

# PARKWAY

# today

News and information for residents of Parkway School District

Fall 2011

## Accredited with Distinction



## A Year of **FIRSTS**

- New Superintendent
- New Tuition-Free, Full-Day Kindergarten
- New Mission, Vision and Strategic Plan

**PLUS** Changes to Attendance Boundaries

Superintendent Keith Marty with Sorrento Springs kindergartners

# Parkway's New Mission:

**"To ensure all students are capable, curious and confident learners who understand and respond to the challenges of an ever-changing world."**



**P**arkway School District has enjoyed a reputation of excellence for 55 years. So why did 400 volunteers involved in Parkway's strategic planning process called Project Parkway develop a new mission statement? The new mission statement sets the standards even higher for Parkway.

Because they realized our world is becoming more complex every day, and that in order to be successful, a school district must meet the educational needs of all students.

That meant reexamining how Parkway delivers education.

- It meant focusing on student-centered learning.
- It meant deciding first what students need to succeed in an ever-changing world, and then designing curriculum around that end goal.
- Ultimately, it meant developing a new mission to guide every aspect of Parkway's curriculum and learning goals, which appear below.

Parkway's mission is to ensure all students are capable, curious and confident learners who understand and respond to the challenges of an ever-changing world.

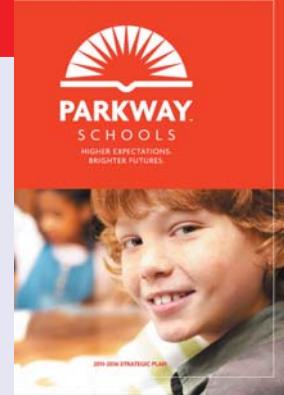
This mission is more than just words on a piece of paper. To see it alive in Parkway classrooms, go to "mission possible" profiles on pages 5 and 11. You can also visit the Parkway website, [www.parkwayschools.net](http://www.parkwayschools.net).

◀ AS PART OF ITS MISSION, PARKWAY GIVES THE ACT COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAM TO ALL JUNIORS. SIDNEY MONACHELLO, SOUTH HIGH, TOOK THE EXAM AND SCORED 25. NOW SHE WILL ATTEND A FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE. SEE STORY, PAGE 5.

## PARKWAY LEARNING GOALS

- 1 All students are capable learners who transfer their prior learning to new demands, in and out of school.
- 2 All students are curious learners who understand and respond to the challenges of an ever-changing world.
- 3 All students are confident learners who are increasingly self-directed, skilled and persistent as learners.
- 4 Ensure professional learning opportunities are available to all staff members paving the way for more effective classroom instruction.

- 5 Hire, retain and invest in an exceptional staff that represents the unique diversity within the district.
- 6 We will be accountable for responsibly and efficiently using all district resources.



**MORE** of Parkway's strategic plan is online. Visit [www.parkwayschools.net/csip](http://www.parkwayschools.net/csip).

# superintendent's corner

## Shooting Stars

Dear Parkway Community:

I recently had the pleasure of posing with two Sorrento Springs kindergartners for the cover of this publication.

I hadn't met the students, Jamorah Triplett and Joshua Van Deman, before, and I was struck by their confidence and curiosity. They walked right up to me and immediately introduced me to their puppets. They asked me questions. They shared their day's lesson from their highly respected teacher Catherine Pecher. Throughout the photo shoot, they stood right by me, smiling for the photographer.

After the photo shoot, I thanked their teacher, and I wrote thank-you notes to their parents for allowing them to be photographed. That's how impressed I was with them.



**Superintendent  
Keith Marty**

Even at their young ages, my photographic pals or "shooting stars," as I like to call them, demonstrated the learning and character traits we want to see in our students—the confidence, capability and curiosity stressed in Parkway's new mission (see story on pages 1, 5 and 11).

As a school district, our mission is to build on these traits and to ensure our students can apply them to an ever-changing world when they graduate.

Please hold all of us at Parkway to this higher standard. We want and expect brighter futures for all our students.

I would like to repeat my thanks to the Project Parkway strategic planning committee for developing our new mission and vision.

Elsewhere in this edition, you will find the latest information on boundary changes in the north area and adjusted school schedules. I know these have been challenging issues for all of us. Please allow me to thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we continue to work together as a community to solve these issues.

"The kindergartners demonstrated the learning and character traits we want to see in our students — the confidence, capability and curiosity stressed in Parkway's new mission."

Most of you know by now that this is my first year as superintendent of Parkway. I continue to be impressed by the character of our community.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Keith Marty

## About the Cover

**S**uperintendent Keith Marty, right, appears with kindergarten students Jamorah Triplett and Joshua Van Deman at Sorrento Springs.

Teacher Catherine Pecher, far right, offered her classroom for the photo shoot. Highly respected in the district, Catherine suggested engaging Jamorah and Joshua with puppets for their first meeting with Dr. Marty. Both puppeteers hit it off instantly with the superintendent.

Special thanks to the parents of Jamorah and Joshua for allowing them to be photographed.

Parkway's free, full-day kindergarten became a welcome reality for families in Parkway this fall. Other firsts this year include new superintendent Keith Marty and a new Parkway mission and vision.



► **Superintendent Keith Marty with Joshua Van Deman and Jamorah Triplett.**



► **Catherine Pecher, kindergarten teacher at Sorrento Springs, offered her classroom and puppets for the photo.**



► **Bellerive Elementary students arrive at school.**

## Adjusted School Schedules

**S**tart and dismissal times for Parkway schools were adjusted by 5 to 10 minutes in October. Superintendent Keith Marty said the time changes were necessary because 35 percent of Parkway students were arriving late to school.

### ► Late Buses a Problem

The late bus issue was caused by previous schedule changes at the beginning of the year. After significant research by Project Parkway members showed middle schoolers do better socially and academically with later start times, the school board pushed back the middle school start times by about an hour and also lengthened the elementary school day by 20 minutes.

These initial time changes were a step in the right direction for students, but they put a substantial strain on Parkway's transportation system. "Our transportation department made a supreme effort to make the previous schedule work for students, but it simply did not," said Marty.

In community meetings about the tardiness problem, some residents had suggested adding more buses and drivers to make sure students arrived at school on time.

Parkway's transportation department currently operates on a three-tiered system, which means each bus transports students to and from three schools each morning and afternoon.

A bus driver generally needs 45 minutes to get from one school to the next.

With the previous schedule, some bus drivers were getting squeezed, trying to go from one school to the next in 30 to 40 minutes.

### ► Two-Tiered System Too Costly

To eliminate the squeeze, some residents suggested moving to a two-tiered system, which means drivers would only go to two schools in the morning and afternoon.

But this two-tiered approach would have required adding 50 more buses and drivers at an annual cost of \$3 to \$4 million.

Following is the time change for all schools, depending on the school's tier. All Parkway schools fit into one of three tiers. Go to [www.parkwayschools.net/schools/schoolHoursNew.cfm](http://www.parkwayschools.net/schools/schoolHoursNew.cfm) to view all individual school times.

### ► Time Changes

#### Tier I Schools

Moved from: 7:45 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.

Moved to: **7:35 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

#### Tier II Schools

Moved from: 8:15 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.

Moved to: **8:20 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.**

#### Tier III Schools

Moved from: 8:55 a.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Moved to: **9:05 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

## Parkway Strong in Number of National Merit Semifinalists

Fifty-one Parkway students were named National Merit Semifinalists or Commended in the 2011 National Merit program. Some 16,000 students, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, qualify as National Merit Semifinalists. These students now have the opportunity to continue in the program to further qualify for Merit Scholarship awards that will be offered next spring.

### ► National Merit Semifinalists

The students are:

*Central High:* Dylan J. Adams, Thomas L. Hack, Shawn Z. He, David Huang, Katherine S. Ihnat, Meagan A. McKinstry, Joshua H. Mo, Lee Remi, Carl A. Wallach, Dennis X. Zhu

*North High:* Manali P. Gokhale, Adrienne M. Hunt, Timothy R. Tai

*South High:* Dushyant Bhattacharjee, Stefanie T. Shahan, Connie X. Shen, Heather D. Wilson, Jeffrey Zhao

*West High:* Keerthi Bandi, Will S. Gant, Andrew D. Kuehnle, Kimberly L. Lister, Adam B. Manders, James Wang

### ► Commended Students

The commended students are:

*Central High:* Keith Coulson, Joseph Esstman, Madeleine Gibson, Bradley Lai, Althea Anne Perez, Mathew Rasmussen, Jacob Rosenstock, Carol Wallach, Diana Wang

*North High:* Alexander Chan, Sharon Han, Scott Hodnefield, Adam Lawrence, Benjamin Shanker, Taylor Voelker

*South High:* Mandi Brehm, Emily Cheng, Hannah Clift, Kyle Gunby, Anthony Miano, Daniel Myers, Lauren Votava

*West High:* Alexandra Bierman, Kristen Gabriel, Michael Kammeyer, Luke Schlueter, Benjamin Wheeler

### ► National Achievement Semifinalists

Central High's Ahmed Eltahir and North High's Paa Imbeah were also among 1,600 scholastically talented African American high school seniors across the country to qualify as National Achievement Semifinalists.

# Board Approves Boundary Changes

**A**fter years of increasing enrollment in the northern part of Parkway, the Parkway Board of Education recently approved boundary changes to stem overcrowding. In the last decade, the north attendance area has increased by nearly 500 students, and some north area elementary schools have exceeded their enrollment capacity. McKelvey Elementary, for instance, has roughly 610 students.

Meanwhile, other nearby elementary schools have excess capacity. With just 230 students, River Bend Elementary, in the central area, has room for more students.

With the boundary changes, some north area students will move into central area schools for the 2012-13 school year. In all, about 475 students will move to a different school.

## ► WHICH NORTH AREA SCHOOLS?

The North area schools involved are:

- Craig Elementary
- McKelvey Elementary
- Ross Elementary
- Northeast Middle
- North High

Some of these north area students will be reassigned to River Bend Elementary, Central Middle and Central High.

## ► NEIGHBORHOOD CHANGES

The changes will affect specific neighborhoods below:

Moving from Ross Elementary to River Bend Elementary and from Northeast Middle/North High to Central Middle/Central High:

- Old Farm Estates (and the adjacent homes on the north west side of Amiot)
- Woodland Pointe

Moving from McKelvey Elementary to River Bend Elementary and from Northeast Middle/North High to Central Middle/Central High:

- Pheasant Run Apartment Complex
- Royal Pines Condominiums

Moving from Craig Elementary to Ross Elementary (No change to middle or high schools):

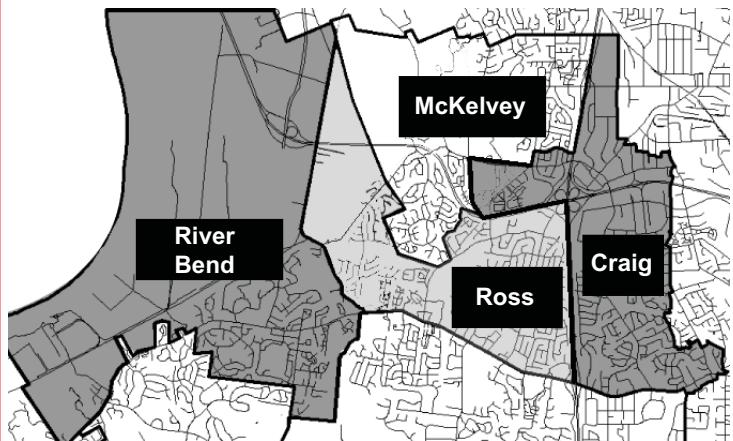
- Driftwood Place
- Pavilion (only the area west of Bennington)
- West Pointe (only the area west of Bennington)

## ► OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS

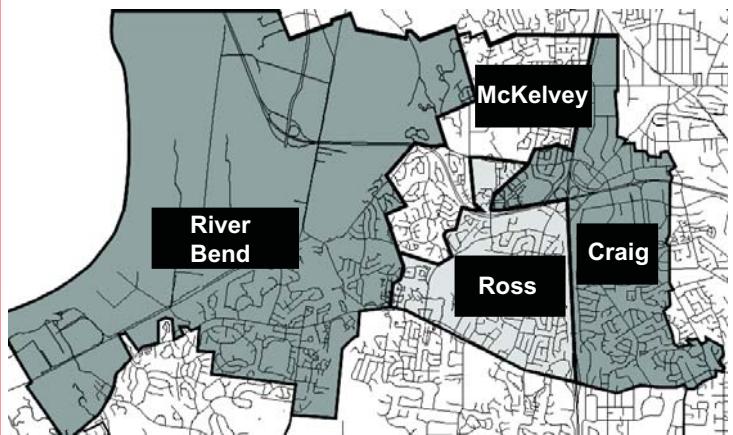
Students who currently attend Northeast Middle or North High and are reassigned to central area schools will be allowed to remain enrolled in their north area school if they wish. Likewise, fifth-graders will be permitted a one-year special assignment to remain at their current school if desired.

Parkway administrators developed the boundary plan with a 33-member volunteer task force and input from nearly 1,400 north area families, who responded to a survey in May.

## Current Elementary Attendance Boundaries 2011-12 School Year



## New Elementary Attendance Boundaries 2012-13 School Year



"The north area enrollment increase may be the result of expanding apartment complexes in the Bennington Place Corridor in Maryland Heights," says Desi Kirchhofer, assistant superintendent of secondary education in Parkway. "We also suspect the area is an affordable place to live in Parkway and families continue moving there because of the quality of education Parkway schools provide."

For more details on the boundary changes, visit [www.parkwayschools.net/boundaries](http://www.parkwayschools.net/boundaries).

# ACT Test Offered to All Juniors

**As part of its new mission, Parkway provides ACT testing to all juniors—with outstanding results.**



Sidney Monachello recalls the day her dad opened her ACT test results.

"You are smart," he said.  
"No, I am not."  
"Yes, you are. Look at your scores."

Sidney, a South High senior, looked at her overall score of 25, which was slightly above the requirement for acceptance to most universities.

"Hey, nice!" Sidney shouted to her dad.

Sidney took the college entrance test as part of a new direction in Parkway that gives all students—not just those on the college track—the option to take the college entrance exam for free during school hours.

"It made me realize I could go to a four-year university instead of a community college," says Sidney. "I never thought I'd be able to do that. I messed around my freshman and sophomore years and got poor grades. It was such a good feeling to know that I finally had an alternative to my G.P.A., a test that showed I was capable."

Unleashing that kind of confidence in students like Sidney is a main component of Parkway's new mission: to develop confident, capable, curious learners.

Parkway principals helped develop the new mission as part of long-range planning, and they relied on the new mission to guide them when they pushed to give the ACT to all juniors.

Two years ago, Parkway began giving the ACT test to all juniors. Currently, Parkway has the highest percentage of students taking the test—98.9 percent, according to recent ACT results for 2011 Missouri graduates.

As is typical when school districts begin offering the ACT to all juniors, test scores initially fall. Parkway's composite score dropped to 22.9 from 24.1, according to recent figures.

But Parkway officials say the falling test scores are worth the benefit of giving all students access to the exam and the path to college. Parkway's new mission, they say, calls for creating confidence and capability in all students, not just some students, or most students.

"We knew we were taking a risk," says Desi Kirchhofer, assistant superintendent of secondary schools, "because people often look at ACT scores to compare school districts."

He and other Parkway administrators have set a goal to reach a composite score of 25 by the year 2016.

As for Sidney Monachello, the South High senior, she plans to attend the University of Missouri-Columbia to study journalism next year. She now thinks of herself as "somewhat smart."



**Sidney Monachello, South High, never thought of herself as capable of attending a four-year college before taking the ACT and scoring a 25. As part of its new mission to reach all students, Parkway provides ACT testing to all juniors.**

# class acts



## ◀ Toy Story

"Toys have souls," says West Middle student **Naomi Kodama**, 13. "They need to live happy lives with children who love them."

She has traveled to Africa with her parents to make toy donations. "People tend to concentrate on food and shelter for aid, but toys can bring so much happiness," she says.

Naomi also raises money to fight malaria and inspires her friends to do the same. For her efforts, Naomi was recently named the 25th Champion of the United Nations Foundation's "Nothing But Nets," a global campaign to combat malaria. Nothing But Nets provides bed netting to children in Africa to protect them against mosquitoes carrying malaria. Naomi, who has also traveled to Germany and Africa to promote Nothing But Nets, should be featured on KSDK Channel 5 this month. She has received thank-you letters from Ted Turner and Ray Chambers, the United Nations secretary general's special envoy for malaria.

## ▼ Help for Joplin

Parkway students continue to hold fundraisers to help their counterparts in tornado-ravaged Joplin. In June, they presented a check for \$7,500 to Joplin School District.



## TARS Research Winners

Five aspiring Parkway scientists have won the LMI Aerospace Inc./D3 Technologies Award for Excellence in Research. All five distinguished themselves in the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL) Students and Teachers as Research Scientists

(STARS) program. The STARS program pairs students and teachers with research mentors from universities and well-known science facilities. The five winners are:  
**Central High:** Chris Wang  
**North High:** Manali Gokhale  
**South High:** Connie Shen  
**West High:** Raveena Boodram, Shalini Subbarao

## Publishing Success

Emily Wilson, Central High, is one of several authors of two science papers published in the *Journal of Herpetology* and *Tennessee Journal of Science*.

Emily did research for the papers when she participated in the 2010 STARS program. Her STARS mentors are coauthors of the papers.

## Young Scientists

**Joel Sher**, Central High senior, was one of four St. Louis County students selected for the Washington University Young Scientist Program. He did research to monitor acute lung injury.

**Mrigank Gupta**, West High, received the 2011 High School Water Quality Research Award from Missouri American Water. His research

focused on creating renewable energy from wastewater.

### Athletic Achievement

**Nick Matteucci, South Middle, finished**



first in the 12-14 division in the St. Louis Rock and Roll Half Marathon in October. The victory was especially sweet because Nick, 13, had wanted to play football, and his parents urged him to try a marathon instead. He fought seasonal allergies and asthma while training and wasn't sure what to expect on race day.

### Geography Success

**Haran Kumar, West Middle, was named a semifinalist in the 2011 Missouri Geographic Bee, sponsored by the National Geographic Society.** "I am really into geography," says Haran. "At one point, I was studying 3 hours a day."

### Writing Excellence

Eleven Central Middle students had their stories published in the *Grannie Annie*, Vol. 6 anthology, which features family stories and young authors.

The authors are: **Travis Black; Shannon Flynn; Caitlin Magruder; Molly Newport; Kaytlyn Sneed; Keyonnia**



### MILESTONE

► **The North High football program celebrated its 40th anniversary at homecoming in October, playing against Central High, its first opponent in 1971.**

## Perfect ACT and SAT Scorers

Four students earn perfect ACT scores, while Manali Gokhale achieves SAT perfection.



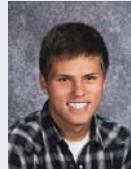
**Thomas Hack**  
Central High



**Timothy Tai**  
North High



**Keerthi Bandi**  
West High



**Andrew Kuehnle**  
West High



**Manali Gokhale**  
North High

## Awards & Scholarships

### Chess Champ

**Kevin Cao, Central High,** won a \$5,500 cash prize in the Kings vs. Queens chess event at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center in St. Louis. His female opponents included a four-time U.S. champion and a world female champion.



### Silver and Bronze Awards for Mason Ridge and Shenandoah Valley

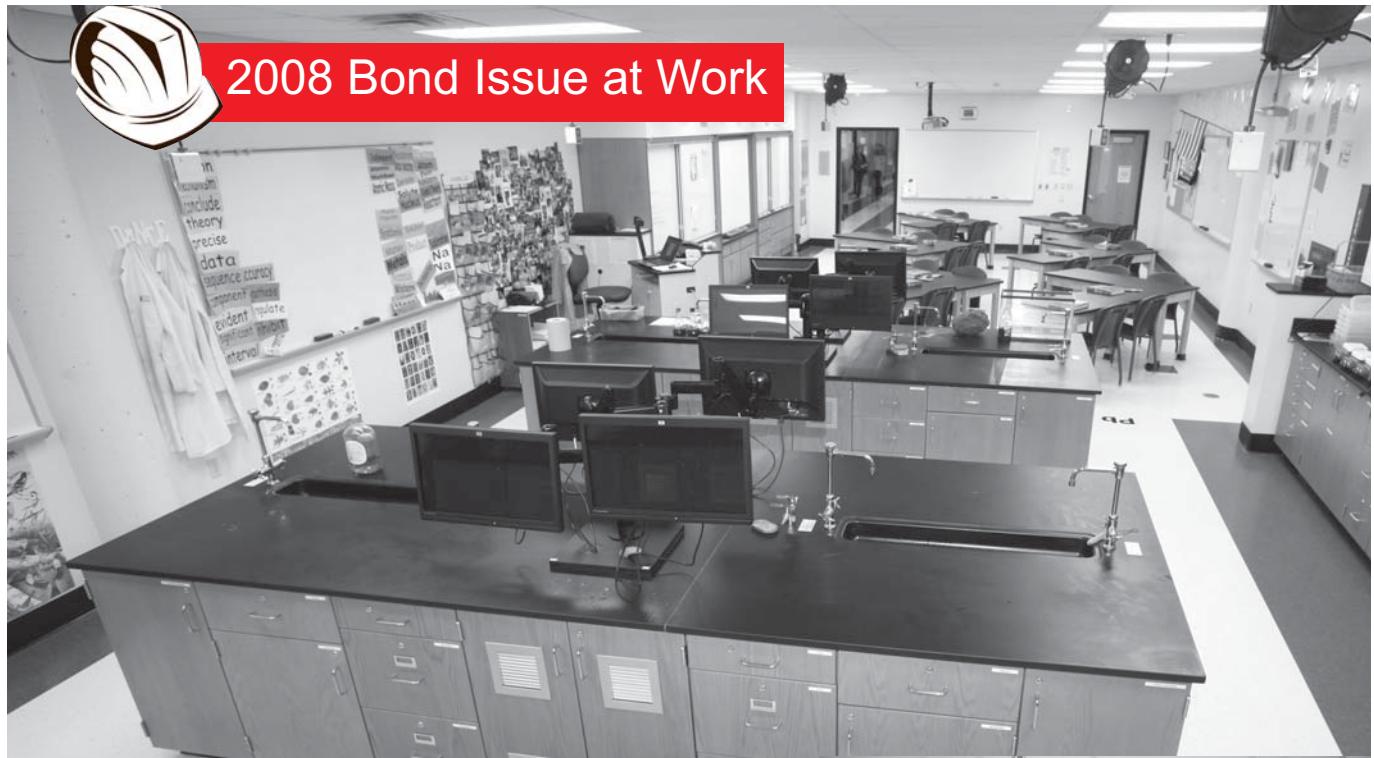
State education officials recently recognized **Mason Ridge Elementary** and **Shenandoah Valley Elementary** for implementing successful strategies to improve student behavior and academic performance. Mason Ridge earned a silver award while Shenandoah Valley took home a bronze award.



### Academic Excellence

**Haleigh Balentine, North High,** is spending her senior year in Germany on scholarship. She is one of seven St. Louis students to receive a full scholarship award from the Youth for Understanding. "My biggest hope is that no awkward things happen," she says. "I tend to be an awkward magnet." Haleigh attends a combination elementary and high school, and all her classes are in German.





## 2008 Bond Issue at Work

# New Science Building at South High



**S**outh High students are already enjoying the school's state-of-the-art science classrooms, above. For the first time this fall, they stepped into South High's new science building.

Strong community support for the 2008 bond issue made this facility and a number of other renovations possible (see

opposite page for more details).

At South High, each science lab is equipped with 12 computers, a SMART Board, a traveling media cart and safety features that include showers, eye washes and chemical and acid storage closets.

Science classrooms also have measurement systems embedded in

the floor. The physics class, in the above right photo, for instance, features alternating dark and white tiles, simulating a metric scale, eliminating the need for rulers.

South High is the second Parkway high school to undergo major renovations to its aging science facilities.

Central High's new science addition, com-

pleted in the fall of 2010, was the first.

Next in line is West High. Its science areas will undergo extensive renovation to mirror the new classrooms at Central and South High.

The North High science wing had an upgrade seven years back, so it is not in line for more renovations. But new equipment is slated for the school.



## 2008 Bond Issue at Work

# Fixing Our Schools



► Sorrento Springs Elementary, above, was equipped with 70 new laptops and 40 computer work stations this summer. By the end of December, all Parkway elementary schools will have new laptops and computer work stations.

**G**enerous community support for the 2008 bond issue allowed Parkway to complete a record amount—\$27 million—of construction projects this year. These ranged from roof replacements to technology upgrades. As a result, nearly 80 percent of the construction projects from the 2008 bond issue are now completed. Thank you, Parkway voters, for your support.

Here are some of the larger projects:

- South High science renovations (opposite page)
- Northeast Middle heating and air conditioning improvements
- Classroom renovations at Barretts, Hanna Woods, Henry and Sorrento Springs elementary schools
- Roofing and/or HVAC work at McKelvey and Ross elementary schools, South Middle, Central High, South High and West High
- Installation of new turf fields at four high schools
- Pavement and curb replacements at South High
- Pavement, curbs and storm water drainage work at Green Trails

This was the third summer in a five-year construction plan to complete all of the 2008 bond issue projects.

To view a complete list of bond issue projects and photos for each school, visit Parkway's bond issue progress website at: [www.parkwayschools.net/bondprogress/index.cfm](http://www.parkwayschools.net/bondprogress/index.cfm).

### Before & After



An aging roof at West High



West High roof after replacement



Cracked playground pavement at Green Trails Elementary



Green Trails playground pavement after renovation



A battered HVAC unit at Northeast Middle



A new HVAC unit at Northeast Middle



► Four high school athletic field turfs, including this one at Central High, were installed this summer.

## Perfect Score for Parkway

**P**arkway once again earned a perfect score on its Annual Performance Report (APR) from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

Parkway met all 14 performance standards measured by the state, and once again qualified for the state's annual "Distinction in Performance Award." Parkway has received this prestigious distinction each year since the award's inception – 11 consecutive years.

The Annual Performance Report is based on multiple measures of student achievement—MAP scores, the ACT college entrance exam, the percentage of graduates going on to college, etc.

For more information about the APR, visit the DESE website at <http://dese.mo.gov>.



## Parkway Receives Top Rating on Financial Report

**P**arkway received the highest possible rating on a recent Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. Once again, Parkway received an "unqualified opinion," which is the highest distinction available in the auditing profession. An unqualified opinion essentially means Parkway's financial reporting and internal control systems, as well as the financial condition of the district, were given a clean bill of health.

Each year Parkway undergoes a comprehensive, external review of the district's financial records. The 2011 audit was conducted by Kerber, Eck and Braeckel LLP Certified Public Accountants.

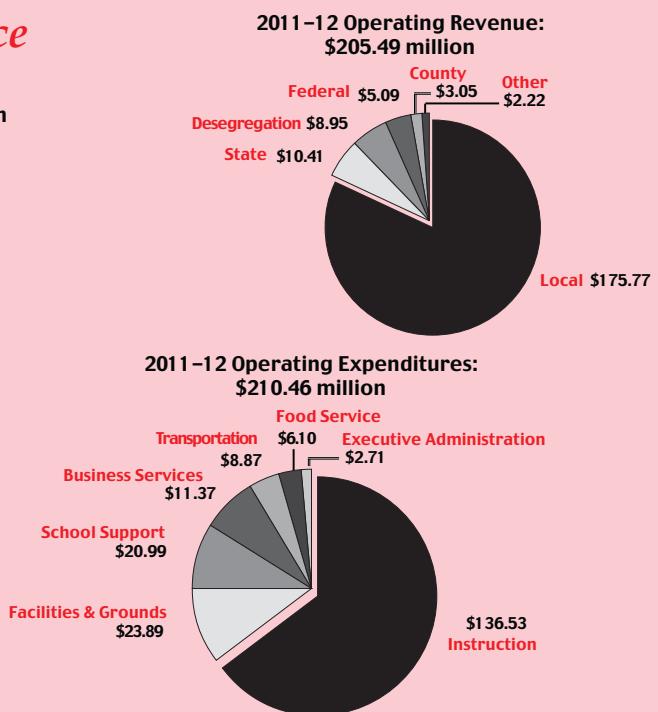
### A Clean Bill of Financial Health



## 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 11 consecutive years
- ▶ 14 U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Awards
- ▶ ENROLLMENT  
Enrollment: 17,481  
18 elementary schools  
Five middle schools  
Four high schools  
One non-traditional high school  
One early childhood center
- ▶ FINANCES  
2011 Residential Tax Rate: \$3.34 per \$100 of assessed value
- ▶ EMPLOYEES  
Teacher Salaries: \$54,731 (Parkway Average)  
\$44,249 (Missouri Average)
- ▶ Percentage of certified staff with master's degree or above:  
Parkway: 68.1%  
Missouri: 53.9%
- ▶ National Merit Scholars = 51  
Semifinalists: 24  
Commended: 27
- ▶ ACT Composite Test Score  
Parkway: 22.9  
Missouri: 21.6  
USA: 21.1
- ▶ SAT Combined Test Score  
Parkway: 1815  
Missouri: 1779  
USA: 1509

### ACHIEVEMENT



To view the 2010-11 budget, visit the Parkway website: [www.parkwayschools.net/finance/index.cfm](http://www.parkwayschools.net/finance/index.cfm).

**MISSION POSSIBLE**

► **Kim Carr's push for pre-assessment, a part of Parkway's new mission, came in handy this year. The multimedia teacher, above, learned that one of her students, right, was already an experienced animator with 470 followers on YouTube. A change in instruction was necessary.**

## 'Follow Me' on YouTube

**W**hen Izzy Muren walked into Kim Carr's multimedia class at Central High, she was already an accomplished animator with 470 followers on YouTube. Kim learned about Izzy's experience through pre-assessments.

Using Google forms, Kim has students evaluate their own capabilities at the beginning of class. She then asks them to create a presentation about themselves using any multimedia tool they feel comfortable with.

After the presentations, Kim asks students to reflect on the quality of their presentation, overall creativity, effort, strengths and improvements.

"Students are able to access their peers' work, so they can ask themselves, 'What do I know, what don't I know, how could I improve?' This creates capability," Kim says.

She began the student assessments this year as part of Parkway's new mission. Jennifer Stanfill, coordinator of career and technical education in Parkway, is coaching more teachers to do the same.

### ► Peer Assessment Creates Capability

Throughout class, Kim also has students from other Parkway high schools evaluate her students' websites. "It keeps the feedback more honest," says Jennifer Stanfill, "because the students from North High don't know those at Central High, and they don't worry about hurting a friend's feelings when doing a critique."

"The students as designers begin to see their work through others' eyes," says Kim.

Another benefit: "Students try harder and become more capable with a larger audience."

Through assessments, Kim also learned that another student had limited experience beyond PowerPoint. Kim steered Izzy and the rest of the class to Adobe Premiere, a software program new to all of them, so Izzy and others wouldn't get bored. They also learned the creative steps involved in filmmaking, which pushed all of them beyond simply acquiring technology skills.

### ► Transferring Learning to the Real World

Beginning this year, students also design websites for actual businesses so they can transfer their learning from class to the real world, a primary goal of Parkway's new mission.

Kim seeks to move beyond the teacher as sole evaluator. After she gives students grades for website designs, she plans to have professional web designers from, say, Ameren UE, evaluate student websites, so students can continue to make improvements and learn.

Classes are no longer just skill-based. In an ever-changing world, software programs like Dreamweaver can be dead and gone within the next few years. "We still teach how to use the functions of the program, but we focus more on teaching effective communications using digital tools, which promotes thinking and problem solving. That's the transfer of learning," says Kim.



## Your School Board

### Putting faces with names

**Chris Jacob**  
President



**Beth Feldman**  
Vice President



**Tom Appelbaum**



**Helen Casteel**



**Bruce Major**



**Dee Mogerman**



**Sam Sciortino**



**The board meets at 7:30 p.m. on designated Wednesdays at Central Middle. For more information on board policies or meetings, which are also streamed live, please visit our website at: [www.parkwayschools.net/boe/boe.cfm](http://www.parkwayschools.net/boe/boe.cfm).**



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# Calendar

[www.parkwayschools.net/calendar/calendars.cfm](http://www.parkwayschools.net/calendar/calendars.cfm)

**Nov. 23–25**

**Thanksgiving holiday**  
**No school**

**December 23–Jan. 4**

**Winter break/professional development**  
**No school**

**Please Note:** Because Parkway mails this publication by carrier route to save postage costs, some individuals who do not live in Parkway may receive this mailing.

*Parkway Today* is published twice annually by the Communications Department.

*Parkway School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. If an otherwise qualified individual with a disability needs accommodations to attend or participate in a school or district activity, please contact the staff member responsible for that event at least four (4) business days in advance. Questions, concerns, or requests for information/assistance can also be directed to the designated district coordinator for each applicable federal law or by calling (314) 415-8100.*



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and Twitter**

[www.parkwayschools.net/news/  
followUs.cfm](http://www.parkwayschools.net/news/followUs.cfm)

Since Parkway began posting school closings and late-breaking news on Facebook and Twitter in August 2010, we have kept count of our fans and followers. The numbers climb each week.

As of late October, Parkway had more than 4,000 Facebook fans and 866 Twitter followers.

So it's our turn to thank our growing numbers of fans and followers. Each one of you is responsible for uniting the Parkway community!