



State College Area School District

Our Mission: To prepare students for lifelong success through excellence in education

Issue: 1

August 2016

Back to School Issue



UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug. 21 -Weekend Registration, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Aug. 27 - Weekend Registration, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aug. 29 - First Day of School

Sept. 2, 7 p.m. First Football Game at McCaskey HS

Sept. 5 - No School, Labor Day

Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m. Used Instrument Sale

Sept. 19, 7 p.m. - Community Forum on the Elementary School Projects

*See each school's home page calendar for their back-to-school events, meetings, and orientations.

School Board Meetings:

Aug. 22 - 7 p.m.

Sept. 12 - 7 p.m.

For a listing of upcoming events, please see our calendar: www.scasd.org/events

Quick Links

[District Home Page](#)

[Academic Calendar](#)

Greetings!

We're excited to begin the new school year Aug. 29. It's been a great summer, and we are all energized and eager to welcome students back to the classroom.

Sincerely,
Chris Rosenblum & Nabil Mark
SCASD communications office

Students receive adaptive bicycles

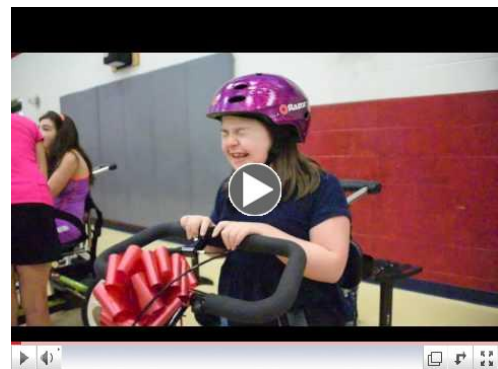
Charlie LaVallee cut right to the heart of why parents were smiling and children were fidgeting in anticipation inside Park Forest Elementary School's gym.

LaVallee, the chief executive officer of Variety-the Children's Charity, looked happy himself.

"When you think about it, 10 kids getting bikes today, how great is that?" he said to his audience.

LaVallee had traveled from Wexford, home of his charity, to present adaptive bicycles to local students who need special education and special services. In various bright colors, the bikes stood arrayed in a row on either side of him, like cars in a dealer's lot, each bearing its new owner's name tag and a red bow.

The students, largely from State College Area School District schools but also from the Clearfield and Bald Eagle Area school districts, received snappy gifts from Variety's signature My Bike Program. [Read More](#)



Adaptive Bicycles Video

State High grad wins silver medal

Vincent Liu, who graduated in June, helped the five-member U.S. Physics Team place fifth in the world at the 47th International Physics Olympiad July 10-18 in Zurich, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. Liu won an individual silver medal, and his team finished seventh in the medal count with two golds and three silvers. [Read More](#)



U.S. Physics Team. Vincent Liu, far left.

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Sept. 19 - Mount Nittany M.S.
Oct. 17 - location TBD

The community is invited to participate in discussions about the District-wide Facilities Master Plan update focused on elementary schools. Topics will include prior master planning conclusions, district enrollment and school size, cost analysis, and proposed building and site plans including phasing. The board anticipates making a decision in November. Attend any of the 7 p.m. meetings. Childcare will be provided. [Learn more](#)



Weekend registration times added

Sunday, Aug. 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Student Registration Office, Room 101, Central Office
131 W. Nittany Ave, State College, PA 814-231-1017

[More Information](#)

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Kindergarteners and their families are cordially invited to attend the first State High home football game on Friday, Sept. 16, 2016.



Students, wear your maroon Class of 2029 T-shirt for free admission and to receive free gifts!

Meet New Members of the District Leadership Team



Vernon Bock
Supervisor of
Elementary Ed.



Nabil K. Mark
Website and
Social Media
Coordinator

The following team members have taken on new roles:

- Jason Perrin, Asst. Superintendent, Secondary Ed.
- Curtis Johnson, Principal, State High
- Kathy Pechtold, Associate Principal, State High
- Sharon Salter, Director of Special Education
- Heather Pringle, Assistant Director of Special Education
- Mark Feldman, Principal of Mount Nittany Elementary
- Charlotte Zmyslo, now Principal of Corl Street Elementary and Ferguson Township Elementary

- Alex Raup, Assistant Principal, Mount Nittany Middle School

State High Project updates

The project remains on schedule.

- No work days were lost to rain this summer, and the project remains on schedule and within its budget.
- The four main classroom units continue to be developed with steel installation and concrete pours.
- Temporary, climate-controlled classrooms are being added to offset instructional space lost to demolition over the summer. The North Building will have two two-classroom units, and the South Building is getting one four-classroom unit with counseling offices.
- Excavation continues for a stormwater connection between the north and south campuses. This could cause periodic lane closures on Westerly Parkway.
- Workers are finishing a retaining wall that expands the parking lot beside the track in back of the South Building. They're also completing utilities work.
- Until the first day of school Aug. 29, the South Building back parking lot will be accessible via the loop road from O'Bryan Lane, but the exit to Westerly Parkway will be closed. The full loop will be open once school resumes.
- The main North Building parking lot's entrance and exit remain the same, with the entrance near the gym.



[Director of Physical Plant Ed Poprik's blog](#) for updates and photos. [Sign up](#) for project updates via e-mail and/or SMS text to stay informed. Updates will include timely news and features about project progress, parking and traffic, construction phasing, project milestones, and more. [Project website](#)

Get ready for school with Kindergarten Camp

Kindergarten Camp is a great way for our incoming kindergarteners to learn about their school, meet teachers, and make friends!

Camps will be held at all eight of our elementary schools this year.

[Easterly Parkway Elementary](#) - August 16 from 9 to 11 a.m.

[Ferguson Township Elementary](#) - August 15 to August 18, 9 to 11 a.m.

[Gray's Woods Elementary](#) - August 10, 11, & 12 from 9 to 11 a.m.

[Houserville/Lemont Elementary](#) - August 15 from 9 a.m. to noon at Lemont Elementary

[Mount Nittany Elementary](#) - August 10 and 11 from 9 to 11 a.m.

[Radio Park Elementary](#) - August 18 and 19 from 9 to 11 a.m. followed by a kindergarten family social from 11 a.m. to noon on August 19th with pizza and ice cream on the school playground.

[Park Forest Elementary](#) - August 15 from 9-11 a.m.

[Corl Street Elementary](#) - August 19 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. To sign up for Corl St. call 814-231-1185 or e-mail cjk12@scasd.org

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The collaboration between the SCASD Music Program and Penn State won a College Music Society Fund award this summer.

The award comes with a \$1,000 stipend that the program could apply toward renting Eisenhower Auditorium for the partnership's 10th anniversary. [Read More](#)

We hope you enjoy this news from SCASD. Let us know your comments at info@scasd.org.

Please share this newsletter by clicking "forward" below.