

Dear Community member,

In honor of the season, we have some holiday cheer to enjoy — our latest mix of stories from around the district, sure to put a little jingle in your step. No assembly required, it's our gift!

Best wishes,

Chris Rosenblum & Nabil K. Mark
SCASD Communications



Signs of the Future

Meet Amy Lawrence. She's fluent in sign language, and is SCASD's Hearing Support Teacher. Lawrence works with K-12 students who have a hearing loss. Most school districts rely on Central Intermediate Unit hearing support teachers, but SCASD educates enough hearing-impaired students to warrant having its own specialist. [Read More](#)



IB Candidate School

The State College Area High School has been approved as a candidate school for two optional high school International Baccalaureate Programmes: The IB Diploma Programme and the IB Career-related Programme. [Read More](#)



Alumnus Plays on *The Tonight Show*

"My public school music teacher Bob Labarca saw something in me," he said, "and he encouraged me to start private lessons." Between those lessons and his band directors at State High, Ian Hendrickson-Smith developed the skills he needed as a professional musician. [Read More](#)



CEEL Wins Gold!

SCASD's Community Education Extended Learning (CEEL) Program won first-place in State College Magazine's "Best of" issue for Best place for After-School Activities. [Read More](#)



Canine Confidant

A LifeLink PSU student partners with a service dog. The trade-off goes a little something like this: in return for closing locker doors, unzipping coats and pressing the handicap button at doorways, Katie provides Zola with a steady supply of treats. Story and photos via the Centre Daily Times. [Read More](#)

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Read!



The 2018 Centre County Recycling & Refuse Authority calendar includes artwork by Ally Duncan and Isabel Olson, both from Gray's Woods, and Poppy Rusca from Park Forest. Each month showcases an environmental poster done by a local fifth-grade elementary student. [Read More](#)



Visiting Author Program

Author and artist Roxie Munro, who has written and illustrated more than 40 nonfiction books, visited the district as part of the library visiting author program. [Read More](#)



I'm Going to Disney World!

Easterly Parkway fifth-grader Camryn Shomo was surprised with a trip to Walt Disney World. The trip is sponsored by Pixie Dust Wishes, a nonprofit that helps children with disabilities and their families "experience the magic of Disney." Story and photos via the Centre Daily Times. [Read More](#)

From the *Lion's Digest*, the student voice of State High — By Isabelle Snyder



Local Elections: The Most Important Vote

"If you want your voice to be heard, and you want to make an impact, and you want things to go how you want to see them, it's your responsibility to vote," Keally Haushalter said when asked about the importance of voting. [Read More](#)

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