

PARKWAY today

News and information for residents of Parkway School District

Spring 2014

Accredited with Distinction



THINK LIKE A
LEADER

LESSONS
ON CREATING
LEADERS

PLUS

COMPUTER
CODING

BOARD
CANDIDATES

Bellerive Elementary student leader graduate Kenyon Hill

Think Like a Leader



► From left, Cole Kerkemeyer, Sarah Ham, Emerson Mezones, Aaditya Gohil, Joseph Blanton and Robert Catalano, Bellerive Elementary

When Bellerive Elementary started a leadership program last year, discipline problems on the bus and in bathrooms dropped 75 percent.

Before Principal Jami DeBosch started a successful leadership program at Bellerive Elementary last year, young students sometimes shouted on the bus, splashed water in the bathrooms and left paper towels on the floor. Fifth-grade student leaders advised the principal of the problem and proposed shepherding the younger kids to buses themselves, then riding the bus with the kindergarteners and first-graders. In the space of two months, the number of school bus discipline letters sent home dropped 75 percent, from 20 to five. Restroom infractions declined as well once fifth-graders began actively supervising the younger students.

"The decline occurred," DeBosch says, because "first-graders look up to fifth-graders; the younger students want to do the right thing."

The fifth-graders were also acting as problem-solving leaders, adds DeBosch. Many Parkway schools assign leadership roles to students as part of character education.

At Wren Hollow, fifth-grade student leaders recently interviewed candidates for assistant teaching positions at the school. "Student-led interviews naturally made sense," says Principal Matt Miller. The kids know what they need in a teacher. They were spot-on with their feedback on the candidates!"

Good character education is a strong component of Parkway's mission and vision statement and can help students perform better academically, according to Chelsea Watson, Parkway assistant superintendent of student services.

"If kids feel valued and safe and also feel teachers have their best interests at heart, they work harder and learn more," adds Erin Schulte, Parkway coordinator of character education.

The emphasis on character education in middle and high school is also prompted by concerns over bullying and texting. At Northeast Middle School two years ago, students Joey Goldman and Meghan Mudd started an anti-bullying club.

"We counted in a day how many times we saw bullying. And we lost count at like 53," Goldman, then an eighth-grader, told television reporters. "We knew at that point we needed to stop it. Bullying doesn't just happen at Northeast, but it happens at all schools. So we started a club."

More recently, as South Middle students filed out of school for winter break, teachers and administrators like Angela Frye, assistant principal, held up signs that read "THINK before you text, tweet, update your social media status or take photos."

Earlier that day an all-school assembly delivered an anti-bully message.

"Be Nice" is a refrain heard repeatedly at South, Southwest and West Middle schools. Stu Cabe, a character education motivator, reinforced that message recently when he spoke to students at all three schools. He helps students understand the impact their words and behavior have on others—both positively and negatively.

Parkway's character education programs are gaining both local and national recognition. Two years ago, Ross Elementary was recognized as a national school of char-

acter by the Character Education Partnership (CEP). As part of the application process to earn the prestigious recognition, Principal Lisa Luna documented how the school's character education program encouraged student leadership and led to better academic performance. Just last month, Oak Brook and Sorrento Springs elementary schools were named state schools of character by the CEP. The two schools, along with McKelvey, another designated state school of character, and Ross, will serve as role models for other area schools and host visitors who want to study their programs.

Bellerive, Wren Hollow and Barretts' successful leadership programs are based on bestselling author Stephen Covey's "Leader in Me" program. These three schools recently hosted visitors so other schools can learn the Leader in Me program along with them. Other Parkway elementary schools to incorporate the Leader in Me program or parts of it include Henry, McKelvey and Green Trails.

Jami DeBosch and other Parkway educators believe leaders are made, not born.

'Think Before Texting, No More Bullying'



► South Middle students, above: "Words and behavior have impact."

superintendent's corner

Road Stories

Dear Parkway Community:

They say you sometimes need to get away from home to fully appreciate what you have. In the past few months, I have had the opportunity and responsibility to be out of Parkway – occasionally traveling to Jefferson City to be part of discussions and meetings on student transfers, new assessments and school finance.



**Superintendent
Keith Marty**

I often find myself speaking to other school administrators and state officials about the Parkway community, our excellent students and outstanding staff. I tell them about Project Parkway; how our mission, vision and action plans are improving student performance and enhancing student curiosity and confidence. I talk about our environmental and conservation efforts, specifically our solar energy

and compressed natural gas buses. Others continually tell me about the wonderful leaders and educators we have in Parkway, as evidenced by our state, regional and national awards. A Kansas City area superintendent told me he studies our website to see the new and innovative things we do on behalf of students and our community.

In the state capitol, legislators tell me they view Parkway as a state school leader. They take note of the work we do and the results they see in student growth and achievement, graduate success and teacher recognition.

I can take little credit for Parkway's structure and success, as I am still a relative newcomer to Parkway. My responsibility is to sustain and grow our successes so ALL students find success and rewarding experiences in Parkway.

So as I travel back east on I-70 from Jefferson City, I hold my head high and have a sense of pride and real satisfaction to be associated with Parkway. As a state and regional leader, we do have the responsibility to be a model and set an example; to give our community and its citizens our best. I assure you that we will

“As I travel back and forth from Jefferson City, hearing others praise Parkway, I hold my head high and have a sense of pride.”

continue to be good stewards on your behalf.

Please continue to follow me on **Twitter @ParkwaySupt**. I also invite you to follow us on our website: **www.parkwayschools.net**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Marty'.

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

Take a Look at Your Child's New School Bus

Y

ou may have noticed your child rides a new school bus that looks a little different. Environmentally friendly, the new buses feature green stripes and flat front ends. But the real difference lies in the healthier fuel. These new buses run on Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).

The benefits of CNG buses include:

- Fewer air pollutants than diesel fuel
- Fuel cost savings estimated at \$100,000 per year
- Longer engine life, lower maintenance
- Buses need to be replaced less often
- Buses run quieter than diesel buses
- Flat front ends provide improved visibility for bus drivers

Parkway is one of the first Missouri school districts, and the only one in the St. Louis area, to add CNG buses to its fleet. Parkway owns, operates and maintains its entire fleet of buses.





Full Screen Ahead

Parkway addresses a nationwide shortage of computer specialists.

Fern Ridge High students, above right, will earn \$45,000 to \$60,000 annually in entry-level computer technology jobs. Henry Elementary MOSAICS students, left, figure out their teacher's coding mistakes.

Parkway is doing its part to address a nationwide shortage of computer programmers and technicians. From elementary school to high school, the district is adding more computer classes to the curriculum to meet the growing demand for more coders and technicians. The shortage came to the forefront last December when St. Louis area schools participated in "Hour of Code," a nationwide initiative that demystified computer science and spotlighted how important computer coders and technicians are to the national workforce.

But even before Hour of Code, Parkway offered strong computer science and coding programs at the middle and high school levels. Then and now, it also offers:

- An A+ computer maintenance technician program at Fern Ridge High, South High and North High;
 - Scratch and Tynker computer coding for seventh- and eighth-grade students in the business curriculum; and
 - HTML coding in elementary, middle and high school web design classes.
- This summer, the district is

also planning to offer summer school coding camps as an option for students in grades three through eight.

In Fern Ridge High's newly anointed A+ computer maintenance certification program, students are guaranteed placement in entry level jobs ranging from \$45,000 to \$65,000 a year after they earn A+ certification and graduate. The school worked with entrepreneur and former teacher Mike Palmer to develop the A+ certification curriculum. Palmer is founder of Code Red, whose mission is to teach computer language, coding and technical skills to elementary, middle and high school students. Palmer also works with Extra Help, an employment agency, to place students in jobs.

Growing Demand

"I knew there was growing demand for these computer technicians at companies in St. Louis," says Paul Schwent, Fern Ridge High business teacher. "But I didn't realize how much of a demand there was until we began working with Michael Palmer." Schwent's students, who spend three

hours a day on the nine-week, collegiate-level, A+ maintenance program, will likely man help desks at large St. Louis corporations once they graduate, helping people with computer hardware, software and operating systems.

The program at Fern Ridge High is similar to computer curriculum that has long been in place at South High and North High. The difference is that South and North High students take computer maintenance courses to earn course credits. They can opt to take the A+ maintenance certification or not. At Fern Ridge, students work exclusively to earn the A+ maintenance certification and get placed in jobs after graduation. Because of the partnership with Code Red, all Parkway students who successfully pass the A+ certification exam have preferential job preference through Extra Help.

"We still advocate going to college," says Schwent. "But these skills give students so many more options. Assuming Fern Ridge students want to go to college, they could work part time in IT help desk jobs that pay \$50 an hour to help them pay for college. That sure beats flipping hamburgers."

An explosion of lucrative technology jobs, more than 2 million, is expected in the next 10 years, according to the Bureau of Labor statis-

tics. Computer skills, especially writing computer code, are in demand.

Parkway students are ready to meet that demand.

"I have been teaching HTML code to my fifth-grade students for 15 years," says Sandra King, MOSAICS teacher at Pierremont Elementary.

At Claymont Elementary, teacher Joe Wall incorporates coding in his fifth-grade geometry curriculum. "My students do coding using lightbot," he says. "I wrapped it into my geometry curriculum because it uses a grid system as well as moves and rotations."

Students as Teachers

"The problem solving involved in coding is awesome," adds Stacy Klohnmann, MOSAICS teacher at Henry Elementary, who allows her first-to-fifth-grade students a choice of coding. They can either do Scratch coding or participate in Hour of Code. Both include coding tutorials based on computer science principles. Klohnmann and the students began learning the coding together last school year after her students told her they wanted to do computer programming and write computer games.

"I couldn't figure out something on Scratch and my fourth-graders made me put it on the Smart Board to see where I was stuck," Klohnmann says. "They were able to figure out what I was doing wrong. The students became the teachers."



What the Community Learned From

The Water Next Door

Despite broken water pipes and flooding in parts of their school this winter, Shenandoah Valley Elementary teachers and students learned a lot about friendship and resilience.

One of nine Parkway schools to suffer water damage from broken pipes during the recent sub-zero temperatures, Shenandoah Valley Elementary had the most extensive damage. The library and fourth- and fifth-grade wings were rendered uninhabitable.

During that time, the community rushed in to help.

Neighboring Parkway school, Highcroft Ridge Elementary, graciously invited Shenandoah Valley Elementary students and teachers to transfer to their school while

repairs were being made to Shenandoah Valley.

In all, 88 Shenandoah Valley fifth-graders and their teachers temporarily transferred to Highcroft Ridge.

Lining the halls with welcome signs, Highcroft Ridge students cheered and clapped as Shenandoah Valley students arrived for their first day in January.

“We wanted the fifth-grade students from Shenandoah Valley to have as smooth a transition as possible,” said Highcroft Ridge Principal Aaron McPherson. “We wanted them to feel they have a home away from home.”

Parkway teachers, administrators and employees worked together



THE DAMAGED BOOKS



THE MOVING BAGS



THE PRINCIPALS



THE GREETERS



THE 'ADOPTED' STUDENTS

to make sure the Highcroft Ridge rooms were ready for Shenandoah Valley students to start their day.

After a month-long stay at their adopted school, Shenandoah Valley students began moving back home and received yet another helping hand from the St. Louis County Library. Thanks to a partnership with Parkway, the library offered to deliver books

directly to Shenandoah Valley.

Every teacher was given a classroom library card, and students have been encouraged to request books through their librarian.

The St. Louis Country Library will deliver books directly to Shenandoah Valley through the end of the semester.

What a fantastic example of communities and schools working together for children!



► Several hundred parents and staff members participate in Project Parkway “Facilities 2020” planning work.

Planning for Bond Issue is Under Way

Several hundred parents and staff members have participated in a series of meetings as part of Project Parkway “Facilities 2020” planning work. They helped develop a prioritized list of school repairs and renovation projects to be completed over the next five years as part of a possible bond issue proposal in the coming year.

Participants have ranked three priority areas

A variety of projects are being discussed, and the three areas that participants have ranked as the highest priority include:

- School safety and security improvements;
- Basic repairs and renovations (roofs, HVAC, plumbing, electrical, etc.); and
- Technology (classroom technology and infrastructure upgrades).

Town Hall meetings

The Facilities 2020 Advisory Team will soon make a recommendation to the Board of Education concerning repairs, renovation and a future bond issue proposal. If you would like to get involved before a final recommendation is made to the board, please consider attending the next meeting from 7-9 p.m. Monday, March 31, 2014, at the Parkway North High commons. Public participation is encouraged. For more information, please call the Parkway communications department, (314) 415-8077, or visit the Parkway website: www.parkwayschools.net.

FACILITIES
2020
PARKWAY
SCHOOLS



SCAN THIS NOW

Take a Look at Proposed Projects
To view proposed project lists for each school, scan the code or visit www.parkwayschools.net/pages/ParkwayC2/Facilities_2020.

class acts

Parkway students and schools win top awards for writing, athletics and science.



- ▶ **West High's boys and girls swim programs were recently inducted into the Missouri Hall of Fame due to the programs' longevity and success. Since their inception in 1968, the swim programs have won a combined 23 state championships and have earned 34 top three finishes. Photo by West High student Lauren Giesecking**



West High's boys and girls swim programs were recently inducted into the Missouri Hall of Fame. Since their inception in 1968, the swim programs have won a combined 23 state championships and have earned 34 top three finishes. West High is the first from the St. Louis area to be inducted into the Missouri Hall

of Fame in Springfield, Mo. Only four other high school programs are currently enshrined in the Hall of Fame, says Brian Kessler, West High activities director. The induction represents West High's strong swimming tradition, plus years of hard work and victories.

West High boys have earned 11 state titles – the first in 1974-75 – and six top three finishes.

Since the 1976-77 season, the girls have earned 12 state championships and five top three finishes.

The West High swim program joins a celebrated group of inductees into the 2014 Missouri Hall of Fame: former Cardinals outfielder Willie McGee and former Kansas City Chiefs running back Ed Podolak, among them.

Speech and Debate Awards

Central and West High's speech and debate teams took first and second place, respectively, at the invitational tournament at Marquette High School. They competed against 23 other schools. At the recent state qualifying tournament, **Central, West and South High** also qualified numerous students. All will contend for state titles in April.

Science Fair Winners

Two Parkway students took first and second place in the honors division at the 2014 Greater Science Fair in February. **Kate Hogan**, Central High, the first-place winner, will be awarded a \$3,000 scholarship for her project titled, "The Effect of Caffeine on the Development and Nervous System of *Drosophila Melanogaster*." Kate says her research prompted her to stop drinking coffee. "I drink water and juice now instead of coffee." Kate, who is also on Central High's winning speech and debate team, says her love of science is trumped only by her love of debate. In college, she plans to pursue law, a profession that emphasizes top-notch debate skills.

Ellen Wang, North High, the second-place science fair winner, will be awarded a \$2,000 scholarship for her project titled, "Investigation of the Genetic Transmission of the Atg1e 1 Mutation and Its Effect on Embryogenesis in *Arabidopsis Thaliana*." Wang, who is also vice-president of the National Math Honor Society, plans to pursue science in college.

Central High student, **Julie Goldman**, was also a semifinalist in the honors division at the science fair for her project titled, "Improving Biofuel by Enhancing the Efficiency of Fungal Enzyme 0 Catalyzed Cellulose Hydrolysis."

Both Kate and Ellen will advance to the Intel International Science Fair in May.

Meanwhile, Parkway held a district-wide science fair March 1, 2014, in which 111 elementary students, 92 middle students and 84 high school students scored high enough to earn purple awards and qualify for the Academy of Science-St. Louis Science Fair in May.

▶ **Kate Hogan, above, and Ellen Wang, right**



Spelling Champion

For the third year in a row, West Middle seventh-grader **Gokul Venkatachalam** won the St. Louis Post-Dispatch Spelling Bee. The championship word was

"garganey," which is a short-necked European duck. Gokul advances to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C. this May.

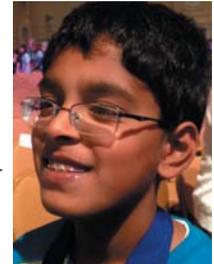


Photo by Bill Lambrecht
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

▶ **Gokul Venkatachalam**

Poetry Success

West Middle seventh-grader **Dani Fischer** won first place for her poem, "Moving Past Autumn," in the Seventh Grade Poetry Foundation's annual contest.

Yearbook Victory

West High's yearbook, **PAWESEHI**, has been recognized for excellence by Josten's, which celebrates the best-of-the-best in yearbook design and coverage. The PAWESEHI is under the direction of Debra Klevens.

North High student aces ACT test; she and team members win Lexus Eco Challenge



▶ **Abby Lammers**

North High junior **Abby Lammers** recently scored a 36, the highest possible score, on the ACT college entrance exam. She is also the team leader of North High's Lexus Eco Team. She and her team members from Russ Barton's North High science class recently learned they won first place and a \$15,000 award in the Lexus Eco Challenge, a national environmental competition. Her team's project focused on reducing landfill waste, which was accomplished through the composting program that Parkway expanded district-wide. She and her team, known as Team WasteBusters, planted air-pruned trees around the community to increase the potential growth rate of trees and built a vermicomposter that recycled nutrients. They also educated the school and community about the impact of composting.

Abby is also involved in a slew of other activities, including the marching band, mock trial, the academic challenge contest, and Mu Alpha Theta (the national math honors society).

Central High hits triple play on ACT test

Three Central High students recently learned they scored a 36, the highest possible score, on the ACT college admissions exam. The students are **Melinda Lai**, **Matthew Wallach** and **Joshua Zeid**.



▶ **Melinda Lai**



▶ **Matthew Wallach**



▶ **Joshua Zeid**

Board highlights

Meet the School Board Candidates

Three director positions on the Parkway Board of Education are open in the April 8, 2014, election. Five candidates have filed for the three positions. Below are the photos and biographies as submitted by each candidate.



Dee Mogerman

Dee Mogerman is in her tenth year of board service in the Parkway School District. A long-time Parkway volunteer, she currently serves as Vice President and was twice elected by her fellow board members to serve as President. Dee feels a strong public school system is imperative to a healthy democracy.

"I remain dedicated to the Parkway Mission of ensuring all students are successful and believe in a student-centered approach to board governance. I would be honored to be reelected so I may continue to serve our community as a member of the Parkway Board of Education." Dee's top priorities include focusing on the success of all students; providing prudent financial stewardship for the district's resources; and increasing the opportunities available to Parkway students and provide them with the tools they will need to compete in a global economy.

A graduate of Drake University, Dee received a B.A. in Economics/Computer Information Systems and is the office administrator at the law firm of Zerman Mogerman LLC. She is an active volunteer in the community and is President of Congregation Temple Israel. Dee is married to Cary. They have three sons who are graduates of Parkway North High School.



Debbie Hopper

For over seven years, I have been an involved Parkway parent and lived in the district for 21 years. Currently, I serve on the district's Government Relations Committee, participate in Project Parkway and volunteer for many school activities. Our youngest will graduate in 2026, so I am committed long-term to help this district excel in its mission for all students.

My husband and I are the proud parents of our son, a sixth grader at West Middle and our daughter, a Kindergartener at Claymont. We are beneficiaries of many Parkway resources. Our

family is active in Scouts, performing arts, our church, and various community efforts.

A native St. Louisan, I graduated from Washington University with a BA in Biology and a Master of Health Administration. Currently I am Administrative Director of Research Operations at Washington University School of Medicine, serving in this position for 13.5 years. I have prior board experience and held management positions at other local healthcare organizations.

I will bring my professional experience and personal commitment for excellence to the school board to work with the district at all levels to ensure it has the resources necessary to achieve its mission while striving for safe learning environments.

Mr. Chris Jacob was born in Long Beach, California. He is a resident of Ballwin where he has resided since 1989. Mr. Jacob received a BBA degree from the University of Houston with a major in Finance and Business Administration. He is the product of public education and his children and grandchildren have been participants of a Parkway education.



Chris Jacob

Mr. Jacob has worked for St. Louis based employers; McDonnell-Douglas, Emerson and most recently helping in the business his wife Carmen started in 1997, NextGen Information Services. He is presently semi-retired which allows him to devote time to the community and in particular the school board.

Mr. Jacob was elected to the Parkway School Board in April, 2008. As a board member he has come to know and appreciate what it takes to provide a school environment where all children can come to learn and be prepared for a career or college. This volunteer commitment has been a work of profound satisfaction and a collaborative effort with the superintendent, administrators, faculty and staff to meet today's challenges of the stewardship for the educational needs of our children.

A Foundation of Excellence; this is the Parkway School District. In the eyes of her students, their parents, staff, and alumni, Parkway is Special. It's an environment where excellence is not only a goal to strive for, but a standard of what is expected.

Since graduating from Parkway Central in 1991, I leveraged this foundation to earn dual degrees in Business Administration and Systems & Data Processing. My first career in Software Development progressed to where I consulted Fortune 500 companies such as MasterCard, Sprint, and Wal-Mart. However, my financial success wasn't enough, leading me to a career of service.

First, I used my IT skills to help the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department, where I realized I could do more. I returned to school, earning a Juris Doctorate from Washington University's School of Law, and enlisted in the Army Reserve, where I now serve as a Captain in the JAG Corps. My legal accomplishments include prosecuting felonies at the state and federal levels.

My greatest pride is my wife Christina and our four students of Parkway, one current and three future. My hope is to serve on the Board of Education to ensure they have that Foundation of Excellence.



Wade Wieser

I'm a proud Parkway West graduate of the Class of 1989, and my positive experiences at West are being enjoyed by my sons. Each student deserves the opportunity to attend school in a safe environment; provided with educational and extracurricular activities to enhance their growth. Parkway's mission, vision and discipline speak to these aspects. When instances arise that a student is bullied or harassed, they, the victim need to be extended the same level of protection as the accused.

A BS in Business and Finance prepared me for my 20+ years at AT&T working in customer service, sales, risk assessment and information technology. The experiences I've gained from these roles will serve the district well.

Volunteerism, as evidenced by the 2012 President's Volunteer Service Award, is indicative of my involvement in our community. Whether as BSA summer camp Archery Director, MS Society's Camp Hope counselor and top fundraiser, St. Vincent DePaul volunteer, serving the Public Works Citizens Advisory Group for Chesterfield, coaching sports; much of my time is spent with our youth. I ask for your support as I look forward to continuing those efforts for both you and your families as a member of your Board of Education.



Tim Sauer

Barretts Takes the Cake



Photo by Doug Whitaker

- ▶ Barretts Elementary School received a st150 cake as part of "Cakeway to the West," the regionwide project in honor of St. Louis' 250th birthday. Fourth and fifth-graders, right, helped decorate the top layer of the cake under the direction of South High art students. The students used paint, glue and mosaics for cake decorations.

Businessman's Family Donates \$50,000 to Parkway

Though Tom Phelps was never a Parkway student, his wife recently donated \$50,000 to Parkway in his honor to help young entrepreneurs.

A successful entrepreneur and Parkway resident who died in 2012, Phelps enjoyed mentoring students who wanted to pursue their dreams of business ownership. His wife Trent recently established the \$50,000 fund in his memory through the Parkway Alumni Association. With the donation, the association will help students get their business ideas funded up to \$1,000 per grantee. The newly established Thomas E. Phelps fund is part of a plan by the association and Parkway School District to educate and encourage students to make their product or service ideas a reality, and to learn the fundamentals of launching and maintaining a real business.

"He loved motivating young people to pursue their passions," says Trent. "He encouraged them to thoughtfully forge their own path if the usual one didn't lead where they wanted to go."

Tom's passion led him to begin working for an investment firm when he was only 19 years old. He had many business interests, including the brokerage/investment advisory/venture capital firm Donelan Phelps, which he cofounded with Patrick Donelan in 1968.

"Tom wanted students to know it was okay to make a mistake, as long as they learned from it," says Trent. "One of his favorite quotes was, 'Good judgment comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgment.'"



'This Is Parkway 2014' Digital Magazine Is Now Online

'This is Parkway' Digital Magazine

Check out the new edition of Parkway's interactive digital magazine, "This Is Parkway 2014!" 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.

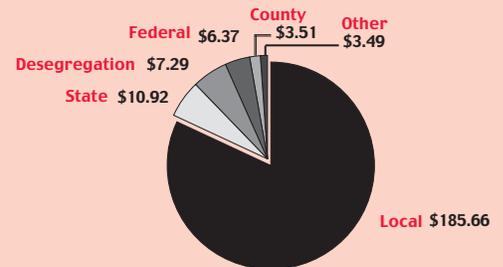


▶ **Hudson Ribble and Shemaiah Saunders, Claymont Elementary**

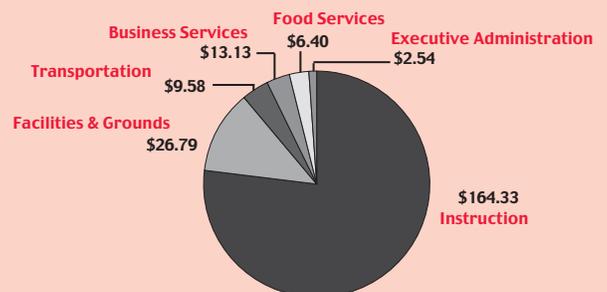
This is Parkway... *at a glance*

- ▶ **"Accredited with Distinction" by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)**
- ▶ **Recognized for "Distinction in Performance" by DESE for 14 consecutive years**
- ▶ **14 U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Awards**
- ▶ **ENROLLMENT**
Enrollment: 17,274
18 elementary schools
Five middle schools
Four high schools
One non-traditional high school
One early childhood center
- ▶ **FINANCES**
2013 Residential Tax Rate: \$4.074 per \$100 of assessed value
- ▶ **EMPLOYEES**
Teacher Salaries: \$61,616 (Parkway Average) \$46,212 (Missouri Average)
- ▶ **Percentage of certified staff with master's degree or above: Parkway: 79.4% Missouri: 59.1%**
- ▶ **ACHIEVEMENT**
National Merit Scholars = 45
Semifinalists: 22
Commended: 23
- ▶ **ACT Composite Test Score**
Parkway: 22.8
Missouri: 21.6
USA: 20.9
- ▶ **Parkway gives the ACT to all juniors at no charge.**
- ▶ **SAT Combined Test Score**
Parkway: 1887
Missouri: 1773
USA: 1498

2013-14 Operating Revenue: \$217.24 million



2013-14 Operating Expenditures: \$222.77 million *



* Expenses exceed revenues due to \$4.37 million in unexpended funds carried forward from the previous year.

What Does Common Core Mean for **My Child?**

In the spring of 2015, Parkway students in the third grade and above will begin taking new state tests in math and English language arts as part of the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP). The new MAP tests will include more challenging academic content and will be taken online, just like the current high school assessments.

The main goal of the tests is to better prepare students for success in college or the workforce when they graduate.

Why new tests?

The world is changing. As parents and educators, we're preparing students for a world that is very different from when we were in school.

How will the tests be different?

- The new MAP tests will be taken online. Parkway students have already started practicing with similar online tests to help them get ready. Traditional pencil and paper tests will continue to be available. However, most students seem to prefer computer-based tests.
- Students must demonstrate a deeper understanding of content.
- More challenging test questions may result in an initial drop in scores.

How can I help my child learn at home?

Stay in touch with your teachers and work as a team to support your child's learning and growth.

Who can I contact for more information?

Kevin Beckner, Parkway Student Assessment at (314) 415-7047.



SCAN THIS NOW

Get More Information about Common Core
Go to pkwy.info/commoncorestatestandards or scan this code to view videos, answers to frequently asked questions or links to additional resources.

Your School Board

Putting faces with names

Beth Feldman
President



Dee Mogerman
Vice President



Kim Appelbaum



Tom Appelbaum



Chris Jacob



Bruce Major



Sam Sciortino



The board meets at 7 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.



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Calendar

www.parkwayschools.net/pages/ParkwayC2/News__Calendars

May 23
Last day of school

June 2
Summer school begins

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.

Parkway's Mobile App

Check out Parkway's free mobile app which ranked among the top 100 U.S. educational apps in the Apple App Store when it debuted last July. Nearly 9,000 people have downloaded the app, which allows you to do the following:

- Choose your news and notifications;
- Personalize your calendar; and
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