

PARKLAND NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

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...AND MUCH MORE!

PHS MARCHING BAND PERFORMS ON NATIONAL TELEVISION



The Parkland Trojan Marching Band made its second appearance in the 6ABC Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade on Thursday, November 28. Our students marched in the Pre-Parade show at 8:30 AM and then again during the parade later in the morning. The Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade is the longest-running parade in the country and features bands from across the entire United States.



HOMECOMING KING AND QUEEN

Jakob Barnett and Lilly Rodriguez

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Parkland and welcome 2025!

It's hard to believe we are one quarter through the 21st century! Here in Parkland, there has been much to celebrate. Our Boys Soccer Team went to the State Championship falling just short of a championship win in overtime. Our football team won the District XI Championship and enjoyed a great season. Our community enjoyed PHS main stage performances of **Romeo and Juliet** and **Finding Nemo, Jr.** and we've just wrapped up a month of nightly winter concerts that delighted families of all ages.

Vision 2030 Update

As we move forward with our Vision 2030 project, I want to provide you with a transparent and comprehensive update on our district's strategic planning. Throughout 2024, our team has been diligently working on a comprehensive expansion plan that encompasses the Parkland High School facility, Orefield Middle School site, and our district's Transportation Hub. We've invested significant time and energy into this initiative, conducting more than 40 public meetings and presentations to ensure our community understands the critical needs driving our growth.

Our district is experiencing expansion, particularly in our middle and high school grades, which has made it clear that we must proactively address our space requirements. The process of determining the most fiscally responsible approach to funding these essential improvements has been our most complex challenge. However, I am proud to report that our dedicated team has developed a thoughtful, balanced plan that will not only meet our current programming needs, but also position our district to serve our community effectively for years to come.

The below renderings from our architectural partner, Alloy5, will give you a glimpse into the transformative vision we are pursuing for Parkland High School.



New classrooms will allow teachers to have their own rooms - right now, a large portion of PHS teachers are traveling between classrooms as they are forced to share rooms with other staff members.



Two-floor additions will be inserted between wings at the rear of the building to free up circulation. They will include 28 classrooms, a new area for science exploration, new art labs and expansion of suites for counselors, nurses and psychologists.



The library media center will receive cosmetic updates to better serve the students and staff with a central circulation desk and more small group meeting spaces.

A cafeteria addition will include flexible partitions that will allow sections to be used for evening classes and meeting spaces. A second floor stairwell will add a much needed 2nd access point within the cafeteria that will connect to the academic portion of the school which will alleviate the bottleneck of foot traffic that currently exists.

The planned improvements will add 79,000 square feet of space to our high school facility. With a total budget of \$58.8 million, our design is strategically crafted to serve 3,800 students, effectively eliminating the need to construct a second high school. We anticipate the bidding process for the high school project will begin in Fall 2025, with the entire project targeted for completion by Fall 2027. As part of our financial planning, the first phase of project financing will involve borrowing \$25-28 million in early 2025, which will be added to the District's debt service. Throughout the design process, our unwavering commitment is to maintain the project within the established budget, ensuring responsible use of our community's resources.

In 2025, we are making small modifications to the School Board Meeting schedule. We will now hold workshop meetings at 6 PM on School Board Meeting nights to hold space for presentations, budget, staffing, construction, academics and program updates as a group. These meetings will be open to the public and will occur every month except for June, July, November and December. A separate, day-long Budget Seminar meeting will still be held on April 25, 2025 (also open to the public) to review the 2025-26 budget in detail with the Administration and School Board.

On the administrative front, we are sad to bid farewell to Orefield Middle School Principal Todd Gombos who retired after serving in the position since 2009. Former Assistant Principal, Dr. Monica Ouly-Uhl, will become the Orefield Principal. Moving over from Parkland High School, Assistant Principal Tammy Stavenski-Bennick will replace Monica as Assistant Principal at OMS. And, moving from Springhouse Middle School, the former Data and Instructional Specialist, Terri Plattner, will become the new Assistant Principal at PHS. Val Strock, a 34-year Transportation Department employee, tendered his retirement as the Assistant Director of School of School Services for Transportation. Andrew Hargrove has been promoted to fill Val's position after serving in the Transportation department in various capacities for the last 15 years. We wish Todd and Val the very best in retirement and congratulate and welcome everyone into their new positions.

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



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FOGELSVILLE RECEIVES A MOON TREE

LOCAL ASTRONAUT CELEBRATES THE ARTEMIS DONATION

On Friday, November 15, 2024, at 2 PM, Fogelsville Elementary celebrated the receipt of a NASA “Moon Tree” seedling during a special assembly. After careful review of hundreds of applications, NASA selected Fogelsville as one of the organizations from across the country to receive ‘Moon Tree’ seedlings that flew around the Moon on the agency’s Artemis I mission in 2022. NASA chose Fogelsville to receive a seedling based on criteria that evaluated their suitability to care for the tree species and their ability to maximize educational opportunities around the life and growth of the tree in our community.

The Fogelsville Elementary School Environmental & Garden Club will be integral in educating students on NASA’s Artemis program, a next-generation Apollo program, which plans to send four astronauts around the moon as soon as next year as part of the Artemis II Mission. The Club includes fourth and fifth grade students and is under the direction of Fogelsville Elementary staff members. Through the Club, the Moon Tree will be taken care of and keep students informed about its growing stages during Fogelsville morning newscasts and school assemblies.

The idea behind the Moon Tree’s experiment was first tested in 1971 on the Apollo 14 mission to test the effects of space travel on seeds and to explore the potential for growing plants in space or on other planets. The moon trees carry both scientific and symbolic value. Scientifically, they represent early efforts to understand how space conditions might affect plant life. Symbolically, they serve as living memorials to the Apollo program and its achievements, linking Earth to space exploration. Today, moon trees can be found in parks, schools, and historical sites, where they remind people of humanity’s ventures into space and our connection to the natural world.

Terry Hart, former NASA astronaut, US Air Force fighter pilot, and telecommunications executive who joined Lehigh University’s faculty in 2004, was part of the celebration and is seen speaking to students below.

Since returning to Earth, the tree seeds germinated under the care of the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, as NASA’s Office of STEM Engagement’s Next Generation STEM project and the agency’s Office of Strategic Infrastructure’s Logistics Management division worked to identify their new homes.

“Together, NASA and the Forest Service are delivering a piece of science history to communities across our nation,” said Mike Kincaid, associate administrator, NASA’s Office of STEM Engagement. “Through this partnership, future explorers, scientists, and environmentalists will have the opportunity to nurture and be inspired by these Artemis artifacts in the community where they live, work, and learn.”

Lisa Lesko, Fogelsville Elementary School’s Principal stated, “As an educational institution, it is important to foster an interest and respect for past scientific ventures as well as current and future endeavors. By planting the Moon Tree on our school property, students will feel connected to space exploration. It will open up the door for many other educational lessons related to the future of the Artemis program and serve to inspire all who view the tree to think about space exploration well into the future.”

What is a Moon Tree?

The journey of Moon Trees began in early 1971 when NASA astronaut Stu Roosa took a special container of seeds with him on the Apollo 14 mission. The seeds were germinated by the Forest Service and seedlings were distributed in 1975 and 1976. Some are still living and can be visited in places, such as the American Sycamore planted at the Cradle of the Forestry in North Carolina.



TASTE TESTERS TRY NEW CAFETERIA OFFERINGS



DID YOU KNOW?

- PHS serves approximately **600 breakfasts** and over **1200 lunches** every day and makes and serves **120 pizzas per day**.
- **80% of grains** served must be **whole grain** in our cafeterias.
- Parkland Food Service served **1 million meals last school year** across all schools.

New Parkland Food Services Director Casey Troutman and her team created a taste testing committee to garner feedback from students on new menu ideas. Assistant PHS Principal, Dr. Terry Meehan, selected the students to be the first taste testers and they all enjoyed the new dishes.

Expanded menu items aim to incorporate some local vendors as well as farm fresh, local produce. The items that students taste tested included:

- Pizza - from Nardone's, which is headquartered in Wilkes-Barre, PA
- All beef hamburgers, stir fry and kielbasa - from Happy Valley Farms in Gettysburg, PA
- Tikka Masala over rice
- Vegetarian newcomers include: MorningStar Farms® Chik'n Nuggets and plant-based sausage crumbles

New menu items that students are enjoying this year include a General Tso's Chicken Bowl, Cheesesteaks, Meat Lovers Pizza and Chicken Parmesan wrap. A new item in the fall that did not sell well was the hummus and veggie wrap, but the deconstructed version (a hummus plate) sells just fine.

Casey Troutman stated, "We are trying a lot of new things, expanding menu choices, and applying for grants that will help us bring in local beef and other products. The Harvest of the Month program is one of our primary goals to get started this year, which we hope to get up and running soon. The goal is to connect with local farmers to source the produce item of the month and then incorporate it into the menu as well as offer taste test samples to encourage students to try new foods."

BOOK PROJECT AIMS TO INCREASE CULTURAL LITERACY

Parkland has partnered with Muhlenberg College's Institute for Cultural and Religious Understanding to pilot a book display called "Understanding Our Neighbors." The books and display will be in all nine Parkland Elementary Schools and are designed to expose children to cultural and religious differences that are present in our community. The gorgeous picture books introduce aspects from a variety of religious and cultural contexts through the matter of fact presentation of difference of worldview and cultural identity.

The books feature characters of diverse backgrounds who often display physical characteristics (like a turban in **Fauja Singh Keeps Going**) or express cultural patterns (like eating daal in **Bilal Cooks Daal**) that may be unfamiliar to many local students. In other cases, the themes of the book feature a particular way of talking about a universal concept in the vocabulary of a religious tradition. For example, an act of kindness is described as a "mitzvah" by the Jewish family featured in the book, **Mitzvah Pizza**. In **Birdsong**, which features a Cree (Native American) worldview, recognition of the cycles of life and the seasons are exhibited.

Each book:

1. Features characters from diverse religious and cultural communities
2. Exposes readers to diverse communities through pictorial representations of difference and/or plots that feature universal values described in the belief and practice of particular communities
3. Abstains from use of vocabulary about God(s), prophets, or other religious figures as authoritative
4. Features minimal, but relatable, conflict as a plot device
5. Emphasizes shared experiences and values while also exposing the reader to cultural variety (i.e. food, customs, clothing etc.)

The kit includes guiding questions that educators may use to spark discussion and key vocabulary and definitions as well as a list of additional resources about cultures. Muhlenberg's Institute plans to share this with other school districts in the coming months and looks forward to feedback that Parkland teachers provide. To date, one teacher said, "As an elementary educator, I'm incredibly grateful for these carefully curated books from the Muhlenberg College's Institute for Religious and Cultural Understanding. These resources provide our students with a beautiful opportunity to explore and appreciate the rich diversity of our world in a thoughtful, age-appropriate manner. By introducing these books, we can help our young learners develop empathy, understanding, and respect for different cultures and beliefs before misconceptions or biases can take root. It's challenging to find materials that are both educational and sensitive, so having a professionally selected collection that feels safe and constructive for classroom use is truly a gift. These books will help our students see beyond their immediate experiences and recognize the wonderful complexity of human experiences."



ARTWORKS ADULT ART CLASS OFFERINGS

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ADULT ART CLASSES

Register by 1/24/25 | Classes begin in February

Register at www.parklandsd.org/art

- INTRODUCTION TO COLORED PENCIL DRAWING
- HAND-BUILT HANGING STAR SCULPTURE
- EXPLORATIONS IN ORGANIC INKS & PIGMENTS

Payment by mail must be received prior to the start of class. Complete course details are available at www.parklandsd.org/art



Les Misérables SCHOOL EDITION



April 2 - April 5: 7pm
April 6: 3pm

**Tickets go on sale online
January 27 at noon.**

For tickets: www.cur8.com

\$15 adults

\$12 students/seniors (65+)

The epic story of Les Misérables recounts the struggle against adversity in 19th century France. Imprisoned for stealing a loaf of bread, petty thief Jean Valjean is released from his 19-year term and becomes an honest man, but violates his parole in the process. The relentless Inspector Javert, who makes a decent life for Valjean impossible, consequently pursues him. Only years later, after Valjean proves his mettle during a student uprising and saves the life of a young man hopelessly in love with Valjean's adopted daughter, does the ex-convict finally feel fully redeemed.

PARKLAND HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC BOOSTERS

Clothing Drive



**Saturday
March 15, 2025**

**9 AM - 12:30 PM
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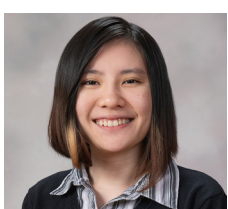
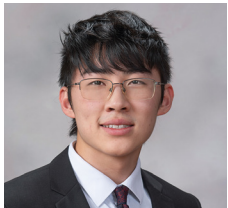


Backpack collection

For some students, even a sturdy backpack remains a distant dream. Join forces with REACH to ensure Parkland students in need embark on the new school year fully equipped with the essentials for success. Consider making a purchase off Roonga Wish List today!



ELEVEN PARKLAND STUDENTS NAMED 2025 NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS



The National Merit® Scholarship Program is an academic competition that recognizes the 50,000 highest Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) scores in the nation out of approximately 1.5 million students who take the test each year. Of the 1.5 million entrants, approximately 50,000 with the highest PSAT/NMSQT® Selection Index scores qualify for recognition in the National Merit® Scholarship Program as either Commended Students (about 34,000) or Semifinalists (the highest 16,000).

The following Parkland High School students were selected as Semifinalists in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. These scholastically talented seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for 7,600 Merit Scholarship awards worth \$33 million. They are pictured from top to bottom as follows:

SOPHIE ELJOVICH is a captain of Mock Trial and the Varsity Girls Tennis Team. Her academic leadership is evident through her position on the board of presidents for the National Honor Society and vice president roles in the Spanish Honor Society, Math Honor Society, and various musical ensembles including Honors Orchestra, Advanced Honors Orchestra, and Strolling Strings. Academically, Sophie has been recognized as a Lehigh High School Scholar and earned a Silver Medal in the National Spanish Exam. She serves as the Senior Intern at Parkland CARES Food Pantry. A talented musician, Sophie plays both piano and cello. She is planning to pursue a degree in applied mathematics.

CLAIRE FANG is the president and editor-in-chief of the PHS Literary Magazine. She serves as social media manager for the National Art Society and Art Club and is vice president of the Fashion Club. Claire is in the National Honor Society, National Math Honor Society, National English Honor Society, and National French Honor Society. Her artistic talents are evident in her success at the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, where she earned 1 gold key, 3 silver keys, and 2 honorable mentions. Additionally, she is actively involved in Amnesty International.

JAYADITYA KOTHARI is the founder and president of the Biology Club and president of Science Olympiad and Young Scientist Science Fair. Jayaditya has achieved 2nd and 4th place medals at the Science Olympiad National Tournament and was named a National Finalist in the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad. He is a member of National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, and Math Honor Society. Additionally, he was selected as a Coca-Cola Scholar Semifinalist and ranked in the top 20 at the National History Day Contest. Jayaditya has also been a TEDx Talk speaker and serves on the Superintendent's Student Leadership Council. He is interested in pursuing a biochemistry degree in college.

TARIQ SHAHID is president of Parkland Orchestra and Tri-M Music Honor Society. His academic excellence is further recognized through memberships in the National and Science Honor Societies. He has distinguished himself by participating in the PMEA All-State Conference and being in the Top 12% of the F=ma Physics Olympiad. He plans on pursuing a degree in physics.

SWARNA SURESH is a member of multiple honor societies including the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, Science Honor Society, and National English Honor Society. She earned 1st Place wins in the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science and Delaware Valley Science Fair in the Biochemistry Category, as well as her Honorable Mention in the USABO Biology Olympiad. She earned a silver medal on the AATSP National Spanish Exam. Her artistic talents extend to Indian classical dance and singing, through which she actively teaches, performs, and organizes community events and fundraisers. Her creative writing was also recognized with a publication of her short story in UPenn's NOVA Literary Magazine. She plans to study neuroscience.

ADAM VAZQUEZ is the captain of the Debate Team and holds leadership positions in multiple academic clubs, including vice president of the Social Studies Honor Society and roles in the Political Science, Law, and Computer Clubs. Adam is a member of National Honor Society, National Math Honor Society, National English Honor Society, and Young Scientist Science Fair. His achievements include being an AP Scholar with Distinction, a National History Day State Medalist, and a National Catholic Forensics League National Qualifier. Beyond academics, Adam has distinguished himself as a TEDx speaker, an intern with Astro-Scholars conducting astronomy data analysis for NASA missions, and a Jewish Family Services volunteer. Adam is looking to pursue a pre-law degree post high school.

ANIKA VEDANTHAM is president of Strolling Strings and secretary of the Interact Club. Her musical involvement extends to the Spring Musical Pit Orchestra, while also maintaining an active role in athletics as a member of the Girls Varsity Tennis team. Academically, Anika is a member of National Honor Society, and honor societies for English, Science, Spanish, and Tri-M. Her academic achievements include an Honorable Mention in the USA Biology Olympiad and a silver medal in the National Spanish Exam. She is also involved with the Hindu-American Student Association.

RYAN WU has demonstrated remarkable leadership by serving as president of multiple academic clubs, including the Investing Club, Math League, Chess Club, and Math Honor Society. His academic interests primarily center on business and applied mathematics, with aspirations to attend prestigious institutions such as the University of Pennsylvania, University of Chicago or Oxford University.

ALEX XU is vice president of the Science National Honor Society and a member of multiple honor societies including Math, STEM, and French. Alex has won 1st place in Meteorology and Sounds of Music and 2nd place in Crave the Wave in the Science Olympiad Pennsylvania Competition. An AP Scholar with Distinction, Alex has also been recognized in the Grand Concours (National French Competition), winning a Bronze Award. He is also an accomplished pianist. With a strong interest in STEM fields, he is currently considering majoring in either physics or computer science.

KEVIN YAO is president of the Math League and captain of the Boys Varsity Tennis team. His involvement extends to multiple academic clubs, including the Physics Club, Computer Club, and Chess Club. Kevin is a member of multiple honor societies, including National, English, German, Science, Math, and Social Studies. He has distinguished himself mathematically as a three-time qualifier for the American Invitational Mathematics Exam and achieved recognition in athletics as a member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference All-Stars First Team for Boys Tennis. Kevin also competes in the U.S. Computing Olympiad. He plans on pursuing a degree in computer science.

ANGELA ZHAO is a dedicated student with a passion for both healthcare and the arts. She is a member of the National Art Honor Society and National English Honor Society, along with notable artistic accomplishments such as earning a Gold and Silver Scholastic Art Keys. Angela also gained recognition in the National American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese Poster Contest, securing 3rd place. She is also a hospital volunteer and is currently exploring opportunities at Temple University, Penn State, and the University of Pennsylvania.

NEW PHS COURSES EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2025-26

Did you know that Parkland's course selection book comprises more than 200 courses that include electives in English, social studies, math, science, world language, business, visual arts, music, family consumer science, technology, engineering as well as career-focused courses such as Flight Theory and the Elementary Teaching Aide Program? Students have so much to explore and new courses and changes have been announced for next school year.

Advanced Placement African American Studies is a new course that will be open to 10th, 11th, and 12th graders. This is a new course offered by the College Board and will be an elective offering. Students will engage in complex historical and contemporary issues, enhancing their critical thinking skills as they analyze, interpret and discuss topics related to race, identity and social justice.

Advanced Placement (AP) 3-D Art and Design is an advanced studio course for students interested in creating three-dimensional art while developing their own artistic voice. Building on skills from pre-requisite courses, students will explore a wide range of media, including sculpture, metalwork, ceramics, fibers and installation art. This course is the only AP Art course that is not currently offered at PHS and will equip students with a strong portfolio for future studies in fine arts, architecture and design.

Computer Art 2 is an advanced class that builds upon the skills and programs learned in Computer Art 1. It will allow students to refine their digital art skills while exploring new techniques and tools in animation and design.

The new course book also includes a lot of updates in the Business, Computer and Information Technology courses and programming, so students should pay close attention to the course listings when making choices. Also, starting in the 2026-27 school year, a mandated personal finance course will be required for graduation for all public school students.

In Math, one elective course, Game Development and Design, is changing from a full-year course to a half-year course.

SCHOOL BOARD REORGANIZATION

Each December, the School Board holds a reorganization meeting. At the meeting, Rob Cohen was elected as School Board President and David Hein was elected as School Board Vice President. We thank Carol Facchiano and Marissa Ziegler for serving as President and Vice President this past year.



Carol Facchiano



Marissa Ziegler



Robert M. Cohen



David J. Hein

SNACK AND BEVERAGE CARTS ARE BIG HITS AT OMS AND PHS



Orefield students in teacher KC Morgans' Multiple Disability Supports classroom have set up a small business serving snacks to staff. The Jaguar Bites Snack and Beverage cart has been a huge hit as it makes its way through Orefield Middle School each Wednesday morning. The money raised is going toward a community-based instruction activity at Burger King across the street. This real-world experience will give students hands-on experience for future work-based learning opportunities.

Similarly, Parkland Perk has opened at Parkland High School under the direction of teacher Colleen York. This in-house coffee shop is open for staff to purchase drinks on Tuesday and Thursday morning out of the Functional Learning Support classroom where students are learning skills needed to obtain employment after graduation. The coffee shop integrates the Functional Learning Support students into the school community, enforcing a community of welcoming and acceptance. The Parkland Perk project has been made possible with a generous grant from the Parkland Education Foundation. Social Studies teacher Andrew Bashore commented, "It is really good coffee, folks. No joke. And Parkland Perk has every creamer or sweetener option you could ever desire. And the kids' service is awesome. It will brighten your day. I highly recommend it."

Pictured at left are students and staff from Orefield Middle School enjoying their Jaguar Bites.



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IT'S TIME FOR KINDERGARTEN & NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

Kindergarten

REGISTRATION

If you have a child who is turning 5 years old prior to September 1, 2025, it's time to register for Kindergarten.

Families can begin calling their incoming kindergarten student's school to start the registration process. Similarly, if you have a child who is enrolled in a private kindergarten program who you are planning to enroll for the first time in Parkland Schools for first grade, we invite you to register now.

Don't delay, please call now in order to help us prepare our staffing needs.



Visit www.parklandsd.net and click SCHOOL LOCATOR button at the bottom of the page to view which neighborhood school your child will attend.



WELCOME EVENT DATES

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL NOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT AT THE WELCOME EVENT!

CETRONIA

MARCH 6: 5-6:30 PM
610-351-5860
WEBBERM@PARKLANDSD.NET

KERNVILLE

MARCH 4: 4:45-7 PM
610-351-5840
BRONZOL@PARKLANDSD.NET

FOGELSVILLE

MARCH 11: 4:30-6:30 PM
610-351-5800
TALHELMB@PARKLANDSD.NET

KRATZER

MARCH 13: 4:30-6:30 PM
610-351-5820
CARLJ@PARKLANDSD.NET

IRONTON

MARCH 20: 5-7 PM
610-351-5810
HEATERC@PARKLANDSD.NET

PARKWAY MANOR

MARCH 20: 5 PM
610-351-5850
NUNNS@PARKLANDSD.NET

FRED J. JAINDL

MARCH 12: 4-6 PM
610-351-5880
STIMPFLES@PARKLANDSD.NET

SCHNECKSVILLE

MARCH 13: 5-7 PM
610-351-5830
SHORTSL@PARKLANDSD.NET

VETERANS MEMORIAL

MARCH 26: 4:30 PM
610-351-5910
HERTZM@PARKLANDSD.NET

INCOMING MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL

SCHOOL

Orefield
Springhouse

PHONE

610-351-5900 x61662
610-351-5900 x65510

INCOMING PARKLAND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS CONTACT PHS

NAMES

Last Names A-LAK
Last Names LAL - Z

PHONE

610-351-5610 x73432
610-351-5610 x73433

EMAIL

jamesc@parklandsd.org
ciciliotk@parklandsd.org

Registration for incoming high school students for a Fall 2025 start who are NOT CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN PARKLAND SCHOOLS is scheduled for February 26 and 27, 2025. The evening registration includes virtual appointments with guidance counselors to help students make course selections.

WHICH SCHOOL WILL MY CHILD ATTEND?

Find your home on our [SCHOOL LOCATOR TOOL](#) to view your school for Fall.

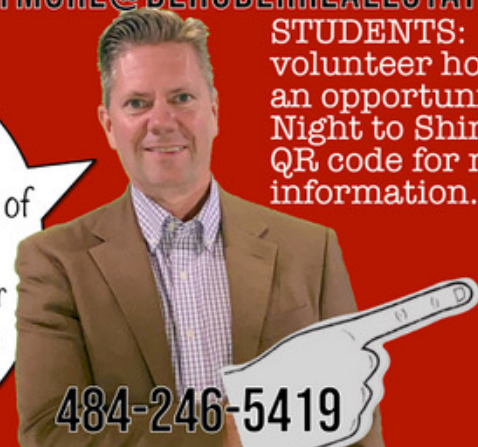
Visit www.parklandsd.org and click on the button at the bottom of the page that looks like this:

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LICENSE # RS371917



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- Substitute Paraprofessionals
- Substitute Clerical
- Substitute Playground Aides
- Substitute Food Service Personnel
- Substitute Bus Drivers and Vehicle Drivers
- Substitute Custodians

More information:



Call 610-351-5530 or email hr@parklandsd.net with any questions





A close-up photograph of a child's hand holding a green marker, drawing on a blue medical cast. The cast is wrapped around a limb, and the child is in the process of writing. The text "We help kids and parents feel better." is already written on the cast in black marker. Above the text is a simple smiley face drawn with a yellow marker, and to the right is a red star. The background shows the child's arm and part of their clothing.

When your child is sick or injured, you feel it too. We're ready to help. St. Luke's Children's Hospital in Bethlehem has the pediatric care you need in one place. Everything from treating sniffles to setting broken bones to performing complex surgery. We're close to home, convenient for family and easy to access. You'll find a full range of specialties to care for your child while making you feel better too.

sluhn.org/childrenshospital
801 Ostrum St., Bethlehem, PA 18015



PARKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Lisa Ervin
Executive Director, Parkland Education Foundation
ervinl@parklandsd.net
610-351-5572
www.parklandsd.org/foundation

INTRODUCING OUR NEW LOGO: A FRESH LOOK FOR A TIMELESS MISSION

The Parkland Education Foundation is proud to reveal its new logo, designed in collaboration with Andrea Guarino, a Parkland alumni, parent, Foundation board member and managing partner at 3Seed Marketing, Design & Interactive. This redesign maintains our commitment to supporting the school district's exceptional staff and students while symbolizing our ongoing evolution. The new visual identity preserves our core mission of fostering innovation and enhancing the student experience. Though our look has changed, our dedication to making a meaningful impact remains unchanged.

We also have given every staff member who received a grant this year a poster to hang in their room utilizing our new logo:



When you see these posters around the district that means the staff member has received a grant. The Parkland Education Foundation funded 105 grants throughout the district this year.

ELL PLANT WITH ME GRANT

GRANT APPLICATION WRITTEN BY LISA HAYDUCEK AND TERESA MOSSER



Springhouse Middle School English Language Learning (ELL) students participated in a project that allowed them to feel more connected through gardening. This project offered students from around the world the opportunity to engage in a hands-on learning experience that promoted language acquisition, allowed them to build meaningful relationships within their school community, and cultivated a profound sense of belonging. Students participated in gardening and planting activities that helped beautify the school grounds. The project was guided by a local gardening expert, Jen Ott, from Ott Gardens in Orefield. It allowed students immersive, real-world learning experiences. By collaborating with this local business, ELL students had the chance to interact with English speakers in authentic contexts, further developing their language skills and fostering social integration.

The entire school and Springhouse community benefited from the creation of some beautiful spaces that reflect the spirit of community and collaboration.



JOIN THE PARKLAND ALUMNI NETWORK

Connecting the Past. Building the Future.

We are excited to announce the formation of the Parkland School District Alumni Network -- a network supported and sponsored by the Parkland Education Foundation -- aimed at reconnecting and engaging our incredible community of graduates. Whether you walked the halls of Parkland High School years ago or are a recent graduate, we want to hear from you!

Membership Benefits:

- ✓ Staying Connected
- ✓ Networking
- ✓ Community

Contact Info:
610-351-5572

Our Website
www.parklandsd.org/foundation



JOIN NOW



Our grand total that
was collected in one week was
\$2,639.70!



OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS HELPED ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

Thank you to all of our students and staff and Parkland community members who generously donated to our change collection that will directly benefit Asheville City Schools and their ongoing hurricane relief efforts!

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE TIME IS NOW TO REGISTER FOR Fall 2025 KINDERGARTEN - see page 9 for details

January 13: Parent Meeting Class of 2026, 2027 and 2028 – 7 PM (virtual)
 January 14: Parent Meeting Class of 2029 - 7 PM at PHS
 January 20: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Professional Development Day/No School
 January 24: Early Dismissal Day – PHS/MS dismiss at 11 AM, ELEM dismiss at 11:45 AM
 February 10-21: District-wide Food Drive
 February 14-17: President's Day Holiday - No School
 March 7 : Professional Development Day - No School
 March 15: Community Resource Fair and New Parkland Parent Social, Parkland High School, 9 AM - 12 Noon
 March 31: EID al FITR - Professional Development Day - No School
 April 2-6: PHS Presents the Spring Musical **Les Misérables**
 April 17-21: Spring Holiday – School Closed



HELP SUPPORT HUNGER IN OUR COMMUNITY!
When you shop at your local Giant grocery store from January 1st-March 31st, you can round up your total to the nearest dollar at the register to support Parkland's efforts to eliminate student hunger. These funds go directly to feed students and their families.
www.parklandsd.org/resources



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to brighten the world

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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.**