



**Programmed After-school Recreation for Kids!**

**SEPTEMBER 2023**

## **RECREATION SUPERVISOR NEWSLETTER**

### **Welcome to the 2023-2024 P.A.R.K. Program!**

P.A.R.K. aims to provide a **safe, secure, enriching and affordable** place to be after school.

- It is **not** intended to be an **extension of school**.
- After a long day of highly structured schoolwork, children have the opportunity to **choose activities** that are **fun and enriching** that also **allow for spontaneity**.

### **Parent Handbook**

The handbook details the **philosophy, goals, policies and procedures** governing the P.A.R.K. program.

- Please **review it to ensure you understand** the program and to help your child have a positive experience.
- Access it anytime online at [GroveCityOhio.gov](http://GroveCityOhio.gov).

### **Medical Conditions**

If your child has a medical condition,

- List it on his or her **Emergency Medical Form**.
- Complete a **Child Medical/Physical Care Plan Form** to provide the P.A.R.K. leaders with necessary instructions to properly care for your child.
- Please see a P.A.R.K. leader for a copy of the plan form.

### **Let Your Children Know You Care**

To **help your child feel more confident** about school:

- **Place encouraging notes** in a lunch box or book bag.
- **Reinforce the ability to cope**.
- **Model optimism** and confidence - children can absorb their parents' anxiety.
- Let your child know it is **natural to be a little nervous** when starting something new, but he/she will be fine after becoming familiar with classmates, the teacher and school routine.

### **Parent Table**

Check the parent table at your site when signing your child out for the day.

- **Look for handouts** or other pertinent information for you regarding the P.A.R.K. program or happenings in the community.
- Glance at the **parent board for the activities** your child chose from to participate in.

### **Unplanned Required Early Pickup**

P.A.R.K. staff or program supervisors may **contact you regarding an immediate need for your child to be picked up** due to illness, injury or a circumstance that jeopardize the safety of your child or other participants.

- It is imperative that you or an emergency contact can **abide by this request within a reasonable time**.
- Have **arrangements in place for an alternate person** in case you are unavailable. This person must be listed as an emergency contact.
- Please be mindful of the stress it causes your child, other participants and staff when they are waiting.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding and for taking responsibility during unexpected situations.



**The City of Grove City • Parks and Recreation Department**  
**P.A.R.K. Recreation Supervisor: Megan Seese**  
**614-277-3050 • [GroveCityOhio.gov](http://GroveCityOhio.gov) • [f](https://www.facebook.com/GroveCityParks) [@GroveCityParks](https://www.instagram.com/GroveCityParks) • [@GroveCityOhio](https://www.tiktok.com/@GroveCityOhio)**

## Attendance

Attendance is taken daily for safety and security.

- If your child will be absent from or delayed in arriving at P.A.R.K., **leave a message on your site's voice mailbox before 2:15 p.m.**
- Do so in case of illness, early pickup, riding the bus home, taking part in an afterschool activity, etc.
- **School staff do not relay messages regarding absences to the P.A.R.K. program**, so it is the parent's responsibility.
- **Failure to report** a child's absence on the P.A.R.K. voice mail results in a **\$20 tracking fee** for each occurrence.
- See the handbook for more information.

## P.A.R.K. Leaders

Please take the time to get to know your child's P.A.R.K. leaders.

- We have a **great group of staff members**, each filling a different niche in our program with varying interests, hobbies, ideals, educational backgrounds and levels of experience!
- We are proud of their hard work, commitment and dedication to the program.
- All P.A.R.K. leaders are **required to be certified in CPR, first aid, recognition and prevention of child abuse, and identification of communicable diseases.**
- They **attend various trainings** throughout the school year as we partner with organizations such as Action for Children, After-school Counts, Educational Council and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.
- **If you or someone you know is interested in joining our team, visit [GroveCityOhio.gov](http://GroveCityOhio.gov) for details.**



## P.A.R.K. Site Cell Phone Numbers

|                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Buckeye Woods ..... | 614-519-4664 |
| Highland Park ..... | 614-571-9624 |
| J.C. Sommer .....   | 614-571-9620 |
| Monterey .....      | 614-571-9622 |
| Richard Ave. ....   | 614-571-9623 |

## Snack Time

Snack time is included in the P.A.R.K. schedule every day and all children are required to bring a packed snack.

- **Pack the snack and lunch separately** so your child knows to only eat "lunch" at lunchtime, leaving the "snack" for after school.
- **Pack a variety of healthy choices** and enough to sustain your child until pickup. Do not send soda pop.
- **Suggestions** include: cheese and crackers, carrots, trail mix, fruit, yogurt, pretzels and applesauce.
- **Snack time is an opportunity** to model manners and use social skills while interacting with other children and the P.A.R.K. leader sitting at the table.

Thank you for making time daily to pack a great snack for your kid!

## Help Us Help You

It is very important to us to provide the best care for your child after school.

- **We want each child to be successful** and have a positive experience in our program, spending time engaging in a variety of activities and social opportunities.
- Please **inform P.A.R.K. staff of anything your child is struggling with** that may affect behavior or demeanor as they may be recognizable during program hours.
- In turn, it is in the best interest of the child that **P.A.R.K. staff share with you any issues or concerns** that arise during the program that will help you and your child find a remedy and grow from the experience.
- We also are **interested in hearing good things** happening in the children's lives, so we can be excited for them as well!