

THE

# Black & Gold Unfold

-Home of the Panthers-



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Official Newsletter of Parkway Local Schools

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## District News

Correspondent: Carter J. Hellwarth



### School Board Looking Ahead With New Calendars

The Parkway School Board has officially approved the school calendars for the next two years (up through 2023-2024). The use of E-Days has allowed for some new changes in the schedule. To view these calendars, follow the directions in the box on the right.



Leah Eichler and Mrs. Anita Morton

### Parkway Student Honored With Franklin B. Walter Nomination

The Franklin B. Walter All-Scholastic Award is a prestigious honor and scholarship given to one senior from every school in each Educational Service Center District. Representing Parkway in the running for Mercer County’s Award on April 6th was Leah Eichler. Leah was Parkway’s representative to be considered for the award and was chosen in part because of her academic standing. Mrs. Anita Morton represented Leah as her ‘teacher of influence,’ and spoke on her behalf at the banquet. Franklin B. Walter, the man the award is named for, was a highly-renowned state superintendent from the years 1977-1991.

### Sports Physicals for Parkway Students

Mercer Health will once again be conducting sports physicals at Parkway two evenings in early June for \$10. (dates to be determined) The athlete portion of the sports physical will now be completed online through Final Forms. This is a great opportunity to have your physical completed for the entire 2022-2023 sports season. More details and dates will be announced through the text alert system at a later date.

### Final Forms Registration

Back to school forms and athletic registration will now be through Final Forms. Beginning May 9, 2022, Final Forms will be open for the 2022-2023 school year. Parents/guardians will be receiving an email to verify their Final Forms account and to complete back to school forms for the 2022-2023 school year. Please call the office with any questions you may have during this process. Secretaries will be available through the middle of June and will be back the first week of August.



# High School News

Correspondents: Chantry Simon and Blayne Fullenkamp



## Hellwarth Speaking for Ohio

Parkway junior Carter Hellwarth has been chosen to represent Ohio at the National FFA convention in the category of Advanced Prepared Public Speaking due to his outstanding performance in the in-state competition back in March.

Advanced Prepared Public Speaking is an FFA competition where the FFA member creates a six to eight minute speech about a current agricultural topic. After preparing and memorizing the speech, the member presents his/her speech in front of a panel of judges, along with five minutes of questions from the judges. Carter's speech is based on the "Victory Garden." Victory Gardens were grown as a wartime effort to encourage people to become partially self-sufficient and to ensure our nation's food supply for civilians troops overseas.

Carter's "Victory Garden" speech and his public speaking skills earned him first place at both the local and state levels. Carter will proudly represent Ohio at the National FFA Convention in October, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

## Parkway Band Marches to State

Parkway's Class-C band has qualified for the state competition in Gahanna, Ohio, in April. The band had to earn their way to state by qualifying at the local level. Parkway performed two songs, *In Tantum Lux*, which translates to "The Only Light" and is dedicated to the life of a music educator who passed, and the second song entitled *National Honor*, is a patriotic march that was written during World War I. This performance was their first performance since 2019 when they performed at the state competition in Findlay.

Bands are scored on a scale of I, II, III, or IV (I being the highest score and IV being the lowest score). Parkway earned an overall score of a I, which allows the band to go onto the state competition.

The songs that Parkway will play at state will be *National Honor*; *Chimney Rock Celebration*, a dedication to the pioneers that developed the west; and *Summer Resounding*, a song that captures the feeling of summer.

With state competition coming soon, the Parkway band practices vigorously with the goal of earning a I at state.

## Competitors... Start Your Console

Parkway High School recently created an Esports Team, which is a video game club. The club is overseen by Ms. Conn, who acts as the club's advisor. They compete in tournaments and have been successful thus far, inspiring confidence among club members. The club is broken up into two different groups, one group plays the game *Super Smash Brothers* and the other plays the game *Rocket League*. *Super Smash Brothers* is a crossover battle game series published by Nintendo, and primarily features cartoonish characters from various Nintendo franchises. The gameplay objective is to increase damage counters and knock opponents off the stage. To win the game requires strategy, effort, and planning.

*Rocket League* is described as "soccer, but with rocket-powered cars." *Rocket League* has up to eight players assigned to each of the two teams, using rocket-powered vehicles to hit a ball into their opponent's goal and score points over the course of a match. This game requires strategy and understanding of the game, and is very competitive just as any other sport.

The new Esports club builds friendships, friendly competition, and offers students an alternative to traditional sports.



Parkway High School band, directed by Mr. Twigg



Carter Hellwarth



# Middle School News



Correspondents: Chase Heitkamp and Gabe Schaaf

## Students of the Month

**5th Grade - Hadley Stover** - Hadley never quits. She is full of grit and determination. If she doesn't get it the first time, she stays at it until she does. Hadley is also very friendly and considerate to others. She comes to school with a positive attitude that is contagious. Keep up the great work, Hadley! Hadley is a member of Wadiarius. She is the daughter of Trey and Sheena Stover.

**6th Grade - Bryson Painter** - Throughout the year, Bryson has consistently been a positive student to have in class. He always comes to class prepared with needed materials and completed homework. Bryson participates in class discussions, has a great personality, and gets along well with all of his classmates! Bryson is a member of Wadiarius. He is the son of Chris and Courtney Painter.

**7th Grade - Kelsie Arnold** - Kelsie has been consistent all year. She does her work and asks questions when needed. She keeps a positive attitude and is a pleasure to have in class. Kelsie is respectful and kind. Keep up the good work, Kelsie!!! Kelsie is a member of Alacer. She is the daughter of Deidre Baer and Tate Arnold.

**8th Grade - Parker Johnson** - Parker is a very kind student that is always polite and uplifting to other students. He is a hard worker in all classes. He has no trouble working with others or being part of a group. He comes to school every day prepared to learn and grow. Keep up the PAWS-itive attitude Parker! Parker is a member of Potis. He is the son of Patrick and Betsy Johnson.



## Natalie Moeller to Compete in National Spelling Bee

Natalie Moeller, an eighth grader, will be competing in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C., on June 1-2. After winning the Parkway Spelling Bee, she advanced onto the regional spelling bee at the University of Northwestern Ohio Event Center. "Agitation" is the word Natalie spelled to win the regional spelling bee.

When asked how she prepared for previous spelling bees and how she will prepare for the Scripps National Spelling Bee, Natalie explained that she studies word packets and uses apps on her phone. Natalie said that reading books growing up is what helped her become such a good speller. To help her spell words on stage, Natalie likes to "picture the word in her head" which she says helps her see the word and then spell it. This tactic has helped her make it all the way to the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Natalie's trip to Washington D.C. is almost fully paid for and she will also get to do different sightseeing activities. Natalie expressed that she is "very excited, but also very nervous."

We wish Natalie the best of luck as she represents Parkway in the Scripps National Spelling Bee.





# Elementary News

Correspondents: Caden Slusher and Jace Armstrong



## Elementary Library Receives Donations

The Elementary Library has recently purchased new books using money donated by the Hopewell Grange Ladies Auxiliary. Community member Carol Gibson has also donated multiple books for our students to read. Thank you to all.

## Reading March Madness

Second graders participated in a "Reading March Madness" tournament of the best read-aloud books. The tournament started with 32 books, 8 per classroom, where the teacher read two books to the class. The students voted on their favorite book, then that book moved on to the next round. "We are very excited to do this since it is the first year we have gotten to do it fully," said Zachary Bates, the second-grade teacher who organized this event. "After getting shut down because of Covid and not having enough time to do it last year, we hope this is a way to get students excited about reading and to make reading fun."

## Baseball Themed Pow-Wow

The Kindergarten through Fourth Grade classes attended a "Pow-Wow," which is a fun assembly that occurs every month that includes themes, games, and other fun activities. This month's theme was baseball. The entire staff and some students were dressed in baseball jerseys and attire. The staff also played a fun game which consisted of hitting a ball into baskets with a baseball bat. Additionally, some of the senior baseball and softball players were introduced to the elementary students. The students were very cheerful and excited throughout the Pow-Wow.

## TREE Presentation to Third Grade

With Spring in full swing, the 3rd grade students learned about trees and how important they are to our way of life. Ariel Hein from the Mercer County Soil and Water Conservation District came and gave an outstanding presentation to the students. Mrs. Hein told the 3rd grade class all about conifer trees and how they grow.

Students learned a lot about trees and were given conifer saplings to take home to plant.

## Elementary Students of the Month



Kindergarten- Stella Burtch, Jy'mani Fetters; 1st- ALeah Font, Jake Strader; 2nd- Alyvia Nusbaum, Hannah Williamson; 3rd- Jackson Scott, Jaxson Baltzell; 4th- Lydia Gibbons, Meadow Hays



L to R: Parker Harvey, Laynie Herman, Avery Baucher, and Daisy Bollenbacher