



# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

PARKWAY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



## *Parkway South Teacher is Giving Student Lessons in Self-Esteem*



Anne Erhart, a dedicated educator at Parkway South High School, has redefined the role of a teacher. Her impact transcends traditional classroom boundaries as she imparts lessons that extend far beyond the confines of textbooks. With an unwavering commitment to her students' well-being and growth, she has become a beacon of inspiration and a District Teacher of the Year.

For Anne, education is not merely about transmitting knowledge; it's about nurturing self-esteem and fostering a sense of belonging. Since 2011, she has been an integral part of the Parkway South community, guiding students through the intricacies of mathematics. Yet, her influence goes well beyond formulas and equations. Recognizing that every student carries a deep-seated desire to find their place in the world, Anne has made it her mission to address this fundamental need.

"I think our students are crying out for that," Anne says, speaking about the longing for belonging that resides in each of us. Her classroom is a haven where students are not only taught mathematical concepts but are also equipped with tools to overcome the fear of failure and self-doubt. Anne understands that empowering students with a strong sense of self-worth is pivotal for their overall development.

A distinctive feature of Anne's teaching methodology is her ritual of commencing each class with a proclamation. By affirming her students as achievers, visionaries, and leaders, she sets a positive tone for the entire learning experience. This daily practice cultivates a mindset of success and resilience, creating an environment where students feel valued and capable.

In many ways, teachers like Anne Erhart epitomize the essence of the Suzy Essman Grant's purpose. This grant was established to empower educators who go beyond conventional teaching methods, striving to offer students a comprehensive and holistic education. Anne's approach exemplifies this philosophy by nurturing not only academic growth but also emotional and social development.

In a world often driven by numbers and outcomes, Anne Erhart reminds us of the profound impact a teacher can have on shaping young lives. Through her lessons in self-esteem and her commitment to creating a sense of belonging, she is molding students into confident, compassionate, and empowered individuals who are prepared to face the challenges of both academia and life.

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## Events & Opportunities



### Golf Tournament 2023

Sign-up to play golf at the Parkway Golf Tournament on Saturday, Oct. 28, 2022 at 9 a.m.! The PAA will host this annual event again at Forest Park Golf Course, one of the most popular public golf courses in the Midwest.

Fees this year are \$120 per golfer - the fee includes snacks and lunch on the course and appetizers during the awards presentation following the tournament. Teams of four players are sought, but

an effort will be made to accommodate singles or doubles who don't mind being combined with other teams who need additional players.

The Parkway Golf Tournament is a fundraiser for the PAA and its hallmark programs. These programs include Granting Dreams for Parkway students the Alhert Awards for exceptional new

teachers, Teacher of the Year awards and the Light of Parkway Awards for outstanding support staff. Granting Dreams is a program that provides financial and resource support to Parkway students who want to pursue extracurricular learning through camps or classes, or purchase materials that will help them learn at home. [Register to play today >>](#)



## The Andrae Smith Memorial Scholarship

Friends and colleagues have worked with PAA to establish an annual scholarship in loving memory of Mr. Andrae Smith, a dedicated social studies teacher at Parkway Northeast Middle School from 2015 to 2023. The scholarship will be awarded to a senior member of Parkway North High who attended Parkway Northeast Middle School. This award will be given to scholars who aspire to become teachers and are passionate advocates for social justice. Mr. Smith's eight years of service left an everlasting impact on his scholars, families, and colleagues. His love for teaching factual history, coaching track, and supporting his

students at various events will always be cherished. He will be remembered as a wonderful family member, colleague, teacher, and friend to many, leaving a positive yet quiet spirit in the hearts of all who knew him.

To honor Andrae's memory by making a donation in support this new scholarship, you can give on our website. Give today by making an [online donation](#).



## Esstman Grants

On September 6th applications for the first round of Esstman Educational Grants will open thanks to the support of the Suzy Zucker Esstman Educational Grant Fund. The Parkway Alumni Association (PAA), through the SECF, offers grants to Parkway teachers for projects that enrich the education experience for their students.

Projects can be designed to enhance any area of the Parkway curriculum inside or outside the classroom, or in a virtual environment. The ideal project will maintain an educational component while encouraging students to think freely. Preference is given to projects that inspire learning through fun and creative approaches. Grant requests could be materials for literature, manipulatives, equipment, digital resources, field trips, guest speakers, admission/travel expenses, and other things that support learning for students. The maximum individual grant amount is \$500.

[You can make a donation here online to help support this fund.](#)

## Leave a Legacy - Start a Scholarship Fund

Interested in our scholarship programs or want to create one to honor yourself or a loved one? Contact Sandy Riutcel, Executive Director of the Parkway Alumni Association, at 314-415-8074 (office) or [sriutcel@parkwayschools.net](mailto:sriutcel@parkwayschools.net) for details. We're here to support your aspirations and ensure our alumni can continue their academic journey!



## LEAVE A *Legacy*

### UPCOMING REUNIONS



### Tell Us About Your Reunion!

If your reunion details aren't on the website, email them to us!

The PAA is here to help you plan a successful reunion! We can provide contact info and guidance for your event. Plus, our volunteers can man the registration table. Reach out to us at (314) 415-8074 or [ParkwayAlumni@ParkwaySchools.net](mailto:ParkwayAlumni@ParkwaySchools.net) for more info.

### Join Us HOMECOMING 2023



### Homecoming 2023

The countdown is on! Stay in the know about your school's upcoming homecoming event this fall. Get all the essential details by visiting the Parkway Schools website. Don't miss out on the excitement!

### ALL ALUMNI NETWORKING NIGHTS



### Alumni Networking Nights

Join us at 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month for an all-alumni networking event. The group meets in person at the Parkway Administration Center. Hear from alums about their current work and meet other Parkway alumni in our community. To attend, email [parkwayalumni@parkwayschools.net](mailto:parkwayalumni@parkwayschools.net) to be added to the meeting invite list. Include your name, school, class year, profession, business name and contact info.

### ST. LOUIS BLUES ALUMNI GAMES

OCTOBER 19, 2023  
NOVEMBER 4, 2023

### Let's Go Blues!

Save the date! Parkway alumni and friends will cheer on the St. Louis Blues Thursday, October 19 vs. Arizona Coyotes and Saturday, November 4 vs. Montreal Canadiens. Stay tuned for ticket sales as these will go FAST!



# A Note from the Parkway Alumni Association Board President



Dear esteemed alumni,

As the fall season approaches, we're excited to invite you back to your high school for a memorable homecoming event that promises to be bigger and better than ever!

Join us as we celebrate the spirit of our high schools and the cherished memories that continue to connect us all. Homecoming is not just an event; it's a heartwarming reunion of the alumni who have shaped the legacy of our beloved institution. Reconnect with old friends, relive those unforgettable moments, and immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of camaraderie and nostalgia.

But that's not all! We're thrilled to announce our annual Parkway Golf Tournament, which will take place on October 28th at the scenic Forest Park. This event isn't just limited to our esteemed alumni; it's a gathering that encompasses our entire Parkway community. Whether you're an alumnus, a current Parkway parent, a staff member, or a supporter of our school, you're invited to be a part of this exciting day filled with friendly competition, shared laughter, and the joy of coming together.

The Parkway Golf Tournament is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen bonds, make new connections, and contribute to the vibrant tapestry of our school community. Whether you're swinging for the greens or cheering from the sidelines, your presence is what truly matters.

So, mark your calendars for these upcoming events!

For This Generation,  
Dr. Thomas M. Smith

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## Alumni News



### Football Continues for Gabbert

A tale of many twists and turns... we're always Gabbert fans! [READ MORE >>](#)



Metro Boomin - PN '12 is shaping up a resume that would be the envy of any producer. Not only did he enjoy his third No. 1 album on the Billboard 200 with *Heroes & Villains* last year — which was officially certified platinum by the RIAA last week — this month, he served as [executive producer](#) for the *Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse* soundtrack. Read more in the [billboard](#) article.

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## What's Happening At School?



### Riding Safe!

Not only did they drive in 110 degree heat last week, Parkway bus drivers Ross Probst, Karen David and Jeff Parish placed in the top five at the Missouri bus driver safety competition!

The competition includes driving skills, a six-minute test to find six driving defects, parallel parking and student pickup drills. The annual event is hosted each summer by the Missouri Association for Pupil Transportation Annual School Bus Driver Safety.



### Making Memories One Last Time

Adding a splash of color to senior year! North High seniors turned their parking spots into masterpieces for the year ahead! What a way to kick off the school year.



### Parkway Food Pantry in the Spotlight

Channel 4 recently visited the Parkway Food Pantry.

The pantry regularly helps feed 200 families with personalized groceries and other needs like hygiene products, backpacks and school supplies.

The pantry is fueled by volunteers and financial and food donations. [Watch the news story here online >>](#)

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## Opportunities Within Parkway

### Calling All Alumni - Parkway is Hiring!

We need help at your school! We have openings for bus drivers, and many others for custodians and grounds crew employees needed to support our families. If you know someone who is



interested, please share this with them. Interested applicants can call 314-415-8401 for more information or [visit this website](#).

## The Info You Don't Want to Miss



### Class Reunions

Don't miss your opportunity to share in the memories and build the future. [Find your class reunion information or start planning one!](#)



### Class Memorial

Parkway Alumni Association extends condolences to family and friends of the following Parkway alumni and staff. [CLICK HERE to read more.](#)



### Class Notes

Find out where Parkway grads are making their mark in the world. [See our latest class notes here.](#)



### Connect with your School



We exist to encourage communication among alumni and foster programs which serve and support the Parkway community.

