PARKLAND NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 53 NUMBER 4

JUNE 2021

Parkland Announces

0%

TAX INCREASE

for a 2nd consecutive year

Parkland Schools Fully Reopening August 30, 2021

Parkland Online Remains an Option

Parkland is planning for full-time, 5 days per week, in-person learning in the fall for all schools. Parkland Online remains an option for students who meet certain criteria. All families should have received a confirmation email of enrollment choice (either in-person or online) for the fall of 2021 on June 8, 2021. If a family did not receive a confirmation message on June 8, they should contact their child's school office. Anyone wishing to enroll their child in a Parkland school for the fall should do so by contacting their child's school office as soon as possible.

AN OUTDOOR PROM THAT WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN

The Senior Class Prom "A Night Under the Stars" was held at Steelstacks in Bethlehem on May 8, 2021.

STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTIAL LEGACY AWARD

Congratulations to Parkland Teacher's Union President Sandi Gackenbach who was presented with this award to recognize deep commitment and positive legacy of outstanding leadership and service to members of the Pennsylvania State Education Association.

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Mark Powell had a clot removed from an artery to his brain following a major stroke. "My stroke came on suddenly, like a bolt from the blue. I trusted in St. Luke's Neurosurgical Associates to save my life and restore my mobility. Today, I'm alive and living my best life."

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parkland Community,

As I write this message for the very last time as your Superintendent, I am reminded of the many wonderful people who have made my 26-year journey possible in the Parkland School District. Never could I have imagined that my last year would involve a pandemic, but despite this tremendous challenge, the resiliency, flexibility and perseverance of students, staff, parents, and community members made this a memorable year.

On May 24, we announced to Parkland families that we plan on fully reopening all schools (K-12) next year. The first day of school is scheduled for August 30, 2021. We will still offer a remote option, but students must demonstrate good attendance, good academic standing, and the ability to work independently to qualify for this instructional option. This spring, tutoring sessions were offered to assist all students who may have been falling behind in their academics. In summer, our staff will continue to assist students who may have learning gaps by offering credit recovery summer school as well as literacy and math remediation programs.

0% Tax Increase for 2nd Consecutive Year
For the 2nd year in a row, Parkland's School Board has recommended NO INCREASED TAX RATE for the Parkland taxpayers. The allowable tax increase determined by the Act 1 Base Index calculated by the state was 3%, however, Parkland remains sensitive to the fact that our community is recovering from the pandemic. We therefore did everything in our power to hold the line on taxes while putting forth a responsible budget that will meet our educational and operational needs for the upcoming year.

The 2021-2022 Proposed General Fund Budget expenditures are in the amount of $201,072,623 representing a 4.5% increase over 2020-21 budget expenditures. We will appropriate approximately $4.5M of Fund Balance to balance the 2021-2022 General Fund Budget. By this action, the Board will offset the need to levy taxes by approximately .55 mills. This budget package has been prepared at a mill rate of 15.71 mills or a 0% millage increase.

Parkland is projected to receive $11.2M from the American Rescue Plan which will allow our school district to address educational and operational challenges created by the pandemic. This past school year, emergency funds helped offset costs associated with staffing needs resulting from the implementation of fully remote learning opportunities for our students. We also utilized these funds to assist students in the recovery from the more than 12 months of disrupted learning and loss of school routine by implementing summer programs that were described earlier in this message. Additionally, these funds will be utilized to upgrade technology and HVAC systems within the school district. Our focus is to use the resources on one-time expenses, to the greatest extent feasible, to avoid creating deficits in future budget years since this is a non-recurring revenue stream.

Charter School Tuition Concerns
Enrollment in Pennsylvania's cyber charter schools shot up by 60% during the pandemic, from 38,000 students a year ago to 60,000 students today (Source: Department of Education). The rush of students to cyber charter schools has spurred renewed calls from traditional public school advocates for the state to more closely scrutinize the cost of cyber charters, which perennially log some of the lowest academic performance in the state. Parkland's tuition payments to outside educational institutions, including cyber/charter schools, are expected to rise by approximately 15%, or more than $2M, for the upcoming year. The pandemic definitely caused a major increase in enrollments and the District has been conducting outreach to families with the intent to win them back to Parkland Schools as we plan to fully reopen all buildings in the fall. Parkland pays tuition fees of $13,166 for every regular education student and $28,291 for every student with special needs who attend cyber/charter schools.

Capital Projects
Due to the debt service management plan initiated by the Parkland Board of School Directors and the Parkland Administration, the District will experience a decrease in debt payments this year. Managing and maintaining facilities is necessary to provide a safe environment for students and staff and to protect the resources within the school district. As a result of careful planning we will continue with the major renovation project at Schnecksville Elementary School, reconstruct the bus garage that burned down in 2018 and improve the parent pickup area at Parkway Manor Elementary School. We are also starting to plan for an addition designed to augment classroom space at Kratzer Elementary School to accommodate enrollment growth as the proposed Ridge Farms development at Cedar Crest Blvd. and Walbert Ave. gets underway.

In-Person Meetings Resume in June
In June, the School Board will resume in-person meetings. The Final Budget vote will occur on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 7 PM in the Administration Center Board Room at 1210 Springhouse Rd., Allentown, PA 18104. We are also happy to announce that our facilities will reopen for recreational and community use in mid-June.

In closing, I wish to thank the entire community for your support. It has been my highest honor to serve as your Superintendent of Schools and I extend my best wishes for future success to Dr. Mark Madson as our new superintendent. I wish to thank the Parkland Board of School Directors, our Administrative Team, our fantastic staff, our taxpayers and of course our students, who continue to inspire excellence and never cease to amaze me. Thank you all for making Parkland School District a Top Workplace and a wonderful place to spend most of my career in education. I was truly blessed.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Sniscak
Superintendent of Schools

2021-22 BUDGET DID YOU KNOW?

The Proposed 2021-22 General Fund Budget is $201,072,623

The Budget includes a 0% tax increase at a mill rate of 15.71 mills

The 2020-21 Budget was also prepared at a 0% tax increase

We are appropriating $4,509,778 in Fund Balance to offset a larger tax increase which equates to 0.55 mills

Real estate values continue to increase in Parkland which increases District revenue.

As of May 21, 2021, one mill of property tax produces approximately $8,283,826 at a 97% collection rate

The Board will vote on the final budget during the regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 7 PM.
Please feel free to call the Superintendent's Office at 610-351-5500 should you have questions regarding the budget prior to the Meeting or join us in the Board Room at 1210 Springhouse Rd. for the meeting.

LEHIGH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT MILLAGE RANK COMPARISON

School District	*2021 Millage (Highest to Lowest)*
Northern Lehigh	23.09
Allentown City	20.88
Catasauqua Area	19.87
Salisbury Township	20.51
East Penn	18.60
Bethlehem	18.65
Whitehall-Coplay	18.88
Northwestern Lehigh	17.22
Southern Lehigh	16.44
Parkland	**15.71**

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Talks like a **kid.**
Walks like a **kid.**
Must be a **kid.**

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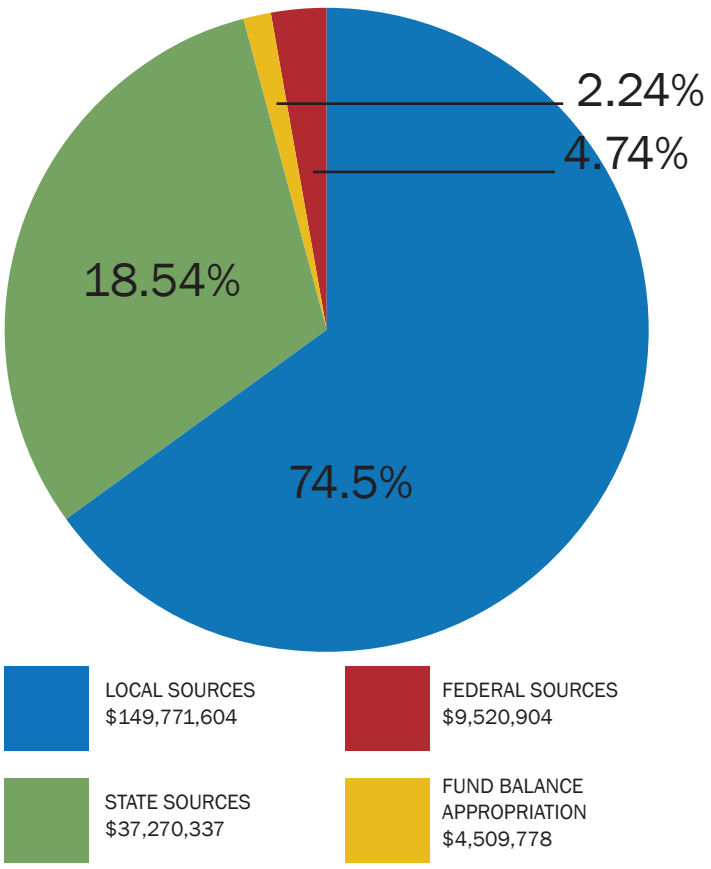
RESOURCES



LOCAL	
Real Estate Taxes	$131,134,589
Earned Income Tax	$12,371,330
Real Estate Transfer Tax	$2,950,000
Earnings on Investments	$395,418
Local Services Tax	$610,000
Public Utility Realty Tax	$130,000
Per Capita Taxes	$0
District Activities	$9,000
Tuition, Rentals, and All Other	$647,000
From Educational Agencies (pass through)	$1,524,267
TOTAL LOCAL	$149,771,604
STATE	
Basic Education Funding	$8,565,125
Ready to Learn Grant	$531,722
Special Education Subsidy	$3,895,959
Transportation Reimbursement	$1,608,759
Construction Reimbursement (PLANCON)	$955,000
State Property Tax Allocation	$1,799,846
State Share of Social Security	$3,515,244
State Share of Retirement	$16,055,244
All Other State Subsidiaries	$343,438
TOTAL STATE	$37,270,337
TOTAL FEDERAL	$9,520,904
OTHER	$0
TOTAL REVENUE	$196,562,845
USE OF FUND BALANCE	$4,509,778
TOTAL	$201,072,623

HOW EACH DOLLAR SUPPORTS PROGRAMS IN THE

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS 63.76 CENTS

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 27.88 CENTS

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 2021-2022 Parkland School District Real Estate tax bills will be mailed on or after July 1, 2021. Any property owner not receiving a bill by July 10, 2021 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:

N Whitehall Tax Collector - 610-398-4050, c/o 2227 Albright Ave., Allentown, PA 18104

South Whitehall Township and a portion of Allentown:

Lynn-Anne Kocon – 610-398-4050, 2227 Albright Avenue, Allentown, PA 18104

Upper Macungie Township:

Tracy Hodrick – 610-481-9191, 8330 Schantz Rd., Breinigsville, PA 18031

Parkland Homestead/Farmstead Gaming Credit

Gaming monies in the form of property tax relief will offset property taxes by approximately $110.77 per approved homestead and/or farmstead in the Parkland School District. This assessed value reduction will be shown on your 2021-22 property tax bill which will be mailed to all property owners on or after July 1, 2021.

2021-22 PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

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 1.19 CENTS

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.

COMMUNITY SERVICES – Contributions to the Lehigh Valley Business Education Partnership, as well as costs to provide crossing guards are expended from this budget area.

OTHER FINANCING USES 7.17 CENTS

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.

BUDGETARY RESERVE – These funds are used for unanticipated or emergency expenditures not provided elsewhere in the budget. Included are expenditures for unanticipated state and federal grants for which expenditures are not yet allocated by program.

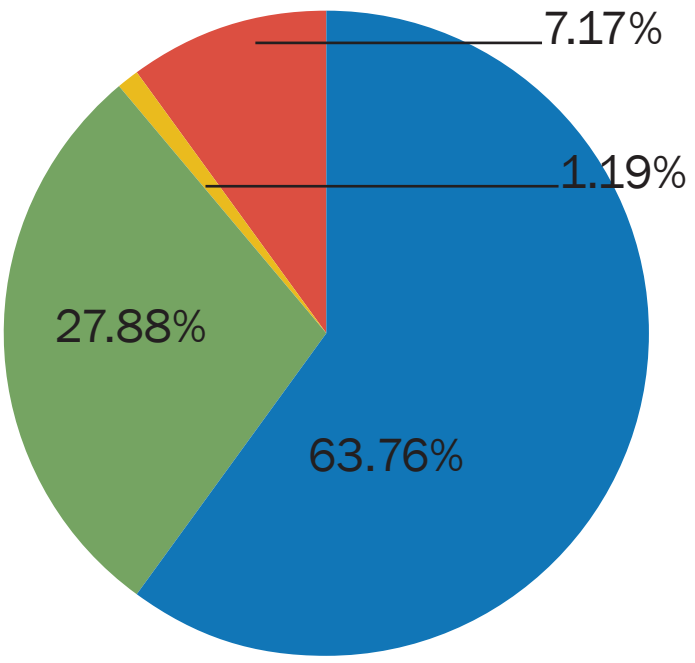
HOW DO I CALCULATE MY TAXES?

The 2021-22 Final General Fund Budget Plan calls for a property tax rate of 15.71 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 15.71. For example, a house assessed at the median value of a home in Parkland, which is $228,300, would be calculated as follows:

$228,300 x .01571 = $3,586.59 property tax for the school district.

Gaming monies will supply every approved homestead/farmstead with a property tax reduction of approximately $110.77. 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.

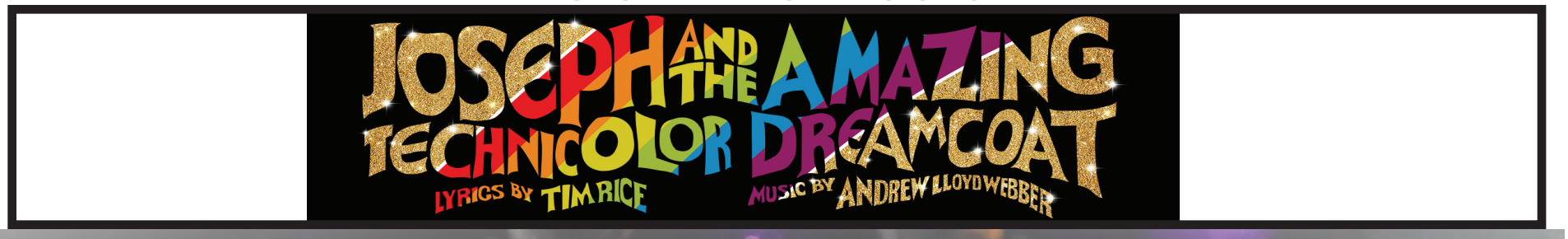
EXPENDITURES



INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS: $128,188,102
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: $2,393,102
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES: $56,070,627
OTHER FINANCING USES: $14,420,792

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS	
Regular Instructional Programs	$93,109,260
Special Education	$28,588,469
Vocational Education	$4,441,300
Other Instructional Programs	$811,296
Community College Support	$1,237,777
TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS	$128,188,102
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS	
Pupil & Instructional Staff Support	$12,201,282
Administration	$8,918,126
Pupil Health	$2,785,334
Business/ Fiscal	$2,035,975
Operation & Maintenance of Facilities	$15,110,439
Transportation	$9,959,268
Central Support & Other	$5,060,203
TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES	$56,070,627
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	
Student Activities	$2,356,833
Community Service	$36,269
Capital Projects	$0
TOTAL NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	$2,393,102
OTHER FINANCING USES	
Debt Service & Fund Transfers	$14,070,792
Refund of Prior Year's Receipts	$50,000
Budgetary Reserve	$300,000
TOTAL	$14,420,792
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$201,072,623

PHS SPRING MUSICAL



Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat was livestreamed the weekend of May 21-23, 2021. The production was professionally filmed with multiple cameras to give the feeling that you were watching a Broadway musical movie on your home television screen. Even though the cast had to wear masks through the whole song and dance production, they presented an amazing show. Show ticket sales and cardboard cutout sales that were set in seats around the auditorium to give the students a mock audience helped raised funds to support the Parkland Theatre Arts Program.

DR. JUDE SANDT APPOINTED PRINCIPAL AT SMS

On Tuesday, May 25, 2021, the Parkland Board of School Directors appointed Dr. Jude Sandt as Principal. Dr. Sandt will replace Dr. Michelle Minotti who will replace Mrs. Tracy Smith as Assistant Superintendent upon Tracy's retirement in June.

Dr. Sandt is currently serving as an Assistant Principal at Springhouse Middle School. Previous to serving at Springhouse, Jude was an Assistant Principal at the High School, and actually served as Dean of Students and Assistant Principal at Springhouse before his stint at PHS. Prior to his role as an administrator, he taught Music/Band at Orefield Middle School for 7 years.

Jude received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Music from Moravian College, a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Penn State and two Master of Science degrees from Wilkes University; one in Classroom Technology and the other in Educational Leadership. Most recently, he received his Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from Drexel University.

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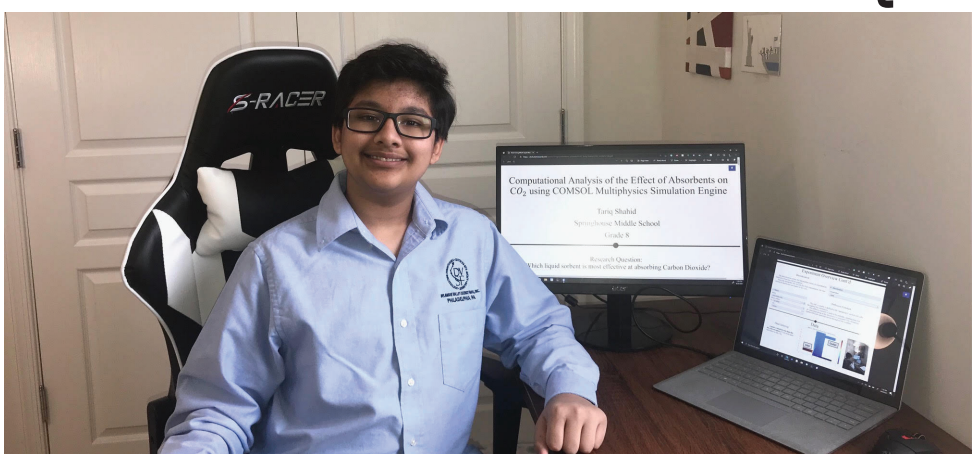
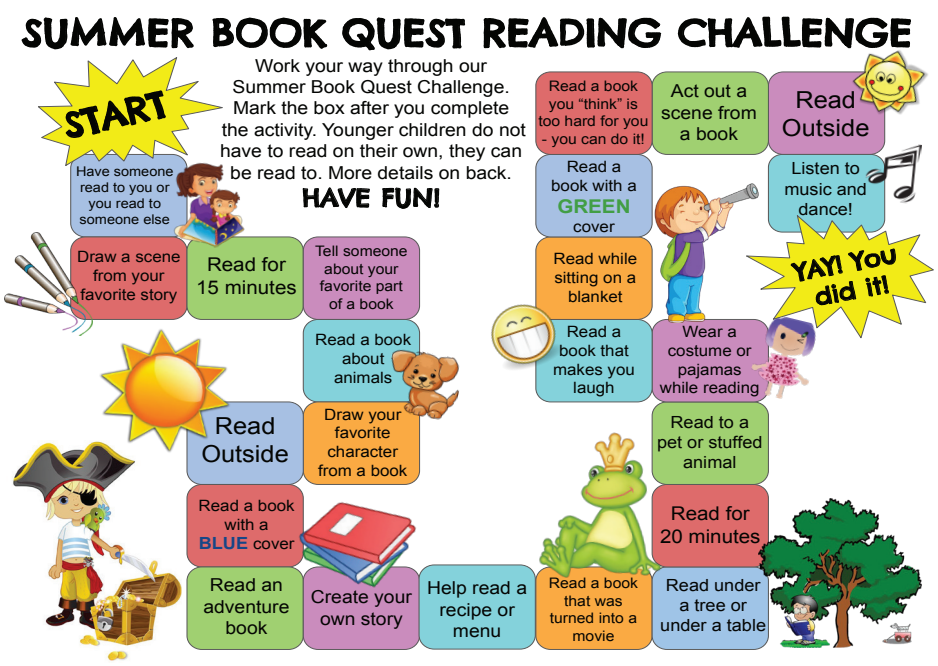
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: TARIQ SHAHID



Meet Tariq Shahid, a student at Springhouse Middle School who is excelling in many areas. He is highlighted on the facing page for being part of the State Champion Science Olympiad Team, winning a seat at the National Competition of National History Day in June for his work on creating an award-winning group website and won a 1st Place Award at the prestigious Delaware Valley Science Competition that is comprised of competitors from New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. While there, Tariq won a Gold Medal for his science fair project, a first for any student ever in the Lehigh Valley! **The Gold Medal signifies the best middle school project entered by any student from across the three aforementioned states.** His chemistry project "Computational Analysis of the Effect of Absorbents on CO2 using COMSOL Multiphysics Simulation Engine" focuses on carbon capture technology. He first came up with the idea after Elon Musk announced a $100M prize for the best carbon capture technology. He began researching it and became interested in performing an experiment related to how carbon capture technology removes CO2 from the atmosphere, contributing to the reversal of climate change. Although he originally wanted to conduct his experiment physically, because of COVID-19, he was unable to do so. Instead, he taught himself a software called COMSOL Multiphysics which allowed him to run the experiment computationally. Tariq is excited to take Computer Science courses at Parkland High School next year and further his education in programming. He also said that he enjoys playing the violin in the Orchestra at school and is looking forward to the wide array of opportunities that await him at Parkland High School. Congratulations, Tariq! We can't wait to watch you grow and reach your fullest potential.



BOOK QUEST CHALLENGE

The Parkland School District invites elementary students to join Summer Book Quest! This summer, several Parkland School Media Centers will be open for elementary students to select books. All students entering Kindergarten through 6th grade are welcome to participate in Book Quest during the dates and times listed below. Please take note of which building is hosting your home school. Each student attending Summer Book Quest will receive a game board that encourages reading and can be completed for chances to win one of four grand prizes.

TUESDAYS July 6, 20, August 3	THURSDAYS July 8, 22, August 5
Veterans Memorial Elementary School Hosting Fogelsville, Jaindl, Veterans Memorial **11:30 - 2:00**	**Cetronia Elementary School** Hosting Cetronia, Parkway Manor **11:30 - 2:00**
Kratzer Elementary School Hosting Ironton, Kratzer **11:30 - 2:00**	**Kernsville Elementary School** Hosting Kernsville, Schnecksville **11:30 - 2:00**

JOB/VOLUNTEER OPPS

Our students will find some great job, intern and volunteer opportunities on the PHS Job Board at http://bit.do/PHS-JOB-BOARD

9 STUDENTS EARN FULL TUITION

49 EARN ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS 25% OR MORE

Total equates to more than $5M over 4 years

FULL TUITION AWARD WINNERS

Academic

Ava Bendetti - Kutztown University
Gabriel Fahey - University of Alabama
Jack Giovenco - Fairleigh Dickinson University
Caedyn Lipovsky - Temple University
Krishna Narramneni - University of South Florida
Olivia Stevenson - Wesleyan University

Athletic

Lindsay Berger - College of the Holy Cross (Basketball)

Military Appointments

Gwendolyn Houser - West Point - The U.S. Military Academy
Hannah Laudenslader - United States Coast Guard Academy

25% or MORE ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Anam Ali - Muhlenberg College
Madelyn Amadio - Lafayette College
Grace Bachrach - Johnson and Wales University
Cole Bednar - Penn State University Park
Joshua Beltrame - Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Eamon Bonner - Muhlenberg College
Haley Bowman - University at Albany - SUNY
Jessica Brey - DeSales University
Alyssa Cahill - University of Vermont
Jeanique Campo-Virgil - DeSales University
Julianne Dee - Saint Francis University
George DeNardo - Duquesne University
Emily Easton - Marywood University
Benjamin Esquieres - University of Pittsburgh
Christopher Facchiano - Drexel University
Lucas P. Feher - Delaware Valley University
Aidan Gery - Ohio University
Emily Shea Green - University of Arizona
Cole Helmer - Widener University
Kyle Heston - Case Western Reserve University
Andrew Holtzman-Marga - Dickinson College
Joshua A. Jaffe - Case Western Reserve University
Samantha Kaplan - Moravian College
Alexander Kichline - University of Scranton
Jenna Noelle Koch - DeSales University
Shawn Kushner - The College of New Jersey
Amanda Lane - Thomas Jefferson University
Sophia Lee - Thomas Jefferson University
Natalie C. Link - Arcadia University
Abigayle Lytle - Thomas Jefferson University
Riya Neogi - Thomas Jefferson University
Gabriel Ramirez - Rice University
Benjamin Robbins - Elizabethtown College
Haley Salmon - University of Delaware
Tyler Salmon - University of Delaware
Emma Schock - Rochester Institute of Technology
Zoe Schutter - Lehigh University
Sonya Shivok - Rochester Institute of Technology
Taylor Shortell - Elizabethtown College
Sara Siegfried - St. Joseph's University
Stephanie Snyder - Mississippi State University

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

Parkland Pride is at its best when students earn State or National recognition in academics, the arts, or athletics. Here are some of this year's highlights (note that many of the usual State Competitions were canceled this year due to the COVID-19 crisis):

DEBATE TEAM: Reva Gandhi, Siddhant Khandelwal, Rishika Rohatgi

STATE HISTORY DAY: Brandon Cai, Thomas Gilchrist, Mai Hukuoka, Aryan Kapoor, Jayaditya Kothari, Dillan Laubert, Sam Lundberg, Ankhitha Manjunatha, Akshatha Manjunatha, Inara Niaz, Anish Pallod, Luka Pettine, Clark Ray, Samit Rohatgi, Tariq Shahid & Selina Wang

ECONOMICS CHALLENGE: Raviteja Kanthamneni, Tanya Mehta, Yuval Shimoni & Ronak Singh

FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA: Shlok Dholakia, Anshika Gupta, Vishruth Hanumaihgari, Michael Li, Akshatha Manjunatha, Oludemilade Olatilo, Prince Patel, Joseph Peng, Areea Rahman, Rishika Rohatgi, Kevin Tong & Hana Yang

LCTI STATE WINNERS: Amanda Hajdar & Wajahat Siddique

NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC ART: Michael Ouelette

ALL STATE BAND: Jordan Bucks, Jared Lazansky & Mitchell Roth

ALL STATE CHORUS: Emily Bachl & Paige Herman

ALL STATE ORCHESTRA: Suchir Agarwal, Victor Cai, Joshua Chou, Isaac Daniels, Lucas Lee, Sophia Lee, Ella Wu & Alexander Tang

USA PHYSICS OLYMPIAD: Victor Cai

NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS: Suchir Agarwal, Taran Anantasagar, Pranav Balabhadra, Meaghan Crites, Stephanie Dean, Alexander Gannon, Udit Garg, Prathysha Kothare, Ankit Lenka, Akshatha Manjunatha, Ankhitha Manjunatha, Krishna Narramneni, Hasun Noh, Samuel Oxfeld, Janam Patel & Alexander Tang

NATIONAL CENTER OF WOMEN IN INFO TECH ASPIRATIONS IN COMPUTING AWARD: Uma Purani

PA MEDIA & DESIGN: Kurshil Amrutiya, Anshika Gupta, Mridul Gupta, Siddhant Khandelwal

PA JR ACADEMY OF SCIENCE PERFECT SCORES: Reva Gandhi & Anish Pallod

DELAWARE VALLEY SCIENCE FAIR: Vidhi Desai, Reva Gandhi, Katherine Gilchrist, Tushar Mehta & Tariq Shahid

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR SEMIFINALISTS: Taran Anantasagar & Prathysha Kothare

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD STATE CHAMPIONS: Srijan Govindu, Dallin Laubert, Aneesh Kashalkar, Aadit Kedia, Jayaditya Kothari, Aadhavan Nainar, Adarsh Narayanan, Aum Purani, Samith Rohatgi, Tariqu Shahid, Andrew Song, Sooraj Tharumia, Jerry Wang, Alex Xu & Sophia Zhong

CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2021

View the Class of 2021 Commencement Ceremony
Academic, Athletic, Visual and Performing Arts Awards, Scholarship Recognition Ceremony, College Athlete Day
and more ways that we celebrated the Class of 2021 this spring
on our Class of 2021 webpage!

https://phs.parklandsd.org/students/class-of-2021

CONGRATULATIONS SENIOR SPEAKER PRATHYSHA KOTHARE

At Parkland High School, students audition for the prestigious role of giving the senior class speech during Commencement. This year, 15 students tried out to be Senior Speaker. Congratulations are extended to Prathysha Kothare who gave this year's speech!

Parkland School District
Education Foundation
Preserving Excellence, Building a Dream

Lisa Ervin, Executive Director
Email: ervinl@parklandsd.org Phone: 610-351-5572
www.parklandsd.org/foundation

2nd Annual Parkland's Funniest Home Videos

1st Place - Olivia Fehnel, a student at Veterans Memorial Elementary (pictured left with her principal, Mrs. Karen Dopera)

2nd Place - Claire Jang, a Parkway Manor Elementary student

3rd Place - Ethan Owens, a Fogelsville Elementary student.

9TH ANNUAL GALA RECOGNIZED ALUMS

Generously sponsored by:

The Parkland School District Education Foundation proudly held its 9th Annual Distinguished Alumni Gala and Online Auction on April 14, 2021. The event can be watched on Parkland's YouTube Channel at www.YouTube.com/ParklandTV. Our first ever virtual Gala was very successful with a profit of more than $79,000. This revenue will be used to fund Celebrate Innovation staff grants for the upcoming school year with the goal of enhancing academics, the arts and athletic opportunities for students, staff and the greater community.

The Foundation would like to thank everyone who was able to support our endeavors during this extremely difficult year.

GRADUATION SIGNS

To honor seniors who missed out on so many in-person activities this year, the Parkland Education Foundation was pleased to organize the delivery routes and 40+ volunteers to deliver graduation lawn signs to our 800 graduating seniors! We hope you enjoy the sense of pride and community spirit as you see the signs in your neighborhoods and wish the Class of 2021 the best as they embark on a new journey ahead.

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