

PARKLAND

SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

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AND MUCH MORE!

INAUGURAL ENGINEERING EXPO A RESOUNDING SUCCESS



Parkland High School's Technology Education Department successfully hosted its inaugural Engineering Expo, celebrating student innovation, technical skills, and strong industry partnerships.

The "open fair" symposium highlighted the school's extensive Project Lead The Way (PLTW) and Engineering curriculum, which serves over 500 students in specialized courses, including Aerospace Engineering, Digital Electronics, 3D Design & Modeling, Civil Engineering and Architecture and Manufacturing Systems (an innovative class where students design, wire, manufacture and build their own electric guitar).

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY

- **Senior Capstone Projects:** Nine senior engineering teams presented their year-long capstone projects from the Engineering Design and Development course, showcasing researched solutions to complex, real-world problems.
- **Live Robotics Demonstrations:** The Parkland Engineering Club, featuring both middle and high school robotics teams, performed a live demonstration.
- **Industry Integration:** Lehigh Valley companies were on-site, demonstrating the practical application of engineering and manufacturing in the local economy. Participating partners included Mack Defense LLC, Fablicator 3D Printer Systems by K&L Services Group Inc., B. Braun Medical Inc., Ulliman Schutte Construction, US ARMY, Victaulic, Sharp Packaging, PPL, Alvin H. Butz, flyGATEWAY, Buckeye Pipeline, H.T. Lyons, Lutron, C.F. Martin & Co., Inc, Allegheny Educational Systems, and UGI.

PLTW is a national curriculum, rigorous in nature, and designed to be hands-on in STEM. The PLTW Engineering Program at Parkland High School offers training to prepare students for engineering, architecture and construction professions. The district also offers PLTW programs in Biomedical Science and Computer Science. All three programs offer the opportunity to earn dual enrollment college credits from the Rochester Institute of Technology.



2026 Prom King & Queen

Anthony Treglia & Ainsley Quay



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THE SEASON OF LEGENDS LEADS HERE

Lehigh Country Club
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In 2026, the legends of the game converge in the Lehigh Valley. The Jefferson Lehigh Valley Classic presented by Sodexo brings world-class competition and unmatched access — from Pro-Ams and private cabanas to elevated hospitality experiences.

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Players subject to appear.



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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parkland Community,

Every day, Parkland remains a destination district for families, and we are proud to now serve a growing population of over 10,000 students. As we look toward the future, we want to be completely transparent about our district's financial landscape and how we are proactively navigating a period of economic transition.

The Board of School Directors approved a 2026-2027 Proposed General Fund Budget of \$261.6 million which represents a 5.2% increase over last year. Much like your own households, our district is facing significant, unavoidable external pressures. These include severe spikes in utility costs, legally mandated tuition payments for cyber and charter schools, and the rising costs of providing necessary special education services.

To bridge this gap and minimize the financial tax impact on you, we are utilizing \$9.83 million from our district savings (Fund Balance) to keep the tax increase at the Act 1 index of 3.5%—which represents an average annual increase of \$145.43 for residential taxpayers.

Despite these challenges, we are protecting the essential programs that make Parkland excellent. We are maintaining our core student programming, funding critical physical, safety and mental health initiatives, and managing the Parkland High School addition and renovation to accommodate our growing student body, currently under construction with an expected completion date of January 2028). Furthermore, to secure our long-term financial health, we have launched a 5-Year Fiscal Transition Plan designed to optimize our resources and stabilize our budget by 2030.

I invite you to review the center spread of this newsletter for a closer look at the dollars and cents behind these decisions, along with additional information on the structural factors driving rising costs and the District's five-year fiscal transition plan.

Getting through the next few years will require adaptability and mutual support, but our commitment to our students remains the heart of our community.

As we enter the summer months, be on the lookout for information on how to download the new Parkland App, which will keep you connected to all of the latest information, announcements and events that our school district has to offer. I thank you for your continued support of public education and the students in this community.

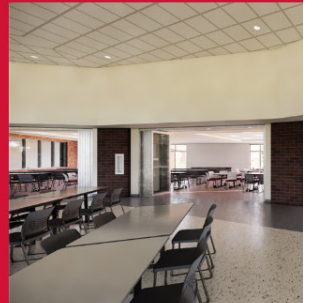
Sincerely,
 Mark J. Madson, Ed.D.
 Superintendent of Schools

JUNE 16 will be the day of Adoption of the Final Budget by the School Board

PARKLAND HIGH SCHOOL EXPANSION PROJECT

Vision 2030: Investing in the next generation

- 30 Additional Classrooms
- 16 New Science, Art, Engineering, Robotics & Food Labs
- 2 Enclosed Outdoor Courtyards
- Media Center Makeover
- Improved Building Flow
- Expanded Cafeteria & Office Space



CHECK OUT THE
#PARKLANDPRIDE
 PODCAST

with
 DR. MARK
 MADSON

LISTEN TO THE EPISODES AT
WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SUPERINTENDENTMADSON



PARKLAND FOOD SERVICES SUMMER MEALS2GO PROGRAM

Similar to last summer, Parkland Food Services will provide free breakfast & lunch to students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals, for ages 18 and under in our community. A package of 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches will be offered for weekly pick-up one day each week. We are also offering the option for families who do not qualify to purchase meals for their students for \$35 per week for the 10-meal package.

Please note that all meals will be distributed exclusively from Parkland High School. Pick-ups are on Mondays from June 22 through August 17, 2026, with an exception on July 6th (pick-up will be Tuesday, July 7th). Pick-up windows are 7:00 am – 8:30 am and 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. Use the QR Code to read more details and to place your order for the June 22 pickup.



“COOKIES WITH CONTRACTORS” EVENT

A SWEET CELEBRATION FOR PARKLAND PRESCHOOLERS



On Wednesday, April 22, 2026, the Parkland High School Family Consumer Science Preschool Program, part of the Child Development class taught by teacher Bethany Pepe, successfully hosted its unique cross-curricular event, “Cookies with Contractors.”

The event celebrated community heroes, promoted careers in construction, and allowed young students to explore foundational concepts of engineering and building through the STEM curriculum. Preschool children and Child Development teen students had the opportunity to interact with representatives from Butz Construction, the construction manager for the large-scale Parkland High School addition/renovation project. The contractors spoke about their jobs and talked about the various kinds of trucks and machines they use and protective gear they wear to stay safe. They then enjoyed cookies with the class.

The celebration emphasized the link between Parkland’s educational programs and real-world careers.

ANNUAL BIOMEDICAL SYMPOSIUM CONTINUES TO INSPIRE FUTURE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

On April 22, 2026, Parkland High School hosted its annual Biomedical Symposium, giving more than 240 students in the Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Biomedical Science Program valuable hands-on medical experience.

Highlights included a human cadaver knee dissection led by Dr. Daniel Heckman and Dr. Jonathan McKeeman of St. Luke’s Orthopedic Care, where students observed surgical techniques and used professional arthroscopic tools provided by Arthrex. New activities this year featured triage training with an ambulance crew, an Interactive Internal Medicine session with Dr. Cody Kramer, and an Operating Room Sterilization and IV Simulation led by St. Luke’s nursing staff. Students also practiced clinical skills such as insulin injections, suturing, and hands-only CPR.

Laura Litzenberger, Chair of the Biomedical Science Department, called the event “an incredible hands-on learning opportunity,” while Aaron Boggs, Sports Medicine Program Manager, said the partnership with St. Luke’s helps inspire the next generation of healthcare professionals.



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.



Pennsylvania
Department of Human Services



Pennsylvania
Department of Education

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2026-2027 BUDGET

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM & WHERE IT GOES

REVENUES

\$246.1 Million

Total revenue includes property taxes, state funding, federal funding, and other sources.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Local Revenue (Property Taxes) | \$192.1M | 78.1% |
| State Revenue | \$51.2M | 20.8% |
| Federal Revenue | \$2.5M | 1.0% |
| Other Sources | \$0.25M | 0.1% |

EXPENDITURES

\$261.7 Million

Most of the budget pays the teachers, staff, and operations that serve Parkland students.

| | | |
|---|-----------------|-------|
| Salaries (Teachers & Staff) | \$111.1M | 42.5% |
| Employee Benefits | \$81.4M | 31.1% |
| District-Wide Operations | \$69.1M | 26.4% |
| Structural Gap (before fund balance) | -\$15.6M | |

WHY COSTS ARE RISING

UNDERSTANDING THE STRUCTURAL PRESSURES ON THE PARKLAND BUDGET

To understand the 2026-2027 Parkland School District budget, we must examine the external pressures creating a structural deficit—a funding gap of about \$15.6 million. While the district is optimizing resources, major drivers are pushing costs upward:

1. Unfunded State Mandates:

The state mandates tuition payments for students attending outside cyber/charter schools and covers only a fraction of the cost for special educational services. For example, the cost for special education provided by the Intermediate Unit has increased by 109% since 2021. Additionally, costs for partner entities like LCTI and LCCC continue to rise.

2. Everyday Inflation:

Just like homeowners, the district faces spiking utility costs for electricity, heating oil, natural gas, and diesel, which are projected to surpass \$4.0 million this year, an increase of \$1 million from five years ago.

3. Managing Unprecedented Growth:

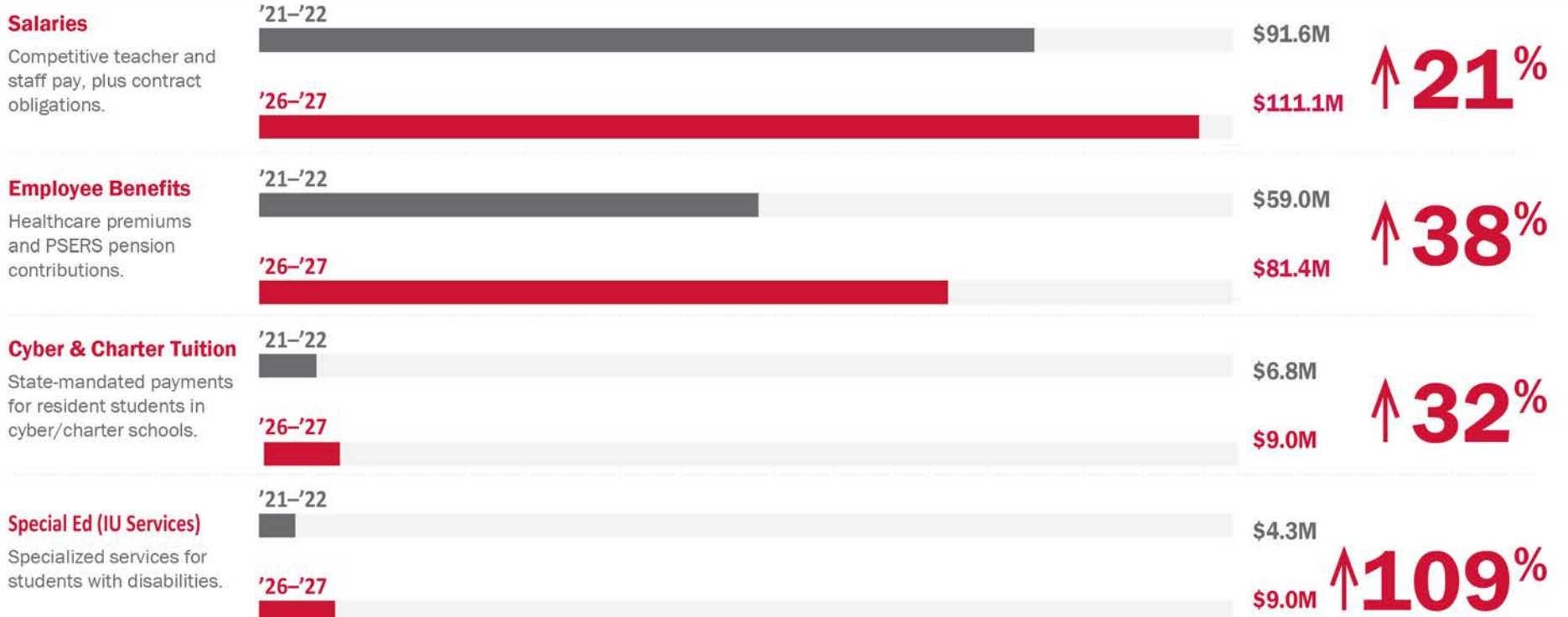
Parkland is a destination district, with enrollment now surpassing 10,000 students. Accommodating this growth requires \$1.2 million in new debt service payments this year for the Parkland High School addition and renovation.

4. Salaries & Benefits:

Our greatest asset is our people. Increasing healthcare and retirement costs are forcing us to carefully evaluate long-term operational efficiencies and staffing needs through thoughtful planning and natural transitions. Salaries have risen 21% and benefits have risen 38% since 2021-2022, presenting a critical challenge for the Administration, School Board, and Union Leaders.

PRIMARY COST DRIVERS — FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON

COMPARING COSTS: 2021-22 vs. 2026-27 ■ 2021-22 Actual ■ 2026-27 Proposed



HOW DO I CALCULATE MY TAXES?

| AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL TAXPAYER IMPACT | |
|---|---|
| PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE 18.42 mills | AVG. ASSESSED VALUE \$233,431 |
| EST. ANNUAL TAX BILL \$4,300.50 | ANNUAL INCREASE + \$145.43 |

MONTHLY INCREASE

\$12.12

| PER WEEK | PER DAY | PER YEAR |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| \$2.80 | \$0.40 | \$145.43 |

LEHIGH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT MILLAGE RANK COMPARISON

| School District | 2025-2026 Millage (Highest to lowest) |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Northern Lehigh | 25.91 |
| Salisbury Township | 23.84 |
| Catasauqua Area | 23.04 |
| Whitehall-Coplay | 22.69 |
| Allentown City | 22.64 |
| East Penn | 21.84 |
| Northwestern Lehigh | 20.80 |
| Parkland | 17.80 |
| Southern Lehigh | 17.71 |
| Average is 21.92 | |

Property taxes are calculated as (Assessed Value ÷ 1,000) × Millage Rate. For Parkland’s average residential property, the proposed 3.5% Act 1 increase — the maximum allowed by state law without voter referendum — raises the typical homeowner’s annual bill by \$145.43, helping offset rising costs for staff, special education, and state-mandated charter tuition.


PARKLAND HOMESTEAD/ FARMSTEAD GAMING CREDIT

Gaming monies will supply every approved homestead/farmstead with an estimated assessed value reduction of approximately \$10,457, which equates to a property tax reduction of approximately \$192.62. 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 2026-27 property tax bill, which will be mailed to all property owners on or after July 1, 2026.

A CLEAR PATH FORWARD: OUR 5-YEAR FISCAL TRANSITION PLAN

Healthy fund balance reserves bridge the gap for the upcoming year. To protect long-term financial health and avoid depleting savings, the district is deploying a structured 5-Year Fiscal Transition Plan. The goal is to flatten expenditure spikes and return to a structurally balanced budget — not through cuts to the Parkland standard of excellence, but through deliberate, mindful optimizations across three strategic pillars.

| PILLAR I PERSONNEL & COMPENSATION | PILLAR II CAPITAL & RESOURCE OPTIMIZATION | PILLAR III PROGRAMMATIC REALIGNMENT |
|--|---|--|
| <p><i>Because staff make up most of the budget, we are optimizing thoughtfully — not through layoffs.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate every retirement to see if responsibilities can be absorbed through natural attrition. Explore Early Retirement Incentive Programs (ERIP) to transition top-of-scale salaries. Approach future contract negotiations with sustainable, long-term compensation structures. | <p><i>Smoothing out big purchases prevents one-time spikes from hitting the budget all at once.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategically extend the lifespan of technology hardware before replacement cycles. Thoughtfully pace major curriculum adoptions across multiple years. Continuously analyze debt service for smart refinancing or restructuring opportunities. | <p><i>Maintaining the Parkland standard of excellence — within a leaner operating framework.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate current program offerings to consolidate overlapping or underutilized programs. Redesign operational frameworks to achieve “Efficiency in Excellence” across all schools. Sustain educational quality while reducing structural cost growth. |




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8-YEAR OLD CETRONIA STUDENT PUBLISHES BOOK

Eight-year old Cetronia Elementary student, Owen Oselkin, has officially added “published author” to his resume! His passion for dinosaurs has blossomed into a beautifully illustrated children’s book, “*Oh Dinosaur, Oh Dinosaur,*” proving that big creativity can come from our youngest students.



TEACHERS RECEIVE STATE GRANT FOR INNOVATIVE READING PROGRAM



OMS teachers Candice Ottaviani, Casey DeCeia, and Amy Boltz were formally recognized at the Pennsylvania State Education Association’s (PSEA) House of Delegates on Friday, May 8, 2026, as winners of a \$1,500 PSEA Innovation Teaching Grant.

Their winning project, “Smart Solutions, Strong Stories: Connecting STEM and Literacy in 6th Grade Reading Classrooms,” engages students in a six-week interdisciplinary journey. Students apply the engineering design process to build functional wind turbines from consumable materials while conducting comparative literary analysis across three required texts with similar themes.

SMS SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAM PLACES 1ST IN STATE, 7TH AT NATIONALS

Congratulations to the SMS Science Olympiad team for earning first place at the PA States Science Olympiad Division B competition. This success secured their spot at the National Tournament at the University of Southern California on May 23rd, where they placed 7th, marking the 5th consecutive year finishing in the Top 10. The following students were on the winning team: Asvadh Baskaran, Raj Bishwal, Evan Chen, Aadi Garg, Harsha Gollapudi, Sisira Kota, Ethan Lin, Rohan Mokirala, Shatkon Sathish, Kushaan Shah, Niya Sheth, Helen Si, Hrithvik Vempati, Sai Yaramaka, and Hanchun Yang.



PARKLAND STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM LOCAL EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS



Parkland is pleased to congratulate three Parkland High School students who participated in early college programs.

Shaun Christ and Bawi Sang are graduating from Lehigh Carbon Community College’s Early College Program, an initiative for 11th and 12th grade students who enroll full-time at LCCC for two years, earning their General Studies Associate’s degree while simultaneously earning their high school diploma.

Juliana Varano is graduating from Kutztown University’s Early College Academy. Designed to give high school students an early college experience, the program allows students to earn 12 to 18 college credits – the equivalent of a full college semester – while completing their senior year of high school. Juliana participated in the Education Track and will enter Kutztown in the fall as a second semester Freshman on her way to becoming a teacher.

All students participating in early college programs get the added benefit of paying a reduced tuition rate while they are in high school.

The program is one of many dual enrollment programs offered at Parkland High School that invite students to take classes on college campuses while receiving dual credit. Other available programs include partnerships with the following institutions:

- Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC)
- Seton Hall University
- Penn State Lehigh Valley
- Kutztown University
- Cedar Crest College
- Lackawanna College
- Moravian University
- Muhlenberg College
- Rochester Institute of Technology

For more information about these exciting opportunities, visit the dual credit opportunities website: phs.parklandsd.org/students/dual-credit-opportunities.

The image features a child's hands using a green marker to draw on a blue fabric cast. The cast has the text "We help kids and parents feel better." written on it in black marker, along with a yellow smiley face and a red sun-like drawing. In the upper left, the St. Luke's Children's Hospital logo is displayed within an orange circular graphic. The logo consists of the word "St Luke's" in blue with a gold starburst above the "s", and "Children's Hospital" in multi-colored letters below it.

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Children's Hospital

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

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5 STUDENTS EARN FULL TUITION

67 EARN Scholarships of 25% or more

TOTAL OF \$7.1 MILLION OVER FOUR YEARS

FULL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Steven DeSmedt

Kutztown University

Caleb Miller

Lehigh Carbon
Community College

Katie Sammarco

Illinois Institute of
Technology

Luke Hauck

Pennsylvania State
University—University Park

Zachary Piltz

Lehigh Carbon
Community College

25% OR MORE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Brooke Ackerman
Morgan Anthony
Raffaele Baccala
Luca Barreiros Alves
Jadie Brannon
Anthony Cacioppo-Fisher
Kaitlyn Capalbo
Emma Carlson
Lauren Christman
Danica Clemmer
Em Clewell
Santiago Julián Criollo
Connor Daniels
Ella Deal
Taylor Deal
Aidan Dugan-Lazo
Lincoln Fritz
Ana Gbur
John Robert Gerancher
Savannah Gonzalez
Meredith Green
Soraya Greene
Hafsah Hasher
Madeline Iannacone
Savannah Kareha
Aneesh Kashalkar
Ryan Kearney
Zoe Keeler
Matthew Kelley
Abigail Kravitz
Brianna Kravitz
Cecelia Kravitz
Zohal Latif

St. Joseph's University
Savannah College of Art and Design
Thomas Jefferson University
Culinary Institute of America
Cedar Crest College
Marywood University
Kutztown University
DeSales University
Cedar Crest College
Louisiana State University
Muhlenberg College
Oral Robert University
Florida Institute of Technology
Shippensburg University
Shippensburg University
Franklin & Marshall College
University of Scranton
Kutztown University
University of Lynchburg
Widener University
American University
Arcadia University
Elizabethtown College
Muhlenberg College
Gettysburg College
Rutgers University
University of Scranton
DeSales University
University of Detroit Mercy
Drexel University
Susquehanna University
University of Illinois, Chicago
Muhlenberg College

Brianna Leaton
Patrick Lovell
Jenna Mayer
Aneri McGalla
Kelsey McPeek
Kiara Meyers
Rowan Luna Meza
Isaac Obando
Nmelichukwu Onwuzo
Stamatia Papageorgiou
Sarah Paugh
Jacob Petronio
Amaya Phillip
Ainsley Quay
Jennet Rahman
Maddox Rampen
Mu'adh Rhymer
Harry Schairer
Makena Seng
Nicholas Settle
Cyan Smoyer
Connor Stano
Grace Stephen
Brooke Stewart
Hikari Takahashi
Danny Tapia
Cameron Timer
Natalie Timer
Madeline Wascura
Brayden Willard
Addison Winfield
Colin Winfield
Alaina Wolpert

DeSales University
St. Joseph's University
Stevens Institute of Technology
University of Rochester
University of Delaware
DeSales University
Penn State University
Muhlenberg College
Rochester Institute of Technology
DeSales University
University of Lynchburg
Rochester Institute of Technology
Susquehanna University
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Seton Hall University
Duquesne University
Elizabethtown College
Colorado School of Mines
Syracuse University
Moravian University
Muhlenberg College
Rowan University
Brandeis University
Canisius University
DeSales University
DeSales University
Wilkes University
West Chester University
Longwood University
McDaniel College
Cedar Crest College

PARKLAND STUDENTS EARN TOP HONORS IN STATE & NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Penn State German Day Competition: Aditi Mallik, Daniel Xu, Eleanor Sommerfield, Aditya Ghalsasi, Lucas Yang, Elise Riggle & Claire Manicke

Pennsylvania School Press Association Contest: Katie Sammarco

Silver Medalist PIAA State Swimming 100 Breaststroke: Kelsey McPeek

Silver Medalist PIAA State Swimming Medley Relay: Baylee Kish, Kelsey McPeek, Sydney LaBaugh and Milla Hahn

Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA) Gold Medal Critique for the Par Key Yearbook: Tia Alamos, Noelle Carson, Genevieve Inserra, Zachary Piltz, Mia Saltz, Gabrielle Scott, Anna Suro and Hannah Szewczuk

Congressional Art Award: Ella Chen

Congressional App Challenge: Devansh Garg

PA National STEM Challenge Champion: Tushar Mehta

All-State Concert Band: Griffin Donham, Kaustubh Kashalkar, Clarke Ray

All-State Wind Ensemble: Andrew Diven and Daniel Collier

All-State Orchestra: Jayden Yao, Brian Diven, Eddy Zhang, Ivan Ly, Anna Ruozi, Genevieve Vasquez and Daniel Schiffert

All-State Chorus: Rae DeWein, Luke Hauck, Liam Oravetz, Tristan Walsh, Madelynn Wascura and Angelina Zaiter

National Scholastic Art Awards: Gold Key: Caiden Gieraga and An Le

PA Jr. Academy of Science Fair Perfect Score: Phillip Amato, Rian Balachandran, Arham Khara, Saanvi Magaji, Roshni Mokiraala, Nithin Ramakrishnan and Aaditri Suresh

National History Day: Rahini Chauhan, Saharsha Konda, Areesha Mariyam, Imogen Middleton, Julide Ozcan, Rishi Ponda, Hajar Syamsuddin, Maryam Syamsuddin and Abhinav Thadepalli

PA Science Olympiad State Champions: Asvadhth Baskaran, Raj Bishwal, Evan Chen, Aadi Garg, Harsha Gollapudi, Sisira Kota, Ethan Lin, Rohan Mokirala, Shatkon Sathish, Kushaan Shah, Niya Sheth, Helen Si, Hrithvik Vempati, Sai Yaramaka and Hanchun Yang

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA): Kevin Lu, Aum Purani, Lucas Yang, Anthony Wang and Kelly Wang

Del Valley Science Fair Medals and 1st Place: Adwik Banerjee, Kashvi Bhatia, Raj Bishwal, Saharsha Konda, Julianna Neas, Guhan Sathish, Aaditri Suresh, Shravya Suresh

Project MFG Welding Nationals: Michael Evans

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA): Luca Barreiros Alves



CONGRATULATIONS SENIOR SPEAKER HAFSAH HASHER

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

48

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

2026

class of

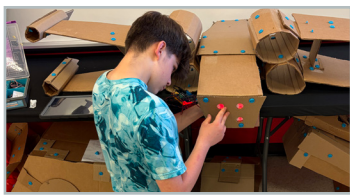
achievements in academics, arts and
athletics on our Class of 2026 webpage
by scanning the QR Code!



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

2026 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI CELEBRATION

EMPOWERING TOMORROW'S PROBLEM SOLVERS



At the Parkland Education Foundation, we believe innovation is more than a buzzword—it's a mindset. This year, we proudly invested more than \$30,000 into the 7th Grade Innovation LABs, bringing cutting-edge STEM learning opportunities to students.

More than a classroom, the Innovation LAB gives students hands-on experience designing solutions, building prototypes, and developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students learn to collaborate, adapt, and "fail forward" as they turn ideas into reality.

"The Innovation LAB is where ideas turn into prototypes, and students begin to understand that their creativity has the power to change the world."

Thanks to the generosity of our community, Parkland students are gaining the confidence and skills needed to become the next generation of innovators and leaders.



2026 Distinguished Alumni Recipients From Left to Right: Mary Kay Yezerki-Bondoc, Gary W. Dorshimer, MD, Arlan Mantz, PhD, Joseph Stephen and Matthew Binder

A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE: HONORING OUR NEWEST DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

There is no greater reflection of a Parkland education than the accomplishments of our graduates. We recently celebrated five outstanding individuals inducted into the Wall of Honor, bringing the total to 73 distinguished alumni.

Located outside the High School library, the Wall of Honor reminds students that their potential is limitless. This year's inductees represent excellence across education, medicine, science, entertainment, and public service:

The evening also raised more than \$87,000 for the Parkland Education Foundation, supporting innovative student programs and opportunities.

We congratulate our newest honorees and 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, Alloy5, Alvin H. Butz, Buckno Lisicky, DE Cressman, Eastburn & Gray, Heintzelman Funeral Home, Highmark, Jaindl, KingSpry, McClure, Engelman Construction LLC and The Mohawk Group, Myers Benner, Portnoff Law, Premier Environments, Randall's, and Service Electric.**



OUR NEW SOUND SHELLS ARE NOW CENTER STAGE—THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS.



Jason & Ann Anderson | Donna & Michael Butler, Grandparents to Wascura children
 Janet & Byron Cook | Glenn & Debra Hofmann | Palermo Family
 Christopher Renaud | Christopher & Nicole Rivera (Makos) | Stacey & Larry Stauffer

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.

WARNING: USPS POSTMARK DELAYS AND ONLINE BANKING CHECK DELAYS CAN AFFECT TAX PAYMENTS

USPS Postmark Delays

USPS processing changes often lead to delayed postmarks, as mail is no longer postmarked locally. Since the district relies strictly on the official USPS postmark, a delay could result in your payment missing the discount window or incurring penalties. To ensure timely payment, we strongly encourage you mail your taxes well in advance of the deadline and request a hand-postmark directly at the post office counter.

Online Banking Check Delays

Online bill pay services frequently result in delayed mailing of physical checks by banks, which has led to missed deadlines.

REMINDER: It is the taxpayer's sole responsibility to ensure funds are received on time. The School Board cannot waive penalties for late payments.



PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTORS

The 2026-2027 Parkland School District Real Estate tax bills will be mailed on or after July 1, 2026. Any property owner who has not received a bill by July 15, 2026, 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.**

NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP

Donna Kumernitsky – Tax Collector
Jonathan Kumernitsky – Deputy Tax Collector
3256 Levans Rd
Coplay, PA 18037
610-799-3411
realestatetax@northwhitehall.org

SOUTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP

Lynn-Anne Kocon – Tax Collector
Gerald Labelle Jr – Deputy Tax Collector
Suzanne Matey – Deputy Tax Collector
2137 Walbert Ave
Allentown PA 18104
610-398-4050
taxcollector@Koconcpa.com

UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP

Barry Bellew – Tax Collector
Kristen Hodavance – Deputy Tax Collector
3440 Lehigh St, PMB 411
Allentown, PA 18103-7001
610-871-0061
taxcollector@uppermac.org



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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.

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