PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026

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PHS EXPANSION PROJECT GETS UNDERWAY



Parkland School District officials from left to right: Tim Chorones, assistant superintendent, Chris Pirrotta, school board director, Mark Madson, superintendent, Jay Rohatgi, Lisa Roth, David Hein, Carol Facchiano and Jon Macklin, current school board members, Annette Wilcox and Rob Cohen, past board members, Michelle Minotti, assistant superintendent and Leslie Frisbie, director of business administration.

The Parkland School District officially kicked off construction on a transformative expansion and renovation of Parkland High School with a ceremonial groundbreaking on Friday, March 6, 2026, celebrating the district's continued investment in innovative, future-ready learning environments.

This multi-phase project will significantly expand and modernize the existing high school campus to better serve students, educators, and the broader community. The project comprises an 84,914-square-foot addition and 74,561 square feet of renovated space, increasing the school's total size from approximately 495,000 square feet to 578,696 square feet. Work is expected to be completed by December 2027.

Designed to support evolving educational needs and hands-on learning opportunities, the expansion and renovation will include:

- 30 new classrooms
- 16 new science, art, engineering, robotics, and food laboratories
- Two enclosed outdoor courtyards
- A renovated media center
- Improved building flow and circulation
- Expanded administrative offices
- An enhanced cafeteria space
- A new athletics entrance/lobby that will separate the space from the cafeteria

Speakers at the Groundbreaking included Parkland alumni who are key people working on the project including Michael Butz, General Manager, Alvin H. Butz, Inc. (Parkland Class of '07), Jamie Bortz, Senior Project Manager, Alloy5 Architecture (Parkland Class of '07) and Victor Padilla, CFO, Eshbach Masonry (Parkland Class of '15), whose company laid the brick and poured the terrazzo floors in the existing building, which opened in 1999.

The project is part of the district's long-term facilities planning efforts, aimed at accommodating enrollment growth and enhancing educational programming. For more information, visit **www.parklandsd.org/vision2030**.



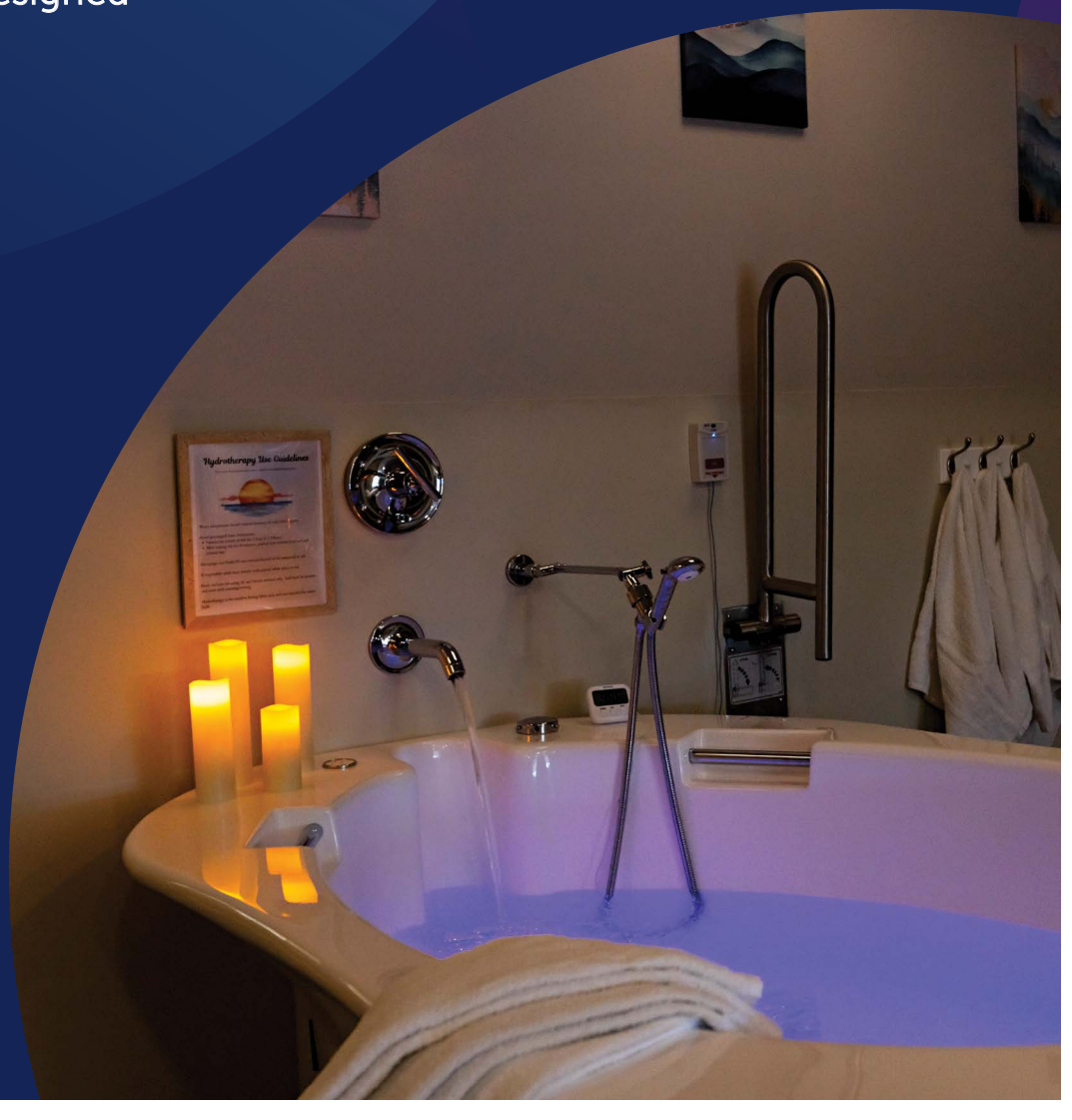
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big renovations
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Welcoming a baby into the world is one of life's biggest moments. At Lehigh Valley Hospital–Cedar Crest, part of Jefferson Health, our goal is to make this experience feel as special as possible. That's why we reimagined the David and Jackie Jaindl Family Birth and Newborn Center to make you feel at home in a safe and supportive environment. From updating our labor, perinatal and triage rooms to creating a new birthing suite featuring a hydrotherapy tub, every detail has been thoughtfully designed with your growing family in mind.

Visit LVHN.org/jaindl-fbnc to learn more.



Lehigh Valley Health Network
part of Jefferson Health



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parkland Community,

As the weather finally warms up, we are excited to welcome spring and the many vibrant events that mark the conclusion of the school year. Our high school stage is currently being prepared for the upcoming production of "*How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*," and our spring sports teams are finally heading outdoors. We are also looking forward to the senior class Prom at SteelStacks on May 2nd, followed by the fantastic all-night Post Prom Party at Parkland High School—an event made possible by a dedicated group of volunteers and sponsors, including the PA National Guard and the Parkland Education Foundation.

In addition to these seasonal highlights, construction is well underway at Parkland High School. This expansion project is a critical step in easing current overcrowding and preparing for future enrollment growth.

As we move into budget season, we continue to navigate a challenging fiscal landscape for public schools. While the School Board has passed a resolution committing to a tax increase of no more than 3.5% (the State's Act 1 Index threshold for Parkland), we remain concerned about rising costs in health insurance, special education, and cyber charter tuition. In response to these fiscal pressures, we are closely examining all expenditures with the School Board for the 2026-27 Budget. Our primary goal remains to protect our students' educational experiences while ensuring responsible fiscal management of our community's resources.

We understand there may be questions about proceeding with the PHS expansion during such an uncertain economic time. This project has been in the planning stages for three years and is essential to manage both current crowding and projected enrollment growth based on local new home construction timelines. It is important to note that the construction is funded through carefully planned, long-term debt service, which is distinct from the general fund budget used for daily school operations. We are focused on reducing expenses within that operating budget wherever possible without disrupting vital student programs.

Another key initiative is our focus on student and staff screen time. With national discussions and potential state legislation regarding "bell-to-bell" cell phone bans, we are proactively researching this issue. Following our parent workshops in January and March, we are now collecting feedback through student, staff, and parent surveys to find a healthy, community-supported balance for technology use.

Finally, I am thrilled to share the nomination form for the Superintendent's Parkland Pride Award. I invite you to nominate any staff member who has gone above and beyond for your family this year. I am incredibly proud that Parkland has been recognized with the *Morning Call* Top Workplace Award for the ninth time this spring—a testament to the dedication of our entire team.

I hope to see you at one of our many spring arts, athletic, or academic events. I also invite you to join me for an informal "Coffee with the Superintendent" event at the Hometown Diner in Breinigsville on Friday, May 8, at 11:30 AM.

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

KEY DATES IN THE 2026-27 BUDGET TIMELINE

May 1
Budget Seminar - Board Meeting where Budget is reviewed in detail with Administration and Board

MAY 12
Adoption of Proposed Final Budget

June 5
District newsletter is mailed out to all residents and includes Budget Overview

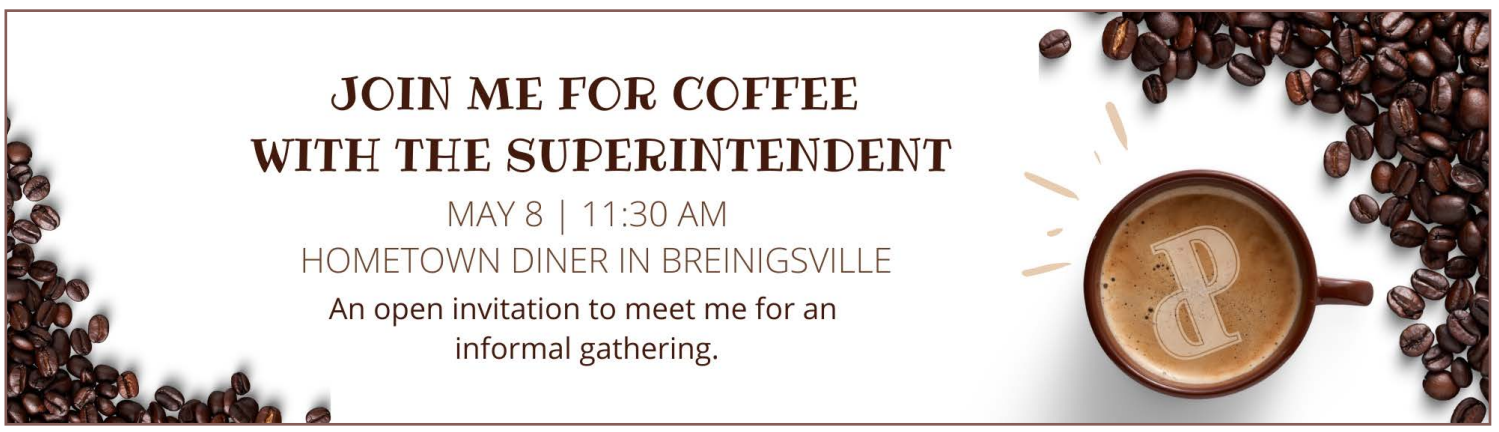
JUNE 16
Adoption of Final Budget by the School Board

PARKLAND PRIDE AWARD SUPERINTENDENT'S NOMINATIONS

Tell us about a Parkland School District staff member who has gone the extra mile this school year!

Nominations are due April 15th.

All nominations must be made online at:
www.parkandsd.org/ParklandPride



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Parkland Pride Podcast
PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
CHECK OUT THE #PARKLANDPRIDE PODCAST
with
DR. MARK MADSON
LISTEN TO THE EPISODES AT
WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SUPERINTENDENTMADSON



PARKLAND PRIDE SPOTLIGHTS



PHS STUDENT Kate Gilchrist has been selected as a featured fashion artist in this year's Access/VSA Emerging Young Artists Program.

This national career development program shines a spotlight on the work of young artists with disabilities (ages 16–25) across the United States. As one of only fifteen artists selected, Kate will receive a $3,000 financial stipend, participate in professional development activities at the Kennedy Center, and have her submitted work featured in a national exhibition that tours the country.



PHS TEACHER Christine Lerew, Veterans Memorial Music Teacher, was named the recipient of the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District 10 Citation of Excellence. This distinguished honor is awarded annually to one exceptional educator in recognition of outstanding excellence, dedication, and impact in music education. Christine's commitment to her students and the advancement of music in our schools exemplifies the highest professional standards. She will be formally recognized at the 2026 PMEA State Conference Awards Breakfast. We proudly celebrate this well-deserved achievement and her remarkable contributions.



PHS SOPHOMORE Darío Artau Cruz was one of only 116 young people selected nationwide to attend the Tourette Association of America's (TAA) Ambassador training in Washington, D.C.

During his time in Washington, Darío met with key legislators, including Congressman Ryan Mackenzie and Legislative Assistants for Senators John Fetterman and David McCormick, State Representative Scott Perry, and Legislative Correspondent to State Representative Summer Lee. He successfully advocated for greater support for people living with Tourette Syndrome and other Tic Disorders.

PHS INDOOR TRACK season was historic, with the team breaking an impressive 10 school records. This feat is particularly remarkable given that only the top 20 individuals in an event across the entire state qualify for the State meet.

The following students qualified for the State Meet:

- Radnor Rowlands (60m)
- Lincoln Clark (200m)
- Kaley Seide (200m)

School Records Broken List:

- **55 Meter Dash:** Radnor Rowlands (6.47)
- **60 Meter Dash:** Radnor Rowlands (6.87)
- **200 Meter Dash:** Lincoln Clark (22.11)
- **4x200 Meter Relay:** Lincoln Clark, Wesley West, Andrew Hernandez, and Radnor Rowlands (01:31.30)
- **200 Meter Dash:** Kaley Seide (25.37)
- **3200 Meter Run:** Harshita Keerthi (11:37.38)
- **55 Meter Hurdles:** Ana Gbur (9.08)
- **Long Jump:** Kaley Seide (17' 3")
- **High Jump:** Morgan Anthony (4' 10")
- **Distance Medley Relay:** Emma Carlson, Emily Laputka, Violet Forte, and Harshita Keerthi (13:27.35)

PHS BOYS AND GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING set new school records and earned State silver medals in two events.

Girls Team Highlights:

- **Medley Relay:** Silver Medal (2nd place - Baylee Kish, Kelsey McPeek, Sydney LaBaugh, Milla Hahn) — *New School Record*
- **100 Fly:** 4th place (Sydney Labaugh) — *New School Record*
- **200 Free Relay:** 4th place (Baylee Kish, Kelsey McPeek, Sydney LaBaugh, Milla Hahn) — *New School Record*
- **100 Breaststroke:** Silver Medal (2nd place - Kelsey McPeek) — *New School Record*

Boys Team Highlights:

- **Medley Relay:** 5th place (Quinn Conway, Ethan Coleman, Thomas Price, Jacob Piccini) — *New School Record*
- **100 Fly:** 6th place (Thomas Price) — *New School Record*
- **200 Free Relay:** 6th place (Jacob Piccini, Dominic Faenza, Dominic Yeager, Thomas Price) — *New School Record*
- **100 Breaststroke:** 11th place (Ethan Coleman) — *New School Record*

PARKLAND TV AND FILM EARN NATIONAL RECOGNITION

A group of 12 students from Parkland TV and Film traveled to Tampa, Florida to compete in the Student Television Network National Convention. Competing against thousands of students nationwide, Parkland brought home a variety of awards and honors:

- **Broadcast Excellence Awards:** Trojan Watch (social media show) and Trojan Update (weekly news show) were both recognized.
- **Closing Ceremony Awards: 3rd Place, Music Video:** Team led by senior Ainsley Quay and junior Maddie Powers.
- **Individual Honors:**
  - Senior Ainsley Quay was selected as the host for the preshow for both ceremonies.
  - Senior Kelly Wood served on the Student Leadership Council.
- **Alumni Support:** Parkland graduates Zander Blickley, Kayla Hlay, Nolan Montes, and Eric Wood served as interns for the Convention.

Scan the QR code to view highlights on the PMN TV network YouTube page at youtube.com/parklandtv









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PARKLAND SENIOR CITIZEN CLASSES
REGISTER AT WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SENIORS





The following classes will be offered this spring to Senior Citizens, ages 55 and older, who reside in the Parkland School District. **The classes are FREE of charge. Please register before the deadline of April 13, 2026, online at www.parklandsd.org/seniors.**
If you don't have Internet access, call us at 610-351-5628 and we will assist you. We ask that people do not register unless they can attend a majority of the sessions. All classes will be reserved via a lottery system. Parkland School District will send out course notifications starting on April 14. Kindly refrain from contacting the office until after April 16 if you have not yet received confirmation. Thank you.

WATER AEROBICS
Parkland High School Pool
Wednesdays, April 22, April 29 and May 13 (no class May 6)
5:45 PM-6:30 PM OR 6:45 PM-7:15 PM

Saturdays, April 25, May 2, May 9
1:00-1:45 PM OR 2:00-2:45 PM

Due to pool maintenance we will be condensing our 2 class offerings into 3 week sessions with 2 time slots. This class, co-sponsored by Upper Macungie Township Recreation and South Whitehall Township Recreation, features low impact aerobics (conducted in shallow water). The class will focus on the use of all muscles and limbs, breathing and stretching. Water shoes or old, clean sneakers are suggested. Swim noodles are provided at the pool. Swimmers should enter through the lower entrance at the back of the Athletic Wing. *Please arrive no earlier than 15 minutes prior to class start* to ensure entrance to the building and time to change in the locker room.

SENIOR SOOTHE AND STRETCH CLASS
Parkland School District Administration Building
Mondays on April 20, May 4 & 18 and June 1, 10:00-10:45 AM

The class, sponsored by Larissa Noto of the Lovely Little Lotus, will be held every other Monday, April 20-June 1. Join us for a free 45-minute Senior Soothe & Stretch class designed to gently support your body through mindful breath, movement, and easeful stretching. Using somatic-based practices and playful use of props like chairs, mats, and blocks, this class invites you to explore comfort, mobility, and relaxation at your own pace. Come as you are and leave feeling more spacious, supported, and soothed. Please bring your own yoga mat, yoga block and water. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the class starting to get set up as the class will start promptly at 10:00 AM. *Maximum of 30 participants per class.*

SENIOR RED BALL TENNIS
Parkland High School Tennis Courts
Tuesdays, April 21 & 28 and May 5-26, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

This program led by Maia Knowles and made possible with a grant from the US Tennis Association, is designed for players who are new to tennis, haven't played in a while, and/or are looking to get active so they can jump right in and start playing. It involves a slower ball, smaller court, and no strict rules, so you and your friend can start playing in no time. No experience is necessary and all rackets and balls will be provided. *Maximum of 24 participants per class..*

INTRO TO PICKLEBALL
St. Luke's SportsPlex
Tuesday, April 28, 2:00-4:00 PM
This class is sponsored by St. Luke's SportsPlex. Learn the basics of the sport. No experience is necessary. Loaner paddles are available to beginners. The classes are a great way to get introduced to the sport and meet other players. Please only register for one class. *Maximum of 20 participants per class..*

GENTLE YOGA FOR EVERYONE
Cetronia Elementary School Gym
Thursdays on April 23 & 30 and May 14 & 21, 4:30-5:30 PM

Gentle Yoga for Everyone, sponsored by South Whitehall Township will be taught by West End Studio Yoga Instructor, Beth Wernham. The intention of gentle yoga is connecting body, breath and mind to build strength, balance, awareness in the present moment. With awareness to the needs of your own body, you will be guided into poses that will help to keep the spine and joints more flexible, while building stability and steadiness. Please bring your own yoga mat, blocks, and a blanket and arrive by 4:15 to start promptly at 4:30. *Maximum of 65 participants per class*.

"CRAZY BISHOPS"
THE KNIGHT SCHOOL LEHIGH VALLEY'S
ADULT INTRODUCTORY CHESS CLASS
Parkland School District Administration Building
Monday, April 27th, 9:00-11:00 AM
This class is sponsored by The Knight School (TKS) Lehigh Valley, a chess academy serving local students. You will learn all the basics to start playing chess in this FUN two-hour class, plus time to practice. No prior experience necessary and no need to bring a chess set; The Knight School will supply all materials, along with all the elements that make a TKS chess class fun! Please get to know The Knight School with by visiting www.theknightschool.com.

INTRODUCTION TO SCRAPBOOKING
Parkland School District Administration Building - Library
Tuesday, April 28, 1:00-2:00 PM

Are you downsizing and don't know what to do with all of your precious pictures? Cathy Smith, scrapbooking enthusiast, can help you organize and preserve them. Bring 2-3, 4x6 pictures to make a scrapbook page. If time allows, you will also make a border for a future page. *Class size is limited to 10 participants*

ST. LUKE'S CHAIR & STRENGTH CLASS
Location: St. Luke's Fitness & Sports Performance Center-West End
Wednesdays May 6 - May 27, 10:00 AM
Fridays May 8 - May 29, 12:00 PM

This class, sponsored by South Whitehall Township Recreation, is a low-impact chair strength and mobility program designed to improve strength and mobility for adults of all activity levels. It is movement-based training for persons that want to work on balance, coordination, agility, and functional strength. This class is led by a St. Luke's Instructor. *Class size is limited to 30 participants.* Please register for only one session.

CRAFTING WITH BUTTONS — FLORAL FUN!

Parkland School District Administration Building - Library
Wednesday, May 6, 4:00-5:00 PM

Get creative and make a beautiful floral button art piece on chipboard. All supplies are provided — just bring your imagination and enjoy a relaxing, social crafting experience. No experience needed! *Class size is limited to 15 participants.*

MUFFINS & MEDICARE

Parkland School District Administration Building - Library
Wednesday, May 13, 9:30 AM

This is relaxed, no-pressure educational session designed to make Medicare clearer, simpler, and far less intimidating. Local experts from LP Insurance Group and Aetna will share practical information and real-life examples to help you confidently understand your coverage.

During this session, you'll learn how Medicare works — the roles of Parts A, B, C, and D, what each covers, how they fit together, key enrollment timelines, common costs, and how to avoid penalties.

Join us for:

- Coffee and light refreshments
- A straightforward Medicare 101 breakdown
- Clear explanations of your coverage options
- Tips for enrolling at the right time and avoiding common mistakes
- Honest, easy-to-follow guidance
- Zero sales pitches — just real information you can use

Whether you're new to Medicare, approaching 65, or simply want a better grasp of your options, this class offers the clarity and confidence to approach Medicare with ease.

INTRODUCTION TO GENERATIVE AI (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE)

Parkland School District Administration Building
Tuesday, May 19, 2:00-3:00 PM

In this class, led by Parkland School District staff, you will be given an easy-to-understand overview of generative AI tools, showing how they can be used for everyday tasks like writing, creating images, or answering questions. Please bring a laptop.

LANCASTER SENIOR BUS TRIP

South Whitehall Township Recreation is excited to offer its first Senior Bus Trip to the Dutch Apple Theatre in Lancaster to see *Beautiful – The Carole King Musical* on October 22, 2026.

Open to residents age 65+, the trip includes round-trip transportation, lunch, gratuities, and show ticket. Departure and return will be from Grange Park (360 Grange Rd.), with recommended arrival at 9:15 AM and prompt bus departure at 9:30 AM. Lunch is scheduled for 11:30 AM, with the show beginning at 1:00 PM.

Register online through the Recreation Portal (credit card), or submit a paper form with check payment. Don't miss this fun fall outing with fellow senior residents!

https://southwhitehall.recdesk.com/Community/Home

TAX REBATE REMINDER FOR SENIORS

AND OTHER QUALIFYING CLAIMANTS WITH LIMITED INCOMES

The Senior Citizens Real Property Tax Rebate allows a portion of property tax dollars to be rebated to senior citizens and other qualifying claimants with limited incomes.

- Parkland School District will once again be conducting the rebate program in 2026. Applications can be downloaded from the web at https://www.parklandsd.org/departments/business-administration/senior-citizen-tax-rebate.
- A list of frequently asked questions is also available on the District website at the same web address.

For further help or information, please call the Business Office at 610-351- 5510 between 8 AM and 4 PM, Monday – Friday.
The deadline for filing is June 30.

SENIOR CITIZENS INVITED TO SPRING DINNER AND CONCERT

Join us for one of our most popular spring concert events this year! Parkland Senior Citizens are invited to enjoy a FREE dinner at Parkland High School and then adjourn to the auditorium for some great music by talented student musicians. Seniors can choose to attend the **Parkland High School Band Concert on Wednesday, April 29th, or the Parkland High School Orchestra Concert on Wednesday, May 6th**.

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

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE ONLINE AT: PARKLANDSD.ORG/SENIORS
PLEASE CALL 610-351-5628 IF YOU DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS AND WE WILL ASSIST YOU.

For any questions pertaining to the Senior Citizen Program at Parkland, please contact our Office of Community Engagement at 610-351-5628 **NOTE: ALL GUESTS MUST BE 55 OR OLDER AND RESIDE WITHIN THE PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT.**

SPONSORED BY: EXTRAORDINARY SMILES FAMILY DENTAL CARE — COUNTRY MEADOWS RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

THE ANXIOUS GENERATION: A PARKLAND PARENT WORKSHOP

SPRINGHOUSE MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM, TUESDAY, APRIL 14 AT 6 PM.

Join Parkland Reading Specialist Laura Coulson and Information Technology teacher Dr. Scott Exaros for an essential look into the mental health crisis affecting Gen Z. Drawing on Jonathan Haidt's groundbreaking research in his book, ***The Anxious Generation***, this session explores how the decline of free play and the rise of "phone-based childhoods" have reshaped youth development.

Laura and Scott will break down Haidt's "Four Foundational Harms" and provide a roadmap for collective action. Beyond the research, they will share personal insights and practical strategies gained from their daily work with students at Springhouse Middle School to help you aid your children to find balance and thrive in a digital world. This event will appeal to parents of children in grades K-12.



SMALL STEPS, BIG IMPACT: PARKLAND'S DISTRICT-WIDE FOOD RESCUE

In addition to Parkland's Annual District-wide Food Drive in February—where more than 22,000 items were donated to the three secondary school food pantries to support families in need and help provide holiday meal boxes over Spring Break—we are excited to highlight another meaningful initiative happening in our cafeterias: food share tables.

What began as a visionary pilot program at the high school, led by dedicated PHS teachers Laura Kowalski and Vince Fugazzotto, has grown into a district-wide movement. Today, all 12 Parkland schools are proudly participating in this food rescue effort in partnership with iHave iNeed.

How "Share Tables" Work
Every day, our students are becoming "hunger heroes." Unopened and unused breakfast and lunch items are placed on Share Tables for classmates to take what they need. At the end of the week, the remaining items are consolidated for a special delivery to local nonprofits.

This program's success is fueled by the dedication of our staff, including Food Service Staff & Cafeteria Aides who manage daily collections and encourage students to donate. Our Facilities & Operations drivers help coordinate the weekly logistics to bring everything to our central District hub.

This partnership ensures that nutritious food feeds families instead of filling landfills. Beyond the numbers, our students are learning firsthand about empathy, sustainability, and caring for their neighbors—a lesson that will last a lifetime.

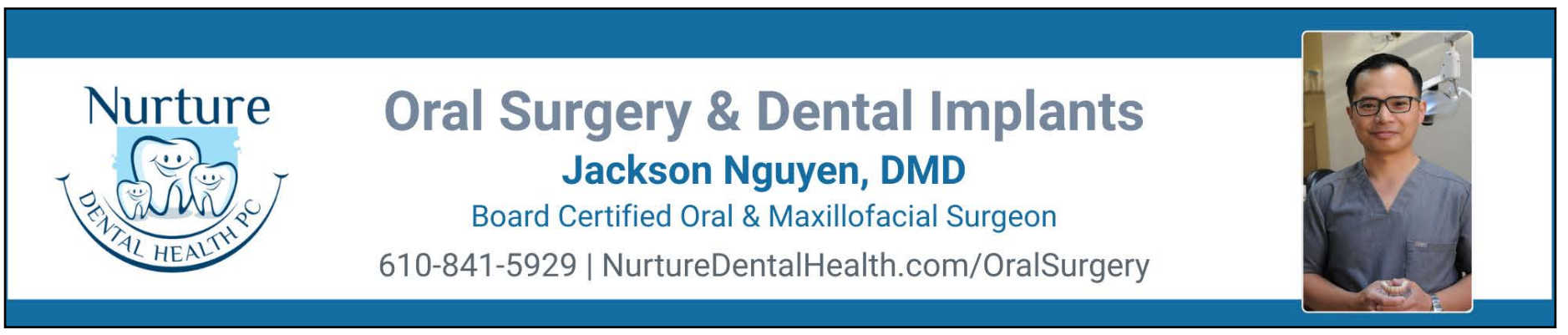
As of February 20, 2026, 9,300+ pounds have been donated by Parkland schools this year.



An iHave iNeed volunteer performing a weekly pickup at our Education and Operations Building.



Staff at Casa Guadalupe in Allentown prepare donations for their clients.



CONGRATULATIONS!

2026 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

2026 Male Alumni Award
Jim Best
Class of 1984
Boys Wrestling

2026 Male Alumni Award
Mike O'Boyle
Class of 1974
Boys Basketball

2026 Male Alumni Award
Darin Medlar
Class of 1989
Football and Baseball

2026 Female Alumni Award
Melissa Rich
Class of 2005
Girls Basketball

2026 Female Alumni Award
Jennifer Risley
Class of 1998
Girls Basketball

2026 Coach Award
Mike Hingston
Girls and Boys Tennis

2026 Service Award
Bill Dreisbach



MR. PARKLAND 2026



The 2026 Mr. Parkland Competition took place to a sold-out crowd and a record-breaking number of livestream views, and it absolutely delivered! From start to finish, the event showcased talent, confidence, creativity, and school spirit at its best.

Final Results:

- **1st Place:** Brandon Gonzalez
- **2nd Place:** Harry Schairer (also won the People's Choice Award)
- **3rd Place:** Anire Akonu

A massive thank you goes out to all 25 contestants for bringing the energy and making this show unforgettable.

This event would not have been possible without the incredible behind-the-scenes support:

- **Jay Greth and the Parkland TV & Film Crew** for flawless coverage
- Our **stage crew**, led by **Delaney Goslin**
- Senior officers: **Angie Zaiter, Maddox Rampen, Grace Stephen, Anas Suleiman, Katie Sammarco, Britney Castro** who kept everything running smoothly
- **Amanda Slotter**, Director of the Show
- Class advisors **Kylee Lobb, Lauren Irizarry, Andrea Greth, and Kim McHenry**
- **Abby Lin**, for doing all the running around and being the stand in for anyone missing!

Thank you to these businesses who supported this year's event: CE Roth, LCTI, PrintForce, Bridals by Sandra.



23rd Annual Festival of the Arts

May 14 - 16

Thursday, May 14th

PARKLAND HIGH SCHOOL CHORUS CONCERTS
6:30 pm & 8:00 pm | PHS Auditorium

PARKLAND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ART SHOW
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

- **Trojan Art Gallery:** Senior Art Award Recipients
  Gallery Showcase: 2026 East Central Pennsylvania Regional Scholastic Art Awards
  Art Studios: Parkland Student Art Show

Friday, May 15th

FAMILY DANCE NIGHT | 5:00 pm
Bring the family out for a fun flashmob experience that will be showcased on Saturday 5/16! Free to attend - RSVP online to reserve your space: **www.parklandsd.org/FOTA**

Saturday, May 16th

ARTISTS ON THE QUAD | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

- Performances by Parkland School District Music Ensembles
- Kids Crafts
- Arts and Crafts Marketplace
- Elementary, Middle & High School Art Exhibit
- Character Parade & Meet and Greets
- Art & Basket Raffle
- Festival Food
- Instrument Exploration
- Indoor Colorguard
- Dance Showcases



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sluhn.org/childrenshospital

801 Ostrum St., Bethlehem, PA 18015

HELP OUR HIGH SCHOOL MUSICIANS SOUND THEIR BEST!

We've raised almost all the funds needed for new acoustic sound shells, but we need your help to raise the last few thousand dollars! Every donation brings us closer to the $40,000 goal that will transform our high school stage into a world-class performance venue. Join us in making this dream a reality for our students.



We are incredibly grateful for the generosity shown by our school community and local partners during our recent Sound Shell Fundraiser. We would like to extend special recognition to our high level donors, whose contributions have made a significant impact:

Alvin H Butz | Alloy 5 | Boyle Construction | King Spry | Crest Financial

Janet & Byron Cook | Donna & Michael Butler, Grandparents to the Wascura children
Palermo Family | Christopher Renaud | Yocco's

We also wish to sincerely thank the many additional families, alumni, and community members who contributed at various giving levels. Every donation—large or small—played an essential role in moving this project forward.

We're almost to our goal—every gift helps our students shine.
Text PARKLAND to 50155 or visit www.parklandsd.org/foundation support the Sound Shell Campaign.

PARKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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

EMPOWERING OUR ARTISTS!

A GREAT IDEA
Made possible by the Parkland Education Foundation



Operation Encouragement is a grant written by Kerri Griffin, an art teacher at SMS. She was able to help 116 Parkland students by giving them their very own professional sketching supplies. This project is all about fostering a lifelong habit of creative expression and mindfulness. Check out these talented students as they begin their journey with their new sketching kits! We are so proud to support their dedication to building a daily practice of reflection, mindfulness, and artistic growth.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

On February 12th, the Parkland community gathered at Retriever Brewing for an unforgettable evening celebrating one of our own. The night kicked off with an intimate Q&A session, as Foundation President Tori Morgan sat down with Parkland alumnus and American Idol Golden Ticket winner Seth Witcher to discuss his incredible journey to the national stage. Following the interview, Seth took to the stage to treat the crowd to a captivating live performance. It was a night filled with music, inspiration, and a deep sense of Parkland Pride!

St Luke's UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK PRESENTS THE 2026
PARKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
Celebration
SAVE THE DATE
April 30, 2026

4-5PM (FREE)
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI CEREMONY
PARKLAND HIGH SCHOOL

6-8PM (TICKETED EVENT)
CELEBRATION AT
LEHIGH COUNTRY CLUB

2026 INDUCTEES:



MATTHEW BINDER (1991)
Teacher / Meteorologist



GARY W. DORSHIMER, MD (1973)
Internist/Sports Medicine Physician, Penn Medicine; Medical Director for Philadelphia Flyers



ARLAN MANTZ, PHD (1958)
Oakes Ames Professor Emeritus of Physics, Connecticut College



JOSEPH STEPHEN (1994)
Special Agent NCIS



MARY KAY YEZERSKI-BONDOC (1993)
Head of Hair Department for Wicked

FOR TICKET AND SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION:
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HELPING TO CREATE A **BRIGHTER TOMORROW**

PARKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Parkland Education Foundation thanks its partners in Education.

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The Neffs National Bank — A Subsidiary of Neffs Bancorp, Inc. — STRENGTH. TRUST. COMMUNITY.
Peoples Security BANK & TRUST

Working together to be the difference in the lives of Parkland students.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 22	SMS Chorus Spring Concert, PHS Auditorium	6:30/7:30 PM
April 23	OMS Chorus Spring Concert, PHS Auditorium	6:30/7:30 PM
April 24	SMS Orchestra Spring Concert, PHS Auditorium	7 PM
April 27	OMS 6th Grade Band/Orchestra Concert, OMS	7 PM
April 28	OMS Art Show	6 PM
April 28	OMS 7th/8th Grade Band/Orchestra Concert, OMS	7 PM
April 29	PHS Senior Citizen Dinner, PHS Cafeteria	5:30 PM
April 29	PHS Band Spring Concert, PHS Auditorium	7 PM
April 30	Parkland Ed Foundation Distinguished Alumni Celebration, PHS	4 PM
April 30	SMS Band Spring Concert, PHS Auditorium	7 PM
May 6	PHS Senior Citizen Dinner, PHS Cafeteria	5:30 PM
May 6	PHS Orchestra Spring Concert, PHS Auditorium	7 PM
May 7	5th Grade Strings Concert, PHS Auditorium	7 PM
May 8	5th Grade Band Concert, PHS Auditorium	7 PM
May 11	SMS Honors Ensemble Concert, SMS Auditorium	7 PM
May 12	PHS Jazz Band Community Concert, Allentown JCC	6:30 PM
May 14	PHS Student Art Show	6-8 PM
May 14	PHS Chorus Spring Concerts, PHS Auditorium	6:30 PM & 8 PM
May 15	Family Dance Night, PHS Auditorium	5 PM
May 16	23rd Annual Festival of the Arts, PHS	10 AM-4 PM
June 3	PHS Class of 2026 Commencement, PPL Center	7 PM







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TOP WORK PLACES 9X WINNER THE MORNING CALL

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Ms. Leslie Frisbie, Board Secretary/Director of Business Administration

Editor, Nicole McGalla

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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 your 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.

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