

Director's Report for Pottsgrove Recreation Board

August 13, 2026

Summer Playground

Our 2026 Summer Playground Program was a great success! We had 155 children registered for the five-week program, and overall, the summer went very well. The kids had a great time participating in a wide variety of field trips, special activities, and visits from community guests.

Throughout the summer, participants enjoyed trips and experiences including the Elmwood Park Zoo, Colebrookdale Railroad, Schuylkill River Greenways, Challenger Learning Center, Pottstown Children's Discovery Center, and West Pottsgrove Township Park. At the school, we kept the kids busy with arts and crafts, Bingo, Water Ice and Pretzel Days, outdoor games, gym activities, water play, and other special events. The kids also enjoyed a visit from the Scoop Dreams Ice Cream Truck, which was another fun addition to the summer.

We were also fortunate to welcome several special visitors and entertainers throughout the program, including Art with Kim, Vince Wilson's Magic, Wagstaff & Company, the Oxymorons, and the Pottsgrove Community Band, including Director Jann and member Heather. These visits gave the kids opportunities to experience everything from art and music to magic and live entertainment.

A special thank you to West Pottsgrove Township for helping make our Day in the Park such a success. It was one of the hottest days of the summer, and the Township went above and beyond by opening the meeting room for us to use if needed and even setting up their own water sprinklers for the kids to enjoy. Despite the heat, it turned out to be a lot of fun and a memorable day for everyone.

Back at school, we were able to adjust activities as needed during periods of extreme summer heat, moving more of the fun indoors while still keeping the kids active, engaged, and safe.

A huge thank you goes to our Summer Playground staff, counselors, volunteers, community partners, visitors, and sponsors who helped make the program possible. Their hard work and enthusiasm played a major role in making this summer such a positive experience for our participants.

Planning is already underway for Summer Playground 2027, and registration is open. We are excited to report that we already have 8 children registered for next summer!

Swimming Lessons

The Summer Session of Swimming Lessons ends this week, with 18 children registered. We already have 7 children registered for the next session, which will begin after Labor Day.

Walk Club

Walk Club continues on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:00 PM at the High School Track. The group will continue walking as long as weather and conditions allow.

Community Band

The Pottsgrove Community Band had a great summer season, performing four concerts despite having two concerts canceled. The band will begin practicing again on September 14.

Since I was told, by LPT not to bring ice cream to their last concert earlier this month, as a small thank you for all of their hard work and for continuing to provide music throughout our community, I will be taking Philly Pretzels to the band at their first practice.

Adult Volleyball

Adult Volleyball will begin again on September 8, 2026, and will run every Tuesday evening throughout the school year from 7:30–9:30 PM.

We already have 4 people registered online:

- 2 annual registrations
- 1 monthly registration
- 1 weekly registration

Community Days

I will be attending the Lower Pottsgrove Township Community Day at Lower Pottsgrove Elementary School on September 12 from 10:00 AM–1:00 PM. If anyone is available, please stop by and visit our table.

Bill and Gerilyn usually attend with me but will not be able to participate this year.

Upper Pottsgrove Township has canceled its Community Day this year due to a lack of help with planning and preparation. They indicated that they are unsure what the future of the event will look like. I asked them to keep me updated regarding plans for next year.

Ad Booster Club

AG sponsored the Booster Club this year, as the Booster Club gives us 2 for 1 ads we will once again have an ad in the Seasonal Programs. Pottsgrove Recreation paid in 2025.

New Monthly Newsletter

I have created a new monthly newsletter, The Pottsgrove Community Connection, to help families stay informed about all of our programs, upcoming events, registrations, and other happenings throughout the community.

The newsletter will also provide local businesses, nonprofits, organizations, and residents with affordable advertising opportunities. Advertising begins at approximately \$3.50 per month for a nonprofit ¼-page ad and goes up to \$20 per month for a full-page business ad.

Businesses and organizations that sponsor Summer Playground will receive a free newsletter advertisement each month during their sponsorship year.

My goal with the newsletter is to reach more Pottsgrove residents, increase participation in our programs, strengthen community awareness, and provide another way for local organizations and businesses to connect with families throughout the area. You can see the first issue on our website.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on September 10, 2026, at 6:30 PM via Zoom.