PARK HILL ANNOUNCES TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

We have some of the best teachers and support employees in the region, and every year we recognize them for their service to our students. We are proud to name Ashley E. Packard, English language arts teacher at Lakeview Middle School, as our Teacher of the Year and Sheila Rechenberger, Park Hill South High School special education teacher assistant, as our Support Employee of the Year. Learn more about Mrs. Packard, Mrs. Rechenberger and the other finalists for these awards on our website, www.parkhill.k12.mo.us.
Dear Park Hill Family,

The end of the school year is upon us!

We’ve been fortunate this school year to have countless success stories. Our students made us proud in every area of school, including academics, professional studies, extracurricular activities and athletics. They distinguished themselves and Park Hill on the local, state and national levels. Our class of 2018 has a 22.3 ACT composite score that ranks as the highest composite score in the Kansas City, Missouri, area and tops the state composite score of 20.4 and the national composite score of 21.0. Several of our teachers, support staff members and administrators received recognition for their service to students.

All of these stories and more can be found on our district website.

Your support for our schools helps make all of this possible, and I want you to know that we value your important role. On behalf of everyone in our classrooms and buildings, thank you!

Sincerely,
Jeanette Cowherd
Superintendent

DEMOGRAPHICS AND ENROLLMENT
Each spring we publish a demographic profile to track our enrollment trends. This year’s data supports our long-range facility plans and will influence our budgets and attendance boundaries. Our K-12 official enrollment is 11,458, which is the largest enrollment in district history and represents the 34th consecutive year of enrollment growth. We expect enrollment in Park Hill to increase for the next decade.

NEW STRATEGIC PLAN
The Board approved our 2018-2023 strategic plan, known as the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan, which included input from administrators, staff members, parents and community members. The CSIP details goals and objectives to direct our improvement efforts. The committee added a life readiness goal and a goal centered on access and opportunity for all students. These two goals will be supported by our Keys to Excellence: finances, academics, climate and employees.

SAFETY
Safety is our top priority, so we’re planning safety improvements:

1. The Board appointed Chad Phillips to our new director of safety and security position. He will conduct safety assessments, plan for crisis interventions and evaluate our safety programs.
2. We plan to lock the front door and add audio-video security at all our schools by the early fall.
3. We are renovating our high school entrances this summer to include secure visitor entry areas.
4. An expert forensic psychologist will show us how to investigate and evaluate possible threats in order to prevent school violence.

BUDGET AND CONSTRUCTION UPDATES
The LEAD Innovation Studio was even more popular than expected, and in order to accommodate all the students who want to attend, we will need a larger building than we originally planned. We will fund the extra cost for that building using our existing bond authorization, without having to ask voters for anything more.
ROBOTICS AWARD
Brian Francis, junior at Park Hill South High School, received 2018 Dean’s List Finalist honors at the Colorado Regional FIRST Robotics Competition. Both robotics teams from Park Hill and Park Hill South high schools placed on the regional level, and Park Hill South received the Team Spirit Award.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE AWARD
Abigail Bidwell, Park Hill High School junior, won a state event at the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America competition. Bidwell earned first place at the FCCLA State Leadership Conference in the Focus on Children event in the area of child development.

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. It is a three-week academic residential program for 330 of Missouri’s gifted students. Jonah Boyd, Philippe Realina and Frances Swayne attend PHHS, and Samuel Andersen, Cole Bracken and Ian Flowers attend Park Hill South.

LITERACY AWARDS
Sarah Mead, first-grade teacher at Graden Elementary, received the Rotary District 6040 Literacy Teacher of the Year Award. The Parkville Rotary Club nominated Mrs. Mead for the honor.

SKILLSUSA
High school students earned honors at the state SkillsUSA competition for career and technical skills. Jessica Flanagan and Trisha Tanner from PHHS and Sydney Schmoe from Park Hill South were state champions. Aaron Schank from PHHS was a 2018-2019 SkillsUSA state officer.

COUNSELING AWARDS
Bianca Mayfield-Miller, counselor at Hawthorn Elementary, received the Elementary School Counselor of the Year award. Dr. Stephanie Amaya, director of professional studies, received the Director of School Counseling of the Year award. Traci Dorrell, counselor at Park Hill South High School, received the Secondary School Counselor of the Year award.

HEALTH CARE AWARDS
Eleven Park Hill South High School students participated in the Health Occupations Students of America State Leadership Conference, and five qualified for the international competition in Dallas this summer. HOSA helps students prepare for careers in the health care industry.

Visit our website at www.parkhill.k12.mo.us for more information on these and other success stories.
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!

Hawthorn Elementary fourth-grade students Dominic Cadiz, Makenna Kincheloe and Beau Blomme (left to right) worked together to solve a problem during a mathletics competition with students from Renner and Tiffany Ridge elementary schools.