



Welcome

New Elementary Student

ORIENTATION 2021



Academics



Athletics



Arts

Educating for Success, Inspiring Excellence

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Cetronia	610-351-5860
3635 Broadway • Allentown, PA 18104	
Fogelsville	610-351-5800
312 S. Route 100 • Breinigsville, PA 18031	
Fred J. Jaendl	610-351-5880
1051 Weilers Road • Breinigsville, PA 18031	
Ironton	610-351-5810
3135 Levans Road • Coplay, PA 18037	
Kernsville	610-351-5840
5051 Kernsville Road • Orefield, PA 18069	
Kratzer	610-351-5820
2200 Huckleberry Road • Allentown, PA 18104	
Parkway Manor	610-351-5850
768 Parkway Road • Allentown, PA 18104	
Schnecksville	610-351-5830
4260 Sand Spring Road • Schnecksville, PA 18078	
Veterans Memorial	610-351-5910
250 Twin Ponds Road • Breinigsville, PA 18031	

Welcome from the Superintendent



Dear Elementary Parent/Guardian,

First and foremost, I would like to extend my most sincere welcome to you and your child. You are no doubt just as excited as your little one to begin his or her educational journey in the Parkland School District. It is truly an adventure that starts the moment your child walks through the classroom door for the first time and ends with a confident stride out of Parkland High School upon graduation.

Know that your child is in the best of hands at his or her new elementary school. Our dedicated, well-trained staff and robust curriculum will help this year be educationally-rewarding and enjoyable for your student. We encourage you to stay active in the school and the community and get to know your child's teacher and other key staff members. When the school and home are working together on behalf of children's needs, there is nothing we can't accomplish.

I hope that you will find this publication helpful as your student embarks on the exciting experience of beginning school at Parkland. Please feel free to contact any staff member with questions or concerns.

Finally, be assured that Parkland School District is a community dedicated to *"Educating for Success and Inspiring Excellence."* Our staff is committed to this vision statement.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to welcome you and your child. Best wishes for a wonderful school year!

Yours truly,

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

Welcome from the Principals



We look forward to working with you and your family to ensure that this is a year filled with many memorable moments. All Parkland Elementary Schools house classrooms in grades K-5. Our two middle schools encompass grades 6-8 and our high school includes students in grades 9-12. Our classrooms provide a warm, caring learning environment that honors the unique characteristics of each child. Our goal is to help each student uncover a passion for learning and succeed to the best of his or her ability.

This handbook has been prepared to provide you with a glimpse of various experiences and activities in which your child will participate. We hope that you will find it to be a valuable resource in answering many questions that you may have about your child's new school experience.

It is our belief that children succeed through the teamwork of parents and educators. We are excited to work together with you to provide your student with the best learning experience possible and can't wait to get started.

Welcome to Elementary School at Parkland!

Jamie Giaquinto, Principal, Cetronia

Timothy Chorones, Principal, Fogelsville

Jeffrey Bartman, Principal, Fred J. Jandl

Robert Holmes, Principal, Ironton

Michael Gehringer, Principal, Kernsville

Karen Aulisio, Principal, Kratzer

Scott Bartman, Principal, Parkway Manor

Damian Goodman, Principal, Schnecksville

Karen Dopera, Principal, Veterans Memorial



OUR DISTRICT

The Parkland School District is located in the semi-metropolitan region known as the Lehigh Valley. The Lehigh Valley Region of Eastern Pennsylvania is made up of Lehigh and Northampton Counties and is home to the three cities of Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton, as well as numerous townships and boroughs. With more than half-a-million residents, it is the third largest metropolitan region in Pennsylvania. The Lehigh Valley maintains a strong commitment to educational excellence with six major institutions of higher learning - DeSales University, Cedar Crest College, Lafayette College, Lehigh University, Moravian College, and Muhlenberg College. The community holds high expectations for students and programs and strongly supports educational endeavors.

The 72 square miles of the Parkland School District encompass three townships with a total population of approximately 50,000. The district's wide socioeconomic range results from it bordering the city of Allentown on the southeast and extending to farmland at the western and northern extremities.

SCHOOL HOURS & IMPORTANT DATES

Elementary School Hours

Grades K-5 • 8:50 AM - 3:30 PM

1:45 PM Early Dismissal Days

The District will dismiss at 1:45 PM on the following four days: October 22, January 21, April 29 and May 20. Additionally, all Elementary Schools will dismiss at 1:45 PM on the Thursday - Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving to allow for Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Teacher Professional Development Days

There will be no school on Teacher Professional Development Days: September 16, October 11, January 17 and March 11.

District Highlights

Visual and Performing Arts – Parkland features a Visual and Performing Arts Department that includes a series of arts programs ranging from music lessons that start in grade 4 to artists-in-residence who work with children in grades K-12. Students in each elementary grade level attend an arts-oriented field trip every year. And, each year, over 25 art shows, concerts, plays, and more are brought to the Parkland community and performed by all levels of students. An annual Festival of the Arts is the culminating activity that showcases the entire Arts Department each May.

Technology Department – All students in Grades 1-5 receive a Chromebook to go to and from school. Kindergarten students will be assigned both an iPad and Chromebook. The iPad will remain in their classroom while the Chromebook will remain at home. All students will receive digital citizenship lessons, which teach online safety and digital responsibility.

School Volunteer Program – Approximately 700 volunteers serve the District's 12 schools each year. Active Parent-Teacher Organizations (PTO) are involved in every elementary school and provide enrichment opportunities for students as well as family-centered events. We encourage you to get involved. Clearances are required.

Media Centers – An excellent center in each school supports the programs of each building. The centers are designed for research purposes and publishing opportunities. Students, staff and the community have in-house access and home access to many authoritative online research databases. Each Media Center houses a Maker Space Lab, generously funded by the Parkland School District Education Foundation, designed to encourage collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and communication skills.

Elementary World Language Program – This optional after-school program provides a rich, multi-sensory, second language experience that takes advantage of your child's energy, curiosity, and natural ability to acquire language. In a relaxed atmosphere, students will begin to develop listening and speaking skills.

Environmental Laboratories – Outdoor sites support the K-12 science curriculum and allow for hands-on enrichment.

Mindfulness – A focus on "mindfulness" has been met with much success at helping students cope with stress. Students take "brain breaks" that include breathing and other exercises designed to promote a peaceful classroom environment along with self-awareness. MindUP, a program of the Goldie Hawn Foundation, is embedded in grades K-5 as lessons that promote attention to oneself, tolerance to differences, and a capacity for personal growth.



Schedule and Attendance



Emergency School Closings

Instances may occur due to weather or other emergencies when it will be necessary to close the school. When any emergency necessitates the cancellation or early closing of school, we will utilize the District's rapid notification system to call, email, and/or text parents who have opted into the system at the beginning of the school year. Information will also be posted immediately to the District's web site at www.parklandsd.org.

Due to the number of students in each school and the many incoming calls that are common when there is an emergency closing, parents are urged to opt into the rapid notification system as well as develop a contingency plan, which will provide accommodations for any child in the event of cancellation, early dismissal, or late starting times due to emergencies or inclement weather. Any lost instructional days beyond three may be made up as Flexible Instructional Days which may include online teaching and/or independent assignments that will be communicated via Schoology, the District's online learning management system.

Four-Day Schedule

Parkland Elementary Schools operate on a four-day schedule. Your student may have art on Day 1, gym on Day 2, music on Day 3, and library/media center on Day 4. This means that you will need to know what items your child will be required to bring with him/her in order to participate in his/her daily "special" activity (sneakers for gym class, book for the library, musical instrument for music lessons, etc.). The daily schedule is posted online on the elementary school web site. If school is not in session due to inclement weather, the daily schedule may change accordingly. For example, if school is not in session on Tuesday, Day 3, then Wednesday will become Day 3. Please call the school office if you have any questions about the daily schedule.

GOOD ATTENDANCE YIELDS SUCCESS

EVERY MINUTE IN
SCHOOL COUNTS

Regular attendance is important for your student to develop a positive attitude toward learning and to get the most out of the school program. It is very important that ALL PUPILS attend school regularly and be at bus stops on time. When tardiness is frequent, parents/guardians will be notified.

Parents/guardians are asked to telephone or email the school Absentee Hotline before 9 AM on the day of the student's absence stating the reason for the absence. If no call or email is made to the school, the office will attempt to notify the parent or guardian. A note can be sent to the office prior to the absence. If this is done, there is no need to telephone or email the Absentee Hotline. After three (3) days of absence, the school nurse, principal, or school secretary may call the home to inquire about the reason for the absence.

No student who has enrolled in school shall be permitted to withdraw from school unless the student is eligible to be excused under exceptions to compulsory school attendance law as authorized under the School Code or the State Board of Regulations.

Please keep your school's absentee hotline number and email handy.

ABSENTEE HOTLINES

Cetronia	610-351-5900 Ext. 23711 ctattendance@parklandsd.org
Fogelsville	610-351-5900 Ext. 22711 fvattendance@parklandsd.org
Fred J. Jaindl	610-351-5900 Ext. 28711 fjattendance@parklandsd.org
Ironton	610-351-5900 Ext. 25711 irattendance@parklandsd.org
Kernsville	610-351-5900 Ext. 27711 kvattendance@parklandsd.org
Kratzer	610-351-5900 Ext. 21711 krattendance@parklandsd.org
Parkway Manor	610-351-5900 Ext. 26711 pmattendance@parklandsd.org
Schnecksville	610-351-5900 Ext. 24711 svattendance@parklandsd.org
Veterans Memorial	610-351-5900 Ext. 29711 vmattendance@parklandsd.org

School Health Program

Your child's health and safety are of utmost importance to everyone.

The goal of the school health services program is to maintain optimal health for all students so they may reach their full academic potential. School health services provide health supervision, first aid and emergency care for pupils and school personnel. The Parkland School District professional health staff includes certified school nurses and health room paraprofessionals. Various health screenings are conducted by the school district's certified school nurses as mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Health: vision, hearing, height, weight and BMI.

The school health record is initiated at the time of school admission and becomes part of the cumulative health record throughout the student's school career. The District's certified school nurses ask that you report any important health information in order to keep your student's record updated.

Do not send your child to school when the following conditions are present:

- A fever of 100 degrees or more is present (students should be fever free 24 hours, without the aid of medications, before returning to school)
- Vomiting or diarrhea related to illness
- Severe head cold, persistent cough or severe sore throat
- Evidence of a suspicious skin rash or other contagious condition

Please notify the school nurse if your child has a contagious disease or condition such as chicken pox, pink-eye, impetigo, COVID-19 or head lice.

Administration of Medication - In the event a student needs medication because of illness, the parent or guardian should try to give the medication before or after school hours. Contact your school nurse if your child requires medication during school hours for further information and direction.

NOTE: Medication should be brought to the school in the original sealed container and must be labeled with the student's name and grade; the name of the medication; the amount of the medication to be taken; and the time the child must take the medication, along with the medication administration consent and licensed prescriber order form. All medication must be delivered personally by a parent/guardian to the school nurse. It is the parent's responsibility to assure an adequate supply of medication is in the Health Room. Any changes in the dosage or time of administration require new forms to be completed by the parent and/or physician.

Any questions regarding the Parkland School District Health Program can be answered by a school nurse. The nurse may be contacted via phone or email.



Support Services

Support personnel are available in every building and will be happy to assist you with the following:

STUDENT SERVICES – The Student Services Department is comprised of a Director, a Supervisor of Special Education, three Special Education Coordinators, and a Director of Health and Wellness. The Department is also responsible for overseeing the School Nursing Staff, Guidance Counselors, School Psychologists, Special Education Teachers, Speech Therapists, a Social Worker and Behavioral Support. There is a full-time Nurse and Guidance Counselor in each of the elementary buildings.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF – The district employs an outstanding staff of approximately 800 educators. More than 60% of the professional staff have earned advanced degrees.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES – A district-owned fleet of 150+ vehicles travels 1.6 million miles annually to transport the student population.

DISTRICT REMEDIAL PROGRAM (DRP) – DRP is a reading and mathematics reinforcement program available in all elementary and middle schools.

READING SPECIALISTS – A full-time certified specialist in each school supports the reading program.

RESPONSE TO INSTRUCTION AND INTERVENTION (RTII) –

The elementary schedule allows for a daily intervention and enrichment block of time that gives struggling students a chance to practice concepts and gives other students instructional opportunities designed to promote problem solving and higher order thinking.

CURRICULUM SERVICES – Four full-time professionals provide coordination of quality K-12 programming and professional development for all staff.

ADAPTED PHYSICAL EDUCATION – Modified or remedial activities are provided for all students who cannot participate in the regular program.



Food Service

Free breakfast and lunch will be offered to all Parkland students daily in every building this year. Menus are available on a monthly basis on the food service department page of the District web site, your building page of the District web site, or from your building office.

All cashier operations in the food service department are handled through a point of sale software program. Each student, upon registering with Parkland, has an account established in the system, using their student identification number. This number and account will remain with your child throughout their years at Parkland.

Funds may be deposited into your child's food service account to purchase a la carte items via check or credit card through our on-line payment system www.MySchoolBucks.com. This program offers parents simple and secure online transactions and features the ability to monitor account balances, track and review purchase history, and create low balance alerts.

For more information, such as prices, charge policies, account restrictions, and much more, please visit our web page at www.parklandsd.org/departments/food-services.



DAY CARE CENTERS

The YMCA of Allentown offers a before and after-school day care option for our families on site in our schools. Various day care facilities are also available within the attendance area of each elementary school and some offer transportation to and from school. A complete listing of day care centers and transportation information is available at www.parklandsd.org/daycare.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Cooperation and communication between home and school are the keys to a successful educational experience.

Some helpful hints for parents/guardians include:

- Encourage your child to share the events of the day.
- Be consistent in discipline.
- Give your child responsibilities (*making the bed, setting the table*).
- Ask about your child's work and display it at home.
- Discuss traffic signals, safety and reinforce bus safety rules with your child.
- Read aloud to your child.
- Take an active part in your child's education.
- Join the school's parent organization or serve as a school volunteer.
- Support your child through love, security and acceptance.
- Read school and district email blasts and all communication that comes home from your child's teacher.



Educating for Success, Inspiring Excellence

1210 Springhouse Road
Allentown, PA 18104
(610) 351-5503
www.parklandsd.org



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