



The Rose Tree Media Board of School Directors held Legislative Meetings on September 29, 2023

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### **Board of School Directors**

# UPDATE

September 2023

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

#### **Board Appoints Assistant Principal at Penncrest**

The Rose Tree Media Board of School Directors has approved the hiring of Jodi Dunston to serve as an assistant principal at Penncrest High School, effective November 27, 2023. This action was taken at the Legislative Meeting on September 29, 2023.

Dunston possesses a wealth of experience and a passion for student success. She comes to Penncrest from Norristown High School, where she has served as assistant principal since 2009. She has also served schools throughout the Philadelphia area for more than 25 years as a teacher, reading curriculum and test coordinator, library media specialist, content specialist, and administrator.



"We are thrilled to welcome Mrs. Dunston to the Rose Tree Media team to serve in this important leadership role at our high school," said Dr. Joseph Meloche, RTMSD



Superintendent. "Her unique background and experiences, along with her commitment to education and children, made her a standout candidate for the position. We look forward to seeing the impact she will have on our students, staff, and families."

# **Board Honors Penncrest Team Places 2nd in International Envirothon**

The Board, at its September Legislative Meeting, recognized five students who comprised the Penncrest Envirothon team in 2023: Zaid Salaria, Sophia Murphy, Jordan Knox, Leo Ouyang, and Sophia Donnelly. Faculty sponsors are Chrissa Kuntz and Mark Samilenko.



The Envirothon is the largest environmental science competition in the United States. Students study the areas of aquatics, forestry, soil and land use, and wildlife each year. In addition, a current issue is studied on a yearly basis. Last year's topic was adapting to and combating climate change.

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In April 2023, the team placed first in Delaware County and then placed first in the state competition in May, earning \$1,000 scholarships from the state, and earning the opportunity to represent Pennsylvania at the international competition. On July 21, in New Brunswick, Canada, they competed against 50 other teams representing all parts of the world. The team came in second overall, winning \$1,000 for the Pennsylvania State Envirothon program, and received \$2,000 each in college scholarship money.

Zaid Salaria, now attending the University of Pittsburgh, and Sophia Murphy, now attending Rice University, are both 2023 Penncrest High School graduates.

# Meeting The District's Enrollment Growth Needs

RTMSD continues to move forward with the process of building a new school.



## We encourage you to visit www.roomtolearnroomtogrow.org

to learn more about the steps our district has taken with regard to the planned site of the new elementary school in Edgmont Township.

# = Points of Ride =



he 2023 Penncrest Girls Lacrosse team was recognized by the Board of School Directors at the September Legislative Meeting. The team finished with a record of 21 and 5, defeating the Central League Champion Springfield Delco twice in the postseason. They played in the 3A District One Championship game, becoming the first in Penncrest history to play in a PIAA (3A) State Championship Game. Team members include seven 2023 Penncrest graduates (Ellie Chester, Kathlene Flebbe, Sara Knasiak, Brianna Nevin, Daniela Randazzo, Taryn Tagtmeir and Melanie Walls) and more than 20 current Penncrest students (Rachel Adams, Adisyn Bernhardt, Reese Bigler, Kathryn Brokken, Celeste Cahill, Cara Childs, Julia DeJong, Bailey Garrison, Kathryn Harding, Marissa Kamin, Mira Kuttymartin, Taylor Knox, Rose Morgans, Jess Olds, Lylah Pompetti, Gabrielle Poole, Keira Ridpath, Kaitlyn Roth, Grace Steffan, Kate Stanton, Aubrey Wade and Reese Wickman). The girls are coached by Caitlin Morgan (head coach), Jackie Baker, Catherine Doyle, Kathryn Flick, and Heather Phillips.

The Board also honored seven members of the Media Little League team that captured the attention and spirit of our community and all of Delco this summer. A spring and summer of highly successful baseball resulted in the team winning their district, the sectional tournament, and eventually the state championship, held here in Delaware County. The Media team defeated a team from Chester County to advance to the Mid-Atlantic Region Tournament in Bristol, Connecticut. In thrilling fashion, the team garnered the Mid-Atlantic Region Championship and earned the right to compete in Williamsport, Pennsylvania in the Little League World Series! The team earned one win in the World Series, and had the thrill of playing before busloads of fans who made the trip from Delco to Williamsport. Among the fans cheering on the team in their final game were several members of the Philadelphia Phillies, including Bryce Harper and Kyle Schwarber. Congratulations to Austin Crowley, Trevor Skowronek, Rhys Muessig, Charlie Haenn, Cole Carroll, Christian Nunez, and Nolan Gratton.



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