



# SCHUYLKILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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## WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL...A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

At Schuylkill Elementary, we place a high value on supporting all of our students to learn, achieve, and succeed. Dedicated teachers and involved parents create an atmosphere where children feel valued and part of a family of learners. As advocates for all of our students, our faculty and staff make every effort to support the “whole child”, encouraging high achievement, while recognizing the importance of a well-rounded experience for all children.

Our students have many opportunities to participate in community service projects and activities that enrich their school experience. Coat drives, Stockings for Kids, and other projects allow students to give back to the community. Within the school, the student government and K-Kids are active leaders in community service. The Math Bee, Grandparents Day, Second Grade Walking Tour of Phoenixville, and the Fifth Grade Team Building Experience at Paradise Farms are just a few examples of programs which enhance the classroom learning. The World Language program at all of the elementary schools is a unique experience which is highly valued in our community.

Extra-curricular offerings are plentiful, with programs like Girls on the Run, Art Club and Chess Club.

The Schuylkill School and Home Association (SSHA) is an incredibly hard-working group of parents. The programs they run and support bring such added value to our school. Author’s Day, Library volunteers and the Publishing Center are all parent-organized and we can’t imagine our school without them and the many other parent-supported activities!

School climate is always an important topic. At Schuylkill, “The Phantom Way: Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Your Best!” is our guiding principal. Students participate in school wide lessons which are used to model and review desired behaviors throughout the building. Students are then eligible to receive a “Gotcha Doing Your Phantom Best” if they demonstrate these behaviors throughout the school day. This positive approach is just a part of what makes Schuylkill a wonderful place for all of our children.

### SCHOOL PROFILE

Schuylkill Elementary is located in Schuylkill Township, and the majority of our students live in the Township. We have 703 students enrolled for the 2012/2013 school year, with an average class size of 21. All of the elementary schools in Phoenixville Area School District are proud to have earned the Keystone Achievement Award for continued excellence in education.

### AFTER SCHOOL CARE

The Phoenixville YMCA offers a child care program at Schuylkill Elementary both before and after school. In addition, students may be transported by bus to any of the child care programs located within the Schuylkill School boundaries.

## **CURRICULUM**

A comprehensive elementary school curriculum includes the core subjects of language arts, mathematics, science and social studies along with physical education, library, music, art, and world language. Each curricular area is based on the Pennsylvania Academic Standards, and is evaluated and revised as needed. All of our elementary schools make wide use of technology to increase student learning, including interactive Promethean Boards in every classroom.

Collins Writing is implemented K-12, and provides consistency across the curriculum. Flexible grouping in Reading allows students to receive targeted instruction to meet their individual needs. A hands-on Science program stimulates student interest and involvement.

An instrumental music program is available to students in Grades 4 and 5, while the choral program begins in Grade 3. The exceptional music programs are on display in the concerts and dramatic productions at each building.

## **FAMILY & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Schuylkill School and Home Association is a strong partner in many of the successful programs we offer. Parents volunteer throughout the school as Homeroom parents and library volunteers. They organize special events like the Holiday Shoppe, Grandparents Day, Family Ice Skating and Movie Nights. The Helping Hands program reaches out to students, families, and community members in need. This program not only provides an invaluable service to the Schuylkill community, but gives children positive role models to emulate. Extensive fundraising efforts have provided additions to the recess yard and increased technology in the classrooms. A weekly newsletter is also published to share good news and information about all of the happenings at Schuylkill.

## **XTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

A wide variety of activities are available for students after the school day ends. In addition to band and chorus, we have a Chess Club, Girls on the Run, K-Kids, Student Government, and Art Club.

## **STUDENT SUPPORT**

Multiple layers of support exist for all students. All of the elementary schools have initiated a School Wide Positive Behavior Support Program which recognizes and rewards appropriate student behavior.

Response to Instruction & Intervention (RTII) uses student data to ensure all students are receiving the support they need to achieve maximum reading success. The Instructional Support Process (IST) helps to identify students who are struggling and puts Action Plans in place to help students achieve success in the regular education classroom. Students who qualify for specially designed instruction, are provided an Individual Education Plan (IEP), and receive additional services matched to their individual needs. After school and summer programs for both Reading and Math are in place for students who require additional support.

An enrichment program is in place for gifted learners, with services provided within Schuylkill Elementary.

## **STUDENT ASSESSMENTS**

Students in third, fourth, and fifth grades take the PSSA state assessment tests in reading and math. The percentages of students who scored proficient or above in 2011 are listed below.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>Reading</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	94.67	88
4 <sup>th</sup>	94.57	84.5
5 <sup>th</sup>	93.28	81.51