



ABOVE & BEYOND

A newsletter for Penn Manor School District

FALL 2012 Issue

VETERANS FRONT AND CENTER AT GRADUATION AND FOOTBALL GAME



Three district veterans were honored at commencement for the Class of 2012 thanks to Operation Recognition. Mr. Philip Fisher (pictured top left), a Korean War veteran who served in both the Navy and the Army was able to attend the graduation ceremony to receive his diploma. Mr. Robert Neff (pictured bottom left), a Vietnam War veteran who served in the Army, and Mr. Henry vonKroge, Jr. (pictured middle left), a World War II veteran who served in the Coast Guard received their diplomas privately. School board member, Marine Lt. Colonel (Ret) Kirk Scholtzhauer, presented each diploma.

Thanks to the efforts of the Penn Manor High School football team, cheerleaders, and marching unit and their parents, district veterans were honored at the first home football game of the season. The booster groups collected personal care items to send overseas as well as cash donations for the Wounded Warrior Project. All veterans were admitted free to the game and honored on the field prior to kick-off of the football game against Lampeter-Strasburg. The Comets won the game 49-14.



Educational Facility For Sale

Penn Manor School District's Hambright Elementary School located at 2121 Temple Avenue, Lancaster is for sale. Highlights of the property include:

- Well maintained school building, strategically located near the intersection of two major arteries, Columbia Avenue and Rohrerstown Road with multiple entry points.
- Ideal location for a retirement home, church, school, recreation or community center.
- Building features typical elementary school amenities including classrooms, a commercial kitchen, gym, security system, data network and intercom system.
- Available for occupancy in the fall of 2014, the school district is willing to do a lease-back if purchased prior to 2014.

- For additional information, please contact:

Deepa Balepur: Realtor (717) 808-3531 deepa@Compass-PA.com

Rich Wolman, CCIM (717) 471-4747 rich@Compass-PA.com





Superintendent's Message

On Monday, August 27th the Penn Manor School District opened its doors to 5165 students for the first day of the 2012-2013 school year. Most of our Penn Manor students entered the schoolhouse door in the traditional way that most of us experienced in our youth. A few students though are experiencing class in a different way thanks to Penn Manor's partnership with Hempfield and Manheim Township School Districts. Open Campus PA, the first initiative of its kind in the state, is a pilot program which makes optimal use of collective resources to blur the lines between school districts with a common vision of providing increased opportunities in an era of decreasing revenue through shared district resources. Between the three districts we have 112 students taking a variety of online courses taught by a teacher from one of the three member schools. We are already working to expand both the number of students taking courses as well as the number of course offerings for next year.

While we are continuing to think differently about how we need to deliver our educational program to students in future years, there are some things that remain the same, including our commitment to a quality public education for all of the students who enter our doors each day.

In this issue of Above and Beyond we give you a report on the academic status of Penn Manor School District. It is our hope that this information will help you to form your own opinion in the event you are asked by someone to rate the schools in our community.

As the Superintendent of Penn Manor I am very proud of the hard work of all of our students, teachers, and staff. I trust that you will find this edition of Above and Beyond to be helpful in evaluating the success of our district. Whether our data shows strength or a need for improvement, we are always striving for better for our students. I believe that a review of this data provides good evidence that Penn Manor, as it has done for many years, continues to provide a quality educational program that parents expect in a cost effective manner that taxpayers can continue to endorse.

Sincerely,
Dr. Michael G. Leichliter
Superintendent of Schools

Inclement Weather Info

The announcement of school delays or closing will be reported on the local radio and television stations when possible before 6:00 AM. You can check the website at www.pennmanor.net or sign up for twitter notification or call the inclement weather hotline at 872-9500 ext. 2333.

When weather conditions develop during the day causing an early closing, high school and middle school will generally be dismissed first followed by elementary. Unanticipated weather conditions or other factors may require alterations in the procedures as described above. You will receive a call through the AlertNow system should we need to dismiss students during the school day.

District Snapshot

Enrollment as of October, 2012 - 5,198
Graduating Class of 2012 - 452
Current Kindergarten Class - 347
Special Education - 16.56%
Free/Reduced Lunch Participation - 31.66%
Teachers Employed - 374
Support Staff Employed - 274
Administration Employed - 28
Budget - \$66,130,149
Per Pupil Expenditure - \$12,804
Millage - 16.97 (11th of 16 school districts)
Bus Miles Driven per Day - 4,900

Athletic Wall of Honor

The 2012 Penn Manor **Athletic Wall of Honor** Inductees have been announced. The following athletes will be honored on Friday, January 4, 2013 at 5:30 PM in the Penn Manor High School Library:

Lloyd Byers (Class of 1964) Soccer, Wrestling, Basketball. Lloyd played on the 1963 county championship soccer team and was a member of the Lancaster County All-Stars in 1963. In wrestling, he was the 165 lb. sectional champ and district runner-up in 1962. Lloyd won the Lancaster County League batting title his sophomore year averaging .484. His senior year he was voted to the Lancaster County All-Star team for baseball.

Kambria Riggins (Class of 2002) Soccer - Kambria was a member of the 2002 soccer team that won Penn Manor's first State Championship. She had 83 career goals placing her in the state's top 50 and 1st in the Lancaster Lebanon League all-time. Kambria attend West Virginia University on a full athletic scholarship. She was voted to the 2002 Big East All-Rookie team.

Amy Martin (Class of 1982) Track & Field - Amy was a 4-time LL League Track and Field Champion in the 100M Hurdles, setting a league record her sophomore year (14.16). She was a member of the league championship 4 x 100M relay. Amy won a district championship in the 100M hurdles her sophomore year and the 4 x 100M relay team won district gold her freshman year. Amy was recruited and ran track for Rutgers.

Donna Bervinchak (Class of 1985) Gymnastics - Donna was a 3-time sectional champion, a 3-time district champion, won the PIAA State Championship on the parallel bars and finished runner up in the all-around. She competed on the Northeastern gymnastics team.

Guenter Miller (Class of 1992) Swimming - Guenter was a member of Penn Manor's first official swim team. He held the school and league record for the 100 yard butterfly and was a member of the record setting 200 medley relay and the 400 free relay teams. Guenter was a 4-time state qualifier in the 100-yd butterfly. Guenter swam, on scholarship, for Bowling Green State University. He was Mid-American Conference champion in the 200 yard butterfly in 1993/95/96.

If you are interested in attending the Athletic Wall of Honor dinner, please contact the athletic office at 872-9520 ext. 1367. The deadline to make a reservation is December 7th. The cost is \$20.00 per person. Refreshments will be served beginning at 5:30, with dinner at 5:45 followed by the induction ceremony in the Penn Manor High School library. The inductees will also be introduced at halftime of the basketball game which will start at 8:00 PM in the Penn Manor gymnasium.

Distinguished Wall of Honor

Nominations for the **Distinguished Alumni Wall of Honor** are currently being accepted. This award is designed to honor and perpetuate the memory of those individuals who have brought recognition, honor, distinction, and excellence to the Penn Manor School District through his/her postgraduate accomplishments. The successful candidates will be inducted at the spring Penn Manor alumni banquet in April, 2013.

If you know of a deserving individual, please fill out a nomination form and return it by Friday, November 16, 2012 to Penn Manor High School, Attn: Philip Gale, Principal, P.O. Box 1001, Millersville, PA 17551. Nomination forms are available at www.pennmanor.net/alumni or by calling 872-9520 ext. 1934. Please leave a message with your name and address and a form will be mailed to you.

Class of 2012 Fast Facts

- The Class of 2012 received \$1,903,497 in scholarship money to continue their education.
- 104 seniors earned 152 awards at the Senior Awards Ceremony
- 49% will attend a four year school
- 26% will attend a two year school
- 5% of the senior class is joining the United States Military
- 65 students achieved a 4.0 GPA or higher
- 74 students graduated in the honors program (3.75 GPA, 3 years of a foreign language earning a “B” or better, 4 Advanced Placement credits, 5 Honors classes with a “B” or better in each)
- 290 students took 320 Advanced Placement tests in 20 different subjects.
- James Servansky was honored for perfect attendance (no absences, tardies or early dismissal days) for all 4 years of high school.
- The class had 3 National Merit Commended Students - Ellen Blazer, Harrison Manning and Maria Detweiller.
- Pictured above with Dr. Lechlitter is Valedictorian Mikayla Herbert (center) who attends Brigham Young University. She is majoring in chemical engineering. Salutatorian and Class President Ellen Blazer (left) attends the University of Pennsylvania. She is majoring in mathematics.



2012 PSSA RESULTS

Each spring students in grades 3-8 and 11 take part in PSSA testing. In the fall, the PA Department of Education releases the results to the school districts and the public. Penn Manor is proud of our 2012 performance on the statewide Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) tests. While we did not make all of the increased national targets for all of our schools, the results clearly indicate that the vast majority of students in Penn Manor are performing well above the expectations of No Child Left Behind. While we continue to strive for higher achievement, we are proud of the performance of our students and the instruction provided by our teachers.

When No Child Left Behind was passed in 2002 it generally meant high stakes for lower performing school districts or school districts with a significant number of subgroups. Now that we are two years from the 100% proficiency targets, we are seeing a greater number of schools miss targets. Eshleman Elementary has traditionally been one of the higher performing elementary schools in Lancaster County. This year they made 12 of the 13 targets. They missed the target for the economically disadvantaged subgroup in reading. After reviewing the scores for all students, if one student in that subgroup would have answered one or two more questions correctly, they would have met all targets this year.

Penn Manor High School has worked hard to make AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) and has met all academic targets for 2012. The district has appealed the finding that Penn Manor High School missed the economically disadvantaged subgroup for graduation rate and is working with the Department of Education to provide documentation in order to overturn this ruling.

In the next two years the vast majority of schools in Lancaster County and throughout this country will not meet AYP. The federal government must make common sense revisions to this law which has been due for reauthorization for a number of years.

The link to view all the PSSA results for 2012 is <http://paayp.emetric.net>. If you have questions about the results, please contact your child's school or the district office.

Coming Soon: Keystone Exams

The Keystone Exams are end-of-course tests designed by the state of Pennsylvania to check that all students are proficient in certain subject areas. Over the summer it was announced that beginning with this school year, the Algebra 1, Literature, and Biology Keystone Exams will replace the 11th grade PSSA tests in math, reading, and science.

All students in grade 11 will take the Algebra 1, Literature, and Biology Keystone Exams this year. It is quite possible that your child took either Algebra 1, Literature or Biology in a previous school year, even as long ago as 7th grade in the case of Algebra 1. While it is confusing to think the students are being tested on a class from an earlier year, this situation will only happen during this first year of testing. From this year forward, all students in any grade level enrolled in Biology, Literature or Algebra 1 will take the Keystone that year at the conclusion of the course. The exam will count towards their 11th grade testing requirements, regardless of when it is taken.

To summarize, this year all 11th graders will be tested in Biology, Algebra 1 and Literature. Students in other grades who are enrolled in Biology, Literature or Algebra 1 will also be tested. Finally, the class of 2017, this year's 8th graders, will be required to pass the Algebra 1, Literature, and Biology Keystone Exams in order to graduate. Students in earlier years will be tested but are not required to pass in order to graduate.

Penn Manor Calendar Coupons



Clipper Magazine has been producing the Penn Manor School District calendar since the 2000-2001 school year. The ads and coupons in the calendar help to offset the price of producing and printing the calendar allowing the school district to mail one calendar to each district resident.

Please use the money-savings coupons in the back of the calendar and mention a merchant's ad when visiting their business to thank them for their support of the calendar and the school district. The calendar will also keep you informed of events happening in the school district that may be of interest.

The New Hambright

We have had a great start to the 2012-2013 school year at the existing Hambright and we are still on schedule for the "New Hambright" to open in the fall of 2014. The school district has been very busy with the development of the "New Hambright." Last spring, the Hambright staff had an opportunity to sit down with the architectural team to discuss the various possibilities for the new building. The design team processed the teachers' feedback.

This past June, the team of architects and school district officials finalized the design development stage of the construction process. This process included developing the building blueprint, the make-up of classrooms, and the mechanical systems. We are anticipating breaking ground this coming spring behind Manor Middle School on Charlestown Road.

With less than two years before the "New Hambright" opens, students are eager to get into their new school. While students in grades 4 and below are thrilled to be the first group of students to attend the new building, students in grades 5 and 6 are enthused to be one of the last groups in the existing building. This is an exciting time to be a member of the Hambright and Penn Manor community.



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The Above & Beyond Newsletter is published by the Penn Manor School District.

Questions or comments may be directed to Cindy Rhoades, Community Relations Coordinator, at (717) 872-9500 ext. 2241, or cindy.rhoades@pennmanor.net

COMET CLASSIC

O If you are a district resident who is 60 years
R of age or older, join 1,000 of your friends and
N neighbors who already have a **Comet Classic**
E **Card!**

R You will be eligible for free admission to all
regular season athletic events. You will also
receive an invitation to the 6th annual Dinner
and Show in November and the Comet Classic
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In the past, **Comet Classic Cardholders** have
been treated to a budget presentation box
dinner, basic computer classes and a tech toys
seminar. Don't miss another event!

Get your card right away. Call Cindy Rhoades
at 872-9500 for more details.

Vote for a Motto for the Penn Manor School District

The Penn Manor School Board is searching for a
motto that best describes the values and purpose of
the Penn Manor School District and received many
suggestions from district residents. Now it is time to
vote for your favorite from the following.

Excellence in Education

Educating to Lead

Brighter Futures Through Education

A Better Community...One Student at a Time

Where Every Student Matters

If you would like to submit vote via phone, please
contact Cindy Rhoades at 872-9500 ext. 2241, by
email at cindy.rhoades@pennmanor.net or by mail
to PM Motto, P.O. Box 1001, Millersville, PA 17551.
Please respond by Friday, November 30, 2012.