



PARKLAND NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2025

SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM FEEDS CHILDREN 2-18 YRS



During the Summer of 2024, only 12% of children in PA who were eligible to receive free meals were reached with summer feeding sites. Parkland’s percent of students who are eligible for free summer meals is 30%. To that end, we are thrilled to announce that Parkland School District has secured state approval for federal funding to provide a Summer Meal Program, offering free breakfast and lunch meals to those who qualify. This exciting opportunity ensures children ages 2-18 who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch have access to nutritious meals even when school is not in session. We are also offering the option for families who do not qualify to purchase meals for their students.

Program Dates: June 23 - August 18, 2025

Free Meals: Available to all children ages 2-18 within our district who are currently eligible for free or reduced-price meals. To apply for or verify benefits, please visit <https://www.parklandsd.org/food> and click on the “meal applications icon” on the top left corner of the page.

Paid Meals: Available for purchase for children who do not qualify for free or reduced-price meals. Cost is \$30 per week for 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches in total.

Pick-up Time and Location: All meals will be prepared and distributed exclusively from our Ironton Elementary School site on Mondays between 7 AM - 8:30 AM and 10 AM - 1 PM. This location is a requirement of the federal funding that makes this program possible this summer. It is the only location through which Parkland secured crucial federal funding.

Who is eligible for free meals? Any student within our district who is currently eligible for free or reduced-price meals can participate in this program **at no cost.**

What if my child does not qualify for free or reduced-price meals? We are also pleased to offer meal pick-up to families who do not qualify for free or reduced-price meals. If you are interested in purchasing meals for your student(s), you can still register. Upon registration, your student’s meal account will be charged for the \$30 cost of the meals per student. You will be responsible for payment whether or not you pick up your meals the following Monday. (Note that we will be transferring student balances to a new system over the summer from MySchoolBucks.com to SchoolCafe.com.)

Are you interested in participating? Families with children ages 2-18 should follow Parkland social media, www.parklandsd.org website announcements and current student families will receive emails that will include registration links and deadline information each week. Make sure to fill out the online registration form and hit SUBMIT to send in your orders each week by the stated deadlines so that we can prepare food for your children.

Questions can be directed to Casey Troutman, Director of Food Service at troutmanc@parklandsd.net. For emergency food assistance at any time, email ParklandREACH@parklandsd.net.

WHAT'S INSIDE

pg. 3

Superintendent's Message

pg. 6-7

2025-26 Budget Information

pg. 8

Teacher Contract Approved

pg. 10

Celebrating the Class of 2025 and Student Achievement

pg. 11

Foundation Update

HEROES HONORED AT PHS WITH FLAGS FOR UNITY

Parkland was proud to partner with the Allentown West Rotary Club to present the inaugural Flags for Unity event at Parkland HS this Memorial Day weekend! The PHS practice football field was filled with 500 8-foot flags which honored veterans, first responders, and others who hold a special place in our community’s hearts. A special service kicked off the event on Thursday, May 22nd, and the flags stood proudly through Memorial Day, Monday, May 26th. They were beautifully lit each night.



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

Heintzelman
FUNERAL HOME
INC.

To do right by women, you have to get it.

As a woman, you are constantly transforming into a new version of yourself. As one season ends, another begins – each of which pushes you to evolve physically, mentally and emotionally. Whatever season you are in, you can trust the region’s leading women’s health experts to guide you.

▣ We do right by women because that’s what you *deserve*.
LVHN.org/WomensHealth



We get it.

 **Lehigh Valley
Health Network**

part of  **Jefferson Health**



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parkland Community,

Spring was a success thanks to our amazing staff and students! Check out the Class of 2025's many achievements via the links in this newsletter. As summer nears, please note that this issue will detail the budget, particularly in light of increasing enrollment. Parkland's Vision 2030 construction continues, with the Parkland High expansion bidding planned for this fall and groundbreaking in spring. We've carefully analyzed options to minimize the financial impact of this necessary investment for future growth. Stay updated through this newsletter, School Board Meetings, my podcast, community meetings, and our webpage: www.ParklandSD.org/Vision2030. The Parkland School Board proposed a 4% tax increase, setting the 2025-26 General Fund Budget at \$248,755,101. To lessen the impact on taxpayers, \$5,507,303 from the Fund Balance will be used. While Parkland's real estate value is still growing, the 1.4% increase since last summer is lower than the 2% average of the past five years, and we are watching market trends closely.

Key Points About the 2025-26 Proposed Budget are:

Safety (Physical, Mental and Behavioral Health Needs) – The 2025-26 budget prioritizes student safety and operational efficiency. It includes the addition of a School Resource Officer in North Whitehall Township, new buses and bus cameras, a visitor management system upgrade, and the implementation of a Central Registration Department. The 2025-26 safety budget has been significantly enhanced by a \$286,767 grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD).

Students and Educational Programs – Parkland is investing in research-based methods to improve learning and managing costs by analyzing and streamlining resource use. Notably, due to the significant investment in a new elementary English Language Arts curriculum, funding for separate intervention materials has been streamlined. Middle and High School World Language resources are also being updated. The Technology Budget was reduced by more than \$1.75M this year, primarily due to deferring Chromebook replacements, resulting in savings. The budget continues to prioritize retaining and recruiting exceptional teachers and support staff.

Growth and Future Planning – Vision 2030 is a project that seeks to address swelling enrollment in grades 6-12 across the District. Capital improvement projects remain a critical part of the District's ability to protect and maintain facilities as well as our ability to break ground on the Parkland High School addition in the spring of 2026 which will alleviate the congestion at the school. Soon after, the District will look to relocate the bus parking lots and renovate and/or add more building space to Orefield Middle School.

Debt Service - To manage growth and maintain facilities, our debt plan is key. The 2025-26 budget includes \$1.4M for the new 2024 bond. Our financing plan requires a millage increase equivalent to the yearly debt service increase to support these capital projects within the General Operating Budget.

Fund Balance Appropriation – Careful planning will involve the use of approximately \$5,507,303 of fund balance that will help ease the tax burden this year. This use of fund balance will 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. Parkland plans to use the full \$4.1M in fund balance that was appropriated this past year.

Key Fiscal Points:

- Parkland real estate value is increasing by about 1.4% since last summer, while the rate over the last six years averaged over 2%. One mill of property tax is projected to produce \$9,216,613.
- The average residential assessed value is \$245,193. The average residential taxpayer will pay an extra \$13.99 per month next year at the new mill rate of 17.80.
- Residential Taxpayers represent 62% of Parkland's tax base with 22,903 residential properties. In total, there are 25,790 taxable properties.
- The allowable Act 1 Index is 4%. Parkland's Proposed Final Budget includes a 4% increase. Parkland has not raised taxes to the allowable Index in the last 9 years.
- Last year's millage rate was 17.12.

This budget proactively and responsibly plans for our future needs, ensuring we maintain a high-quality education and facilities that foster continued student success, while investing in long-term solutions to manage growth. We recognize the community's support and have carefully reviewed this plan, taking into account what we need to accomplish in the years to come coupled with our taxpayers' ability to pay for it as the district continues to grow.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer,

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

LEHIGH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT MILLAGE RANK COMPARISON

School District	2024-25 Millage (highest to lowest)
Northern Lehigh	25.37
Allentown City	22.64
Salisbury Township	23.95
Catasauqua Area	21.68
East Penn	21.00
Whitehall-Coplay	21.69
Northwestern Lehigh	20.10
Southern Lehigh	17.26
Parkland	17.12

Average is 20.51

JUNE 17
will be the day of
Adoption of the
Final Budget by the
School Board

LISTEN TO THE #PARKLANDPRIDE PODCAST

with

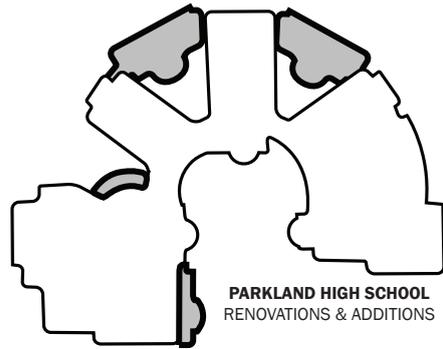
DR. MARK MADSON

WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SUPERINTENDENTMADSON



VISION 2030: PHS EXPANSION PROJECT UPDATE

Parkland High School will begin bidding the expansion project outlined below this fall and break ground on the additions in the spring of 2026. Here is a quick breakdown of the project with expected completion in July 2027.



Current Square Footage **493,782 sf**
 Proposed Square Footage **578,696 sf**
 Square Footage of Renovations **39,294 sf**
 Estimated building capacity **4,000 students**

Number of new classrooms and other spaces:
 - **27** General Classrooms
 - **11** Science Labs
 - **2** Learning Support Classrooms
 - **2** Engineering Labs
 - **2** Art Labs
 - **1** Foods Lab
 - **2** Large Group Instruction Rooms
 - **4** Small Group Instruction Rooms
 - **1** Tutoring Space

PARKLAND TEACHERS NAVIGATE THE AI FRONTIER

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is poised to revolutionize education in ways we haven't seen before. Recognizing the potential and addressing the concerns surrounding this technology, the Parkland Technology Department and Office of Teaching and Learning recently organized an AI Summit during a professional development day in March. The summit aimed to equip teachers with knowledge and strategies to effectively integrate AI into the curriculum.

One of the primary goals was to demystify AI and demonstrate how it can transform education, making certain tasks easier and addressing the challenges of student AI usage. In a spring pilot, 400 students and a group of teachers explored AI resources in the classroom, which initially presented a "scary scenario" as educators felt the weight of nurturing human authenticity. Questions arose: "How can we allow students to use this technology without encouraging cheating?"

JR Renna, Coordinator of Educational Technology at Parkland said, "We are guiding teachers to rethink the ways they ask students to demonstrate their knowledge beyond the end product of an essay or a lab report. Instead, we can embed checks for understanding throughout the process. By doing so, we de-emphasize student work that is easily generated by AI. It also gives us room to embed AI literacy into student instruction."

Teachers have consistently felt an increase in responsibilities over the past 10-20 years, with little taken off their plates. AI offers an opportunity to alleviate some of this burden, allowing educators to offload tasks, such as creating multiple tests for their classes or designing quizzes, and focus on what they do best—connecting with, talking to, and coaching students. The personal connections they make with students are invaluable in nurturing a love for learning and understanding content.

Setting up clear expectations and rules for the pilot was crucial. Teachers understood students were already using AI and needed to guide them on how to use it ethically. Discussing the "why" behind work restrictions was also vital. In the pilot, students reflected on AI use and developed a rubric to assess AI risk. Guidelines were established: no copy-pasting from AI, no sharing personal information, and no feeding AI math problems to solve. Instead, students engaged with AI to deepen their understanding of content or refine their writing and ideas.

Students took part in the workshop by sharing their experiences. They found AI useful for developing memory tricks for formulas, planning study schedules, creating practice quizzes and flashcards, getting essay feedback, practicing Spanish grammar, and even asking for help in understanding difficult concepts.

Teachers also explored practical applications, such as using AI to refine student thesis drafts, create varied tests, brainstorm essay topics, and explain difficult concepts in simpler terms. Self-grading with AI was considered, though the limitations in recognizing individual writing styles were noted.

Interestingly, some teachers reported a return to paper-and-pencil quizzes and less in-class computer use. Classwide software was mentioned for monitoring student tool use, ensuring AI is used responsibly and ethically. The event highlighted AI's potential to enhance learning and lighten teachers' workloads, emphasizing the importance of clear guidelines and human interaction in the age of AI.

Backpack Collection

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

D.E. HUBER REAL ESTATE

NORMAN A. WHITMORE

NWHITMORE@DEHUBERREALESTATE.COM

Yep, summer is here, and the real estate market is red hot! Let's talk about your home. Call now!

Contact me for a complimentary in home consultation and valuation.

C: 484-246-5419
O: 610-351-5161

LICENSE # RS371917

Printing
Signs
Apparel

Promotional Products

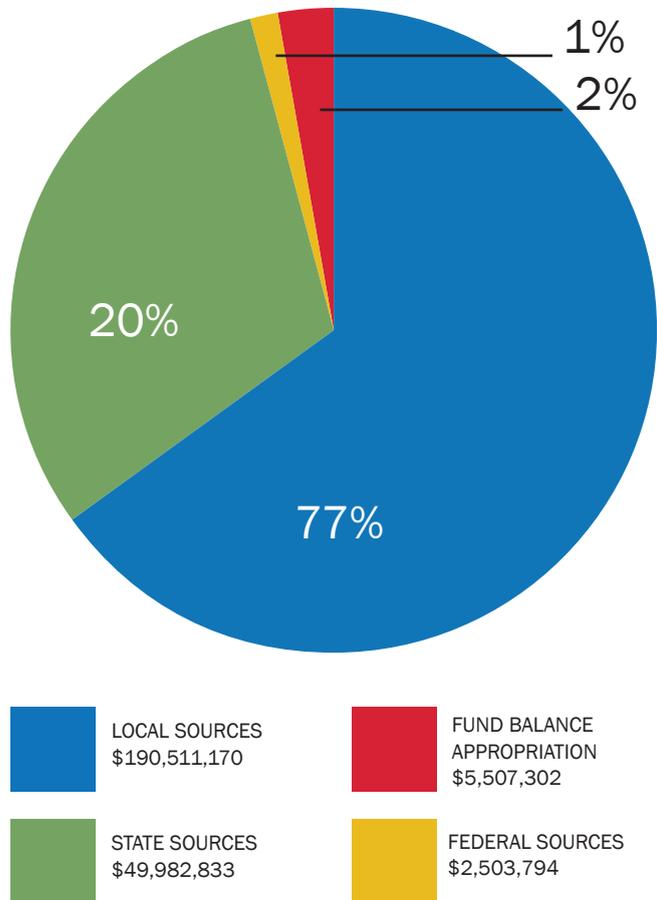


When your child is sick or injured, you feel it too. We're ready to help. St. Luke's Children's Hospital in Bethlehem has the pediatric care you need in one place. Everything from treating sniffles to setting broken bones to performing complex surgery. We're close to home, convenient for family and easy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

2025-26 DISTRICT BUDGET REVENUES



LOCAL	
Current Real Estate Taxes	\$157,754,810
Interim Real Estate Tax	\$2,000,000
Public Utility Realty Tax	\$150,000
Local Services Tax	\$400,000
Earned Income Tax	\$16,200,000
Real Estate Transfer Tax	\$3,500,000
Delinquent Real Estate Tax	\$2,700,000
Interest on Investments	\$3,500,000
District Activities/Gate Receipts	\$585,000
Donations/Private Sources	\$500,000
Federal Revenue from LEA's	\$2,057,360
Other Local	\$1,164,000
TOTAL LOCAL	\$190,511,170
STATE	
Basic Education Funding	\$15,841,251
Special Education Funding	\$4,420,919
Transportation Subsidy	\$1,845,269
Rental/Sinking Fund Payments	\$300,000
Health Services	\$190,000
State Property Tax Allocation (Gaming)	\$3,081,308
Social Security Reimbursement	\$4,134,348
Retirement Reimbursement	\$18,639,880
All Other State Subsidiaries	\$1,529,858
TOTAL STATE	\$49,982,833
TOTAL FEDERAL	\$2,503,794
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	\$250,000
TOTAL REVENUE	\$243,247,797
FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATION	\$5,507,302
TOTAL BUDGET	\$248,755,099

BUDGET BREAKDOWN BY

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 2025-2026 Parkland School District Real Estate tax bills will be mailed on or after July 1, 2025. Any property owner who has not received a bill by July 15, 2025, 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

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 <https://www.lehighcounty.org/Departments/Assessment-Home/The-Taxpayer-Relief-Act>

EXPENDITURE CATEGORY

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

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.



HOW DO I CALCULATE MY TAXES?

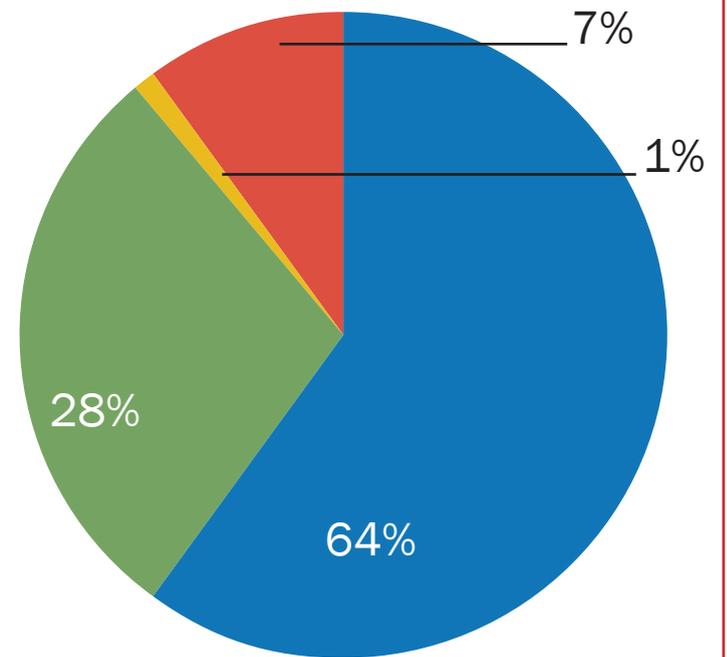
The 2025-26 Final General Fund Budget Plan calls for a property tax rate of 17.80 mills. To calculate your school district property tax, find the current assessed value of your property and multiply that value times the millage rate of 17.80. For example, a house assessed at the median value of a home in Parkland, which is \$245,193, would be calculated as follows:

$$\$245,193 \times .01780 = \$4,364.44 \text{ property tax for the school district.}$$

PARKLAND HOMESTEAD/ FARMSTEAD GAMING CREDIT

Gaming monies will supply every approved homestead/farmstead with an estimated assessed value reduction of approximately \$10,783, which equates to a property tax reduction of approximately \$191.94. 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. This assessed value reduction will be shown on your 2025-26 property tax bill, which will be mailed to all property owners on or after July 1, 2025.

2025-26 DISTRICT BUDGET EXPENDITURES



	INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS \$158,817,231		NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: \$3,706,153
	INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES: \$69,120,987		OTHER FINANCING USES: \$17,110,728

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS	
Regular Instructional Programs	\$105,820,813
Special Education	\$45,122,685
Vocational Education	\$5,622,192
Other Instructional Programs	\$895,634
Community College Support	\$1,355,907
TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS	\$158,817,231

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES	
Pupil & Instructional Staff Support	\$15,219,925
Administration	\$10,538,567
Pupil Health	\$3,256,579
Business/ Fiscal	\$2,201,884
Operation & Maintenance of Facilities	\$20,050,589
Transportation	\$12,752,838
Central Support & Other	\$5,100,605
TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES	\$69,120,987

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	
Student Activities	\$3,706,153
TOTAL NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	\$3,706,153

OTHER FINANCING USES	
Debt Service & Fund Transfers	\$17,110,728
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING USES	\$17,110,728

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$248,755,099
---------------------------	----------------------



NEW TEACHER CONTRACT: A WIN FOR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY

Exciting news for the Parkland community! The Parkland School District Board of School Directors and the Parkland Education Association (PEA) have successfully reached a new 3-year contract agreement, set to run from September 1, 2025, through August 31, 2028.

This agreement, officially approved on May 13, 2025, and ratified by the district's 723 teachers, nurses, counselors, and other professional staff, means continued stability and quality education for our students.

What's in the new contract?

- **Salary Increases:** The agreement includes annual salary increases of 3.5%, 3.6%, and 3.7% over the three years. These increases cover both base pay and steps on the salary scale, recognizing years of service and education. Stipends for coaches, department chairs, and advisors will also see similar increases.
- **Health Benefits:** Employees will have a choice of medical insurance plans, with a transition to employee contributions based on a percentage of the premium over the contract's duration.

Both Superintendent Dr. Mark Madson and PEA President Sandi Gackenbach expressed their satisfaction with the agreement, highlighting the collaborative negotiation process and the commitment to attracting and retaining highly qualified educators.

This new contract ensures that Parkland continues to be a Top Workplace and we're excited for the positive impact it will have on our students and community!



WELCOMING A NEW SCHNECKSVILLE PRINCIPAL



The Schnecksville Sharks will have a new principal at the start of next school year. Mrs. Justina Verile will take over from Mr. Damian Goodman, who is moving to western Pennsylvania. Superintendent Dr. Mark Madson expressed his enthusiasm for Mrs. Verile, highlighting her administrative skills, teaching background, and dedication to education.

Mrs. Verile has extensive experience, including a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with Elementary Education and Middle Level Mathematics Certifications from Moravian College, complemented by a Master of Education degree from Wilkes University as well as a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Delaware Valley University. For the last three years, she served as Parkland's Dean of Students at the elementary level, and she has 10 years of Kindergarten teaching experience in our district along with two years teaching 5th grade in Parkland.

"I am honored and excited to accept this position," said Mrs. Verile. "I look forward to working with our educators, families, and students."

Mrs. Verile will begin working with Mr. Goodman soon to ensure a smooth transition. Please join us in congratulating Mrs. Verile on this well-deserved promotion and extending warm wishes to Mr. Goodman as he prepares for his new chapter.

MIDDLE SCHOOLS UNVEIL ROBOTICS COURSE

Orefield and Springhouse Middle Schools are pleased to introduce a new "Innovation Design Lab" class to the Middle School program of studies. This restructuring of the curriculum aims to replace existing "Career Explorations and Decision-making" components, as career and mental health curriculum has increasingly overlapped within Information Technology and Health classes.

The new "Innovation Design Lab" will center on Robotics, providing students with practical, hands-on experience in design and programming. This course was designed to directly align with Science, Technology & Engineering, and Environmental Literacy and Sustainability (or PA STEELS), the Technology Standards which need to be implemented by the start of next school year. The new PA STEELS emphasize hands-on learning and fostering students' technological literacy and problem-solving abilities to prepare them for future innovation. The course will focus on basic robotics and serve as an introduction to an advanced VEX Robotics Club at Springhouse, with the goal of developing a VEX Club at Orefield next year.

This new class will be implemented without adding new staff; instead, a current staff member will transition into the role. A tech coach will move into teaching the "Innovation Design Lab" class while continuing to facilitate some of the previous tech coach duties, ensuring ongoing support for teachers with technology. This staff member, who has been actively involved in writing the curriculum, will teach the class at both Springhouse and Orefield Middle Schools.



610 - 841 - 5929

Let our family care for your family.

Family General & Cosmetic Dentistry, Oral Surgery, Implants, and Sedation.

NurtureDentalHealth.com

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





BELLA CASA
KITCHEN & BATH
Where beautiful comes home.



BELLA CASA
KITCHEN & BATH
Where beautiful comes home.



BELLA CASA
KITCHEN & BATH
Where beautiful comes home.

BELLA CASA

Kitchens • Baths • Basements • Closets

1812 W. Tilghman St. • Allentown, PA
610.433.9800

BellaCasaKitchenAndBath.com

#PA055933

5 STUDENTS EARN FULL TUITION 58 EARN SCHOLARSHIPS OF 25% OR MORE TOTAL OF \$5M OVER FOUR YEARS

FULL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Caleb Daniels

Messiah University

Julia Hayward

Misericordia University

Jace Mahmood

Kutztown University

Zain Matin

United States Military Academy - West Point

Julianne Zaffiro

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

25% or MORE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Celine Achkar
Ava Attinello
Aamina Bhanji
Kendall Billie
Delaney Chilcote
Leo Dauberman
Catherine Fahey
Isabelle Fekula
Eric Friday
Sarah Furey
Angelina Gallucci
Isabela Gandur Amaya
Diana Gonzalez
Danielle Gordon
Glenn Guida
Regan Haley
AlaLiana Harris
Brynn Harrison
Luke Heimann
Cash Hertz
Ella Hesener
Emily Hoysan
Allison Hunsberger
Saydee Kim
Tobias Koch
Jayaditya Kothari

DeSales University
Desales University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Marywood University
Susquehanna University
Muhlenberg College
Louisiana State University
Juniata College
Drew University
Eastern University
Saint Leo University
DeSales University
Cedar Crest College
University of Delaware
DeSales University
DeSales University
Albright College
Franklin & Marshall
DeSales University
DeSales University
University of Kentucky
DeSales University
York College of Pennsylvania
Union College
Eastern University
Rice University

Kylie Krokus
Parker Kusko
Delaney Lewis
Madison Lutte
Preston Mertz
Brooke Miller
Cassidy Mondschein
Gabriel Morse

Jaelen Patel
Agjdio Poloni
Tatum Reed
Zachary Reidy
Mia Rizzuti
Samith Rohatgi
Brady Roy
Olivia Sandercock
Alyssa Schiavone
Alexander Schoch
Anna Sensinger
Abigail Severo
Alison Silman
Zachary Smith
Sadie Sullivan
Owen Tobias

Duquesne University
Muhlenberg College
University of Kentucky
Iona University
Albright College
Shippensburg University
University of Delaware
University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Pennsylvania State University
Rowan University
Susquehanna University
Moravian University
DeSales University
University of Massachusetts
Florida Tech
Elon University
Cedar Crest College
King's College
St. Joseph's University
Bloomsburg University
Fairfield University
Muhlenberg College
Messiah University
York College of Pennsylvania

ATHLETES PLAYING IN COLLEGE

42
OF
PHS ATHLETES
WHO WILL PLAY
THEIR SPORT IN
COLLEGE!



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



CHECK OUT THE

class of **2025**
achievements in academics, arts and athletics on our Class of 2025 webpage by scanning the QR Code!



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

National Merit Semifinalist: Sophie Elijovich, Claire W. Fang, Jayaditya Kothari, Tariq A. Shahid, Swarna R. Suresh, Adam H. Vazquies, Anika S. Vedantham, Ryan R. Wu, Alex Xu, Kevin L. Yao and Angela Zhao

Varsity Boys Soccer - State Runner Up: Kerem Adali, Anthony Bautista, Marcel Bauza, Cameron Becker, Ryan Bender, Ramy Chaker, Edward Curelar, Christian Cusumano, Caleb Daniels, Noah Dopera, Matt Feiler, Ethan Frey, Lincoln Fritz, Alex Hurwitz, Aderin Olatilo, Nathaniel Park, Christopher Park, Bryce Peters, Tal Pollard, Zach Reidy, Dylan Rochus, Jason Ryu, Zach Sallit, Carter Shirk, Jacob Silman, Daniel Sipling, Zach Slenker, Evan Sprunk, Andrew Staples, Matt Stiles, Kyle Tobia, James Whitehead and Logan Williams

State Silver Medal Girls' Wrestling: Angelina Spachman

State Gold Medal Girls' 4x100 M Relay: Lucy Tobia, Cierra Valley, Dhaniya Miner and Kaley Seide

United States of America Junior Mathematical Olympiad Math Exam Top 0.2%: Eddy Zhang

Congressional Art Award: Niva Sullivan

All-State Concert Band: Halle Colabroy-Whitmire

All-State Wind Ensemble: Clarke Ray

All-State Orchestra: Ivan Ly, Daniel Schiffert, Tariq Shahid, Sarene Son, Madelynn Wascura, Genevieve Vasquez and Jayden Yao

All-State Chorus: Rae DeWein, Katherine Gilchrist, Luke Hauck, Garet Hill, Vasilis Motsenigos, Lilianna Schantz and Swarna Suresh

2024 Congressional App Challenge in Pennsylvania's Seventh District: Tushar Mehta

Top 300 Scholar in the Regeneron Science Talent Search: Brandon Cai

PA Jr. Academy of Science Fair Perfect Score: Cadence Adams, Jiwoo Baek, Ella Chen, Veda Gandhi, Matthew Haas, Ayush Jalani, Jocelyn Jiang, Yihan Li, Adhya Narayanan, Aarna Pandey, Rishi Pondi, Vihaan Rao, Evan Stoddard, Aaditri Suresh, Hanchun Yang, Lucas Yang

PA Science Olympiad State Champions: Raj Bishwal, Vibha Borkar, Aadi Garg, Harsha Gollapudi, Sisira Kota, Navneeth Kuppala, Brady Laub, Ethan Lin, Kevin Lu, Areesha Mariyam, Rohan Mokirala, Adhya Narayanan, Jitesh Rana, Shatkon Sathish, Guhan Sathish, Kushaan Shah, Helen Si, Kelly Wang, Hanchun (Max) Yang and Sai Yaramaka

Del Valley Science Fair Medals and 1st Place: Adwik Banerjee, Luke Hauck, Sean Jeon, Aryan Kapoor, Joseph McCarty and Aaditri Suresh

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) State Competition: Jinnelle Estevez and Anijah Parker

Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) - Kyra Brigg, Carter Campbell, Daniel Osmanvic and Sage Rivera

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA): Sarah Avila, Marcel Bauza, Soumyadeep Das, Shagun Dholakia, Kevin Lu, Willoh Economou Olson, Shivam Patel, Zach Slenker, Lucas Yang and Alexander Zhang

PA History Day Winners: Noor Aslam, Taha Aslam, Ella Chen, Veda Gandhi, Sisira Kota, Austin Li, Yihan Li, Adhya Narayanan, Julide Ozcan, Aksharaa Premumar, Sawyer Svetcov, Scarlet Svetcov, Maryam Syamsuddin, Hanchun Yang and Lucas Yang

Governor's STEM Challenge: Lucas Bickley, Jenna Mayer, Meadow Bracalente and Evan Newhard

Winterguard Tournament Indoor Association Champions: Meadow Bracalente, Amalia Duncan, Hailee Fry, Cora Gildea, Abigail Graves, Maya Hurst, Andreana Kedyulych, Ava Lang, Marina Martin-Fonseca, Grace Phillips-Jackson, Ava Roeder, Samantha Roman, Adelaide Roy, Hannah Roy, Victoria Smith, Alicia Stiver and Kendyl Wagner

Skills USA PA State Leadership & Skills Conference: Robert Lanyon



CONGRATULATIONS SENIOR SPEAKER LILIANNA SCHANTZ

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



PARKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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

GRANT BRINGS HANDS-ON SCIENCE TO LIFE WITH K'NEX ROLLER COASTERS



Lillie Badesso's class, Jaindl Elementary

Thanks to a Parkland Education Foundation Innovation Grant, 4th grade students recently brought science to life by building their own roller coasters using K'Nex building materials!

This hands-on project helped students explore key concepts from the 4th Grade Science Curriculum, including energy, motion and force. As they designed and constructed their roller coasters, students observed real-world examples of potential and kinetic energy in action.

The experience also strengthened important life skills. Working in teams, students built not only roller coasters—but also their collaboration, problem-solving and executive functioning abilities.

This project is a powerful example of how Innovation Grants support creative, engaging learning experiences that leave a lasting impact.

2025 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI CELEBRATION



2025 Distinguished Alumni Recipients From Left to Right: Greg Coni, Greg Butz, Gary Iacocca, Stacey Stauffer, and Ishai Setton



On May 1st, the Parkland School District Education Foundation hosted its 13th Annual Distinguished Alumni Celebration. The evening began at Parkland High School, where each honoree was recognized and gave a speech, followed by a congratulatory dinner at Lehigh Country Club.

As the Foundation's largest fundraiser of the year, this event plays a vital role in supporting our Celebrate Innovation Grants. Thanks to generous community support, the event was able to raise over \$90,000 that will go directly back to our staff and students in the form of grants.

We extend heartfelt thanks to the volunteers, donors, and sponsors who made this event a success. Your commitment helps the Foundation continue its mission to uphold excellence in public education. Special thanks to our top sponsors: **St. Luke's University Health Network, Service Electric Cable TV and Communications, Alvin H. Butz, Inc., McClure Company, Highmark Blue Shield, Jaindl Farms, KingSpry, Lehigh Valley Health Network, Myers Benner Corporation, Randall's Restaurant, The Neffs National Bank, Yocco's, Alloy 5, DE Cressman Insurance, Eastburn and Gray, P.C., Heintzelman Funeral Home, Peoples Security Bank, Portnoff Law Associates, Ltd. and Premier Environments.**

JOIN THE PARKLAND ALUMNI NETWORK

For more information call 610-351-5572 or visit www.parklandsd.org/foundation



Connecting the Past.
 Building the Future.

JOIN NOW



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 COMMUNITY EVENTS

For a list of Parkland Schools Summer Library Hours and local summer camps and learning opportunities, visit www.parklandsd.org/camps.

July 12 - Parkland Garden Club's 26th Annual Garden Tour "Nature's Journey," 9am-4pm, rain or shine. Tickets \$25 in advance, \$30 on the day of the tour. www.parklandgardenclub.com

August 14 - 17 - 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.

Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation



SUN Bucks provides \$120 per eligible child to Pennsylvania families to buy groceries during the summer.

Many children will get these benefits automatically, but some households will need to apply. Scan the QR code for an eligibility navigator to check if you qualify.



USDA SUN Bucks Pennsylvania Department of Human Services Pennsylvania Department of Education



CONGRATS PROM KING AND QUEEN
Reid Andrush and Ava Brunnabend!



CONGRATS
Cierra Valley,
Dhaniya Miner,
Kaley Seide, and
Lucy Tobia
4X100 M RELAY
STATE CHAMPIONS!



BE THE ONE
to brighten the world

Dr. Sam Ghosh has been crafting healthy, confident smiles for more than 25 years. With SmyleAlign, Dr. Ghosh's exclusive and invisible alternative to traditional braces, anyone can get a smile you're proud to share at school - and that can make all the difference.

GHOSH
ORTHODONTICS
STRAIGHT. FORWARD. | GOGHOSH.COM

4979 HAMILTON BLVD
ALLENTOWN, PA 18106
610.440.3100

PARKLAND NEWSLETTER

1210 SPRINGHOUSE ROAD, ALLENTOWN, PA 18104

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LEHIGH VALLEY PA
PERMIT# 719

PARKLAND NEWSLETTER VOLUME 57 NUMBER 4
Published 4x annually in September, January, April and June.

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Robert M. Cohen, President
David J. Hein, Vice President
David Ellowitz
Carol L. Facchiano
Chris Pirrotta
Jay Rohatgi
Lisa A. Roth
Annette M. Wilcox
Marisa L. Ziegler

ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Dr. Mark J. Madson, Superintendent
Mr. Timothy Chorones, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Michelle Minotti, Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Leslie Frisbie, Board Secretary/Director of Business Administration
Editor, Nicole Mehta McGalla

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.**