

PANTHER NATION NEWS

"To ensure students excel with intellect and virtue, inspired by innovative educators who engage and challenge each individual."

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District News

Curriculum Advancements in the PEASD

The 2016-2017 school year has seen many improvements as it pertains to teaching and learning. Last year, the PEASD School Board adopted a 6 year cycle of curriculum review and renewal. We are currently in the second year of this cycle with Social Studies/Guidance/Physical Education being the focus of our in depth research and funding this year. Our Social Studies teachers have engaged in extensive professional development to clarify their curricular goals and to been looking hard at what they teach, how it impacts their students, and what are the best resources available. The MS/HS teachers have almost come to a decision on what new materials will be purchased to enhance Social Studies instruction. An elementary team of teachers will begin next month to review vendor samples and pick the best materials for their age levels.

Already this year we have adopted a new K-5 Guidance curriculum called Second Step. The focus in these grades is developing their social-emotional skills—including making friends, managing emotions, and solving problems—to set them on the path for social success and academic readiness. You can learn more about this program at:

<http://www.cfchildren.org/second-step>

Our Physical Education teachers throughout the District have also been hard at work and adopted the SPARK PE curriculum. SPARK PE was designed to be more inclusive, active, and fun than traditional PE classes.. Today, after 20 years of ongoing research and field testing nationwide, SPARK PE is one of the best physical education programs in the world. You can learn more about the SPARK PE curriculum here: <http://www.sparkpe.org/>

Although these three curricular areas are our focus, we also spend time improving our Reading, and Science instruction. Our elementary and middle school teachers have even been working on Saturdays attending additional trainings to enhance Reading and Writing instruction. Our elementary and middle school science teachers have been working hard during teacher inservice time to implement and improve the use of Discovery Education's science curriculum.

A group of 10 teachers and administrators at the secondary level have formed a

standards-based grading task force. This group meets weekly to research and discuss best practices regarding grading, curriculum, and assessment.. The goal of this group is simple - increase student motivation and achievement. Stay tuned for more information regarding the findings of this committee, and suggested initiatives for the 2017-2018 school year.

OPEN ENROLLMENT

We would be pleased to discuss the many reasons why you should enroll your child in our school district. Please call us for a personally guided tour of any one of our schools. Contact the district office at 262-495-7101 Ext 2600. The 2017-2018 open enrollment application period is Feb 6 – April 28, 2017. Come check out what Palmyra-Eagle can offer your child!

Palmyra-Eagle District Welcomes New Nurse

The Palmyra-Eagle Area School District is pleased to introduce Lisa Jensen as our District Nurse. Ms. Jensen brings 25 years of nursing experience in a variety of capacities. The primary role of the District Nurse is to assist in bridging any health barriers to learning, while working collaboratively with the Pupil Services Department. The District Nurse will coordinate all the district health services, servicing both students and families in all district buildings. Ms. Jensen can be contacted via email at peasdnurse@peasd.org Welcome Ms. Jensen!



SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

(Second Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 pm)

MEETING DATES AND LOCATION:

- March 14 – PEHS/MS Community Center
- April 4 – Eagle Elementary Cafeteria
- May 9 – PEHS/MS Community Center
- June 13 – Eagle Elementary Cafeteria

Access to meeting agendas/info:
<http://www.peasd.org/district/board-of-education.cfm>

SPRING CONCERTS

- HS/MS Band Concert**
Monday, March 6, 2017 @ 7:00 pm
- Palmyra Elementary K-3rd Music Concert**
Monday, March 27, 2017 @ 6:30 pm
- Eagle Elementary K-3rd Music Concert**
Tuesday, March 28, 2017 @ 6:30 pm
- HS Choir Concert**
Monday, April 3, 2017 @ 6:30 pm
- Palmyra Elem 4th-6th Music & Band Concert**
Tuesday, April 4, 2017 @ 6:30 pm
- Eagle Elem 4th-6th Music & Band Concert**
Thursday, April 6, 2017 @ 6:30 pm
- Eagle Elementary Art & Music Festival**
Thursday, April 27, 2017 5:00pm-7:00 pm
- Palmyra Elementary Art & Music Festival**
Thursday, May 11, 2017 6:00pm-7:00 pm
- HS/MS Band Concert**
Monday, May 15, 2017 @ 7:00 pm
- MS Choir Concert**
Tuesday, May 16, 2017 @ 6:30 pm
- HS Choir Concert**
Tuesday, May 23, 2017 @ 6:30 pm

High School Musical

Palmyra-Eagle High School will be performing, "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" for this year's spring musical. Charles Schulz's beloved comic will come to life in front of your eyes. The whole Peanuts gang will be portrayed by our talented Panther thespians. Family, friends and community members are invited to attend this crowd-pleasing classic.

**YOU'RE A GOOD MAN,
CHARLIE BROWN**

THE MUSICAL

**PERFORMANCES WILL BE HELD ON
MAY 19TH & 20TH AT 7:00 PM
& MAY 21ST AT 3:00 PM**



Dear Parents, Community Members and Taxpayers,
Welcome to this issue of the Palmyra-Eagle Area School District newsletter, the "Panther Nation News." You will notice under this title is our school district Mission: "To ensure students excel with intellect and virtue, inspired by innovative educators who engage and challenge each individual."

Wikipedia defines a mission statement as "a statement which is used to communicate the purpose of an organization." Our Mission is clearly related to educators and students, existing for the purposes of teaching and learning.

In order to breathe life into the district's mission statement, "The Panther Way" was created. This outlines what role stakeholders play in the achievement of our mission.

Critical to the Mission is the work and support of teachers, students, parents, administrators and school board members. The actions these key stakeholders take appear in the key verbs: Challenge, Inspire and Engage. The outcomes of such actions are described as: Intellect, Virtue, and being Innovative.

Your on-going and continued support of the PEASD is greatly appreciated. Please support our mission statement and find a way to challenge, inspire and engage in teaching and learning as a way to enhance the cultivation of intellect, virtuous actions, and innovative techniques and strategies in our school district.

Sincerely,
Dr. Steven M. Bloom, District Administrator
Palmyra-Eagle Area School District

We pledge to strive toward meeting our mission daily by adhering to THE PANTHER WAY

AS A TEACHER:

- I Will Challenge each student's Intellectual capabilities
- I Will Inspire each student to live a life of Virtue
- I Will Engage each student through Innovative lessons

AS A STUDENT:

- I Will Challenge myself to reach new levels of Intellect
- I Will live a life of Virtue
- I Will actively Engage in my classroom lessons

AS A PARENT:

- I Will Challenge my child/children to push the boundaries of their Intellect
- I Will Inspire my child/children to live a life of Virtue
- I Will Engage myself in the many ways PEASD is using Innovation to communicate and instruct

AS AN ADMINISTRATOR:

- I Will Challenge each teacher to create a rigorous curriculum built to push each student to new levels of Intellect
- I Will Inspire each teacher/ student to live a life of Virtue
- I Will Engage each teacher through Innovative professional development

AS A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER:

- I Will Challenge myself and fellow board members to employ Intellect when making decisions that will serve to advance our District Mission Statement
- I Will be Inspired by the work done in our district classrooms
- I Will recognize Virtue in the examples set for our students by all adults in the larger school community
- I Will Engage the public in seeking Innovative solutions to issues, concerns and problems that seek to detract from our District Mission Statement.

District Takes Proactive Approach To Ensure Student Safety

The Palmyra-Eagle Area School District staff spent the morning of the January in-service training engaged in a response model used for dealing with deadly threats, both on campus and out in public. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, along with other local law enforcement agencies and the UW-Whitewater ROTC, introduced the group to the "Run, Hide, Fight" program based upon ideology developed by Homeland Security.

The goal of the hands-on approach is to enable staff to experience a limited amount of stress related to potentially dangerous situations which may arise in the school environment, and to pre-plan emergency response strategies. After an informative presentation by Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff Bill Dandoy, attendees split into groups and rotated through four



training sessions which addressed various life-saving skills including: self-defense, room barricading, taking appropriate shelter, subduing a weapon and tackling a threat to the ground. Deputy Sheriff Dandoy complimented the Palmyra-Eagle administration by "taking a proactive approach to protecting the students." He also stated that he hoped the staff left the training feeling "prepared not paranoid." District Administrator, Dr. Steven Bloom, stated that the training was extremely important and felt that the next step would be for each district building to discuss more building-specific plans at their upcoming staff meetings.

Notice of School Board Election

Section 120.06 (6) - NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the School District of Palmyra-Eagle Area Schools, on Tuesday, April 4, 2017. There are three board positions open, which have 3-year terms of office.

The following candidate names will be on the April 4, 2017 ballot:



Mat Mecca



Matthew Sockrider



Amy Wilde



Tara Walters-Bollmann (l)

Please check your local village or town hall for voting locations and hours. For more information on the candidates please visit peasd.org/district/election

Health Pep Rally

Eagle Elementary students enjoyed a "Health Pep Rally" sponsored by Fort HealthCare. The program's goal is to emphasize the importance of healthy lifestyle choices through interactive stations, fun and games. The event addresses three important issues: Play More, Eat Right and Push Away the Screen. The Fort HealthCare Pediatric Wellness Team led activities throughout the school which included: aerobic activity, strength training, flexibility/stretching, reading food labels, learning about the sugar content in beverages, focusing on alternative activities to screen-time and proper hand washing using the "Glo-Germ" detector. Palmyra-Eagle Area School District Nurse, Lisa Jensen, organized the event and stated, "It is so important to instill healthy lifestyle choices early on. I plan on advocating for more events like this throughout the district, as it teaches healthy lifestyle choices through a hands-on approach."



TEACHER WEBSITES

Eagle Elementary teachers now have classroom websites linked to the district webpage! The websites will include a variety of information for parents: assignments, projects, spelling words, upcoming events, and more. Teacher/department websites can be found under a specific staff member's faculty listing, just click on "website" under his/her photo -OR- click on the "Teacher Websites" tab under Eagle Elementary.



THE PANTHER WAY

Endless opportunities to be the best you can be—that's the Panther Way!

The communities of Eagle and Palmyra have the same advantages of many small towns. They are small enough to know your neighbors and inasmuch offer the support that connections built over time tend to do. What makes our small district such a great place to educate children are the opportunities that surround them from the very beginning of their time spent in schools at PEASD.

Our littlest students have opportunities to learn, not only the academic curriculum, but the informal lessons offered by developing friendships with peers with different backgrounds and experiences. These relationships translate to the opportunity to develop understanding, empathy and respect for different viewpoints. From there, the opportunities expand and grow as students are ready to take on new challenges.

Relationships with teachers, coaches, and other adults continue to deepen as friendships with peers come and go. Opportunities for involvement in extra-curricular clubs, participation in coursework in music, visual arts and drama, athletics, foreign languages, journalism, agriculture, technology education, computer science, honors and AP courses available in many areas, offer our older students the chance to discover their own unique talents.

The wide variety of opportunities offered in incremental amounts by our small district, as students mature and become ready for new experiences and challenges, truly allows any student who is interested and motivated to participate in something that suits their interests. Over time, participating in all these opportunities and with the support of caring adults, our students develop the qualities which exemplify the Panther Way.

Jill Blaedow
Second Grade Teacher, Eagle Elementary School

Genius Hour

Eagle Elementary students showed off their knowledge during the school's 3rd annual Genius Hour. The event encourages students in grades kindergarten through 6th to explore a topic they are passionate about, gather information and then share the fascinating facts by creating a display. Attendees are encouraged to ask the participants questions regarding their research which provides an even greater opportunity for the students to shine. This year's topics of choice included: Great White Sharks, Tornadoes, Snakes, Batman, Lasers, Mars, Airplanes, Butterflies, Skiing and a Wiggle Bot.



EAGLE ELEMENTARY 4K / 5K REGISTRATION

4 year old kindergarten and 5 year old kindergarten registration is now open for the 2017-2018 school year! Please call Sara Scheel at 262-594-2148 with your intent to register your child. A 4K/5K new family information night is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 5:00 pm. Please RSVP for the event at the aforementioned office phone number. If you wish to schedule a tour or have any further questions, feel free to call at any time.



Spelling Takes Center Stage

Students and staff members at Eagle Elementary got serious about spelling in January. For the second consecutive year, Mrs. Blaedow took home the trophy at the staff competition after correctly spelling "unscrupulous" in the 14th round. The students had been preparing for months during Spelling Club and held preliminary 3rd-6th grade level "bees" in which the top three finishers advanced to the all-school bee. It was a hard fought battle with the final two contestants going back and forth for the last 14 rounds while reaching the same level the teachers started with in their staff competition, but 4th grader Aubrey Benz came out victorious after correctly spelling "digestive" in the 25th round. 6th graders Noel Buscher and Zachary Kornmeyer finished 2nd and 3rd respectively.



Aubrey will represent Eagle Elementary at the CESA 2 Regional Spelling Bee being held at Whitewater High School on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

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Joseph Schreiber

Class of 2001

Journey after High School:

Medical Scholars Program at UW-Madison -UW-Madison, degrees in French & Biology Research fellowship - Pasteur Institute in Paris, France UW-Madison – medical degree Cornell University/New-York Presbyterian-Hospital – general surgery internship Orthopedic surgery residency at the #1 ranked Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City Oxford University and the Pulvertaft Hand Centre in England – additional hand surgery education Stanford University - hand and upper limb surgery fellowship

Current profession/occupation:

Raleigh Orthopedic Clinic in Raleigh, NC

How did Palmyra-Eagle positively impact your future?

I have very fond memories of my educational experiences at the district. I remember teachers at Eagle Elementary fostering a love for learning in myself through creativity in the classroom, testing and pushing my abilities, and rewarding a job well done. I felt both challenged and intrigued, and being at a smaller school felt like a family more than an institution. Everyone knowing everyone else can sometimes be a very good thing.

Palmyra-Eagle High School presented new and valuable challenges in the classroom and outside. Teachers and coaches alike provided me with endless learning opportunities at school and life lessons that were learned outside of school, including patience, planning, and dealing with adversity on the golf course; and working as a team, leadership, and accountability on the football field. All of these lessons have helped me



get to where I currently am and remind me how impressionable kids can be.

So many teachers pushed me to achieve in their classrooms and really encouraged me to be ambitious in my career goals. I truly feel that my teachers cared about my education, my progress, and tried to harness their students' potential. I received so much from my education at the Palmyra-Eagle school district – skill development, problem-solving skills, lessons of responsibility, and instilling self-confidence. I honestly believe that anything is possible for present and future students from the district. They should shoot for the stars, and I would encourage all teachers and administrators to further culture optimism and cultivate the potential that exists.

Tara N. Gess, Esq.

Class of 1998

Journey after High School:

UW-Stevens Point – 1 year UW-Whitewater – Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (Cum Laude) Nashville School of Law - Doctor of Jurisprudence Bar Exam 2015- Licensed Attorney

Current profession/occupation:

In-House Legal Counsel at Construction Enterprises, Inc. in Franklin, Tennessee

How did Palmyra-Eagle positively impact your future?

I was fortunate to learn from a great staff of teachers and coaches who supported and encouraged me, challenged me, and fostered a comfortable atmosphere of creativity and learning.

Because of the small school size, I was able to able to perform in plays and musicals, go on trips with the choir, participate on the volleyball, basketball, and track teams, and take part in



other school activities, including the ski club and student counsel. I believe that by having the opportunity and access to such wide a variety of interests, I was able to stay interested and engaged in school as well as define my talents and goals. Also, having participated in so many different activities has helped me be more rounded which has helped me network with many different kinds of people.

Palmyra-Eagle specifically impacted my future in connection with college. I took math classes through pre-calculus, Spanish 5, and 2 AP courses. Because of my education, I was able to skip and test out of several classes in college and obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree in 3 ½ years.

I am proud to have grown up in Palmyra and to have been educated in a small town/school atmosphere.

Charles Jensen

Class of 1995

Journey after High School:

University of Minnesota (BA) - film studies and comparative literature Arizona State University (MFA) – creative writing & nonprofit management

Current profession/occupation:

Program Director of the Writers' Program at UCLA Extension in Los Angeles, and award winning author with four chapter books and a full-length poetry collection published

How did Palmyra-Eagle positively impact your future?

At PEHS, my English teacher Ms. Oliver worked with me all four years both in independent studies and as an unofficial mentor, helping me become a better creative writer. It is because of her guidance I am where I am today, both as a writer and as someone who cares deeply about the opportunities education can provide.



Palmyra Elementary Geography Bee

The National Geographic Bee is an annual competition organized by the National Geographic Society, designed to inspire and reward students' curiosity about the world. Each year, thousands of schools across the United States participate in the National Geographic Bee, competing for college scholarships and the glory of being the National Geographic Bee Champion.

This year the entire Palmyra Elementary School 6th grade and interested 5th and 4th graders tried out during a preliminary competition. Fourteen finalists moved on to the final competition that was held on January 25th in the school cafeteria. The competition moved quickly with difficult questions eliminating several individuals. At the end of the "Bee" three sixth graders were left in the top spots. AJ Plotz proved victorious with Madisson Pfeiffer placing second and Neva Stephan taking third place. AJ will go on to take a state qualifying geography exam. If he qualifies he will move on to the Wisconsin Geography Bee in Madison on March 31, 2017.



Solar System Stars

Fifth grade students at Palmyra Elementary were encouraged to build 3-dimensional solar system models as an inquiry-based project that promoted creativity and hands on experimentation. Students faced challenges including how to distance each object from one another and how to "attach" each planet. There were several outstanding examples this year!



TEACHER WEBSITES

Palmyra Elementary teachers now have classroom websites linked to the district webpage! The websites will include a variety of information for parents: assignments, projects, spelling words, upcoming events, and more. Teacher/department websites can be found under a specific staff member's faculty listing, just click on "website" under his/her photo -OR- click on the "Teacher Websites" tab under Palmyra Elementary.

PEASD DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS

The Palmyra-Eagle Drama Club will be presenting Madagascar, Jr. on March 10th and 11th at 7:00 pm at Palmyra Elementary School.



Students in grades 3rd-6th from both elementary buildings along with advisor, Chelli Taylor, are working hard to put together a memorable production. The public is welcome to come out for the performances and witness the talent we have in our district.

PALMYRA ELEMENTARY CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

- Math 24 • Lego Robotics • Chess Club • Battle of the Books
- Math Meet • Drama Club • Yearbook Club • Ribbit Club
- Southern Lakes Anthology • Student Council • Math Club

"Hour of Code" Computer Science

The Palmyra-Eagle Area School District recently celebrated an "Hour of Code". This global movement which began in 2013 aims to get students excited about computer science. The concept started as an introduction to computer science designed to demonstrate that anyone can learn the basic skills and broaden the participation in the field. It is now a worldwide effort celebrating coding and computer science. Currently with over 500,000 open computing jobs nationwide, individuals with computer programming skills are in high demand. The



campaign is supported by over 400 partners and 200,000 educators worldwide with the ultimate goal of ensuring that: "Every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn computer science". Kathleen Retzke, District Curriculum Director, says, "By introducing our students to computer science at the elementary level, we are hoping to boost their interest in the field and keep them engaged for the classes at the high school level. Our students have truly enjoyed participating in this program and we will continue to participate in the future." Students and families can continue to learn more by visiting the website: hourofcode.org.

PALMYRA ELEMENTARY 4K / 5K REGISTRATION

4 year old kindergarten and 5 year old kindergarten registration is now open for the 2017-2018 school year! Please contact Rachel DePorter at 262-495-7103 with your intent to register your child. A 4K parent meeting is scheduled at Palmyra Elementary on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 5:30 pm. Please RSVP for the events at the aforementioned office phone number. If you wish to schedule a tour or have any further questions, feel free to call at any time.



THE PANTHER WAY

My experience with PEASD starts way back in the mid 40's to late 50's. Both my parents attended PEASD. My mother, Barbara Kaufman-Sekula, attended from kindergarten through 12th grade and my father, the late Frederick Sekula, attended during his high school years. When they both graduated in 1958 they got married and built a home here in Palmyra and decided this was where they would live and raise a family. My sister, Robin Sekula-Sdano and I attended PEASD from kindergarten through 12th grade. I remember the PEASD staff always being there for the students. One of the things I loved about attending school here was the smaller student body. Everyone knew everyone, and many life time friendships were made. I too after graduation stayed in the Palmyra area, bought a home and raised a family. Both of my daughters, Mary and Kelsey Webber, attended school K-12 and graduated with honors. They both have gone on to get college degrees, and are thankful for the education PEASD provided for them. The PEASD challenged, engaged and inspired my parents, myself and my children to be the best that they could be! Now as a 20 year employee of PEASD I see firsthand, on a daily basis, the commitment the staff has to students of our district. I have enjoyed engaging and inspire students to do well and love watching them grow and become independent and successful! I look forward to the years to come; I can't wait to see what PEASD has in store for the future!

Teri Kelly - AKA: Teri Sekula-Webber, PES Library Secretary

We are proud to recognize our alumni! Links for complete alumni stories and more information about this feature can be found on the "Alumni Spotlight" page of the district website: www.peasd.org. Please email candidate nominations to pr@peasd.org.

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Palmyra-Eagle High School Teams Up With Operation Click

For the second consecutive year, Palmyra-Eagle High School will be participating in Operation Click, a charitable organization in Wisconsin and Illinois, which urges teen drivers to make safe decisions. Over 50 students at PEHS have signed the contract to become part of the program, which aims "to reduce teen fatalities and injuries from motor vehicle crashes by developing safe driving habits through education and positive reinforcement." Palmyra-Eagle is one of four districts, including Kettle Moraine, Arrowhead and Watertown, making up the Waukesha/Jefferson County Chapter. Throughout the school year, the Operation Click Leadership Team Members will be responsible for organizing and promoting events, getting contracts signed and rewarding students for safe driving. At the conclusion of the project, the school can earn up to 4 keys depending on the success of their campaign. During the chapter's spring banquet, 1 lucky key holder will win a Toyota Corolla donated by Safto Toyota in Brookfield. With limited competition in the chapter, the odds look promising.

For more information about Operation Click, please visit their website at: <http://operationclick.com/>.

Co2 Racing

Students in Mr. Rehm's 2nd quarter middle school Technology Education Class designed, built and raced Co2 cars. The students learned how to use woodworking tools and design cars using skills in aerodynamics. Congrats to the top 3 performers: Lauren Stroh, Alex Hoff, and Kyle Berginz!



Anti-Opiate Program

Seven young female inmates from the Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center in Union Grove, WI visited Palmyra-Eagle High/Middle School and shared their harrowing stories of drug addiction with students in grades 7th-12th. These non-violent offenders are part of the Earned Release Program offered to selected inmates based primarily on their sentencing. By completing the rigorous treatment program, graduates are eligible to decrease the amount of time in prison but must transfer the remainder of their sentence to probation. It is the only avenue in the state of Wisconsin to be released from prison early.



The narratives shared by the women were heart-felt and powerful. Several times students, and inmates alike, were brought to tears by the emotional content. Many of the inmates stated that they were once "just like the students sitting in the stands" but due to a few bad choices or lapses in judgement, often times as a result of peer pressure, ended up addicted to drugs. Ricky Person, the Program Supervisor, stated, "None of these young ladies ever believed that they would be sitting here today, just like I'm sure you're saying in your head, "that will never be me", but it happens. Please take heed."

Principal, Kari Timm, stated, "The Anti-Opiate Program provided an opportunity to share stories about the impact of drug addiction from a very personal place. The stories often started with normal childhoods, involved students with good grades who made choices that took them down a very difficult path. I think there was something every student could relate to in the presentation. I hope it provides them the strength to help themselves or someone else when faced with difficult choices involving alcohol and drugs."

ACT Prep

All high school juniors are participating in an ACT prep class during their 4th hour resource period. The class will run up to the state mandated ACT test which occurs on February 28th. PEHS has partnered with a web based program called Method Test Prep which will prepare students for all areas of the ACT by providing a curriculum framework and also offer a variety of extension and follow-up activities. Students will be expected to complete weekly checklist items. Additional after school classes will be offered as the test deadline approaches.



Honors Band

Several Palmyra-Eagle High School band students recently attended the Rock Valley Conference Honors Band event at Jefferson High School. The students are nominated by each band director from around the conference and then come together for one day to rehearse, prepare and perform a concert that very same night. The clinician this year was Dr. Scott Corley from UW-Milwaukee. This year's Palmyra-Eagle participants were Marissa Hicks, Anna Sibley, Sarah Parson, Haley Hatzinger, Gabby Wirt, Abby Staples, Carissa Schultz, Holly Pedersen, and Emma Hammond. Congratulations!



WRESTLING TEAM - The Panther wrestlers have had a very successful year thus far. The number of participants more than doubled from last year's team which has resulted in much better team scoring. The new recruits and freshmen have wrestled primarily at a varsity level and have shown great resilience. At the JV conference meet, the team had a representative from every weight class make it to the podium. During the Varsity conference meet multiple wrestlers reached the podium as well: Ricky Smith and Connor Sullivan 3rd, Marc Cervantes 5th, Javier Dixon 6th and Jake Pronschinske 7th. The team is looking to continue its positive momentum at regionals, sectionals and hopefully at state! With such a young group (no seniors wrestling this year) the team is primed and excited for even more accomplishments next year.



GIRLS BASKETBALL - It has been an exciting and fun season for the girls' basketball program. All season long, the girls have played hard and never quit. With only having 11 girls in the high school program, it was amazing to see the effort and fight the girls put forth every single practice and game in order to have two teams. The JV team started the season with a 7-2 record, a result of their amazing defensive effort and playing as a team. JV currently has a record of 12-7, with 5 of the losses coming by less than 10 points. The Varsity team started the season on a high note as well, 3-3 record with a big win over Evansville. The girls continue to fight hard with a current record of 5-15. We are excited to see what the future has in store for this program!

EYE IN THE SKY SPORTS

Palmyra-Eagle has partnered with Eye in the Sky Sports in order to provide live streamed footage of sporting events held in the high school gymnasium. Family, friends and alumni from anywhere in the world can tune in! A subscription can also make a perfect gift for our loyal Panther fans. Simply visit www.eyeintheskysports.com and click find my team.

TICKET OPTIONS: Single game live: \$6.99 Season pass live: \$49.99 Single game recorded: \$4.99 Season pass recorded: \$19.99



BOYS BASKETBALL - The Palmyra-Eagle Boys' Basketball program continues to build momentum as they complete their final season in the Rock Valley Conference before moving to the Trailways Conference in 2017-18. The high school program currently has 32 student-athletes participating. The Varsity team currently stands at a record of 8-11. This group, led by 7 seniors, is trying to become the first Palmyra-Eagle boys' basketball team to have a winning season since 1990. With 5 of their 6 remaining games at home, everyone in the program is hoping for a strong finish. The JV team already has 13 wins and has guaranteed themselves a winning season. The freshman boys have continued to improve each game. They also have 12 wins on the season and boast a very impressive 12-2 conference record. The regular season will conclude at home against Big Foot High School on Thursday, February 23rd which will also be Senior/Parent Night. All fans are welcome to come out and cheer our boys on!

DANCE TEAM

The Palmyra-Eagle High School Dance Team competed once again at the state level! After taking 1st place in Division 5 Pom and 4th place in Division 2 Jazz at the regional level, the ladies ended up taking 5th place for their Pom routine at the state competition held in Lacrosse on February 4, 2017. Fantastic work Panthers!



THE PANTHER WAY

Being a 1998 graduate of Palmyra-Eagle and a staff member since 2000, when I started coaching, gives me an interesting perspective of "The Panther Way." As a student, I was inspired greatly by my physical education teacher, Ms. Mary Marty. She and my baseball coach, Jeff Beardsley, made such a positive impression on me that I eventually chose to become a teacher in hopes to give back to others. I try to engage my students by using real life lessons in hopes that the children are engaged and able to apply that knowledge in their lives. The small community and sense of togetherness that I felt as a student is still alive and well in the Palmyra-Eagle School District and I'm proud to be a part of it.

Luke Pedersen
MS/HS Physical Education Teacher