

# ***Smyrna School District***

***March 2020 Annual Report***



*Smyrna Strong*

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# *A Message from the Superintendent*



The vision for the Smyrna School District is one of tolerance, diversity, inclusion, and kindness. Fundamentally, we believe that every student has the desire and motivation to succeed in the classroom. Research tells us that human beings respond positively to stimuli that are encouraging, inviting and productive. Research also tells us that many of our students may have experienced difficult challenges in their lives or have searched for a restorative and safe environment. When we embed our classrooms and our schools in a culturally sensitive, trauma-informed and restorative atmosphere, we support our students and teachers in ways that produce immeasurable dividends down the line. Simply put, if students feel supported, they gain confidence. When they gain confidence, they begin to excel. When they begin to excel, they realize the potential that is inside of each of them. In the Smyrna School District we focus on the “whole child” as we develop programs to educate our students through the power of positive connections with one another. In fact, through such initiatives as the We Can Project, “I Love Smyrna School District Day,” Trauma-Informed and Restorative Practices training, Positive Behavior Support, many community partnerships, and a host of other student-centered opportunities, we are improving what we offer to our families. We are also mindful that discipline is not a synonym for punishment, but that discipline in concert with sound instructional practice produces young people equipped to challenge the world and make it a better place. In fact, discipline creates a structure for all of us in which we learn to thrive and succeed. Should you ever wish to learn more about the programs available in the Smyrna School District, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Patrik Williams*

Superintendent

# Our Schools



*Clayton Elementary School*



*North Smyrna Elementary School*



*Smyrna Elementary School*



*Sunnyside Elementary School*



*Clayton Intermediate School*



*John Bassett Moore Intermediate School*



*Smyrna Middle School*



*Smyrna High School*

# Smyrna School District

## Mission

The mission of the Smyrna School District is to ensure that the students of the community are prepared as effectively and as efficiently as possible to become responsible and productive citizens possessing the knowledge, the problem-solving skills, and the positive attitudes necessary to successfully adapt to and function in an ever changing environment.

## Goals

1. Provide a safe, drug-free, positive school climate that allows students to succeed.
2. Standardize the curriculum, instruction, assessment, and staff development, using test data and current research, in order to match the state standards so that all learners will demonstrate competency over challenging subjects.
3. Maintain a strong relationship with parents as partners in the educational process of their children.
4. Promote community support for the flexibility and adaptability to the school's changing needs in the area of population growth.
5. Utilize the tools of technology by staff and students on a daily basis throughout the Smyrna School District.
6. Promote the consensus values of the community as responsibility, compassion, integrity, perseverance, and respect.

# Mission and Goals

# Core Values

## **Compassion**

*A deep feeling for and understanding of others without regard to race, age, creed, or social standing. This includes kindness, generosity, forgiveness, caring, friendship, love and sharing toward all people.*

## **Integrity**

*A steady and faithful observance of a code of moral values. This includes honesty in word and deed and a sense of right and wrong.*

## **Perseverance**

*The inner strength to remain constant to a purpose, idea, or task in the face of obstacles. This includes dedication, consistency and having a positive attitude.*

## **Respect**

*A high regard for oneself and others. This would include self-worth, pride, physical well being, contentment, peace, humor, appreciation for differences and individuality, fairness, respect, and tolerance. This may include faith in God.*

## **Responsibility**

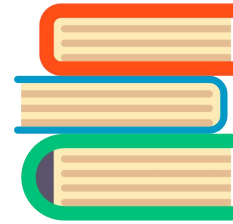
*Being reliable and following through on commitments. This includes being responsible for your actions as a family member, teacher, student and citizen. You can demonstrate your responsibility through service to others and self control.*



**6,042 Students Enrolled**



**8 Schools**



**1,109 Instructional Hours**



**135 Years as  
a District**



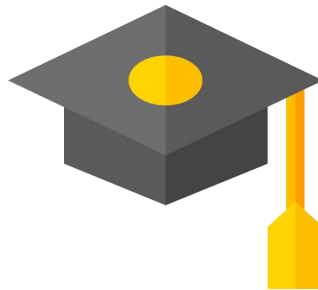
**1:13 Student to  
Teacher Ratio**



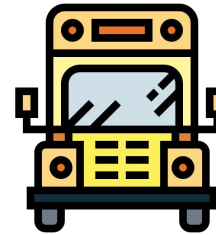
**574 Educational Staff**



**\$12,486 expenditure  
per pupil**



**40 AP Scholars**



**4,860 students are  
transported to school  
every day**



**94% of our seniors  
graduated in 2019**



**84% of our students  
enrolled in higher  
education in 2018**

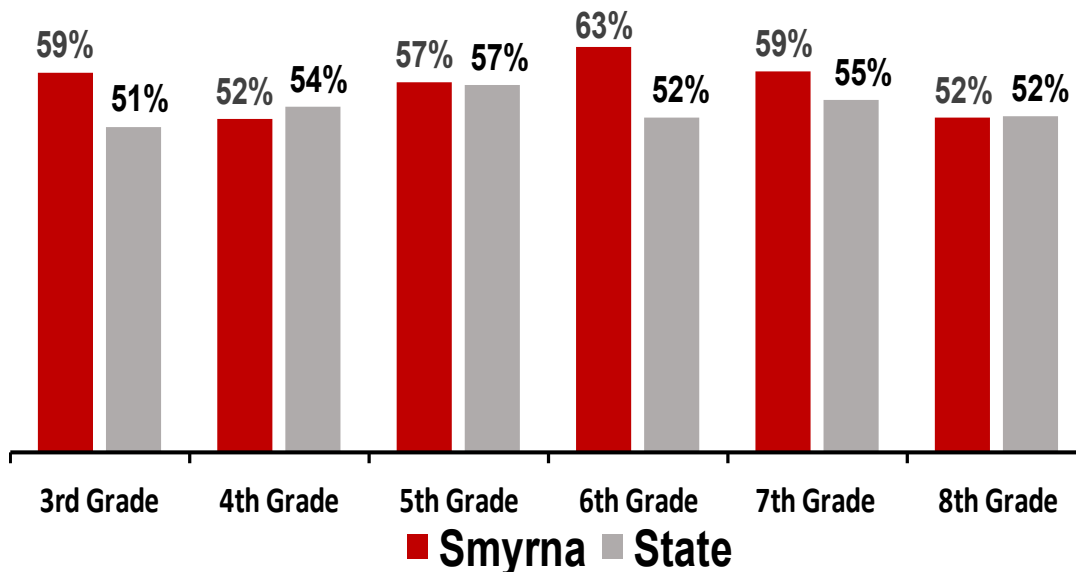


**7,000+ members of the  
community attended  
I Love the Smyrna  
School District Day**

# District At a Glance

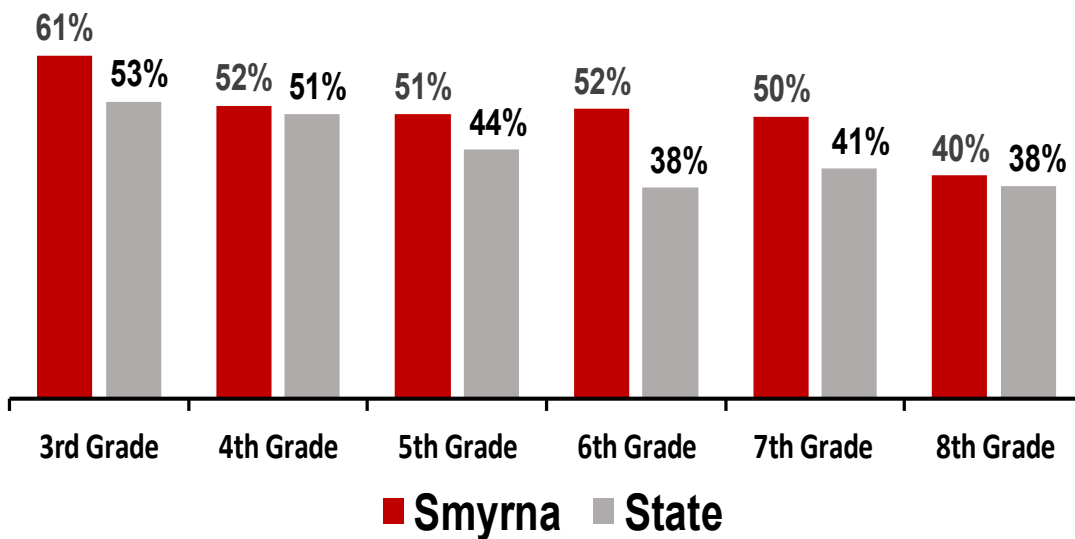
## ELA Smarter Balanced Assessment

(% Proficiency Grade Level)



## Math Smarter Balanced Assessment

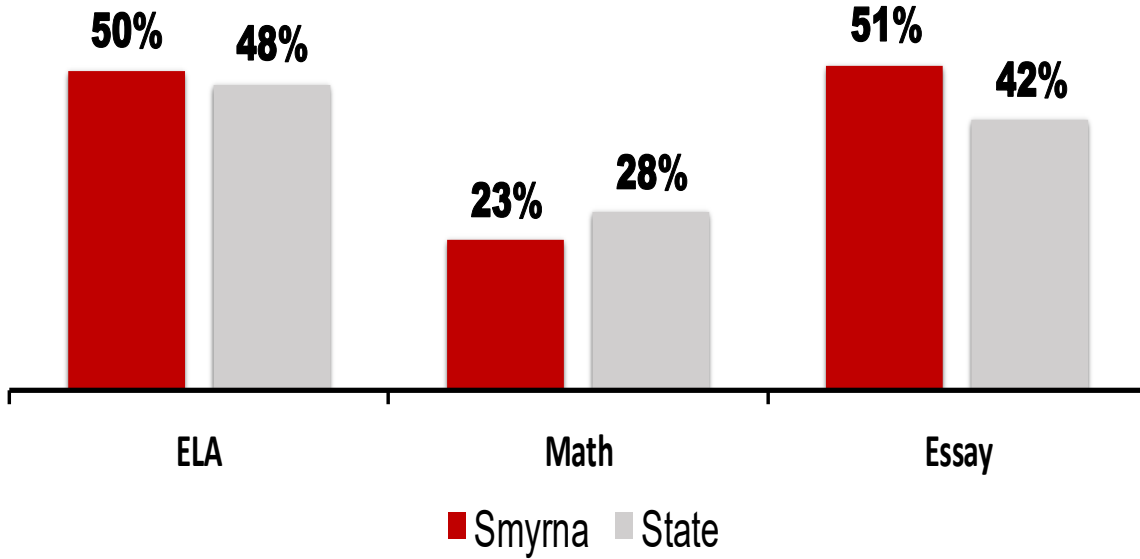
(% Proficiency Grade Level)



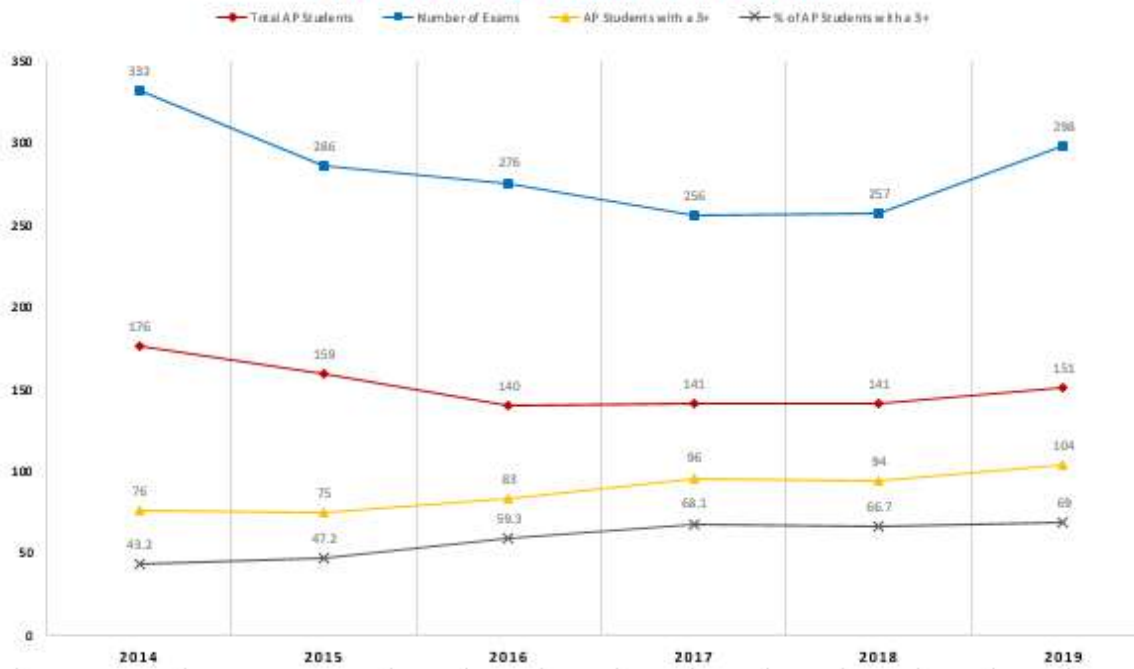


# SAT / AP Summary

2019 Smyrna High SAT Summary  
(% Proficient)



FIVE YEAR SUMMARY REPORT

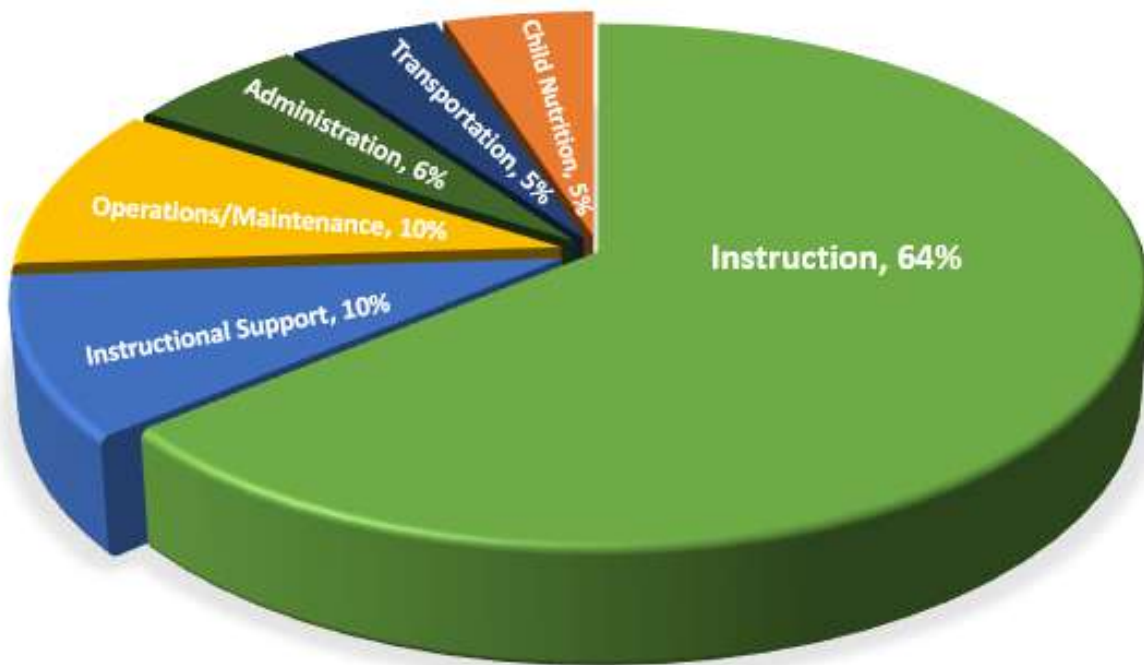


## Jerry Gallagher, Finance Director

### Financial Philosophy

The Smyrna School District recognizes that meticulous planning and organization of its financial affairs is critical to the efficient long-term operation of the district. The Smyrna School District maintains a fiscally conservative policy. District budgetary estimates and financial projections are based on a moderately conservative approach to funds projections with a balanced budget each fiscal year funded exclusively from current-year revenues. These policies afford the Smyrna School District the ability to remain consistent, stable, and financially secure in the short-term and well into our future.

### EXPENSES FOR THE 2018 FISCAL YEAR



### Community Involvement

For over 30 years, the district has had a citizen's financial advisory committee to provide community expertise and feedback to the district. The committee provides a layer of transparency to district finances and reviews major financial matters such as the operating budget and tax rates.

**June Wicks, Director of Curriculum**

**Ryan Buchanan, Supervisor of Instruction**

**David Morrison, Supervisor of Instruction**

*Phillip Wandless—Math Specialist*

*Melissa Buchanan—Social Studies Specialist*

*Debra Morrison—Science Specialist*

*Helen Baynum—Literacy Specialist*

*Justin Malin—Technology Specialist*



***Vision:***

*Smyrna students will have inclusive access to an inspired and exceptional education so that all may realize their academic promise and personal dreams.*

***Mission:***

*The Office of Curriculum and Instruction will make thoughtful, evidence-based decisions in an effort to provide leadership, resources, instructional strategies, and individualized support to educators in their pursuit of continuous, personalized, professional*

The Office of Curriculum and Instruction works with all educators and administrators within the Smyrna School District to improve the education of our students. The Office of Curriculum and Instruction are responsible for the adoption and implementation of all curriculum throughout the district. In addition to this, the team ensures that daily instruction reflects research-based best practice. In order to best serve Smyrna's students and teachers, the team must be fully-informed and up-to-date in current classroom practices. To accomplish this, the team schedules regular visits to our classrooms; this year, the Office of Curriculum and Instruction has visited more than 2,000 classrooms. These visits have led to meaningful professional development that is targeted to each building, grade-level, and teacher. The Office of Curriculum and Instruction conducted more than 60 unique opportunities for professional learning over the last year; totaling over 200 hours of training, in addition to site-based coaching visits to individual schools and classrooms. While professional development is very unique and targeted to the needs of the teacher, many of the sessions have addressed the implementation of newly-adopted high quality instructional materials in both English Language Arts and Mathematics.

# Curriculum & Instruction

**Rachael Rudinoff, Director of Special Services**

**Marcia Mayhew, Supervisor of Special Programs**

**Jennifer Morris, Supervisor of Support Services**

### Vision

**The Smyrna Special Services Team will provide students access to a dynamic education within the Smyrna School District that inspires and promotes each student's academic promise.**



### Mission

**The Smyrna Special Services Team engages in collaboration and problem solving with staff, students, and families to develop meaningful, comprehensive plans to support students' success.**

The Special Services Office facilitates services for students in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act. We have over 50 staff members, including educational diagnosticians, school psychologists, speech-language pathologists, occupational/physical therapists, and instructional specialists (math, reading, behavior). We also have an early childhood coordinator, secondary coordinator, software support technologist, assistive technology specialist, behavior analyst, transition coordinator, community outreach and homeless coordinator, community support and truancy paraprofessional, teacher of the deaf/hard of hearing, and administrative assistants.

The Special Services Office seeks to support students by collaborating with families, teachers, administrators, and community agencies. We help school teams review data to develop meaningful plans that support student success, both academically and behaviorally. Our team also provides direct services to students to support their developmental and social/emotional needs (e.g., specialized reading and math instruction, individual and group counseling, social skills development, mentoring, speech-language and occupational/physical therapy). The Special Services Office monitors student progress and makes sure that students are receiving appropriate accommodations and modifications within the least restrictive environment that supports their needs. Classroom walkthroughs and audits are completed to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations. Our focus continues to be reducing barriers that prevent students from fully engaging in their educational experience.

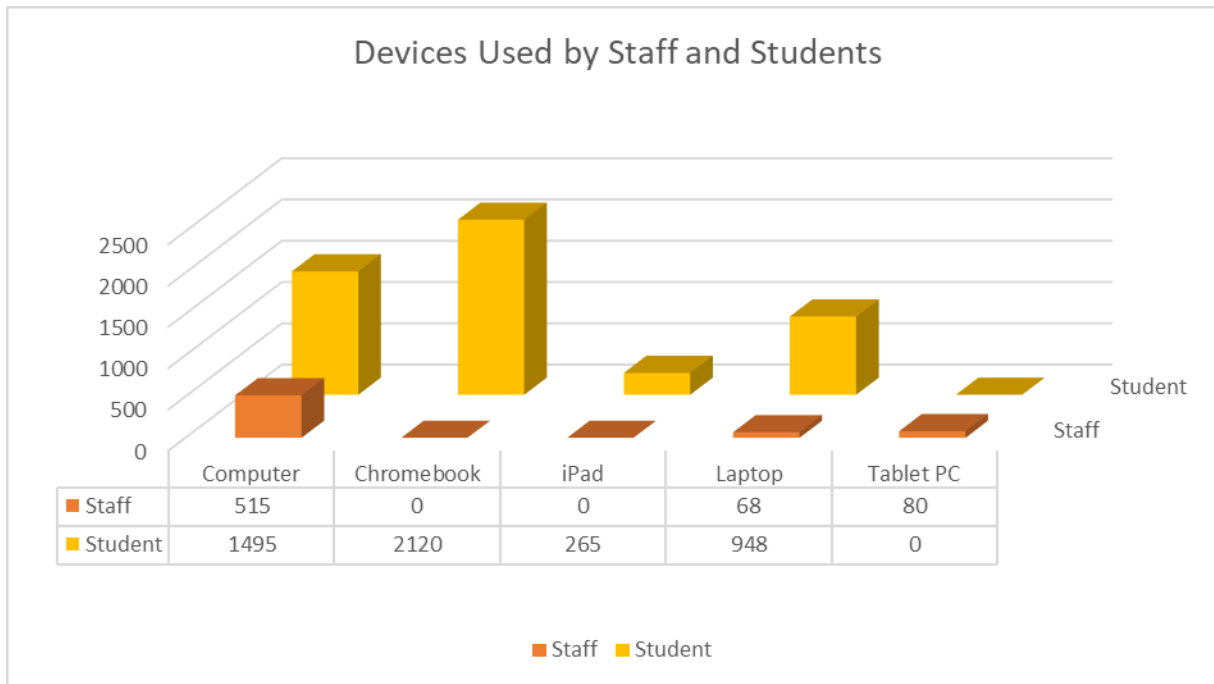
**Special Services**



## Jody Sweeney, Supervisor of Technology

Technology is an asset to be used to improve the teaching environment. By continual improvement of technology through partnering with faculty and staff, the Technology Department seeks the best technology hardware and software solutions to provide a strong student learning environment that faculty and staff are comfortable using.

**Total devices available to students in the Smyrna School District = 4,828**

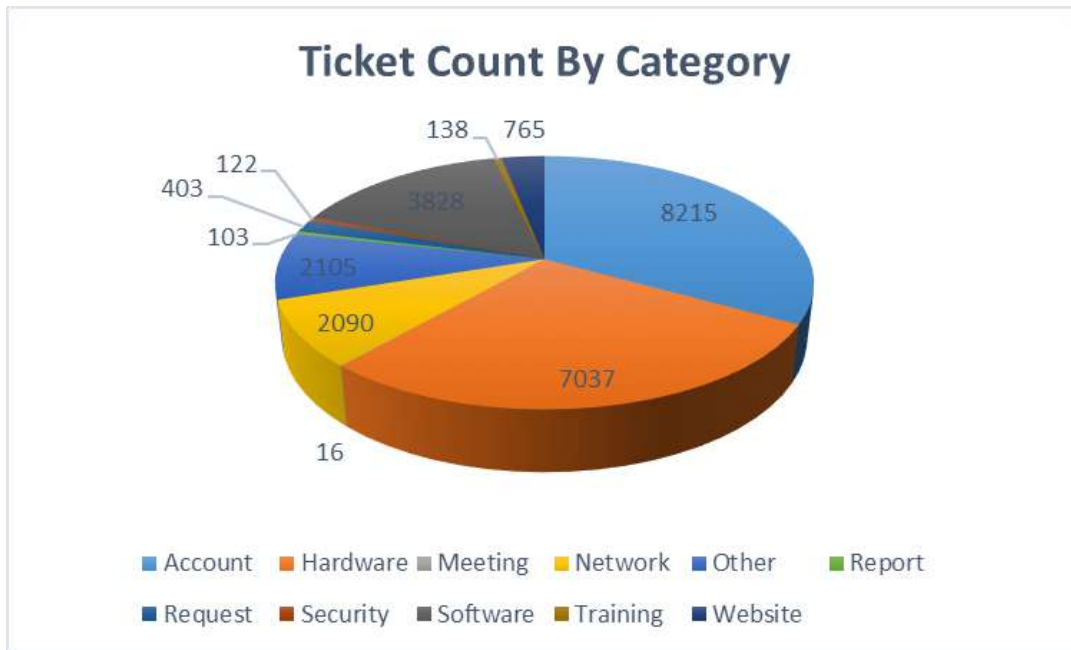


The Technology Mission includes:

- Providing a stable and reliable network, which is critical for testing and access to online educational resources, and to resources required for the business units to be successful.
- Providing computers that have the latest protective updates and system upgrades, and are stable for student access to all educational programs and network systems and for business units to successfully accomplish job duties.
- Providing classroom technology that allows the teacher to provide the best educational environment for their students.
- Providing stable, secure network storage for District-related files, with a backup/restore process in the event of loss.
- Providing stable, secure physical environment for monitoring and protection of students and staff.

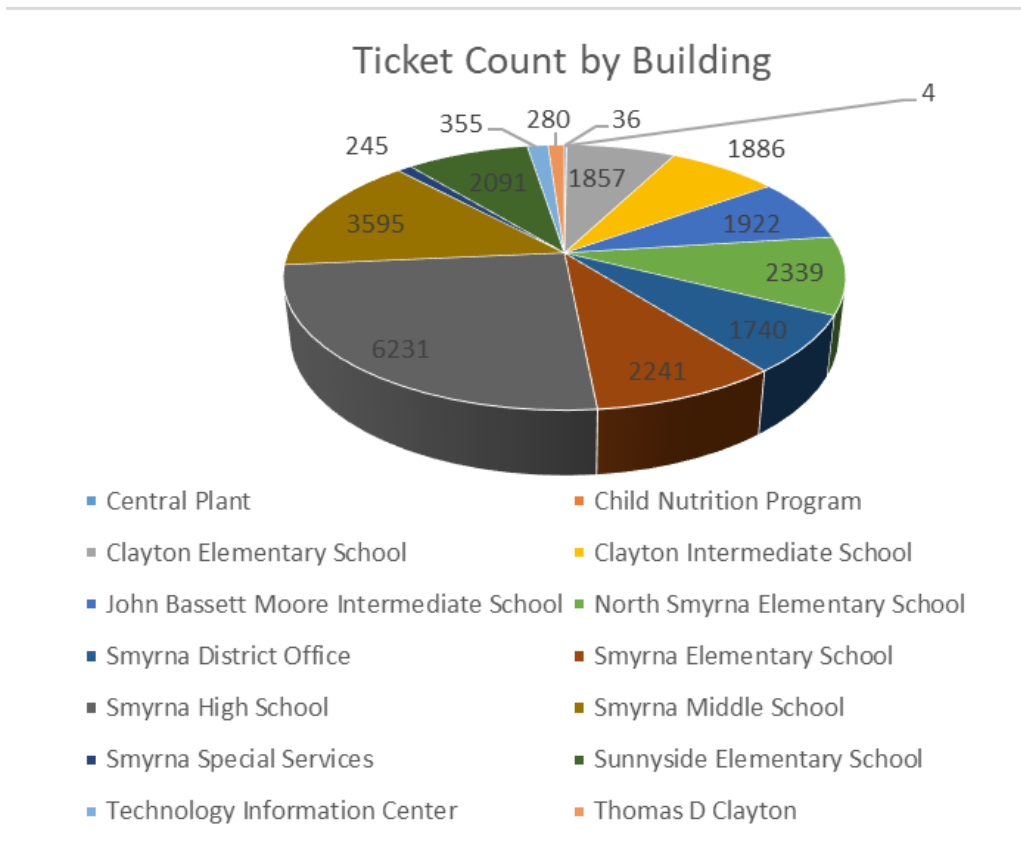
# Technology

# Jody Sweeney, Supervisor of Technology



**24,822**

TechFix tickets resolved in the past year



**Technology**

## Roger Holt, Child Nutrition Supervisor

253,495 Breakfast Meals

725, 212 Lunch Meals

978, 707 Meals Served

### Vision

**Ensure that every student has access to nutritious meals at school, ensuring their optimal health and well-being.**

### Mission

**Meet the Nutritional needs of the Smyrna School District students while providing attractive, diverse and nutritious food.**

### Philosophy

**The Child Nutrition Program is committed to a student-centered, continuous, quality improvement process that will result in exceptional nutritional services.**

	Smyrna High	Smyrna Middle	Intermediate Schools	Elementary Schools
Breakfasts Served	49,463	27,518	45,577	130,937
Lunches Served	184,564	134,299	134,408	271,941

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) is a USDA funded grant for North Smyrna Elementary. The grant allows Child Nutrition Staff to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to students three days per week. The Child Nutrition Program received \$22,481 for SY2018/19.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a USDA funded program that allows the Child Nutrition program to serve afterschool meals at Smyrna High, Smyrna Middle, John Bassett Moore Intermediate, North Smyrna Elementary, and Smyrna Elementary Schools at no cost to students. Students who stay after school for academic enrichment, clubs, sports, etc. are eligible for a meal. Approximately 61,000 afterschool meals were served in SY2018/19.

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is a federally-funded provision, which in SY2018/19 allowed the Smyrna Child Nutrition Program to serve 121,198 breakfast and 216,199 lunch meals at no cost to students at North Smyrna Elementary, Smyrna Elementary, and John Bassett Moore Intermediate Schools.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a USDA-based program which allowed the Smyrna Child Nutrition Program to serve 3,900 meals in the summer of 2019 at four locations in our community.

## **Roger Holt, Child Nutrition Supervisor**



### **School Food Donation**

Smyrna School District donates food to local shelters to help reduce food waste and food insecurity concerns in our community. These food donations can include sandwiches, salads, fresh fruits, vegetables, milk and frozen entrees/sides.

### **School Nutrition Outreach**

Starting this year the Child Nutrition Program has put a focus on classroom based nutrition education. Each of our students in kindergarten through 4th grade will have a nutrition lesson in their classroom. The purpose of these lessons are to help expose our students to the importance of eating a healthy diet.

### **Food Pantry at Smyrna Middle School**

The Harry K. Foundation, Food Bank of Delaware, and Smyrna School District have opened a food pantry at Smyrna Middle School. This food pantry is for families with a student/students in the Smyrna School District. The food pantry provides families in the district with food items supplied by the Food Bank of Delaware and local donations, as well as, personal hygiene items, and other items that the students in the district have requested be donated.

### **Student Collaboration**

The Child Nutrition Program and the students in the Environmental Club at Smyrna High School are partnering together to reduce plastic use in the district cafeterias. Currently Smyrna High School, Smyrna Elementary and Sunnyside Elementary are piloting a new presentation form for packaging cold entrees.





# Scott Holmes, Supervisor

## Vision

*To promote community support for the flexibility and adaptability to the school's changing needs in the area of population growth.*

## Mission

*The mission of the Smyrna School district maintenance department is to support the overall mission and values of the District, while maximizing a safe, healthy, clean, pleasant and functional learning environment.*

## Philosophy

*The Buildings and Grounds staff is committed to a "One Team" effort to work together to keep our schools safe, clean and attractive, both inside and out.*

Smyrna School District's Building and Grounds utilize an electronic work order system to make sure issues are handled in a timely and efficient manner. Our staff responds to an average of 135 maintenance issues monthly. The needs range from maintaining appropriate temperatures in buildings, to fixing doors or locks and keeping the lawns cut and parking lots clear and safe.

Over the past year multiple lights have been replaced to more energy efficient LED lighting for school improvements and to create a safer environment while also saving in costs and maintenance. We have applied for grants to continue to upgrade to LED lighting in the parking lots at the Middle School and the High School.



We use a preventive maintenance program district wide to ensure all equipment is maintained and serviced to provide a comfortable learning environment and ensure we get maximum life from equipment.

Preventive maintenance/safety checks are done on a monthly basis to district fleet vehicles to ensure staff and students have safe and reliable transportation.

The chief custodians have saved money on cleaning supplies and bought cleaning equipment to help keep all buildings clean and sanitized.

We hired new part time custodians in place of substitute custodians to be able to accomplish more work and yet still save on costs.

Custodial and maintenance staff attended all required training to stay current on safety procedures and policies.

The facilities maintenance staff possess the technical knowledge and skills to service and maintain the needs of the district by maintaining building systems, including but not limited to heating, air conditioning, refrigeration, plumbing, welding, carpentry, sports field maintenance and security (doors, locks).

The staff works with building administrators throughout the year to make all schools safe. We also work with the community to provide clean spaces for them to hold trainings, host sporting events and other community support activities.

# Buildings & Grounds

## Jessica Weller, Supervisor

The Smyrna School District School Climate and Safety Department is new for the 2019/20 school year. We have immersed Restorative and Trauma Informed Practices within our schools to offer a social and emotional response to every student. We have implemented the hand-model of the brain understanding and calming corners in all schools K-6. We are proud to be piloting the Take Care Delaware Program; which offers supports if needed, to students who have experienced police contact the night before the school day. Our district is proud to say our district received the Compassionate Champion Award from Governor Carney in May, 2019 for our work in Trauma Informed Practices.

**Vision** To promote a physically and psychologically safe environment for ALL who enter our schools, by ensuring social and emotional well-being through relationship building, positive classroom environments, and physically safe buildings.



WE ARE DEDICATED TO TEACHING THE WHOLE CHILD. WE BELIEVE IN THE SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING OF EVERY STUDENT. WE ARE INVESTED IN TRAUMA-INFORMED, RESTORATIVE PRACTICES, AND STUDENT EQUITY TO CREATE A CULTURE OF CARE. OUR CULTURE WILL ACHIEVE RESPONSIBLE AND PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

# School Climate & Safety

**Katie Wood, Principal**

**Michael Daws, Associate Principal**

**Continuing small-town traditions while imparting dynamic and worldly knowledge to each student.**



**Mission:**

*Through our on-going partnership with the community, Clayton Elementary School maintains a focus on student-centered curriculum, positive and nurturing relationships, and a dedication to ensure comprehensive student success.*

“Here we are at Clayton...it’s a place good things are made of”. These lyrics from our school song embody the amazing things that have happened at Clayton Elementary School every year. Once again, we have maintained the traditions that have made us thrive in the community. From our Fall Fest, Halloween Parade, and Veteran’s Day Program...to our amazing musical performances and parent luncheons, Clayton Elementary continues to hold true to what makes us so special. This year, “Read, Read, Read & Love It” are rules to live by with our new IRLA reading initiative. From the “100 Book Challenge” to getting your picture on the reading Wall of Fame for reaching various milestones within the program, our students have never been more focused, more engaged, and more confident with their ability to read. They are “leveling up” and building their reading fluency daily. Not only are they excited to share their achievements with their peers, they are fostering the love of reading at home as well. The reading fever has swept through CES and we are eager to see our children continue to thrive with this new program.

**Clayton Elementary**

# Educate, Inspire, Nurture, and Celebrate Every Child, Every Day.

**Stephanie Smeltzer, Principal**  
**Amber Augustus, Associate Principal**  
**Erik Wilson, Associate Principal**

Every day, North Smyrna Elementary School (NSE) opens its doors with the daily goal to educate, inspire, nurture, and celebrate every one of our 630 students. Approximately 200 of these are our littlest Eagles, beginning their Smyrna School District academic career in NSE's Early Childhood Program with the remainder in our elementary setting from kindergarten to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Our experienced staff is dedicated to providing every student with an unrivaled educational environment fostering academic engagement and growth, self-respect, and strong relationships. We embrace and teach the Smyrna School District Community Core Values of respect, responsibility, perseverance, integrity, and compassion. As part of our continuing tradition of excellence at Smyrna School District, we offer Spanish Immersion, Early Childhood, the STEP Enrichment program for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students, and the Comprehensive Learning Program. In addition, our school participates in numerous programs and activities for students including: Read Across America, Read for the Record, Girls on the Run, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade chorus, bi-monthly Kindness Projects, and family nights.

The resolve of our approach and quality of our programs are evident in our ratings and recognitions. NSE's Early Childhood Program has renewed its Star Level 5 quality rating, which is the highest obtainable level in the Delaware Stars for Early Success Quality Rating and Improvement System administered by the Delaware Department of Education. The Early Childhood Program first received this rating in 2015 and has maintained it ever since. NSE has also been recognized in 2017 as a Recognition School and in 2018 for Exceeds Expectations by the Delaware Department of Education. In 2018, Delaware Secretary of Education Susan Bunting named NSE a School of Continued Excellence, which was the only school in Delaware recognized for this achievement that year.



***Our staff, students, families, and community  
work together to provide an inclusive, safe,  
nurturing environment that puts student  
needs first.***

**North Smyrna Elementary**

***Cynthia McNatt, Principal***

***Mikell Reed, Associate Principal***



**To inspire every student to persevere, every day, to achieve their maximum potential and realize their personal dreams.**

The collaborative team at Smyrna Elementary School strives each and every day to send students home eagerly awaiting to return. To achieve this, Smyrna Elementary School provides a wide variety of programs aimed at meeting the diverse academic, social, and emotional needs of our students. The teaching faculty and support staff continue to engage in meaningful training and utilize current, research-based programs and strategies in all core content areas. To support both staff and students, Smyrna Elementary School boasts a building Reading Specialist, Math Specialist, and a Content Intervention Specialist. In an effort to assist students with their social/emotional growth as well, Smyrna Elementary has two dually-certified school counselors on staff to offer support in a variety of ways to students, staff and families. Smyrna Elementary focuses on the whole student--not overemphasizing one aspect of students' growth and development--but working collaboratively as a caring, compassionate, committed community of learners. Seamlessly blending academic learning activities--both in and out of the classroom and school--with community service-based experiences helps students explore a wide array of interests. Smyrna Elementary School is a place where fun, learning, and excitement coexists with responsibility, respect, compassion, integrity and perseverance to foster a desire of lifelong learning for all constituents and stakeholders.

Smyrna Elementary creates a collaborative, respectful, unified partnership with our school families and continuously offers challenging academic experiences and enriching social activities to ensure comprehensive student success. At Smyrna Elementary School, we strive to send each and every student home – every day – eagerly awaiting to return the next.

**Smyrna Elementary**

**M. Patrick Grant, Principal**

**Irene Buscemi, Associate Principal**

Sunnyside Elementary School is a family-friendly environment where the school and families link together to create an environment of respect and giving. There are approximately 565 students that attend Sunnyside Elementary. At Sunnyside we pride ourselves at building strong relationships with our students, parents, and our community. The support we receive from these stakeholders allows our children to blossom and grow academically and socially. All students experience a “whole-child” approach that focuses on social, emotional, physical, and mental development. Working towards a common goal and striving to be our best through a growth mindset helps us achieve success. Sunnyside implemented the “We Can” Project which helps students to use their talents to better their world. Students at Sunnyside have participated in family friendly events like Dodgeball, Pie in the Face, and Family Movie and Reading night. They have also contributed and given back to their community by visiting the Hospital of the Chronically Ill, donating books to Mom’s House and also donating items to local animal shelters. Here at Sunnyside, we strive to develop personal relationships and a positive learning environment for our students.

**Vision: To create a safe and comfortable learning environment in which students and staff practice respect for themselves and one another while being the best that they can be.**



**Mission: To create a positive atmosphere in which students and staff strive to be a good person, do the right thing and follow the golden rule.**

**Sunnyside Elementary**

**David Paltrineri, Principal**

**Heather Moyer, Associate Principal**

# Fostering listeners, learners, and leaders in every way, every day.



## **Mission:**

*CIS is a place for learning, to inspire, to encourage, and to support teachers by providing a safe and loving environment to educate all so that both teachers and students can continue to build a foundation for lifelong learning.*

*Clayton Intermediate School is the newest addition in the Smyrna School District when it opened its doors in September of 2012. CIS offers a comprehensive Common Core State Standard-based education to students in grades 5 & 6. Currently, Bridges and Illustrative Math Curriculum, Wonders and Pearson Reading series, Comprehensive Science programs and Next Generation Social Studies provide the materials and structure of our daily instruction. We are a Learning Focused school in our instructional approach and strategies utilized. In addition to differentiated instruction in reading, writing, math, science and social studies, offerings of music, chorus, band, physical education, art, library science and technology round out the complete academic program for all grades.*

*The S.T.E.P. (Smyrna Triad Enrichment Program) provides advanced, hands-on learning for our gifted students. Our small group special education and support services team create and implement specialized education program for students who are differently-abled. This includes the use of innovative and technology-driven programs such as System 44, Read 180 and Math 180.*

*CIS offers before-school care through our child nutrition team in the CIS cafeteria called "Breakfast Club." After school care is provided by a site-based group managed by the Boys and Girls Club.*

*CIS offers many organization and clubs for students to exercise their gifts and talents. These organizations and clubs are Student Council, Safety Patrol, Odyssey of the Mind, Art Club, Technology Club, PBS Committee, School Newspaper, Girls on the Run, Heart and Soul, Iron, Drama Club, Recycling Club, Basketball Club, Homework Club, Volleyball, I Run, Girl Talk and Dance Club.*

# Clayton Intermediate

**Steven Gott, Principal**

**Amy Mumley, Associate Principal**

**Vision:** JBM will provide a safe, nurturing, and supportive learning environment.

**Mission:** *The mission of JBM Intermediate is to provide a safe, family friendly, well-structured classroom experience where students are always supported, encouraged, and offered opportunities through meaningful lessons in the classroom and support in the community.*

John Bassett Moore Intermediate School prides itself on being able to offer students and families numerous events throughout the school year. Students and families are encouraged to attend our Open House event in which the staff highlight our school's high expectations and engaging academic curriculum. At JBM, students are challenged with high-level thinking in our standards-aligned reading, math, science and social studies curriculum.

Throughout the school day, students are engaged in enriching classroom discussions and a variety of hands on experiences. Throughout the year, the JBM Student Council organizes many school-wide activities which include an annual fall festival with a haunted house. JBM also offers many other school-based activities such as band, chorus and drama, which includes several productions, this year being *High School Musical*.



Several after-school programs are also offered including, Boys on the Run, Girls on the Run, Heart and Sole, Readers Club, Writers Club, Technology Club and Art Club. All programs offered at JBM allow our students to excel academically and socially. Our students know that by giving their personal best, they CAN Soar with Kindness!

**JBM Intermediate**



*The vision of Smyrna Middle School is to develop successful students as future productive citizens by providing academic and extra-curricular opportunities in an inclusive environment.*

**Kelly Holt, Principal**

**Kent Robinson, Associate Principal**

**Whitney Irwin, Associate Principal**

**Christine Seitz, Associate Principal**

Smyrna Middle School serves 984 seventh and eighth grade students in the Smyrna School District. Students are on a two-day, ninety-minute block schedule having eight different classes. Students are on one of four teams which determines their primary hall for core classes and homeroom. These teams participate in monthly activities and field trips throughout the school year. Students have the opportunity to take not only their core courses, but PE, Health, Home Ec, Band, Chorus, Ag Science, STEM, Creative Writing, Art, Spanish, Digital Storytelling, Computer Tech, Public Speaking, Geography, Sports History, Theatre, Family Consumer Science and Wellness.

Students have the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of clubs including Go Baby Go, Special Olympics, Book Club, Sign Language, FCA, FFA, BPA, Math League, and Honor Society. Sports offerings include cross country, volleyball, football, field hockey, soccer, cheerleading, basketball, wrestling, baseball, softball, lacrosse and track. (Congratulations to our undefeated volleyball team who earned first place in the state tournament!)

Our academic programs ask students to challenge their thinking and analyze materials as they learn. We offer intervention courses to those who need extra support and we have also started a course where students who are behind in their learning can work to catch up using an online curriculum while still participating in their core classes each day. Using Restorative Practices and considering Trauma Informed Care, we are working as a staff to promote wellness with our students. We start each week with Mindfulness Mondays and provide students with opportunities to seek the support of our counselors to advocate for themselves in their learning. It is our goal to provide a safe learning environment where students can perform at their best each day.



***Through collaboration between families and SMS staff, students will:***

- *Be provided with equitable opportunities that are academically challenging*
- *Commit to excellence and perseverance*
- *Have a safe learning environment*
- *Develop positive interpersonal skills*
- *Maintain success, productivity and purpose through their middle school experience*



**Smyrna Middle**

**Vision:** *To provide our students with the skills needed to reach their full potential in a competitive and ever-changing world.*

**Mission:** *Smyrna High School is devoted to providing a safe and student-centered school family by creating opportunities for all students to be Champions within the classroom, campus, and community by making connections and building dreams for all students.*

# **Making Connections & Building Dreams**

**Stacy Cook, Principal**

**LaTonya Pierce, Associate Principal**

**Leon Clarke, Associate Principal**

**John Camponelli, Associate Principal**

**Clarence Davis, Associate Principal**

**Dainelle Hampton-Morton, Associate Principal**

The Smyrna High School motto is "Making Connections & Building Dreams". It is the goal of our staff to provide an educational environment that enables all of our 1600 students to connect the content of their classes and involvement in school activities to their personal dreams for the future. We provide many different educational settings for our students including Dual-enrollment, AP, Honors, Academy classes, Team-taught classes, and small-group settings. These settings enable us to meet the needs of a variety of learners with many different levels of support. Some highlights from the past year are:

- ◆ 297 AP exams were completed by SHS students, and 61% of them passed with a 3 or better!
- ◆ Sixteen SHS students have been awarded the "Give Something Back Foundation" scholarship which provides full tuition to the University of Delaware.
- ◆ SHS Career & Technical Education programs continue to grow with the addition of Culinary Arts beginning in the 2020-21 school year.
- ◆ Our Career & Technical Education programs (BPA, Ed Rising, HOSA, FFA, Allied Health, and STEM) continue to thrive; winning numerous accolades at state and national competitions.
- ◆ In March, SHS will compete for the first time on the trivia game show "ClassH-Room".

**Smyrna High**



The SHS and SMS FFA programs combined efforts to collect and donate over 6,100 canned food items and \$1,600 to the Smyrna-Clayton Ministerium during the 2019 Bunny Hop for Hunger 4.0.

The Smyrna High School Music Department won four awards while competing at the Orlando Fest April 13 during the group's trip to Florida. The Regiment of Red Marching Band won first place and was named Grand Champion at the event. The Concert Choir won first place. The Jazz Band won first place, and the Symphonic Band placed second.



Members of the Class of 2019 celebrate "National Decision Day"!

Smyrna High School hosted the Special Olympics Basketball Skills Challenge in December for 171 athletes and unified partners from elementary schools located in Kent County. Sixty student volunteers from Smyrna High School worked together to make the event run smoothly led by Advisor Whitney Reed.

Smyrna HOSA Future Health Professionals represented Smyrna High school in the 2019 Delaware HOSA State Competition in April at the University of Delaware STAR Campus. Smyrna High School HOSA students competed in various events and many placed in the top 10 in the State of Delaware. This is a tremendous feat for a 3-year-old program!



# Clubs & Activities

## Bill Schultz, Athletic Director

Smyrna School District Athletic Department Mission: To train, educate, and motivate student-athletes within the Smyrna School District to reach their highest potential in athletic competition and life.



Smyrna High School Softball Team Wins second consecutive DIAA State Championship (Spring 2019)



The class of 2019 had 32 student-athletes commit to further their academic and athletic careers at the college level.

### SHS Athletic Involvement

Spring 2019: 316 Athletes

Fall 2019: 290 Athletes

Winter 2020: 198 Athletes

**804 Total Participants**

### SMS Athletic Involvement

Spring 2019: 195 Athletes

Fall 2019: 201 Athletes

Winter 2020: 97 Athletes

**493 Total Participants**



- 2019 Softball Conference Champions and repeat DIAA State Champions.
- 2019 Girls Track & Field finish 2nd DIAA D-1I State Championships
- 2019 Girls Volleyball Northern Division Champions
- 2020 Wrestling DIAA Division, Conference, and State Champions
- 2020 Girls Indoor Track Conference Champions and DIAA D-1 Runner-Up
- 2020 Boys Indoor Track DIAA D-1 Runner-Up

# Athletics

# Stay Connected



**Smyrna School District**  
**82 Monrovia Avenue**  
**Smyrna, DE 19977**



**Follow us on Twitter**  
**@smyrnaschools**



**(302) 653-8585**



**Visit our website**  
**[www.smyrna.k12.de](http://www.smyrna.k12.de)**



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