PFA Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 27, 2019
Palos East 7pm

President- Kori Aldrich/Mary Skweres

We would like to welcome everyone to our first PFA meeting of the school year. It's nice to see so many new faces joining us! The school year is off to a great start. So far this year, the PFA has hosted a back to school breakfast for faculty and staff and participated in kindergarten curriculum nights at East and West. We are looking forward to an exciting year full of educational programming and memory making social events! One thing we want to note is that there is a date change for Mom's Night Out. It will take place on September 26th. Hope to see you there!

Secretary – Stacy Schuble

No report

PR/Communications – Hilary Rhodes

The year is off to a great start, and my goal this year is to be very transparent with what the PFA is doing. We are a strong organization: through our volunteers, our programs and our finances...and parents need to know this! I think open communication and transparency encourages others to get involved with an organization that has integrity.

We started the year off with a graphic that summarized our accomplishments for 2018-2019 - The PFA Year in Review. That was very well received and we hope to continue to be transparent about how we are both earning and spending our money.

I am in the process of gathering information from all the board members to create a comprehensive Volunteer Guide, a document that will be available on our PFA Google Drive that we can share with new chairpersons so they have the information they need to succeed. Among many topics, this will include how to pick an event date, ticket sales, how to make copies, who to get approvals from, and contact info for various vendors that we have used in the past.

Another initiative is to create a communications timeline for myself so I can plan out my posts on Facebook, e-notify PFA newsletters and physical handouts that our parents are getting. Not one format works best for every family, so we need to communicate our events and need for volunteers in a variety of ways.

I am looking forward to another great year in 118!

Treasure – Kathy Purtill/Kathie DeBow
See attached report.

Vice President of Ways and Means – Christy Wright

Moms Night Out – Jill Dalton

Small Fundraisers – Christy Wright

Spirit Wear – Esther Grosse

Santa's Secret Shop- Katie Mendoza, Karen Cairo and Katie Gira
A December to Remember planning is coming together and will be a wonderful event for the district families to enjoy. We will offer 2 dining options, Breakfast with Santa and Abby Kasch as well as Lunch with Buddy the Elf. Abby Kasch will perform during breakfast, while Santa visits with the children. David Babcock, professional Will Ferrell impersonator, will join us as Buddy the Elf for lunch. Our annual Santa's Workshop will be just as fun and exciting as years past with our helpful 8th grade elves to support the little shoppers of district #118. Attendees can look forward to taking a professional picture with Santa and making crafts with our very own Art teacher Marina Gallovitch. We will also have very exciting raffle baskets and a "fill the bag" candy sale. We have organized a t-shirt sale to compliment this memorable event. Order forms will go home with invite flyers October 21, 2019. Ticket sales will go live on the district webstore on October 21st. Ticket sales will close on November 15th or when quantities reach maximum capacity. We will need many volunteers to make this event possible. A SignUp Genius link will be coming soon. Traditionally this has been an event for the younger members of the district. We added Lunch with Buddy the Elf to hopefully encourage the middle schoolers not involved in the workshop to come out and enjoy lunch with their family and friends. We would appreciate any and all help with marketing this to Palos South students.

> **A December to Remember**
> December 7, 2019, Palos West Elementary School
>
> **Breakfast with Santa and Abby Kasch**
> 9:00 am - 10:30am, $20 per person, children 3 and under dine free.

Lunch with Buddy the Elf

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm, $15 per person, children 3 and under dine free.

Santa's Workshop
10:00am-3:00pm

ShamRock/Adult Event – Kori Aldrich/Juli Yelnick

Read-a-thon –

Family Events -

<u>Vice President of Membership – Juli Yelnick</u>

Hospitality – Sarah Demos/Heidi Jensen

Graduation – Sharon Courtney/Kathy Purtill

<u>Vice President of Programs – Katie Mendoza</u>

Art Chat – Jen Schroeder/Bridget Krusinski
Art Chat is up and running on Sign Up Genius, but there are only a handful of volunteers. We attended the Kindergarten open house last week to help promote both the PFA & Art Chat and we plan to attend the upcoming curriculum nights as well. We would like to ask the principals at both schools to encourage the teachers to help us promote the Art Chat program by reaching out to the parents in their monthly newsletters, Remind App, Seesaw, etc. In addition, we plan to promote Art Chat on the PFA's Facebook page and future PFA email blasts. Hopefully, we can get the volunteer base up before the program starts in October.

Humanities and Safety – Mary Skweres
Our humanities programming for the year is off to a good start. We are in the process of scheduling safety assemblies for East and West. And on September 10 and 12, our 8th graders will take a PFA sponsored field trip to Iron Oaks Environmental Learning Center. In the next few weeks, I will be reaching out to teachers at each of our other grade levels to begin scheduling assemblies for the remaining grade levels.

Reading – Katie Gira
We will be hosting our annual author visits in the late winter /early spring months of 2020.

I am communicating with a few different authors and will be presenting the options to the media specialists in the next few weeks. Once we select our authors, I will coordinate with the principals to get dates on the books.

Bridget Krusinski will be working with me this year and coordinating the South author visit. Thank you to Bridget for helping!

Mrs. Peloquin-Biel and Mr. Szklanecki reached out to me recently and we discussed the old PFA reading logs. As a friendly reminder to parents, the PFA is no longer involved in any portion of the old PFA reading logs. We are no longer purchasing prize books for the buildings. Palos East does still have some old prize books in the building and they are using them at their own discretion.

Also, the PFA is no longer involved in the Six Flags reading logs.

Mrs. Peloquin-Biel and Mrs. Szklanecki expressed their thanks to the PFA for the prize books we have donated in the past to the buildings. Moving forward, we will not purchase books. I expressed to the principals that if they want or need the PFA to purchase prize books for the students in the future, the Reading Committee is certainly happy to discuss budgeting for that expense.

Thanks to everyone for all you do! Have a great month!

South Theme Lunch – Traci Zumerchik
Traci Zumerchik has some exciting plans for the 2019/2020 Palos South Theme Lunches. We have the following dates scheduled: October 25, 2019, February 7, 2020 and April 3, 2020. Please consider coming out to help her with these extra special lunches for our middle schoolers. Add your contact info to SignUp Genius to receive more details and support this program.

East and West Spirit Lunch
West- Christine Diliberto and Kim Segovia
East – Kimberly Houston
Christine Diliberto and Kim Segovia, our incredible Palos West Spirit Lunch team, are back for another fun filled year. The music is ready and decoration plans are underway. We are very excited to have Kimberly Houston as our new Palos East Spirit Lunch chairperson. We are looking forward to helping Kimberly make Palos East Spirit Lunches even more exciting than years past. The following four dates have been scheduled for Spirit Lunch: September 20, 2019, December 13, 2019, January 31, 2020 and March 13, 2020. The SignUp Genius site is live and ready to go. Please consider coming out and helping these wonderful ladies make these special lunches successful for the elementary school children of #118.

Room Parties -
The Halloween and Valentine's Day SignUpGenius links are ready for parent volunteers. Palos East and West Halloween Room parties are scheduled for October 31, 2019. The Valentine's Day room parties are scheduled for February 14, 2020. End of year party date TBD. Please come out and be a part of these special days in your child's classroom.

Foundation –

MPA

Administrative Reports
Superintendent, Dr. Anthony Scarsella

School Board Liaison, Mrs. Katie Thomason

Palos East Principal, Mr. Robert Szklanecki

Palos West Vice Principal, Ms. Rose White

Palos South Vice Principal, Mrs. Meagan Doorbos

Superintendent, Dr. Gay

Stagg Principal, Mr. Eric Olsen