20021 PENNRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT RAMS REPORT















MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Pennridge Community,

I am happy to present the 4th annual Rams Report! In the 2021-2022 Rams Report, we will share with you highlights from the previous school year and goals for the 2021-2022 school year. Continue reading to learn about a state championship, another year without a tax increase, investigating a program to support students with mental health needs, and much more! We are proud to share with you the work of our students and staff and celebrate the positive impact they have on our community.

We hope you enjoy this insight into our school district and if you would like to learn more, please visit our website at www.pennridge.org for all updated information regarding the exciting things happening at Pennridge!

Pennridge Proud! David A. Bolton, Ed.D. Superintendent



Dear Pennridge Community,

The Pennridge School Board is committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all students and staff in the Pennridge School District. Our goal is to meet the individual needs of all students and prepare them to be well-rounded, lifelong learners with the skills necessary to succeed on any path they choose. Each school board member is dedicated to their role in assessing new initiatives with the best educational interest of the kids, how to provide staff with the tools and training necessary to carry it out, and the most cost-effective way to meet these goals.

The board is proud to have a close working relationship with Dr. Bolton and the administration. Working together, we have been able to bring additional teachers and assistants to the classroom, additional resources to the classroom, additional supports for and expand experiences available to the students. We have continued to improve the facilities and maintenance of all 11



From Left to Right: Ryan Gerhart, Megan Banis-Clemens, students, and new programs to further enhance their talents Lisa Walters, Joan Cullen (Vice President), Bill Krause (President), David Reiss, Ronald Wurz, Robert Cormack, Dr. David Bolton (Superintendent). Not pictured: Katy Dolan

buildings through capital projects every summer, and we continue to upgrade the bus fleet. While making improvements and bringing additional resources to all areas, we have kept taxes at the same level for the past 5 years, and the administration has brought forth a balanced budget for the past two years. We also have worked to restructure the district's debt, saving the taxpayers over \$1 million dollars. Additional efforts are under way to restructure our debt related to the Upper Bucks Career and Technical Center that would result in the district being debt-free as early as 2029.

We are so fortunate to work with incredibly talented staff who are dedicated to carrying out the district's goals with the well-being of our students as their main priority. We have seen the bar continuously raised through these efforts, inspiring students to reach new heights in academics, athletics, music, the arts, woodworking, STEM, and the trades. We are Pennridge Proud of these tremendous accomplishments and are excited to share some stories with you in this edition of the Rams Report.

The Pennridge community is an integral part of driving improvement to the educational product delivered. The Board invites you to attend School Board and Committee meetings and take an active role in the educational affairs of your community. When possible, the Board encourages all parents and community members to remain constructively engaged in your schools by expressing your views, communicating with Board members, and participating in parent-teacher groups or special committees.

We welcome YOUR input on how we can make Pennridge even better! You can communicate with the entire Board by emailing us at PSDschoolboard@pennridge.org.

Bill Krause Pennridge School Board President

Download our App

We are thrilled to share the new district mobile app with you! We hope you will take a moment to download the app on your IOS or Android device and explore the many features including news stories, event calendars, school information, and emergency notifications. Instructions on how to download and customize the app can be found at https://www.pennridge.org/mobileapp.



NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT

Women's Soccer Team State Champions

Please give our Lady Rams a round of applause on their state championship! Coach Audrey Anderson led the girls' soccer team to a 10-1 regular-season record and captured the Suburban One League Championship. The regular season was followed by an exciting



postseason, as the team defeated Great Valley, Pennsbury, Abington, Spring-Ford, and Parkland to claim the District Championship. The girls then traveled to Hershey for the State Championship vs. Northern Alleghany. Leah Malone scored the game-winning goal in the second overtime period to give Pennridge the 1-0 victory and its first team State Championship since 1987! The ladies displayed outstanding determination, skill, and sportsmanship. Our school and community are proud of the team's accomplishments and so very thankful for the excitement the State Champs brought to the anything-but-regular year of 2020!

Sports Ticketing Information

Join us this fall under the lights for all Pennridge Fall sporting events! You can find out more about our teams and ticketing information at www.pennridge.org/PHSathletics.

Property Tax Rebate Program

The Pennridge School District continues to receive applications for the Pennridge School District Property Tax Rebate Program. The program will allow some taxpayers to benefit from tax relief. To date, the Pennridge School District has refunded 247 residents more than \$20,000. For detailed information and program requirements, please visit our website at www.pennridge.org/business under the Property Tax Rebate tab.

MAJOR GOAL AREAS FOR 2021-2022

Healthy Sleep and School Start Time Study

The Pennridge School District has engaged in a study of healthy sleep and school start times. To better understand the impact this topic would have on the Pennridge School District and community, a committee was developed to study the components that would be affected by a potential change to school start times. The committee is comprised of various stakeholders including students, parents, support and professional staff members, district administration, and community members. Throughout the 20-21 school year, the study has continued to understand what a change to school start times would have on the district and community. During the summer of 2021, the district engaged in a transportation study to better understand the complexity a change in times would have regarding the additional need for buses and drivers. With the transportation study near completion at the start of the 2021-22 school year, the committee will recommend any potential change to school start times to the school board in the fall of 2021.



Investigate the Formation of The Pennridge Academy for Student Wellness

Research will be done regarding a new program at the high school to support students with mental health needs. To support those needs we are discussing the development of a program that keeps students at Pennridge High School while providing counseling, alongside academic and mental health support in a safe environment. We will explore community partnerships, research, visit other programs, and define the type of student we can best support.

Develop a Comprehensive Plan for the Years 2022-2025

The Pennsylvania Department of Education requires all districts to complete a comprehensive strategic plan every three years. The Pennridge School District is embarking on a renewal of the comprehensive plan that will cover the years 2022 through 2025. The district Steering Committee consists of 35 members representing the school board, parents, teachers, administrators, local businesses, and other community members. Meetings began in September 2021.

Capital Plan Updates

The School Board continues to develop a five-year capital projects plan. The plan's goal is to provide necessary maintenance and improvements to all facilities and grounds within the district. The current plan included additions such as expanded parking at West Rockhill Elementary school and new tennis courts at Pennridge High School. Regular improvements this summer included natatorium maintenance, replacement of all PA and clock systems, and replacing food services equipment. Capital plan projects are planned for approval by the school board in the fall of each year to be completed the following summer.

NON-PROFIT Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID DOYLESTOWN, PA PERMIT NO. 640

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL



PENNRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT BY THE NUMBERS

2021-2022 Budget

\$144.8 million dollars

The Pennridge School Board has again adopted a District Budget that does not increase property taxes, does not include a structural deficit, and does not include new borrowing. All of that occurred while continuing to provide for the educational needs of the students. This is the fifth year in a row without a tax increase.

2021-2022 Enrollment

- 6,612 Students
 - 2,622 Elementary School Students
 - 1,644 Middle School Students
 - 2,346 High School Students

Class of 2021

Graduates: 635

Post High School Plans

· Four-Year College 54% • Two-Year College 18% • Entering the Workforce 21% · Entering the Military 3% Other 5%

Staff

- 519 Teachers (82% with advanced degrees)
- 547 Support Staff

Advanced Placement Test Statistics

- 368 students took 714 AP Exams
- 78.35% of these students received a score of 3 or higher



SAT Statistics

	Reading	Math	Total	State Avg	Nat. Avg
2021	586	562	1148	1131	1060
2020	591	582	1173	1082	1051
2019	589	586	1175	1086	1059

ACT Statistics

	English	Math	Reading	Science	State Avg	Nat. Avg
2021	*	*	*	*	23.7	20.7
2020	22.9	23.8	24.6	23.8	23.7	20.6
2019	23.7	23.9	24.6	24.4	23.6	20.9

^{*}Pennridge 2021 ACT statistics were not available at the time of printing.

Contact Us

District Administration Office 1200 N. 5th St., Perkasie, PA 18944



215.257.5011



www.pennridge.org







