

Rose Tree Media Reporter

January 2022



NEW PRINCIPAL OF PENNCREST HIGH SCHOOL NAMED

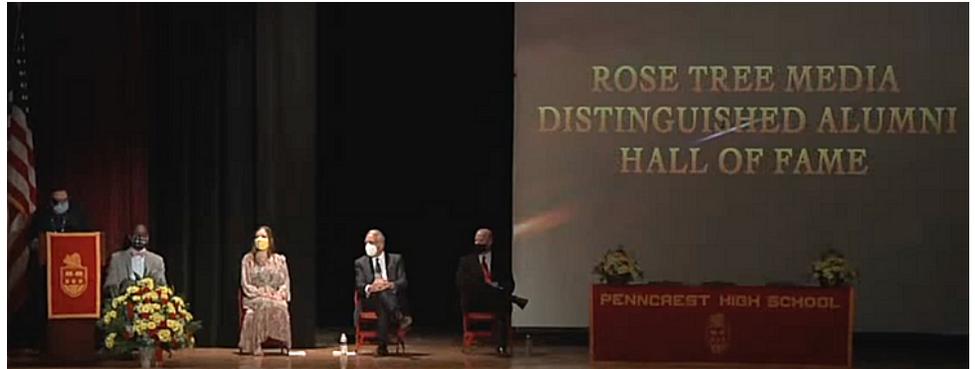


At its Legislative Meeting on August 5, 2021, the Rose Tree Media Board of School Directors approved the appointment

of **Edward Roth, Jr.** as principal of Penncrest High School.

Mr. Roth has focused his career on achieving academic growth for students using a high-energy and inclusive approach to school leadership and communication. He previously served as principal at Norristown Area High School and at Upper Darby High School. He received a master's degree in educational leadership from St. Joseph's University and a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Temple University. He is currently a doctoral candidate at Temple University.

For more information about Mr. Roth, please read [this news item](#).



DISTRICT HONORS 2021 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Four Penncrest High School alums joined the Rose Tree Media School District's Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame this year. They were recognized October 1, 2021.

The 2021 honorees are:

- **John "Hank Murta" Adams**, Class of 1974, is the recipient of three National Endowment of the Arts Fellowships and the New York State Arts Grant.
- **Heidi Schettler-Starkey**, Class of 1991, is the senior technical designer and head of the Knitwear Department for Destination Maternity Corporation.

- **Craig Spangler**, Class of 1977, is a Principal with one of Philadelphia's largest design firms, Ballinger.
- **Stephen Burnham**, Class of 1990, is the assistant principal at Wilson Southern Jr. High in Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania.



You are invited to watch the ceremony: [Click here to view!](#)

BOARD WELCOMES NEW STUDENT LIAISONS

The RTM Board of School Directors would like to welcome student board representatives from Penncrest High School. Seniors Ava Finnegan and Mckenzie Grant enter their second year of service on the board, and junior Neil Sen joins us for his first year of service.





NEW OPTION FOR VIEWING BOARD MEETINGS

The Rose Tree Media School District community is now able to watch Board of School Directors meetings on the district's YouTube channel, [RTMSD Media](#). These meetings are both aired live and archived for later viewing. In addition, board meetings are aired on the school district's cable channel on Tuesdays and Fridays at 1:00 p.m. Board meeting agendas, calendars, minutes and summaries are available on the [district website](#).

INDEPENDENT AUDIT GIVES DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH

Independent auditors once again have found that the Rose Tree Media School District's financial statements met regulatory requirements and were prepared in accordance with accounting principles, criteria, and standards.

In November, the results of the audit of the June 30, 2021 financial statements were reported by representatives from the auditing firm of Barbacane, Thornton & Company to the Board of School Directors. The auditors issued unmodified

("clean") opinions on the governmental and business activities, each major fund, and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards for the period ending June 30, 2021. They also issued unmodified opinions on compliance related to the District's internal controls and the District's compliance with federal award program rules and regulations.

More information about the district's finances can be found on the Business Office page on the RTMSD website: www.rtmsd.org/Administration2/140.

UPCOMING DATES

- Jan. 17, 2022** MLK Jr. Day
 - No School
- Jan. 21, 2022** Early Dismissal
 - SL -11:00 / AM-K - 11:30
 - ELEM - 12:20 / No PM-K
- Feb. 17, 2022** Early Dismissal
 - PHS - 10:30 / SL - 11:15
 - AM-K - 12:00 / ELEM 12:30
 - No PM-K
- Feb. 18, 2022** Teacher Inservice
 - No School for students
- Feb. 21, 2022** No School
- Mar. 9, 2022** Parent Conferences K-8
 - Evening
- Mar. 10-11, 2022** Parent Conferences K-8
 - No School
- Mar. 14, 2022** Teacher Inservice
 - No School for students except PM-K
- April 11-15, 2022** Spring Break
 - No School

ROOM TO LEARN, ROOM TO GROW

The Rose Tree Media School district is a vibrant, growing, successful school district. Increasing enrollment has led to the need to create a responsible, sustainable and beneficial growth plan. Our Board of School directors has concluded that a staged investment plan over the over the next decade is the most responsible plan for our District and communities.



LEARN MORE

about our new elementary school building project at our Room to Learn, Room to Grow website: www.roomtolearnroomtogrow.org.



Increasing enrollment is the driving need for an additional elementary school.



MES STUDENTS CREATE SUPERHERO SELF-PORTRAITS

In Mrs. Bellamy's art class, Media Elementary students drew superhero self-portraits to show how they have the power to stand up for what is right, do what they know they should, and be the best people they can be!

WELCOME BACK TO MES!

Media Elementary students were thrilled to come back to learning five days per week in person with their classmates and teachers at the start of the school year! The Media PTG even decorated the school with beautiful chalk art to welcome back the return of staff and students to kick-off the year.



FALL FUN AT MEDIA ELEMENTARY

Media Elementary students had a blast celebrating fall festivities, from decorating pumpkins to dancing to "Thriller" in gym class — or just dressing up in their costumes!



MES STUDENTS GET BACK TO ACTIVITIES

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HONORING VETERANS AT MES



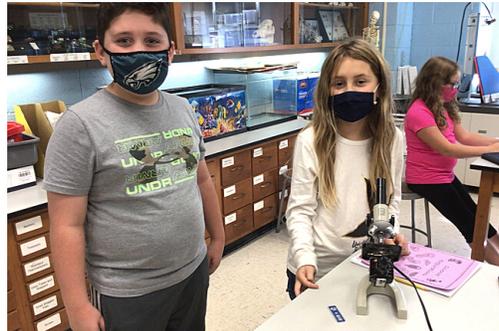
MES students once again took part in the annual Media Borough Veterans Day parade and ceremony! The parade is held at 11:11 a.m. on November 11 each year, and is followed by a ceremony at the Delaware County Courthouse.



GLENWOOD 4TH GRADERS CONDUCT INVESTIGATION IN SCIENCE LAB

Mrs. Gallagher's fourth-grade class ventured into the Science Lab to do some investigating!

As scientists, they needed to work together to identify the mystery powder underneath the microscope. The activity was part of the class unit on "Microworlds."



TRUNK OR TREAT AT ARASAPHA FARMS

More than 50 cars joined in the fun for "Trunk or Treat" at **Arasapha Farms!**

The Glenwood PTG hosted the event. Students had a great time moving from car to car in their costumes as they collected goodies!



GO EAGLES!

Glenwood Elementary stands by the **Philadelphia Eagles** — no matter what!

Students modeled their Eagles gear and performed the team's fight song, "Fly Eagles, Fly," to gear up for the first home game in September.



HALLOWEEN PARADE AT GLENWOOD!

The students and staff of **Glenwood Elementary** celebrated their Halloween parade indoors this year, with a special loop around the school. Students had a great time showing off their costumes.

HATS OFF TO EDUCATION!

Glenwood students celebrated **American Education Week** in November with some crazy hats, under the theme: "Hats Off to Education!" It was a wonderful way to show their appreciation to our teachers and staff. Pictured here is **Ms. Imburgia** with one of her first-grade students.



ROSE TREE STUDENTS HONOR VETERANS

To honor our brave military veterans for their service, **Rose Tree Elementary** students created a special display for **Veterans Day**.

On red, white, or blue stars, students recorded the names of family members who were fallen soldiers, currently serving in the military, or are retired military.

The stars were proudly on displayed in the hallway of the school!



STUDENTS SHOW THEIR APPRECIATION

Glenwood Elementary students in **Ms. Pinsley's fifth-grade class** took some time to honor school staff members who have made a difference in their lives!

In this photo, a student reads his letter of appreciation to **Mr. Bryant**, his fourth-grade teacher.

CELEBRATING VETERANS DAY AT GLENWOOD

Students at **Glenwood Elementary School** proudly hold stars with the names of veterans who are close to their hearts.

These stars were placed on the school's **Veterans Day** wall in remembrance and thanks.



Be the "i" in Kind



A CULTURE OF KINDNESS

The school-wide theme at **Rose Tree Elementary** this year is a focus on creating a "culture of kindness."

Students are encouraged to actively show respect, responsibility, caring, and integrity.

Each month, students have an opportunity to participate in a starfish project, which benefits our local community!



BROADCAST CLUB HOSTS 'NEWS ON THE LANE'

Fifth-grade students at **Indian Lane Elementary** are recording and producing "News on the Lane" to provide the school's daily morning announcements!

The **60 Broadcast Club members** participate in several on-air jobs, serving as anchor reporters, special reporters, fact experts, and joke tellers. Students in all grade levels can also participate by adding their responses in Flipgrid to questions posted as "Feature Stories" on the Indian Lane website.

INDIAN LANE STUDENTS DONATE CANDY FOR A CAUSE

Indian Lane Elementary School counselor **Jessica Hilden** organized a Candy Care Drive in early November!

Students were encouraged to bring in candy that

could be donated to people who do not often get to have these sorts of treats.

Students could donate a little or a lot of candy. It all went to a good cause and spread a smile to the faces of others!



HALLOWEEN AT INDIAN LANE!

On October 29, **Indian Lane Elementary School** hosted the annual Halloween Parade! Students dressed up in costumes and marched around the track while families and friends cheered them on.





FALL SPORTS RETURN TO THE LAKE

Spartan sports are back! This fall, **Springton Lake Middle School** students participated in boys' and girls' soccer, field hockey, volleyball, cross country, football and cheerleading.

Caitlin Crumlish placed first at every cross-country meet this season! The **seventh-grade boys soccer team** finished the season undefeated under the tutelage of first-year coach **Mr. Franz**. Congratulations to all of our student-athletes and thank you for representing Springton Lake in a positive way!



STUDENTS CELEBRATE FALL WITH PUMPKIN DECORATING

Springton Lake Middle School celebrated fall on October 25 during an extended Advisory Class. Students planned out the theme of their pumpkins in a previous class session, then executed the plans in a two-hour celebration of pumpkin decorating. Several classes throughout the building won pretzels for their creative efforts!



SPRINGTON LAKE STUDENTS TO PERFORM 'BEAUTY AND THE BEAST'

SLMS students are hard at work to prepare for their spring show, the Disney Jr. version of **"Beauty and the Beast."** It's the school's first musical production since 2020 and the debut of **Hedgerow Theater** directors **Robert Pellechio** and **Shaun Yates**.

The cast will be 50-70 students, with a fully run student stage crew.

Auditions were held the third week of November and rehearsals are three days a week. The final performances of the show will happen in the first week of March.





ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB HARVESTS FROM 'SPARTAN GARDEN'

SLMS Environmental Club members have completed their final harvest from Year 3 of the club's "Spartan Gardens." They're now hard at work making plans for the fourth year!



Thanks to a generous donation from the **SLMS PTG**, the garden beds are planted in the spring and are tended to throughout the summer by Environmental Club families. As was the case with many initiatives during the 2019-20 school year, the club's garden project needed to be reimaged in its second year. The plants that club members had begun to grow indoors from seed in spring of 2020 were relocated to the Henretig backyard in March and April, after schools were closed due to the pandemic. Students logged onto Twitter and to the club's regular Zoom meetings for virtual garden updates.

Over time, the garden has been carefully tended by club members and their families, as well as by students in the **SLMS Life Skills and Occupational Therapy** classes. The 2021 harvest was substantial enough that the club was able to donate excess produce to the **Media Food Bank** for distribution to local families!

The club has big plans for further garden expansion during the 2021-22 school year, including the addition of an Eco-Conscious (Habitat) Garden that would support local wildlife, including pollinators like bees and butterflies.

SLMS ANNUAL TURKEY TROT

The **48th Annual Turkey Trot** was a terrific success this year!



More than 200 runners from all three grades at SLMS participated in the one-mile relay event!

More than 250 cans were collected and donated to the Media Food Bank, just in time for the holidays!



HOMECOMING RETURNS TO PENNCREST

Congratulations once again to the Penncrest 2021 Homecoming Court: **Bryan Brown, Madeline Flounders, Michael San Antonio, Maddie Knowler, Jeremy Mack, Sophia Lenderman, Chas Katz, and Amelia Phillips.** King and queen were **Dylan MacDougall** and **Julia Martini.** The court was announced at halftime of the homecoming football game on Friday, October 1.

The homecoming dance took place the following evening

at the Penncrest stadium. Throughout the morning on Saturday, families dropped off snacks for the dance, while the **Student Council** decorated the stadium. Our dance theme this year was "Neon Glow," and the Council did an amazing job with their plan and design!

Well over 700 dance tickets were sold, and students were beyond excited for this dance. The turf dance floor filled up almost immediately. The event was a huge success!



PHS STUDENTS HOLD HOMECOMING PEP RALLY & GAMES

On October 1, **Penncrest High School** held its first pep rally in over a year! All classes gathered under blue skies to compete with each other in outdoor games and recognize our student-athletes.

Events included football long toss, scooter relay races, and a class Lions cheer.

Student-athletes for all fall sports were also called by name and recognized in the stadium. Additionally, the **2021 PHS Homecoming Court** was announced and recognized on the field!

PENNCREST STUDENTS ANNOUNCED AS NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

Penncrest students **Jesse R. Palmer** and **Hanwen Zhang** have been named semifinalists in the 67th **National Merit Scholarship Program.**

They are among 16,000 semifinalists across the nation who remain eligible for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$30 million. Finalists will be announced in the spring of 2022.



NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY INDUCTS 79 NEW STUDENTS

On November 17, the **Penncrest National Honor Society** inducted 79 new members in a ceremony at the high school.

The **Chamber Ensemble** performed at the annual event, and Penncrest's own **Ms. Michelle Kirk**, English teacher, was the honored guest speaker.

Current senior members of the NHS welcomed the inductees

into this prestigious group.

This service organization of more than 120 Penncrest students will work throughout the school year to plan, organize and execute numerous service activities like the annual **Giving Tree**, **Media Food Bank** drive and three community blood drives in association with the **American Red Cross**.



18 PENNCREST STUDENTS JOIN ENGLISH HONORS SOCIETY

On November 30, **18 students** were inducted into Penncrest High School's chapter of the **National English Honor Society, Pi Lambda Sigma**.

Students accepted into the Society are to be congratulated, as the requirements are rigorous, including:

- an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher
- a sustained 90% or higher in English

This chapter's charter carries with it a commitment to the mission of the founders of the Society: To promote mastery of written expression, encourage worthwhile reading, and foster fellowship among students who excel in English studies.

After induction, students are expected to volunteer their time and talents to help further the mission of the Society.



PENNCREST HIGH SCHOOL RANKED AMONG BEST SCHOOLS IN PA

Penncrest High School was rated **#44 in Pennsylvania** by [Niche.com](https://niche.com).

Traditional rankings rely almost exclusively on metrics like test scores and academic performance. Niche's ratings combine user input - ratings from current students, alumni

and parents - with data from sources like the U.S. Department of Education to evaluate teachers, resources and facilities, extracurricular activity opportunities, and more. Each school receives an overall letter grade based on academics, teachers, clubs and activities, diversity, college preparation and health and safety.



LIVE MUSIC RETURNS TO PENNCREST HIGH SCHOOL!

This fall, in-person indoor musical performances occurred at Penncrest for the first time in 20 months!

The **Penncrest High School Band and Orchestra** held concerts in November, and the **Choir** performed in early December.

All of the concerts were performed for a limited live audience and were live streamed to the community.

In addition, the Music Department hosted in-person and livestreamed holiday concerts in December.

The Penncrest marching band

performed throughout the football season, at band festivals, at the Halloween parade, and at the Veterans Day parade.

In December, music department students took part in instrumental caroling in the community.




STUDENTS CONDUCT ECOLOGICAL STUDY AT RIDLEY CREEK

The **PHS Environmental Science program** was able to return to **Ridley Creek State Park** to complete an ecological study.

Ninth-grade students used sampling methods to collect, identify, and conduct a census of the macroinvertebrates in the creek. The goal was to build the food web of the creek and determine its overall health.

This program is in its 20th year and is made possible through a partnership with Ridley Creek State Park.



PENNCREST CLASSES COMPETE TO DECK THE HALLWAYS!

This fall, **Penncrest's Class Council** students participated in a hallway decoration competition. Each class picked a theme based on their class color (freshmen: yellow, sophomores: red, juniors: white, seniors: black). Each class decorated a section of the hallway in fun and creative ways!

