PARK HILL BREAKS GROUND, MAKES PROGRESS ON PLAN

Elementary students from across the district helped Board of Education members, Superintendent Dr. Jeanette Cowherd, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Paul Kelly and future Hopewell Elementary principal Dr. Melissa Hensley break ground at the future site of Hopewell, which opens in August 2019. Dr. Hensley, who is currently the principal at Renner Elementary, with the help of Graden Elementary student Bethi Brown, unveiled the school color and mascot, which elementary students across the district helped choose. Hopewell students will be the Hawks, and their color will be blue.

For more information on our long-term, enrollment-based plan, please read Dr. Cowherd’s letter on the next page and visit our district website, www.parkhill.k12.mo.us.
STRAIGHT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Park Hill Family,

Our teachers and many of our support staff members are enjoying their much-deserved summer break. Summer is also a time of hard work for us, both in summer school and in getting our buildings and programs ready for all of our students to return in August. You can see on the front page that we broke ground on Hopewell Elementary, and Walden Middle School is taking shape as construction progresses.

Here are other projects we are working on this summer:

**Enrollment-based, long-range facility plan projects:**
- Preparing to start building the support services and transportation center, which opens in November 2019
- Finalizing our design for the LEAD Innovation Studio, which opens in August 2020

**High school projects:**
- Upgrading entrance safety at Park Hill and Park Hill South high schools and renovating their media centers
- Reconfiguring the administrative area at PHHS and adding more counseling offices
- Renovating the kitchen and serving areas at Park Hill South
- Replacing turf at our soccer stadium and Park Hill South's practice field
- Adding lights to Park Hill South's softball and baseball fields
- Expanding LEAD to another floor in the current leased space

**Other projects:**
- Improving access to our technology network at Prairie Point Elementary, Gerner Family Early Education Center and PHHS
- Making the Tiffany Ridge Elementary play field safer
- Adding a mobile classroom at Hawthorn Elementary
- Painting in all buildings
- Replacing roofs, HVAC systems, doors, windows, asphalt and concrete

Our maintenance schedule calls for us to work on middle school projects in summer 2019. Our to-do list is long because of our commitment to serving all of our students and maintaining what you have given us. Thank you for your support of our schools!

Sincerely,
Jeanette Cowherd
Superintendent

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NEWS WORTH KNOWING

**BUDGET**
A great deal of the $250 million in expenditures in our 2018-2019 budget will go to the construction of our four new facilities: Hopewell, Walden, LEAD and the support services and transportation center. These funds will come from the recent no-tax-increase bond issue. We are also budgeting for anticipated enrollment growth, which means we are increasing staffing and hiring nine teachers to keep class sizes down.

**WEBINAR SERIES**
As part of our ongoing commitment to safety, we are hosting a series of webinars to help parents support their children. Our website, www.parkhill.k12.mo.us, has more information on our Parenting in Challenging Times webinar series, including registration links to watch all of the available webinars in the series. More than 500 people registered to watch our first webinar, Safeguarding Our Children in Challenging Times, and we hope even more will see our second webinar, Raising Resilient, Drug-Free Youth. By registering, you can watch the webinars live or see the recordings.

Building Successful Futures • Each Student • Every Day
TRACK STATE CHAMPIONS
Four student athletes from Park Hill High School placed first in the Missouri State High School Activities Association Class 5 State Track and Field Championships. Teresa Thomas, Manuela Ngo Tonye Nyemeck, Caleia Johnson and Taiya Shelby won the 4x400-meter relay race, which they also won last year. Shelby also won the 800-meter dash. Pictured: The winning relay team celebrated with alternate Jena Hahlbeck.

STATE PTA REFLECTIONS
Three of our students earned honors in the Missouri PTA Reflections program. Tyler Constine from Tiffany Ridge Elementary, Ashlyn Keller from Tiffany Ridge Elementary and Hannah Tristan from PHHS qualified for the national contest.

DISTRICT ART FESTIVAL
Our 56th annual Art Festival featured almost 6,000 original works of art from Park Hill students from kindergarten through 12th grade. Five students received top honors for their portfolios, and Superintendent Dr. Jeanette Cowherd selected 22 students’ artwork to display at the district office.

MISSOURI SCHOLARS ACADEMY
The 2018 Missouri Scholars Academy chose six students from Park Hill and Park Hill South high schools to attend its summer program at the University of Missouri. PHHS sent Jonah Boyd, Philippe Realina and Frances Swayne, and Park Hill South sent Samuel Andersen, Cole Bracken and Ian Flowers.

MISSOURI SCHOLARS 100
Jackson Turner from PHHS and Trent Neutgens and Ethan Wissmann from Park Hill South are part of the 2018 Missouri Scholars 100, a statewide program that honors 100 of Missouri’s top academic students in the class of 2018. Ashley Gilland from PHHS earned honorable mention recognition.

INTERNATIONAL DECA HONORS
Three DECA students from PHHS earned recognition at the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta. Richley West (left) earned an Award of Excellence. Josie Phillips attended Thrive Academy and received leadership training, and Noah Harris earned an Award of Excellence.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATOR AWARD
Hope McPheeters, French teacher at PHHS, received the state’s Distinguished Foreign Language Educator award from the Foreign Language Association of Missouri.

CAPPIES
PHHS students earned recognition from the Kansas City Cappies for their work in school theater. Sarah Storm earned Outstanding Female Vocalist honors for her performance in “The Secret Garden.” Ashley Gilland and Lawrence Suba were recognized as Commendees for their contributions to the PHHS theater department. Pictured: PHHS theater students at the Cappies Gala.

BOARD AWARDS
Our Board of Education received the Governance Team and Outstanding Board of Education awards from the Missouri School Boards’ Association for its leadership, engagement and transparent budget process, which includes staff and community participation. Board Vice President Susan Newburger received Distinguished Certification.

SOCCER STATE CHAMPIONS
The Park Hill High School girls soccer team won the MHSAA Class 4 Soccer State Championship.
Hawthorn Elementary students Harper Dirks, Elise Bolyard and Storry Vazquez (front to back) took sticky note messages from the “Take What You Need” bulletin board to make their day more positive.

Kindergarten student Ruby Sharp and fifth grader Matthew Lallana participated in the Tiffany Ridge Elementary color run with their classmates, teachers and families.