PFA Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 12, 2019
Palos West 7pm

President- Kori Aldrich/Mary Skweres

With the first quarter of school behind us, the PFA has hosted or organized events for kids & parents and in doing so helped draw our district together. We look forward to the reports from each of our committees.

Your efforts make a difference and we are so grateful. From theme & spirit lunches to classroom parties, art chat to moms night out, spiritwear to Charleston wrap and so much more, thank you for your tireless commitment to our kids, our district & this organization.

So much has been accomplished & and yet, there's much ahead still this year! Looking forward to supporting all the committees & remaining 2019-20 initiatives!

Secretary – Stacy Schuble

No report

Dr. Gay - Legislative update - consolidation (schools only), property tax freeze (truth in taxation), pensions (municipalities & teachers) state has borrowed from it, but haven't given back, teachers have always paid in.
-Dist 230 - Security audit at all 3 schools in summer 2018 and gave ideas for improvement, All 3 schools completed updates in September 2019

Mr. Olson - Notable successes academically and in the fall sports season
- Annual Christmas Carol to take place the 1st week of December, spectrum concert week after,
- Students come to Stagg with a great foundation thanks to staff and administration here at 118
- Stagg craft show this weekend
- 610 in this year's freshman class

PR/Communications – Hilary Rhodes

PR and Communications is a role that can't be successful unless people feed me information to post and promote. Please send me information that I can post on facebook, include in the semi-weekly E-News and/or send a direct e-notify out about something important going on in the PFA. Some things you might want me to post/send could include:

- Call for volunteers for a specific event
- Call for committee members
- Call for sub-committee chairperson
- Promote an event you are chairing or on a committee for
- Call for supplies or donations needed for an event
- Encourage people to buy tickets to an event and give them an easy link to do so
- Report back about how an event went and post pictures of the successful event (people love seeing these and it shows our PFA in action and encourages others to get involved!)
- Take a poll surrounding a PFA event

These are just some of the ideas of how I could be helpful to you as a chairperson or a committee member. Please reach out to me so I can help communicate what is going on in the PFA and make the whole district know what we are doing. Transparency and more involvement is our goal!

Treasure – Kathy Purtill/Kathie DeBow

See attached report.

Vice President of Ways and Means – Christy Wright

Moms Night Out – Jill Dalton - Huge Success! We had 93 people show up, sold $445 in raffles and overall brought in $977 to the PFA! The drinks were great at Zach's and we had beautiful weather. Thanks to all of those who came out, and a huge thank you to Jill Dalton & Lauren Kirkner.

Small Fundraisers

Eat 'n Earns - Has 2 co-chairs
Catalogue Sale - Pick-ups for those who ordered via paper form on 21st at South in Commons.

Spirit Wear – Esther Grosse

Spirit Wear has been a successful fundraiser so far this school year. Nearly 850 items were purchased with the fall order, compared to just under 600 during the fall of last school year. 130 of the items purchased were the newly added baseball caps and winter beanies. These hats will also be given to out of state Palos South alumni attending an upcoming 8th grade reunion. The committee planning the reunion came up with the idea and will be purchasing the hats from the PFA. Additionally,

we recently distributed a second order form to all staff with a larger variety of adult apparel.

So far this school year, over $4,000 has been raised through Spirit Wear sales. Considering completing these orders takes a lot of time and effort, we appreciate all of the volunteers that helped sort the orders during November and will continue to seek involvement from additional parents for future orders.

White Sox - Kori Aldrich
Hoping for Saturday, May 30. Need to sell 500 tickets for choir to perform.

Santa's Secret Shop- Katie Mendoza, Karen Cairo and Katie Gira
A December to Remember is right around the corner and we are very excited to share this day with the district. Spirit wear orders should be coming home the week of November 25, 2019. Tickets are selling fast, but there are still some available for both breakfast (40) and lunch (150). Tickets are not necessary to visit and take photos with Santa, shop at Santa's workshop, visit Emmerson's Pop Up Toy Shop, buy raffle tickets for a chance to win some of our amazing raffle prizes, and visit Buddy's Candy Bag sale. We are also collecting Christmas candy or small monetary donations for the Buddy Candy Bag sale. Sealed bags of candy can be sent in to your child's school office to add to this amazing fundraiser! We hope to see everyone and look forward to making this a memorable day for the children of #118.

Read-a-thon – Nicole Leggett
We are looking at holding the Read-A-Thon during the last two weeks in January. The theme will be "Rock on with the Read-a-Thon" and will have a rock/music theme. There is another online resource we found and that Sharon, Lisa and I looked at that we would like to pursue using related to the online funding. This resource also calculates the kids' minutes read which would be a super great option that I know Gina said she wished they had last year.

My plan is to have a meeting for the committee in the next week or so to begin some more specific work with the flyers/materials/etc.

Family Events
a. Juliette Fry/Megan Doyle - A Healthier 118 - Mindfulness, Meditation, Movement - gathering experts in each of the areas to give useful tools to our students and their families! Hoping for early January, waiting for the school request form.
b. Kate Galbincea/Kim Chovancak/Lauren Kirkner - spring event - *working on details.*

Cardinal Chase - team working on possibly bringing it back next year

Vice President of Membership – Juli Yelnick

Hospitality – Sarah Demos/Heidi Jensen
Holiday lunch coming up

Adult Event – Pam Lexow
February 29 - Havana Nights - Palos Park Rec Center, Village is being very accommodating to help with our needs. Heavy apps, open bar (beer, wine, 1 specialty) - Possibly $75 ticket, No raffle baskets, maybe a couple big tickets raffles and split the pot, cigar connection, can decorate Friday. Upstairs 150, downstairs 100

Graduation – Sharon Courtney/Kathy Purtill
PFA sponsors dance - May 21 at Gaelic Park during school day. Three pictures of each kid are given on flash drive, 7th grade parents help to decorate and then plan next year's event.

Vice President of Programs – Katie Mendoza

Art Chat – Jen Schroeder/Bridget Krusinski
Art Chat is up and running on Sign Up Genius and we have more volunteers for November then we did for October. However, there are still several classes with no or low volunteers. The PFA has been including Art Chat in their email blasts which seems to be helping. We are planning a post on the PFA's Facebook page that we hope will motivate some new volunteers to sign up. Easiest way to volunteer in your children's room. Encourage parents to reach out to their teachers

Humanities and Safety – Mary Skweres
On November 13th and 14th the PFA is providing a kindness themed "Be a Superhero" assembly for the parent visit days at Palos East and West. On November 21st, our first graders at both schools will be enjoying the Smart Pants assembly. We are busy planning many other fun and educational assemblies for our students.

Reading – Katie Gira
Upcoming author visit:

- Lisa Graff is the author. Her award-winning titles include picture books for kids in grades K-2, novels for middle grade students (grades 3-5), short stories, and young adult literature for middle school.
- Lisa Graff is visiting West on Feb 18; East Feb 19; and South Feb 20.
- Information will be coming home to parents in early December.

South Theme Lunch – Traci Zumerchik

Our fist Theme Lunch was on Friday, October 25, 2019 at the Palos South Commons where we celebrated Halloween! We had very willing and capable parents who helped transform the commons into a spooky scene in addition to a special guest of Frankenstein. We had 17 parent volunteers on Sign Up Genius – 15 showed up!!

Our usual DJ provider - Complete Events, Anthony Adams entertained the kids and used his time wisely. The DJ has been paid in full for all three Theme Lunches with the exception of his tip for the next two lunches.

Our next Theme lunch is February 7th – Star Wars Theme! Will need help taping the new scene setters which are all black with stars – can be used for other themes in the future. Will also be looking for volunteers to create centerpieces as well as brainstorm added décor for the new theme. Plan to send an email / Facebook post to ask any creative/talented parents to help as well as reach out to the community for donations of any Star Wars paraphernalia.

For anyone else who would like to information regarding the next South Theme Lunch, please email me at tracit233@hotmail.com or sign up on Sign Up Genius.

East and West Spirit Lunch

West- Christine Diliberto and Kim Segovia

Palos West had a successful Peace Day Spirit Lunch, with many new volunteers, back on September 20th. We are currently preparing for the Winter Wonderland Spirit Lunch at Palos West, which will be held on Friday, December 13th. We have returning volunteers and recruited new as well. A total of 25 volunteers have signed up on Sign-Up Genie so far.

East – Kimberly Houston

Room Parties - Anna Koenig

Halloween parties were a success. Next room parties will be Valentine's Day.

Foundation –

MPA -

Mary Skweres - Harvest Fest was a great event, well attended, Uniforms went out to kids, christmas concerts are coming up

Administrative Reports

Palos West Vice Principal, Mrs. Jennifer Peloquin-Biel
South - will host senior breakfast 12/6 - holiday music and wonderful food. Winter break is in just 5 weeks - concerts moved to week before break. Capstone presentations coming up during school day (electives future project),

East - candy collection goal was reached at 25,000 and a pajama day was earned (wellness council sponsored), American Education Week - tomorrow visitation day with assembly, pajama drive starts november 16 - december 6

West - celebrated 1st quarter with assembly. Red ribbon week will focus on kindness, visitation on thursday with assembly, spelling bee on friday (3-5), preschool visitation today, mitten drive (30th year) coming up, student wellness toy drive

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Dr. Cozza
Veteran's day event at South was well attended - raised $2,000 to send vet on honor flight
Illinois State Board Of Education - 2 exemplary, 1 commendable school (West) - each grew more than 10 index points - new reporting standards (west fell just short), next board meeting November 19, this american education week (parent visitations and other activities), Senior citizen breakfast is coming up, call central office to register, Dr. Scarsella and the board wishes everyone a happy thanksgiving