



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND BOARD MEETING RECAP

**August 9, 2022**

### **School Board President's Report to the Board**

Board Vice President Pam Paris welcomed everyone in attendance and asked board member Dr. Tim Baker to recite one of the sections of the Oath of Office to affirm the board's commitment to faithfully discharge their duties.

#### **Update on Upcoming Events**

- August 17 Back to School Movie Under the Stars at Palos West, 8 p.m.
- August 19 School Supply Drop off (9a.m. to noon)
- August 24 First Day of School
- Sept 1 South Curriculum Night at 6:30 p.m. - 8p.m.
- Sept. 6 East Curriculum Night at 6:30 p.m. - 8p.m.
- Sept. 8. West Curriculum Night at 6:30 p.m. - 8p.m.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Dr. Scarsella welcomed families back to the start of a new school year. He said that families could find more information about the start of school by checking their email. A message was sent on August 5<sup>th</sup>, containing important information including how to access their child's class and bus assignments, pay school fees, and participate in the lunch program in addition to health and wellness protocols and school safety and security procedures. He encouraged everyone to read the information contained in the email and reach out to their child's school if they have any questions.

He reminded parents that they can access their child's class and bus assignment on Skyward Parent Access on August 17; Supply Drop-Off Day is August 19 from 9 a.m. to noon; The first day of school for grades 1-8 is August 24; Kindergarten and preschool visitation day is August 24<sup>th</sup> and their first day will be on August 25<sup>th</sup>. He said that the District calendar is updated with all important dates and be viewed [www.palos118.org](http://www.palos118.org).

He invited everyone to attend the 2022-23 school year kickoff event Sing 2 on August 17 at Palos West at 8 p.m.

He thanked District Operations Department for all their hard work painting and preparing our schools for a new school year and all of our 12-month employees that work throughout the summer assisting families with registrations and completing all the work that has to happen behind the scenes in preparation for the return of our students in a few weeks.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Board of Education held a first reading of the following policy updates; 6:60 Curriculum Content; 6:130 Program for Gifted; 6:135 Accelerated Placement Program; 7:260 Exemption from Physical Education; 7:310 School Sponsored Publications and Websites; Elementary Schools

The board also approved a tentative 2022-2023 Budget and Set Public Hearing Date for September 20.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Pizur reported on the business at the August 2 meeting of the Finance Committee where Mr. Veihman presented the tentative FY23 budget to the committee. He indicated the tentative budget reflects a \$1.56 million-dollar operating deficit that will be covered through the use of cash reserves. Mr. Veihman shared with the committee that although Palos 118 spends below both the state and county average per student, expenses associated with operating the school district during the pandemic, significant increases in mandated services, and the reduction in one-time federal ESSER funding have had a negative effect on the budget and will continue to do so into the future. Mr. Veihman gave an update on summer capital projects and indicated that like most years these projects will be wrapped up right before the start of the school year. Mr. Veihman presented a contract extension for R&G consulting to provide Medicaid billing services.

### **EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

Mrs. Sheila Pacholski, Foundation president, reported that Laps for Literature will be on September 9, 2022. The foundation will also be attending curriculum nights in September.

### **MUSIC PARENT ASSOCIATION**

Mrs. Paris reported that the band completed its summer camp at the beginning of August.

### **PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION**

PFA President Monica Rettker delivered the report for the PFA: Good evening! I can speak for the entire PFA Board and say that we are all excited for the new school year! We're looking forward to bringing back many fun events and programs that we have all missed in the last couple of years.

Over the summer the PFA has hosted two of three Kindergarten Play Dates at the Palos East and Palos West playgrounds. Our next play date is scheduled on Sunday, August 14th at 10:00 a.m. We will have a small spirit wear sale of special kindergarten shirts available to purchase on site so our rising kindergarteners can rock their Palos 118 spirit from their first day of school. We will also have pinwheels to hand out to our kindergarten families as a warm welcome to our district with information for our first PFA Meeting of the 2022-23 school year.

The PFA will be present at the district's Back to School Movie Under the Stars, hosting a "Vintage" Spirit Wear Sale that sells prior year's spirit wear at a great price.

The PFA will be at all curriculum nights to help welcome families back to school.

We are working out a date for our first Eat & Earn with Plush Horse to kick off the new school year! Stay tuned for more information!

Our first PFA Meeting of the school year will be on September 13th, 2022, the location is TBD. We welcome all parents and staff to join us and hear the exciting events we're planning for the upcoming months!

Our first memory making event of the school year will be Charlie Cardinal Stuff & Fluff on September 16th, 2022, at Palos South Middle School from 6-8pm. \$20 tickets include a Charlie Cardinal stuff & fluff experience and a taco dinner from Mucha Salsa Taco Truck. Tickets and an event shirt will be available to purchase starting 8/26/22.

The PFA will be having a District 118 Cookbook Fundraiser, in which the PFA collects recipes from district 118 families, teachers, staff and administrators. This collaborative cookbook celebrates the different cultures, traditions, and cuisines of our community. Recipe collections through email will start on September 5th, 2022, and cookbook sales start on September 26th, 2022. The price to purchase the cookbook will be \$15 - \$18.

We would like to remind everyone to register on the website and become a member to keep up to date on news and events! With the comeback of these fun events, the need for volunteers is growing. We will be sending out sign-ups and updating the volunteer page throughout the year as opportunities arise, so check back often. Thank you and I'm looking forward to working with you all in the upcoming year!

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

The board approved a consent agenda which included:

- Approval of Medicare Reimbursement Administration Agreement with R&G
- Approval of Personnel Report B-Classified Staff-Employment, FMLA, Resignations, and Terminations
- Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes-June 21, 2022, and Special Meeting Minutes, June 14, 2022, and August 2, 2022.
- Authorize payment of bills payable dated July 20, 2022, in the amount of \$1,853,315.47 and August 10, 2022, in the amount of \$907,167.43. Also, payrolls dated June 24, 2022, in the amount of \$855,651.70, payrolls dated July 8, 2022, in the amount of \$174,010.91, July 22, 2022, in the amount of \$164,471.58, August 5, 2022, in the amount of \$160,234.66