

# PARKLAND NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024

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## CELEBRATING 75 YEARS



PARKLAND HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1950



The start of the 2024-25 school year marks the beginning of our 75th year since we established ourselves as the "Parkland School District." Pictured above is the first Parkland class, graduating just 87 students! Today, Parkland graduates 800 students every year. To celebrate, we are making Throwback Thursday social media posts every week that showcase a yearbook photo from the past. Check them out to see if you recognize yourself or a classmate in a post! We are also inviting our past Homecoming Kings and Queens to march in our Homecoming Halftime Parade this year on October 4th. And, this year's printed school calendar theme continues to celebrate our 75th Anniversary with photos and captions chronicling the District's history. Community members can stop by the Administration Center to pick up a copy. For our Opening Day, all staff received a throwback t-shirt. We will incorporate the anniversary into future districtwide events such as the Community Resource Fair. The anniversary comes at a perfect time as we plan for our Vision 2030 Project. As we researched our rich history, so much of our last 75 years of growth was tied to facility development that allowed new academics, arts and athletic activities to flourish and grow.

Due to a merger of North and South Whitehall School districts so that resources could be pooled to construct more schools, our school district was renamed Parkland in the fall of 1949, with 10th grade student Mary Lou Urffer submitting the new name via a naming contest. In the fall of 1950, Upper Macungie officially merged with North and South Whitehall Townships and the three townships worked together to plan and construct the first Parkland Union Junior-Senior High School (known as Orefield Middle School today) on 88 acres that would open in 1954.



Keep your eyes on the road.  
Arrive Alive!

Put the phone down, it can wait.  
Don't text and drive.

Robert B. Heintzelman, Supervisor  
4906 Route 309 Schnecksville, PA 18078  
(610) 799-3125  
[www.heintzlemancares.com](http://www.heintzlemancares.com)

*Heintzelman*  
FUNERAL HOME  
INC.

# Stronger Together



Leaders lead, and on Thursday, Aug. 1, 2024, Jefferson and Lehigh Valley Health Network came together to move health care forward like our organizations have been doing for a combined **325 years.**



**Joseph G. Cacchione, MD**  
*Chief Executive Officer, Jefferson*



**Brian A. Nester, DO, MBA**  
*Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Jefferson  
President, LVHN*

Our combined health system is now one of the top 15 not-for-profit health systems in the country, creating a network of care that will positively impact generations to come. **We are stronger together.**

What does this mean for you? Together, we will bring an even stronger commitment to the Lehigh Valley and northeastern Pennsylvania, growing programs and services close to home. You have our word.

Together, we will give you access to the highest quality care through our network of 32 hospitals and more than 700 sites of care. Together, our expanded reach ensures you have access to a broader network of nationally ranked specialists who will collaborate with each other to provide innovative technology and treatments close to where you live, work and play. Together, we will conduct groundbreaking research and clinical trials that result in better outcomes for you.

We were two organizations with complementary areas of focus, a shared vision and aligned organizational approaches. Now, with the combined strength of our 65,000 dedicated professionals and our shared passion for exceptional service, we can do even more to improve lives.

Together, we will be driven to offer new education and professional development opportunities to our colleagues and recruit the best and brightest clinicians to provide the highest quality care. We'll tackle the most persistent challenges we face, such as health equity and behavioral health, which impacts all our communities.

The future of healthcare is rapidly evolving. Together, we are focused on you as we forge ahead and shape the future of care in our region. Our commitment to you is unwavering. Together, we will increase access and expand the reach of our research, education and expertise.

**We are stronger and better together for you.**



HOME OF SIDNEY KIMMEL MEDICAL COLLEGE







# SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parkland Community,

Welcome back for the 2024-2025 school year and Happy 75th Anniversary to Parkland School District. We welcomed back all staff with throwback Parkland t-shirts for the staff to enjoy. We would like to thank this year's sponsors: Lehigh Valley Educators Credit Union, Service Electric, North Penn Custom Tees, Kades Margolis and the U.S. Army National Guard for helping us provide these items for our staff. We truly value business and community support and thank everyone who helped make Parkland Staff feel important as they kick off our 75th year.

**VISION 2030** - Vision 2030 is the name of the project we have been communicating that will help address growing enrollment concerns in grades 6-12 across the District. The first phase involves a classroom, office and cafe addition to Parkland High School. We anticipate phase two of the project to include renovations at the Orefield Middle School (OMS) site and relocating the transportation facilities away from the school building for safer and less congested traffic flow. It also addresses site issues and stadium concerns. The total estimated cost of the Vision 2030 expansion plan is projected to be \$210 million, with construction at Parkland High School slated to commence next year, followed by the project at the OMS site. We shared renderings of the PHS addition in earlier newsletters, and our team will present details for the PHS project at our September 17th School Board Meeting with our architect partners from Alloy5. At either the November or December School Board Meeting, we plan to review Phase 2 plans that will address growth at the middle school level as well as site concerns. Residents can view our School Board agendas on our website prior to our meetings on November 19th and December 17th.

**GOALS** - We spent a good deal of time refining District Vision, Mission and Goals this summer and the final set of goals are the backbone of what all departments and schools will focus on this upcoming year. The goals will be posted in all buildings this year and are shared below:

**SUPERINTENDENT'S PARKLAND PRIDE AWARD**

Abby Rieker	Jessica Delong
Alicia Kumernitsky	Karen Aulisio
Allison McPeck	Kerin Steigerwalt
Alyson Barlok	Kelly Rosario
Amanda Holbrook	Leslie Frisbie
Brad Wannemacher	Lindsey Neff
Cailin Bodnar	Marissa Pearson
Casey Troutman	Melissa Lovejoy
Chey Garvin	Penny Posch
Dave Beers	Rachel McLaughlin
David Wacker	Tami Cunningham
Dawn Snyder	Carlton Ringer
Errol Barnes	David St. Hill
Jean Wisler	

A special congratulations is extended to the Parkland Pride Winners who went above and beyond to make Parkland a great place for students to grow this past school year!

**Vision**  
EDUCATING for Success,  
INSPIRING Excellence

**Mission**  
EDUCATE and EMPOWER each learner to be a MEANINGFUL CONTRIBUTOR in a dynamic global society through the COLLABORTIVE efforts of students, staff, parents, and the Parkland community.

2024-2025

**Priority Goals**

- **STRENGTHEN** physical security and cybersecurity within the District
- **ENHANCE** student mental, emotional, and behavioral supports
- **IMPROVE** connections for students, staff, and families
- **FOCUS ON LITERACY** using the Science of Reading
- **IMPLEMENT a MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM of SUPPORT (MTSS)** at the middle school level
- **REIMAGINE the HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE** in conjunction with a construction project that will expand the building
- **EXECUTE** the District Capital Action Plan
- **FINALIZE VISION 2030** to address growing enrollment in Grades 6-12
- **PROVIDE HIGHLY ENGAGED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** for all staff to best serve students
- **EMPLOY BUDGET STRATEGIES** that prioritize short and long-term needs

**CAPITAL PROJECTS** - Over the summer, several improvements were made to our elementary schools. Every elementary school now has Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization units in occupied spaces to reduce airborne particulates, odors, and pathogens. This technology works by attaching ions to contaminants, making them easier to filter. Additionally, Fogelsville got a new playground to replace aging equipment, and two basement classrooms were renovated. New stadium lights were installed on the PHS turf field, greatly improving visibility. The PHS gym received a new sound system and gym floor, and the PHS pool also received a new sound system. Kernsville had a new HVAC system installed, and all carpets were replaced with hard flooring.

**ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS** - Our fall sports teams have already started competing. Don't miss a home event! The Parkland Education Foundation has made it possible for all Parkland students to get in FREE to turf and gym events. You can also watch many of our home competitions via livestream at [YouTube.com/ParklandTV](https://www.youtube.com/ParklandTV). Our Performing and Visual Arts programs are also gearing up for another wonderful season. Tickets for the fall play *Romeo and Juliet* go on sale on September 9th and tickets for the Children's Show *Disney's Finding Nemo, JR.* will go on sale on September 23rd at <https://cur8.com>. Please come out and support all of our students and show your Parkland Pride. For a complete list of events, please visit: [parklandsd.org/schools/calendar](https://www.parklandsd.org/schools/calendar).

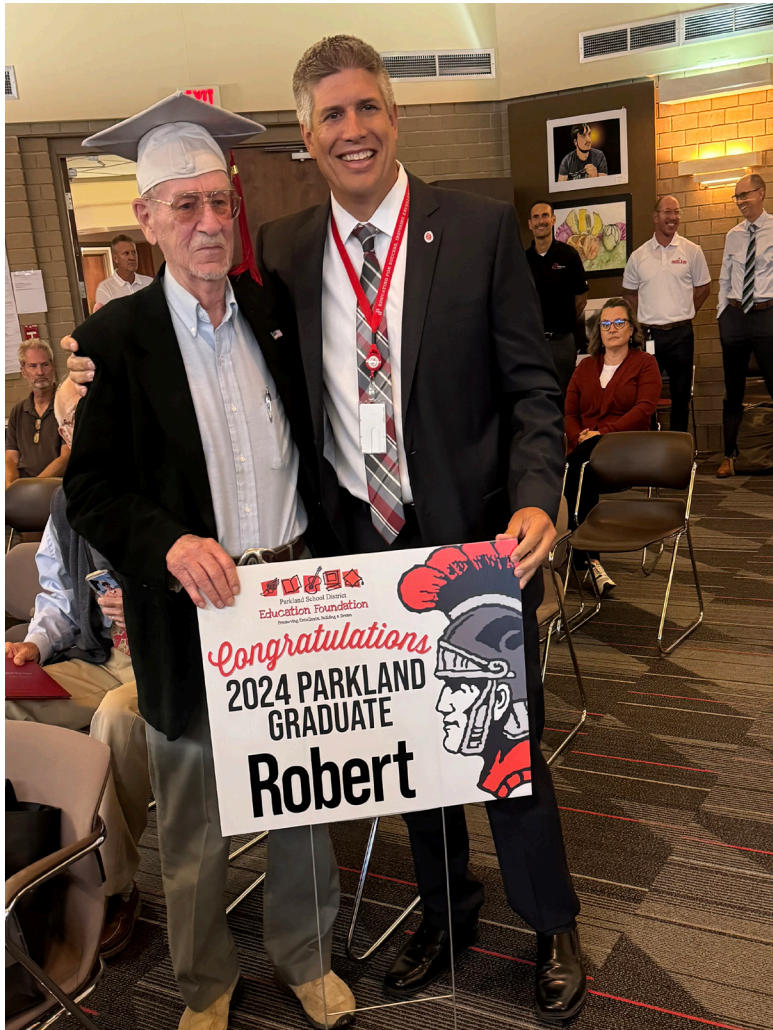
Sincerely,  
Mark J. Madson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
#ParklandPride

**LISTEN TO THE #PARKLANDPRIDE PODCAST**

with  
**DR. MARK MADSON**  
[WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SUPERINTENDENTMADSON](https://www.parklandsd.org/superintendentmadson)



# VETERAN RECEIVES LONG-AWAITED DIPLOMA



The Parkland Board of School Directors presented Robert Franklin Seel, Class of 1961, with his long-awaited Parkland High School diploma on August 20, 2024, at 7 PM, during its regular School Board meeting.

Mr. Seel, who left high school in January of 1961 to serve in the Vietnam War, recently reached out to the District about receiving his diploma. As a result of his military service, he never received an official diploma from Parkland High School.

Thanks to Operation Recognition, an initiative by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, eligible veterans who meet specific criteria can now receive their high school diplomas. Mr. Seel had fulfilled the graduation requirements outlined in Parkland Policy 217, qualifying him for this honor.

To commemorate this significant milestone, Mr. Seel received a diploma, cap and gown, and a graduation lawn sign. He attended the ceremony, where the district not only presented his diploma, but also expressed gratitude for his service to the country.

Superintendent Dr. Mark Madson stated, "We are privileged to award Mr. Seel his diploma. We hope this event raises awareness among other veterans who may have left high school before graduating that they too can receive an official Parkland High School diploma."



**VETERANS INTERESTED IN OBTAINING DIPLOMAS CAN VISIT THE PA DEPT OF ED WEBPAGE BY SCANNING THE QR CODE**



Mr. Seel and Superintendent Dr. Mark Madson are all smiles as they pose for a photo with his graduation lawn sign.

### New! Device Protection Plan Available

An optional **Device Protection Plan (DPP)** is available for \$10 per year with open enrollment ending **September 30, 2024**. Otherwise, families will be responsible for all repairs related to Chromebook damages as outlined at [www.parklandsd.org/dpp](http://www.parklandsd.org/dpp).

Visit [MySchoolBucks.com](http://MySchoolBucks.com) to purchase the plan:

- 1 **Download** the mobile app or visit [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com)
- 2 **Login**, create your free account or find your student by entering their name, birthdate and student ID
- 3 **Choose School Store** from the top menu
- 4 **Choose Category** > Parkland Device Protection Plan
- 5 **Click** > Details and make the purchase



**Plan includes:**

- 1st accidental damage** - Tech Dept. will repair or issue a replacement Chromebook at no charge;
- 2nd accidental damage** - Tech Dept. will repair or issue a replacement Chromebook at no charge;
- 3rd and subsequent accidental damages** - Parents/Guardians will be invoiced for the standard repair cost of the damaged Chromebook, standard repair or replacement fees will apply.

\* The Protection Plan does not provide coverage for lost/stolen chromebooks, intentional damages, damages caused by misuse, or previously unpaid invoices. In these instances, SRP fees will apply as determined by Administration. DPP does not cover Chromebook accessories such as the charger or stylus.

**STANDARD REPAIR FEES WITHOUT DEVICE PROTECTION PLAN:**

- Full device replacement: \$125-275
- LCD display (broken screen): \$50-100
- Motherboard (due to spill or drop): \$50-100
- Keyboard, palmrest assembly: \$30

# A NEW PLAYGROUND FOR FOGELSVILLE



Confetti was in the air on the first day of school at Fogelsville where students, staff and Foxford, the school mascot, celebrated their new playground equipment with a ribbon cutting ceremony.





# THE REGION'S VARSITY TEAM IN SPORTS MEDICINE.

When it's game time, you want your best on the field... that's St. Luke's. We offer the most comprehensive and advanced treatment for athletic injuries, and we are the largest provider of sports medicine services throughout northeastern Pennsylvania. We offer:

Sports Medicine | Athletic Training | Sports Performance  
Sports Psychology | Sports Nutrition | Chiropractic  
Orthopedic Surgery | Physical Therapy | And more



**St Luke's**  
Sports Medicine

*With St. Luke's Sports Medicine, it's **GAME ON.**  
Now get out there and play!*

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



# PARKLAND SENIOR CITIZEN CLASSES

REGISTER at [WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SENIORS](http://WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SENIORS)



The following classes will be offered this fall to Senior Citizens, ages 55 and older, who reside in the Parkland School District. **The classes are FREE of charge. Please register before the class deadline of September 26, 2024, online at [www.parklandsd.org/seniors](http://www.parklandsd.org/seniors).**

If you don't have Internet access, call us at 610-351-5578 and we will assist you. We ask that people do not register unless they can attend a majority of the sessions. All classes will be reserved via a lottery system. **Parkland School District will send out course notifications starting on September 30th.** Kindly refrain from contacting the office until after September 30th if you have not yet received confirmation. Thank you.

## WATER AEROBICS

**Parkland High School Pool**

**Wednesdays, October 9-November 20, 6:00 PM-7:00 PM**

**Saturdays, October 12-November 23, 1:00-2:00 PM** (No Class October 19)

This class, co-sponsored by Upper Macungie Township Recreation and South Whitehall Township Recreation, features low impact aerobics (conducted in shallow water). The class will focus on the use of all muscles and limbs, breathing and stretching. Water shoes or old, clean sneakers are suggested. Swim noodles are provided at the pool. Swimmers should enter through the lower entrance at the back of the Athletic Wing. Please arrive between 5:30 and 5:45 PM to ensure entrance to the building and time to change in the locker room. Please note that no one will be allowed to enter the building before 5:30 PM. The classes will be held in the Parkland High School Pool located at 2700 North Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, PA 18104.

## DOABLE YOGA FOR SENIORS

**Kernsville Elementary School Gym**

**Mondays, October 14-December 16 (NO CLASS December 2) and January 6-May 19 (NO CLASS February 17, March 31 & April 21)**

**4:30-5:30 PM**

**Schnecksville Elementary School Gym**

**Wednesdays, October 16-December 18 (NO CLASS November 27) and January 8-May 21**

**4:30-5:30 PM**

The class will provide a gentle practice to improve the connection between body and mind. Through a combination of seated floor positions (no chairs) and standing flow, you will learn to maintain or increase range of motion as well as improve balance. Please bring your own yoga mat, block, blanket, water and eye mask. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the class starting to get set up as the class will start promptly at 4:30 PM. Maximum of 65 participants per class. Monday classes will be held at Kernsville Elementary School, 5051 Kernsville Road, Orefield, PA 18069. Wednesday classes will be held at Schnecksville Elementary School, 4260 Sand Spring Road, Schnecksville, PA 18078. Thursday class is at Veterans Memorial, 250 Twin Ponds Rd., Breinigsville, PA 18031.

## ST. LUKE'S CHAIR & STRENGTH CLASS

**St. Luke's Fitness & Sports Performance Center-West End**

**Wednesdays & Fridays**

**October 2-November 8 and**

**January 8-February 14, 9:00-9:45 AM**

This class, co-sponsored by Upper Macungie Township Recreation and South Whitehall Township Recreation is a chair strength and mobility class, a low-impact program designed to improve strength and mobility for adults of all activity levels. It is movement-based training for persons that want to work on balance, coordination, agility and functional strength. This class is led by a St. Luke's Instructor. The St. Luke's Fitness & Sports Center is located at 501 Cetronia Road, Allentown, PA 18104.

## INTRODUCTION TO AI (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE)

**Parkland High School Library Classroom**

**Tuesday, October 22, 3:15-4:15 PM**

This class, led by Parkland High School students and sponsored by South Whitehall Recreation. This course focuses on introducing the world of AI by teaching some AI applications, how to access it, and understand how it works. Participants should bring their own smartphone, or other device, to the class. Parkland High School is located at 2700 North Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown. Please enter through the main entrance.

## INTRODUCTION TO CYBERSECURITY/VIRUS PROTECTION

**Parkland High School Library Classroom**

**Tuesday, October 29, 3:15-4:15 PM**

This class, led by Parkland High School students and sponsored by South Whitehall Recreation. This course focuses on educating threats, viruses, and vulnerabilities that may attack your laptop and how to prevent them from happening. This class requires a laptop. Parkland High School is located at 2700 North Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown. Please enter through the main entrance.

## INTRODUCTION TO SMART PHONES

**Parkland High School Library Classroom**

**Tuesday, November 5, 3:15-4:15 PM**

This class, led by Parkland High School students and sponsored by South Whitehall Recreation. This course focuses on how to navigate your smartphone and use its abilities efficiently and effectively. This course requires a smartphone. Parkland High School is located at 2700 North Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown. Please enter through the main entrance.

## SENIOR CITIZENS INVITED TO WINTER DINNER AND CONCERT

MAKE A RESERVATION AT  
[WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SENIORS](http://WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SENIORS)

Parkland Senior Citizens are invited to enjoy a FREE dinner at Parkland High School and then adjourn to the auditorium for some great music by talented students. Choose the Parkland High School Chorus Concert on Thursday, December 12th, or the Parkland High School Orchestra Concert on Wednesday, December 19th.

On both nights, doors open at 5 PM in the Parkland High School cafeteria. Dinner will be served at 5:30 PM and the concerts begin at 7 PM. Residents should select only one date so that we can host as many people as possible. Sponsored by:

**Lehigh Commons**  
A Senior Living & Memory Support Community

**RITTENHOUSE VILLAGE**  
AT LEHIGH VALLEY  
By Discovery Senior Living

**NOTE: ALL GUESTS MUST BE 55 OR OLDER AND RESIDE WITHIN THE PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT.**


**PLEASE CALL 610-351-5628 IF YOU DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS AND WE WILL ASSIST YOU.**



# CETRONIA STAFF SPORTING THROWBACK TEES



Our entire staff enjoyed receiving 75th Anniversary t-shirts that honor the past. Thank you to Lehigh Valley Educators Credit Union, Service Electric Cable TV and North Penn Custom Tees who sponsored the shirts! The Cetronia staff posed for a picture.




**TIMOTHY & ZAVERI**  
FINE JEWELERS

Proceeds benefit the PHS Post Prom Party

*Home of the  
Parkland "P" necklace  
and custom charms.*

Order online at [www.parklandsd.org/jewelry](http://www.parklandsd.org/jewelry)



## CLASS OF 2024 RECOGNITION

### WHAT LIES AHEAD FOR THE CLASS OF 2024?

This fall, many Parkland graduates will head off to schools across Pennsylvania and beyond. Enrollment at Penn State University's Main Campus is 48 students, while 34 students will attend a Penn State branch campus. Locally, college enrollment includes Cedar Crest (9), DeSales University (25), Kutztown University (30), Lehigh University (5), Moravian College (15), Muhlenberg College (12), Lehigh Carbon Community College (104) and Northampton Community College (16). Some other popular choices include East Stroudsburg University (10), West Chester University (12), Temple University (36), and University of Pittsburgh (22).



### PARKLAND'S TOP 3% RECOGNIZED AT COMMENCEMENT

During the Parkland graduation ceremony this year at the PPL Center, students graduating within the top 3% of the class were recognized for their outstanding academic performance. No class rank is published. The Class of 2024 students who were acknowledged in alphabetical order are: Ella Christine Amadio (University of Maryland), Leon Chen (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Stephanie Cheng (Cornell University), Yechan Cho (University of Rochester), Lucas Brennan O'Connell Dee (University of Notre Dame), Thomas Chen Hui Gilchrist (Northwestern University), Brady Thomas Hayward (Rutgers University), Louis Gennaro Inserra (United States Merchant Marine Academy), Kulood Jaber (Cedar Crest College), Rahul Kalpesh Jasapara (Cornell University), Eric Xu Jin (Boston University), Qasim Ameer Ahmad Mirrani (Muhlenberg College), Eshaan Ojas Patel (Georgia Institute of Technology), Joseph Peng (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Isabel Danielle Pramik (Full-Time Employment), Timothy John Prestosh, Jr. (Pennsylvania State University), Joshua Dylan Pulver (University of Florida), Owen James Rodgers (Purdue University), Alexander Connor Saccone (Cornell University), Shahked Hannah Saltz (Cedar Crest College), Ethan Daniel Silver (Northwestern University), Brynn Cecelia Suhocki (Boston University), Sooraj V Tharumia (Georgia Institute of Technology), Anthony Tomy (Lehigh University), Cole Michael Wanyo (Pennsylvania State University), Rishab Reddy Yanala (University of Pennsylvania) and Major Anthony Zangari (Cornell University). Congratulations to our top 3% and all 779 of our 2024 graduates!

### CLASS OF 2024 EXIT SURVEY

<p><b>85%</b></p> <p>of the class will attend college</p>	<p><b>67%</b></p> <p>will attend a 4-year college</p>	<p><b>18%</b></p> <p>will attend a 2-year college</p>	<p><b>11%</b></p> <p>will enter the workforce</p>	<p><b>2.5%</b></p> <p>will enter the military</p>	<p><b>1.5%</b></p> <p>will attend a business/tech school</p>
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## SAYING FAREWELL.... Congratulations 2024 Retirees

Parkland celebrated 53 retirees with a combined 1,009 years in public education at the end of the school year. We wish the following people a wonderful new life journey:

### Administrative

Carol Fediaczko  
Sheryl Hamsher  
Linda Nagy  
Amy O'Neill  
Diane Irish  
Val Strock

### Bus Drivers

Nancy Ann Buchecker  
Dennis Bundra  
Mary Earley  
Harold Redline  
Anthony Saunders  
Lazlo Toth  
David Sherer  
Georgeann Beattie  
Raymond Willcox

### Cetronia Elementary

Susan Orach

### Fogelsville Elementary

Linda Bolasky  
Steven Geiger

### Ironton Elementary

Kristi Kutteroff  
Rose Meleta  
Bonnie Vasilik

### Jaindl Elementary

Maura Hanf  
Mary Reis

### Kernsville Elementary

Lori Kilmer  
James Meleta  
Juliane Snyder

### Kratzer Elementary

Patricia Labenberg

### Operations

David Butz  
Richard Dull  
Barbra Ganguzza  
Lori Seier

### Orefield Middle School

Carol Brandt  
Cynthia DeMatto  
Mary Drews  
Eric Hamsher  
Nicholas Kessler  
Greg Poremba  
Rose Sibilia  
Jill Wendling-Miller

### Parkland High School

Gary Blockus  
Lyudmyla Butz  
Lori Kuzmin-O'Neill  
Gary Laub  
Charles Verenna

### Parkway Manor Elementary

Rebecca Heffner  
Kelly Kline  
Kathryn Urban

### Schnecksville Elementary

Michele Geczi

### Springhouse Middle School

Susan Borman  
Wendy Hoffman  
Eric Kutteroff  
Catherine Schlosser

### Veterans Memorial

Elementary  
Colleen Warner

*Thank you*  
FOR YOUR SERVICE TO PARKLAND

## CONGRATULATIONS to Newly Appointed/Promoted Administrators

### Newly Appointed

Renee Mosser - Director of Visual and Performing Arts  
Megan Schaffer - Coordinator of Payroll Services

### Promotions

Jessica Faught, Executive Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent  
Anne Heffelfinger, Supervisor of Elementary Food Services  
Stefanie Misera, Coordinator of Human Resources  
Danielle Treat, Transportation Coordinator  
Casey Troutman, Director of Food Services  
Sarah Brandt, Assistant Principal, Springhouse Middle School

**BEST WISHES IN YOUR NEW POSITIONS!**



Class of 2003  
Homecoming King & Queen

**CALLING ALL  
PAST PARKLAND  
HOMECOMING  
ROYALTY**

All previous Homecoming Kings & Queens are invited to march in our annual Homecoming Parade during halftime at the football game on Friday, October 4th.

If you can make it, please email your name and class year to [mcgallan@parklandsd.net](mailto:mcgallan@parklandsd.net) and she will provide further instructions.



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### SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AND PROGRAMS, SERVICES VIA SECTION 504, AND SERVICES FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

In compliance with state and federal law, notice is hereby given by the Parkland School District (PSD) that it conducts ongoing identification activities as a part of its school program for the purpose of identifying students who may be in need of special education supports and services (PA Code Chapter 14), services via section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (PA Code Chapter 15), and/or gifted education services (PA Code Chapter 16).

**Special Education Services:** If your child is identified by the District as possibly in need of such services, you will be notified of applicable procedures. Individualized services and programs are available for children who are determined to need specially designed instruction due to the following conditions: Autism; Deaf-blindness; Deafness; Emotional disturbance; Hearing impairment; Intellectual disability; Multiple disabilities; Orthopedic impairment; Other health impairment; Specific learning disability; Speech or language impairment; Traumatic brain injury; Visual impairment.

**Section 504/Chapter 15 Services:** Parkland School District will provide each section 504 eligible student, without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services or accommodations which are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and co- and non-curricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the student's abilities. In order to qualify under section 504, the child must be of school age with a physical or mental disability which substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program. These services and protections for gifted programs and services are distinct from those applicable to all eligible or exceptional students enrolled (or seeking enrollment) in special education programs.

**Chapter 16:** The Pennsylvania State Board of Education's regulations as set forth in Chapter 16, Special Education for Gifted Students, provide that gifted students are considered to be children with exceptionalities and are in need of specially designed instruction. If you believe that your school age child may be in need of special education services and related programs, Section 504/Chapter 15 services, Chapter 16 services, screening, and evaluation processes are available to you at no cost, upon written request. Whether or not your child is enrolled in the district's public school program.

**Consent:** School entities cannot proceed with an evaluation, or with the initial provision of special education, Section 504/Chapter 15, Chapter 16, and related services, without the written consent of the parents. For additional information related to consent, please refer to the Procedural Safeguards Notice which can be found at the PaTTAN website, [www.PaTTAN.net](http://www.PaTTAN.net)

Requests for school-age evaluation and screening should be made in writing to the Director of Student Services, 1210 Springhouse Road, Allentown, PA 18104.

**Preschool Services and Programs:** Children age three through the age of admission to first grade are eligible for Early Intervention services if they have developmental delays and, as a result, need Special Education and related services. A child is considered to have a developmental delay when one of the following exists: (i) The child's score, on a developmental assessment device, on an assessment instrument which yields a score in months, indicates that the child is delayed by 25% of the child's chronological age in one or more developmental areas; or (ii) The child is delayed in one or more of the developmental areas, as documented by test performance of 1.5 standard deviations below the mean on standardized tests. Developmental areas include cognitive, communicative, physical, social/emotional and self-help.

Parents of young children with concerns about their child's seeing, hearing, learning, talking, moving about, manipulating objects, understanding, showing emotions, getting along with others, playing with toys, taking care of himself/herself, should contact the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Project Connect at (610) 769-4111. Project Connect can provide information to parents about evaluations, programs, therapy, parent supports, and referral to community agencies at no cost to the parent.

**Potential Signs of Developmental Delays:** For a list of general "warning signs" of possible delay, please refer to "Related Files" on the following webpage:

[www.parklandsd.org/departments/student-services/annual-public-notice](http://www.parklandsd.org/departments/student-services/annual-public-notice)



# JOIN US FOR A PHS STAGE SHOW THIS FALL

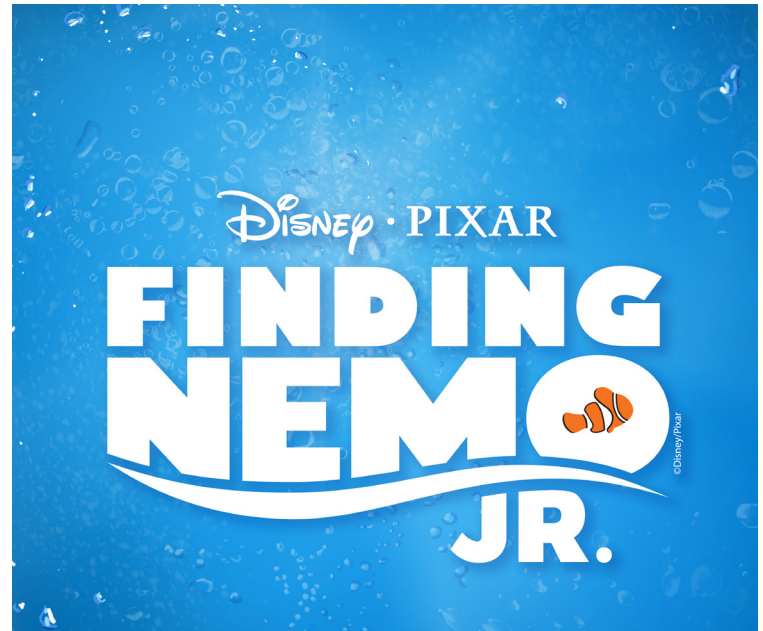


## PHS Fall Play: Romeo & Juliet OCTOBER 10, 12 & 13, 2024

In this modern, 90-minute version of William Shakespeare's romantic tragedy Romeo & Juliet, two young lovers risk everything to be together. In defiance of their feuding families, they chase a future of joy and passion as violence erupts around them. Romeo and Juliet overcome countless obstacles in this enduring and exquisite story of young love.

Tickets will go on sale on [www.cur8.com/15799/project/124550](http://www.cur8.com/15799/project/124550) Monday, September 9th, at noon.

Admission prices are \$10 for students and seniors (65+); \$12 for adults. (All sales are final; NO refunds or exchanges permitted.)



## PHS Family Show: Disney's Finding Nemo Jr. NOVEMBER 15 - 17, 2024

Disney's Finding Nemo JR. is a 60-minute musical adaptation of the beloved 2003 Pixar movie Finding Nemo, with new music by award-winning songwriting team Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez. Marlin, an anxious and over-protective clownfish, lives in the Great Barrier Reef with his kid Nemo, who longs to explore the world beyond their anemone home. But when Nemo is captured and taken to Sydney, Marlin faces his fears and sets off on an epic adventure across the ocean. Featuring memorable songs such as "Just Keep Swimming," "Fish Are Friends Not Food," and "Go With the Flow," Finding Nemo JR. brings a vibrant underwater world to life on stage in a story full of family, friendship, and adventure.

Tickets on sale on [cur8.com](http://cur8.com) Monday, September 23rd, at noon. Admission prices are \$10 for students and seniors (65+); \$12 for adults. (All sales are final; NO refunds or exchanges permitted.)

# ARTWORKS ADULT ART CLASS OFFERINGS



## Evening Arts Program for Adults At Parkland

Artworks, a program run by the Parkland Performing and Visual Arts Department, will offer Adult Art Classes as follows for a fee:

- Introduction To Colored Pencil Drawing
- Hand-Building with Porcelain Paper Clay II

Visit the webpage <https://www.parklandsd.org/artART> for more information and to register for a class. The registration deadline is Friday, September 13th, 2024.

Nurture



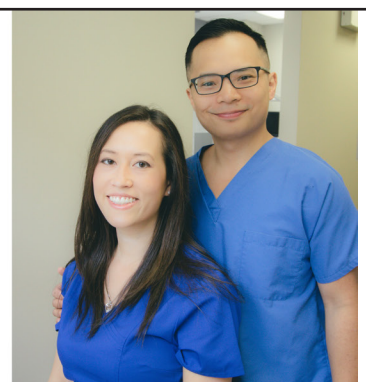
610 - 841 - 5929

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[NurtureDentalHealth.com](http://NurtureDentalHealth.com)

240 Cetronia Road #121South, Allentown, PA, 18104





# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!





**SAVE THE DATE**  
**FRIDAY 10.4.24**  
**BROOKSIDE COUNTRY CLUB**

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER ONLINE, VISIT [WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/FOUNDATION](http://WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/FOUNDATION)

## Parkland CARES Food Pantry

### FOOD DISTRIBUTION & RESERVATION INFORMATION

DISTRIBUTION DATES	RESERVATIONS OPEN	RESERVATIONS CLOSE
SEPTEMBER 7th	FRIDAY, AUGUST 30th	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th
OCTOBER 5th	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2nd
NOVEMBER 2nd	FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25th	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30th
DECEMBER 7th	FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29th	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4th

Reservations can be made with the QR code below or by visiting [parklandcaresfp.org](http://parklandcaresfp.org). We ask that you **ONLY** call to make a reservation if you do not have access to the form online.

**RESERVATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED ONCE THE FORM HAS BEEN CLOSED.**

Please join us at our monthly food distribution, the first Saturday of the month at Springhouse Middle School. Non-perishables, fruits, vegetables, meat, milk, bread, eggs and much more will be available.



484-707-1133    [parklandcaresfp.org](http://parklandcaresfp.org)    [inquiry@parklandcaresfp.org](mailto:inquiry@parklandcaresfp.org)

The Parkland School District does not sponsor or sanction this program/event/activity.




**PARKLAND STUDENTS ADMITTED FREE TO REGULAR SEASON GAMES WITH STUDENT ID**  
(EXCLUDES FOOTBALL)

COURTESY OF THE PARKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION



**Breakfast is FREE**  
 for ALL students in ALL Parkland school cafeterias.



JOIN US FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH FOR A PARKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION



SHAWN LEH  
 610-395-3200  
[shawtleh.com](http://shawtleh.com)

**TAILGATE EVENT**



Parkland Football Field | Visit [www.parklandsd.org/foundation](http://www.parklandsd.org/foundation) for tickets and details.

## WELCOME NEW DIRECTORS



**DR. RENEE MOSSER** has been appointed the new Director of Visual and Performing Arts. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, a Master's degree in Art Education from Kutztown University, a Master's degree from Temple University in Dance Education, and a Doctorate degree from Immaculata University in Educational Leadership and Administration. Dr. Mosser has served as an Elementary Principal in the Haverford Township School District, Elementary Principal in Exeter Township, and Assistant Principal and Arts Facilitator in the Allentown School District.



**CASEY TROUTMAN** was appointed the new Director of Food Service. She earned two Bachelor of Science degrees, one in Management, and one in Nutritional Sciences from Penn State University. As Supervisor of Elementary Food Services, Casey has worked closely with the Director of Food Services and has done an outstanding job.



**YOU ARE INVITED!**

**TIME TO BUILD COMMUNITY**

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP LIFESTYLE CENTER GROUNDBREAKING THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

GRANGE PARK, 360 GRANGE ROAD, ALLENTOWN  
 Ceremony will begin promptly at 11:00 am.



RSVP BY 9/10 to [recreation@uppermac.org](mailto:recreation@uppermac.org)





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)

## NEW LOGO FOR THE PARKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Parkland Education Foundation has a modern new look. The Foundation logo has been the same for the past 13 years, so it was time for an update. The Board wanted a modern take on the logo while preserving tradition and focusing on excellence. The team at 3Seed Marketing donated their time and talents to help the Foundation achieve their mission. The logo embodies the values of the Parkland Education Foundation’s mission, whose primary goal is to raise funds to promote and supplement the academics, arts, athletic and co-curricular programs for the benefit of students and staff in the Parkland School District in order to preserve a tradition of excellence and help build the dreams of children in our community.

## THE PARKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION AWARDS THE LARGEST AMOUNT TO DATE FOR GRANTS!

The Foundation Board of Directors awarded more than **100 GRANTS TOTALING MORE THAN \$246,000 TO THE PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT** in order to enrich the current curriculum to benefit a wide range of students, staff and community members for the upcoming school year. These grants provide opportunities to our staff and students to keep the excellence that Parkland embodies. For the first time this year, every grant recipient has been given a Great Idea poster to display in their office or room. Be on the look out throughout the district for these posters for they mean that a grant was awarded to that staff member.



A Great Idea made possible by The Parkland Education Foundation: Mapril Math Madness Grant

## UNITED WAY DESIGNATION

United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley



I bet many of you out there already give to the United Way or were given the opportunity by your employer. Did you know that when you give to the United Way you can designate which charity you support with your donation? The Parkland School District Education Foundation is a Qualified Partner with United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley. When you make your United Way donation you can select the Parkland School District Education Foundation as your charity of choice.

What happens when you invest in a Parkland Education. You create more opportunities for our students and staff. You help to improve our community and raise our desirability as a place to live and work. This past year we helped our community in so many ways:

- We funded more than \$246k in Innovation Grants to Parkland Staff members across the district this school year to continue our mission of maintaining the excellence that Parkland is known for.
- The Parkland Education Foundation provided free access to Parkland sporting events (except football, for safety reasons) for ALL students. This helps to create a renewed sense of community and comradery and is a tool to help students connect with other students.
- The Parkland Education Foundation is always looking for ways to invest in opportunities for our students in the arts, athletics and academics.

However you choose to give, we hope you see the value in investing in the Parkland Education Foundation. For more information visit our website: [www.parklandsd.org/foundation](http://www.parklandsd.org/foundation)

HELPING TO 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.





## 2024-25 IMPORTANT DATES and INFORMATION

Check out our Weekly 5 THINGS TO KNOW FOR THE WEEK AHEAD [www.parklandsd.org/schools/weekly-update](http://www.parklandsd.org/schools/weekly-update)

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS – SCHOOLS CLOSED

October 3 & 14, January 20, March 7 & 31

### DISTRICT-WIDE EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS

(11 AM OMS, SMS and PHS and 11:45 AM Elementary Schools)

November 25, 26, 27

January 24

May 16

### PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences – November 25-27

Middle School Parent-Teacher Conferences – November 25-27

### LENGTH OF SCHOOL DAYS

Elementary School (K-5) 8:50 AM - 3:30 PM

Middle School (Grades 6-8) 7:45 AM - 2:38 PM

High School (Grades 9-12) 7:40 AM - 2:44 PM

### CAFETERIA PRICES

Elementary Lunch \$2.70

Secondary Lunch \$2.95

Adult Lunch \$4.25

Adult Breakfast: \$3.00

Milk: \$.50

Reduced Price Lunch: No charge

### MENUS

[www.parklandsd.org/Menus](http://www.parklandsd.org/Menus)

### BIRTHDAY CLASS TREAT

#### ORDER FORM

[www.parklandsd.org/Birthday](http://www.parklandsd.org/Birthday)

### KEYSTONE TESTS - Winter

Literature - January 7-8

Biology – January 9-10

Algebra I – January 14-15

### KEYSTONE TESTS - Spring

Literature – May 12-13

Algebra I – May 14-15

Biology – May 19-20

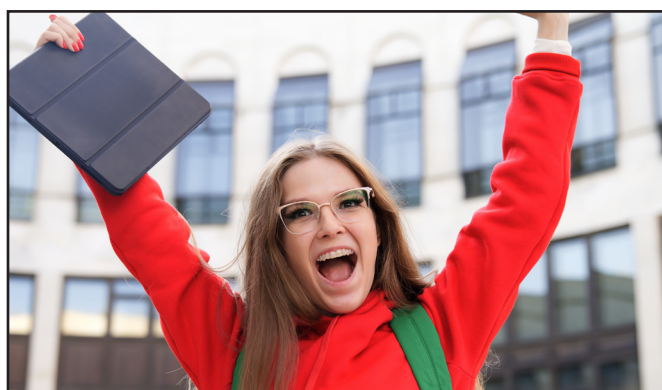
### PENNSYLVANIA SYSTEM OF SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (PSSA TESTS)

Grades 3-8, English/Language Arts

April 23-25

Grades 3-8, Mathematics/Science

April 28-30



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*to brighten the world*

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# PARKLAND NEWSLETTER

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### PARKLAND NEWSLETTER VOLUME 55 NUMBER 1

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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.

**TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PUBLICATION,  
PLEASE CALL 610-351-5630**