



# S P T L I G H T

October 2019

SHALER  
AREA  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

## *District Recognitions - Student/Staff Accomplishments*

### *PMEA Honors Band*

Shaler Area is proud to announce junior **Luke Franks**, who plays the trumpet, was accepted into the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Honors Band. Luke Franks is one of more than 500 students from 60 different schools who auditioned for the ensemble. These students will rehearse with a world-renowned conductor on November 22-24, 2019 at North Hills High School and Bethel Park High School. The performance will be held on Sunday, November 24, 2019.

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### *PMEA Honors Chorus*

Shaler Area is proud to announce five students were accepted into the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Honors Chorus. These students were selected based on their level of musicianship, involvement in the vocal arts, and level of vocal talent. The students will rehearse with guest conductors and perform in the PMEA District 1 Honors Chorus festival held at Waynesburg Central High School on October 18 & 18, 2019. This festival is comprised of students from 54 districts in Allegheny, Washington, Westmoreland, Greene, and Fayette County.

**Alex Almonte, a senior**  
**Caroline Clontz, a senior**  
**Sonny DeMasi, a junior**  
**Jenn Hinerman, a senior**  
**Kelsey Marshall, a senior**

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### *PMEA Honors Orchestra*

Shaler Area is proud to announce junior **Jonathan Zang**, a cellist, was accepted into the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Honors Orchestra. Auditions were held in September at Fox Chapel High School, and Jonathan was one of 18 cellists accepted into the orchestra out of close to 50 who auditioned. The PMEA Honors Orchestra will rehearse on November 16 and 17 at Fox Chapel High School with the concert being performed on November 17 at 4 p.m. The guest conductor will be Octavio Mas-Arocas. He is the Music Director and Conductor of the Mansfield Symphony Orchestra in Ohio, the Director of Orchestras at Ithaca College in New York, Conductor-in-Residence at the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music, and conductor of the Interlochen Philharmonic at the Interlochen Arts Camp.

## **Shaler Area's Portrait of a Graduate**

Shaler Area School District and the District Parent Council are proud to host a special event to outline the district's educational focus for the 2019-2020 school year and provide parents and community members the opportunity to offer input on the district's project to create a Portrait of a Graduate. "Shaping Shaler Area's Portrait of a Graduate," a parent education night and workshop will be on Thursday, November 7, at 7 p.m. at Scott Primary School. Shaler Area is starting the process to create a Portrait of a Graduate, the list of skills and characteristics that all students will exemplify when they leave Shaler Area. The district will use its Portrait of a Graduate to build an educational model that reflects this Portrait with identified benchmarks at each grade level.

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## **Our SASD Story**

Shaler Area School District is excited to celebrate the stories that make Shaler Area a special place during the storytelling festival, "Our SASD Story," at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at Scott Primary School. The event will feature a public premier of the trailer for the district's storytelling project and hearing from some of the storytellers in person. Shaler Area's storytelling project came out of a partnership with local marketing agency, The Motherhood, and The Grable Foundation. The free event is open the public and appropriate for all ages. Popcorn, drinks, and free childcare will be available during the Oct. 23 event. The project's featured storytellers include:

Gina Chmielewski, Unified Sports bocce team coach  
Steve Deal, Shaler Area parent  
Dave Fortun, Retired Shaler Area teacher  
Suzanne Flynn, Retired Shaler Area teacher  
Melissa Matlock, Shaler Area Backpack Initiative co-founder  
Christin Pintar, Unified Sports bocce team coach  
Mary Ellen Ramage, Etna Borough manager  
Lacie Spagnolo, Shaler Area parent  
Mindy Thiel, High School activities director  
Karen Tobias, Retired Shaler Area teacher  
Alexis Werner, Shaler Area alumna  
Shelley West, Shaler Area Backpack Initiative co-founder

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## **A.W. Beattie Career Center**

Congratulations to the following Shaler Area A.W. Beattie students who were recognized for their accomplishments and named Students of the Month for September/October:

<b>Cody Carricato</b>	<b>Automotive Collision Technology</b>
<b>Andrew Demchin</b>	<b>Carpentry/Building Construction</b>
<b>Nicole Newcamp</b>	<b>Cosmetology</b>
<b>Emily Killcrece</b>	<b>Health Science Technology</b>

**SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Voting Meeting  
October 16, 2019 – Administration Building

**ITEM**

**# EDUCATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL**

- A.1 Approve the first reading of the following new policy:
  - a. Policy No. 719.1 – Therapy Dogs in Schools
  
- A.2 Approve the following out-of-state trips:
  - a. Middle School History Club (approximately 50 students) – travel to Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, MD – November 4, 2019 to tour the Visitor Center Museum and Battlefield. Total cost per student approximately \$37. Cost to the district 4 substitute teachers for one day.
  - b. Boys Basketball (grades 7-12) (approximately 54 students) travel to Cleveland OH – December 18, 2019 to play Highlands High School on the Cleveland Cavaliers home court. Following the game, the team will go to dinner and return for the Cavaliers game. Cost per student is \$24 to be offset by district-approved fundraisers. Cost to the district is two substitute teachers for a half day and \$500 transportation allowance.

**ITEM**

**# PERSONNEL ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL**

- B.1 Approve the following Retirement:
  - a. William Bruce Moore, Maintenance, Buildings & Grounds, effective February 1, 2020.
  
- B.2 Approve the following Leave of Absence:
  - a. Danielle Grimaldo, Guidance Counselor, High School, for an extension to her Parental Leave of Absence, effective January 2, 2020 to on or about June 1, 2020.
  
- B.3 Approve the following Long-Term Substitute (LTS) for the 2019-20 school year
  - a. Michelle Yanoff, a graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, for an extension to her LTS contract as a Guidance Counselor, for Danielle Grimaldo, High School, effective January 2, 2020 to on or about June 1, 2020, at 85% of the Master’s Step 2 salary level (prorated).
  
- B.4 Approve the following Coaches for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years:

**WRESTLING (Winter)**

- a. Head Varsity Coach (2-Year Contract)      Ethan Swope
- b. Assistant Varsity      Eric Fulmer
- c. Head 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>      Richard Catalano
- d. Assistant 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>      Rob Taylor
- e. Volunteer Asst. Coach      Mike Yuiska
- f. Volunteer Asst. Coach      Troy Letters
- g. Volunteer Asst. Coach      Jay Hellinger

**BASKETBALL (Winter)**

- h. Boys Assistant Varsity      Keith Wander
- i. Boys JV      Shawn Hartle
- j. Boys 9<sup>th</sup> Assistant      Doug Kepreos
- k. Boys 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Assistant      Brian Gaetano
- l. Boys 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Assistant      Ron Philipps
- m. Boys Volunteer Asst.      Mike Chmielewski
- n. Boys Volunteer Asst.      Matt Brungo

- o. Girls Assistant Varsity Carly Jo Harris (50%)  
Paige Quinn (50%)
- p. Girls JV Paul Jenkner
- q. Girls 9<sup>th</sup> Assistant Stephen Norman
- r. Girls 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Assistant Steve Chapman
- s. Girls 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Assistant Thomas Kline

**BOWLING (Winter) 2019-20 & 2020-21**

- t. Girls Head Varsity (2-Yr. Contract) Brenan Jackson

**SWIMMING (Winter)**

- u. Boys Assistant Andrew Kraus
- v. Girls Assistant Brittany Fink

B.5 Rescind the following Supplemental Contract for **Mentors** for the 2019-20 school year:

- a. Nicole Cignetti, as a mentor for Michelle O’Keefe, Special Education, Middle School (1<sup>st</sup> Semester).

B.6 Approve the following Supplemental Contract for **Mentors** for the 2019-20 school year:

- a. Robin Donovan, as mentor for Michelle O’Keefe, Special Education, Middle School (1<sup>st</sup> Semester).

B.7 Rescind the following Supplemental Contract for **Department Chair Coach** for the 2019-20 school year:

- a. Nurses K-12 Kim Armstrong SAES (retro to 8/22/19)

B.8 Approve the following Supplemental for **Department Chair Coach** for the 2019-20 school year:

- a. Nurses K-12 Leslie Scheuer SAHS (retro to 8/22/19)

B.9 Approve the following **Day-to-Day Substitute Teachers** for the 2019-20 school year:

- a. Samantha Ankele, Elem Ed, Gr. PK-4
- b. Francesca Scenna, Elem Ed, Gr. PK-4

**ITEM**

# **FINANCE & OPERATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL**

C.1 APPROVE FUND PROFILES:

- A. General Fund – Schedule of Bills and Addendum
- B. Cafeteria Fund – Schedule of Bills
- C. Bond Fund – Schedule of Bills
- D. Year-to-Date Financial Reports
- E. Fund Profiles and Investments
- F. Student Activity Funds & Investments – High School, Middle School and Elementary School - April 1, 2019 – June 30, 2019

C.2 Approve additional ABC Transit, Inc. Bus Drivers for the 2019-20 school year.

C.3 Approve Tri-Cog Land Bank’s Notice of Proposed Property Acquisition for Lot Block 118-R-81 address 521 North Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209.

C.4 Approve a letter of intent with The Efficiency Network (TEN). (Pending solicitor approval)

C.5 Approve as surplus equipment a 2005 Ford F45 Box Truck.