

PARKWAY today

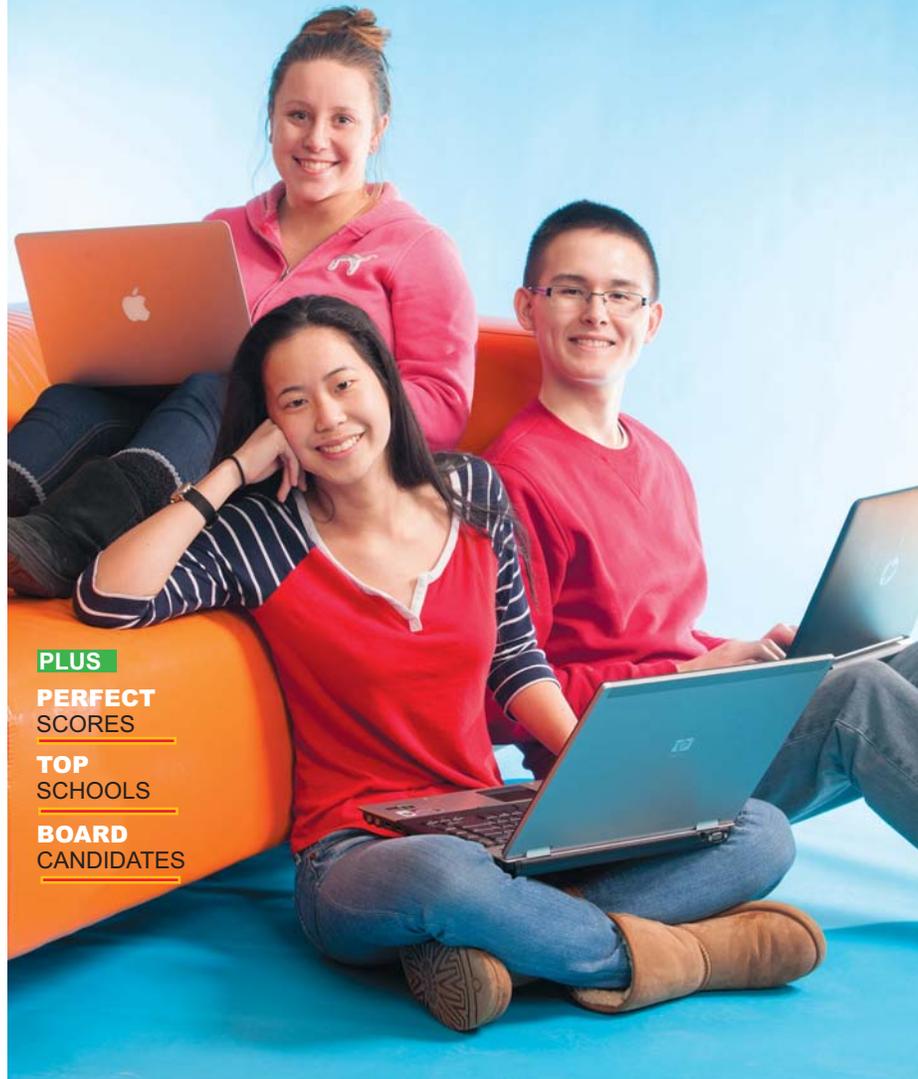
News and information for residents of Parkway School District

Spring 2015

Accredited with Distinction

WELCOME TO VIRTUAL LEARNING

NEW ONLINE CLASSES ALLOW STUDENTS TO LEARN ANYTIME, ANYWHERE.



PLUS

**PERFECT
SCORES**

**TOP
SCHOOLS**

**BOARD
CANDIDATES**

From left, Kailey Brown and Mischa Perez, North High; Shane Blair, South High

Welcome to Virtual Learning

Parkway is the first and only St. Louis area school district to offer online learning in its curriculum.



► From left, Shane Blair, South High; Mischa Perez and Kailey Brown, North High

“It feels like an individual class just for me,” says Kailey Brown, North High.

Next fall, Parkway will begin offering online courses to high school students. It is the first and only St. Louis area school district to include online learning in its curriculum.

“If students have hectic schedules and can’t take a traditional class to fulfill a requirement, they will be able to do it online and study anytime, anywhere,” says Tom Swoboda, Parkway technology coordinator. Swoboda was instrumental in helping develop the online virtual learning environment for students.

Kailey Brown, a North High junior, jumped at the chance to sign up for Sociology, one of six online courses offered next fall. “It feels like an individual class just for me,” says Kailey, “because I can work at my own pace and on my own time. Once I am finished with one assignment, I will move on to the next one.”

Demand Grows

Besides Sociology, Parkway’s online classes will include Health Education, AP Statistics, AP Art History, Personal Finance and Virtual Foundations of Video Game Design.

In the first week of registration last fall, all six courses were filled. With that kind of demand, Swoboda would love to offer more online classes in the future. Parents have already started to request more online classes for their children. Mark Harter, a west area parent, eventually hopes to see online summer classes so students can stay “plugged in” to school all year.

But Swoboda says online classes take considerable time to develop. “We want to make sure we have the resources and time to evaluate the first six online classes before introducing more.”

For students and teachers alike, the preparation time for online classes is similar to traditional classes.

Recipe for Success

In fact, virtual learning embodies the same recipe for success as traditional learning. Swoboda says students need the following characteristics to succeed:

- Self-motivation;

- Self-discipline (to set aside time to read and complete assignments and meet deadlines from teachers); and

- Writing skills (since writing is the primary form of communication between students and teachers).

‘Mimicking College’

Shane Blair, a South High junior considering a career in medicine, is one such highly disciplined student. He signed up for AP Statistics next fall so he could better prepare himself for online college classes. “Many of my friends take online classes at college, and I want the online experience too,” he says. “I am not sure what to expect, but I am really excited.”

Mischa Perez, a North High junior, believes her online class in AP Statistics will mimic a college classroom. “I will be in charge of my own learning,” she says.

As more of the world goes online, virtual learning aligns with Parkway’s overall mission of “ensuring our learners understand and respond to the challenges of an ever-changing world,” says Keith Marty, Parkway superintendent.

“I am very proud that as we enter the world of virtual learning, we do so with Parkway curriculum being taught by Parkway teachers,” adds Marty. “This is quite different from many other institutions who contract with external companies to provide online instruction. Too often the curriculum does not match the rigor and relevance of the Parkway curriculum.”

“Online classes enhance and supplement the traditional learning environment,” adds Swoboda. “In no way will online classes take away from the foundation and importance of traditional Parkway schools.”

—By Thomas Swoboda

superintendent's corner

Our Exciting New Venture in Virtual Learning

Dear Parkway Community:

I first want to thank you for your tremendous support of our November bond issue.

You will see the first of our four summers' worth (2015-2018) of school updates and improvements initiated in the summer of 2015. We have short windows each summer to complete major projects so as not to interrupt the school year and student learning. Each project is carefully planned to make the most effective use of the approximately 70 days we have to complete work on time.

Our cover story in this issue is an exciting, new venture for our school district. I am very proud that as we enter the world of virtual learning we do so with Parkway curriculum being taught by Parkway teachers. This is quite different from many



**Superintendent
Keith Marty**

other institutions who contract with external companies to provide online instruction. Too often the curriculum does not match the rigor and relevance of the Parkway curriculum. And these companies often come and go so fast there is no guarantee that we can sustain a relationship. Our virtual courses will be of high quality, and our teachers will ensure there is accountability by our students.

As we've had the opportunity to relate more with our business community through experiential and virtual educational planning, we realize how vital it is that our students have learning opportunities that will be a regular part of their life and learning as they move into their careers and work years. Our schools must reflect these changes, or our schools could be in danger of extinction or becoming museums of the past. This is a tall task for public education, but I am proud of the board of education and our educators for answering the challenges of the future. We can hang onto many Parkway traditions, but technology and an ever-changing world are causing us to respond. Remember, we have a mission statement that concludes with ensuring that our learners "understand and respond to the

"Our virtual courses will be of high quality, and our teachers will ensure there is accountability by our students."

challenges of an ever-changing world." We must provide the opportunities and foundation for the future.

The 2014-15 school year has been another successful year for the Parkway community. Thank you for your support, encouragement and engagement.

Sincerely,

**Keith A. Marty, Ed.D.
Superintendent**

Parkway High Schools Named 'America's Best'

For the second year in a row, Parkway high schools rank among "America's Top High Schools."

All four traditional Parkway high schools – Central, North, South and West—made *The Daily Beast* 2014 list of "America's Top High Schools." All four also ranked among the top 15 high schools in

Missouri. Look for big bold banners in our high schools recognizing Parkway's ranking, photo right.

The Daily Beast's annual list highlights public high schools across the country that do the best job of providing college-ready graduates.

South High and West High were also named among the country's best high schools last spring by *U.S. News & World Report*, and North High, South High and West High ranked as "America's Most Challenging High Schools" by *The Washington Post*.

► For the second year in a row, four Parkway high schools make *The Daily Beast's* list of America's Top High Schools. Right, look for banners in our high schools recognizing Parkway's ranking.





► Serenity Price, Ross Elementary School

Thank You, Parkway Voters!

Thank you, Parkway voters, for passing Proposition S, a \$94 million bond issue for school improvements, last November. Roughly 62 percent of Parkway voters supported the bond issue. Thanks also go to the thousands of Parkway supporters who worked toward the successful passage of Prop S. Among other things, the funds generated will allow schools to have increased security and safety measures. More than 1,700 classroom doors will be outfitted with inside locks in the event of an intruder. Prop S will also allow our schools to add safety film to designated school entrances and classroom door windows to delay an intruder.

Our community identified the major areas to be addressed by Prop S. They include:

- Maintenance, Repairs and Renovations of Aging Buildings
- Safety & Security
- Technology Upgrades
- Middle School Science Labs

The bond issue projects will begin in the summer of 2015 and finish in the summer of 2018. For more information, including a detailed breakdown of projects for each school, go to <http://pkwy.info/bond14>.



SCAN THIS NOW

Follow the Progress of Prop S
To view project lists for each school, scan
the code or visit
<http://pkwy.info/bond14>.

McKelvey Elementary and West Middle Named Gold Star Schools

Two Parkway schools are among only eight across the state to be named 2015 Missouri Gold Star Schools. Congratulations to McKelvey Elementary and West Middle schools.



The Gold Star Schools program is designed to identify schools performing at a high academic level or who are performing at a high level while serving a significant proportion of disadvantaged students. The honor is from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Both schools will now be considered for the Blue Ribbon Award from the U.S. Department of Education.

Parkway Schools have previously earned 15 Blue Ribbon Awards and 18 Gold Star Awards.



► Morgan Hart, McKelvey Elementary



► Gregory Birkhead, Jr., left, with
Lauren Kortas, West Middle

▼ Blake and Leah Stanley, Southwest Middle Veterans Day



What West High Students Learned From The Heroes Among Us

As Josh Eckhoff finished telling West High students about his recovery from massive head injuries sustained in Iraq, the entire auditorium erupted in shouts of “Josh, Josh, Josh.”

The occasion was a homecoming pep rally. Josh, 30, had walked haltingly to the stage with the aid of his cane, his head scars visible where he had lost 75 percent of his right brain hemisphere.

The students had played a big part in Josh’s recovery, raising more than \$10,000 for the wounded vet. Josh, you see, is one of their own, a 2003 South High graduate who had developed a love of adventure and writing from teachers Liz Morrison and Mike Hopkins, respectively.

“The students wanted to donate to a local hero,” says Brian Kessler, West High activities director. “They decided to raise funds for Josh through the Joshua Chamberlain Society because the society helps local heroes and adopts a person for life, not just temporarily.”

West High students have a penchant for helping others. Besides Josh, they recently

raised more than \$30,000 to help their beloved custodian, Ollie Caruthers, deal with his wife’s recent onset of blindness and his own cancer.

West High junior Emily Wind spearheaded the fund raising campaign for Ollie, 72, who has worked at West High for 16 years.

“She was so passionate about helping Ollie that I wanted to help, too,” says Emily’s good friend, Shannon Anderson. The feeling was contagious among other students and teachers.

“I always knew the students liked me,” Ollie told media and television stations who covered the story last November. “But now I know the students love me.”

“It is a great honor to work with the West High student community and the entire Longhorn universe,” says West High Principal Jeremy Mitchell.

In fact, West High encouraged other Parkway schools to adopt the Joshua Chamberlain society, and thereby Josh Eckhoff. “Each school does different fund-raising, but all proceeds



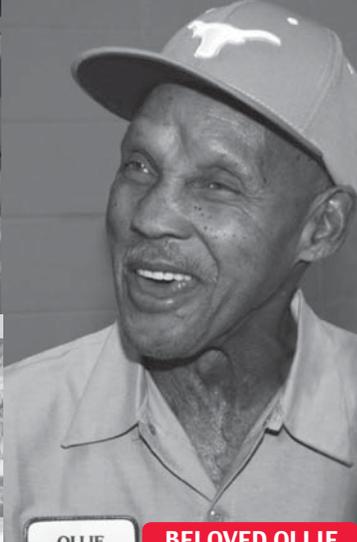
JOSH ECKHOFF



JOSH & LIZ MORRISON



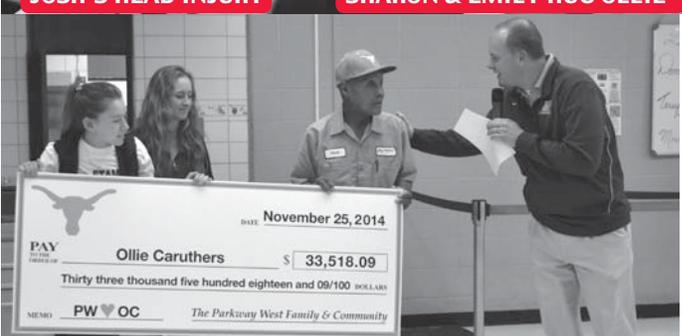
JOSH'S HEAD INJURY



OLLIE



SHARON & EMILY HUG OLLIE



OLLIE'S CHECK

PRINCIPAL MITCHELL

benefit the Joshua Chamberlain society,” says Annie Wayland, West High social studies teacher. “We even have a district shirt that unites us in our efforts.”

Working as a team, all represent Parkway’s emphasis on character education.

As for Josh Eckhoff, he represents what may be the quintessential Parkway student—a person of character and courage who overcomes all challenges to succeed. He

can’t drive, has limited range of motion on his left side, and would like to improve his speech and cognition.

But these challenges haven’t stopped him from pursuing a liberal arts degree at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

“It was great to be back in Parkway,” he says. “It felt like a real homecoming.”

Look for more stories on character education in the future.



Game On!

► The new Community Education partnership between Parkway and Rockwood offers significantly more recreational sports programs for Parkway students.

The new Community Education partnership between Parkway and Rockwood offers significantly more opportunities for Parkway residents of all ages to stay active, engaged and involved in learning. Walk into a Parkway elementary school on a weeknight during the fall and winter, and you will likely see girls at play – basketball play, that is. The new Parkway-Rockwood Community Education partnership offers more recreational sports programs for all elementary and middle school students living in the district. Basketball is just one of the new offerings. Other future programs will include boys flag football (grades K-8) and girls volleyball (grades 3-8).

The partnership builds upon both districts’ existing advantages to offer a broader scope of programs and services. “Rockwood had a significant focus on youth programs, says Mike Seppi, director of community education, “and Parkway had a significant adult enrichment component.” The combined partnership between Parkway and Rockwood has been recognized locally and nationally (see sidebar, right).

Meanwhile, look for some exciting changes coming to the Golden Key Card program this fall. Currently, the Parkway Golden Key Card is free to district residents age 60 and older and provides free-or-reduced admission to a variety of school-sponsored and Community Education activities. Beginning this fall, Golden Key Card members will now receive an unlimited number of 50 percent discounts off all qualifying Community Education classes. In addition, Golden Key Card members will now be able to register online any time day or night through the Community Education online registration system. Adult enrichment classes include fitness, finance, cooking, art and more! To request a Golden Key Card, call (636) 891-6643 or visit www.parkwayschools.net.

Community Education Programs

-  *Adult Education & Literacy*

-  *Aquatics*

-  *Babler Outdoor Education Center*

-  *Enrichment*

-  *School-Age Care*

-  *Sports*

-  *Visual & Performing Arts*



Community Education wins regional and international awards



The Parkway-Rockwood Community Education partnership, launched this past July, has recently been recognized at the local and national level for innovation.

Each year the East-West Gateway Council of Governments honors local jurisdictions, public officials and projects that make special contributions to their community and region. Parkway and Rockwood received a 2014 Outstanding Local Government Achievement Award for Exemplary Intergovernmental Collaboration.

“The work of these two school districts underscores the importance of collaborative public efforts across jurisdictions that pool resources and streamline services while delivering quality opportunities for the public they serve,” said East-West Gateway Executive Director Edward Hillhouse.

Parkway and Rockwood have also received the Learning Resources Network (LERN) International Award for Innovative Practice in Business and Industry.

“Parkway and Rockwood formed a single identity to deliver programming more effectively to a more diverse audience,” said Julie Coates, Vice President for LERN Core Services. “These two districts exemplify the innovative approaches to partnering that will be increasingly required for programs to remain strong and successful.”

“It’s a win-win for the residents of both districts and is a great example of what can be achieved when school districts proactively work together,” said Director of Community Education Michael Seppi.

class acts

Parkway students earn perfect ACT and SAT scores, and writing, science and music awards.



► **“She is now officially the smartest person in Missouri,” wrote one Parkway Facebook fan, upon learning that Abby Lammers, North High, above, earned perfect scores on both the ACT and SAT exams.**

P

erfect ACT & SAT Score

“She is now officially the smartest person in Missouri,” wrote one Parkway Facebook fan, upon learning that Abby Lammers, North High, earned a perfect score on both the ACT and SAT college entrance exams. In January, Lammers’ double perfect score is a rare feat that only a

few students across the nation accomplish each year. Lammers, who will attend Northwestern University in the fall, has been featured several times in *Parkway Today*. Active in environmental issues since middle school, last year she served as team leader of North High’s Lexus Eco Team. She and her team won first place and a \$15,000

award in the Lexus Eco Challenge, a national contest that encourages middle and high school students to develop and implement environmental programs that positively impact their communities.

Her team’s project focused on reducing landfill waste through composting.

Lexus Eco Challenge Winners

This year, Abby again leads two more winning teams, each awarded \$10,000 in the current Lexus Eco Challenge.

“**Make It Greener,**” a six-student team from North High, took on a plan to reduce greenhouse gas and volatile organic compound, both of which add to air pollution and global climate change.

The team includes **Abby; Andy Zhang; Aerin Lammers, Abby’s younger sister; Yan Zhang; Aditya Gokhale; and Maxim Levin.**

The other North High winning team, “**The Pollinator Project,**” focused on the issue that causes bees to abandon a colony overnight. The team includes **Abby; Andy Zhang; Alec Wood; Alex Galindo; Bryheem Mims; Claire Maher; Douglas Fritz; Ellen Wang; Jillian Day; and Justin Camie.**

Both teams are among 16 nationally to win a preliminary round in the Lexus Eco Challenge. Each now has a chance to win \$30,000. **Russ Barton** is the teacher adviser for both teams.

Writing Excellence

More than 20 Central High students, under the direction of teachers **Jason Lovera** and **Nora Biggs**, have won awards in the Missouri Scholastic Writing Competition. **Julie Nguyen, Amudha Porchezian** and **Maddy Scannell** won Gold Key awards for personal essays. **Batool Anwar, Luisa Gil Diaz, Jennifer Heiman, Terence Huang, Emily Kang, Allyson Segall** and **Hui Wang** won Silver Key awards.

The following Central High students received “Honorable Mention” for other literary pieces: **Michelle Bennett, Rachel Berwald, Braiden Blatt, Ruby Brattain, Myra Dotzel, Jessie Goldberg, Jacqueline Ihnat, James Kim, Anna Kleydman, Bianca McKenna, Apoorva Puranik** and **Amudha Porchezian.**

In the same competition, **Angelica Garcia**, South High, received “Honorable Mention” for flash fiction.

Yearbook Victory

Congratulations to **Debra Klevens**, West High Yearbook Adviser, and her PAWESHI yearbook staff. West High’s PAWESHI yearbook has been named a 2014 National Scholastic Press Association Yearbook Pacemaker Finalist. “I couldn’t be prouder of my students,” says Klevens. To me, the Pacemaker is the highest honor.”



► **Editor Mag-gie Walkoff**



One for the Guinness World Record

South High students broke the Guinness World Record for the longest consecutive line of toothpaste tubes (collecting 1,800) while also helping the local Circle of Concern food pantry. After touring the nonprofit's facility, students wanted to create awareness about the shortage of personal care items at food pantries, specifically toothpaste since it can not be purchased using government assistance funds. They donated the tubes to Circle of Concern.

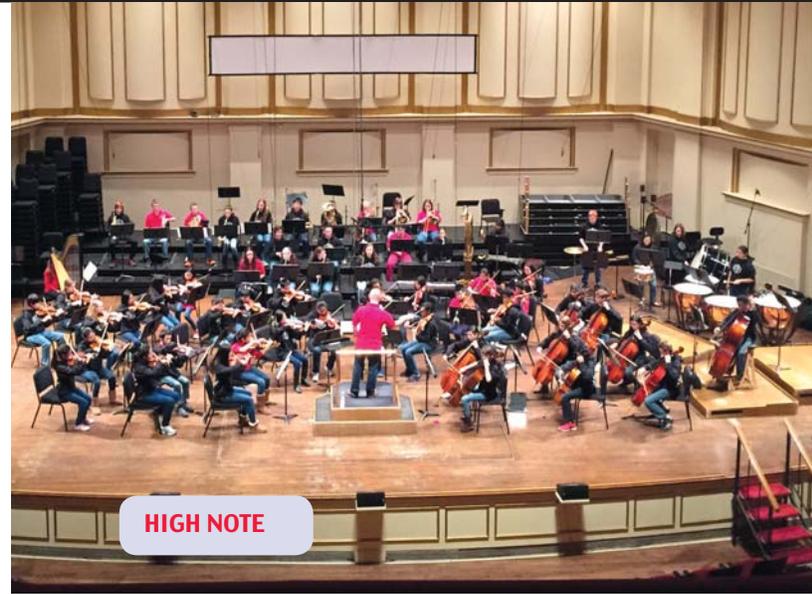


Building Character

Over a two-week period, West High social studies students collected more than 4,800 food items and \$1,400 for Circle of Concern Food Pantry, which assists low-income West County families.

German Highlight

Karis Chapman, South High, was one of 12 students from across the country selected to participate in a young scientists program sponsored by the German government. As



HIGH NOTE

► Central Middle's Honors Orchestra performed onstage at Powell Symphony Hall in January and was featured at the Missouri Music Educators Association All-State Music Conference. Central Middle's orchestra director is Joe Bradley, and the band director is Paul Holzen.

part of the program, Karis recently traveled on an all-expense paid trip to Germany to explore scientific research institutions. Upon returning, Karis recounted her travel story (in German) to her fellow German students in Leslie Peterson's class.

Awards

Music Educator of the Year

Doug Hoover, Central High, has been named Music Educator of the Year for the 2014-15 school year. Hoover, who has taught for more than 30 years, received the honor from the St. Louis Suburban Music Educators Association.



Art Educator of the Year

Winifred Crock, Central High orchestra director, has been honored as the 2015 Art Educator of the Year by the Arts and Education Council.



Science and Mathematics Innovator

Cliff Amen, West High, is one of 10 Missouri educators recently named a STEM Educator Innovator Award winner. The award from the Missouri Mathematics and Science Coalition recognizes innovation in the classroom.



Distinguished Principal

Kelli Moreton, Barretts Elementary School principal, has been selected as the 2014-15 Missouri Distinguished Principal by the Missouri Association of Elementary School Principals (MAESP).



More Class Acts on page 11

Nurse Makes Great Save



► Annette Polzin

Green Trails Nurse Annette Polzin and Counselor Nancy Winkler helped save a female student's life recently. The student had a severe stomach ache and hives, a condition often brought on by test anxiety. But when the student complained that her lips and throat also felt scratchy, Annette asked her what she had to eat. The student admitted to sharing a friend's pistachios. Annette immediately went for the Epi Pen and injected the student while Nancy kept her calm, and Annette called 911. Later, at the hospital, the student began

to show signs of shock. She was put on an IV and kept until the evening. The doctor said Annette saved her life. Before the episode, the student and her parents never even knew she had a nut allergy.

Board highlights

Meet the School Board Candidates

Two director positions on the Parkway Board of Education are open in the April 7, 2015, election. Three candidates have filed for the two positions. Below are the photos and biographies as submitted by each candidate.



Beth Feldman

In my nearly seven years serving on the Parkway board (the last three as president), we have accomplished the following for students:

- Passed Prop S, a \$94M bond issue
 - Implemented full-day Kindergarten at no cost to families
 - Lengthened elementary day by 20 minutes (+ two weeks of instruction time)
 - Instituted Algebra I Initiative strengthening math skills
 - Offered free ACT examination for juniors
 - Established Professional Learning Communities
 - Opened state-of-the-art high school science labs
 - Instituted double-block English Language Arts and daily PE requirements for middle schools
 - Launched district-wide rollout of Google Apps for Education
 - Launched community education partnership with Rockwood
 - Introduced *Infinite Campus* student information portal
 - Negotiated teacher and support contracts
 - Lead long-term energy conservation effort (purchased 30 compressed natural gas busses, built filling station, coordinated installation of solar panels on the district's 31 buildings)
 - Established boundary line changes
- I look forward to being a part of:
- Seeing results of 2014 bond improvements
 - New elementary grade cards
 - Math and World Language program evaluations
 - New sports marketing program
 - Expansion of Adventure Club to all 18 elementary schools
 - Expansion of Spark! Program strands
 - Being a voice for Parkway students with Missouri legislators
 - Building district's reserves
 - Increasing minority staff recruiting
 - Development of Project Parkway 2.0

Continuity in leadership is one of the most important factors in education.



Sudhir Rathod

'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world', - Nelson Mandela. Though I currently reside in St. Louis County, I was born and raised in a Christian family in India. Coming from a poor family of farm workers where Dad dropped out at 5th and mom at 3rd grade, I had real-life examples constantly reminding me of how limited life could be without education. In order to fulfill mine and

my parent's dream, I studied hard under the streetlights for who I am today and ultimately earned my BA and MBA degrees. Today, I am a proud parent of a Parkway North junior and as a board member, I will use my life-taught lessons, to ensure my son and all Parkway students are provided with the highest quality education. My goal of providing our kids with nothing but the best educational opportunities is the reason why I want to be a board member. I am very passionate about my life and faith. I am dedicated to being active in my community and have been on JM Family's Philanthropy Committee where I actively organize and participate in activities such as Food Bank, Heart-Walk, Boys Hope Girls Hope etc.

By profession, I am a Business Intelligence Analyst having worked with Berkshire Hathaway, Nestle, Caterpillar and JM Family.

I would appreciate the opportunity to use my years of experience, hard earned education and life experiences to represent the citizens of our school district to make the best out of our tax dollars and lead Parkway further on the road of excellence.

Kim Appelbaum is a graduate of Lindenwood University and received her BA in Psychology. Over the last 20 years, she has worked in Talent Acquisition for some of St. Louis's most admired companies.

Kim grew up in St. Louis, she and her husband Paul, have been married for nineteen years. They have two sons, Matt and Nicholas, who both attend Parkway West High. Kim has served in the Parkway School District as PTO Secretary, Room Party Planner, Spirit Wear Chair, Cub Scout Den Leader, Boy Scout Treasurer and most recently with the West High Band Boosters. She has also volunteered many hours in our community with Junior Achievement.

Kim has enjoyed serving as a board member since she was elected in 2012 and believes her first term was a profound and positive learning experience! She has acquired a new appreciation for the work and dedication it takes to operate a large school district that keeps students their top priority. Making an exceptional education experience available to all students, is an important goal and requires creative ideas. Our students are the future...As a parent, I'm thankful that Parkway encourages innovative thinking by developing curious, capable, and confident learners.



Kim Appelbaum

Parkway Alumni Hall of Fame

The Parkway Alumni Association recently inducted 21 outstanding graduates into the sixth Alumni Hall of Fame Class. These graduates have made significant contributions to the arts, medicine, entertainment, humanities and business. Many credit their success to a special teacher or administrator who motivated them to do more. To read a full profile of each, visit www.ParkwayAlumni.org.



Dean Anthony
Opera Singer
North '82



Ken Aston
Real Estate
North '77



Randy Biggerstaff
Athletic Trainer
Central '69



Donna (Clawson) Deeds
Educator/Business
West '77



James Fiala
Chef & Entrepreneur
West '83



Ahmed Ghouri
Physician
South '84



William Goldman
Professor
West '73



Tracy Elsperman Hart
Construction President
West '80



Rob Hendin
TV Producer
North '95



H. Carl Hofer
Professor
West '82



Mary Koboldt
Athlete and Coach
North '82



Jeffrey Levy
M.D. & Entrepreneur
North '76



CMSgt John Lysaght
Squad Superintendent
South '87



Terri McLain
Hospital President
West '71



Timothy Riley
Music Marketing
North '85



Jill (Seltzer) Schupp
State Representative
North '73



Manish Shah
Physician
North '88



Jason and Randy Sklar
Comedians
North '90



Thomas Smith
Athletic Director
West '75



Liane (Holliday) Willey
Author/Educator
North '77

Parkway Receives AAA Financial Rating

Standard and Poor's Rating Services recently reviewed Parkway's finances and reaffirmed our AAA rating, the highest available for school districts. Parkway is one of only four school districts in the state of Missouri to receive the AAA rating.

The ratings reflect the following:

- Participation in the broad and diverse St. Louis regional economy;
- Very strong income and extremely strong market value;
- Strong financial position, supported with strong reserves; and
- Low debt levels.

Learn More about Parkway Alumni

To learn more about the Parkway Alumni Association's programs, visit www.ParkwayAlumni.org. You can also register for events or update your information if you are a graduate.

Upcoming events:

- April 18 - Parkway Trivia Night
- May 5 - Teacher Appreciation and GiveSTLDay.org. All donations on this day benefit the "Educators Make a Difference" Fund.
- June 19 - Parkway Golf Tournament
- Sept. 27 - Parkway Day at the Cardinals Game
- Nov. 7 - 8 - Craft Fair, Parkway North High

Fourteen Parkway Teachers Achieve National Board Status

Fourteen Parkway teachers recently received National Board Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). They join an elite group of 35 in Parkway to achieve the certification.

National Board Certified Teachers are highly accomplished educators who meet rigorous standards. Like board-certified doctors and accountants, teachers who achieve National Board Certification have done so through intensive study, expert evaluation, self-assessment and peer review.

Congratulations to the following fourteen teachers who have just been National Board Certified.

- **Laura Schisler**, Barretts
- **Melissa Hoormann**, Central High
- **Jennifer Meyer**, Central High
- **Teresia L. O'Leary**, Central High
- **Stacey Hoffman**, Central Middle
- **Nancy Suiter**, Central Middle
- **Amanda Kelly**, Pierremont
- **Mollie Leyton Glazer**, Pierremont
- **Susan Marie Scott**, South High
- **Joel Rademeyer**, South Middle
- **Andria Benmuvhar**, West High
- **Cecilia C. Ryon**, West Middle
- **Laura Heitert**, Wren Hollow
- **Christy Prudence**, Wren Hollow

'This Is Parkway 2015' Digital Magazine Is Now Online

'This is Parkway' Digital Magazine

Check out the new edition of Parkway's interactive digital magazine, "This Is Parkway 2015!" This multimedia communication spotlights student and staff accomplishments and provides up-to-date stats and other data about the district. The magazine includes videos and quick links for important resources. Go to: www.thisisparkway.com. Hard copies are available at all Parkway buildings, or call (314) 415-8100.



▶ **Sean Carter, Cydni Goodlett and Marissa Roman, North High, are in Suzanne Greenwalt's German class.**

This is Parkway... *at a glance*

▶ **"Accredited with Distinction"** by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)

▶ Recognized for **"Distinction in Performance"** by DESE for 15 consecutive years

▶ 15 U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Awards

▶ **ENROLLMENT**
Enrollment: 17,100
18 elementary schools
Five middle schools
Four high schools
One non-traditional high school
One early childhood center

▶ **FINANCES**
2014 Residential Tax Rate: \$4.2789 per \$100 of assessed value

▶ **EMPLOYEES**
Teacher Salaries:
\$63,951 (Parkway Average)
\$46,756 (Missouri Average)

▶ Percentage of certified staff with master's degree or above:
Parkway: 81.2%
Missouri: 58.9%

ACHIEVEMENT

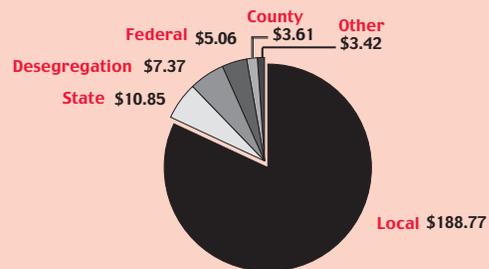
▶ National Merit Scholars = 36

▶ **ACT Composite Test Score**
Parkway: 23.1
Missouri: 21.8
USA: 21

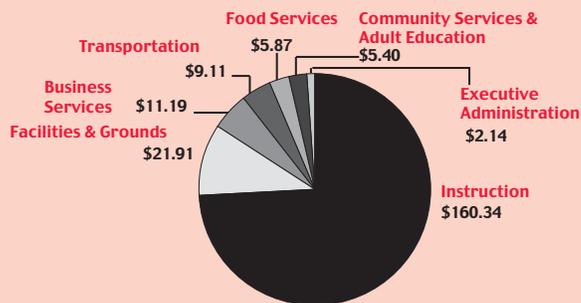
▶ Parkway gives the ACT to all juniors at no charge.

▶ **SAT Combined Test Score**
Parkway: 1916
Missouri: 1771
USA: 1497

2014-15 Operating Revenue: \$219.08 million



2014-15 Operating Expenditures: \$215.96 million



class acts



► Sara Berwald, Central High, center, lands the role of Clara in the *Nutcracker*.

Sara Berwald, a Central High sophomore, was chosen to be Clara in the Saint Louis Ballet's production of the *Nutcracker* at the Touhill Performing Arts Center in December.

Her Parkway teachers were there to cheer her on. "My Spanish teacher, Mrs. Williamson, came to see *Nutcracker* with her daughter," says Sara. "I was also honored that Mrs. Gross, my elementary school orchestra teacher, and Mrs. Firestone, also from Green Trails, came to watch this year."

The most challenging part of the role for Sara was learning how to act. She has been dancing for nine years and loves the freedom it gives her. "I get a feeling of freedom when I am dancing. It is also a stress reliever for me. No matter how busy or hard my day is, I know I can always look forward to my dance class. I was very clumsy when I was younger, and my parents thought ballet would help my balance."

So Sara began dancing and fell in love with it. But acting, that was out of her comfort zone. Sara met the challenge—with the help of her Parkway teachers. "Over the years, I have had many supportive teachers, who have shown an interest in my dancing and my participation in *Nutcracker*. There have been times when I have had to miss school for a performance, and my teachers have always allowed me to make up the work."

With that kind of encouragement, Sara plans to attend a four-year college after high school and major in art and dance.

"I was very clumsy when I was younger, and my parents thought ballet would help my balance," says Sara Berwald.

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Calendar

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May 21
Last day of school

June 1
Summer school begins

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