PRHS graduate, nominated him for the award.

"Our students frequently tell us that they were influenced by a particular high school educator - someone who challenged them intellectually for the first time, opened new vistas and realms of discovery, or channeled their private interests into productive paths for intellectual growth," said Vice President of Enrollment James Nondorf. "Contributions to the academic and personal development of young people rarely receive the recognition they deserve."

The College of the University of Chicago has asked entering students to help identify and commend outstanding high school educators for the past 30 years.

"Your commitment to improving the lives of all students, not just those who are mentally gifted, is noted by all of my peers, and is much appreciated by every member of the class of 2017," Noah Adams, who is a student at the University of Chicago, said in his nomination.

Noah also thanked Mr. Roberts for all he has done for him and his peers in Asian studies and AP psychology classes and for being a sponsor of the Global Relations Club.

PRHS World Languages Department Earns Globe Award

The Pine-Richland High School World Languages Department earned the 2018-2019 Globe Award through the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA). Judges recognized the PRHS foreign language program as one of a very elite group of exemplary foreign language programs. To participate, high schools must submit documented evidence that they meet the rigorous criteria established by PSMLA. PRHS teachers being recognized include Lil Glaser-Golin, Tahnee Hines, Kristin Hough, Sarah Hahn, Dawn Herbst, Tom Joyce, Lauren Poetain, and Anna Giuliano.



(BACK ROW: L-R) TEACHERS ANNA GIULIANO, LAUREN POETAIN, DAWN HERBST, SARAH HAHN, AND LIL GLASER-GOLIN, AND (FRONT ROW: L-R) KRISTIN HOUGH AND TAHNEE HINES (NOT SHOWN: TFACHER TOM IOYCE) EARNED A GLOBE AWARD.

Nominate a Teacher

Recognize a deserving teacher by visiting www.pinerichland.org/ teacherawards.

Nominations are being accepted now for the PA Teacher of the Year program.

Teacher Named 'Girls on Run' Coach of Year



Eden Hall Upper Elementary School Teacher Mary Anne Sanders was named 2017 Girls on the Run (GOTR) Western PA Coach of the Year. She was recognized for being a positive role model. She was honored on Oct. 20, 2017, at the GOTR Fundraising Bash. GOTR's mission is to create opportunities to build confidence, help students see their potential and develop teamwork through running. Mrs. Sanders was chosen from more than 50 initial nominees based on an essay by sixth-grader Celeste Stokan.



TEACHER MARY ANNE SANDERS

Green Ribbon

Wexford Elementary School was named a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School on May 16, 2018. This distinction acknowledges Wexford's commitment to sustainable practices and its leadership in facilities, health, and environmental education. Dr. Walsh said the initiative is a result of the collective effort of staff, students, and parents. The efforts do not rest at the building level alone. The district helped install LED lighting to help reduce kilowatt usage, posted no idling signs, and ensured propane buses were used within its fleet.

"This is extremely special," said Dr. Walsh. "The U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School acknowledges a collective effort of all of our stakeholders to make Wexford Elementary School a more sustainable and innovative building."

School representatives will be invited to participate in a ceremony on Sept. 19, 2018, in Washington, D.C.

"Recognition as a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School is the result of hard work by the entire Wexford community," said Dr. Brian Miller, Pine-Richland School District superintendent. "Sustainability requires individual action and a shared focus. We are proud of the students, staff, and parents. It is also important to recognize Mr. Gary Zang, Director of Facilities, for his leadership."



STAFF MEMBERS FROM WEXFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND THE DISTRICT OFFICES, WHO HELPED CONTRIBUTE TO WEXFORD'S DESIGNATION AS A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GREEN RIBBON SCHOOL, GATHER FOR A PICTURE.

In addition to Mr. Zang and Nurse Mary Beth Chips, appreciation goes to the Wexford Green Ribbon School Committee, under the direction of Dr. Walsh, which consisted of teachers Joanna Firmin and Tara Hillegas, who helped write the application and lead the garden initiative; Custodian Jerry Glevicky, who helped build raised garden beds; parent Kristi Wees, who led the Wexford School Wellness Committee; the WPTO, who supported the Healthy School initiatives and assemblies; and Michelle Buford who works with Healthy Schools PA and helped provide a framework, benchmarks and progress monitoring of the school's initiatives since 2015.

District Earns Communication Awards



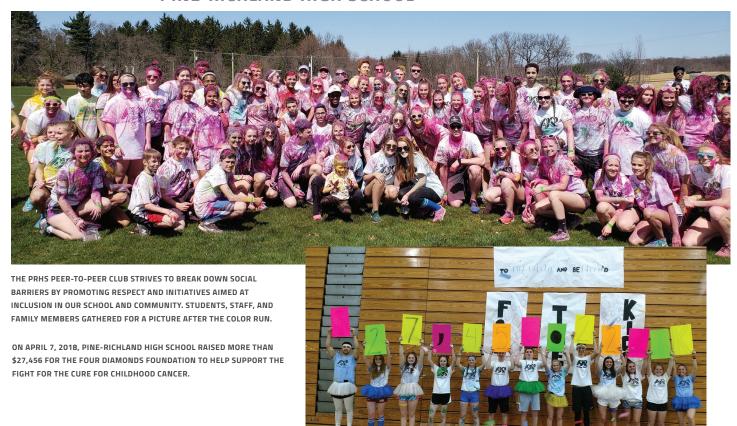
Pine-Richland School District received an Award of Honor in the 2018 Pennsylvania School Public Relations Association Excellence in Education Communications Contest for its website. PRSD was one of only two districts in Pennsylvania to garner an award in this category. PRSD also earned honorable mentions for the website and PRIDF video in the National School Public Relations Association Publication & Digital Media Awards contest.

KINDNESS ROCKS

Pine-Richland Students Care About World Around Them

Pine-Richland students, staff, and families care! They participate in a multitude of fundraisers, service projects, and initiatives aimed at helping others each year. This is just a snapshot of a few of those initiatives.

PINE-RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL



PINE-RICHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL



TEACHERS MEGAN KOHLER AND MARIA KLINGENBERG AND THEIR STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN A COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT, WHICH INVOLVED STUDENTS CREATING FLEECE BLANKETS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED THROUGH THE LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION. (L-R) SEVENTH-GRADERS MADELYN RICKARD, MOLLIE OWEN, GRACE HAZLETT, GABRIELLA SULESKI, HALLE FITZGERALD, AND GIANNA KOSS SHOWED OFF THEIR FINISHED PRODUCTS.



SOME FUNDRAISERS ARE AIMED AT RAISING MONEY FOR PARENT AND BOOSTER ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH IN TURN PROVIDE FUNDING FOR SCHOOL PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES. (FRONT ROW: L-R) **EIGHTH-GRADERS CAROLINE DUERKSEN AND ERIC SAUERS** (SECOND PLACE); AND SEVENTH-GRADERS SEAN DAVIS (TOP FUNDRAISER) AND KAYLA WILLOCHELL: AND EIGHTH-**GRADERS RILEY ALLMAN (THIRD** PLACE), (BACK-ROW: L-R) EMMA HOFFMAN, RYAN VOS, AND ABIGAIL LANE RAISED MORE THAN \$1,400 FOR THE PRMS PARENT STAFF ASSOCIATION.

EDEN HALL UPPER ELEMENTARY



FACULTY, STAFF, AND ADMINISTRATORS ARE GIFTING THEIR TIME TO STUDENTS DURING DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES. IN ONE PARTICULAR SESSION. (BACK ROW: L-R) EH ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL JOE DOMAGALA, PRINCIPAL STEVE SMITH & ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL GRETA KUZILLA PLAY BASKETBALL WITH (FRONT ROW: L-R) FOURTH GRADER ZACHARY MEEHLEIB, FIFTH GRADER ALEXANDER BYWALSKI, AND FOURTH GRADER JACKSON FERNSLER, OTHER STUDENTS HAD A CHANCE TO VISIT THE PR CENTRAL OFFICES TO PARTICIPATE IN A MOCK BOARD MEETING.

STUDENTS AT EDEN HALL UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARTICIPATED IN VARIOUS PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR TO HELP OTHERS. (L-R) FIFTH-GRADERS AVA SPAGNOLLI, OLIVIA MOLTER, LORELEI LEHMAN, ARIANNA LUNZ, ADDISON GRACE ROBB, PARKER MEHHORN, ALEXANDER VERSZYLA, AND ISABELLA FOLMER PARTICIPATED IN GRIEF AWARENESS ACTIVITIES BY SUPPORTING OTHERS WITH MESSAGES OF HOPE OR BY HONORING LOVED ONES BY WRITING THEIR NAMES ON BLUE BUTTERFLIES THAT WERE PLACED AROUND THE SCHOOL.



HANCE, RICHLAND & WEXFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS



RICHLAND ELEMENTARY FIRST-GRADERS LUCA AZZARA AND ANTONIO AIELLO PREPARE TO SHARE ROCKS WITH THE PR SCHOOL BOARD TO SHOW THEIR APPRECIATION. THE ROCKS HAVE MESSAGES OF INSPIRATION, RICHLAND AND HANCE CREATED ROCK GARDENS. WEXFORD KICKED OFF ITS **CAMPAIGN FOR 2018-2019.**

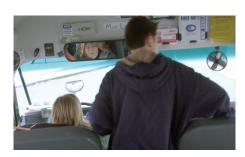


WEXFORD ELEMENTARY STUDENTS ARE SHOWN HERE HOLDING A CHECK FOR MORE THAN \$32.862 THAT THE SCHOOL RAISED THROUGH THE READ TO FEED/KDKA TURKEY FUND PROGRAM AND MATCHING FUNDS FROM PNC BANK, THE PROGRAM WAS COORDINATED BY PTO REPRESENTATIVES SHELLY VERSZYLA AND ELISE SCOTT. THIRD-GRADER CARSON VERSZYLA, SECOND-GRADER A.J. GUIFFRE, FIRST-GRADER NYEJAH RESSLER, THIRD-GRADER KEIRA SCOTT, AND KINDERGARTENER JULIA RIPPOLE HELPED PRESENT THE CHECK TO THE FOOD BANK.



MANY ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS PROVIDE DONATIONS TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT INCLUDING HANCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO. THE PTO ADDED TO THE PLAYGROUND. A SPECIAL DEDICATION WAS HOSTED, STUDENTS LIKE THIRD-GRADER OLIVIA MOORE HAD THE CHANCE TO CHECK OUT THE EQUIPMENT.

PINE-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT



THE DISTRICT CREATED A VIDEO ABOUT "PAYING IT FORWARD." THE VIDEO OPENS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL WITH THE HELP OF STUDENT TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION BUS DRIVER LISA HAGAN HELPING A STUDENT. THE VIDEO WILL BE SHARED THIS FALL.



THE PINE-RICHLAND EDUCATION **ASSOCIATION HOSTED SEVERAL INITIATIVES** INCLUDING A CLEANUP DAY ON APRIL 26. 2018 LIBRARIAN ANDREW HOVANEC AND TEACHER TRENT MATTESON, ALONG WITH TRENT'S DAUGHTER, ARE SHOWN HERE PICKING UP LITTER ALONG BAKERSTOWN ROAD NEAR RICHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. OTHER STAFF MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN THEMED DRESS UP DAYS ON FRIDAYS AND RAISED ABOUT \$2,600 TWO YEARS IN A ROW FOR THE UNITED FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM.



ACHIEVE MENT & GROWTH REPORT

District Strengthens Structure of Academic Achievement Recommendations

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROFILE SCORECARD

SCH00L	SCORE
Pine-Richland High	92
Pine-Richland Middle	70
Eden Hall Upper	75
Hance Elementary	99
Richland Elementary	91
Wexford Elementary	99

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROFILE SCALE

90-100: Significant evidence the district exceeded the standard for PA Academic Growth

80-89.9: Moderate evidence the district exceeded the standard for PA Academic Growth.

70-79.9: Evidence the district exceeded the standard for PA Academic Growth. 60-69.9: Moderate evidence the

district did not meet the standard for PA Academic Growth.

>60: Significant evidence the district did not meet the standard for PA Academic Growth

Pine-Richland School District is in its fifth year of publishing its Academic Achievement & Growth Report. The format and structure of this report has been refined each year to provide descriptive statistics and analyses across a series of standardized assessments. For the 2017 report, we have again included PSSA performance level comparisons with a Pennsylvania top decile benchmark. We also strengthened a focus on action by revising the structure of recommendations (i.e., key personnel, timeline, and major action steps). We know that measures of school effectiveness and learning are far more comprehensive than the information in the report.

Those measures include: classroom-based assessments; school climate; participation in extra- and co-curricular activities; graduation rates; attendance; discipline; postsecondary readiness; and more. In 2017-2018, PR focused on making its mission actionable, and has asked, "How do we focus on academic learning for every student every day?"

You can download the entire report at www.pinerichland.org/academicreport. This snapshot of the larger report will focus on:

- Understanding Resources & Tools
- Strengths & Opportunities
- Keystone Exams, PSSAs, ACT, AP & SAT Highlights

2017 Academic Performance Highlights

- Pine-Richland School Performance Profile scores indicate all six schools are showing significant or moderate evidence of performing well above the standards for PA Academic Growth.
- PSSA achievement levels are at or above the top decile in almost all cases.
- PVAAS District Value-Added report show significant evidence that students exceeded the standard for PA Academic Growth in math and English language arts.
- Results indicate stable performance on the SAT, ACT, and AP Exams.

Areas of action include:

- Continued examination of curriculum. assessment, and instruction.
- Identification of best practices to replicate strengths and improve weaknesses.
- In-depth program review conducted in science (2016-2017) and math (2017-2018).
- Specific emphasis on areas of relative need in assessment anchors for math and English & language arts.

Review Details About Tools Used in Assessing Schools

PA VALUE-ADDED ASSESSMENT SYSTEM PROVIDES **GROWTH DATA**

The Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System (PVAAS) is a statistical analysis of Pennsylvania state assessment data, which provides districts and schools with growth data to add to achievement data. This analysis provides educators with valuable information to ensure they are meeting the academic needs of groups of students. Educators are using PVAAS (growth data) to make datainformed instructional decisions to ensure the academic growth and achievement of all students.

ACHIEVEMENT & GROWTH DATA ARE DIFFERENT

• Achievement data measures a student's performance at one single point in time; is highly correlated with a student's demographics; compares student performance to state standards; and is critical to a student's post-secondary opportunities.

 Growth data measures a student's growth across time (i.e., across years), with little to no relationship with student demographics; compares performance of a student group to its own prior performance; is critical to ensuring future academic success; and allows districts to have a more comprehensive picture of their own effectiveness in raising student performance.

PA SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROFILE PROVIDES **SNAPSHOT OF STRENGTHS & OPPORTUNITIES**

In addition to the Pine-Richland Academic Report, parents can view the Pennsylvania School Performance Profile, which is a web-based resource for districts to communicate performance results to various constituencies and assist districts in aligning and focusing resources for continuous improvement. The 2017 Academic Achievement & Growth Report outlines the data elements that are used to develop the annual PA School Performance Profile. The PA School Performance Profile can be viewed at www.paschoolperformance.org.

District Reviews PSSAs & Keystone Exam Results

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessments (PSSAs) test students' 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 Grades 9).

Below is an overview of the PSSA and Keystone exams.



PINE-RICHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER KATE PFEIFER INTRODUCES TOPICS THAT WILL BE COVERED IN EIGHTH-GRADE ENGLISH TO STUDENT ABIGAIL DEMANN.



PRIMARY PSSA SCORES

Advanced & Proficient — 2017

Grade 3	PR Math 2017	PR Math 2016	PR ELA* 2017	PR ELA* 2016	
Hance	89%	90%	99%	90%	
Richland	84%	86%	85%	84%	
Wexford	93%	90%	97%	94%	
PA 2017	55%	54%	65%	61%	
PA Top Decile	81%	81%	88%	85%	

^{*}English Language Arts



2017 KEYSTONE EXAMS

First Time Test Takers Advanced & Proficient - Spring 2017

Subject	PR 2017	PA 2017
Algebra I	79%	52%
Literature	86%	65%
Biology	77%	57%



4	Addition of Foliable 1917					
	Grade	Subject	EH 2017	EH 2016	PA 2017	PA Top Decile
	4th	Math	76%	72%	47%	75%
		ELA*	90%	81%	61%	86%
		Science	94%	93%	75%	94%
	5th	Math	76%	76%	44%	71%
		ELA*	83%	90%	60%	84%
	6th	Math	79%	76%	40%	64%
		ELA*	89%	85%	64%	84%

^{*}English Language Arts



SECONDARY PSSA SCORES Advanced & Proficient — 2017

Grade	Subject	PRMS 2017	PRMS 2016	PA 2017	PA Top Decile
7th	Math	71%	67%	38%	57%
	ELA*	86%	90%	59%	78%
8th	Math	61%	54%	33%	52%
	ELA*	84%	82%	59%	78%
	Science	71%	79%	53%	72%

^{*}English Language Arts

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & GROWTH REPORT

Pine-Richland Outperforms State & Top Schools on Keystones & PSSAs

WHAT ARE QUINTILES?

Ouintiles are subsets of students. Students are placed in quintiles based on their performance relative to all students in the state. For example, the first quintile represents the growth made by students scoring in the lowest 20 percent. The fifth quintile represents the growth made by the highest scoring 20 percent of students.

(L-R) EDEN HALL FOURTH-GRADERS CLAIRE NUSSBAUM AND LUCY BISH LEARN MORE ABOUT **ELECTRICAL CONDUCTORS AND** INSULATORS DURING THE EDEN HALL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD. THIS IS JUST ONE OF THE MANY WAYS STUDENTS WORK ON PROBLEM **SOLVING AND CRITICAL THINKING**

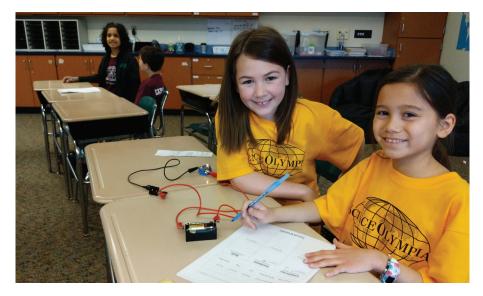
Some key findings highlighted in the 2017 Academic Achievement & Growth Report include:

- PR students outperformed the state average at all levels of the English language arts (ELA), math and the science PSSAs.
- PR students outperformed in the top decile benchmark (i.e., top 10% of schools in Pennsylvania) of combined advanced/proficient performance in all grades on the ELA, science & math PSSAs except for fifth-grade ELA and eighth-grade science.
- The percent of students at the advanced/proficient levels increased or remained stable across all grade levels when comparing 2015, 2016, and 2017 gradelevel achievement on the math PSSAs.
- The percentage of students at the advanced/ proficient levels increased in third and sixth grades, with fourth and eighth grades improving performance from 2016 to 2017, when comparing the 2015, 2016, and 2017 grade-level achievement on the ELA PSSAs.
- Students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) in fourth grade science nearly matched the state's performance of students with or without an IEP in the advanced/proficient category.

- A significant number of first-time test-takers at PR scored advanced/proficient on the Keystone algebra I exam (79%), biology exam (77%), and literature exam (86%) in comparison to first-time test-takers at the state level (algebra I: 52%, biology, 57%, and literature: 65%).
- The percentages of students scoring advanced/ proficient increases the earlier that students take the Keystone Algebra I and Biology exams with trend data indicating PR students in seventh grade or below have consistently scored at 100 percent proficiency.
- The 2017 PRSD Value-Added PVAAS data indicated that there is significant evidence that the district exceeded the standard for PA Academic Growth on the algebra I exam and moderate evidence on the literature and biology exams.
- The diagnostic quintile data shows evidence that every student quintile group exceeded growth standard on the algebra I and literature exams and in quintiles 1, 2 and 4 in biology but not in the third and fourth quintile.

District Focuses on Next Steps & Additional Opportunities for Success

The district outlines very detailed steps and opportunities for success. You can view all recommendations in the report at www.pinerichland. org/academicreport. Some include:



- Integrating STAR 360 ELA as a computer adapted assessment aligned with the PA standards and eligible content.
- Expanding the use of ELA curricular materials, including the intervention resources (e.g. Wonder Works).
- Developing instructional strategies for textdependent analysis in vertical teams to enhance students' skills as demonstrated through increased achievement and growth.
- Refining the processes for Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) for ELA to determine next steps for a systematic approach to enrichment and/or remediation.
- Continuing professional development on using new textbooks and curricular materials implemented this year for science.

Continued on page 15

College Board SAT Undergoes Changes

The College Board SAT underwent some changes in 2016. The new test consists of evidence-based reading and writing, a math, and an optional essay section. The test shifted back to a 1600-point scale with a separate score for the essay. In addition:

- College Board partnered with Khan Academy, so students will be able to access high-quality online test prep free of charge.
- Students will not be penalized for wrong answers, so students do not have to wonder if guessing is worth it.
- The essay section has been revamped. Students read a passage and explain how the author is persuading the audience rather than writing a personal essay.
- The reading section is more focused on evidence. Students are asked a question about the text, and then asked what evidence best supports that answer.
- Instead of testing students on words they most likely will never use, students have to define words based on how they will be used in context.
- Test takers will see more graphs and charts with an emphasis on questions that make students infer information from graphs and charts.
- The new SAT Reading section includes excerpts from U.S. founding documents like the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights, as well as other important works by authors including Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. Students will not have to be familiar with the documents, but they are included to make sure the SAT is more aligned to what students are actually learning in school.

SAT, ACT & AP Findings in 2017

- Pine-Richland students have outperformed Pennsylvania students and total test takers in all ACT subject areas for the past six years.
- PR composite, English, reading, math, and science mean scores for the ACT increased slightly for the class of 2017.
- PR students have outperformed state and total group comparisons in combined score performance and across both subtests (Evidence-based reading and writing & mathematics) on the SAT.
- The percentage of Pine-Richland students scoring a three or better on an AP exam has been higher than state or global comparisons for six of the past seven years.
- Student at PR averaged a four in two world language courses; German language and culture; and Spanish language and culture.



2017 ACT SCORECARD*

Pine-Richland results compared to national and state scores.				
2017	Math	Reading	English	Science
Pine-Richland	26	25	25	25
Pennsylvania	23	24	23	23
All Test Takers	21	21	20	21
*PRHS Class of 2018 results unavailable at production time.				



2017 SAT SCORECARD*

Pine-Richland results compared to national and state scores. 2017 Evidence-Based Math Reading & Writing			
Pine-Richland	591	594	
Pennsylvania	540	533	
All Test Takers	538	533	
*PRHS Class of 2018 results unavailable at production time.			



APTEST SCORECARD*

Pine-Richland	Total AP Students	Total AP Tests Taken	Tests Scored 3+	
2017	504	983	349	
2016	456	911	333	
2015	490	958	349	
2014	486	932	324	
*PRHS Class of 2018 results unavailable at production time.				

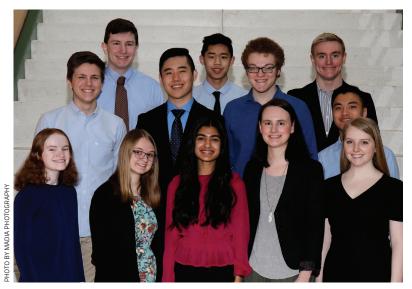
Data is compiled from the PA State Department of Education and from the 2017 PRSD Academic Achievement & Growth Report.

Continued from page 14

- Implementing the recommendations from the systematic, in-depth program review with the science department aimed at improving our educational program K-12.
- Analyzing and understanding data from the Classroom Diagnostic Tools (CDT) assessment.
- Implementing effectively the newly selected instructional resources (e.g. Amplify Science) in grades 6 through 8, which enhance inquiry-based learning, critical thinking, and transfer of skills to real-world situations and problems.
- Analyzing anchor performance on the Keystone exams to modify curriculum, instruction, and formative assessment in each content area.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Academic Excellence



SENIORS BEING NAMED NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS IN 2017-2018 INCLUDE (FRONT ROW: L-R) SENIORS CHELSEA CARVER, ALYSSA BIGLEY, MAHAK SETHI, CALLISTA CARNS, CHARLOTTE LAUBACHER, (MIDDLE ROW: L-R) TYLER VILIASTE, KEONWOO PARK, BENJAMIN MARTIN, BRUCE IIA. (BACK ROW: L-R) RYAN AHEARN, NATHAN CHANG, AND ALEXANDER STEGER.

Students Earn National Merit Status in 2017-2018

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation named five Pine-Richland High School seniors as finalists in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Corporation. They include Ryan Ahearn, Chelsea Carver, who earned a National Merit Scholarship from PricewaterhouseCoopers; Nathan Chang, Bruce Jia and Mahak Sethi. These five seniors, who were also named semifinalists in the 63rd annual program, were among the top 16,000 students across the US. These students are being recognized for their outstanding work on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

In addition, seven seniors were named commended scholars. They include Alyssa Bigley, Callista Carns, Charlotte Laubacher, Benjamin Martin, Keonwoo Park, Alexander Steger and Tyler Viljaste.

DISTRICT SCORECARD **NATIONAL MERIT & NUMBER OF ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARS STUDENTS** Class of 2018 12 Class of 2017 15 Class of 2016 19 Class of 2015 12 Class of 2014 14 Class of 2013 19

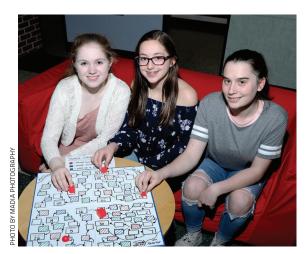
Several students earned perfect scores on college entrance exams. Senior Chelsea Carver earned perfect scores on the Reading and Writing ACT and Math SAT. Seniors Mark Farino and Benjamin Cohen earned perfect scores on the Math SAT. Senior Charlotte Laubacher earned perfect scores on the Reading and English ACT, and senior Kiera Regan earned a perfect score on the Writing SAT. Senior Elana Sanguigni earned a perfect Reading ACT Score.

2017 graduates Arushi Bandi, Richard Kown, Amanda Labuda, Rita Lakhssassi, Casey Mann, John Michel, Joseph Mullen, Kendall Pomerleau and Allison Staresinic were named National Advanced Placement Scholars. These students earned an average score of at least a four on all AP Exams taken and scores of four or higher on eight or more of the AP exams. In all in 2017, 155 students were named to the AP School Scholar roster by earning an average score of 3.86 on Advanced Placement exams. 2018 scholars will be announced later this year.

Junior Aiyana Chopra was selected to become a member of The National Society of High School Scholars Society. The society recognizes top scholars who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, scholarship, and community commitment.



(L-R) TERTIARY CHELSEA CARVER, SALUTATORIAN TYLER VILIASTE, AND VALEDICTORIAN MAHAK SETHI ADDRESS THE CLASS OF 2018 WITH INSPIRING SPEECHES AT GRADUATION.



EIGHTH-GRADERS PATRICIA HOLMES, SOPHIA MALARA, AND NATALIE STUDT DEMONSTRATE HOW THEIR BOARD GAME WORKS

Pine-Richland Middle School eighth-graders Natalie Studt, Sophia Malara, and Patricia Holmes earned Gold Level status in the National MATHCOUNTS program under the direction of Teacher Patricia Cekella. The students created a "Race through the Year" game board. It includes a custom made game board, questions, and answers, as well as directions, and playing pieces for up to nine players. The game takes the player through each quarter of the school year in which players are asked geometry questions along the way.



TEAM MEMBERS CELEBRATE FIRST PLACE IN THE BATTLE OF THE BOOKS AND INCLUDE (L-R) FOURTH-GRADERS GAVIN GILARDI, CALLAN DEGRANDS, REID CARTER, CARLTON FOGLIANI, AND TYLER HAYS.

Eden Hall Upper Elementary School hosted the 2018 Battle of the Books. The competition, which was held on April 26, 2018, challenges the teams to read 10 books, which represent different genres. The winning team was named "High Fives & Fist Bumps" and was managed by parent Rebecca Carter. Team members included fourth-graders Reid Carter, Carlton Fogliani, Tyler Hays, Gavin Gilardi, and Callan DeGrands with the support of coordinators Beth Shenefiel and Christina Strine.

The PRMS Team placed second at the 32nd Annual Western Regional Odyssey of the Mind Competition and advanced to the PA State Odyssey of the Mind Finals on April 7, 2018, in Swiftwater, PA. Team members earned second place at the regional competition on March 3, 2018, at Moon Area High School and included eighth-graders Joshua Katruska, Nicholas Labuda, Colby Ohlund, Colin Ohlund, Amish Sethi, and David Walker under the direction of Coach Laura Ohlund. A second team made up of eighth and seventh-graders Breanna Franchak, Natalie McLean, Ava McNaughton, Rachel Muth, Julia Phillips, and Sydney Pipeling earned third place under the direction of Coach Denise Franchak. Eden Hall Upper Elementary School competed at regionals and state finals by earning first place. Competing students included sixth-graders Gabrielle Boudreau, Nicolai Ezolt, Damian Ivanov, Ethan Priore, Avyukta Nagrath, Ryan E. Scott, and Mia Tucciarone. GATE Teacher Kathy Deal oversees participation.



SIXTH-GRADERS (L-R) ETHAN PRIORE, NICOLAI EZOLT, DAMIAN IVANOV, RYAN E. SCOTT, AVYUKTA NAGRATH, MIA TUCCIARONE, AND GABRIELLE BOUDREAU QUALIFY FOR THE PA STATE ODYSSEY OF THE MIND FINALS.



EIGHTH-GRADERS (L-R) COLIN OHLUND, DAVID WALKER, COLBY OHLUND, AMISH SETHI, JOSHUA KATRUSKA, AND NICHOLAS LABUDA QUALIFY FOR THE PA STATE ODYSSEY OF THE MIND COMPETITION.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Sophomores Erin Ahearn, Gina Sabol and Kylie Zirckel and ninth-grader Tanya Babbar earned silver medals for work completed on the 2018 National French Exam, along with sophomore Nicholas Rovera who earned an honorable mention under the direction of Teacher Dawn Herbst.

Sophomore Justin Waltrip earned a bronze medal for work on the 2018 National Spanish Exam, along with sophomores Abigail Giesecke and Ashley Zaldivar, and eighth-grader Miles Brown who earned silver medals; and sophomores Eliot Duncan, Gyan Kanhai, Callie Laubacher, Lillian Stokes and Olivia Kost, who earned honorable mentions under the direction of Teacher Kristin Hough.

(L-R) SOPHOMORE ERIN AHEARN, NINTH-GRADER TANYA BABBAR, KYLIE ZIRCKEL AND GINA SABOL SHOW OFF THEIR SILVER MEDALS THEY EARNED BY WORK ON THE 2018 NATIONAL FRENCH EXAM.





PRHS moved on to the second round of the KDKA Hometown High-Q trivia competition on April 7, 2018. The team earned second. Team members included senior Alexander Steger, junior Amalendu Bokil, and sophomores Daniel Krill and Justin Waltrip.

(L-R) HOMETOWN HIGH-Q MEMBERS AMALENDU BOKIL, ALEXANDER STEGER AND DANIEL KRILL COMPETE IN THE SECOND ROUND OF THE TRIVIA COMPETITION. THEY ARE SHOWN HERE WITH COLLEGE & CAREER COUNSELOR JEAN WHALEN, WHO FILLED IN FOR SPONSOR BRITTANY ΔηΔΜς

Arts & Music

SOME OF THE STUDENTS WHO **EARNED PARTICIPATION IN AREA EXHIBITS AND IN THE SCHOLASTIC** ART COMPETITION SHARE SOME OF THEIR WORK.





(L-R) SENIOR CHELSEA CARVER, NINTH-GRADER TANYA BABBAR. AND JUNIOR RILEY MOORE EARNED SILVER KEYS IN THE WRITING PORTION OF THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING COMPETITION.

Several PRHS students earned top awards in the Scholastic Art & Writing Competition. Senior Madison Malik earned a gold key for her portfolio of artwork; and seniors Lydia Becker, Sydney Goldberg, Madison Malik, Jack Martin, and Kenzie Wolfe earned gold key awards and qualified for the national competition. Jack earned a total of three gold key awards, while Kenzie earned six gold key awards. Additionally, PRHS earned 24 silver awards and 22 honorable mentions. In the writing division, ninth-grader Tanya Babbar and junior Riley Moore earned silver awards in the poetry category, and senior Chelsea Carver earned a silver award in the Journalism category. Riley earned an honorable mention in the short story category and Natalie Christel in the personal essay/memoir category. They worked under the direction of art teachers Mary Anne Andreassi, Ramon Riley, and Vince Thearle.

Senior Isabella Cicco earned a spot in the student K-12 ceramic exhibit at the Indian Community Center in Carnegie, Pa., March 14-17, 2018, during the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts Conference under the direction of Teacher Mary Anne Andreassi, who participated in the conference.

Some of Pine-Richland's finest art students had their works of art on display in the world famous Andy Warhol Museum in the "Youth Invasion 2018: Stay Woke" Art Exhibition March 16-23, 2018. They included seniors Ryan Cole, Kelsey Gruber, and Jack Martin; juniors Thomas Jewart, Katie Larrimer, and Kenzie Wolfe under the direction of Teacher Ramon Riley.

Senior Troy Rowlands was selected to participate in the National Association for Music Education All-National Honors Ensembles Nov. 25-29, 2017, under the direction of Band Director Brian Scott. Troy qualified through audition and participation in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Band. He is only the second PR student in 20 years to be recognized on a national level.



SENIOR TROY ROWLANDS PARTICIPATES IN A NATIONAL ENSEMBLE.



Eighth-grader Erina Fortune earned the 2018 Duquesne University's Young Artist National Solo Award and was featured during the Winner's Recital on March 2, 2018, at Duquesne University. She also earned third place in the 2018 International Online Great Composers Competition.

EIGHTH-GRADER ERINA FORTUNE **EARNS RECOGNITION IN** NATIONAL MUSIC PROGRAMS.



The Pine-Richland Marching Band will be performing at Kennywood Day on August 17, 2018. Some members participated in the American Legion at the Memorial Day program, where Director Brian Scott was presented with the American Legion Music Award. The band continues to attract a lot of participants. This year the marching band was made up of 243 students.

THE PRHS MARCHING BAND CONTINUES TO GROW IN POPULARITY.

EIGHTH-GRADERS NORA RUSSELL. KATIE PARK, AND NATHAN SKRIPAC, SEVENTH-GRADER RYAN A. DANIELS, NINTH-GRADER **CARLEIGH ZIENCIK, AND TEACHER** KATELYN PIROTH PARTICIPATE IN THE PMEA DISTRICT JUNIOR HIGH ORCHESTRA.

PHOTO COURTESY L.A. PHOTOS



The PRMS choirs competed in the 2018 Music in the Parks Festival in Sandusky, Ohio, on May 11, 2018, under the direction of teachers Heather Flora and Lee Rickard. The seventh-grade, eighth-grade choirs, and the PRMS Women's Ensemble all received superior ratings by earning first place with the women's ensemble earning "Best Overall Middle School Choir" for receiving the highest score of any middle school choir in the competition. Eighth-grader Gabriella Pasqualucci was given the "Outstanding Middle School Vocalist Award" for a solo she performed during the competition.

Senior Nathan Chang was selected for the PMEA All-State Orchestra; senior Troy Rowlands for the PMEA All-State Band; and sophomore Olivia McGeary for the PMEA All-State Choir on April 21, 2018, in Lancaster, Pa., under the direction of Director Lee Rickard. Senior Shannon Donahoe performed at the PMEA Future Music Educators Honors Symposium.

Seniors Morgan Engle, Sophia Hudock and Gabriel Schoone; and juniors Bryan Bails and Seamus Daniello; and sophomore Olivia McGeary participated in the PMEA District Chorus Program at East Allegheny Jan. 24-26, 2018. Seamus and Olivia also participated in the PMEA Regional Choir concert.

Seniors Shannon Donahoe, Troy Rowlands, Jack Shannon, and Daniel Parker; and junior Christopher Mustovic participated in the PMEA District Band at Upper St. Clair on Jan. 11-12, 2018.

(L-R) SENIOR NATHAN CHANG, SOPHOMORE OLIVIA MCGEARY, SENIORS SHANNON DONAHOE, AND IACK SHANNON PERFORMED AT PMFA PROGRAMS.







EDEN HALL STUDENTS HOST AND PERFORM AT THE PMEA DISTRICT 1 ELEMENTARY SINGFEST EAST/WEST.

Eden Hall hosted the 2018 PMEA District 1 Elementary SingFest East/West on March 23, 2018. This annual event included more than 150 students from more than 30 school districts in PMEA District 1 region of Allegheny, Fayette, Greene, Washington, and Westmoreland counties under the direction of host directors Michael Timcheck and Kimberly Baney. Students, who were selected to perform include Olivia Ball, Colin Daniello, Tyler Kopp, Michael Lattari, Madeleine Lemoncelli, Mia Maiola, Autumn Pfaeffle, Owen Russell, Caleigh Scherrah, Ryan E. Scott, Rachel Smith, Mia Tucciarone, Sidney Willig, Cole Wilson, and Danielle Wolverton.



Senior drum major Jack Shannon earned a spot to perform at the Pittsburgh Youth Philharmonic Orchestra at PRHS on March 25, 2018.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Career & **Technical**



NEARLY TWO DOZEN STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR THE FBLA STATE COMPETITION.

Sophomore Sarah Hanlon attended and competed at the National Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Leadership Conference in Baltimore, Md. She competed in the spreadsheet application category. At the state competition, she placed seventh along with senior Jack Kremer; and juniors Jonathan Stasko and Nicholas Casario who placed third; seniors Keonwoo Park and Benjamin Cohen who placed fifth; sophomore Seamus Regan, who placed sixth; junior Kaitlyn Horrell who

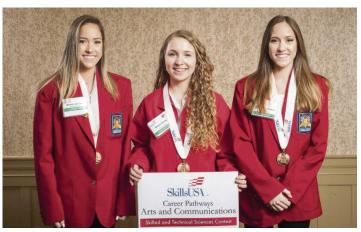
placed ninth; and junior Tresa Coon who placed 10th under the leadership of Teacher Laura Blaze. Seniors Alexandra Battaglia, Jeffrey Elms, Jack Harrison, Holly Holmes, Kiersten Maxwell, Logan Pachavis, Seamus Regan, Nicholas Roethlein, Aman Sohail; and juniors Michael Dorundo, Radha Patel, Sherin Puthenpurayil, Mahika Sampat, and Vincent Tierno; and sophomore Steffi Puthenpurayil placed in the top three at the regional level.



FOURTH-GRADER RYAN KATZFEY PREPS HIS WINNING RECIPE AS EDEN HALL UPPER **ELEMENTARY COOK LISA LANG ASSISTS**

Fourth-grader Ryan Katzfey was named a top 40 regional finalist after placing first in the Eden Hall Upper Elementary School's 2018 Future Chef Challenge hosted by Sodexo, the district's food service provider. He impressed judges with his healthy Asian fusion dish that was prepared with asparagus wrapped bulgogi over lemon butter rice. Visit www.pinerichland.org/extras to see the top school winners.

In the 2018 Pennsylvania SkillsUSA Championships junior Victoria Compernolle earned first place in Early Childhood Education, and senior Austin Will placed first in Extemporaneous Speaking at the SkillsUSA District 8 Championships on Jan. 15, 2018. Seniors Savannah and Sierra Luhrman earned gold at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference June 25-29, 2018, in the career pathways and communications category. Other competitors earning awards at the SkillsUSA District 8 competition include senior Sarah Krahnke, who earned second in the quiz bowl category; and senior Jakob Hughes earned second in web design. Senior Trevor Valentic placed third in electrical construction wiring.



(FAR LEFT & FAR RIGHT) SENIORS SAVANNAH AND SIERRA LUHRMAN PLACE FIRST AT THE SKILLSUSA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, ALONG WITH FELLOW BEATTIE CLASSMATE GRACE CIBULA (CENTER) FROM NORTH ALLEGHENY.

IUNIORS VICTORIA COMPERNOLLE & SAMANTHA SHIDELER EARN GOLD MEDALS AFTER EARNING FIRST PLACE FOR THEIR CHAPTER SERVICE PROJECT DISPLAY.

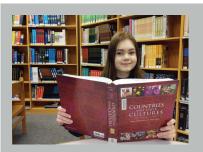
Juniors Victoria Compernolle and Samantha Shideler earned silver medals nationally in Atlanta after they earned first place and gold medals for their chapter service project display at the Family, Career & Community Leaders of America Competition through A.W. Beattie Career Center. Sophomore Annalee Demitras earned a bronze medal in baking, and senior Joni Ballanca earned a bronze medal in culinary arts. Sophomore Josh Kelly earned a silver medal for menu planning.

Debate & Speech



(FRONT ROW: L-R) SENIORS CHELSEA CARVER, MAHAK SETHI, AND AISLINN TOBIN, AND (BACK ROW: L-R) JUNIOR NATHAN NGUYEN, AND SENIORS TYLER VILIASTE AND BENJAMIN MARTIN TAKE TOP HONOR AT THE STATE COMPETITION FOR FORENSICS.

The PRHS Forensics Team members placed in the top 10 in the state at the state tournament held at Bloomsburg University on March 17, 2018, under the direction of Teacher Jeff Byko. Seniors Molly McCarthy and Aislinn Tobin took the second-place award in news broadcasting. Seniors Tyler Viljaste and Mahak Sethi tied for third place in public forum debate. Placing in the top 10 in their events were senior Benjamin Martin in impromptu speaking and junior Nathan Nguyen and senior Chelsea Carver in informative speaking. Mahak and Tyler placed 16th in the nation at the Catholic Forensics League National Tournament held in Washington, D.C., on May 29, 2018. They competed in the public forum debate category and placed 16th out of the nearly 230 teams.



SENIOR KRISTIN ATLADOTTIR, A NATIVE OF ICELAND. IS THE 100TH AFS STUDENT TO ATTEND THE HIGH SCHOOL.

Senior Kristin Atladottir, a native of Iceland, is not only marking a milestone as a senior American Field Service (AFS) student in the US, she is the 100th AFS student to participate in the program at the high school since 1962. Her host family includes Eden Hall Upper Elementary Teacher Robert Hunt, his wife Barbara, and their daughter Brianna, who is a sophomore.



PRHS is being named to the "Top 16" teams in the 17th annual International Public Policy Forum under the direction of Teacher Jeff Byko. Initially, teams were whittled down to the "Top 64" teams, then the "Top 32" and to the final "Sweet 16." This is the only contest that gives high school students around the world the opportunity to engage in debate via writing and speech on issues of public policy. The PRHS team included seniors Mahak Sethi, Molly McCarthy, and Tyler Viljaste. PRHS is the only school in Pennsylvania that moved on in the competition. For 2017-2018, teams debated the topic: "Resolved: International climate accords for greenhouse gas emissions should adopt binding enforcement mechanisms.",

(L-R) MOLLY MCCARTHY, MAHAK SETHI, & TYLER VILJASTE COMPETE IN THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC POLICY FORUM.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

History & Geography

Eighth-graders Patricia Holmes and Maggie Owen earned third place in the National History Day Regional Competition for a group performance. Eighth-graders Nicholas Labuda and Justin Puthenpurayil earned second place for their group website; and eighth-graders Olivia Campbell, Kaetlyn McCracken, and Elena Carlson earned third place for their group website. Eighth-graders Geneva Doughty and Erina Fortune earned third place for their documentary. Ninthgraders Michael Allessi, Victor Williams, and Joshua Rembe earned third place for their group performance. Junior Aiyana Chopra earned third place for their documentary. Students earned awards under the direction of PRHS Teacher Brittany Adams and middle school teachers Joe Bailey and Eric Brown.



(L-R) SEVENTH-GRADER BARON GRAHAM AND EIGHTH-GRADERS JOSHUA KATARUSKA AND LAURAL KRILL EARN TOP AWARDS AT THE PRMS GEOGRAPHY BEE.

Eighth-grader Joshua Katruska earned first place at the annual PRMS Geography Bee on Nov. 30, 2017. Seventh-grader Baron Graham placed second, and eighth-grader Laura Krill took third place. The competition was coordinated by PRMS Teacher Kathy Deal and PRMS Librarian Kathy Batykefer. In all, 49 PRMS students participated in the school-wide competition. Visit www.pinerichland.org/extras to see the top 10 winners.

Leadership



SENIOR RHYS ROCHER, WHO WAS NAMED AN ELITE 100 TOP FINALIST IN THE OUTSTANDING YOUTH CITIZENS PROGRAM, IS SHOWN HERE WITH (L-R) TEACHER BRITTANY ADAMS; JUNIORS GRACE CRANKOVIC AND CAROLINE SWAN; AND SENIOR CRAIG KUNKEL (FAR RIGHT).

Senior Rhys Rocher was chosen as one of the 2018 Elite 100 Top Finalist for the Trib Outstanding Youth Citizens program and recognized at a special awards program on April 18, 2018. He was honored at the banquet with a gold medal for some of his achievements including hosting the Amazing Bike Camp that helped children with special needs learn to ride a bike without training wheels. PRHS seniors GillianGrace Brachocki, Chelsea Carver, and Blake Todorowski were named nominees.

Seniors Rhys Rocher and Chelsea Carver earned the Presidents Volunteer Service Award.

Junior and senior class officers of the PRHS Student Government Executive Board attended the Pennsylvania Association of Student Council for the Principals Advisors Leadership Conference on Oct. 3, 2017.

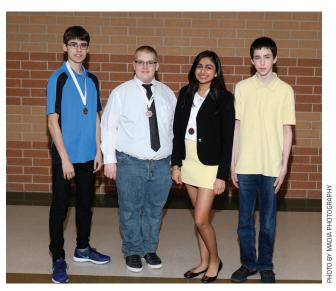


CADET JARED SLACK WAS CHOSEN TO ATTEND A FLIGHT ACADEMY.

PRHS Air Force Junior ROTC cadet Jared Slack was selected to attend a flight academy this summer. Jared is one of only 120 cadets out of 700 applicants around the world to receive the scholarship.



(SEATED: L-R) EIGHTH-GRADERS GENEVA DOUGHTY, ERINA FORTUNE, OLIVIA CAMPBELL, ELENA CALSON, PATRICIA HOLMES, MAGGIE OWEN, (STANDING: L-R) JUSTIN PUTHENPURAYIL, KATELYN MCCRACKEN, AND NICHOLAS LABUDA EARN AWARDS IN THE NATIONAL HISTORY DAY REGIONAL



(L-R) NINTH-GRADERS VICTOR WILLIAMS AND MICHAEL ALLESSI; IUNIOR AIYANA CHOPRA: AND NINTH-GRADER IOSHUA REMBE EARNED THIRD PLACE IN THE NATIONAL HISTORY DAY COMPETITION.



PRHS AF-JROTC CADETS **HOST A COMPETITION MEET** AT PRHS AND PARTICIPATE IN MANY DRILLS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

PRHS AF-JROTC cadets placed third in JV Armed Drill led by Cadet Gavin Bierema and finished eighth overall among 15 schools at a competition at Tecumseh High School in New Carlisle, Ohio, in the largest and most competitive meet. Chief Michael Gasparetto and Major Michael Morrison said that the event is one step short of a national competition. Cadets also visited Wright Patterson Air Force Base on March 10, 2018. You can see all the top awards the cadets earned by visiting www.pinerichland.org/extras including second overall at Norwin and McDowell high schools and third overall at PRHS. Cadets were on hand at many community events including the annual American Legion Memorial Day program hosted in Richland Township. Organizers

presented Major Morrison and Chief Gasparetto with the American Legion Meritorious Service Medal.

Senior Ryan Ahearn earned Eagle Scout status and was honored April 21, 2018. To earn the award, he had to complete many requirements, which included helping install a community weather station in Treesdale. Seniors Seth Kornbau and Andrew Fernie individually completed much-needed projects in North Park, which included constructing nesting boxes for birds. In addition, Andrew replaced a trailhead barrier to prevent unwanted traffic into the park. 2017 PRHS graduate Jason Steranko restored a field habitat at Pigeon Field located in North Park. The trio was honored on Jan. 13, 2018 with the Eagle Scout ranking.



PRHS earned six Gene Kelly Award Nominations for its performance of Oklahoma!, under the direction of Director Sarah McGraw Krushinski and Producer Kathy Morrissey. The cast included 60 students, and the show featured an all-student orchestra and stage crew. The nominations included Best Musical (Budget Category 3), Best Actor (Tyler Hepler, who portrayed Will Parker), Best All-Student Orchestra, Best Ensemble, Best Execution of Choreography, and Best Execution of Music Direction.



PRMS STUDENTS PERFORM ONCE UPON A MATTRESS. WHICH FEATURED 66 COSTUMED CHARACTERS AND 100 CREW MEMBERS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DIRECTOR NOREEN DANIELLO AND PRODUCER MARY LYNN DUGAN.





PRHS EARNS SEVERAL GENE KELLY AWARD NOMINATIONS THROUGH ITS LIVELY PERFORMANCE OF OKLAHOMA! THE PRHS MUSICAL PRODUCTION OF OKLAHOMA! SHOWCASED STUDENT TALENT IN MUSIC, DRAMA, AND COMEDY. STUDENTS DID SEVERAL SCENES THAT INVOLVED CHOREOGRAPHED DANCE NUMBERS.



NINTH-GRADER ABBY BRADLEY IS RANKED 11TH IN THE WORLD IN IRISH DANCING.

Ninth-grader Abby Bradley competed in the World Championship of Irish Dancing, which took place in Glasgow, Scotland in March. She is now ranked 11th in the world having competed against nearly 200 qualified competitors. Abby is a fourtime world medalist and is automatically qualified to compete at next year's world championships.

Senior foreign exchange student Kristin Atladottir, a native of Iceland, participated in the annual Pittsburgh Shakespeare and Monologue contest and was invited to the Showcase of Champions on Feb. 19, 2018.

Junior Tessa Cory earned first place in the Prime Stage Theatre competition. She earned a scholarship to the theater's summer program for her award-winning play she wrote.

The PRHS Dance Team qualified for the National Dance Championship in Orlando, Fla., which will be held Feb. 1-3, 2019, under the direction of Sponsor Kathy Deal. The team earned the highest honor of a superior rating and blue ribbon for their home-team dance routine choreographed by captains Emily Bober and Hannah Roach at the Universal Dance Association (UDA) Summer Camp, which is attended by teams from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia,



and Washington, D.C. The team received the Super Spirit Stick award for their energy and enthusiasm. They also earned the highest rating of superior on the performance team routine taught at camp and the Team Full Out Award, which also qualified them for the championships. Emily and Hannah also received the UDA Varsity Spirit All-American Award for Excellence in the All-American Dance Competition and the Pin-It-Forward award presented by another dancer or instructor. They are invited to perform in the New Year's Day Parade in Rome, Italy. All dance members received blue ribbons for their "A" and "B" routines taught at camp. The team also participated in the Varsity Spirit UDA fundraiser to support the St. Jude's Children's Hospital.





TOP: THE PRHS DANCE TEAM IS MADE UP OF (FRONT ROW: L-R) 2018-19 CAPTAIN HANNAH ROACH, RISING JUNIOR GRACE BARCASKEY, 2018-19 CAPTAIN EMILY BOBER, (BACK ROW: L-R) RISING SOPHOMORE LILLIAN ROBERTS, RISING NINTH-GRADER GIANNA REIGHARD, RISING SOPHOMORES CORRINE KLINE, ERIN DOUGAL, LEAH LEES, AND GRACE KOZEJ, RISING NINTH-GRADER AMELIA BAILEYS, AND RISING SOPHOMORE RIELEY SNYDER.

ABOVE: PRHS THEATER CLASSES PERFORM A CHRISTMAS CAROL UNDER THE DIRECTION OF TEACHER MICHELLE BRUNO, STUDENT DIRECTOR BRIGITTA IVASKA, AND STUDENT STAGE MANAGER MCKENNA EXLINE, THEY WORKED WITH THE INTERACT CLUB TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE RED CROSS.

LEFT: MEMBERS OF THE PRHS THESPIAN SOCIETY PERFORM ALICE IN WONDERLAND UNDER THE DIRECTION OF TEACHER IOHN DOLPHIN AND SENIOR STUDENT MANAGER AMAN SOHALL.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Science & Technology



PRHS students earned the grand champion title at the National Robotics League BattleBot Championships May 18-19, 2018. The team beat two teams from Carnegie Mellon University and two previous national champions. Seniors James Baxter, Nathan Sumrok, Jonathan Wosiak, Michael Dolgos, Jacob Nichols, and Jack Hutchinson made up the PRHS Team, which was named Team Cerberus under the direction of Teacher Evan Clark. The team also won top honors for best-engineered bot and best documentation. Team members also placed first at the Bots IQ Preliminary Competition on March 8, 2018.

PRHS STUDENTS EARN THE NATIONAL ROBOTICS LEAGUE BATTLEBOT CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Senior Michael Peck helped earn a world robotics title along with nine other students from six area high schools. They won the world title at the For Inspiration & Recognition of Science & Technology (FIRST) Robotics World Championships in Detroit, Michigan. The team Giant Diencephalic BrainSTEM Robotics Team has competed together for seven years and has made the trip to the championships three times. The team set four world records and is recognized for having the top score globally for most of the season.

> SENIOR MICHAEL PECK IS SHOWN HERE ON THE RIGHT AT A WORLD ROBOTICS COMPETITION.



STUDENTS, WHO FARN AWARDS AT THE PA STATE TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COMPETITION, SHOW OFF SOME OF THEIR WINNING DESIGNS.



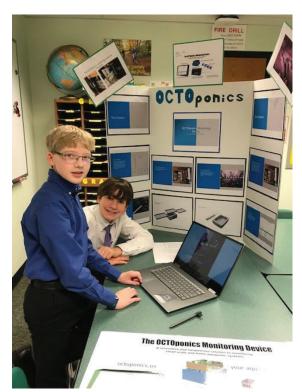
Seniors James Baxter and Nathan Chang earned third-place awards in the coding category with James also earning third place in CAD 3D engineering at the Pennsylvania State Technology Students Association Competition on April 18-21, 2018, at Seven Springs, Pa., under the direction of teachers Evan Clark and Jeff Seybert. Senior Michael Dolgos earned fifth place in CAD 2D Architecture. Michael also earned seventh in robotics with juniors Lauren Allen and Kira Welker. James also placed eighth with Nathan and seniors Jack Hutchinson, Michael Junker, Aidan Murrin and Jonathan Wosiak in video-game design. Seniors Genevieve Cohen, Michael Junker, Aidan Murrin, Jack Martin, Luke Nolan and Eric Maloney placed 10th in the on-demand video category. To read who qualified for states, visit www.pinerichland.org/extras.



(L-R) SENIOR CHELSEA CARVER, JUNIOR ARJAN GUGLANI, SOPHOMORE JUSTIN WALTRIP, JUNIOR DEVIN GOLLA, AND SENIOR JAMES BAXTER EARN AWARDS AT THE PITTSBURGH REGIONAL SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR.

Several students earned awards at the 79th Annual Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair on March 23-24, 2018, at Heinz Field in Pittsburgh under the direction of GATE Teacher Ron Schmiedel. Senior James Baxter earned first place in the Engineering/Robotics Senior Division; sophomore Justin Waltrip earned second place in the Computer Science/Math Senior Division; Junior Arjan Guglani earned third place in the Computer Science/Math Senior Division; and senior Chelsea Carver earned the Stockholm Junior Water Prize (Water Environment Federation). Chelsea moved on in a state level competition for the Stockholm Junior award. Junior Devin Golla earned an Honorary Scientist Perseverance Award in the Computer Science/Math Senior Division.

Junior Devin Golla has been selected for the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences. She will study general sciences at Carnegie Mellon University this summer. Junior Lauren Allen and senior Andrew Fernie were selected to participate in the NatureBridge Alcoa Scholars program this summer during a two-week program, which is designed to develop future environmental leaders as it takes students on a challenging physical and academic journey into the spectacular wilderness.



(L-R) SEVENTH-GRADERS OWEN ANDERSON AND BENJAMIN TAMBURRI PRESENT THEIR INNOVATIVE DESIGN.

Seventh-graders Owen Anderson and Beniamin Tamburri developed and designed an OCTOponics Monitoring Device, an innovative and inexpensive solution to monitoring small-scale and home aquaponic systems. The team earned first place in the Chatham University Eden Hall "Seeds of Change Challenge" under the direction of Teacher Kathy Deal.



MEMBERS OF THE ARTIFISHAL INTELLIGENCE FIRST LEGO LEAGUE TEAM CELEBRATE THEIR BIG WIN.

ArtiFISHal Intelligence FLL Team earned a champion award at the Western PA Regional Championships on Jan. 13, 2018. Team members included seventh-grader Luke Kastner and eighth-grader Matthew Farmar, and sixth-grader Ryan E. Scott. North Allegheny and Seneca Valley middle school students made up the team as well. The team qualified for the World FLL Razorback Invitational in Arkansas. The team worked five hours per week for seven months under the guidance of adult mentors Maria Yamanaka and Marcel Bergerman from MySTEM Academy.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



TSA TEAMS (11TH & 12TH GRADERS)



TSA TEAMS (9TH & 10TH GRADERS)

Two PRHS teams and one PRMS team qualified for the National Technology Students of America (TSA) Tests in Engineering, Aptitude, Mathematics and Success Competition. The high school has hosted the competition for the last 10 years. PRMS Team A earned first in the state and qualified for nationals. Team members included seventh-graders Avinash Kottakota and Tyler Fritz; and eighth graders Joseph Dudkowski,

Andrew Ni, Jeffrey Ock, Amish Sethi and Luke Waltrip. The PRHS ninth and 10th-grade team placed third in the state and qualified for nationals. Team members included ninth-grader Joshua Rembe and sophomores Jack Carnovale, Zachary Ferris, Kang-Young Kim, Daniel Krill, Benjamin Solomon, and Justin Waltrip. PRHS Team B placed eighth in the state and qualified for nationals. Ninth-grade members included Nash Hood, Gianna



SIXTH-GRADERS JAYDEN LAHOTI, RYLAND NICHOLS, JACK HARRIS, AND HAYDEN KEEGAN EARN FIRST PLACE IN A SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN CHALLENGE.

The Lasarchitects team, which was made up of sixth-graders Jack Harris, Hayden Keegan, Jayden Lahoti, and Ryland Nichols, earned first place in the Chatham University Eden Hall Sustainable Architectural Design Challenge on April 24, 2018. They worked as a team to design a model and present it to a panel of experts, under the direction of teachers Jennifer Kopach and Joanna Sovek.



(L-R) JUNIORS DEVIN GOLLA AND MARTHA LACEK WERE NAMED WINNERS OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY AWARD FOR ASPIRATIONS IN COMPUTING.

PRHS juniors Devin Golla and Martha Lacek were named winners in the 2018 Central and Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia Affiliate Winner of the National Center for Women in Technology Award for Aspirations in Computing under the direction of Teacher Val Klosky. They were selected because of their computing-related aspirations and achievements and for their leadership ability, academic performance, and plans for the future.



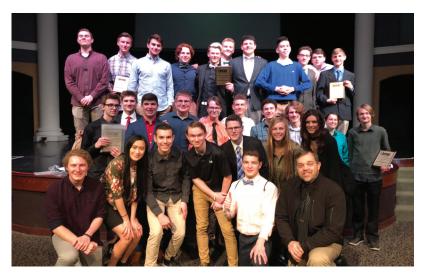
TSA TEAMS (7TH & 8TH GRADERS)

Julio, Kevin Lee, Natalie Loftus, Josh Pazin, Rebecca Peng, Katie Rishel, and Will Sangpachatanruk. Team A for 11th and 12th graders placed first in the state and qualified for nationals. Senior team members included Nathan Chang, James Baxter and Mark Farino; and juniors Lauren Allen, Noah Chmiel, Parker Schubert and Kevin Zhou. The students participated under the direction of teachers Ron Schmiedel and Kathy Deal.

Eden Hall Upper Elementary School sixth-graders Ella Guo and Jenna Shingledecker earned first place for their animated short film at the Pennsylvania Middle School Computer Fair, which is an annual event that highlights application skills and computer knowledge. Ella and Jenna moved onto the State competition at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa.



SIXTH-GRADERS ELLA GUO AND JENNA SHINGLEDECKER EARN FIRST PLACE FOR THEIR ANIMATED SHORT FILM.



ADVANCED VIDEO AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION STUDENTS FARM AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE IN THE 2018 DIGITAL MEDIA ARTS CONSORTIUM AWARDS PROGRAM.

Students in the PRHS advanced video and television production classes earned several awards of excellence at the 2018 Digital Media Arts Consortium Awards program on April 12, 2018, in McMurray, Pa., under the direction of Teacher Aaron Koehler. Winners included seniors Cole Harris and Alex Paluselli (documentary); seniors Luke Saunders, and Jared Roskin (news package); juniors Jacob Rose, Zachary Lewis, and Vince Sangpachatanaruk (digital cinema video); senior Austin Shaw (sports photography); seniors Eric Maloney and Michael Junker (special effects video); senior Bryan Kurp (founders award); and seniors Jack Martin and Aidan Murrin (animation).

The best filmmakers were honored at the 2018 Rammy Awards program on May 4, 2018. Winners included seventh-grader Rylee Branscum for K-8 editing; sixth-graders Luke Ridgeway and Damian Ivanov for K-8 directing; eleventh-grader Michael Zappa for 9-12 editing; Bayli Clack for 9-12 directing and K-12 "Best in Show;" and seniors Eric Malone and Michael Junker for the audience choice award. The awards program is produced under the direction of Media & Web Services Coordinator Bill Clack, Media Services Specialist Steve Karpinski, and Teacher Aaron Koehler. For additional award winners, visit www.pinerichland.org/extras.

District Provides Paperless Option

The Pine-Richland School District produces the annual report on recycled paper. While the 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 and academic achievement as well as positive achievements of 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.

Did we miss an important recognition item? Please email information to rhathhorn@pinerichland.org.

ACCOMPLIS H M E N

THE PRHS FOOTBALL TEAM EARNED THE PIAA 6A CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE AND WAS NAMED THE POST-**GAZETTE** BOYS TEAM OF THE YEAR.



Football

The Pine-Richland Football Team earned the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association Championship 6A Championship Title along with the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League 6A Championship. This is the team's fifth WPIAL championship win and second year to be televised live on ESPN. The team was named the *Post-Gazette's* Boys Team of the Year. The team was ranked #10 by USA Today High School Sports and #9 in the U.S. by **Prepforce.com** and earned the most wins in a season. In addition, Max Preps recognized the team in its Tour of Champions recognition program sponsored by the Army National Guard.



OUARTERBACK PHIL JURKOVEC, WHO IS NAMED AP PA PLAYER OF THE YEAR, IS SHOWN HERE WITH SENIOR JORDAN CRAWFORD WITH THE PIAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY.

PRHS Head Football Coach Eric Kasperowicz served as a speaker at USA Football's 2018 National Conference on Ian. 26-28, 2018. He was named the AP PA Coach of the Year; was named a U.S. Army All-American Bowl Coach of the Year Award finalist; and named head coach for the Pennsylvania Scholastic Football Coaches Association East Time in the 17th Annual PSFCA East/ West All-Star game

PRHS HEAD FOOTBALL COACH ERIC KASPEROWICZ IS NAMED AP PA COACH OF THE YEAR.

Quarterback Phil Jurkovec, who signed to play at Notre Dame, was named the 2017 Gatorade Pennsylvania Player of the Year; Associated Press PA Player of the Year; 2017-18 TribLive High School Sports Network Boys Athlete of the Year; and U.S. Army All-American Bowl Player of the Year finalist. He also played in the US Army All-American Bowl. He had 8,202 career passing yards. Senior Jordan Crawford, who signed to play football at Slippery Rock University, made six career interceptions, and senior Tommy Camino set a single season school record with 19 sacks. Football wide-receiver Raymond Falcone signed to play ball at Lehigh University. Offensive lineman Michael Katic, a junior, committed to play at Indiana, and junior offensive tackle Andrew Kristofic committed to Notre Dame.



CLASS OF 2015 GRADUATE CONNOR SLOMKA (FAR RIGHT) IS HONORED AT THE WHITE HOUSE ALONG WITH FELLOW TEAMMATES.

2015 graduate Connor Slomka and his U.S. Army West Point football teammates were honored at the White House on May 1, 2018, for earning the coveted Commander-In-Chief trophy. For the first time in 21 years, the team earned a win against Navy.



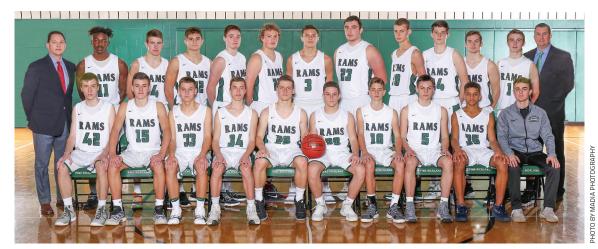
PRSD HONORS RETIRED RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL COACH GENE SULLIVAN.

PR recognized retired Richland High School Football Coach Gene Sullivan on Sept. 15, 2017, with a special reception and appearance during half-time as the Rams beat Penn Hills. Coach Sullivan was credited for leading his team to being undefeated team for two years in a row and capturing the elusive WPIAL championship. Under his direction, the Rams won 84 games in his 12-year tenure.

Baseball

The PRHS Baseball Team made it to the second round of the WPIAL Class 6A Championships. Seniors Craig Kunkel and Matthew Bullock were named to an all-section team. Junior Matthew Wood was named to the first team and juniors Troy LaNeve, Matthew Schietroma and Joshua Scherrer were named to the second team. Juniors J.D. Armstrong and Joshua Johnson earned honorable mention status. Senior Bryce Grenet signed to play baseball as a pitcher for Clarion University.

Basketball



The PRHS Boys Basketball Team made it to the PIAA Semifinals and was paired up with Roman Catholic. Roman Catholic went on to earn the championship title. The team has an overall record of 72-16 for the past three years, two WPIAL Championships, one runner-up, a state finalist standing and two section championships. Senior Phil Jurkovec was named to the All-State Basketball Second Team. He is the second all-time leading scorer in PR History.

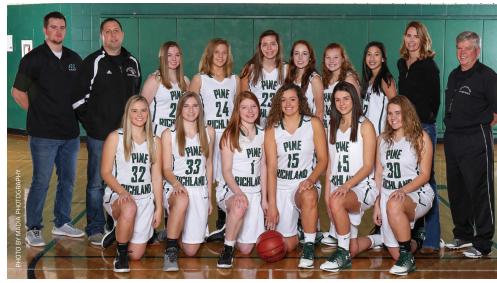
THE PRHS BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM MADE IT TO THE PIAA SEMI-FINALS.

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS



COACH JEFF ACKERMANN'S FAMILY CELEBRATES HIS 300TH CAREER WIN.

PRHS Boys Basketball Coach Jeff Ackermann celebrated his 300th career win. The milestone was achieved when the PRHS Boys Varsity Basketball Team beat Shaler 75-51 on Jan. 16, 2018.



THE LADY RAMS MAKE IT TO THE FIRST ROUND OF THE WPIALS.

The Lady Rams had an outstanding season and played in the first round of the WPIALs losing to Norwin High School 48-29 on Feb. 20, 2018.

Crew

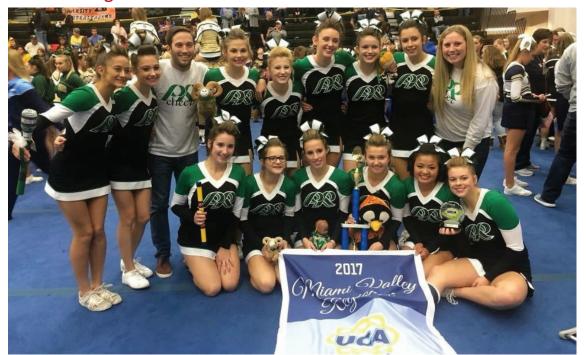
PR Crew seniors Christian Oberst, who signed to row at Mercyhurst University, and Michael Peck placed second in the men's varsity pair at the Midwest Scholastic Rowing Championship on May 12-13, 2018, in Zanesville, Ohio. The finish qualified the pair for the Youth National Championship in Sacramento, Calif. This was similar to the team's finish in 2017, in which the team also took home the silver medal. The crew team competed at the Mercyhurst Prep Invitational on May 19, 2018, on Presque Isle Bay in Erie, Pa. The Rams placed first in the women's varsity four with a lineup

of junior Grace Crankovic, sophomores Kristen Vigna, Ashley Moreland, and Vivian Chan, and ninth-grader coxswain Alexandria Catalano. Pine-Richland also won gold in the men's junior varsity four, with a lineup of sophomores Lucas Zwastetzky and Parker Zvejnieks; and juniors, Ryan Farbacher and Rainier Spears, and sophomore coxswain Edward Boczar. The Rams capped off the day with a victory in the men's lightweight double, with seniors Chris Oberst and Michael Peck. PR also placed second in the women's novice four and third in the men's novice four.



PR CREW PARTICIPATES IN THE MERCYHURST PREP INVITATIONAL, WHERE EVERY TEAM MEMBER EARNED AT LEAST ONE MEDAL.

Cheerleading



THE PRHS COMPETITIVE CHEER TEAM FINISHES NINTH AT A NATIONAL COMPETITION.

SOPHOMORE PAYTON MCGEE IS FEATURED IN THE CHEERLEADER MAGAZINE

The PRHS Competitive Cheer Team finished sixth at the PIAAs. The team earned ninth in the medium game day varsity division at the United Cheerleading National High School Cheerleading Championships in Orlando, Fla., on Feb. 10-11, 2018. Squad members include ninth-graders Lucille Koebnick and Taylor McWhirter; sophomores Abigail Casario, Emma Coleman, Morgan Gierl, Jacqueline Gill, Kate Kwasnick, and Samantha Nudi; juniors Sophia Clegg, Alexandra Czerski, Erica Haas, Makenzie Marburger, Holly Stewart; and senior Alexis Stutz.

Sophomore Payton McGee, was named The Cheerleader *Magazine* Cheerleader of the Year in the senior division and was featured on the magazine cover and in an article. The JV cheer squad member also competes with the FCA Gems.



Cross Country & Track & Field



The PRHS girls 4x100 relay team set a school record and placed fifth at the PIAA Championship Meet held at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania on May 26, 2018. The relay team was made up of seniors Jodie Berezo and Meghan Briski; sophomore Isabella A. Greco; and ninth-grader Danielle Bryant. The team placed third at WPIALs. Sophomore Luke Meckler also set a school record, and placed sixth at the PIAA meet; and fourth at WPIALs setting a school record in the the 300 intermediate hurdles. He also placed fourth in the 300 hurdles and sixth in the 100-meter dash. The girls 4x400 comprised of Jodie, Meghan, Danielle, and ninth grader Ella Rottinghaus earned

SOPHOMORE LUKE MECKLER PLACES SIXTH AT THE PIAAS IN THE BOYS 300 INTERMEDIATE HURDLES.

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS



THE PRMS GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM EARNS FIRST AT THE MACK COOPER INVITATIONAL.

sixth place and set a school record at WPIALs with Danielle placing fourth in the intermediate hurdles. The boys 4x100 relay team comprised of Luke and fellow senior members Jason DeFrancis, Jordan Crawford, and Dylan Stenson, who placed fourth at WPIALS, set a school record, and qualified for states.

The high school boys and girls cross-country team competed in the WPIALs on Oct. 26, 2017, at Cooper's Lake. The girls finished ninth and the boys 10th. The PRMS Girls Cross Country Team finished first at Slippery Rock University at the Mack Cooper Invitational on Oct. 14, 2017. This is the first time the team has won a team award.



THE PRHS GIRLS 4X100 RELAY TEAM PLACES FIFTH AT PIAAS. (L-R) ISABELLA A. GRECO, DANIELLE BRYANT, MEGHAN BRISKI AND JODI BEREZO MAKE UP THE TEAM.

Diving & Swimming

PRHS senior diver Austin Shaw finished fifth in the WPIALs and 17th in the semifinals at the PIAAs on March 14-17, 2018. Ninth grader Lily Settembrino also qualified for the WPIAL finals for diving. Senior Alexander Steger placed eighth at WPIALs in the 100-yard butterfly. Also qualifying for WPIALs included seniors Elanda Batykefer, Maximilian Campbell, Rylie Fry, Amaan Kazi, Jaclyn Lenhart, and Kayla Resh; juniors Logan Bogacz, Sara Chiprean, Alaina Gormley, Channing Lamparski, Alexander Mroz; Jacob Garretson, Jonathon Kelly; sophomore Alyssa Schonbachler, Jason Minicozzi, Andrew Wenzel, and Valerie Zbezinski; and ninth-graders Emerson Dickson and Abigail Flood.

Fencing

The Pine-Richland Women's Fencing Team A competed in the Pittsburgh Interscholastic Fencing Association competition on March 2, 2018. PR earned third. Prior, PR was tied with Taylor Allderdice as the top seed for the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Fencing Association playoffs. The Women's Fencing Team A only lost one match all season. Team members included senior Camille Patrignani, junior Martha Lacek, ninth-grader Mia Baker and sophomore Valerie Koester.



(L-R) COACH BRAD CELLIER, CAMILLE PATRIGNANI, MARTHA LACEK, MIA BAKER, VALERIE KOESTER, AND COACH RON SCHMIEDEL HAVE A SUCCESSFUL FENCING SEASON.



Junior Lauren Freyvogel was honored at the Pennsylvania State Capitol on Jan. 22, 2018, for earning the Class AAA PIAA Title. She won the AAA Girls Western Regional Championship and earned the silver medal in the WPIALs. Lauren was named the Trib Pittsburgh Athlete and PG Athlete of the Week. Junior Rico Sciulli and sophomore Donald Professori qualified for the PIAA Golf Championships. Rico, who placed fourth at the AAA Boys Western Regional Golf Championships, earned 10th at the PIAA qualifier. Donald placed eighth at the regional championships. In addition, juniors Jacob Anderson, Nicholas Casario, and Jack Wymard; and senior Jack Kremer also qualified for WPIALs. The PRHS Boys Golf Team participated in the WPIAL championships.

JUNIOR LAUREN FREYVOGEL WINS THE PIAA TITLE IN GOLF.

Field Hockey

The PRHS Lady Rams clenched the gold medal in WPIALs for field hockey for the first time in the program's history and played in the first round of the PIAAs. This is the second year in a row for the team to earn the section championship and was undefeated in section play.

Senior field hockey players Marina Miller, Sarah Mooney, and Sarah Metzmaier; and junior player Alora Sharron were selected to the High School National Academic Squad. Alora is recognized as Scholar of Distinction as well. Senior field hockey player Sarah Mooney was named the 2017-18 Most Positive Field Hockey Athlete in Western Pennsylvania and selected to USA Field Hockey's National Futures Tournament. She signed to play at Bucknell University this fall where she received a Presidential Fellow, which includes a scholarship and research position. Senior Sarah



THE PRHS FIELD HOCKEY LADY RAMS EARN A GOLD MEDAL AT WPIALS.

Metzmaier was named to the WPIAL Section 1 AAA All-Star Team, along with senior Molly Rottinghaus and Vivian Cavanaugh. Sarah was also named to All-WPIAL with Molly. Vivian also earned an All-Star honorable mention. Molly signed to play at Boston University.

Hockey



The PRHS Varsity Hockey Team made the playoffs for the first time since 2014 and finished second in their division. The team played in the second round of the PIHL Playoffs on March 14, 2018. Juniors Nicholas Lindauer and William Studt, and sophomore Daniel Stauffer were selected to play in the PIHL All-Star Game on Jan. 28, 2018.

2014 PRHS Graduate Andrew Vislosky was selected to play in the Junior Olympics in the 23U Hockey Division. He earned a silver medal.

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Lacrosse

The PRHS Girls Lacrosse Team earned the WPIAL Championship Title for two years in a row and played in the first round of the PIAA Championships. Senior Lacrosse player Marina Miller, who signed to play at Penn State, scored her 310th career goal on May 9, 2018, marking a school record. She was ranked #39th in the country by Inside Lacrosse; and named Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Athlete of the Week; and US Lacrosse Girls High School All-American for Western Pennsylvania for the third year in a row. Senior Megan Lieberman, who signed to play for Liberty University, and junior Abigail Levier were also named All-American.

The PRHS Boys Varsity Lacrosse Team competed in the PIAA Quarterfinals. Senior midfielder Jake Freedlander,

who signed to play at the University of Detroit; sophomore attack Dane Dowiak; and senior midfielder Dawson Goltz, who signed to play for Wingate University, were named U.S. Lacrosse Boys High School All-American athletes for Western Pennsylvania. This was Jake's third consecutive year to earn the title. Junior midfielder Samuel Skirpan was an All-Academic selection.



PRHS GIRLS LACROSSE EARNS BACK-TO-BACK WPIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.



THE PRHS BOYS LACROSSE TEAM COMPETES IN THE PIAAS.

Soccer



PRHS GIRLS SOCCER TEAM PARTICIPATES IN WPIALS.

The U16 North United Rush Soccer Team, which is coached by Jodi Chmielewski and is made up of five PR girls earned the U.S. Youth Soccer Eastern Regional Championship TItle. PR team members include ninth-graders Megan Donnelly, Katharine Kelly, Katherine Rishel, Alexandra LeDonne and Nell Barton.

The Pine-Richland High School Girls Soccer Team made it to the WPIAL quarterfinals and were section champs for the third consecutive season. Coach Jodi Chmielewski was named the Big 56 Coach of the Year. Ninth-grader Megan Donnelly and juniors Caroline Swan, Alaina Kalin, Rebecca Libby were named Big 56 First Team All-Conference, All-WPIAL, and were named All-Section with senior Samantha Kelly and sophomore Alessandra Malobicky; Alessandra and Samantha were named All-Section as well. Samantha, sophomore Isabella Boyd, and ninth-grader Ella Karmanos were named to the second team and ninthgrader Katharine Kelly earned honorable mention status. Senior Meghan Briski signed a celebratory letter of intent to play soccer at Waynesburg University.



COACH JODI CHMIELEWSKI IS NAMED BIG 56 COACH OF THE YEAR.



PRHS BOYS SOCCER TEAM QUALIFIED FOR THE PIAAS.

Softball

The PRHS Girls Softball Team played in the first round of the WPIAL Class 6-A Softball Championships.

Senior Anna Slebonick signed a celebratory letter of intent to play softball at Oberlin College on May 9, 2018.

Tennis

FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE PRHS GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS TEAM QUALIFIED FOR THE PIAA TOURNAMENT.

Volleyball

The Pine-Richland High School Girls Volleyball Team participated in the first round of WPIAL 4-A Volleyball Championships. Sophomore Anna Jurkovec was named to the 2017 WPIAL Class 4-A All-Star Second Team, All-Section First Team, Quad A Big 5/6 First Team with junior Madelyn Schieder; and sophomore Grace Kristofic were named All Section Second Team with junior Michaela Pettinato and senior Hannah Cottrill; Grace and Michaela were named to Quad A Big 5/6 Second Team. Anna was named to All-Section. Hannah was named to the WPIAL Class 4-A All-Stars Third Team and honorable mention status in the Quad A Big 5/6 along with sophomore Marin Laffey, and seniors Zoe Simms and Shelby Zahn. Zoe, Shelby and Marin were named to the All-Section Third Team.

Team MVP.

Boys volleyball junior player Luke Olson earned All-Section status and served as co-captain along with senior Steven Gleyze.

> The PRHS Girls Varsity Tennis Team earned second in the WPIAL tournament and qualified for PIAAs for the very first time. The doubles team, which was made up of juniors Melissa Vizcardo and Alyssa Sarver,

The PRHS Boys Varsity Soccer Team advanced to the WPIAL semifinals and qualified for the PIAA state playoffs for a second consecutive year. Junior Gregory Shulkosky was named to the First Team and the Finest 15; senior Justin Rossmiller earned honorable mention status; junior Brian McCarthy earned First Team and BIG 56 status. Justin and juniors Niko Marsh, Gregory Shulkosky, and Tom Fest; and seniors Vittorio Orsini and Gabriel Schoone were named to the Second Team. Senior Brandon F. Hoffman earned the coaches award, and Gabriel was voted the 2017

> placed second in the PIAA doubles tournament. Alyssa competed in the singles WPIAL championship.

The boys team participated in the first round of the WPIAL Boys Class 3-A Team Tennis finals. Senior Michael Brudy will play tennis at Penn State Behrend.

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ultimate Frisbee



THE BOYS ULTIMATE FRISBEE WON THE PHUL TITLE.

The Pine-Richland Boys Ultimate Team (PHUL) won the Pittsburgh High School Ultimate League championship on May 23, 2018. Senior Aiden Landis was named Most Valuable Player.

The Pine-Richland Girls Ultimate team tied for third place in PHUL Spring League. They earned eighth place in the 2018 PA High School State Championships on May 26-27, 2018.

Wrestling

Freshman Cole Spencer placed second at WPIALs and placed eighth in the PIAA AAA Individual Wrestling Championships on March 8-10, 2018. Cole was one of only two freshmen in the finals. In addition, Cole earned second place in the National High School Coaches Association National Tournament for High School Freshmen, and he earned All-American Status. Ninth-grade wrestler Miguel Jackson; sophomores Nathan Lukez, Robert Palmieri, and Zachary Shaver; and senior Benjamin Salas also advanced to the Individual WPIALs at Canon-McMillan Senior High School. Fifth-grader Vaughn Spencer placed fourth at the Pennsylvania Junior Wrestling State Tournament on March 23-24, 2018.



GIRLS ULTIMATE FRISBEE TOOK THIRD PLACE IN THE PITTSBURGH HIGH SCHOOL **ULTIMATE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS**



WRESTLER COLE SPENCER PLACES SECOND AT WPIALS.



WRESTLING COACH BEN RINGS DECLARES SOPHOMORE TY JENKINS A WINNER AT THE BEST BUDDIES ANNUAL SHOWCASE.

All involved in the PRHS Wrestling Team's Best Buddy Showcase were winners on Feb. 1, 2018. The varsity and junior varsity wrestlers have been teaching wrestling and team building skills as well as social interaction skills throughout the year with their best buddies. The best buddies then showed off their skills by wrestling a member of the team during the showcase.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Accreditation Program Guides Continuous Improvement

Pine-Richland High School earned re-accreditation from The Middle States Association. Accreditation is an external, objective validation of school quality and student achievement that fosters continuous school improvement. Involvement is an ongoing well-known accreditation protocol: recognizes achievement; promotes ongoing school improvement; and fosters stakeholder involvement and commitment by providing opportunities for great involvement in charting the direction and future of the school, and provides public accountability. The high school hosted an accreditation team in April and hosted a parent session. The implementation of the middle states goals will begin during the 2018-19 school year.

District Updates Athletic Facilities



STADIUM TEAM ROOM

The visitor's locker room at the Pine-Richland High School Stadium underwent updates. Updates include the creation of a team-room concept in existing stadium locker rooms (home side) to provide opportunities for coaches to use the spaces for teaching; and a new team-room facility (visitors side), which includes a team room concept, storage, coaches office, restrooms, and athletic training space with

District Remains Proactive **Regarding Safety**

The district continues to be proactive with safety matters and encourages the community to work with the district and report any concerns. School safety is complex, and safety/security measures have elements of culture, behavior, and physical/structural design.

Examples at Pine-Richland include maintaining a daily, visible presence at all schools by the Northern Regional Police that also include walk-throughs at each school; building connections and positive relationships between students, between staff-andstudent, and with families; encouraging responsible reporting by all stakeholders, including students, to trusted adults; publicizing and utilizing the TIPS Line as a reporting mechanism (724) 449-TIPS; reviewing the Emergency Operations Plan on an annual basis with the Northern Regional Police Department; initiating multiple drills in each school throughout the year; evaluating; and improving safety design elements (e.g., doors locked, captured vestibules, badges for adults, camera systems, etc.); and implementing a strong Pupil Services program with mental health supports that includes relationships with outside agencies. Continue to look for more updates throughout 2018-2019.



RICHLAND ELEMENTARY SOFTBALL DUGOUTS

sight line to stadium turf. This helps with safety and protection for PR and visiting student-athletes. Other updates include a new storage facility under the home bleachers at the stadium and adding Richland Elementary softball dugouts (mirrors baseball facility at Santacroce). This provides a safe location for participating student-athletes in the event of inclement weather.

Online Curriculum Available

Pine-Richland School District updated its online curriculum as part of one of the short-term goals of the strategic plan to provide our community with an overview of what students will be learning in each subject/course throughout their K-12 education. A committee of teachers and administrators, along

with input from the community, developed a framework for the online curriculum to ensure our parents/community have a clear, consistent format to understand our academic programs. We believe our new families entering the school district for the first time, along with our experienced families, will benefit from



this online reference. The online curriculum can be found on the district's website by visiting the academics tab and choosing the curriculum link or simply by typing www.pinerichland.org/curriculum into your browser.

GFT & BUA

UPDATE

Board Approves Budget for 2018-2019 with No Tax Increase

The Pine-Richland School Board approved the general fund budget for the 2018-2019 school year with total expenditures of \$87,672,081 and total revenues of \$87,672,081 with no utilization of assigned fund balance. The board maintained the following tax rates for the fiscal year 2018-2019 with no increase:

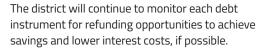
- Real Estate Tax rate of 19.5867 mills (no increase)
- Earned Income Tax of 0.5 percent
- Act 511 Per Capita Tax of \$5 for individuals age 18 and older
- Pennsylvania School Code Per Capita Tax of \$5 for individuals age 18 & older

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 few years. Some of them have included:

Alternative Revenue Sources **Energy Curtailment Program** Facility Rental Agreements Grants & Donations

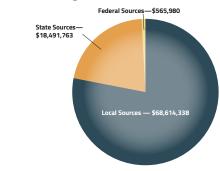
Parking Fees Rebates & Commissions Advertisements Student Activity Fees



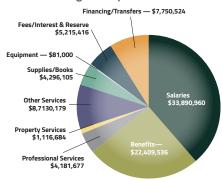
INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYER SAVINGS **OPPORTUNITIES**

- 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 amount of \$184.62.
- In January 2018, the board approved a property tax rebate program for qualifying senior citizens, widows, and widowers for the 2017 calendar year. The application reflected a due date of June 30, 2018. If the filer meets the criteria, he or she could see anywhere from \$250-\$650 in tax rebates.

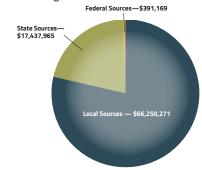
2018-2019 Budgeted Revenue



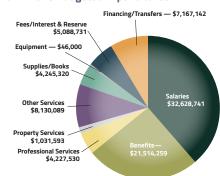
2018-2019 Budgeted Expenditures



2017-2018 Budgeted Revenue



2017-2018 Budgeted Expenditures



SCHOOL BOARD **MEETINGS TELEVISED**

The PR School Board regular and planning meetings air on PRTV, which is available on Consolidated Communications Channel 404 and on Armstrong Cable Channel 211. Visit www.pinerichland.org for a listing of meetings. You

can also view the videos of meetings online the next day. In addition, agendas and meeting minutes are available under the school board tab on the website.

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 64.2 percent of the 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 33.43 percent of the salary cost from 32.57percent in 2017-2018, which translates to about \$702,567 (or approximately \$220,747 in increased costs to the district after receiving state funding for retirement contributions) in the 2018-2019 budget. This rate is set by the PSERS Board of Trustees and mandated by state legislation.

Premium Costs – Allegheny County Schools Health Insurance Consortium premium costs will increase by 1.9 percent for Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) plans and Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO) plans for covered employees. Overall, group health insurance expenditures are expected to increase this year by \$164,797.

Tuition Expenditures – The district is required by law to pay tuition costs, which are projected at \$869,571 for 2018-2019. 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.

Board Reorganizes & Welcomes Five New Members

The Pine-Richland School Board welcomed five new school board members in 2017-2018. New members who joined the board include Dr. Benjamin Campbell, Dr. Matthew Mehalik, Dr. Carla Meyer, Mrs. Christine Misback, who previously served in 2011, and Mr. Matthew Moye.

The board named Mr. Peter Lyons as president; Ms. Misback as vice president; and Mr. Marc Casciani as treasurer, who was also appointed as an alternate voting representative to the Allegheny North Tax Collection Committee. Other appointments include:

- Mr. Greg DiTullio to the Pine Township Parks & Recreational Board
- Mrs. Virginia Goebel to a one-year term & Mrs. Christine Misback to a two-year term to the Northern Area Special Purpose Schools, which oversees A.W. Beattie Career Center
- Mr. Peter Lyons as a representative on the Food Service Advisory & Wellness Committee and on the Allegheny Intermediate Unit #3 Board
- Mrs. Christine Misback as the liaison to the Pine-Richland Opportunities Fund Board of Trustees
- Dr. Carla Meyer as the liaison to the Pennsylvania School Board Association

The board established meeting dates for 2018. All meetings will be held in the DeWitt Blank Conference Room, located at 702 Warrendale Rd., Gibsonia, PA 15044, at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Action items may be placed on the reorganization and planning meeting agendas at various times throughout the year. Remaining meetings for 2018 include:

Date Meeting

Planning Meeting August 6, 2018 Regular Meeting August 20, 2018 September 17, 2018 Combined Planning/Regular Meeting Planning Meeting October 15, 2018 Regular Meeting October 29, 2018 Combined Planning/Regular Meeting November 12, 2018 Reorganization Meeting December 3, 2018 Combined Planning/Regular Meeting December 10, 2018

For more information on board meetings, topics, agendas, and director bios, visit www.pinerichland.org/board.



THE PRISCHOOL BOARD REORGANIZED FOR 2018, THE 2018 SCHOOL BOARD INCLUDES (FRONT ROW: L-R) MRS. VIRGINIA GOEBEL, DIRECTOR; PRESIDENT PETER LYONS; VICE PRESIDENT CHRISTINE MISBACK; DR. CARLA MEYER, DIRECTOR; (BACK ROW: L-R) TREASURER MARC CASCIANI; MR. GREG DITULLIO, DIRECTOR; DR. MATTHEW MEHALIK, DIRECTOR; DR. BENJAMIN CAMPBELL, DIRECTOR; AND MR. MATTHEW MOYE, DIRECTOR.

PINE-RICHLAND OPPORTUNITIES FUND



Pine-Richland Opportunities Fund Highlights Successful School Year

The Pine-Richland Opportunities Fund (PROF) is a nonprofit educational foundation committed to enriching and investing in the experiences of the Pine-Richland student community through staff grants, student scholarships, and community partnerships.

Over the last six years, PROF awarded \$168,000 in grants to Pine-Richland School District teachers and \$223,000 in scholarships to deserving seniors.

The foundation and district bid farewell and appreciation to Mrs. Moira Singer, who retired after serving as president and trustee for eight years

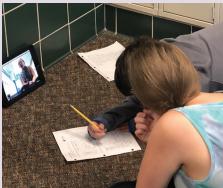
The foundation recently appointed a new executive board to begin the 2018-2019 school year and includes President Laura Ball, Vice President Eric Giesecke, Treasurer Randall King, Secretary Sara Antol who join trustee community members Charles Berry, Keri Brown, Leslie Craven, Joseph Culos, Kate Eyerman, Susan Hong-Bang, Jennifer Husted, David Jeter, Ryan Lennie, Jason Merante, Jim Neill, Terry Pomerleau, Susan Shepard, Stacey Silipo, Robin Tino, School Board Liaison Christine Misback, Faculty Liaison Christofer Vins, and Executive Director Deborah Lund.

PROF Identifies Community Partnerships through EITC Program

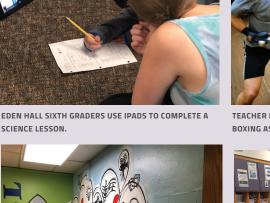
Working with community partners, PROF continues to identify opportunities to highlight student talents and provides them with real-world experiences. As a recognized organization under the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program, participating businesses are able to contribute towards innovative educational programs within Pine-Richland's Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) initiative. PROF is proud to partner with area businesses such as First Commonwealth Bank; MSA, The Safety Company; NexTier Bank, and Trumbull.

PROF Awards Staff Grants in 2017-2018

Throughout the year, PROF awarded \$47,815 in grants to PRSD Staff. These grants supported such programs and initiatives as "We are Flexible in Fourth Grade," a flexible seating grant provided to all fourth-grade classrooms at Eden Hall Upper Elementary School; "Sixth-Grade Science and Technology," providing 30 iPads to the sixth-grade classrooms for a student centered approach to expand and enhance science labs and lessons; "VR Classroom," supporting Richland Elementary School with virtual-reality glasses designed to submerge students into curriculum and lessons through exploration and research; "Mind, Body and Balance," an after-school program for Pine-Richland High School students focusing on learning, improving, and maintaining healthy mental, physical, and social activities such as yoga, and fitness boxing; "STEAM Dream Lab," for all Richland Elementary School students who will experience hands-on learning opportunities to explore science, technology, engineering, arts and math; and "Problem-Based Learning through Technology," for PRHS students who will use projectionmapping capabilities in production, video, and computer classes on world-class projectors.



SCIENCE LESSON.





RICHLAND ELEMENTARY IS LAUNCHING A STEAM DREAM LAB.



TEACHER MATT ROBERTS LEADS A SESSION IN FITNESS BOXING AS PART OF THE MIND BODY BALANCE CLUB.



RICHLAND ELEMENTARY STUDENTS USE VIRTUAL-REALITY GLASSES IN CLASS.

PROF & Community Partners Award \$43,250 in Scholarships

On May 30, 2018, PROF awarded 21 Pine-Richland High School seniors scholarships totaling \$43,250. The various winners were recognized in a multitude of areas including service and volunteering; leadership; interest in STEM; veterinary science and fields that help others; resiliency; performing arts; musical talents; kindness; financial need; and more.

scholarships and a complete list of scholarship, visit

For descriptions of PROF

www.prof-fund/scholarships.



2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AND BENEFACTORS PARTICIPATE IN AN AWARDS CEREMONY. PROF AWARDED \$43,250 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

PROF Hosts Farm to Table Progressive Dinner 'PRty'

In October, PROF hosted more than 100 community members and Pine-Richland School District staff at Chatham University Eden Hall Campus in Gibsonia to explore the self-sustaining, natural preserve, and enjoy delicious, locally grown and sourced farm-to-table fare.

During the event, PRSD staff and PROF grant recipients Bill Clack, Tracey Hanna, and Emily Walker showcased their grants in action and shared classroom impact with community members. Attendees enjoyed the incredible talent of the Pine-Richland Jazz Ensemble throughout the evening.

PROF's next event will be held on Sept. 30, 2018, so mark your calendars and watch for details.



PINE-RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND PERFORMS AT PROF PROGRAM

See How You Can Help

Interested in more information about future scholarship opportunities, grant updates or how you can contribute to the success of the Pine-Richland Opportunities Fund? Please visit www.prof-fund.org. PROF's United Way Donor Option number is 921848. Companies who wish to support PROF may also be eligible for Educational Improvement Tax Credits.

Support PROF



Pine-Richland Opportunities Fund



@proudtobe_PR



Pine-Richland Opportunities Fund



@proudtobe_PR



ANDREW VISLOSKY

The Pine-Richland High School Marching Band Alumni are carrying on the tradition of music excellence in college. Pine-Richland Band Alum could be found on both sides of the game between Penn State University and University of Pittsburgh at Beaver Stadium on Sept. 9, 2017, when they took to the field for the big rivalry game.

2014 Pine-Richland High School graduate Andrew Vislosky, who majored in petroleum engineering at Penn State University, was featured in Whirl Magazine's special edition called "Introducing a New Network! The 20's of 2018 Pittsburgh" in April 2018. Earlier this year, Andrew earned a scholarship to attend an international conference with Oil and Gas industry leaders in London, England this October.



BAND ALUMNI CAN BE SEEN ON BOTH SIDES OF AN OLD RIVALRY, PRHS ALUMNI (L-R) IAKE ZAK (PSU). HANNA KLEI (PITT), ROSS IVEY (PSU), BILL MCFADDEN (PITT), ELIZABETH PETERSON (PITT), AND KATIE CLOUSE (PITT) JOIN FORCES FOR A PHOTO.



2009 PRHS GRADUATE ALYSSA WILDEN

2009 Pine-Richland graduate Alyssa Wilden is quite busy these days. She has been freelancing as a producer and writer and is working on two short films and a television pilot with a producer at Columbia College. This summer she will be working with Director John D. Hancock on his next project. He is an American Stage and film director, producer and writer best known for his work on Bang the Drum Slowly, a 1973 film about a baseball player who has a terminal illness. Alyssa recently graduated from the Harold Ramis Film School after completing training at the Second City Conservatory. Before attending the Harold Ramis Film School, she graduated from the American University in 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Musical Theatre. She also completed the Second City Training Center's conservatory and writing programs which focused on writing and performing comedic sketches.

District Celebrates 60 Years



Pine-RIchland School District is celebrating 60 Years. During the summer, we have been encouraging families to participate in our 60th Anniversary Scavenger Site Hunt through August 21, 2018. Ten locations have been chosen around the Pine-Richland community to highlight the grand history of our community.

Canisters have been placed at each location. Inside each canister is a sign with the 60thanniversary logo and the name of a specific site. Once you find a location, please take a picture of the sign and yourself/group. Share your selfies by tagging **#SpotlightPR60** via Twitter or Facebook or by uploading your photo to www.surveymonkey.com/r/SpotlightPR60. To assist you in finding the locations, visit www.pinerichland.org/60years for complete details. Complete the word search and a crossword puzzle to locate our featured stops. Be sure to check out the canister "hints" for each site as well.

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 Rachel Hathhorn at 724-625-7773, ext. 6202.

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 for the 2017-2018 school year.

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 No. 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).

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

- Education for Homeless Youth
- English as a Second Language Instruction
- Gifted Education Services & Screening & Evaluation
- Notice of Rights Regarding Education Records
- Protected Handicapped Students: Chapter 15
- Screening, Evaluation & Placement Procedures
- Services for Preschool Age Children with Disabilities
- Services for School Age Exceptional Children
- Services for Students in Nonpublic Schools

General Annual Notices

There are several general annual notices that can be reviewed at www.pinerichland.org/annualnotices and include:

- Free and Reduced Lunch (Visit www.compass.state.pa.us for info & application)
- Federal Programs Title I
- Homebound Instruction
- Independent Educational Evaluations
- Notice of Recommended Assignment (NORA)
- Notice of Recommended Educational Placement (NOREP)
- Right to Know Act
- Special Notice Regarding Directory Information
- Armed Forces Recruiting
- District Video and Photographs*

*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 rhathhorn@pinerichland.org.

Pine-Richland School District Nondiscrimination **Statement & Complaint Process**

Pine-Richland School District will not discriminate in its education programs, activities or employment practices, based on race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, ancestry, disability, union membership or any other legally protected classification. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Individuals who have an inquiry, complaint of harassment or discrimination, or who need information about accommodations for disabled persons, should contact Dr. Maura Paczan, coordinator of 504 Service Agreements at 724-443-7230 or Fax: 724-443-7374. For non-disability claims, individuals should contact Owen Kenney, Title IX coordinator, at 724-625-7773 x6201 or Fax: 724-625-1490.

Policy 103: Nondiscrimination in Schools & **Classroom Practices**

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.

Policy 103.1: Qualified Student with Disabilities **Grievance Process**

The school district shall provide to each qualified student with a disability enrolled in the district, without cost to the student or parent/guardian, a free and appropriate public education. 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.

The school board encourages students and parents/ guardians who believe they have been subjected to discrimination or harassment to promptly report such incidents. Policies 103 and 103.1 can be found in the policy manual or via the website at www.pinerichland. org/nondiscrimination. Reports of discrimination may be forwarded to the school district's Section 504 Coordinator Maura Paczan, lead school psychologist, Richland Elementary School, 3811 Bakerstown Rd., Gibsonia, PA, 15044; 724-443-7230 x6503.

Non-disability claims may be forwarded to the school district's Title IX Coordinator Owen Kenney, director of Human Resources & Legal Affairs, Pine-Richland School District, 702 Warrendale Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044; 724-625-7773 x 6201 or Fax: 724-625-1490.

Surveillance Cameras & Audio Recordings

Under School Board Policy #816 (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 regulations 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.



PINE-RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

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