



April 2022



Barrett and Park Elementary each hosted kindergarten registration nights on March 23 and March 24. The schools were open to the community for residents to stop by to register their children for kindergarten for the 2022-23 school year and to learn more about each school.

Teachers and administrators were on hand to answer questions, help fill out forms, provide details about what life is like at each school, and offer suggestions on how to make sure each child is ready for kindergarten.

Registration is ongoing. Parents or guardians interested in enrolling their children for kindergarten [can find all of the resources they need on the district web site](#). The web site includes a handy checklist to ensure that parents and students are fully prepared to embark on the kindergarten journey, as well as all of the forms necessary to go through the enrollment process.



The Steel Valley School District is currently accepting applications for two administrative positions.

The district is hiring a Middle School Principal and a Director/Supervisor of Pupil Services and Special Education. Job posting descriptions are available at <https://www.steelvalleysd.org/district/employment-postings>.

Qualified candidates should send a letter of interest, resume, standard application, transcripts, current clearances and credentials to hrrsupport@steelvalleysd.org.

STEEL VALLEY SPOTLIGHT



Baking has always been a part of Kaiden Jefferson's life, but she never imagined it being anything more than a hobby. She had other creative passions, and her first choice for classes at the Steel Center for Career and Technical Education was collision repair. It turns out Jefferson has a flair for the confectionary arts. The Steel Valley senior qualified for the Pennsylvania SkillsUSA Baking Competition that begins April 6, 2022 at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey. To learn more about Jefferson's prowess in the kitchen and what she'll be facing in Hershey, [read her story on the district website.](#)

BARRETT ELEMENTARY NEWS



“Music in Our Schools Month” is celebrated across the country every March. Barrett students had a lot of fun celebrating it all month long. The morning announcements give them a “Music Fun Fact of the Day.” The students learn fun music facts like what an “earworm” is or what instrument their teachers played in high school.

The students learned how to play Orff instruments such as xylophones, metallophones, glockenspiels and their classroom percussion instruments as well. Dance and movement are also huge parts of music classes.

Just in time for St. Patrick’s Day, the students learned how to do the Irish Jig. There was also singing, dancing, reading rhythms and playing instruments during music classes.

The arts were a major focus all throughout March. Kindergarten students practiced their painting skills, including the basics about primary colors. The adults also had a chance to get in on the fun in March, as Barrett hosted a Pizza and Paint night for fourth grade girls and their parents and guardians. While they were painting, the girls learned about things like gossiping, exclusion and important social skills to help prepare them for the transition to middle school.



The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile will be making a stop at the high school on Monday, April 11. The Care Mobile offers medical care to children throughout the Pittsburgh area and will be available for families in the Steel Valley community with this visit to the high school.

The Care Mobile can provide immunizations, routine physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses in children, adolescent and youth adult health care, referrals for specialty care, and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) form assistance.

All of the services are provided at no out-of-pocket cost to families.

Anyone interested in stopping by the Care Mobile should make sure they arrive by 1:30 p.m. on Monday, April 11 in order to register in time.

The Care Mobile is a collaboration between UPMC Children's Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Pittsburgh and Morgantown.

Anyone in need of more information before the visit can call 412-352-1059 or visit www.chp.edu/our-services/mobile-medical-clinic.

PARK ELEMENTARY NEWS



March was Women's History Month and Park students took advantage of the opportunity to learn more about some famous women. Third graders spent time researching famous women to find information about her life story, achievements and hardships.

Students received a checklist to self-assess themselves and also had the opportunity to provide feedback to a classmate. They later worked on designing a Keynote Presentation to share with the class.

March was also Music in Our Schools Month, and Park students learned about World Music Drumming. Students played the Tubanos, Floor Toms, Gathering Drums, Gankogui, Shekere and many other instruments from around the world. Students not only learned common rhythms found in Africa and the Caribbean, they also made rhythms of their own!

Besides playing a new instrument, students acquired a better awareness of what life is like in other places, and came to understand the important role music plays in a culture.



The Steel Valley School District is hiring for several important positions! The district is in need of paraeducators and substitute teachers, as well as substitute secretaries, paraprofessionals, custodians, and cafeteria workers. A full list of openings [is available on the web site.](#)

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



The fish tank in Mr. Hofbauer's classroom is becoming more active as the trout

continue to grow. What began as a batch of eggs in a basket has transformed into small trout called fry. These "baby" fish are tiny - just a few centimeters big - but through careful nurturing will eventually become fingerlings. At that size, they'll be large enough and self-sufficient to be released into the wild to continue their growth into adult trout.

The students in Mr. Hofbauer's life science classes are busy taking care of the fry. Students feed the fry on a strict schedule, monitor the water for pH balance and other readings, ensure the temperature is properly regulated and much more. The tank is designed to replicate the conditions of a wild trout stream.

The goal is to have the fry transform into fingerlings that are 2-3 inches long by the end of May, with the hope to take a field trip to release them into an officially certified trout stream.

The winner of the Middle School Yearbook Cover Art Contest is Effie Seidling. Effie's cover will be printed on all of this year's yearbooks and she received a \$100 Amazon gift card. In addition to Effie, finalists included Theo Coyne, Sunny Clark, Rebekah Kleiber, and Dominic Siegel. These students received \$15 gift cards. The remaining entries were placed in a drawing for brand new Sharpie packs, given to Aliyah Abdullah and Skyler Palm. All submissions will be printed in small format on a page inside the yearbook.



Stay up to date with what's happening on our social media accounts! The

district has a Twitter account and Instagram account, as well as individual Facebook pages for each of our four schools. Click the respective icons at the bottom of the newsletter to make sure you're following us!

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



The Student Council held its third blood drive of the school year in March. Staff and volunteers from Vitalant were on hand to make sure everything went smoothly. Each donation saves approximately three lives and blood donations are always in need throughout our community and region. Student Council will be hosting more blood drives again in the future, so keep an eye out for more information about the next one.

If you would like to donate blood in the future, students need to be 16 years of age or older. All students need permission slips signed by parents or guardians. There are also specific health restrictions that are available to review at [Vitalant.org](https://www.vitalant.org).

Senior Trevon Scott finished sixth at the Pennsylvania High School Bowling Championships. He had a six-game total score of 1284 and a high game of 258. Scott's performance left him just short of the cut for the singles finals. Scott had a magnificent senior season as he finished second at the WPIBL south section qualifier, reached the semifinals of the regional playoffs and finished third in the Western Pennsylvania Bowling Tournament.

The spring sports season is underway, with the varsity baseball, softball and boys volleyball teams all in action. Volleyball home games are played in the high school gym while baseball and softball games are played at West Field.



Prom tickets are now on sale. Tickets cost \$70 per person and will be sold until Wednesday, April 6. Students must complete the required prom paperwork and must submit this paperwork when purchasing a ticket.

No tickets will be sold after April 6th, and no refunds will be issued after April 15th.



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