

S P T L I G H T

March, 2019

SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## **District Recognitions - Student/Staff Accomplishments**

## An Evening of Holocaust Remembrance & Education

Shaler Area will host An Evening of Holocaust Remembrance & Education in commemoration of the Tree of Life Synagogue on Thursday, March 28, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Shaler Area High School. The event, which is free and open to the public, was created with a focus on education and will feature activities and presentations appropriate for visitors of all ages. From 6 to 8 p.m., the high school lobby will feature a traveling museum exhibition, displays, and numerous "information booths" staffed by Shaler Area students from various foreign language, art, and humanities courses studying the Holocaust, genocide, and human rights. Children's activities will be located in the high school's library and adjoining LIGHT Center (Center for Leadership through Innovation in Genocide and Human rights Teaching) from 6:30 to 8 p.m. In the high school auditorium, a program featuring speakers, music and performances will be from 7 to 9 p.m. For a full schedule of events, visit <u>http://bit.ly/2Hj7WKc</u>.

## **Open Up Resources Teacher of the Month**

Congratulations to **Dr. Jessica Sapsara**, 7th-grade teacher at Shaler Area Middle School, who was named the *Open Up Resources 6–8 Math* Teacher of the Month for February 2019. Dr. Sapsara was recognized not only for outstanding work in her own classroom, but also for her contributions as a member of the Open Up Resources National Professional Learning Community. She's collaborated with teachers across the country through virtual web meetings, Twitter chats, book studies and support in the Facebook community.

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### **<u>Pittsburgh</u>** <u>Humanities</u> <u>Festival</u>

Congratulations to **Dr. Kathleen Graczyk**, director of student services at Shaler Area School District, who was selected to be part of the three-day Pittsburgh Humanities Festival, March 22-24. Dr. Graczyk partnered with Len Caric, local filmmaker and professor at Carnegie Mellon University, to co-present "Public Open Call | The New Normal: A conversation about the Trauma of School Lock Downs." This event is part of the Core Conversation lineup and will take place on Saturday, March 23, at 4:30 p.m. at the Harris Theater, Downtown. For more information about the event, visit https://trustarts.org/pct\_home/pittsburgh-humanities-festival.

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### PMEA All-State Concert Band

Congratulations to junior **Ethan Carter** who has been recognized by the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association as one of the top instrumentalists in the state by being selected to play bass clarinet in its All-State Concert Band. The All-State Concert Band rehearsals and performance will take place at the 2019 PMEA All-State and NAfME Eastern Division Conference in Pittsburgh on April 4-7, 2019. The conductor for the All-State Concert Band will be Travis Cross, Composer, Conductor, Arranger and Department Chair for UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music in Los Angeles, Calif.

#### PMEA All-State Orchestra

Congratulations to senior **Marissa Fukas** who has earned 2nd chair in the viola section of the All-State Orchestra following the audition process for the ensemble. The All-State Orchestra will be held during the PMEA 2019 Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, April 3-7, with Daniel Meyer conducting. Daniel Meyer is the music director of the Erie Philharmonic, artistic director of the Westmoreland Symphony, and director of orchestral activities at Duquesne University.

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#### <u>Scholastic Art & Writing Awards</u>

Shaler Area is proud to recognize the high school students who recently won awards for their submissions in the 2019 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, a prestigious national juried exhibition. High school art students competed against 1,700 submissions in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for the Pittsburgh region. The Scholastic Art Awards recognizes students for their artistic talent with an Honorable Mention, a Silver Key, or a Gold Key. The Gold Key recipients are then entered in the Northeastern region contest. All artwork was on display at the CCAC North campus prior to the award ceremony on February 23. The Shaler Area winners include:

Bailey Ritchey – Gold Key Brittany Bisko – Silver Key Luke Maurer – Silver Key Meiling Watts – Silver Key Amaya Branch – Honorable Mention Maillie Ciak – Honorable Mention Julie Lignoski – Honorable Mention Kristina McCluskey – Honorable Mention Alexis McKee – Honorable Mention Shannon Roche – Honorable Mention Adella Shepard – Honorable Mention PJ Squire – Honorable Mention Aliza Zelina – Honorable Mention

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#### <u>Pittsburgh Regional Brain Bee</u>

Congratulations to senior **Andrew D'Agostino**, who brought home two trophies in the Pittsburgh Regional Brain Bee. D'Agostino competed in the regional competition at the University of Pittsburgh Center for Neuroscience and won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the individual competition and 1<sup>st</sup>place in team competition – even though he was a team of one. The Brain Bee is a contest for high school students which tests their knowledge of the brain. The competition includes multiple rounds of questions in the format of a written test, fill-in-the-blank questions, and verbal questions. As the runner-up, D'Agostino will serve as an alternate in the event the winner cannot attend the National Brain Bee in April.

A.W. Beattie Career Center

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

Steven Kessler Jr. Joshua McCaffrey Nathan Smeresky Advanced Computer Programming Advertising Design Carpentry/Building Construction

#### SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Voting Meeting March 20, 2019 – Administration Building

# ITEM # EDUCATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

- A.1 Approve a lease agreement with the Allegheny Unit DART Program at Burchfield Primary School from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.
- A.2 Approve a Data Use Agreement with Carnegie Mellon University to enable CMU to perform an academic research project related to identifying key instructional strategies to achieve high growth among K-12 students.
- A.3 Approve the first reading of the following revised policies:
  - a. Policy No. 006 Meetings
  - b. Policy No. 103 Non-Discrimination in School & Classroom Practices
  - c. Policy No. 103.1 Non-Discrimination Qualified Students with Disabilities
  - d. Policy No. 104 Non-Discrimination in Employment & Contract Practices
  - e. Policy No. 810 Transportation
  - f. Policy No. 818 Contracted Services/Background Checks
  - g. Policy No. 918 Title I Parent Involvement
- A.4 Approve the following out-of-district travel:
  - a. Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students travel to Hershey, PA April 8-10, 2019 to attend business related workshops and events and to compete on a state level. Three students plan to attend. Cost per student approximately \$495. No cost to the district.

## ITEM # PERSONNEL ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

- B.1 Approve the following Leave of Absence (LOA):
- a. Erica Kelly, an Elementary Ed teacher, Elementary School, for a leave of absence, effective October 16, 2019 and returning to work at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year (the non-FMLA portion of her leave).
- B.2 Approve the following FT 1.0 Temporary Professional Employee (TPE) for the 2018-19 school year:
- a. Steven Baleno, a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, as a FT 1.0 TPE, Japanese teacher, Middle School/High School, replacing Gerra Gembarosky, effective March 21, 2019, at a Master's Steps 3/4 salary level (prorated).
- B.3 Approve the following FT 1.0 Custodian:
- a. Sharon Hindle, as a FT 1.0 Custodian, effective April 4, 2019.
- B.4 Approve the following Long-Term Substitute (LTS) teachers:
- a. Danielle McDonald, a graduate of Carlow University, for an extension to her LTS contract, as an Elementary Education teacher, Marzolf Primary, for Samantha Sullivan, effective April 24, 2019 to on or about June 10, 2019, at a Bachelor's Step 1 salary level (prorated).
- b. Amanda Walters, a graduate of Pennsylvania State University, as a FT 1.0 LTS Elementary Education teacher, Scott Primary, for Lisa Scarnati, effective retroactive to January 3, 2019 to on or about June 10, 2019, at a Bachelor's Step 1 salary level (prorated).

ITEM #	PERSONNEL ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL (cont.)	
B.5	Approve the following FT 1.0 Intern:	
a.	Kristen Stout, a graduate of California University of Pennsylvania, as a FT 1.0 Intern, School Psychologist, effective for the 2019-20 school year, at a salary of \$10,000.	
B.6.	Rescind the following Supplemental Contracts for Sponsors for the 2018-19 school year:	
a. b.	<b>Middle School</b> Drama Club	Jennifer Birch (50%) Jill Millard (50%)
B.7	Approve the following Supplemental Contract for <b>Sponsors</b> for the 2018-19 school year:	
a.	Middle School Drama Club	Jill Millard (100%)
B.8	Approve the following Supplemental Contract for Coaches for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years:	
a.	<b>Track (Spring) (2-Yr. Contract)</b> Girls Head Varsity Coach	Timothy Storino
b.	Lacrosse (Spring) (1-Yr. Position) Boys Volunteer Coach	Jonah Soucy
B.9	Approve the following day-to-day Substitute Teachers for the 2018-19 school year:	
a. b.	Jamie Hodge, Registered Nurse Nicole White, Elementary Education K-6 (also applying as Clerical Substitute)	
B.10	Approve the following day-to-day Substitute Custodian for the 2018-19 school year:	
a.	Alex McComb	
B.11	Approve the following day-to-day Substitute Clericals for the 2018-19 school year:	
a. b. c.	Jessica Bal Dawn Gasbarro Nicole White	
B.12	Approve the following applicant in the <b>Community Recreation Swim Program</b> for the 2018-19 school year:	
a.	Austin Murray, Instructor Aide and Volunteer in the Adaptive Aquatics Prog.	
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 Proceeds Schedule of Bills
- D Year-to-Date Financial Reports

#### <u>ITEM</u> # <u>FINANCE & OPERATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</u> (cont.)

- E. Budget Transfers
- F. Fund Profiles and Investments
- C.2 Cafeteria Operating Statement
- C.3 Approve the proposed 2019-20 Allegheny Intermediate Unit Program of Services Budget in the amount of \$2,144,656. The Allegheny County (AIU3) school districts' total contribution to the budget is \$1,811,545. The Shaler Area School District contribution to the Program of Services Budget is estimated to be \$60,845 and will be determined by PDE according to District Aid Ratio and Weighted Average Daily Membership (WADM).
- C.4 Approve additional ABC Transit Personnel.
- C.5 Approve a resolution authorizing reimbursement to the general fund from bond proceeds for preliminary capital project expenditures to comply with requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
- C.6 Approve the cost of the Biles Field turf replace in the amount of \$524,128.31 with the contractor Field Turf. The pricing structure is based on utilizing the co-operative costing from Keystone Purchasing Network, (KPN) pending solicitor approval of the final contract. Subject to a notice to proceed following completion of the subsurface inspection and remediation if needed.
- C.7 Approve the disposition of surplus equipment from the Athletics Department