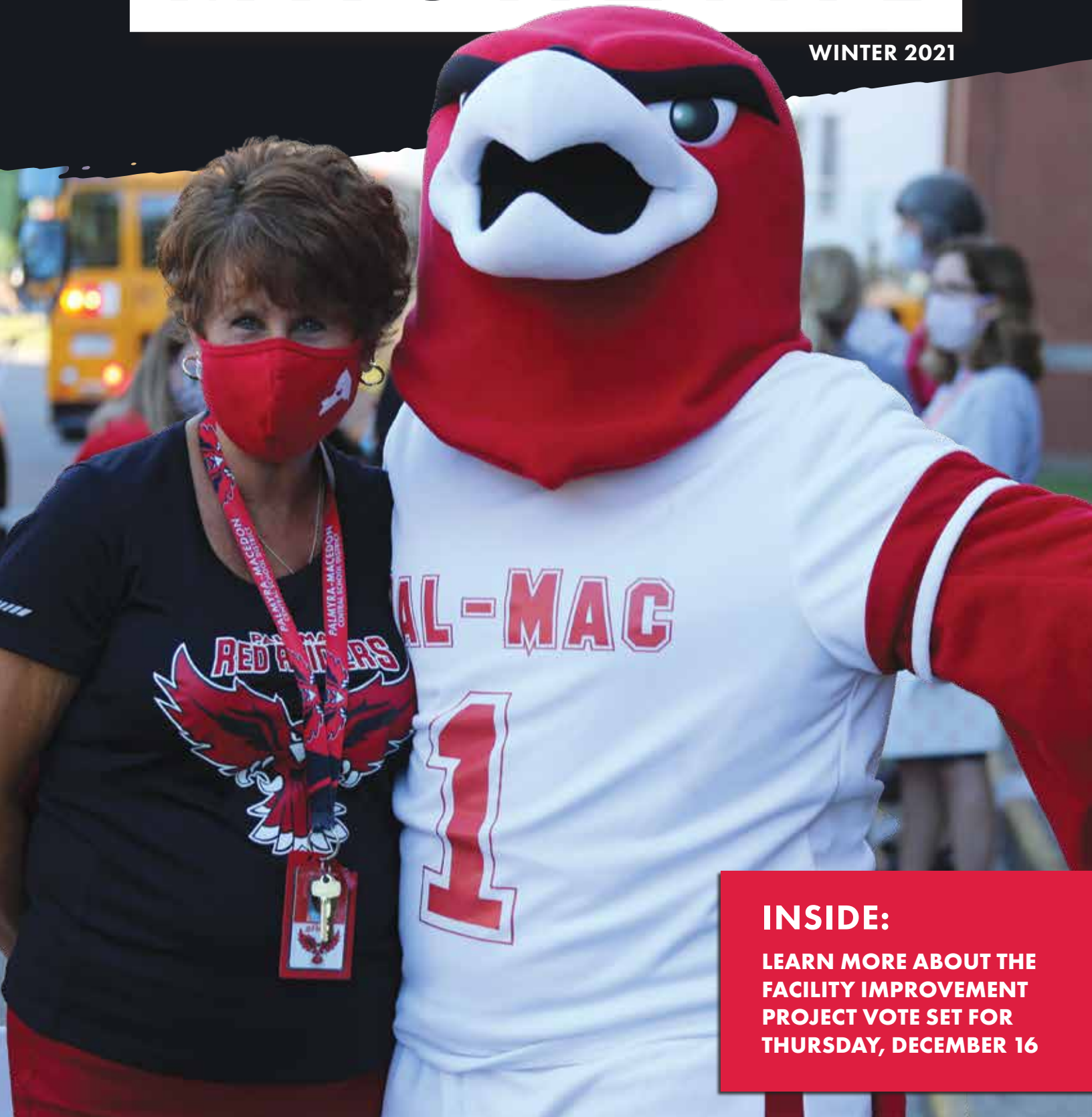


# PAL-MAC MAGAZINE

WINTER 2021



## INSIDE:

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE  
FACILITY IMPROVEMENT  
PROJECT VOTE SET FOR  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

# PAL-MAC

## MAGAZINE

### **Pal-Mac Magazine**

Winter 2021 Volume 22

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Robert R. Ike, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

### **Board of Education**

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@palmac\_csd

#PalMacProud





# From the Desk of the Superintendent

## FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROPOSAL PUTS STUDENTS FIRST

In our recent past, we have experienced a time of uncertainty and challenges. But, through it all, our Pal-Mac family has remained steadfast in its commitment to our students.

Each day, students and staff have come to school with a positive attitude and a willingness to adapt and overcome. Our community has supported our students whether it be through the return of homecoming events this year or our special senior class parades over the last two years. We are lucky to have a school district and a community that puts students first.

Putting students first is exactly what the Pal-Mac Board of Education has done with its facility improvement project proposal set to go before voters on Thursday, December 16. Improving safety and enhancing student access, the two themes were guiding principles in creating the project scope.

Highlights of the proposal include:

- Upgraded safety features districtwide including the construction of a secured entrance at the middle school
- A new middle school roof
- Replace heating and ventilation components
- A multi-purpose turf athletic field on the site of the current varsity soccer/lacrosse field
- Bus garage maintenance to ensure we keep our bus fleet moving safely

From our first meetings in 2013 with the Facilities Committee to public discussions and surveys as well as residents at board meetings advocating for this project, public input gathered has guided the decision-making process as we have worked to enhance facilities throughout the district. The facility improvement project set for a vote in December is the next step in this process.

The project ensures that our facilities continue to be maintained for Pal-Mac students in the years to come. I am confident the proposed scope of work will allow us to continue student success at Pal-Mac.

Our board has done well to set aside money in the reserve fund to assist in paying for the local share of the project while we maximize aid available to the district through New York State. Should it be approved, this facility improvement project will require no new taxes continuing the board's commitment to fiscal responsibility.

I encourage you to learn more about the proposal in the magazine (starting on page 15) and vote on Thursday, December 16.

Thanks for your support of students, Pal-Mac. I wish you a very happy and healthy holiday season.

**GO RED RAIDERS!**



**BOB IKE**

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**WINTER BREAK IS  
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 2  
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**



# HOMECOMING 2021

## HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES RETURN

A week-long celebration of school spirit and community pride took place September 27 - October 2 as Pal-Mac held its annual Homecoming Week. The week featured school-wide pep rallies and athletic events highlighted by a parade and a fireworks display during halftime of the varsity football game. Thank you Pal-Mac community for your support during this special week. Together, we are **#PalMacProud.**







## ONLINE TUTORING TOOL NOW AVAILABLE AT PAL-MAC

The Palmyra-Macedon Central School District is excited to announce the launch of an online learning tool for students in grades 6-12; this new tool is known as Paper.

Paper, a secure online tutoring service that provides students with unlimited, 24/7 academic support is now free for all Pal-Mac students in grades 6-12. Whether students are stuck on homework, studying for a test, or need someone to read and make suggestions to essays, there will always be experts available online to assist students in over 200 subjects and more than four languages.

Paper tutors have been specially trained to conduct expert, academic support in a secure, chat-based platform. With a commitment to helping students learn, they'll never give students answers, but rather interact with them in an encouraging tone to lead them forward.

Students are able to use it as much as they need, whenever they need. District teachers also have accounts and will be able to review all student activity to see what they're working on and provide more targeted instruction as needed.

To learn more about Paper, you can sign up for a Paper hosted Parent Info Session, available in both English and Spanish. Or if you'd like to speak to a member of the Paper team directly, you can reach them at [parents@paper.co](mailto:parents@paper.co).

To see Paper and the help it offers firsthand, simply visit Paper's student login page, type your school's name, and log in via Clever using your school credentials.

For more information, visit [paper.co](http://paper.co).



## RED RIBBON WEEK CELEBRATED

Students and staff celebrated Red Ribbon Week during the last week of October. The week provided a time to put a focus on staying drug-free and the adverse impacts drug use can have. A variety of activities took place throughout the district, including walks by students at Pal-Mac Primary and Intermediate Schools.

Red Ribbon Week began as a tribute to fallen DEA special agent Enrique Camarena in 1985. Pictured is an oversized Red Ribbon prominently displayed in front of PMP.







## RAKING FOR A CAUSE

Roughly 100 student-athletes and coaches raked leaves for senior citizens in the community during the 13th Annual Rake for Their Sake Community Service Project on Saturday, October 23.



## VETERANS CELEBRATED AT PAL-MAC

Patriotism was on display in early November as students throughout the district honored veterans with special events. The touching events allowed staff and students to thank veterans for their service to the country while providing important lessons on the value of service and sacrifice for students.





# PAL-MAC HONORS STAFF MEMBERS

In September, the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District recognized its 2020 and 2021 Staff Members of the Year and Teachers of the Year. Recognition of the recipients was delayed due to COVID-19 but the district is thrilled to recognize these individuals who have done so much for Pal-Mac students. The district is incredibly fortunate to have these dedicated individuals as part of the Pal-Mac family.

## Staff Member of the Year

2020 - Terri Hopkins

2021 - Pal-Mac Nursing Staff

(Deb Matzan, Laura Kubasiewicz, Ellen Lennon, Cassandra Tice, Laura Boss)

## Special Recognition

2020 - Kristin Dehmler & Courtney Nemecek

2021 - Jason Wilson & Richard Lee

## Teacher of the Year - Primary School

2020 - Jennifer Davis

2021 - Elyse Austin

## Teacher of the Year - Intermediate School

2020 - Kristin Robinson

2021 - Marcia Liberatore

## Teacher of the Year - Middle School

2020 - Trevor Sanders

2021 - Kate Rice

## Teacher of the Year - High School

2020 - Doug Blackall

2021 - Elizabeth Cowell



# PMP BECOMES IB-CERTIFIED

Pal-Mac  
Primary School  
recently received  
the prestigious



International Baccalaureate certification. With this accomplishment, the district is on the cusp of becoming an IB-certified district which would make Pal-Mac one of only a handful of districts with such distinction in New York State. Pal-Mac Intermediate School is currently in the midst of the process and Pal-Mac Middle and High Schools have already received certification.

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.

## 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 of parents/guardians 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 ADDS SECOND DISTRICT LOGO



At the September Board of Education meeting, an additional Pal-Mac logo was approved. The logo, which is a side profile of the primary Red Raider logo, will allow the district to expand its branding efforts, and offer teams and clubs an additional look to the primary Red Raider logo. Can you find the letters?



## PAL-MAC DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS LAUNCHES ONLINE GIVING TOOL

Looking to contribute to  
Pal-Mac Dollars for Scholars?  
You can now do it online.

To give, visit: <https://secure.givelively.org/donate/scholarship-america-inc-palmyra-ny>



# ATHLETIC NEWS

FALL 2021



## GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER

Finger Lakes League  
Champions

—  
Finger Lakes Championship  
Tournament Champions

—  
Section V Class B1  
Section Champions

.....

## GIRLS VARSITY SWIMMING

Finger Lakes League  
Champions

—  
Finger Lakes Invitational  
Champions

—  
Section V Class C 100 Fly,  
200 IM Champion, Most  
Outstanding Performer:  
Elizabeth Share

—  
Section V Class C 200 and  
500 Freestyle Champion:  
Angelina Trapp

—  
Section V Class C 200  
Freestyle Relay (Charlotte  
Sanson, Anna Priebe,  
Elizabeth Share and  
Angelina Trapp) and 400  
Freestyle Relay (Amber  
Newsome, Tessa Bay,  
Danielle McDonald and  
Jillian Anthony) Team  
Champions



## GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS

State tournament  
qualifiers:  
Anna Kubasiewicz and  
Tatum Smyth



## COACH CHRIS OAKS

Finger Lakes League and Section V Class C  
Girls Swimming Coach of the Year



palmaccsd.org

# ENGELS SETTLING INTO NEW ROLE AT PMHS

Rod Engels began his role as assistant principal at Palmyra-Macedon High School in July. Prior to coming to Pal-Mac, he 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 shared some thoughts on his new role, and time at Pal-Mac thus far.

## **We are approaching the midway point of the school year, what's been the most exciting part of your new role?**

One of the most exciting parts of my new role would definitely be working with students. It has been amazing to see students so engaged in learning and their school community. The school pride that was evident during homecoming week both in the school and the night of the parade was great. I loved seeing the Halloween costumes the staff and students came up with this past week as well. I've also been able to enjoy watching some of our student-athletes compete in fall and winter sports. I also love hearing our talented musicians when I walk through the music wing and hear the band and choral groups practicing. I'm excited to be connected to the high school and especially to witness all of the great things going on on a daily basis.

## **Teaching is quite different than serving as an assistant principal. What's been your biggest adjustment so far?**

My new role is different, but I've always believed that I never strictly taught science - I taught students. As an assistant principal I still feel like I'm teaching students, the content has just changed in my current role. The cool part now is that I think of all of the students in the high school as my students, and I'm able to see more of the student body and take part in their celebrations and milestones they are reaching at the high school.

## **Connecting with students is incredibly important. As a new assistant principal, what are you doing to connect with students?**

This has been my favorite part of my new role. I enjoy having conversations with students. It's fun to learn about students' interests, what courses they like, what are their hobbies, if they have a job outside of school, what extracurriculars they participate in. Learning about the music students are

listening to, the games they're playing on their phones, the latest TikTok trends, etc. is what keeps me young! I've also enjoyed meeting students through various activities outside of the classroom.

## **You were previously a longtime teacher, what's the biggest part of your teaching experience that has helped you transition into the role of assistant principal?**

One aspect of my teaching experience that has helped me transition to the role of assistant principal would be the experience of working with teenagers and understanding the challenges for them. I am aware that students have busy lives, some are involved in rigorous coursework, taking part in extracurriculars, juggling a job outside of school, and even just taking on a large role in their homelife on a daily basis. In addition, I also recognize how hard our staff works to connect and support their students. I know firsthand that teaching isn't easy and the support I have received from the school community has been invaluable.



## **Pal-Mac is fortunate to have a number of outstanding extracurricular activities, name a couple of your favorite events you've been able to attend so far this year.**

The homecoming parade was a blast! The student floats were great, the weather was fantastic, and there was a lot of student interest. I must admit that I am a sports fan. I enjoyed watching the boys and girls soccer teams make deep sectional runs. It was also an honor to be able to attend the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony. To hear about some of the wonderful activities that many of our students have participated in was inspiring. I'm looking forward to attending the Royal Dessert/Madrigal performance, catching some other musical performances, more winter and spring sports, and many other student activities.



## LEADERSHIP TEAM KICKS OFF 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR WITH ANNUAL HOME VISITS

On Monday, August 30, the Pal-Mac Leadership Team took to the streets of Palmyra and Macedon to hand out welcome bags to students in grades PreK-8. The bags, filled with various goodies, served as a fun way to kick off the school year and wish students well for the upcoming year. Pal-Mac Middle School Assistant Principal Amanda Masters and Pal-Mac High School Assistant Principal Rod Engels greet students.



## FACILITIES PROJECTS ONGOING AT PAL-MAC

Updated public address systems and visual safety notification systems are being installed in school sites throughout the district. The visual safety systems display emergency-specific alerts for improved safety in the event of an emergency. The upcoming upgrades are being paid for through the New York State Smart School Investment Plan.



New windows were installed at the front of the high school building to improve weather proofing and enhance natural light within classrooms.



Finishing touches are being put on renovations to the areas surrounding the performing arts center on the high school campus. Students and staff have started utilizing all the space has to offer including larger classroom spaces, which hosted a fall drama performance in October.



## DASA REPORTING TOOL

Pal-Mac has launched an online tool to report harassment and bullying situations in a streamlined manner. Reports can be made using the established QR code (pictured) or sent to [DASAreport@palmaccsd.org](mailto:DASAreport@palmaccsd.org) with names of offenders, witnesses, other victims, dates and location(s) of the incidents and contact information. All information submitted will remain confidential to the extent permitted by law. The tool further assists the district in creating a safe and inclusive school environment for all students.





## PROCESS FOR WEATHER-RELATED SCHOOL CLOSURES

Please review the information below regarding school closures due to inclement weather for the 2021-22 school year.

First and foremost, the safety of students and staff is always a top priority when making a decision regarding the closure of school. With safety as a guiding principle, the decision to close school will be made based on numerous factors outlined below:

- Road conditions reports from transportation staff, town/highway personnel, meteorological experts and law enforcement agencies
- Amount of snow and ice accumulation
- Whether or not precipitation is continuing
- Building and parking lot conditions
- Temperature and wind chill
- Forecast predictions

Early dismissal may be necessary if weather conditions warrant, with a goal of ensuring students are home safely prior to conditions worsening.

The ultimate decision to close school is that of the superintendent. The district will make every attempt to make weather-related decisions in a timely manner.

Once an announcement has been made to close school, the decision will be final.

Announcements regarding school closures will be sent out via ParentSquare. ParentSquare contact information can be updated here: [palmacsd.org/contactupdate](http://palmacsd.org/contactupdate).

In addition to ParentSquare, a closure notice will be posted to district social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) and the district website. Local news outlets will be notified of the decision as well. News outlets to monitor for closure-related information include 13WHAM TV, Spectrum News, WROC TV 8, WHAM AM 1180, WVOR FM 100.5, WHEC TV 10, WACK AM 1420 and WARM FM 101.3.

Parents/guardians are advised not to call the district regarding weather-related closures unless it is an emergency.

During the cold days of winter, it is important to remember to bundle up to prepare for being outside for walks to a bus stop or to school. Warm clothing includes jackets, gloves, scarves, and boots. If your family needs assistance in the provision of warm, suitable clothing, please contact the Health Office at your child's school.

The district does not take the decision to close school lightly and carefully examines each decision on a case by case basis. No perfect decision exists and should parents/guardians feel conditions are unsafe, it is advised to exercise best judgment to decide if your student should attend school.

## PMHS FALL DRAMA A BIG SUCCESS

In mid-October, high school drama students performed the production of "Buried Child" on the high school campus. The production was a huge success with a portion of proceeds raised from the show being donated to the Wilmot Cancer Center. The show also provided students a chance to utilize the recently updated space surrounding the performing arts center.



# LOCAL BASEBALL TEAM ESTABLISHES PAL-MAC DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHIP



Steve and Carol Szatko, owners of the Newark Pilots baseball team, have established a Palmyra-Macedon Dollars for Scholars scholarship in the amount of \$500. The newly created scholarship will be presented to a graduating senior at the Pal-Mac Dollars for Scholars Awards Ceremony, which is held annually in June.

The Szatkos, who purchased the Newark Pilots in 2019, are sports enthusiasts and ardent advocates for higher education. By creating the scholarship, the two seek to give back to a student who has an interest in athletics and a love for learning.

Steve has been in the education field for over 50 years, serving as an elementary and secondary English teacher, assistant principal, principal, school superintendent, and college professor. Carol worked at the Mohawk Valley Psychiatric Center.

As owners of the Newark Pilots, the Szatkos are able to pursue their shared passion for sports and young people. Steve, who played semi-professional baseball in his youth, has worked to develop a team culture which encourages young players to excel professionally and personally. Their son, Eric, who is an athlete and coach, shares responsibility for managing the team.

According to Dollars for Scholars President Mr. Michael Boesel, "Our chapter appreciates the generosity of our local business owners, such as the Szatkos."

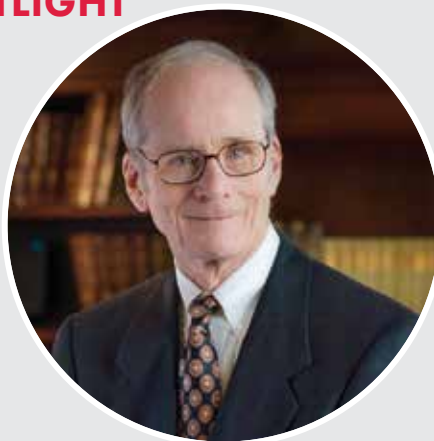
**To learn more about the Pal-Mac Dollars for Scholars program, please visit [palmyra-macedon.dollarsforscholars.org](http://palmyra-macedon.dollarsforscholars.org).**

## PAL-MAC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

EDWARD DECI,  
CLASS OF 1960

University of Rochester,  
Professor Emeritus of Psychology,  
and Helen F. and Fred H. Gowen  
Professor in the Social Sciences

Photo credit University of Rochester



## ANNUAL FILL-A-BUS CAMPAIGN SUPPORTS PAL-MAC COMMUNITY

During the month of November, donations of food, toiletries and paper products were collected at schools, and then packed into a Pal-Mac bus and donated to the Palmyra and Macedon food pantries.

The annual event was led by several student groups, teams and staff members with Future Business Leaders of America spearheading the effort. As a result of the great work, countless families throughout the local community will benefit.



# FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

December 2021

Pal-Mac Family,

On Thursday, December 16 Pal-Mac voters will go to the polls to vote on a facility improvement project.

As a board, we take the responsibility of putting forth a facility improvement proposal very seriously, and know we must be thoughtful in our use of taxpayer dollars. The proposal was crafted after a lengthy planning process during which we gathered input from community members and staff along with information from a building condition survey conducted earlier this year.

With that being said, the project has been developed to meet the needs of our students and ensure we maintain our district facilities for the future. Key points in the proposal include improving safety and security, preserving and maintaining buildings and enhancing student access to the Hyde Parkway campus athletic facilities.

The project totals \$24.479 million dollars, and is intended to maximize state aid for facility improvements without new local taxes. Over the last several years, our board has planned for this work and put funds in capital reserves in advance to ensure there will be no school tax increase should the proposal be approved.

Over the next several pages of the magazine, you will find detailed information on the proposal and its scope. We invite you to attend our public information session on Tuesday, December 7 at 7 p.m. in the middle school LGI for further information.

On Thursday, December 16, I encourage all eligible Pal-Mac residents to head to the polls and cast their vote on the proposal. Your voice is important and will help shape the future of our school district for years to come. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

As always, thanks for your continued support of our district. We appreciate you, Pal-Mac.



**LAURA ARRINGTON**  
BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT

## **PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION**

**TUESDAY  
DECEMBER 7  
7 P.M.**

Pal-Mac Middle School  
LGI  
163 Hyde Parkway  
Palmyra, 14522

## **VOTE**

**THURSDAY  
DECEMBER 16  
7 A.M. - 8:30 P.M.**

Pal-Mac High School  
151 Hyde Parkway  
Palmyra, 14522

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Safety and security (fire alarms, cameras)
- Preserve building envelopes (roof, masonry)
- Keep building systems operable (heating and ventilation components)
- Add artificial turf playing surface to the current location of the varsity soccer/lacrosse field and varsity baseball infield for improved student access to athletic facilities

## TENTATIVE PROJECT TIMELINE

### PHASE 1

Design & Construction

Documents..... January 2022 to September 2022

State Education Department Approval ..... Fall 2022

Bidding ..... December 2022/January 2023

Construction ..... Summer 2023, 2023-24 School Year

### PHASE 2

Design & Construction

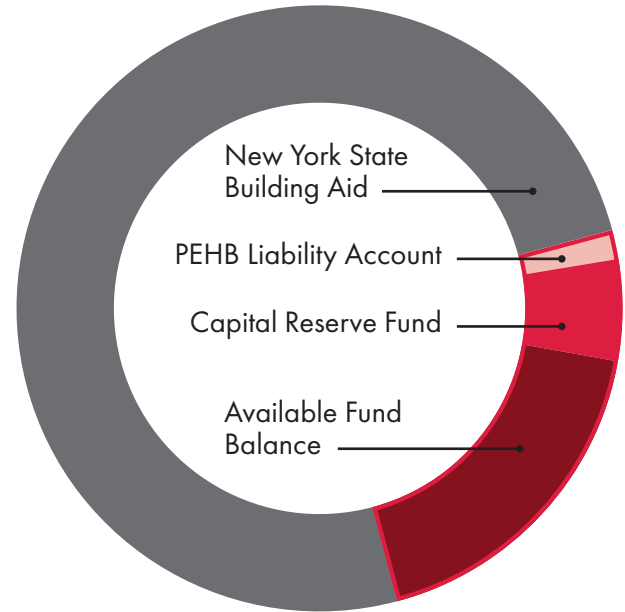
Documents..... January 2023 to September 2023

State Education Department Approval ..... Fall 2023

Bidding ..... December 2023/January 2024

Construction ..... Summer 2024, 2024-25 School Year

## COST OVERVIEW



### ■ NEW YORK STATE

**BUILDING AID** ..... \$18,349,000 (+ interest)

□ **LOCAL SHARE** ..... \$6,130,000

■ PEHB Liability Account..... \$380,000

■ Capital Reserve Fund ..... \$1,325,000

■ Available Fund Balance..... \$4,425,000

**TOTAL**..... **\$24,479,000**

## VOTER PROPOSITION BALLOT LANGUAGE

RESOLVED, shall the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District, Wayne County, New York, be authorized to construct improvements to and reconstruct various School District buildings and facilities, including athletic field and site improvements, and original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of \$24,479,000, and that \$1,325,000 of Capital Reserve Fund (2015) monies and \$4,805,000 available funds shall be expended therefor and the remaining \$18,349,000 of said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.

**NO NEW SCHOOL TAXES REQUIRED**



## PROJECT SCOPE

Below is a summary of the major areas of proposed reconstruction, which were selected by the Board of Education following recommendations from facility committees, building condition surveys, administration and staff. If actual construction bids are lower than projected, additional reconstruction to existing buildings may be possible as determined by the Board of Education, and as the overall budget permits.

### PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Replace obsolete fire alarm system, add hardwired carbon monoxide detection
- Caulk at window heads and sills
- Replace boiler room piping and associated unit ventilator/cabinet unit heater piping, replace building isolation valves and fin radiation
- Reconstruct cracked walls/peeling paint
- Repoint/reconstruct masonry, replace control joints
- Extend gas vent piping from boilers to above the roof, replace boiler plant and four pumps
- Replace remaining pneumatic controls
- Reconstruct parapet and stone copings

### INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

- Provide an accessible path to bleachers and playground. Replace pavement up to school by concession building
- Replace obsolete fire alarm system, add hardwired carbon monoxide detection
- Repair stairs and railing at north doors
- Repair stairs and railing at both sets of doors on the southwest side of the building
- Repair stairs and railing on the west end of building by southwest parking lot
- Replace main switchboard and old branch panels through the facility. Increase service to support future HVAC upgrades

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Replace roof
- Upgrade existing security cameras
- Replace remaining 1971 vintage heating and ventilation components
- Reconstruct the Main Office so that visitors enter the Main Office, not the hallway

### HIGH SCHOOL

- Replace ventilation systems in the auditorium, cafeteria, and basement
- Replace gate valves with ball valves, replace piping in 600/800 wing
- Replace steam boilers with hot water boilers, remove heat exchangers and pumps
- Add chilled water plant to support unit ventilator chilled water coils
- Replace 1988 coil pumps and piping

### TRANSPORTATION

- Replace obsolete fire alarm system, add hardwired carbon monoxide detection
- Replace two underground bus lifts
- Kent St. Fuel Facility - Replace original panel boards and feeders, replace lighting, replace fire alarm and suppression system, replace fuel tanks, replace fuel pumps and replace fuel management system

### HYDE PARKWAY CAMPUS ATHLETIC FACILITIES

- Enhance accessibility, bleacher pads, new backstop, player fencing and benches, drainage corrections in the outfield and add artificial turf infield at baseball field
- Add multipurpose artificial turf field at current varsity soccer/lacrosse field location



*The intermediate school would receive electrical upgrades including the main electrical distribution panel.*



*1988 steam boilers at the high school would be replaced.*



*Bus lifts would be upgraded at the transportation facility.*

# FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT Q & A

## **Why a facility reconstruction project and why now? Is all this work needed/necessary?**

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. Key points of focus include improving safety and security, preserving and maintaining buildings and enhancing student access to the Hyde Parkway campus athletic facilities.

## **If the project is approved, what money would be used to pay for the project costs?**

No new Pal-Mac school taxes are required to fund the project. The estimated local share of the project cost is just over \$6 million, which would come from available fund balance and Capital Reserve funds. The remainder of the project cost would be funded by New York State Building Aid.

## **Why does the proposition read, “...so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax...” if no new Pal-Mac taxes are required to fund the proposed project?**

It is the legal language required by buyers of municipal bonds. NY State Building Aid for reconstruction projects is paid over the course of 15 years. The District would borrow the money upfront by selling bonds. NY State Building Aid reimbursements to the District (including interest) are anticipated to exceed the debt service payments, so no new taxes are required.

## **Will extracurricular/sporting events be affected?**

To the extent possible, disruption to these events will be kept to a minimum. As necessary, the Director of Athletics will work with other schools to arrange schedules to minimize impact on student programs. Practice schedules may be altered but construction will be phased to have the least amount of disruption for “in-season” events.

## **Isn't there a better way to spend this money?**

Now is the time to maximize the state aid provided the district, to lessen any impact on local taxpayers. Facility upgrades are urgently necessary, with the youngest school (the Middle School) nearing 50 years old and our oldest (Primary School) nearing 100 years old. In addition, the current Board of Education has maintained the priority of past boards to save funds for facility improvements in advance so that the project can be 100 percent funded without increasing taxes. This project and the timeline is able to meet this goal.

## **Who decided what work to do?**

Having reviewed findings from the District's Building Condition Survey, the Facility Improvement Committees, made up of community members, parents, and school representatives, identified and prioritized recommendations to the Board of Education. Having consulted with the school district's leadership team and architects, the Board of Education reviewed potential project needs and costs. From this they approved a final scope of work with a project cost placed on a referendum for voters on Thursday, December 16, 2021, from 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Pal-Mac High School.

## **Why did we not propose more work?**

For the past several months, the Board of Education deliberated on project scope and the parameters for a recommended facility improvement project. The Board ultimately established a benchmark to complete as much work as possible related to health and safety, building infrastructure, and student access to support continued learning in our school buildings that would result in zero impact to local taxpayers in the form of a tax increase.



**Where can I see the architectural drawings for the projects?**

They do not yet exist. Voter approval is required before the architects can be authorized to begin designing and creating construction documents.

**How does the Capital Project proposition affect the school budget?**

Simply put, it doesn't. If the proposition is passed, the work will be done and it will have no net impact on the regular school budget. New York State provides separate funding streams for construction projects versus the regular annual school budget, and requires that they be accounted for separately.

**Why do we have to vote on the Capital Project if it will not impact the tax levy?**

New York State law requires voter approval for these school construction projects.

**Why does the project proposal include installation of artificial turf on the varsity baseball infield and the varsity soccer/lacrosse field?**

The addition of artificial turf in these locations is intended to increase access to outdoor spaces for physical education classes and athletic teams, particularly in the late fall and early spring. Artificial turf fields don't freeze solid the way natural turf fields do, and artificial turf fields can withstand far more uses per season - even immediately after snow or heavy rain. For example, the spring sports season begins in mid-March. Currently, spring athletic teams typically spend their first few weeks of practice either indoors or on asphalt parking lots, and they may have their first contest before ever having practiced on an actual game field. Additional artificial turf is expected to increase access, decrease ongoing maintenance requirements, and decrease the number of practices and contests that are canceled, delayed, or relocated to opposing teams' fields.

**NO NEW SCHOOL  
TAXES REQUIRED**



Conceptual drawing indicating locations of proposed multipurpose artificial turf field and artificial turf baseball infield. Actual project design would take place only if the project proposal is approved by the voters.

## 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**

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# PAL-MAC MAGAZINE

## PAL-MAC MAGAZINE

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# CAPITAL PROJECT VOTE

**Thursday, December 16, 2021**

7 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Palmyra-Macedon High School

151 Hyde Parkway, Palmyra

### Voter Qualifications

- A citizen of the United States
- At least 18 years of age
- A resident within the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District for a period of at least 30 days prior to the vote

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  
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