



# EAGLE EYE

MAY 2022

## NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR SOUTH PARK HIGH SCHOOL

South Park High School has been recognized as a 2021-2022 Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Distinguished School. Only 191 high schools across the country received this prestigious honor for providing broad access to transformative learning experiences for students through PLTW courses. This national distinction is in recognition of the high school's PLTW engineering courses.

Distinguished Schools are committed to increasing student access, engagement and achievement in their PLTW programs. To be eligible for the designation, South Park High School had to meet the following criteria in the 2020-2021 school year.

- Had 25 percent of students or more participate in PLTW High School courses, or of those who participated during the 2020-21 school year, at least 33 percent took two or more PLTW courses during their tenure at the school;
- Offer and had students enrolled in at least three PLTW High School courses;
- Had strategies and procedures in place that support reasonably proportional representation with regard to race,

ethnicity, poverty, gender, and can support such claims with relevant data.

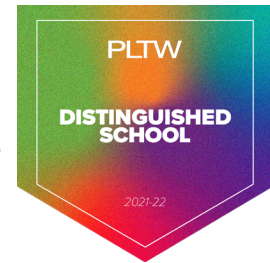
"We are honored to recognize South Park High School for its unwavering commitment to provide students with an excellent educational experience despite the last two years having been some of the most challenging in recent history for students and educators across the U.S. due to the COVID-19 pandemic," said Dr. David Dimmett, Interim President and CEO of PLTW. "South Park High School should be very proud of its achievements in unlocking its students' potential and equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to thrive in life beyond the classroom no matter what career path they choose."

South Park High School offers a four-level honors engineering pathway in ninth through twelfth grades. Mr. Dave Bailey teaches the freshmen- and sophomore-level courses (introduction to engineering design and principles of engineering) in the pathway. Students in introduction to engineering design focus on the engineering design process, parametric 3D modeling and reverse engineering.

In principles of engineering, students explore a wide range of engineering topics in this rigorous course in applied physics.

Mr. Eric Wisler teaches the junior- and senior-level courses. Juniors in digital electronics delve into circuit design and Boolean logic. The senior-level engineering design and development class is utilized as a research, development and prototyping course.

PLTW is a nonprofit organization that serves millions of PreK-12 students and teachers in more than 12,200 schools across the United States. PLTW Engineering empowers high school students to step into the role of an engineer and adopt a problem-solving mindset. Students engage in collaborative, real-life activities like working with a client to design a home, programming electronic devices or robotic arms, and exploring algae as a biofuel source.



## DATES TO REMEMBER

June 2	Last Day of School HS - 11 a.m. Dismissal MS - 11:30 a.m. Dismissal EC - 12 Noon Dismissal
June 6	South Park Kennywood Picnic
June 13	Board of Directors Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m. HS Cafeteria (Date Changed from June 9)



\*TICKETS ARE NOT REQUIRED

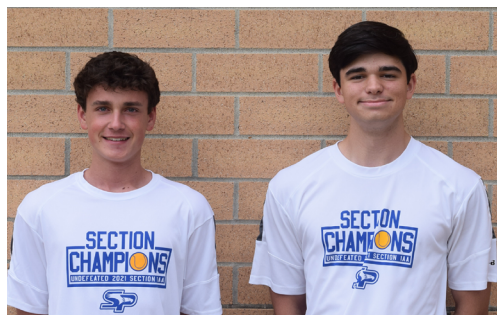
## WPIAL BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

The Eagles will play in the WPIAL baseball championship game on Wednesday, June 1 at 4:30 p.m. at Wild Things Park against Mohawk. Go Eagles!



## TENNIS PLAYERS GO TO STATES

This spring, Tim Lakatos and Alex Duing were WPIAL 2A tennis doubles runners-up and advanced to the PIAA championship in Hershey on Friday, May 27.



## 2021 SOUTH PARK SOFTBALL

Congratulations to the South Park High School girls' softball team who qualified for the WPIAL playoffs and faced Waynesburg on Tuesday, May 17.

## TRACK & FIELD SUCCESS

At the WPIAL Track & Field Championship on May 18, South Park junior Elliot Oliphant took first place in the high jump, becoming a WPIAL champion and advancing to the state championship. Also at the WPIAL championships:

- Preston Cecotti took second place in the pole vault and advanced to the state championship.
- Lauren Ippolito took third place in the 400m dash and advanced to the state championship.
- Luke Smith took third place in the 400m dash and advanced to the state championship.
- Lauren Ippolito, Maya Wertelet, Taylor Vargo, and Gianna Girol took third place in the 4x400m relay and advanced to the state championship.
- Cole Brdar, Logan Brewer, Preston Cecotti, and Luke Smith took third place in the 4x400m relay and advanced to the state championship.
- Joyce Martin took fourth place in the 100m hurdles and advanced to the state championship.
- Jack Ozimek tied for fourth place in the high jump and advanced to the state championship.
- Nora Ozimek took eighth place in the triple jump.

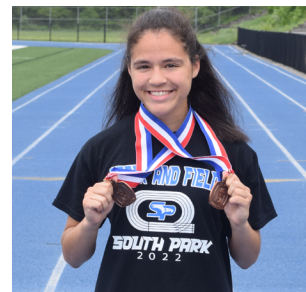
At the state championship, Elliot Oliphant took third place in the high jump!



Elliot Oliphant



Preston Cecotti



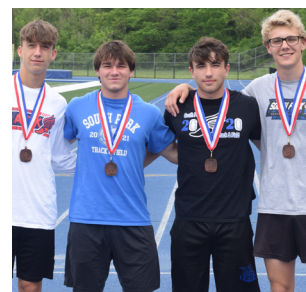
Lauren Ippolito



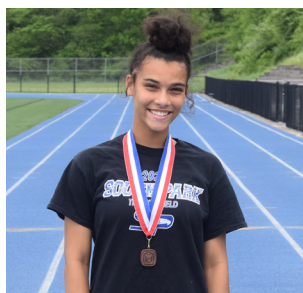
Luke Smith



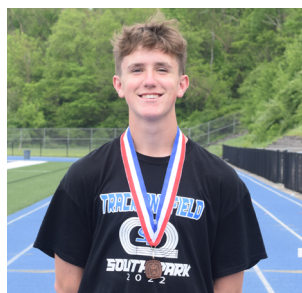
Gianna Girol, Taylor Vargo, Maya Wertelet & Lauren Ippolito



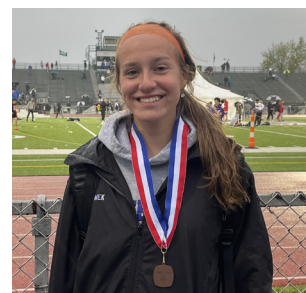
Logan Brewer, Cole Brdar, Luke Smith & Preston Cecotti



Joyce Martin



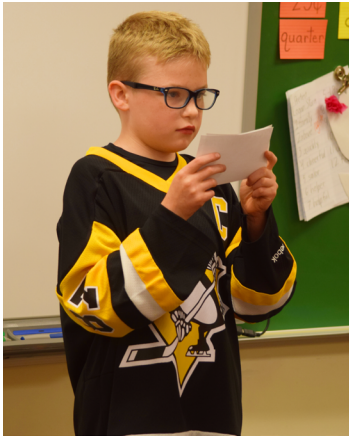
Jack Ozimek



Nora Ozimek



## WAX MUSEUM



After reading about and researching historical figures, second grade students in Mrs. Jackovic's and Mrs. Fittipaldo's classes presented their projects during a wax museum on Thursday, May 26. The students even dressed the part as they shared some interesting facts about some famous individuals including George Washington, Harriet Tubman, Jane Goodall, and even Sidney Crosby.



## PUBLISHED AUTHORS

In the fall, South Park High School students in a creative writing course taught by Mr. Michael Tobias submitted entries for a national competition hosted by YoungWriters, an international organization dedicated to promoting a passion for writing within young, aspiring authors. Judges review each entry to determine which works are worthy of publication. Works selected for this year's publication centered around the theme of "Unsolved," for mystery, thriller, or suspense-type stories.



This year, more than 8,000 works were submitted. All entries submitted by South Park students were selected for publication. This is the first time all entries submitted by South Park students have been accepted for publication. The entries were submitted by Brooke Bichler, Jenya DeHaven, Elisabeth Henrich, Candace Hodge, Tess Lettie, Mikaela Mahoney, Zoe Marsh, Logan Meier, Machai Moore, Sarah Peirce, Connor Scherbick, Nicolina Wall, Ryan Weisbrod, Morgan Wiedder, Aiden Yochum and Riley Ziegler. These students accomplished something that many writers work on for a lifetime – the publication of a work.

## MINI-THON RECORD

2022 was the third year for the South Park High School Mini-THON. And this year, the students, faculty, and staff nearly doubled the amount of money raised from the first two years combined!

On Friday, May 20, students gathered at Eagle Stadium for an evening of music, games, food, and fun to cap off months of fundraising for Four Diamonds, an organization within Pennsylvania State University. Four Diamonds spreads awareness and raises funds for childhood cancer research and patient care and support at Penn State Children's Hospital.

The evening concluded with the big reveal of the amount of money collected for Four Diamonds. This year, South Park High School raised \$32,876.88! Since 2020, high school students, faculty, and staff have raised more than \$65,000 for Four Diamonds. Congratulations to the high school students who participated and to Mrs. Caroline Hecht and Mrs. Adrienne Peterson who helped to organize Mini-THON.



The Board of School Directors on May 12, 2022 adopted a proposed budget of the amount of funds that will be required by the School District in its various departments for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022. This proposed budget is available for public inspection at the Office of the Superintendent, South Park School District, Central Office, 2005 Eagle Ridge Drive, South Park, PA 15129.

The South Park Board of School Directors will hold a Regular Board Meeting on June 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., in the cafeteria at South Park High School for general purposes and to consider the adoption of the annual budget for 2022-2023 and to establish the necessary appropriation measures required to put said budget into effect. (Please note the meeting date change from June 9 to June 13.) If the 2022-2023 annual budget is not adopted on June 13, 2022, the alternate date for the adoption of the budget and other general purposes will be June 20, 2022.

Pursuant to Section 680 of the PA School Code, notice is hereby given that "Every resident or inhabitant in any other school district, upon attaining eighteen years of age, and every person eighteen years of age or over becoming a resident or inhabitant in any school district, shall, within twelve months after the happening thereof, notify the proper assessors of his/her becoming a resident or inhabitant. Any person failing, within said period, to notify the assessors of the school district within which he/she resides, shall in addition to the tax levied by such school district, be liable to such school district in a penal sum equal to such tax."



## MARKET DAY

Fourth grade classrooms at South Park Elementary Center turned into bustling markets in late-May for the annual fourth grade market day. The fun afternoon of shopping and selling was a lesson in economics as students were given paper pesos to purchase handmade items made and marketed by their classmates.



## LAST DAY 2022 THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2022

HIGH SCHOOL	11 AM DISMISSAL
MIDDLE SCHOOL	11:30 AM DISMISSAL
ELEMENTARY CENTER	12 NOON DISMISSAL

## STEAM FUN

Mrs. Fittipaldo's and Mrs. Jackovic's second grade students recently had a lot of fun completing various STEAM activities. After listening to the story "The Crayon Man," the students worked in groups to design a crayon box that holds 24 crayons using only two pieces of paper, scissors and three feet of tape.

Then, they participated in a silent cup stacking challenge. Learners had to use a rubber band with four strings attached to it to stack six cups, with their hand only touching the string.

The afternoon ended with students working in groups of three to build marshmallow towers using 100 toothpicks and two cups of marshmallows. The winning tower was nine inches tall.



## MAKING BIRTHDAYS HAPPY



High school National Honor Society students recently completed a collection drive for Beverly's Birthdays. The nonprofit organization helps to throw birthday parties for children in need. Thanks to the generosity of South Park students, faculty, staff, and community members, the National Honor Society donated an SUV full of toys and gifts to be used by Beverly's Birthdays.

## CONGRATS, PRESCHOOL GRADS!



Last week, the Eagle Ridge Preschool Academy at South Park High School celebrated its graduates who are headed to kindergarten!



## GOING CAMPING

On Friday, May 13, 2022, the South Park School District hosted its first-ever Camp Kindergarten event for incoming kindergarten students. Our soon-to-be kindergarteners got to see their new school and enjoy some camping themed activities and games like reading stories near the campfire with flashlights, fishing with their principals and teachers, an obstacle course, s'more math matching and more following their kindergarten screening!

They also took home a backpack of school supplies thanks to the South Park Education Foundation and other gifts, including campfire treats from our food services staff.



## ATHLETE SIGNINGS

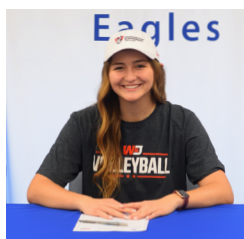
Four more South Park student-athletes will continue their academic and athletic careers at the collegiate level after graduating in June.

Alex Duing will attend Washington & Jefferson College and play tennis.

Jake Ferency will attend John Carroll University and play football.

Faith Fetsko will attend Washington & Jefferson College and play volleyball.

Adam Johnson will attend Washington & Jefferson College and play football.



## TAKING TIME TO ENJOY READING

On Friday, May 27, second graders pushed their desks out of the way, rolled out some beach towels and blankets, grabbed some snacks, and enjoyed a good book. The special afternoon was part of the "Drop Everything and Read" initiative to encourage a love for reading. They were even treated to Rita's Italian Ice!



## COURTROOM EXPERIENCE

Last month, the South Park Mock Trial Team hosted an evening event with South Park alumna, Sarah Linder ('13). Ms. Linder, an attorney in the Allegheny County public defender's office, worked with the team in developing legal arguments for this year's Pennsylvania Mock Trial Case. The students developed and presented their arguments as the prosecution and defense in a first-degree murder case. Ms. Linder sat as judge for the team's formal case presentation.



## SPEF GOLF OUTING

Everyone's favorite golf outing of the summer is back! The South Park Education Foundation Golf Outing and Dinner will be held on Monday, July 25, 2022 at South Hills Country Club. For \$190 per golfer or \$760 per foursome, you will enjoy a day of golf at one of our area's premier courses, a buffet breakfast, lunch, snacks and refreshments on the course and a buffet dinner. There will also be contests on the course with great prizes as well as premium raffles, and a few other surprises.

All money raised will support the students and educators of the South Park School District. The South Park Education Foundation encourages innovation, recognizes excellence, and creates vital partnerships that strengthen our school community. Since 2019, the South Park Education Foundation awarded more than \$12,000 in teacher grants and \$20,000 in student scholarships.

Golf spots are limited, and you can reserve yours online by clicking [here](#).

If you have questions or would like information on sponsorship opportunities, call (412) 655-3111, extension 1002.



## END-OF-THE-YEAR CANDIDS



# ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!

# SP

South Park School District • 2005 Eagle Ridge Drive • South Park, PA 15129 • (412) 655-3111

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.

### Board of Directors

John Innocenti, President • Frank Wentzel, Vice President • Lorraine Blackburn • Mark Depretis  
Angela Girol • Wayne Perry • Nicholas Rudolph • Patrick Sable, Treasurer • Norman Solomon

The South Park School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability or any other legally protected classification in its education programs, activities or employment practices. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws including Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act.

