SOUTH PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT E-Newsletter February 6, 2017



South Park Eighth Graders Take First Place at Science Bowl

South Park eighth graders Josh Bennett, Katie Christman, Luke Furman and Madeline Kinevy took first place at the Allegheny Intermediate Unit's Science Bowl at the Carnegie Science Center on January 24, 25 and 26. Students competed in four different hands-on challenges. The eighth grade gifted team's first place finish is the first for the South Park School District. The students competed against students from a number of local school districts. Mrs. Ruscitto accompanied the team to the competition.

South Park Student-Athletes Sign Letters of Intent South Park High School football players Adam Morris and Nolan Genilla recently signed letters of intent to continue their athletic and educational careers. Adam will attend Clarion in the fall, and Nolan will attend Saginaw Valley State in the fall. Adam and Nolan were joined by their families, head coach Marty Rieck and South Park administrators when they signed their letters of intent. Congratulations, Adam and Nolan!



SAUTH DADE

South Park Elementary Center's Souper Bowl Sets New Record!

After three weeks of intense competition, South Park Elementary Center recently completed the 2017 Souper Bowl. The fifth annual event collected soup for the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. A total of 6,901 cans and packages of soup were collected. That more than doubles the previous record of 3,030.

Mrs. Byron's first graders were the "Souper Bowl V" champions, collecting 1,490 cans and packages of soup. Mrs. Byron's students will enjoy the sweet taste of victory, as they will be treated to a Super Bowl sundae!

Congratulations to everyone at South Park Elementary Center for truly demonstrating generosity to such a wonderful and charitable cause. We can't wait to see how many cans and packages of soup are collected next year!

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Chinese New Year Celebration

First grade students celebrated Chinese New Year on Thursday, January 26. Students participated in a parade and enjoyed noodles and fortune cookies.



Eighth Grade Students Complete Applied Engineering & Technology Capstone Project



Mr. Whittington's eighth grade students recently completed their apocalypse challenge projects. The month-long capstone project pushes students to utilize all of the skills they have learned over the last four years of Applied Engineering & Technology. Each group is challenged to build a machine that will run autonomously to solve an apocalyptic scenario including preparing food, rebuilding structures, finding survivors or moving medical equipment.

Each team starts by utilizing the design process. They create brainstorming sketches and plan a solution on paper. After students have collaborated on a basic design, they work to plan the mechanical systems and synthesize what parts they will need to prototype out of the Makerbot 3D printer. At this point, the design specialists start to utilize the 3D modeling suite Autodesk Inventor to create their new prototype parts, while the other members build the mechanical subsystems utilizing the VEX robotic electronics and materials. Upon completion of the two tasks, the teams attach the system and utilize their knowledge of algorithms and programing to automate the machine and resolve the scenario. The final projects are demonstrated and presented to classmates and administrators to communicate their unique results and solutions to the problems.

The solutions to each problem are unique and guided by the ingenuity of each group. Through this project, the students gain the experience of working in a real engineering team with different specialists who must be able to merge multiple systems (mechanical, electrical and programming) into one final product.



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South Park High School Students Recognized with Scholastic Art Awards



Six South Park High School students will have their work displayed as part of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards sponsored by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers. The exhibit at La Roche College runs from February 4 through February 19. On February 19, an awards ceremony will be held.

Some of the students' winning photography is featured below.



by Leonardo Grohmann



by Haley Faust



by Laura Sensabaugh



by Jillian McKinzie



by Teddy Cecotti



by Kayla Lukitsch

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Dates to Remember

Thursday, February 9 Board of Directors Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the South Park High School Cafeteria

Monday, February 20 No School for Students (Possible Snow Make-Up Day)

High School Students Volunteer at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank



Several ninth grade students recently volunteered at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. Ms. Scanlon and Ms. Foley accompanied the students who earned community service hours. They worked on an assembly line to send care packages to the elderly in the community.

Grant Provides Greenhouse Equipment for South Park Middle School



South Park Middle School was awarded a grant through the Society of Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh and the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh for greenhouse equipment. Mrs. Ruscitto and Mr. Criswell wrote the grant. The new equipment will play a big part in science lessons this spring at South Park Middle School.



2017-2018 Kindergarten Registration

The 2017-2018 Kindergarten Registration for South Park Elementary Center is underway. In order for your child to be eligible for Kindergarten, the student must reach the age of five (5) before September 1, 2017.

Registration packets will be available to pick up at South Park Elementary Center from February 1 until March 31, 2017 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. This year, we are offering one special after-school opportunity to pick up your packet on February 10, 2017 from 3:40 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For more details about Kindergarten registration, click here to visit the Kindergarten registration web page.

SPHS Eagle Ridge Child Development Center Applications for 2017-2018

South Park High School's Eagle Ridge Preschool Program will be accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year from April 3 through May 4.

Fourteen three-year-olds for our Monday/Wednesday program, and 14 four-year-olds for our Tuesday/Thursday program will be accepted. Those in the three-year-old program will move into the four-year-old program after reapplying for the upcoming year.

New applicants may apply for the four-year-old program and could be accepted if an opening becomes available. It never hurts to apply and remain on a waiting list!

Click here for more details on how to apply and to print the required forms.

South Park School District

Strengthening minds. Powering futures.

The South Park School District's mission is to provide an educational atmosphere where all students have opportunities to discover their talents, develop their abilities, and achieve the expectations embedded in our educational program to become responsible and productive members of society.