

RAMS REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Pennridge Community,

Since I arrived in the Pennridge School District last October, I have been graciously welcomed, and I am writing to convey my gratitude for your kindness and support. Frankly, it is an honor to serve as your Superintendent. Reflecting on the Class of 2024's commencement ceremony, I was profoundly moved by the spirit and pride our graduates and their families exhibited. Witnessing their joy and achievements has reinforced my belief that the strength of our district lies in our collective dedication. The commitment of our staff, students, and families forms the foundation of our many accomplishments and distinguishes Pennridge as exceptional.

Our students and staff have reached significant milestones throughout the year and celebrated numerous successes. From academic achievements to extracurricular triumphs, each moment has contributed to our shared vision of making Pennridge one of the premier districts in Pennsylvania. These achievements are a testament to our collective efforts and fill us all with Pennridge Pride. I am pleased with what we have accomplished together and look forward to building on this momentum.

As my team and I prepare for the upcoming year during this summer break, we are excited about the developments and updates we will bring you in August. In the meantime, I encourage you and your families to relax, recharge, and enjoy each other's company. Your support and partnership are essential to our success.

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful summer.

Semper Fidelis,

Angelo Berrios

Angelo Berrios



Eight Years Without a Tax Increase

For the eighth straight year, the Pennridge School District continues to provide an incredible scholastic experience to its students and support for its Professional staff while remaining a cost-effective resource for our Community! Pennridge will spend more than \$159 million in expenditures including higher salaries for Teachers and Support Staff as well as robust Educational programs during the 2024-2025 School Year, but with no tax increases for our area residents.

For detailed information and program requirements, please visit our website at www.pennridge.org/business.

2024-2025 Budget: \$159.1 million dollars



For the eighth year in a row, the Pennridge School Board has again adopted a District Budget that does not increase property taxes, does not include a structural deficit, and does not include new borrowing. All of that occurred while continuing to provide for the educational needs of the students as well as exciting programs for our school's professional and support staff members.



The Pennridge School District is Officially a "Great PA School"

The Pennridge School District is A GREAT School District! After an extensive process, in Spring of 2024, Pennridge received the "Great Pennsylvania Schools" (GPS) designation which recognizes Pennsylvania public schools that provide students with access to rigorous programming, are community-centric, demonstrate financial well-being, and display resilience by the Pennsylvania School Board Association. The Great PA Schools honor distinguishes Pennridge as one of the best districts in Pennsylvania based on a variety of factors and we retain this honor for 4 years, 2024-2028.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

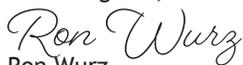
Greetings Penridge,

The Penridge School Board remains steadfast in its commitment to cultivating an innovative and educational environment that benefits every student within our district. Every student should have opportunities that not only foster success but also prepare them for the challenges of the future. This letter is a testament to our commitment to the exceptional educators, administrators, support staff, and—most importantly—the students of Penridge.

Our collaborative efforts with Superintendent Berrios and his administrative team are crucial in spearheading innovative strategies and ensuring all students are well-equipped and future-ready. We deeply value and rely on your active involvement in this journey. To that end, we warmly invite you to participate in our monthly meetings, accessible in person and online, to contribute your insights during committee and board discussions. Should you have any questions or express concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at PSDSchoolboard@penridge.org. This address ensures that your message reaches all nine members of the Board, as well as our Superintendent.

I look forward to the future with great optimism and anticipate continued achievements at Penridge.

Warm regards,



Ron Wurz

President, Penridge School Board



(L-R) Row 1: Mrs. Leah Foster-Rash, Vice President- Ms. Christine Batycki, Mrs. Ricki Chaikin, Mrs. Jordan Blomgren, Mrs. Carolyn Sciarrino

(L-R) Row 2: Mr. Chris Kaufman, Mr. Bradley Merkl-Gump, Mr. Robert Cormack, President- Mr. Ronald Wurz, Mr. Angelo Berrios, Superintendent of PSD

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT



PEA & PSD Leadership Approve a New Contract Agreement for Professional Staff

After months of negotiations, the bargaining units from the Penridge Education Association (PEA) representing our Teachers and Professional Staff and School Board Directors and Administrators agreed on a new Collective Bargaining Agreement until the 2028-2029 School Year. The salaries and benefits in the agreement make Penridge a more attractive destination for employees since the wages are now some of the highest in our area.

The Penridge Administrative Team is Ready to Meet the Needs of Students & Staff

In 2024, the Penridge School District Administrative Team welcomed Superintendent, Mr. Angelo Berrios, who joined Penridge in late October. We also welcomed:

- Dr. Bradley Palmer as the new Assistant Superintendent of Administration
- Mr. Ernest Johnson as the Director of Student Services and Title IX Coordinator

- Dr. Kathy Scheid as the Assistant Superintendent of K-12 Teaching, Learning, and Assessment
- Mr. Michael Gurysh as our Supervisor of K-12 Mathematics Curriculum
- Mrs. Christine Tamburino as our Supervisor of K-12 Science and STEM Curriculum



Benjamin Swartley Wins the National Merit Scholarship

Class of 2024 Graduate, Benjamin Swartley is the first PHS Graduate to win this prestigious award since 2021. More than 100,000 students nationally apply for the scholarship program and just over 7,000 are chosen as winners from the 15,000 distinguished Finalists. This year, Penridge also had two Finalists; Benjamin Swartley and Liam Brennan! Congratulations!



Over the last year....Penridge Has New Looks in Many New Places!

You may have noticed some new “Penridge P’s” around the District this past year. We have expanded our branding and logo options as well as expanded our District Cable TV Channel, RNN to both Comcast Channel #968 and now Verizon Cable Channel #29! You can also watch “RNN-On Demand” through our robust YouTube channel for all of Penridge School District’s informative, entertaining, and exciting video content created throughout the year.

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT

Girls Soccer & Hockey State Champions

Two of our High School Athletic teams earned the Gold Medal and a PIAA State Championship this year! The PHS Girls Soccer Team capped off a dominant multi-year run with their second State Championship in just a few years and also with an undefeated season! The Penrridge Hockey Team also continued their mastery of the ice by winning both the Flyers Cup and the State Championship this year! Our Hockey Team also won the State Title in 2022.



MAJOR GOAL AREAS FOR 2024-2025

Block Scheduling & New Graduation Requirements Coming to PHS in Fall of 2024

The Block Scheduling Committees were formed three years ago and were comprised of Students, Teachers, Administrators, Parents, Coaches, the Athletic Director, and School Board members. As a result of several months of evaluations, the Penrridge Block Scheduling Team made a unanimous decision to present the following presentations at School Board meetings in 2023 and it was approved by our School Board. Additionally, the Penrridge School District is among many school districts across the region and country that looked into ways to implement later secondary school start times, a practice being recommended by many organizations as a way to get students in that age category more sleep and improve their academic performance, among other benefits. The addition of a “flex” period at the start of the school day was an option after the recommendation of Penrridge’s “Late Start and Sleep Committee” work in 2021. The transition to block scheduling allows Penrridge High School students to take and earn more credits than previously possible. The graduation requirements have changed because of this. Over the next four years, each graduating class will have an increased credit requirement until we reach a total of 28 for the Class of 2028. The requirements meet and exceed those specified by the Pennsylvania State Board of Education.

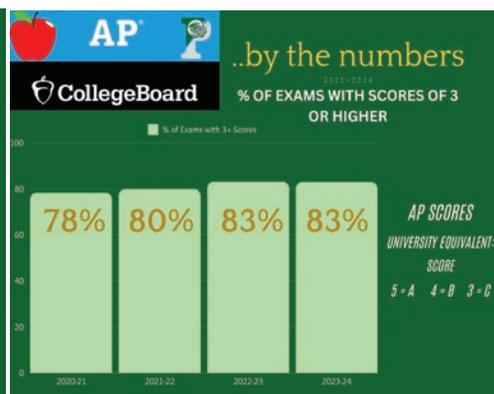
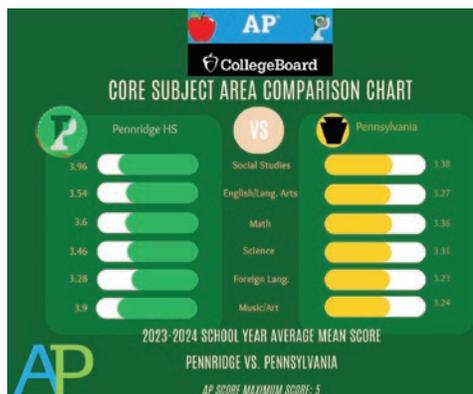
Beginning with the Class of 2028, Penrridge High School students will have the opportunity to earn a Scholar’s Diploma which allows students to earn 30 credits. More specific information can be found in our PHS Program of Studies.

Teaching, Learning, and Assessment Goals

The Penrridge School District builds academic rigor in all grade levels K-12. In addition to gathering and analyzing multiple data points regularly, we have chosen to focus on specific goals in math and reading over a two-year period. At the Elementary level, the district focused on the 3rd Grade Reading/ELA PSSA scores by striving to increase the number of students scoring proficient or advanced by 10% by the end of the 2023-24 school year. In secondary Math, we focused on increasing the number of students scoring proficient or advanced on the Math PSSA at the Middle School level and the Algebra I Keystone at the High School level by 12% and 10%, respectively. We met and exceeded all of these goals.

Advanced Placement (AP) and College Readiness scores once again, rank higher than PA and National Averages

We are so proud of our incredible Penrridge High School students and our dedicated teachers for continuing to improve and achieve excellent AP test scores. From 2021-2024, Penrridge continues to expand AP Course curricula as well as the amount of students taking AP Exams each year. In the 2023-2024 School Year, 475 students took 913 AP Exams and 83% of the them earned College Credit by scoring a 3 or higher on their tests. Penrridge also continues its long streak of earning AP scores that exceed both the State and Global Mean scores. (see chart)



New Kitchens and Other Projects “Pave” the Way of Progress at Penrridge

Our Penrridge schools and grounds continue to receive important upgrades. In the Fall of 2023, work was completed on a new \$2.5 Million State-of-the-Art kitchen at Penrridge South Middle School. In the 2024-2025 School Year, work will begin on a similar project in the Grasse Elementary School kitchen. The Grasse project is a complete renovation that includes all new cooking equipment, a new walk-in box cooler, new serving lines, and other appliances. The space is being reconfigured for ADA compliance as well as a more cohesive workflow. Penrridge will also complete the 3rd and final phase of paving restoration on the high school campus this summer. The entire project cost is \$2.7M and includes various forms of asphalt restoration from full depth replacement to crack sealing and seal coating, re-stripping, and all the wayfinding signage will be replaced from the areas around Penrridge High School, North Middle School, and the District Support Center building.



2024 - 2028- Pennridge School District
 Pennsylvania Great Schools Designation

2024 U.S. News and World Report
 "Best Schools" Designation

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL

PENNRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT BY THE NUMBERS

8th Grade Civics Test

Act 35 was passed by the Pennsylvania State Legislature in 2018. It requires all school districts (beginning in the 2020-2021 school year) in Pennsylvania to assess students once in their academic career (grades 7-12) in civics, government, and United States History. Pennridge utilized the 40-question United States Citizenship Test as our examination.

In 2024, how many students took the assessment? 514

How many students passed the assessment?

2022: 451 - 86%

2023: 460 - 91%

2024: 514 - 100% of students passed!

How many students had a perfect score?

2022: 15

2023: 38

2024: 126

2023-2024 Enrollment

- Approximately 6,640 Students
 - 2,690 in Seven Elementary Schools
 - 1,550 in Three Middle Schools
 - 2,400 in Pennridge High School

Staff

- 557 Teachers (88% with advanced degrees)
- 520 Support Staff

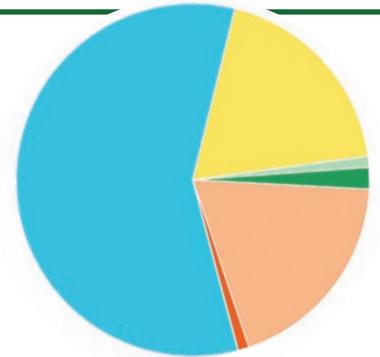
Class of 2024 Graduates: 528

- Total Scholarships and Awards: \$2,727,982.00
- Graduation Rate: 96%
- Total of Graduates Furthering Education: 76%

Class of 2024: Graduates - 528

Post High School Plans

- 4-Year College 58%
- 2-Year College 19%
- Other Post Secondary Training 1%
- Military 2%
- Employment 19%
- Unknown 1%



SAT Statistics

	Reading	Math	Total	State Avg	Nat. Avg
2023	553	545	1098	1078	1028
2022	560	561	1121	1091	1050
2021	586	562	1148	1131	1060
2020	591	582	1173	1082	1051
2019	589	586	1175	1086	1059

ACT Statistics

	English	Math	Reading	Science	PHS Composite	State Avg	Nat. Avg
2023	23.9	23.3	25.0	24.4	24.1	23.9	19.5
2022	22.4	23.3	23.1	23.3	23.0	24.4	19.8
2021	24.5	24.9	26.5	25.3	25.3	23.7	20.7
2020	22.9	23.8	24.6	23.8	23.7	23.7	20.6
2019	23.7	23.9	24.6	24.4	24.2	23.6	20.9



Contact Us

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