

# PAL-MAC

# MAGAZINE

FALL 2021



GREETINGS FROM  
**SENIORWORLD**  
PALMYRA-MACEDON HIGH SCHOOL

## INSIDE:

- NOTE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT
- IB PROVIDES UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS
- HIGH SCHOOL WELCOMES NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



# PAL-MAC

## MAGAZINE

### **Pal-Mac Magazine**

Fall 2021 Volume 21

### **Superintendent**

Robert R. Ike, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

### **Board of Education**

Laura Arrington, President  
David Landon, Vice President  
Amy Boesel  
Christine A. Cole  
Chris Doyle  
Susan Herendeen  
Gary W. LaBerge  
Sherry Lambert  
Chad Lindstrom

### **Writing and Design**

Chris Tanea in cooperation  
with the W-FL BOCES  
Centralized Communications Team

### **Credits**

Unless otherwise credited,  
photos have been taken for  
and/or provided by the  
Palmyra-Macedon Central School District.

Opinions expressed are those of the authors  
of their subjects and do not necessarily  
represent official positions of the  
Palmyra-Macedon Central School District.

**CONTACT US:**  
**[palmaccsd.org](http://palmaccsd.org)**  
**315-597-3400**



@palmac\_csd  
#PalMacProud



## From the Desk of the Superintendent

Do we truly know the difference between presence and belonging? Is it simply enough to be present and in attendance? It is not. Humans need a sense of belonging.

I think back on my years and I can reflect on the tremendous shift in educating students with special needs in our public schools. As a young child I witnessed the exclusion of children based on their cognitive or physical abilities. By today's standards, we would not consider that ok. Years later in graduate school, I studied the national push for inclusive education, a reaction to years of excluding individuals and making it known that certain students didn't belong in school because of ability.

This idea of inclusion of students with disabilities has been important but mere presence, however, does not mean that children truly have a sense of belonging. The key marker for an inclusive school is evident in relationships. All people are both needed and wanted. A relationship, in this sense, is something that is difficult to define absent the understanding of specific attributes, a sense of belonging being the most critical. In the example of individuals with special needs, there is a mutual understanding between everyone in the community that all belong. Being wanted is realized and hearts are forever changed.

Well-known researchers use imagery of "going to the balcony," getting an objective view of what is actually happening on the dance floor. When we are on the dance floor it is hard to see what else is going on because we are so focused on ourselves, our dance partner, and not wanting to bump into others. *But, if you had gone up to the balcony and looked down on the dance floor, you might have seen a very different picture. You would have noticed all sorts of patterns . . . you might have*

*noticed that when slow music played, only some people danced; when the tempo increased, others stepped onto the floor; and some people never seemed to dance at all. . . the dancers all clustered at one end of the floor, as far away from the band as possible. . . . You might have reported that participation was sporadic, the band played too loud, and you only danced to fast music . . . The only way you can gain both a clearer view of reality and some perspective on the bigger picture is by distancing yourself from the fray (Heifetz & Linsky, 2002).*

We need people to go to the balcony right now and build the strongest possible sense of belonging for our school and our community. Like the marginalization of individuals with disabilities in our past, who can you see from the balcony as being disenfranchised today? Who have we dismissed or alienated or stigmatized or excluded or failed to recognize . . . or somehow how indicated they do not belong?

Being excluded for who we are at our very core doesn't feel good to anyone. A basic principle for what it means to be human is that we have a strong desire to belong. That is not just being a body in school but truly known and valued as a human being. At Pal-Mac, we have a community obligation to ensure a sense of belonging for every child at all times. Together we can make a difference for Pal-Mac.

### GO RED RAIDERS!



**BOB IKE**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**REMINDER:**  
**FIRST DAY OF**  
**SCHOOL IS**  
**TUESDAY,**  
**SEPTEMBER 7**



For the most up-to-date information about COVID policies, including masking, please visit our website:

**[www.palmaccsd.org/](http://www.palmaccsd.org/Content2/covid-19-updates-and-resources)**  
**Content2/covid-19-**  
**updates-and-resources**





# PRESTIGIOUS PAL-MAC STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD PRESENTED TO FOUR RECIPIENTS

To wrap up the 2020-21 school year, four Pal-Mac students were presented with the Pal-Mac Student of the Year Award. Presented annually to one student from each school building, students were nominated by teachers based on citizenship, commitment and participation in school activities and community involvement. This year's winners are Charlotte Corey (Primary School), William Frick (Intermediate School), Logan Vogl (Middle School) and David Luke (High School).



Laura Arrington (board president), Charlotte Corey and Jamie Murphy (PMP principal)



Chris Barnard (PMI principal), William Frick and Dave Landon (board vice president)



Laura Arrington, Logan Vogl and Darcy Smith (MS principal)



David Luke and Andy Wahl (HS principal)

# IB EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS SETS PAL-MAC APART

All students will receive a world-class, relevant education. That's the mission of the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District each and every day.

As part of this mission, Pal-Mac provides a unique educational experience for students through an International Baccalaureate based education for all Pal-Mac students.

The IB offers four programs to form a continuum of education that promotes personal and academic growth. In an ever-changing world, an IB education encourages students to think critically at all levels and develop an expanded worldview beyond a traditional learning environment.

The program at the primary school and intermediate school allows students to become active, caring, lifelong learners who demonstrate respect for themselves and others. Upon entry to the middle school, students are immersed in a program that encourages students to make practical connections between their classroom education and real-world experiences. The Diploma Program is a choice for students in grades 11-12 allowing them to earn an IB Diploma or students can take IB single courses to earn a certificate in the course(s).

Currently, the district is on the cusp of becoming an IB-certified district at all grade levels which would make Pal-Mac one of only a handful of districts with such distinction in New York State. Pal-Mac Primary School received authorization this summer while the intermediate school is in candidacy with the next step being an authorization/verification visit. Grades 6-10 were authorized in April of 2016 as partnership IB World Schools; and grades 11-12 have been an IB World School offering the Diploma pathway since August of 2002.

Designation as an IB district signifies Pal-Mac's commitment to improve teaching and learning for a diverse community of students by delivering challenging, high-quality programs. IB is found in over 5,000 schools in approximately 150 countries around the world.

"Our district is incredibly unique in that we offer an IB education to students at all grades levels in our district," said Pam Wagner,



who serves as IB DP/MYP Coordinator. "We are fortunate to have supportive leadership, faculty, and staff members, and look forward to becoming a full IB district in the near future."

Critical thinking is a key element of the program. Thinking beyond the traditional "textbook method" of teaching and putting education in action is a main focus of the program. One such example is The Personal Project completed during the sophomore year. The Personal Project is a student-centered exploration in which students showcase their learning. The project, which is worked on over the course of the school year, is designed as an independent learning experience and assesses students' skills for self-management, research, communication, critical and creative thinking, and collaboration. The Personal Project comes in a variety of forms ranging from coding a video game to developing a science experiment or planning a unique event.

From the time students enter the program at the primary school, when respect and the love of lifelong learning is instilled, through the opportunity for students to receive the lauded IB Diploma, Pal-Mac offers a world-class learning experience.

"When students leave the halls of Pal-Mac, we want them to be successful in whatever endeavors they choose to pursue," said Superintendent Bob Ike. "The IB education which we incorporate into our everyday learning curriculum provides our students with the tools to do just that."

**To learn more about IB at Pal-Mac, visit [palmaccsd.org](http://palmaccsd.org).**



★ CLASS OF

2021



SENIOR



WALK



★ CONGRATULATIONS





# CONGRATULATIONS



## ESPORTS TEAM CLAIMS SECOND CONSECUTIVE STATE TITLE



For the second consecutive season, the Pal-Mac eSports team captured the eSports state title. The back-to-back champs were presented with a plaque and medals in recognition of their victory during the month of June. Pictured are team members Joey Pompeii, Ashton Rouland and Logan Babcock.

## SEITHER AND SCHAFER NAMED OUTSTANDING RED RAIDER AWARD WINNERS



The Pal-Mac athletic department hosted its annual Athletic Awards, and honored student-athletes for their incredible achievements during a challenging year. At the event, Grace Seither and Jace Schafer were awarded the Outstanding Red Raider Award which recognizes two distinguished senior athletes.

# PAL-MAC HIGH SCHOOL HONORS STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS AT ANNUAL AWARDS EVENT



In early June, members of the Pal-Mac junior and senior classes gathered for the annual High School Recognition event in the high school cafeteria. Roughly 75 students were presented with a variety of awards and honors in recognition of outstanding academic and service achievements.



# HOMECOMING 2021



## **SPIRIT WEEK 2021**

**Monday, September 27 -  
Friday, October 1**

**Maui Monday:**  
Dress like a Hawaiian tourist

**Too Tired Tuesday:**  
Wear your pajamas

**Workout Wednesday:**  
Break out the sweatbands and  
athletic gear

**Throwback Thursday:**  
Throw on your favorite retro finds

**Fan Frenzy Friday:**  
Wear your Pal-Mac gear!



## **HOMECOMING EVENTS**

**Friday, October 1**

**5 p.m.**  
Food Trucks at High School

**6 p.m.**  
Homecoming Parade

**7 p.m.**  
Varsity Football Game with  
Fireworks at Halftime

**Saturday, October 2**

**9 a.m. - 6 p.m.**  
Homecoming Games on  
Hyde Parkway Campus

**11 a.m.**  
Food Trucks at High School





## CAPITAL PROJECT WORK CONTINUES



Students and staff will return to a fully updated media center at Pal-Mac Middle School



Work on the areas surrounding the high school performing arts center continues with the new lobby taking shape

## PAL-MAC CONTINUES FACILITIES PLANNING PROCESS

Over the past several years, the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District has been evaluating future capital improvements throughout the district. At the August 2021 Board of Education meeting, a proposed scope of work was presented. The proposed scope of work was developed after input from a variety of sources including community members and staff along with a building condition survey conducted earlier this year. Most recently, the board completed a survey to outline its capital project priorities which also guided the proposal.

Proposed work includes updates to HVAC systems throughout the district, updating fire alarm systems and a new roof at the middle school. Also included, the installation of artificial field turf on the varsity baseball field infield, similar to the varsity softball field, and installation of artificial field turf to create a multi-purpose athletic field on the current site of the varsity soccer/lacrosse field.

Voter approval of the capital project would not require a tax increase or impact tax rates. Roughly 80% of project work would be funded by New York State Building Aid and the remaining local share would be paid with existing district funds.

Following the overview of proposed work, the board discussed its priorities moving forward. No final decisions were made, and the board will continue its discussion at the September meeting. Ongoing discussion will include whether or not to include the installation of artificial field turf to create a multi-purpose athletic field on the current site of the varsity soccer/lacrosse field in the final capital project plan to go before voters. Based on the current proposed timeline, a vote could take place in December 2021 or early 2022.



## IKE RECOGNIZED BY OSWEGO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Superintendent Bob Ike has been recognized by the Oswego Alumni Association with the 2021 Lifetime Award of Merit. The award recognizes alumni who have demonstrated a lifetime of both professional and civic leadership.

Announcing 2021 Recipients



## PAL-MAC DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS CELEBRATES RECORD FUNDRAISING, SCHOLARSHIP DISTRIBUTION

It was a year of highlight achievements for the Palmyra-Macedon Dollars for Scholars program as the organization garnered a record fundraising haul from its annual phone-a-thon event, and distributed a record amount of scholarship funds to Pal-Mac students.

Michael Boesel ('91), President of Pal-Mac Dollars for Scholars Board of Trustees, announced the phone-a-thon raised approximately \$21,000. As part of the fundraising effort, roughly 80 high school students volunteered in March to call households in the Pal-Mac community. Funds raised helped the organization award 10 \$2,000 scholarships to deserving members of the Class of 2021.

On Thursday, June 3 Pal-Mac Superintendent Bob Ike and Pal-Mac

High School Principal Andrew Wahl hosted the annual Dollars for Scholars Awards ceremony virtually. The ceremony was streamed to parents, students and scholarship sponsors. Members from the Class of 2021 received



more educational funding than any previous class totaling \$185,300.

"The outstanding generosity of our citizens makes our scholarship program one of the most successful in New York State," added Superintendent Bob Ike.

The Pal-Mac Dollars for Scholars

chapter is part of Scholarship America's national network. The organization is composed of local volunteers to help students achieve their educational goals by raising scholarship funds, establishing endowments, providing assistance with college readiness and the financial aid process, and distributing scholarships each year. Since its founding in 1987, the Pal-Mac chapter has distributed more than \$2 million in scholarship funds to over 2,000 deserving students.

If you are interested in making a donation to the program or establishing a scholarship to promote a business/organization or memorialize a family member, please contact Joan DeCann at joandecann@yahoo.com or 315-690-2709.



## EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT LANDS AT PAL-MAC

Thanks to senior Matt Adamson, the district now has new picnic tables representing the Pal-Mac colors and logo on the Hyde Parkway Campus. Matt completed the tables as part of his Eagle Scout project.



## STUDENT EARNS NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Last spring Pal-Mac eighth grader and current high school freshman Elise Tome (pictured with PMMS Principal Darcy Smith) received the National Junior Honor Society Outstanding Achievement Award. The prestigious award is presented annually to 500 NJHS members nationwide based on the four NJHS pillars, scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. As part of the recognition, she received a \$500 deposit into a college savings account.





## NEW FACE AT PMHS, ENGELS BEGINS ROLE AS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



On Friday, June 18, the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District Board of Education approved the appointment of Rodney Engels to the position of Pal-Mac High School Assistant Principal. Engels replaces longtime Assistant Principal Steve Sanzo.

The selection process for Pal-Mac High School Assistant Principal included posting of the position, an application process, screening of applicants, and interviews conducted by a committee of district representatives. The process concluded with the identification of a finalist who met with the superintendent in anticipation of a recommendation to the Pal-Mac Board of Education.

Engels has taught physics at Victor High School for 14 years, and brings experience as a coach and extracurricular advisor in addition to his strong teaching background. He is a graduate of SUNY Geneseo and completed his administrative studies at SUNY Oswego.

Engels resides in Macedon with his wife, and has three children that attend Pal-Mac.

He began his role as assistant principal on July 1, 2021.

Pal-Mac welcomes Mr. Engels to the district.

## ANNUAL BOARD OF EDUCATION AWARDS PRESENTED AT JUNE BOE MEETING

Pal-Mac Board President Laura Arrington and Vice President Dave Landon presented the Board of Education Awards at the June Board of Education meeting. The Friend of Education Award went to Bob Yost (pictured top), past Dollars For Scholars president and community volunteer. The Boehmler Community Partner award was presented to Wayne County Public Health. WCPH team member Ryan Mulhern accepted the recognition on behalf of the organization which has been instrumental in navigating the COVID-19 pandemic locally.

The awards are presented annually to recognize individuals and/or organizations for contributions to Pal-Mac and its students.





# ATHLETIC NEWS

FALL 2021

## SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAMS FALL (2) 2021



Cheerleading –  
Coach Marie Doyle:

**93.45**  
GPA

Girls Volleyball –  
Coach Sarah Vanderwall:

**91.58**  
GPA



## GIRLS TRACK

4X400 RELAY SECTION V CLASS B1 CHAMPIONS: SOPHIE BARCLAY,  
AILENA REYNOLDS-DIAZ, TARYN GOODNESS AND LEAH LLOYD



## BOYS BASEBALL

SECTION V  
CLASS B1 CHAMPIONS



## SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAMS

SPRING 2021



Girls Outdoor Track & Field –  
Coach Matthew Robbins:

**96.355**

GPA

Girls Lacrosse –  
Coach EJ Burse:

**94.84**

GPA

Softball – Coach Ashley  
Schuth-Braeger:

**93.04**

GPA

Baseball –  
Coach Bryan Rodman:

**91.92**

GPA

Boys Lacrosse –  
Coach Joe Hill:

**90.94**

GPA



## GIRLS LACROSSE

SECTION V  
CLASS D CHAMPIONS



Girls Lacrosse Section V  
Class D Coach of the Year:  
EJ Burse



Girls Track Section  
V Class B1 2000M  
Steeplechase: Leah Lloyd



Boys Baseball Section V  
Class B1 Coach of the Year:  
Bryan Rodman



# THREE BOARD MEMBERS BEGIN TERMS

In May, Amy Boesel, Christine Cole and Chad Lindstrom were elected to the Pal-Mac Board of Education by voters to fill three board vacancies. The appointments were effective July 1, 2021 and will expire June 30, 2024.



Amy Boesel



Christine Cole



Chad Lindstrom ('96)

## FALL 2021

## Hello Pal-Mac Families,

Welcome to the start of another exciting school year.

For those who may not know me, I am Laura Arrington, longtime Palmyra-Macedon Board of Education member, and board president for the upcoming year. I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve in this role.

I have always enjoyed the excitement of the first day of school. A new year means new beginnings and fresh starts.

As so many of us have experienced various trials and tribulations over the past year, the support of our friends and family, and a sense of community is more important now than ever. With that being said, here at Pal-Mac, we are looking forward to the return of the community-based events which we can all enjoy together once again.

Throughout the year, our district will be focusing on inclusivity and belonging. As a board and a district, we are constantly

seeking ways to foster a welcoming environment for our students to learn and our families to enjoy. It is something we strive for each day, and this year it will be a particular point of focus as we come together once again as a community. As a district and as a community, our Red Raider family is better together.

It is truly a privilege to serve our community, and something we as a board do not take lightly. Our board will continue our work with a goal of providing the best experience possible for all students. If you see us out in the community, please do not hesitate to introduce yourself and say hi! Our board goal is one of service to our students, families, staff and community.

On behalf of the entire board, I want to welcome all of our students and families back. We appreciate you and are so glad you are here.

Welcome back Pal-Mac!

## LAURA ARRINGTON, BOARD PRESIDENT

PALMYRA-MACEDON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION



Pal-Mac Board of Education (from left to right): Sherry Lambert, Gary LaBerge, David Landon, Amy Boesel, Laura Arrington, Susan Herendeen, Chad Lindstrom and Chris Doyle



# 2021-22 DATES TO REMEMBER

## SCHOOL BREAKS

**TUESDAY 09/07**

*First Day of School for Students*

**MONDAY 10/11**

*Columbus Day*

**THURSDAY 11/11**

*Veterans Day*

**WEDNESDAY 11/24 - FRIDAY 11/26**

*Thanksgiving Break*

**THURSDAY 12/23 - FRIDAY 12/31**

*Winter Break*

**MONDAY 01/17**

*Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*

**MONDAY 02/21 - FRIDAY 02/25**

*February Break*

**MONDAY 04/11 - FRIDAY 04/15**

*Spring Break*

**MONDAY 05/30**

*Memorial Day*

**MONDAY 06/20**

*Juneteenth (No School)*

## Pal-Mac enhancing use of ParentSquare app for 2021-22 school year

After a successful rollout of the ParentSquare App last school year, the district will be transitioning much of its correspondence for the 2021-22 school year to the ParentSquare App.

By using ParentSquare, parents/guardians will receive district, school, and classroom communications via email, text or app. If you have not done so already, you can download the free mobile app for Android or iOS. To download the ParentSquare App, visit the app store and search for ParentSquare. The email and/or cell phone number you use to register must match what is currently on file with the district.

To ensure announcements and updates

are received, the district asks parents and guardians to make sure information within the student information database, SchoolTool, is accurate and up to date. SchoolTool data is used to populate contact lists in ParentSquare. The primary contact in SchoolTool is determined by the home residence of the student. The district also maintains emergency contacts, which can include multiple contacts and may be utilized when the primary contact is unreachable. To update contact information, please visit [palmacsd.org/contactupdate](http://palmacsd.org/contactupdate).

Should you have questions, please contact the main office of your child's school.



ParentSquare

**Either visit the app store and search for "ParentSquare," or QR codes are provided below for your convenience:**



*iPhone  
or iPad*



*Android Phone  
or Tablet*



# PAL-MAC CELEBRATES SPRING SIGNING DAY

On Wednesday, May 26, the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District celebrated four student-athletes signing National Letters of Intent to continue their athletic careers in the fall of 2021 at the collegiate level. Pal-Mac Athletic Director Tom Schmandt introduced the signees in front of coaches, family and friends. Schmandt lauded their incredible athletic accomplishments during their Pal-Mac careers.

The four signees include Jace Shafer (wrestling, West Virginia University), Ethan Ferro (wrestling, Edinboro University), Kaleb Burgess (wrestling, University at Buffalo) and Alea Javorowsky (lacrosse, University of Indianapolis).



## Follow Pal-Mac on social media for news and updates

The Palmyra-Macedon Central School District continues to utilize social media to communicate with its stakeholders.

Social media users can find timely announcements, news and events, along with staff and student achievements on Facebook by following @PalMac\_CSD as well as Instagram and Twitter by searching the handle @PalMac\_CSD. The district invites its followers to use the hashtag #PalMacProud when commenting and sharing posts.

Links to all district social media channels are available on the district website, [palmaccsd.org](http://palmaccsd.org).

The district website remains a comprehensive source for the latest updates and information. The District News section, found in the quick links area on the left side, features frequent updates on district happenings and important announcements. The district will also continue to send Pal-Mac E-News monthly to email inboxes to highlight district accomplishments and events. Pal-Mac Magazine, an in-depth print and digital magazine, is distributed through the United States Postal Service with a digital copy available on the district's website as well.

## Pal-Mac honored for excellence in music education

Pal-Mac has once again been recognized for its outstanding musical programs. The honor is given to districts that demonstrate a commitment to excellence and broad access to music education programming.



It is Palmyra-Macedon Central School District's policy to provide for and promote equal opportunity in education and employment. Pal-Mac CSD does not discriminate, in its programs and activities, against:

(i) any student or any candidate for admission (or parent of any such student or candidate); (ii) any employee or applicant for employment; or (iii) any third party, on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age; and, it provides equal access to its facilities to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Further, Pal-Mac CSD does not discriminate on the basis of religion or creed, religious practice, ethnic group, weight, sexual orientation, gender, military status, genetic status, marital status, domestic violence victim status, criminal arrest or conviction record, or any other basis prohibited by state or federal non-discrimination laws, or unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification or other exception. Inquiries regarding Pal-Mac CSD's non-discrimination policies and grievance procedures or Title IX should be directed to:

Palmyra-Macedon Central School District  
127 Cuyler Street  
Palmyra, NY 14522  
Phone: 315-597-3400

U.S. Department of Education New York Office  
Office for Civil Rights  
32 Old Slip, 26th Floor NY, NY 10005-2500  
Phone: 646-428-3800  
Email: OCR.NewYork@ed.gov

## CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



#PalMacProud

@PalMac\_CSD

palmaccsd.org



## OUR SCHOOLS

PRIMARY SCHOOL  
120 CANANDAIGUA STREET  
PALMYRA, NY 14522  
**315-597-3400**

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL  
4 WEST STREET  
MACEDON, NY 14502  
**315-597-3400**

MIDDLE SCHOOL  
163 HYDE PARKWAY  
PALMYRA, NY 14522  
**315-597-3400**

HIGH SCHOOL  
151 HYDE PARKWAY  
PALMYRA, NY 14522  
**315-597-3400**

DISTRICT OFFICE  
127 CUYLER STREET  
PALMYRA, NY 14522  
**315-597-3400**

@palmac\_csd



# PAL-MAC MAGAZINE

## PAL-MAC MAGAZINE

127 Cuyler Street  
Palmyra, NY 14522

