COMMUNITY HELPS NAME PARK HILL’S NEW SCHOOLS

Park Hill's newest schools finally have names! Our Board of Education named them Hopewell Elementary and Walden Middle School, choosing from the recommendations of our naming committees. The two committees, made up of students, parents, staff and community members, sorted through 744 school name suggestions from students and the public that ranged from the silly to the serious.

Near the site of Hopewell Elementary, archeologists found artifacts from an ancient network of Native Americans known today as the Hopewell culture, which was spread across most of North America from 200 BC to 500 AD and connected by trade routes. Walden Middle School's name comes from the old township, Parkdale Walden, where we are building the new school.

LONG-RANGE FACILITY PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

For more details, visit www.parkhill.k12.mo.us.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SUMMER 2018</th>
<th>Board sets criteria for redistricting all K-12 students. We will ask for your input before the Board makes a final decision.</th>
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<tr>
<td>MARCH 2019</td>
<td>Board makes boundary decisions for all K-12 students.</td>
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<td>AUGUST 2019</td>
<td>We open Hopewell Elementary and Walden Middle School.</td>
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<td>OCTOBER 2019</td>
<td>We open our own facility for support services.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUGUST 2020</td>
<td>We will open our own facility for the LEAD Innovation Studio.</td>
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Dear Park Hill Family,

I know that, like mine, your heart broke after the school tragedy in Florida. I could not help but think of all the young lives we have in our care here in the Park Hill School District.

We realize that these tragedies can and do happen in places just like Park Hill all the time. While it is frightening to realize that we can never guarantee complete safety, we take our responsibility very seriously to do everything we can to keep our students and staff safe.

This is why we work so hard on efforts like renovations and improvements to limit access to our schools, training sessions to help our staff support the mental health of our students, and constantly update crisis prevention and response plans. To see a more detailed list of our safety measures and crisis response plans, visit our district website, www.parkhill.k12.mo.us, and look under Parent Resources for our Crisis Response Plan page.

We also appreciate the support of our local emergency responders and mental health professionals, who work with us regularly on these safety efforts.

The most important thing we do to keep our people safe is keep the lines of communication open. You can help us with this by letting us know if you hear of anything suspicious or alarming, and encouraging students to do the same.

Thank you for your support of Park Hill’s schools as we work to protect our safe and caring learning environment.

Sincerely,
Jeanette Cowherd
Superintendent

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NEWS WORTH KNOWING

**BUDGET AWARD**
For the 11th year in a row, we earned the Meritorious Budget Award from the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO). The district received this award for excellence in school budget presentation during the 2017-2018 budget year. Paul Kelly, assistant superintendent for business and technology, and the business services team prepare the yearly budget according to the high standards ASBO sets for good fiscal management.

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT**
Our annual student achievement report showed that the class of 2017 had the highest ACT composite score in the Kansas City, Missouri, area. Reading and math scores in first through eighth grades show good achievement, according to a mid-year report.

**STATEGIC PLAN**
As we develop our next strategic plan, we are evaluating our current one. During the past five years, our accomplishments included increasing students’ access to technology and introducing our college and career readiness measurement for students. A committee made up of administrators, staff members, parents and community members is helping us develop our next five-year plan.

**STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH**
We’re taking steps to further support our students’ psychological, emotional and social health. These efforts help them fulfill their potential, and we’re working to make sure our schools and classrooms have a positive climate and the necessary mental health resources.

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Building Successful Futures • Each Student • Every Day
ALUMNI HALL OF FAME
We inducted three alumni into our Park Hill Alumni Hall of Fame this year: Bryan Dehner, Park Hill High School class of 1988; Susan Dustin, PHHS class of 1989; and Dr. Nicholas Comninellis, PHHS class of 1976.

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR
During the 2018 Park Hill Hall of Fame Dinner, Dr. Wendy Weimer with Weimer Dental accepted the 2018 Park Hill Business of the Year award.

PARTNER OF THE YEAR
During the 2018 Park Hill Hall of Fame Dinner, Robin Shanberg Winner, executive director of Synergy Services, and Dr. Dennis Meier, associate executive director of clinical services for Synergy Services, accepted our 2018 Partner of the Year award.

SUPER BOOSTERS
During the 2018 Park Hill Hall of Fame Dinner, the retiring leaders of the PTA Clothing Center, Amy Whorton, Susan Buckles, Michael Atchison and Katherine Distefano received the 2017-2018 Park Hill Super Booster awards.

FOOTBALL HONOR
Park Hill High School senior and student athlete Billy Maples earned MVP honors at the Blue-Grey All-American Bowl.

CROSS COUNTRY COACH AWARD
Park Hill South High School Cross Country Coach Pam Jurgensmeyer received the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association's Missouri Girls High School Coach of the Year award.

VOLLEYBALL COACH AWARD
Lindsey Hood, Park Hill High School volleyball coach, received the Jarry Thomas Memorial High School Volleyball Co-Coach of the Year award from the Greater Kansas City Officials Association.

KEY CLUB HONORS
Park Hill South High School freshman Tamara Quinlan was chosen to attend Key Club’s Breakthrough conference.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AWARD
Assistant Principal Sasha Kalis from Renner and Hawthorn elementary schools earned the 2017-2018 Clay-Platte Missouri Outstanding Assistant Principal award from the Missouri Association of Elementary School Principals.

READING INSTRUCTION AWARD
English Landing Elementary first-grade teacher Matthew McGinley received the Read to Achieve award and a $1,000 award from the Missouri NEA and KCTV 5 News. A parent nominated Mr. McGinley for the award.

Visit our website at www.parkhill.k12.mo.us for more information on these and other success stories.
CALENDAR:
March 29
Park Hill Board of Education meeting

April 7
Northland Ethnic Festival, from 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Park Hill South High School

April 12
Board meeting

April 13
No school

April 26
Board meeting

April 30
Kindergarten Roundup (contact your child’s school for times)

May 5
Sophie’s Run at Lake Waukomis

May 5-6
District Art Festival, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 12-4 p.m. on Sunday at Park Hill High School

May 10
Board meeting

GET CONNECTED:
Our website has lots of ways for you to engage with Park Hill Schools. Find them all at www.parkhill.k12.mo.us.

Social Media
Follow the district’s Facebook page and Twitter feed.

First Hand E-mail News
Get district news and highlights from Board meetings.

First Hand Mobile
Get text message alerts about weather and emergencies.

Park Hill TV
See our videos on YouTube and Spectrum Cable channel 18.

Online Comment Portal
Share your comments, suggestions for improvement and even your compliments.

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

In an effort to keep the community informed, the “Park Hill Connection” goes to every home in the Park Hill School District, even those without students in our schools. Thank you for your support of your community’s schools!

ENROLL YOUR KINDERGARTNER TODAY,
Then Mark Your Calendar for the Kindergarten Roundup Event

Families with children entering kindergarten in the Park Hill School District in August 2018 can now go online and enroll their students. Visit the district website, www.parkhill.k12.mo.us, to start the process.

Children who turn five on or before July 31 are eligible for kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year.

After you enroll, mark your calendar for the Kindergarten Roundup event at your elementary school on Monday, April 30. Call your school for the time. Parents and students will get a sneak peek of the school, tour the building, ask questions and get to know the staff.