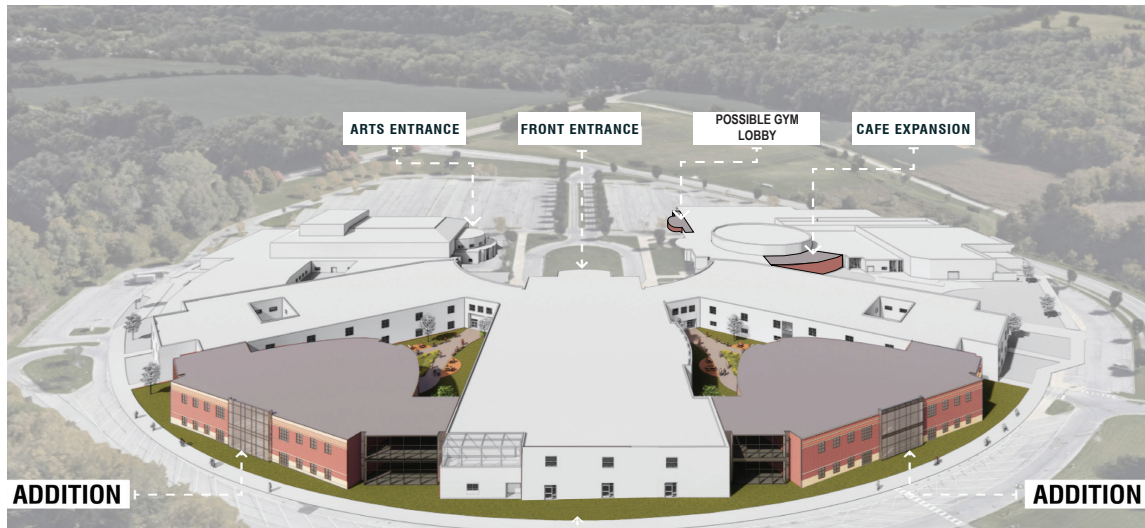




# PARKLAND NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2024

## PLANNING THE PHS EXPANSION: VISION 2030



### One Parkland High School :

- Keeps academic offerings strong
- Staff remains in place
- Strong learning supports remain
- Builds on positive culture and community
- Keeps a robust curriculum in place for all students to experience
- 160+ electives, 85 clubs and activities remain
- Expansion of science, technology and creative spaces for PHS students
- More spaces for silent study and collaboration

## WHAT'S INSIDE

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The 2024-2025 proposed final budget represents the culmination of a process initiated last year to address the anticipated enrollment growth in grades 6-12, compelling Parkland to explore solutions for expanding classroom and program space. The outcome is a project called Vision 2030, which involves a classroom addition to Parkland High School. The addition will add 28 classroom spaces and 10 science/project labs, enclosure of the back wings which will add two secure outdoor learning quads, renovations that will add square footage to the cafeteria, nurse's suite, and administration offices, and new hallway connections and staircase designed to improve traffic flow within the building.

Phase two of the project includes renovations at the Orefield Middle School (OMS) site and will entail adding additional instructional spaces and relocating the transportation facilities away from the school building for safer and less congested traffic flow. The total estimated cost of the Vision 2030 expansion plan is projected to cost \$210 million, with construction at Parkland High School slated to commence next year, followed by the project at the OMS site. The decision to expand the footprint at both PHS and OMS aligns with community input that favored keeping Parkland as a "one high school District" and tackles infrastructure needs for the upcoming decade without the costlier and more time-consuming option of acquiring land and constructing a second high school and/or another middle school.

### CONGRATS PROM KINGS AND QUEENS

This year, we had a tie!  
Madison Siggins and Jayden Thomas  
Emily Davis and Luke Smith



# VISION 2030

Keep your eyes on the road.  
Arrive Alive!

Put the phone down, it can wait.  
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## ACHY EAR PARTNERS

### Children's ExpressCARE Now Open in Macungie

Kids need health care partners too, especially if they have a common illness or minor injury. When your child can't wait for an appointment, Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital offers walk-in care just for kids at Children's ExpressCARE, now open at the **NEW** Health Center at Macungie.

[LVHN.org/expresskids](http://LVHN.org/expresskids) | 888-402-LVHN

Children's  
**ExpressCARE**

 Lehigh Valley  
Reilly Children's Hospital

**New location!** Health Center at Macungie | 3371 Route 100, Macungie (Formerly located in Fogelsville)





# SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parkland Community,

As the summer season approaches, I am delighted to share that this spring has been filled with numerous accomplishments and wonderful events, spearheaded by our remarkable staff and students. I encourage you to explore the Class of 2024 section in this newsletter, which highlights their numerous accolades through various links. The June issue of this newsletter traditionally focuses on the budget, and this year is no exception, especially as our plans to address the growing enrollment become more apparent. As showcased on the front cover, our Vision 2030 project will keep the District engaged in various phases of construction through the year 2030. To this end, our staff and School Board have diligently worked to develop fiscal plans that will phase in borrowing annually, aiming to minimize the impact on residents as much as possible. We are confident that the investment in our schools will be a valuable asset for our entire community, as it will set Parkland students up for success in the years to come. In addition to this newsletter, we will be sharing updates at School Board Meetings, through my podcast, community meetings, and on our dedicated webpage at [www.ParklandSD.org/Vision2030](http://www.ParklandSD.org/Vision2030).

In conjunction with the aforementioned plans, the Parkland Board of School Directors and Administration have proposed a 5% tax increase, resulting in a 2024-25 Proposed General Fund Budget amounting to \$236,709,643. To mitigate the impact on Parkland taxpayers, the Proposed Budget includes the allocation of \$4,130,764 from the Fund Balance to balance the General Fund Budget. While Parkland's real estate value continues to rise, the rate of increase has begun to decelerate compared to recent years, with only about a 1% increase since last summer, in contrast to the average rate of 2.3% over the past five years. We are closely monitoring market trends to forecast the potential implications for the District moving forward.

## Key Points About the 2024-25 Proposed Budget are:

**Safety (Physical, Mental and Behavioral Health Needs)** – The upcoming year will herald the implementation of a new key fob entry system for employees, which will encompass a transition to centralized printing services. This initiative will shift printing operations from our current 915 desktop printers to 81 strategically positioned copiers. The consolidation of printing resources is expected to generate substantial savings of approximately \$195,000 over a five-year period. Furthermore, this transition will enhance security measures related to door access across the school district, aligning with the requirement for all staff members to wear identification badges.

**Students and Educational Programs** – Parkland invests in proven methods to identify and remove learning barriers, emphasizing support for struggling students to close achievement gaps. Additional middle school staff will implement a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) framework, providing academic and behavioral strategies for diverse student needs. The budget prioritizes retaining and recruiting exceptional teachers and support staff.

**Growth and Future Planning** – Vision 2030 is driving the District's financial planning, necessitating a tax increase this year. A new Operations Building, set for completion in Spring 2025, is under construction. Key capital projects for the upcoming year include: new lights at the PHS turf stadium, HVAC and flooring upgrades at Kernsville Elementary, refinishing the PHS gym floor, boiler replacement at Springhouse Middle School, renovations at Fogelsville Elementary's playground and basement classrooms, installation of air purification units in all elementary schools, and building abatement and demolition on our newly acquired property on Broadway (near Cetronia Elementary).

LEHIGH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT MILLAGE RANK COMPARISON	
School District	2023-24 Millage (highest to lowest)
Northern Lehigh	24.87
Allentown City	22.64
Salisbury Township	22.74
Catasauqua Area	20.76
East Penn	20.17
Whitehall-Coplay	20.76
Northwestern Lehigh	19.09
Southern Lehigh	17.26
***Parkland***	16.30
Average is 20.51	

**Debt Service** – As we evaluate the projected growth and capital needs of the District, the debt management plan will be critical in accomplishing goals to address growth and the maintenance of facilities. This year's tax increase positions Parkland to fund the upcoming 5-year Vision 2030 building program through borrowing. The multi-year construction initiative is designed to phase in new debt service with minimal impact to the overall debt service budget.

**Fund Balance Appropriation** – Careful planning will involve the use of approximately \$4.1M of fund balance that will help ease the tax burden this year, but also help the District preserve its credit rating in an attempt to keep borrowing rates at the lowest possible rates as planning and implementation of Project Vision 2030 progresses.

**The average residential property** in Parkland is assessed at \$245,193. The average residential taxpayer will pay an extra \$16.65 per month next year at the new mill rate.

**The allowable Act 1 Index** avails Parkland the opportunity to raise taxes up to 5.3%. Parkland has not raised taxes to the allowable Index in the last 8 years and its tax rate remains the lowest millage rate in Lehigh County.

While it is never an easy decision to raise taxes, this budget proactively and responsibly plans for our future needs, namely a facility expansion project that will alleviate overcrowding in our middle and high school grades. We are committed to maintaining a high-quality education and facilities that set the stage for continued student success, while investing in long-term solutions to manage growth.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer,

Mark J. Madson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

**JUNE 18**  
will be the day of  
Adoption of the  
Final Budget by the  
School Board



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DR. MARK  
MADSON

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# PARKLAND REACH LAUNCHES NEW VILLAGE

Parkland REACH (Resources Enhancing All Children's Health) was established before the COVID-19 pandemic as an initiative to support families facing financial difficulties. Through this program, snack packs filled with food are distributed to students in our schools, ensuring they have access to nourishment over the weekends. Additionally, REACH provides backpacks stocked with essential school supplies to families in need at the beginning of the academic year. Furthermore, the program offers holiday meals and food boxes during extended school breaks, ensuring that these families have access to sustenance during these periods. New this year, the Parkland REACH Village was born, creating a new resource for the Parkland community. The Village was created by Parkland School District social worker Diane Irish, and provides information for students, families, district employees and the community at large, who may need support in obtaining assistance for a wide variety of circumstances.

Examples of situations where the Parkland REACH Village may be able to offer help include:

- Obtaining childcare
- Support in caring and providing for aging parents
- Locating mental health counseling services
- Career development and training programs
- Information on financial aid for college
- Services available for managing physical illness
- Finding financial help for bills, rent, and credit repair
- Social and recreational opportunities in the community
- Supportive services for children with special needs

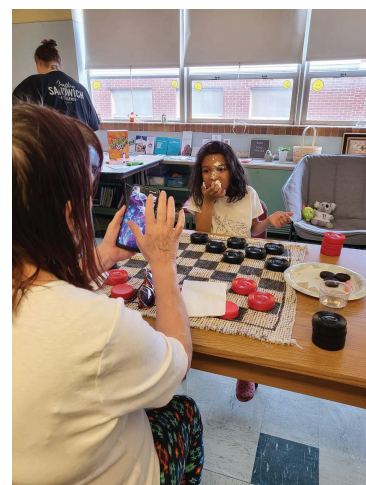
**Parkland  
students  
need your  
help!**

For some students, even a good quality backpack is something that is not available to them. Help REACH help our Parkland students in need start the new school year off with all the supplies they require for a great year. Consider making a purchase off our Amazon Wish List today!



The Parkland REACH Village also organized free monthly events. The inaugural event featured the "Dinners Make a Difference Family Dinner Project," which highlighted research over the past 20 years demonstrating that regular family dinners can lower the risks of depression, teen pregnancy, substance abuse, and offer other benefits. Other events included a creative day where families built a Parkland Village out of recycled materials, a Family Game Night, and an activity involving planting flowers, a presentation on mindfulness and kindness by a Parkland parent, and assembling "Just Keep Swimming" care packages that were delivered to a local mental health provider.

Our students have actively supported these efforts. At Schnecksville, the Student Council sold Valentine's Day Grams to raise funds for Parkland REACH. During PHS Homecoming in Fall 2022, student activities throughout the week supported REACH. At Springhouse and Orefield Middle Schools, students have grown lettuce in hydroponic gardens purchased through a Parkland Education Foundation grant, with the harvested lettuce included in spring break food boxes for families in need. From January-March, Giant grocery stores ran a "round up" campaign at their cash registers for local school district food pantries, donating more than \$6,000 each year for the past two years to REACH through this community fundraiser. Additionally, the Parkland Education Foundation provides an annual grant for the food pantry and REACH Village. The Administration Center has been advertised as a location for community members to drop off food or personal hygiene supplies for families experiencing crisis, job loss, or other hardships, and we have been warmed by the donations that are delivered throughout the year.



**Clockwise from top left: A house made from recycled materials, care package that was delivered to a mental health clinic, free little library outside the REACH Village in the rear of the Troxell Building, getting "Pied in the Face" on Family Game Night, chalk art fun at a REACH Village event, making mini zen gardens, spin art, lettuce grown by the middle school students using hydroponic garden towers, and Schnecksville student council officers holding candy grams that were sold to benefit Parkland REACH this year.**





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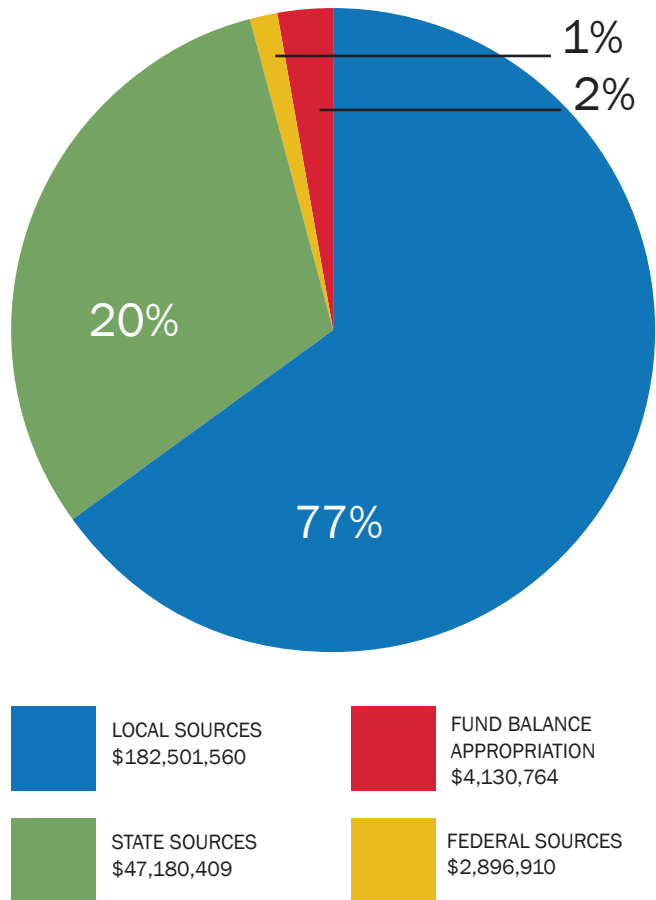
[sluhn.org/sports](http://sluhn.org/sports)



## 2024-25 DISTRICT BUDGET

## BUDGET BREAKDOWN BY

## REVENUES



## LOCAL

Current Real Estate Taxes	\$151,112,560
Interim Real Estate Tax	\$2,500,000
Public Utility Realty Tax	\$145,000
Local Services Tax	\$330,000
Earned Income Tax	\$15,000,000
Real Estate Transfer Tax	\$4,000,000
Delinquent Real Estate Tax	\$2,500,000
Interest on Investments	\$2,750,000
District Activities/Gate Receipts	\$625,000
Donations/Private Sources	\$600,000
Federal Revenue from LEA's	\$1,900,000
Other Local	\$1,039,000
<b>TOTAL LOCAL</b>	<b>\$182,501,560</b>

## STATE

Basic Education Funding	\$15,031,406
Special Education Funding	\$4,326,040
Transportation Subsidy	\$1,813,876
Rental/Sinking Fund Payments	\$300,000
Health Services	\$190,000
State Property Tax Allocation (Gaming)	\$2,695,660
Social Security Reimbursement	\$3,939,750
Retirement Reimbursement	\$17,458,500
All Other State Subsidiaries	\$1,425,177
<b>TOTAL STATE</b>	<b>\$47,180,409</b>

**TOTAL FEDERAL** \$2,896,910

**TOTAL REVENUE** \$232,578,879  
**FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATION** \$4,130,764  
**TOTAL BUDGET** \$236,709,643

## INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS - 64%

Instruction includes all activities dealing directly with the interaction between teachers and students and related costs which can be directly attributed to a program of instruction. Costs encompass all programs including regular classroom instruction, special education, early intervention services, vocational education, remediation services, driver education, required payments to charter/cyber schools and support of the Community College. Related costs include instructional expenditures for salaries and benefits (teachers, substitutes and teacher aides), contracted services, new and replacement equipment, supplies, books, maintenance costs directly attributable to instructional equipment and other expenses such as sabbatical leaves.

## INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES - 28%

This category includes the cost of all services which provide administrative, technical and logistical support to facilitate and enhance instruction.

**INSTRUCTIONAL** – This area includes pupil personnel, guidance counseling and student accounting services. It also includes the District's library, audio-visual and computer-assisted instruction programs, curriculum development and the professional development and training for the instructional staff.

**ADMINISTRATION** – The administration of the educational program includes all board expenses, salaries and supplies of the central administration, principals and their clerical employees, as well as the costs for tax collection services. This area also includes legal and programming services and the generation of computerized report cards and class scheduling.

**PUPIL HEALTH** – This area includes all expenditures related to health services provided by the District, including salaries of physicians, school nurses and health room aides along with medical and dental equipment and supplies.

**BUSINESS/FISCAL** – Those activities that involve the fiscal operations of the District are included in this category. This includes salaries, supplies and contracted services associated with budgeting, purchasing and disbursing, financial accounting, payroll, asset inventory, and auditing as well as district postage, advertising and data processing costs.

**OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE** – This includes the salaries of all employees involved in plant maintenance and operations, maintenance and custodial supplies, heating fuel, utilities (water, sewer, natural gas, electric, telephone), property insurance, equipment for buildings, vehicle maintenance and buildings and grounds upkeep.

## Attention Parkland School District Property Owners

The 2024-2025 Parkland School District Real Estate tax bills will be mailed on or after July 1, 2024. Any property owner who has not received a bill by July 15, 2024, should contact their respective township tax collector. Property owners who have taxes paid by a mortgage company or other lender should forward their bill to the lending institution as soon as possible to avoid penalties.

## REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTORS

## North Whitehall Township:

Donna Kumernitsky and Jonathan Kumernitsky, 610-769-3000  
 3256 Levans Rd., Coplay, PA 18037 or realestatetax@northwhitehall.org

Note: In late June, township offices will temporarily relocate to 4110 Independence Drive in Schnecksville due to renovation construction.

## South Whitehall Township and a portion of Allentown:

Lynn-Anne Kocon, Scott Adams and Gerald Labelle – 610-398-4050  
 2137 Walbert Avenue, Allentown, PA 18104 or taxcollector@Koconcpa.com

## Upper Macungie Township:

Tracy Hodrick and Scott Adams – 610-481-9191  
 8330 Schantz Rd., Breinigsville, PA 18031 or taxcollector@uppermac.org  
 For Information about the Taxpayer Relief Act, visit Lehigh County's website at [www.lehighcounty.org/departments/assessment-home](http://www.lehighcounty.org/departments/assessment-home)

## Parkland Homestead/Farmstead Gaming Credit

Gaming monies in the form of property tax relief will offset property taxes by approximately \$140.54 per approved homestead and/or farmstead in the Parkland School District. This assessed value reduction will be shown on your 2024-25 property tax bill, which will be mailed to all property owners on or after July 1, 2024.



# EXPENDITURE CATEGORY

**TRANSPORTATION** – Pupil transportation expenses include all costs associated with transporting students to public and non-public schools on district-operated buses.

**CENTRAL** – This area includes activities other than general administration, which support each of the other instructional and supporting services. These include public information services such as the District Newsletter, human resources, planning and research and system-wide technology services.

**OTHER** – The District’s support of the Intermediate Unit’s Administrative Budget as well as instructional material services.

**NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES 1%**

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES** – This budget area includes the salaries of advisors for student activities, coaches’ salaries for athletic programs, athletic equipment, supplies, contracted services and student accident insurance.

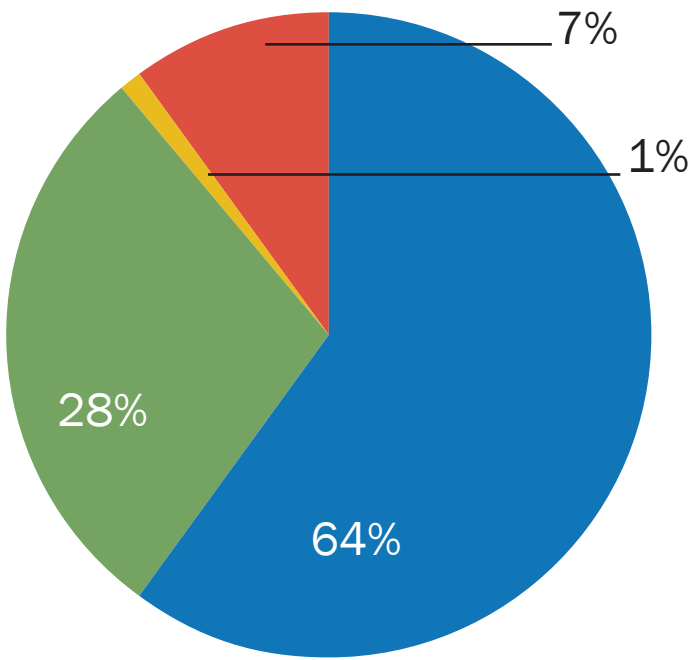
**OTHER FINANCING USES 7%**

**DEBT SERVICE/FUND TRANSFERS** – This category covers principal and interest payments on bond issues for school building construction, capital projects, educational technology and bus purchases.

**REFUND OF PRIOR YEAR’S RECEIPTS** – Payments made from the current budget for refunds of prior year expenditures.

## 2024-25 DISTRICT BUDGET

### EXPENDITURES



INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS: \$149,907,524	NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: \$3,151,438
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES: \$67,454,446	OTHER FINANCING USES: \$16,196,235

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS	
Regular Instructional Programs	\$101,592,094
Special Education	\$40,894,437
Vocational Education	\$5,581,770
Other Instructional Programs	\$530,042
Community College Support	\$1,309,181
TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS	\$149,907,524

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS	
Pupil & Instructional Staff Support	\$16,087,318
Administration	\$9,809,823
Pupil Health	\$2,935,792
Business/ Fiscal	\$2,324,229
Operation & Maintenance of Facilities	\$19,553,499
Transportation	\$12,379,067
Central Support & Other	\$4,364,718
TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES	\$67,454,446

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	
Student Activities	\$3,151,438
TOTAL NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	\$3,151,438

OTHER FINANCING USES	
Debt Service & Fund Transfers	\$16,196,235
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING USES	\$16,196,235

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$236,709,643
--------------------	---------------

## HOW DO I CALCULATE MY TAXES?

The 2024-25 Final General Fund Budget Plan calls for a property tax rate of 17.12 mills. To calculate your school district property tax, find the current assessed value of your property and multiply that value times the millage rate of 17.12. For example, a house assessed at the median value of a home in Parkland, which is \$245,193, would be calculated as follows:

$\$245,193 \times .01712 = \$4,196.48$  property tax for the school district.

Gaming monies will supply every approved homestead/farmstead with an estimated assessed value reduction of approximately \$8,622, which equates to a property tax reduction of approximately \$140.54. This will be clearly marked on your tax bill. Gaming monies do not offset the real estate tax levied to fund the Parkland Community Library.





# GARDEN CLUB INSPIRES 1ST GRADERS TO CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY WITH SEEDLING PROJECT

In celebration of Arbor Day, the Parkland Garden Club delivered white spruce seedlings to all first graders in the Parkland School District. An important goal of the club is to promote a love of gardening and care for the environment. Delivering tree seedlings has been a Parkland Garden Club tradition since the 1960's.

Debbie Bartight, chair of the Conservation committee, oversaw the project. She arranged to get the free seedlings from the state nursery. On April 19th, members individually wrapped 800 seedlings, which were then delivered to all the elementary schools, during the week of April 22 (Earth Day). Each school also received a seedling to plant on the school grounds. At Veterans Memorial, Kratzer, Parkway Manor, Cetronia, Kernsville and Fogelsville Elementary schools, members presented a short program. They demonstrated how to plant the seedlings and talked about how to care for the plants. The children at Fogelsville Elementary sang two songs for Arbor Day when the Parkland Garden members presented the program. They had practiced and sang very well!! All the first graders in the Parkland School District were taught how to plant the tree seedling in their yards at home and look forward to watching them grow.

Pictured below (clockwise from top left): Barbara Campbell presenting a program to first graders at Parkway Manor, Judy Hoffman and Barbara Campbell planting a tree at the school grounds of Parkway Manor, Patti Molitoris and Deb Topp planting a seedling at the school grounds of Kratzer, Helen Papathanasiou presenting a program to first graders at Fogelsville Elementary.

The Parkland Garden Club is presenting its 25th "Silver Anniversary Garden Tour" on Saturday, July 13th, Rain or Shine, 9 AM - 4 PM. The tour showcases the beautiful and creative properties of talented gardeners right here in the Parkland area. For tickets and more information, visit [www.parklandgardenclub.com](http://www.parklandgardenclub.com).



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# PHS MUSICAL WINS FOUR FREDDY AWARDS



CONGRATULATIONS to our students and faculty involved in Parkland High School's spring musical production of "The SpongeBob Musical" on winning FOUR Freddy Awards!

- Outstanding Ensemble
- Outstanding Featured Performance by an Actor (Agidio Poloni, 11th grade, as Patrick Star)
- Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role (Vasilis Motsenigos, 11th grade, as SpongeBob)
- Outstanding Overall Production of a Musical

WFMZ's website includes links to the award ceremony speeches as well as the two Parkland performances from the event which you can view by scanning the QR code:

–Parkland's performance of "Bikini Bottom Day"  
–Vasilis Motsenigos solo performance of "Simple Sponge" in the Lead Actor Medley



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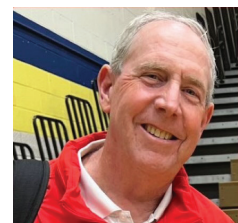
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## COACHES OF THE YEAR

CONGRATULATIONS to Anthony Shave (pictured below left) who was named Girls' Wrestling Coach of the Year by the PA Wrestling Coach's Association and to Ed Ohlson, Sr. (pictured below right), who was named Pennsylvania Girls' 6A PIAA Coach of the year!



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: TEACHING SR. CITIZENS TECH



Rehan Ahmed and Josh Dimler are two sophomore students who are interested in technology. When asked if they might be interested in teaching senior citizen adult education classes in the winter of 2022, the two freshman volunteered and have been offering courses ever since. The classes they have taught include:

- Intro to Video Streaming/Google Meet
- Intro to Misinformation
- Intro to Computers and File Storage
- Intro to Smartphones/Tablet (2 Classes)
- Digital Scrapbooking/Intro to Photography

Dave Neimeyer, former college professor and Parkland alumnus from the Class of 1969, recently wrote us, "Please pass my kudos along to Josh and Rehan for the great job they did teaching the Senior Citizen Technology Class "Intro to Smartphones/Tablets." They presented the topic clearly, and in a logical order. Their slides were excellent at supporting the topic, and they checked for understanding after each segment. Their time management was spot on."

Rehan Ahmed, pictured on the right above, loves to surround himself with technology and that's why he involves himself with many of the technology based clubs and activities at Parkland High School. He is in the Computer Club where students program and solve problems with computer coding skills and outside of school he busies himself with programming, managing servers, and many other technology-related things. Rehan said, "I enjoy teaching the seniors as it is a topic I'm very passionate about and I love to spread knowledge to anyone who is willing to take it. Technology is growing in use every-day and we need to know how to use it. I hope that people taking these classes can apply and share the lessons they learned."

Josh Dimler, pictured on the left above, likes to explore the world and what it has to offer. He is passionate about messing around with technology, growing plants, and making digital 2D & 3D art. At school, he tries to involve himself in the German community as he states, "It is rich in culture, fun, promotes unity, and includes wacky shenanigans." He is also a member of the Trojan Tech Team and loves helping teachers and students via the club as well as learning about the technological infrastructure of the school. He chooses to teach the senior citizen classes because he feels like "everyone deserves the opportunity to learn and that even though our generation is advancing, it's important to take a step back and help guide everyone forward."

We are proud of these students for stepping outside their comfort zone in trying something new to support the community and are so happy with the way their classes have been received. Both will be back in the fall to teach new classes, so be on the lookout for more information that will be shared in the fall edition that will come out in early September.



# 10 STUDENTS EARN FULL TUITION 96 EARN SCHOLARSHIPS OF 25% OR MORE TOTAL IS MORE THAN \$8M OVER FOUR YEARS

## FULL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Nick Coval	Davidson College (basketball)
Jakeily Fernandez	DeSales University
Hannah Hilliker	East Stroudsburg University
Kate Hopkins	LCCC
Louis Inserra	United States Merchant Marine Academy
Amayi Kavachery	Cedar Crest College
Andrea Knapp	DeSales University
Vivek Shepherd	DeSales University (music)
Trey Tremba	United States Military Academy - West Point
Talia Zurinkas	Lafayette College (basketball)

## 25% or MORE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Ahmar Ashraf	Temple University	Aly Kelawy	Temple University
Mia Aybar	Pace University	Danneel Khais	Misericordia University
Victoria Ball	Marquette University	Emily Kokie	Susquehanna University
Nate Bartholomew	Penn State	Erin Laury	University of Delaware
Andrew Beers	Monmouth University	Aliki Lountzis	Muhlenberg College
Tosh Bellanger	University of New Haven	Jack Maier	East Stroudsburg University
Abbey Bender	Millersville University	Tori McCoy	Moravian University
Max Bilger	Widener University	Riley McMenamy	Pratt Institute
Zander Blickley	Rider University	Samantha McQuaid	Long Island University
Caitlyn Burke	Shippensburg University	Helena Mercatili	University of Tennessee
Danica Butch	Paul Smith's College	Qasim Mirrani	Muhlenberg College
Tahlin Breitfeller	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical Univ	Sean Mockler	Pennsylvania State University
Joanna Chou	Thomas Jefferson University	Gavin Mohry	Bloomsburg University
Russell Clark	Case Western Reserve University	Nolan Montes	Ithaca College
Grace Clewell	Maryland Institute College of Art	Jovanny Ortiz	Penn State LV
James Cole	Temple University	Jared Phillip	Kutztown University
Emma Cressman	Cedar Crest College	Mia Preston	Cedar Crest College
Lila Cygan	University of Scranton	Allison Reimer	DeSales University
Joshua Daniels	Temple University	Mariam Rizwan	Muhlenberg College
Lauren Ervin	Dickinson College	Jocelyn Romero-	
Julian Ettinger-Finley	Drexel University	Billowitch	Drexel University
Dylan Fili	Bloomsburg University	Emily Rowland	Bloomsburg University
Sada Fleischaker	Connecticut College	Saleen Sabo	East Stroudsburg University
Elaina Fragassi	Shippensburg University	Ankush Sen	Drexel University
Shannon Fratus	George Mason University	Sharran Sineesh	Penn State University
Hudson Fritz	Rider University	Tyler Smith	Messiah University
Kelsey Gelb	Muhlenberg College	Maggie Smith	Loyola University
Mauricio González	Temple University	Lucas Souders	Saint Anselm College
Trevor Grice	Catholic University of America	Will Stiles	Misericordia University
Tejasvi Gutta	Rutgers University New Brunswick	Grace Strobl	St Joseph's University
Dianmy Guzman	Cedar Crest College	Brynn Suhocki	Boston University
Joshua Hall	Shippensburg University	Cedric Tabban	Florida Institute of Technology
Brian Hard	University of Scranton	Alina Taddei	Bloomsburg University
Nina Harf	DeSales University	Rowen Taylor	DeSales University
Jerrod Harris	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Logan Thrash	Delaware Valley University
Kaida Heintzelman	Susquehanna University	Kendra Trader	Howard University
Kayla Hlay	Temple University	Noah Trager	Marywood University
Lana Hurwitz	Monmouth University	Sophia Giada Treglia	St. Joseph's University
Mujtaba Jaffer	Temple University	Ali Wezza	Moravian University
Andrew Jarrah	Muhlenberg College	Ethan Willard	Monmouth University
Sophia Jean	Temple University	Elizabeth Williams	Montclair State University
Faithnia Jean	Temple University	Isabella Witt	Coastal Carolina University
Allison Jones	Duquesne University	Sabrina Woodham	Temple University
Alina Keister	Thomas Jefferson University	Olivia Wynn	Penn State

## STUDENT WINNERS WHO WON 1st or 2nd PLACE AT STATE & NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

**National Merit Semifinalist:** Joshua Bosell, Yechan Cho, Lucas Dee, Thomas Golchrist, Qasim Mirrani, Eshaan Patel, Joseph Peng, Alexander Saccone, Brynn Suhocki and Rishab Yanala

**MaxPreps PA Girls' Volleyball Player of the Year:** Maggie Smith

**Varsity Boys' Basketball - State Runner Up:** Nas Adams, Scottie Bauer, Tyler Beck, Blake Borcoman, Nick Coval, Derek Giegbefumwen, Connor Johns, Ryan Kearney, TJ Lawrence, Blake Nassry, Eddie Paz-Romero, Javian Porter, Josh Pulver, Owen Rogers, Robbie Ruisch, Zaire Smaltz, Luke Spang, Chayce Taylor, Jayden Thomas and Michael Toth

**Track 2x Silver Medalist:** Andrew Beers (110M and 300M hurdles)

**Congressional App Challenge:** Aum Purani

**National STEM Competition:** Tushar Mehta

**PHS Scholastic Scrimmage:** Max Averbach, Evan Frye, Thomas Gilchrist, Joseph Peng, Samith Rohatgi and Alexander Saccone

**PA MathCounts Competition:** Eddy Zhang

**PA MathCounts State Team Champions:** Oscar Liu, Wesley Luo, Lucas Yang and Eddy Zhang (also won Individual State Championship)

**PA School Press Association State Competition:** Mehar Brar, Elsa Hoderewski and Sarah George

**Pennsylvania Governor's STEM Competition:** Maelina Hontz, Evan Newhard and Blayne Yocum

**PA Science Olympiad State Champions:** Adwik Banerjee, Vibha Borkar, Shri Desai, Harsha Gollapudi, Ayush Jalani, Harshita Keerthi, Sisira Kota, Kevin Lu, Areesha Mariyam, Vihaan Rao, Guhan Sathish, Kushaan Shah, Shreemay Shah, Anthony Wang, Kelly Wang, Hanchun Yang and Ken Zeng

**PA History Day Winners:** Talha Ali, Manisha Barathram, Santi Borelli, Brandon Cai, Gresshma Konda, Jayaditya Kothari, Eric Liu, Tushar Mehta, Aarna Pandey, Samith Rohatgi, Shravani Shelke, Scarlett Svetcov, Adam Vasquies and Lucas Yang

**All State Band:** Brandon Cai, Andrew Divem and William Ray

**All State Chorus:** Jaxon Egge, Madelyn Grim, Kaida Heintzelman, Ethan Silver, Swarna Suresh and Madelynn Wascura

**All State Orchestra:** Tariq Shahid, Cyan Smoyer, Sarene Son and Genevieve Vasquez

**All State Wind Ensemble:** Daniel Schiffert

**National Powerlifting Champions:** Noah Holecz, Ryan Marra, Maddox Rampen, Jocelyn Romero-Billowich, Satoshi Rosenblum, Casey Schreiner, Kyle Steiner and Sawyer Unger

**Del Valley Science Fair Medals and 1st Place:** Veda Gandhi, Ayush Jalani, Sean Jeon, Aadhavan Raja Nainar, Aaditri Suresh, Anthony Wang and Lucas Yang

**PA Jr. Academy of Science Fair Perfect Scores:** Neha Atchuthuni, Adwik Banerjee, Milani Brown, Veda Gandhi, Eleanora Heckman, Ayush Jalani, Aashay Karandikar, Nolan Kishbaugh, Wesley Luo, Areesha Mariyam, Tushar Mehta, Rishi Ponda, Aasditri Suresh, Jonathan Win and Vivian Xu

**PA Media Design Competition:** Twisha Gandhi

**Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA):** Samith Rohatgi, Sooraj Tharumia and Jerry Wang

**LCTI State Winners:** Carter Campbell, Brianna Mink, Daniel Osmanovic, Emerson Slaughenhaupt and Clay Soares

## ATHLETES PLAYING IN COLLEGE



View the complete list of athletes who will play their sport in college along with their respective schools at this QR code:



Check out the Class of 2024 Achievements in academics, arts and athletics on our Class of 2024 webpage by scanning the QR code!



## CONGRATULATIONS SENIOR SPEAKER ETHAN SILVER

At Parkland High School, students audition for the prestigious role of giving the senior class speech during Commencement. Congratulations are extended to Ethan Silver who gave this year's speech!





Lisa Ervin  
Executive Director, Parkland Education Foundation  
[ervinl@parklandsd.org](mailto:ervinl@parklandsd.org)  
610-351-5572  
[www.parklandsd.org/foundation](http://www.parklandsd.org/foundation)

## MAPRIL MATH MADNESS GRANT



Fogelsville Elementary hosted the Mapril Math Madness grant, named in honor of former Superintendent, Rich Sniscak. Mapril Math Madness is a student-developed and student-run educational tournament that aims to develop math skills for students in grades 3-5 in an enjoyable manner. This annual month-long tournament occurs each spring in preparation for the PSSA standardized tests. Traci Falco, the Data and Instructional Specialist at Fogelsville Elementary, applied for the grant and oversees Mapril Math Madness.

Rich Sniscak attended the grant celebration to participate in the culminating activity, "Are You Smarter than a 5th Grader?" He was joined by Foundation Board President Tori Morgan and Foundation Executive Director Lisa Ervin. The grant proved highly effective in preparing the students, as they were able to outperform the Foundation team. "We were so impressed at the skills of these students; they have obviously worked really hard this past month to get ready," said Lisa Ervin, Foundation Executive Director. A heartfelt thank you to Traci Falco and her student-run organization for enhancing the math skills of their students in a fun and engaging way.

## 2024 ALUMNI CELEBRATION

On May 2nd, the Parkland School District Education Foundation hosted its 12th Annual Distinguished Alumni event. The celebration commenced at Parkland High School, where each Distinguished Alumnus was honored and delivered a brief speech. Subsequently, the event transitioned to Lehigh Country Club for a celebratory dinner. This occasion was a tremendous community evening, and the Foundation was immensely grateful for the opportunity to gather and celebrate these remarkable Distinguished Alumni. Visitors to our website ([www.parklandsd.org/foundation](http://www.parklandsd.org/foundation)) can view the interview videos of the 2024 Inductees, which were produced by Parkland students.

### The 2024 Distinguished Alumni Inductees are:

- Lindsay Beagle, M.S. (2000) Biochemical Engineer/Senior Director, Merck
- Dr. John Pfeiffer, Jr. Ed. D (1979) Parkland Cyber Program Supervisor, Retired; Owner, John Pfeiffer, Jr. - Auctioneer/Appraiser
- Captain Jonathon Steed (2008) Allentown Fire Marshal/Investigator/U.S. Marine Corps
- Patricia L. Stewart (1961) President/CFO of Ironton Internet & Telephone Company

The Distinguished Alumni event serves as the Foundation's most significant fundraiser of the year, enabling it to raise funds for Parkland Staff Celebrate Innovation Grants. This year, the Foundation was thrilled to fund over \$200,000 worth of innovative teacher grants. The Education Foundation extends sincere gratitude to all volunteers, companies, and individuals whose donations and time made this event a resounding success. The Parkland Education Foundation's dedication to preserving Parkland's excellence would not be feasible without the generosity and commitment of the community. We are grateful to be part of a community that values the importance of a quality public education.

Thank you to the Celebration's top sponsors: St. Luke's University Health Network, Service Electric Cable TV, Alvin H. Butz Inc., The Neffs National Bank, Randall's on The Orchard, Myers Benner Corporation, Lehigh Valley Health Network, King Spry, and Alloy 5.


If you know Parkland alumni who have changed the world for the better, consider nominating them from our website and click on "Distinguished Alumni Celebration" and then navigate to the nomination process to find the application.

# Congrats

TO OUR

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

### 2024 INDUCTEES:

 <p>2000</p> <p><b>LINDSAY BEAGLE, M.S.</b> BIOMEDICAL ENGINEER/ SENIOR DIRECTOR, MERCK</p>	 <p>1979</p> <p><b>DR. JOHN PFEIFFER, JR. ED.</b> PARKLAND CYBER PROGRAM SUPERVISOR, RETIRED; OWNER, JOHN PFEIFFER, JR. - AUCTIONEER/ APPRAISER</p>
 <p>2008</p> <p><b>CAPTAIN JONATHON STEED</b> ALLENTOWN FIRE MARSHAL/ INVESTIGATOR/USMC</p>	 <p>1961</p> <p><b>PATRICIA L. STEWART</b> PRESIDENT/CFO OF IRLTON INTERNET &amp; TELEPHONE COMPANY</p>

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CREATE A  
**BRIGHTER  
TOMORROW**



The Parkland Education Foundation thanks its partners in Education.



Working together to be the difference in the lives of Parkland students.





## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

For a list of Parkland Schools Summer Library Hours and local summer camps and learning opportunities, visit [www.parklandsd.org/camps](http://www.parklandsd.org/camps).

June 8 - Parkland Community Library Summer Reading Club Kickoff (all ages)

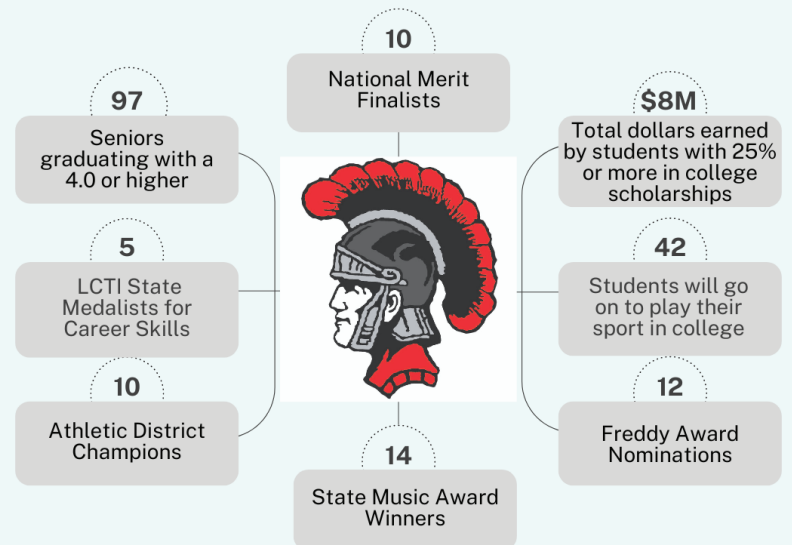
July 13 - Parkland Garden Club 25th Annual Garden Tour - Visit [www.parklandgardenclub.com](http://www.parklandgardenclub.com) for more information.

August 15 - 18 - Friends of Parkland Library Used Book Sale, Jordan Evangelical Lutheran Church. Visit <https://www.parklandlibrary.org/friends-of-the-parkland-community-library/> for more information.



For households that might need a little extra help putting meals on the table this summer, Pennsylvania will launch SUN Bucks, Pennsylvania's Summer EBT program, a new grocery benefits program that provides households with a one-time payment of \$120 for each eligible child to buy food while school is out. Benefits can be used at local participating retailers to purchase groceries. If your student is enrolled in Parkland AND qualifies for free or reduced-price school meals, your child(ren) are automatically eligible. Paper applications for children who are not automatically eligible will become available in July 2024. For more info, visit the DHS Summer EBT/SUN Bucks webpage at <http://www.dhs.pa.gov/SunBucks> and search for "Sun Bucks."

## CONGRATS TO THE CLASS OF 2024



## #PARKLANDPRIDE



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# PARKLAND NEWSLETTER

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### NONDISCRIMINATION IN PROGRAMS AND EMPLOYMENT POLICY

In accordance with TITLE VI, TITLE IX, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Parkland School District does not discriminate either in the educational or vocational programs and activities which it operates or in the employment of personnel, on the basis of sex, handicap, disability, race, color, national origin, age, or religion. If you are physically or mentally disabled, visually or hearing impaired, you may qualify for special services/instruction/equipment modifications so you can successfully complete the education program or participate in activities. All inquiries concerning this policy/questions regarding specific programs, services, and facilities for the disabled should be directed to the District Equal Rights Officer, Assistant Superintendent, Parkland School District, 1210 Springhouse Road, Allentown, PA at (610) 351-5505.

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