

Red and White
Report

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WELCOME



Interview with Dr. Cozza

By
Adam D.

How do you feel about your transition from Palos West to Palos South?

I have enjoyed my transition from Palos West to Palos South. The students, staff, and parents have been wonderful to work with these past few months.

What will you miss most about being principal at Palos West?

I will miss watching the students play at recess time. No matter how old you become, seeing children at play makes you feel young again.

What do you like best about Palos South so far?

I am really enjoying the wealth of after school clubs and activities. There are so many opportunities for students to get involved and make their school a better place. It's a great way for kids to get involved and make friends.

Do you have any kids, and if so, what are their names?

I have two children of my own. My son, Nick, is an 8th grader and my daughter, Makenzie, is in 6th grade. I feel fortunate that my own children are in middle school as it gives me a good perspective as to the challenges that arise at this age.

What college did you go to?

I attended Northern Illinois University, Governors State University, and National Louis University. I thoroughly enjoyed my experiences at all three schools.

What was the name of your middle school that you went to?

I attended Dirksen Jr. High School in Calumet City. Go Senators!

What made you want to be a principal?

After becoming a teacher, I quickly realized that I could make a larger school-wide impact by becoming a principal.

What do you like about your job?

I enjoy the variety that comes along with working with kids, teachers, parents, other administrators, and community members. I can honestly say that I am never bored!

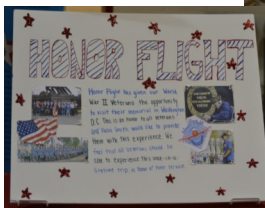
What jobs did you have before you were a principal?

Before becoming a principal, I was a middle school language arts teacher and girls' basketball coach. During my high school and college days, I worked as a delivery driver, landscaper, and a cook at McDonald's

What do you like to do in your free time?

In my free time, I enjoy hanging out with my family, coaching my kids' athletic teams, watching sports (Bears, Bulls, and Cubs) and reading on my iPad.

The Students and Staff at Palos South warmly welcome you to our school!!!



A shout out to Student Council and all the Staff, Students, and Veterans who helped make the Veteran's Day Assembly such a wonderfully moving experience!





Fall

By: Kate Barry



**Glancing
up
through the few dried up
orange and red leaves,
I see the autumn sun
Blazing down onto the earth,
trying to keep the temperature snug,
Only to fail against the cold front moving west
One of the leaves that resembles a crisp, golden brown,
is swept from the tree by a gentle fall breeze
It floats down in a zigzag motion
Before it hits the ground it brushes against my cheek,
The cold, brittle texture sends chills down my spine
I blink; I look around for the leaf,
As I look around I see Jack'O'Lanterns
decorating the porches of my neighbors,
Young children cannonball into a roaring sea of leaves,
Handmade scarecrows compliment the faded grass,
Strands of orange and black lights hang down from bushes and trees,
Faux cobwebs cover the mailboxes of others,
I take in a deep breath and the cool, fall air rushes into my lungs
along with an unmistakable scent of homemade pumpkin pie
I hear dead leaves crinkle and crunch beneath my boots
The wind maneuvers through the trees whistling as it works
I feel a cold breeze shimmy its way down my back
Then I look down at my knitted sweater sleeves, pull out the leaf, and
whisper to myself,
“Fall is finally here!”**



Extracurricular Activities at South

By: Dina Perez

Whether you're a 6th grader, a new student to South, or just a returning Palos South student, it's never a bad idea to join some clubs at South!

Just in case you're new or you don't exactly remember what clubs we have to offer here at South; some of them are:

Declamation

Art Club

Newspaper Club

Book Club

Cardinal Band

Cardinal Choir

Cardinal Pacesetters

Yearbook Club

And more!

Clubs are a great way to do or learn more about things you're interested in, such as our Impact Club where you can learn and educate others about healthy lifestyle choices. Also, extracurricular activities also give you a chance to meet others and make new friends. They give you extra time to spend with your friends and favorite teachers here at South, and are more fun than sitting at home doing homework or watching TV.

Not interested in any of the clubs? That's okay! For those athletic, sporty students, Palos South has sports teams and fitness/exercising clubs such as:

Cardinals Cheer

Basketball

Softball

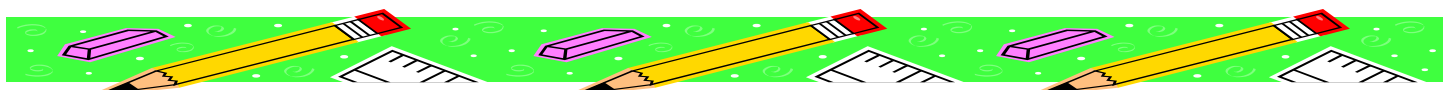
6th Grade After School Gym

Intramural Sports

Fitness Club

And more!

If you're a new student or a new incoming 6th grader, welcome to Palos South! If you're a returning student, welcome back! I hope, along with the teachers and staff, that this is one of your best school years yet; joining an activity here at South could be one of the first steps to making it happen!



Schedule Changes at South

By:Conor Graf



So, 6th graders do you like stealing the 7th grader's amazing schedule, and 7th graders do you like stealing the fabulous 8th grade schedule? It worked out pretty well for the 6th and 7th graders, but the 8th graders were stuck with the short end of the stick and given the dreaded 6TH PERIOD LUNCH!!!!

To the 6th graders reading this that are very confused let me explain it to you. For the last several year the 6th graders have had the 6th period lunch, the 7th graders had 4th period, and the eighth graders had 5th period. This is a very big adjustment for the students and staff. This year's eighth graders had lunch last year at 10:53 am and this year they have lunch at 12:25pm. That is over an hour difference! Some of the eighth graders do not really mind the change, saying that they like having a shorter afternoon which is a very good thing in some people's eyes. Although, a substantial part of our school is involved in the band program, which means if they are seventh or eighth grade they have to come to zero every day. If you did not know zero hour starts at 7:29 am which means that the students who take part in a zero hour class or activity eat breakfast at around 6:45 am. So, the eighth graders do not get to eat until 6th period! But, the sixth graders do not have zero hour classes so they are getting here at 8:05 so they are eating much later then the 7th and eighth graders who are involved in any zero hour activities yet the 6th graders are eating the earliest.

So whether you like the schedule change or not, you will get through it. It is not like we will be eating lunch for the rest of our lives during 6th period.

PS- From an "unnamed" South teacher- I am STILL not used to the new schedule and it's the end of November. I miss my old schedule and knowing exactly when the specials were for each grade, and having lunch 5th period. I know it shouldn't seem like a big deal, but to those of us who are "set in our ways" the new schedule has rocked our world! I guess it could have been worse; we could have had the times change like last year AND the new schedule!!

SOUTH SPORTS SURVEY

The results are in from Palos South's Sports Survey made
up by Adam Dajani
465 students participated.

Thanks to connections teachers for your help!

Basketball was tops at 107.



Soccer was a very close second at 104.



Baseball was third at 46.



Football was right behind at 44.



Lacrosse came in next with 20.



Other choices made up a whopping 144!

Divergent Trilogy

Complete?

By: Olivia Piotrowski



Explore the world in an intricate perspective. *Divergent* by Veronica Roth tells a story like no other! Its set in a dystopian futuristic Chicago where it is narrated by a sixteen year old girl named Beatrice. There are five factions in which you chose one when you turn sixteen after taking a very complicated test. Let's just say the test involves some hallucinating serum that overtakes your brain. Fans of the book are eager for the third and last book of the trilogy to come out in early November.

The author also announced that there is a movie of the first book set to come out in late March of 2014. Surely, the movie will be just as mind blowing as the book itself! The movie was even filmed in Chicago during the summer time! Friends of mine actually went to go see the actors on set and there were a myriad of people! Some were even lucky to get pictures with them.

Math Puzzle

By Adam Dajani

	×		+		+		+		115
×		+		+		×		×	
	×		+		+		-		91
-		×		×		-		+	
	+		+		×		-		381
+		-		-		+		-	
	+		×		+		+		582
+		+		-		+		+	
	-		+		+		-		29
124		13		245		46		471	

Try to fill in the missing numbers.

Use the numbers 1 through 25 to complete the equations.

Each number is only used once.

Each row is a math equation with the answer in the box on the right.

Work from left to right.

Each column is a math equation with the answer in the box on the bottom.

Work from top to bottom.

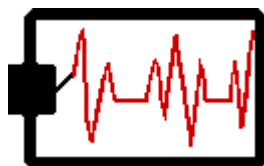
Turn your solutions in to Mrs. Lindeman or Mrs. Rowan.

You will be recognized in our next issue!

By: Thea Barba

Conflict: *Someone is having a heart attack.*

Who would you call? Who would you be with? What actions would you take?
What if the one having a heart attack... were you?

[illegible]

Creative Fiction



The Blind Date



By: Olivia Piotrowski

When your eyes are not able to perceive vision, you can be considered blind. My best friend is blind and she stills works and functions normally. Although she is lacking a sense, I still treat her as she was before the accident. I've been through many situations when I've had a sense of being blind but not in my eyes, in my brain. That may sound unusual to you and no I can't see the future but as I walk into the restaurant this very moment with shaking hands held to my side, I await the presence of a girl who I can say is my blind date. I trudge into the quaint restraint and to my astonishment, she's already here, the usual customer. Her long blonde silky hair falls down to her gracious curvy side and I can't catch my breath as I approach her and stare into her crystal blue eyes with no pupils lighting up; those eyes that look like they've been shattered into a million pieces by a colossal wrecking ball. She senses I'm here because she knows the way I walk, the way I move, and the way I feel. Scars are presently shown right underneath her eye sockets where signs of surgery still show. My nervous face transitions to an exhilarated one, one that I can't control. The one of my dreams, the one I've been waiting for. She is my best friend, Liliana, who is blind and truly mine.

Creative Fiction

Alone

By: Rhianna Carlson



I thought I heard my name being called, but that was impossible. I was alone, so very alone. I had been all my life. As an orphan, there truly is no one you can count on. I thought my first parents might actually love me. What a fool I was back then. They were utter monsters. Screaming, yelling. How was I to know that was fragile? After they disowned me and sent me back to the orphanage, once again I was teased. The women who were supposed to care for me didn't lift a finger to help. After getting sick of the horrid treatment that happened there, I decided to ditch the annoyance and bolt. I have moved quite a distance from that wretched place. They don't even bother to look for me. All I am to them is just another disturbance gone. A life alone isn't as glorious as it seems. When you're a child, you just want to go out and be independent. If I could go back and have a nurturing mother and father, to sleep in a warm cozy bed, I would do it in a second. But the past is the past and there's no way to change it. The only thing you can do is move forward. That's all I've done, all I've accomplished in the short fifteen years of my life. I've got more independence skills than a twenty-year-old. I look like a typical homeless person; one that school children point and laugh at, thinking hobos are simply hilarious. So, yes, here I am, sitting in a box like any other unemployed, homeless person. I scrounge for food, like a hungry rat. It's really quite pitiful. I used to be quite beautiful, if you could believe it. Nowadays, with all the scratches and bruises and dirt that cover me, you can hardly tell that I'm a girl. During the frigid night, the darkness surrounds me and swallows me whole, leaving me shivering and simply hoping that I'll be able to stay for another night.

Drama Practices

By Laila Hammad



What really goes on in Drama? Well, to answer that question, a lot of effort is put forth in Drama. You guys just see the final result. We have to practice mostly every day, and learn new dances to go along with the songs. Sometimes if you have looked at the schedule, we go until 6 and sometimes we just go until around 4. Why is that you ask? Well usually the practices until 4 we just go through as a reminder. But, the practices until 6 are the ones where we have to dance, sing, and act...all in one day. We put so much effort in with Ms. McDonough, but that's not all!

We also have lighting and sound. Without them the play would have no music and would be really dark. They have to play the right songs at the right time. Plus, they have to shine the lights on the leads and anybody else. They also put in a lot of effort with Mr. Hansen. During the play, above the stage, some students have to go up on this creaking metal platform and shine the light on the stage. I've been there before and it's really scary; you feel like right then and there you are going to fall! Mr. Hansen also is in charge of the singing portion of the play. He decides who's going to sing what and if you have a solo or not.



But, still there are more people that are involved although you can't see them because they are like ninjas on performing day. It's stage crew. They also put so much effort in that without them the sets wouldn't be painted so nicely. But they couldn't do all that without Mr. Buvala. They have to come a lot of times in zero hour to paint those sets. But, that's not all they do; they also have to actually move them on the stage while people are performing. They have to watch out for other stage crew members so that they don't knock them over. Also, they have to have a lot of muscle to move those sets. I'm talking about six packs! I'm just kidding - most of the heavy stuff has wheels.

Last are the student directors. They have to come to every meeting to help Ms. McDonough with the paperwork and also the actual dancing and such, or just being there for moral support.

Now you see everyone has their own part in creating the play and making it the best it could be. Everyone has to give up his or her time so you can watch the best possible performance we could pull off. This year's play is "My Son Pinocchio, Geppetto's Musical Tale." We hope that this play will also be the best it could be, just like the previous ones. The cast, stage crew, lighting & sound, and student directors will try to make this a memorable play that everyone will remember for a while after this. Keep up the good work!





Book of the Week:



Hush Hush

By: Olivia Piotrowski

I seriously can't begin to describe how great this book is. Honestly, I finished it in two days because that's how amazing it was! It truly is a non-stop page turner and I can't wait to start reading the next books in the series that follow.

Hush Hush tells the story from a girl named Nora Grey's fascinating perspective. A new transfer student named Patch has just arrived in town and he knows a lot more about Nora than he should. He's tall, handsome, and Nora feels an intricate connection between them. On top of juggling her feelings, strange things start to happen in town, and everywhere Nora goes, it feels as though she is being followed. Is she hallucinating? Her mind starts to play tricks on her and Nora thinks she is going insane! She's beginning to wonder what the cause of it all is and it points her to different people, places and bizarre encounters.

I recommend this book to anyone who is a fan of young adult fantasy and romance. Some people I know say it's like the Twilight series by Stephanie Meyer but I wouldn't necessarily agree. It has some aspects to it written like Twilight, but the whole story is totally different. It doesn't involve werewolves or vampires, but an uncommonly- unheard-of creature you'll be anxious to find out about. I give this book 4.5/5 stars because of its figurative writing and thrill-packed plot. If you feel like you want to read, or need to do a project involving a novel, with 370 pages this book is perfect. You can find it in your local library or bookstore.



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