PFA Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 10, 2020
Palos East 7pm

President- Kori Aldrich/Mary Skweres
Havana Nights and Read-a-thon have been great successes very recently and between those two we are set up to have a good year next year. Thank you to the teams that have put those two events together.

Secretary – Stacy Schuble
No report

PR/Communications – Hilary Rhodes
No report

Treasure – Kathy Purtill/Kathie DeBow
See attached report.

Vice President of Ways and Means – Christy Wright
Volunteering - we are open to ideas for future events and programs, and are willing to work with anyone who is interested in helping and willing to support our kids.

Small Fundraisers
Eat 'n Earns - May have a volunteer interested to plan for this summer and next year

Spirit Wear – Esther Grosse
Working on shirts for White Sox Family Day & 8th grade graduation

White Sox - Kori Aldrich & Katie
May 30 - tickets sales have begun, goal of 500 tickets sold, choirs will perform national anthem.

A December to Remember - Katie Mendoza, Karen Cairo and Katie Gira

My hard-working co-chairs, Karen Cairo and Katie Mendoza, and I are retiring on a high note from the fun!! We would be more than happy to talk with any parents

interested in taking on Santa's Workshop next year. A breakfast does NOT have to be included in order to keep a simple tradition of Santa's Workshop going strong for the kids! If someone IS interested in taking over, and some social component for families was still desired, we have discussed what fun it might be for the new committee to do an easy cookies and milk with Santa for the kids! Whoever takes over can make it their own grand or more back to basics type event! We had a great time putting smiles on the kids' faces with this event! Please let any of us know if you have any questions about taking it over!

Have built up loyalty points through the santa shoppe company that we can turn in for a bike/gift card

Read-a-thon – Nicole Leggett
Next year's read-a-thon is scheduled for January 2021 - currently at just over 30K raised. Have about 5K in expenses which is down from last year. Thank you to everyone who donated from the amazon wishlist. An email will go out tomorrow with all the FAQ's now that it is about to wrap up.

Family Events
Team in place for a fall Mother/Daughter event

Cardinal Chase - Have someone willing to get this event back up and running

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

Hospitality – Sarah Demos/Heidi Jensen

Adult Event – Pam Lexow
Julie - "Giant thank you to Pam Lexow and team for Havana Nights!"

Graduation – Sharon Courtney/Kathy Purtill
Meeting last week for parents had a great turnout. Dance is May 21, and graduation May 28. Flash drives, gift, shirts, lawn signs are in the works. We have a 7th grade committee in place and ready for next year. Invitations will be going home with report cards next week.

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

Art Chat – Jen Schroeder/Bridget Krusinski

Humanities and Safety – Mary Skweres
This week our preschoolers and kindergarten students enjoyed a visit from musician and singer Jim Gill. In April, 2nd graders will have an Earthdome

assembly, which will tie in with their geography unit. Also in April, 5th graders will have a Skydome Assembly. We will wrap up the year by contributing to the 6th graders annual field trip to Medieval Times. As always, thanks to all the parents who participate in our fundraisers, which allow us to provide these great educational opportunities to our kids.

Reading – Katie Gira

Lisa Graff visited all 3 schools in February. The kids seemed to enjoy the experience hearing about the writing process. One thing Mrs. Peloquin-Biel highlighted to the students at West was Lisa Graff sharing that her books were rejected many times before being published when she was starting out as a writer. She highlighted this to the kids and reminded them to keep trying, and to not automatically see "failure" as an ending! I thought that was awesome advice!

Thank you to Hilary Rhodes and Gina Narcisso who helped make the visits run so smoothly at East and South. Thank you also goes to the media specialists at all three schools, as well as the principals, for all of their support, coordination efforts and enthusiasm. Anything needed for this visit was met with such a helpful and positive response! Thanks to all!!

Just confirmed visit on May 11th for 4th & 5th graders

South Theme Lunch – Traci Zumerchik
Our second Theme Lunch was on Friday, February 7, 2020 at the Palos South Commons where we transformed it into a Far Far Away galaxy with a Star War Theme. We had very helpful and capable parents who hung new star scene setters and decorated with Star Wars centerpieces and light sabers hung from the ceiling in what I believe was record time of just over an hour!! We had 14 parent volunteers on Sign Up Genius with five cancellations.

The next Theme lunch is April 3rd– Summer Olympics! The new scene setters need to be taped, which are a crowd/stadium scene and can be used for other themes in the future. Volunteers will be needed to create centerpieces as well as brainstorm added décor for the new theme.

East and West Spirit Lunch
West- Christine Diliberto and Kim Segovia
Our souper bowl lunch was very successful. We had many new volunteers-we seem to keep gaining parents to help. We had around 20-25 helping hands give or take! The kids really enjoyed themselves too.

East – Kimberly Houston

Room Parties - Katie Mendoza
Next one will be end of year parties and dates will be announced soon - will be grade level parties again.

Foundation – Pam Paris

MPA - Pam Paris

New Business
A lot of people are retiring from the board this year and we need new people to volunteer. Board structure and bylaws are being restructured to make more sense. Email w/in 30 days that lists proposed budget, updated bylaws, and available positions.

Graduation party after graduation - talked about making it a PFA event but there may be some liability issues w/ open bar. District will review liability policy to see if the PFA will be able to take it over. PFA is willing to help communicate via emails if allowed.

Administrative Reports

Dr. Scarsella - we are watching the virus very closely and following all the recommendations from IDPH and monitoring attendance closely. PTAB met today to review and set-up a plan for e-learning, and should have it ready to go by 3/20. We can use that for 5 days. We will keep watching and will provide updates when necessary.

Marijuana incidents at middle school - please remind your children that it is still illegal for children to use. Please monitor your children's phones and social media because it is very easy for them to obtain and fairly cheap.

Thank you to the PFA for all your recent fundraising efforts.

Mr. Szklanecki - Havana Nights was outstanding. Looking forward to "drop everything and read" day at all 3 schools tomorrow to participate in read-a-thon.

South - Annual Trivia Night is coming up , 6th grade students are getting ready for white pines trip, fine arts fest will be on March 18

East & West - ISA starts for 5th grade March 15,16,17, Math assessment will be after spring break, 5th grade step up day is on April 15, West fine arts day is April 15, East fine arts day is May 5, grandparents day at West on April 23, East is on April 24

West thanks everyone for bringing in pull tabs that will be brought to the Ronald McDonald House

East - Kim Bumstead lead a group to cook dinner at Ronald McDonald House on Pulaski day, student wellness council is doing a movement march on friday's