Palmyra-Eagle Area School District P.O. Box 901 Palmyra, WI 53156

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Dear Parents, Community Members and Taxpayers, I invite you to take the time to read this issue of the district newsletter. As in the recent past, the June issue of "The Panther Nation News" contains many stories which highlight the successes of students and staff members following the conclusion of the recently completed 2018 - 2019 school year. There is much to be proud of, and it is my hope that you feel that Panther Pride as well when

we share these stories with you.

In spite of diminished state financial resources and a declining resident school-aged population, the district has continued to close achievement gaps in student learning. This is the third successive year in which the district has closed achievement gaps on state mandated accountability measures. Such results are a direct reflection of the hard work provided daily by our educators and an intentional effort in recent years to provide high-quality learning opportunities that translate into enhanced student learning. These results offer evidence of the dedicated efforts put forth by our staff members on behalf of the children and young adults entrusted to their care.

Our school district is fortunate to have a network of supportive parents, community members, and local area businesses offering their support of many, and varied, program offerings. Our students also benefit directly from

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Nurse of the Year

Palmyra-Eagle's School Nurse, Lisa Jensen, was presented the Wisconsin Association of School Nurses (WASN) School District Nurse Administrator of the Year Award on Tuesday, April 9th at the organization's annual conference. Jensen has served the district for the past three years in a collaboration with Fort HealthCare. She was nominated by Palmvra-Eagle High/Middle School Principal Kari Timm and previous District Pupil Service Director Amanda Jones for her many efforts in improving the overall health care within each of the district buildings and for her heroic leadership and skills which saved the life a district staff member on December 3, 2018. Timm stated, "Not only is Lisa an experienced and knowledgeable nurse, she is a fantastic person to have on your team. Her character and personality are exceptional and we are so proud to have her in our district." While overseeing all the facets of health services for students and staff in Palmyra-Eagle, Lisa also serves as the School Nurse Program Coordinator for Fort HealthCare which



entails coordinating 9 school districts (13.188 students) and 14 Registered Nurses. In addition, she works as a Nursing Instructor for Madison Area Technical College in Fort Atkinson and volunteers in a variety of capacities throughout Jefferson County. District staff members held a celebration for Jensen on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 where officials from Fort HealthCare and the WASN were also present.



Newest NHS Members

On May 1, 2019, the Palmyra-Eagle National Honor Society (NHS) held their annual banquet recognizing current members and inducting new members. The national organization was established to recognize outstanding high school students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. The Palmyra-Eagle chapter hosts the annual 4th grade lock-in,

district blood drives. holiday programs which donate to families in need and other valuable events and services for the district and greater community. The newest inductees into the chapter include: Casey Webber, Fischer Schneider, Logan Woessner, Lane Scheel, Ryan Carpenter, Kazimira Beth, Haley Czerniejewski, Josephine Kysely, Michaela Jones, and Nova Rutkowski.

Honoring Our Educators

The Palmyra-Eagle Area School District's "Honor an Educator" program allows parents, students, colleagues and community members to recognize current and retired educators of the district who made a positive impact on a student, family, or group.

PALMYRA-EAGLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT Honored Educators SPRING 2019 Panther Level

(\$50 donation - Includes card, notepad, & plaque) EDUCATOR HONORED BY Ms. Nancy Chaplicki Adam Muth and Family Ms. Susan Fischer Adam Muth and Famil Ms. Sue Fischer (Fish) Alyssa Muelle Mr. John Knoot Colton Kincaid and Famil Mrs. Pat Walters The Nokes Famil Mr. Kevin Wilde The Nokes Family

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Mr. Chris Ketterhagen Ms. Stacey Kreuziger

Mr. Mark Valdovinos The Hobart Famil Mr. Pat Keeltv Caitriona Hobart & Famil Palmyra-Eagle Area School District / www.peasd.org / June 2019





PALMYRA-EAGLE Class of

The Palmyra-Eagle High School Class of 2019 commencement ceremony was held on Sunday, June 2, 2019. The Valedictorians of the class included: Blair Webber, Rachel Mason, Haley Hatzinger, Adam Muth, Brianna Nelson and Mikayla Peardon. Owen Butenhoff was the Salutatorian. The motto for the class was, "If we wait until we're ready, we'll be waiting for the rest of our lives." Mr. Justin Beaver, a Palmyra-Eagle 2003 graduate, was the keynote speaker. The graduating class was awarded over \$540,000 in scholarship money from local and outside donors, as well as from their colleges and universities of choice. Each student who applied for a local scholarship was awarded at least one amounting to \$500 or more. The Palmyra-Eagle Area School District would like to congratulate

their future



the hard work and dedicated efforts of active district support organizations operating in our schools. Their financial support of school programs permits program advisors, coaches, teachers and staff members to extend learning opportunities to our students and student-athletes that might not otherwise take place. Please accept our expression of deepest gratitude and appreciation for your continued and on-going support!

As we enter next school year the district will be faced with many uncertainties and unknowns. We will look to and rely upon our stated district mission statement as our work on behalf of students continues during the 2019 – 2020 school year. As a result, it will be a given that our school board and every employee in the district will continue to work diligently "to ensure that students excel with intellect and virtue, inspired by innovative educators who engage and challenge each individual."

Finally, on behalf of our students and families, I would like to thank all PEASD employees for their hard work and efforts put forth this year. Our staff members go "above and beyond" in their service and this year has been no exception. You can expect nothing less than our very best next school vear as well.

Please enjoy a safe and delightful summer break. Sincerely, Dr. Steven M. Bloom, District Administrator Palmyra-Eagle Area School District

cagle/ palmyra clementary



Farm to School

Eagle Elementary 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders worked with Fort HealthCare and the AmeriCorps Farm to School program this year. The mission of the organization is to provide an innovative approach to decreasing childhood obesity by promoting healthy eating habits in students and increasing access to local foods in schools. The students and helpers turned the soil in the school's garden beds, fertilized the dirt and planted radish seeds this spring. The classes then watered, tended to and harvested the crops.

Summer Reading

Many students from Palmyra Elementary School (PES) are participating in the Summer Reading Program this summer. These students will receive books, a reading log, and activities to do in response to their reading. Students will come to PES twice during the summer months to turn in old books and pick out new books. They will also get to see a staff member and discuss what they have been reading at the meetings each month. If students log their reading and turn in their minutes at the end of the summer. they will receive Scholastic Dollars to use at the Fall Book Fair. What a fun way to keep the reading up during the summer and earn some cash to use at the book fair for new books!

PES will also be sending home a "Stop the Summer Slide" packet with all students. This packet will have helpful reminders about how to support your student as a reader over the summer. Students will also receive an invitation to a Barnes & Noble Summer Reading Program in their packet. The Barnes & Noble program gives kids an opportunity to win a free book if they read 8 books over the course of the summer and turn their log in at a Barnes & Noble store.



Little Library

Recently students from UW-Whitewater designed, built and installed a free little library on the Maple Street side of Palmyra Elementary. The students are members of the Graduate Student Counseling Association (GSCA) which is a professional organization of UWW counseling education

students. The group was motivated to provide a service to the community and thought a little library was the perfect gift. Korbin Lindell, owner of Thorsten

Timberworks. was the engineer behind

the design. Community members are encouraged to stop by the library and donate, borrow or swap at any time.

Eagle Elementary recently enjoyed a Bookapalooza celebration as a means to kickoff their summer reading program. During the assembly, teachers shared memories of their favorite books from childhood before quest readers, Mr. Stich, the Eagle Elementary Principal, Ms. Maria Hinners from the Alice Baker Library and Eagle Police Department's Chief Gregg

Bookapalooza

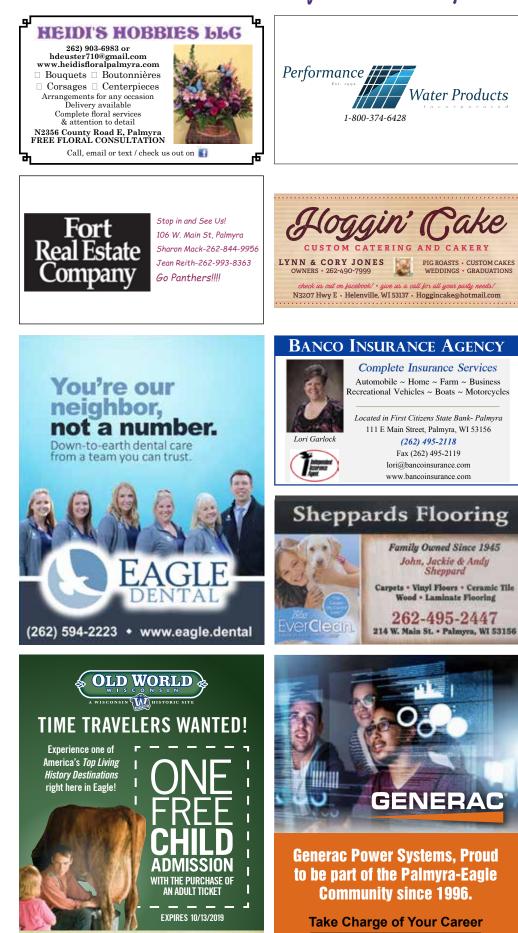
Duran read aloud to the crowd. The Eagle Elementary School PTO provided snacks which the kids enjoyed while listening to the stories. The school will be trying a new format

this summer which includes a reading BINGO card that has fun and interesting ways for the students to continue reading over break. If they bring it back in the fall, their next year's teacher



will reward them for completing a row of boxes that makes a traditional BINGO and have an even bigger award for getting a BLACKOUT and filling out all the boxes. The BINGO boards will be sent home at the end of the year with report cards and also with summer registration materials in July in case it gets misplaced.

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TIMELINE

In November, 2018, the Palmyra-Eagle Area School District School Board presented its voters with an operational referendum question for the spring 2019 election. The design of the operational referendum was to support the ongoing operations of the district itself, including academic and extra-curricular programs and general maintenance of its facilities. The public was informed that if the referendum were to fail, the District would not have enough funding to continue beyond the 2019-20 school year, and would consider dissolution of the District.

On April 2, 2019, the voters of the District went to the polls. The results of the referendum were 1473 for, 2276 against, meaning the referendum failed

On April 8, 2019, the Palmyra-Eagle Area School District School Board took the first step in the legal process of dissolution of a school district by approving a resolution considering dissolution of the school district via a 6-1 vote. in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes. Chapter 117.

In July, 2019, following advice from legal counsel and state statutes, the next step for the Board in this process will be to present and vote on a resolution to dissolve the District following the 2019-20 school year. At that point, the School District Boundary Appeal Board/ Department of Public Instruction will become officially involved in the process.

By January 15, 2019, according to statute, a final decision by the School District Boundary Appeal Board must be made.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does this mean for students?

The Palmyra-Eagle Area School District will be open for the the 2019-20 school year. It is the goal of the Board to have all current buildings, educational programs, and extra-curricular opportunities, including athletics, available to our students and families for the 2019-20 school year. In accordance with that goal, all teaching staff members have been offered contracts to return next year. The mission statement of the District "to ensure that students will excel with intellect and virtue, inspired by innovative educators who engage and challenge each individual" will remain the cornerstone of our district throughout our time working with our students. Please understand that changes may occur at a building or program level as student enrollment for next year is determined.

What does this mean, for the community?

The boundaries and property of Palmyra-Eagle Area School District will continue to be the responsibility of its current constituents until action is taken by the School District Boundary Appeal Board. We have no prediction how this process will play out for the school district community, and anything stated outside of the process itself would be pure speculation.

SCHOOL BOARD

Second Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 pm in **PEHS/MS** Community Center

June 11, 2019 July 9, 2019 August 12, 2019 **September 10, 2019** October 8, 2019 November 12, 2019 **December 9, 2019**

Future steps in the process, including any public hearing dates, will be detailed and shared with the public as they are given to the District by the School v^{0}_{22} **District Boundary Appeal Board and/or Department** of Public Instruction. Information will be relayed via the District Website (www.peasd.org), local news media, and the Palmyra-Eagle Area School District's **Connect 5 messaging system.** To be added to the messaging system, please contact the District Office at 262-495-7101 ext. 2600

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Good Citizens

This school year each homeroom at the middle and high school focused on a community service project as part of the school's Olweus curriculum Olweus is a Bullying Prevention Program that was implemented in Palmyra-Eagle Middle & High Schools in 2017. The program is a comprehensive approach that includes school wide, classroom, individual, and community components. It has been found to reduce bullying among students, improve the social climate of classrooms, and reduce related antisocial behaviors, such as vandalism and truancy. Some of the donation to Tomorrow's Hope, personal hygiene drive for the Healthy Community Network, hat & glove drives for the elementary schools, community service projects the students selected included: a roadside holiday gifts for area families in need, and many more. garbage clean up, holiday cookie deliveries to local businesses, a monetary

Reality Check

In May, Palmyra-Eagle High School students witnessed a very realistic motor vehicle crash simulation in collaboration with the Palmyra Public Safety Department. The purpose of the event was to stress the consequences of impaired and distracted driving. The program took place

near the football practice fields on the Palmyra-Eagle Middle/ High School campus. The student body witnessed the emergent response unfold in real time. Personnel from multiple counties including Lake Mills EMS, Eagle Fire/ Rescue and Police, Jefferson County Coroner and others responded to a simulated motor vehicle crash with patient extrication. High school students and staff volunteered



to act as accident victims and other participants. The purpose of the demonstration was to prompt students to think before making decisions that could cost them their life or that of someone else.

The Great Cut 🔿

Palmyra-Eagle High School hosted it's 3rd haircutting for cause event on Friday, May 17th. This year the donations benefitted the Children With Hair Loss organization. 35 girls and women donated at least 8 inches of hair which will be made into wigs for children that have suffered hair loss due to a variety of illnesses. An additional 5 donations were received prior to

the event. Local hair stylists Dana Millis, Jessica Vershowske, Shannon Koss, Michelle Stark and Madison Dominiak volunteered to cut and style the donors' hair after the initial cut was done. Tori Franz, the staff chairperson for the event stated, "This event means a lot to our Palmyra-Eagle family. Once again, our students did an amazing job in planning it and making sure



middle/ high school



Pulling Tabs for a Cause

Each year the Palmyra-Eagle High School Student Council selects a nonprofit cause to support. This year the organization selected the Ronald McDonald House (RMH). The house collects aluminum pull tabs from containers such as soda pop, soup, pet food, etc., and works with a



local recycler to turn those tabs into money for the company's "Family Fund". This fund helps support the families that stay at RMH by providing meals and items for families, assistance in emergencies, and giving families special moments. Throughout the school year, the student council set up drop off



locations at each of the school offices for families and community members to turn in their tabs. The collection netted a total of 146.3 lbs of pull tabs, which is equivalent to over 209,000 tabs! On Friday, May 10, 2019, Student Council President Mikayla Peardon and next year's Chairperson for the Cause, Hannah Steinbach, traveled to the Madison Ronald McDonald House to drop off the donation.

> that everything went smoothly the day of the event. I was especially pleased with the student body - you could have heard a pin drop during the video we showed at the assembly, where stories of those battling cancer are shared. Even better, several girls who were moved by these stories made the decision to donate on the spot. I couldn't be more Panther Proud."

activities / sports



from

Palmyra-Eagle High School held their 2019 Prom on Saturday, May 4th at the Paintyra-Edgle High School heid their 2015 From on Saturday, individual at the event was "Enchanted Forest". Clausing Barn on the Old World Wisconsin grounds. The theme for the event was "Enchanted Forest". Members of the Prom Court were: Daniel Hammond, Cade Fleischmann, Braden Warner (Master of Ceremonies), Isaac Schlueter, Luke Hausser, Nolan Kopydlowski, Brandon Wilde, Kelsey Maney, Romeo Aranda, Morgan Olson, Bailey Marsh, Kenzie Emery, Jade Mueller, Sophia Deuster, Hannah Steinbach (Mistress of Ceremonies). Romeo Aranda and Kelsey Maney were crowned King and Queen.



Art Gallery

The Palmyra Historical Society and Turner Museum hosted the 6th Annual Student Art Show on May 8, 2019. District art instructors Beth Dobberstein and Cynthia Zuknik also held a reception that evening for students and quests. A wide variety of talented artwork from Palmyra-Eagle students at the elementary, middle and high school levels was on display throughout the entire month of May.



Golt The Palmyra-Eagle Golf team had a successful 2019 season. The Panthers finished 2nd in the Trailways Conference South



events the Panthers trailed only the WGCA (Wisconsin Golf Coaches Association) Division III #1 state ranked team, Madison Abundant Life/Country Day Co-op. At Regionals, the Panthers finished ahead of the state's #1 ranked team, but finished 2nd again behind the #2 ranked team and Regional host school, Cambridge. Their 2nd place finish made them only the 3rd team in school history to qualify for Sectionals as a team. The Panthers headed to The Oaks Golf Course to compete in a

loaded Sectional featuring the state's Division III, #1, #2, #6, and #9 ranked teams, along with the #10 ranked Panthers. The golfers finished a respectable 6th out of 12 teams. Luke Hausser, Daniel Reiner and Brandon Wilde all carded 87's on the day, highlighted by Luke's 37 on the back nine. Aidan Schroeder and Owen Butenhoff would shoot 96 and 97 respectively.

Luke, Aidan, Brandon and Daniel, along with two year varsity letter winner, Isaac Schlueter, all return next season. With a good off-season of golf, the Panthers have set their sights on conference, regional and sectional titles, as well the school's first golf trip to the state tournament.

Coach Duey Wilde, would like to give a special thank you to senior captain, Owen Butenhoff, whose four year commitment to the golf program was greatly appreciated. His leadership, friendship, and mentoring of the younger golfers was extremely beneficial to the golf program.



Track & Field

The 2019 Panther Track & Field Team was a smaller squad that yielded impressive results. The girls' team managed to earn second place at the



Greenfield Hustlin' Hawks Invite against schools 4 and 5 times their size with a very balanced attack. That same balance enabled the Lady Panthers to narrowly miss out on the Trailways South Division Championship by winning the 5-team championship but falling one point shy in the dual meet competition component. The Panthers strongest performances came at the WIAA Regional Championships where the girls placed 2nd out of 12 teams with 118.5 points and the boys' team placed 6th with 37.5 points.

From an individual standpoint, Josh Krystosek broke the school record by clearing 6 feet 3 inches and then improved his own record by jumping 6 feet 4 inches at the Beloit Daily News Invite. At the same meet, the school record for the girls Distance Medley Relay was broken with a time of 14:02.94 by a team of Hailey Lucht, Abby Richardson, Michaela Jones and Ally Czeshinski. Individual South Division Conference Championships were won by the girls 4x800 relay, Morgan Carpenter in the Discus, Krystosek in the High Jump, Kirstin Novak in the Pole Vault and Czeshinski in both the 800 meters and 1600 meters.



Baseball

The 2019 Palmyra-Eagle Panthers finished the season with a successful 15-5 record after advancing to the Regional semi-finals. P-E landed 3 players on the All-Conference 1st Team in Derek Stefanczyk, Dylon Lurvey and Corey Monty. Ryan Carpenter and Matt Ollis were voted 2nd Team All-Conference. Ben Metzdorf was voted Honorable Mention. The program says goodbye to six Seniors: Metzdorf, Gabe Cox, Matt Hoh, Jacoby Koutsky, Alex Roben and Jacob Tomfohrde. The JV team finished with an 8-8 record, playing against mostly larger schools.

Girls Soccer

3 juniors and 3 seniors). Despite the lack of experience, the team played in several very exciting games and saw much growth by the end of the season. The highlight was winning the home Quad Tournament in a shoot-out. The Panthers had three All-Conference selections with Logan Fritsch earning 2nd team and Mikayla Peardon and Monica Curtin receiving Honorable Mention. The team would like to thank the three seniors Mikayla, Monica and Grace Witterholt for their leadership and dedication to the program.







The Panthers managed to rack up their most regional championships in over a decade with Krystosek winning the High Jump and Long Jump, Logan Fritsch in the 100 and 200 meters, Ally Czeshinski in the 1600 meters, the girls 4x800. Other sectional gualifiers included the Girls 4x100 team, Michaela Jones in the 400m, Erica Kommer and Carpenter in the girls and boys discus, Hailey Lucht in the 3200, and Czeshinski in the 800.

Sectionals proved to be a formidable challenge with 49 teams competing. Krystosek was the only athlete to qualify for the WIAA State Championships where he competed in both the High Jump and Long Jump finishing in 7th and 17th place respectively.

Overall, it was an excellent season with plenty of highly talented students ready to return for more next year.

Softball

The Panthers finished the season with an overall record of 4-8 and finished in 4th place in the Trailways South Conference. Much of the season was spent battling mother nature as 2



tournaments and several non-conference games got rained out. Those opportunities would've provided some much needed playing experience for a very young team that started a minimum of 6 underclassmen every game. Despite the inexperience, all of the girls did well with various players stepping up to fill spots that were open and everyone staying positive throughout the season.

The 3 seniors, Brianna Holcomb, Katelyn Millis and Blair Webber served as team captains and did a great job leading on the field in their respective positions. All 3 captains hit over .300 for the season with Blair leading the team with a .450 average. Katelyn led the team in RBIs and tied for the lead in home runs with junior Lilly Hammond. Brianna tied for team lead in doubles with Hailey Weed and Lilly.

Several players earned several All-Conference honors. Lilly Hammond earned 1st team all conference. Brianna Holcomb, Katelyn Millis, Madyson Nettesheim and Blair Webber all earned 2nd team all conference.

The 2019 Palmyra-Eagle Girls Varsity Soccer program had its challenges with being comprised of mostly underclassmen (9 freshmen, 4 sophomores,