



"Serving the Educational Needs of Munhall, Homestead and West Homestead"

Steel Valley School District

Park Elementary School

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Dr. Thomas Shaughnessy
Principal

Mrs. Brandi Chalus
Guidance Counselor

August 27, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The teachers, staff, and I are really looking forward to a wonderful school year, and we hope you are, too! Last year was unpleasant for everyone, and I want to thank you for staying positive and flexible – I know it was not easy on you or your families.

Park Elementary ranks among the best schools in the state, and the kids from Munhall, West Homestead, and Homestead who go to school here are going to be better off in life because of it. As a reminder of what our school community has accomplished:

- Park is the only school in Allegheny County asked to support the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Advanced Credentialing efforts. Park will serve as a model school for educators pursuing the credential once the program is up-and-running.
- Park is outperforming every school in Allegheny County with comparable demographics, and every school in wealthy suburban districts such as South Fayette, North Hills, and Quaker Valley. We are also outperforming five schools in North Allegheny, which is routinely touted as being one of the best school districts in the country.
- Park is the only elementary school in Western Pennsylvania to have been recognized by Apple as an Apple Distinguished School. Park serves as a model school for educators interested in how schools can promote 21st Century skills and effectively integrate technology.
- Park's Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports ("School Wide") Program was formally recognized by the state in 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021. We received a perfect score on our last in-depth state evaluation that focused on culture, behavior, communications, and safety; and our security procedures have been adopted by a neighboring district.

This year, if we all stay positive and work together, we will accomplish even more.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas Shaughnessy
Principal
Park Elementary School