



# PAL-MAC

# PULSE

WINTER 2022

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- PAL-MAC ATHLETES MAKE HISTORY
- MESSAGE ON THE FUTURE OF PAL-MAC
- GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY



# PAL-MAC PULSE

## **Pal-Mac Pulse**

Winter 2022 Volume 25

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Superintendent of Schools

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Times of Wayne County

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@palmac\_csd  
@Pal-Mac TV  
#PalMacProud





## Seasons Greetings to our Pal-Mac Neighbors!

When you receive this edition of the Pal-Mac Pulse our students will have officially started the break from their studies. They are closing a chapter on the fall term, a welcomed “return to normal” following the pandemic. In recent months, students have engaged in numerous learning activities. Whether learning how to read or enrolled in a college-level composition class, students have been able to gain a great deal from the amazing staff members at Pal-Mac whose primary goal is to provide the support necessary for students to make gains that will prepare them for what lies ahead.

Providing these opportunities is what drives Pal-Mac to be on the leading edge of PreK-12 education in our region. To maintain this presence, you are likely aware that Pal-Mac has undertaken a substantial endeavor to review all of the prior years’ efforts and establish new benchmarks for actions for the District’s future. Keeping in mind that the current 6th graders will graduate in 2029, and the incoming kindergarteners will graduate in 2035, our work now has a lasting impact into the foreseeable future. This work is critical for the future of Pal-Mac’s children and the entire community.

In August/September 2022, over 600 members of the Pal-Mac community contributed to or commented on over

18,000 thoughts about the District. From this ThoughtExchange, approximately 60 people representative of staff, the Board, and the community met to review the prevalent thoughts and offer detailed feedback on future planning. From this work, the District’s mission, vision, and core values will emerge as well as a detailed action plan taking us to the 2025-26 school year. Be on the lookout for Board meeting agendas, monthly electronic news items on the District’s website, and future editions of the Pal-Mac Pulse to learn more about the final plans that will foster Pal-Mac’s educational programming well into the future.

As Pal-Mac students pause for the holiday break, may each family find time for rest in order to rejuvenate for the exciting new year upon us.

**WISHING YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



**BOB IKE**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



**LAURA ARRINGTON**  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PRESIDENT



## Process For Weather-Related School Closures

Monitor 13WHAM TV, Spectrum News, WROC TV 8, WHAM AM 1180, WVOR FM 100.5, WHEC TV 10, WACK AM 1420, WARM FM 101.3, ParentSquare and the district website for closure-related information

With the winter season underway, now is a great time to remind the Palmyra-Macedon community about the process for school closures due to inclement weather.

An early dismissal or school closure will apply to in-person and remote learners.

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 our messaging system, ParentSquare. Contact information can be updated here: [palmaccsd.org/contactupdate](http://palmaccsd.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

The decision to close school will be made based on the following factors:

- \* **ROAD CONDITION 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**

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 judgement to decide if your student should attend school.

## DATES TO REMEMBER (NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS)

FRI. 12/23 – TUES. 1/03/23 .....	Winter Break
MON. 1/16 .....	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
MON. 2/20 – FRI. 2/24.....	February Break
FRI. 3/17.....	Professional Development Day
MON. 4/3 – FRI 4/7.....	Spring Break
THURS. 6/15 .....	Graduation (Subject to change)
THURS. 6/22.....	Last Day for Students



# HALLOWEEN AT PAL-MAC!



## CARDBOARD REGATTA MAKES BIG SPLASH IN BIG RETURN

The Great Cardboard Boat Regatta returned to the Pal-Mac pool. Three teams of students built their own cardboard boats and battled it out to see who could stay together the longest.



Scan the QR code to see a video recap!



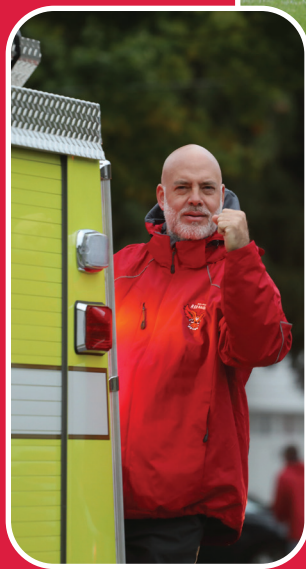


# HOMECOMING FULL OF FIREWORKS



Got spirit? Pal-Mac sure did! October 3- 8 was Pal-Mac's 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 to the Pal-Mac community for your support during this special week. Together, we are #PalMacProud.







## RAKING FOR A REASON

Roughly 100 Pal-Mac student athletes spent their Saturday morning cleaning up the community on Oct.24.

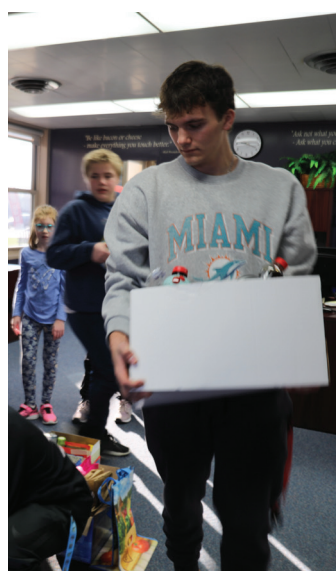
Students took to the streets of Palmyra and Macedon to rake leaves for community members as part of the annual "Rake for Their Sake" Community Service Project.

That's what being a Red Raider is all about!

## FILL-A-BUS BRINGS IN RECORD DONATIONS

A Pal-Mac tradition brought in a record amount of goods for people in need. During the month of November, donations of food, toiletries and paper products were collected at schools throughout the district as part of the Fill A Bus Food Drive. This year's haul brought in 2732 items, the most ever for a drive. On November 22, the donations were 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. Many families throughout the local community will benefit from the drive.







## DONATION DRIVE

Students in Mr. Scheik's High School class ran a school supply donation drive through the beginning of November. Items collected include pencils/pens, paper, markers, staples, among other supplies. The students will donate the supplies to some schools in the Rochester City School District.

Mr. Scheik said the drive was 100% student-led.

## COMMUNITY OF CARING

A group of Pal-Mac Middle School teachers and leaders traded in classrooms and smartboards for shovels and brooms on Friday, Oct. 7 as part of the Community of Caring Connection Event.

The set up was simple: Staff created their own teams and identified an act of kindness to carry out in the communities of Palmyra or Macedon. Just who, and what those community members received, was up to the teams.

Teams brought treats to first responders, did yard work at the Palmyra Community Center, and even played music for community members, among other acts.





# PAL-MAC CELEBRATES VETERANS DAY

Our nation's heroes were the focus of a series of ceremonies at Pal-Mac through the week of Nov.11. Students, faculty and staff in the District recognized local veterans by sharing cards of appreciation, singing songs, or simply saying thank you.





## NEW SELECT CHOIR DIRECTOR LENDS HIS VOICE, ADVICE AS HE ADJUSTS TO ROLE

By now, the booming voices of the Pal-Mac High School Select Choir should be a familiar sound. But now, there is someone different leading the way.

The program's newest Choral Director, Adam Chandler, officially took over when Pal-Mac started its Spirit Week on Oct.3. He was hired back in August to fill the position left by former Director Kayla Osika, who left for another opportunity.

Chandler first directed the group during the singing of the National Anthem at the High School's Pep Rally, just four days after he started.

"It's been overwhelming, and not necessarily in a bad way," Chandler said. "It's just a lot of new things at one time."

Chandler comes to Pal-Mac with about seven years of teaching experience. His most recent stint was with the nearby Victor Central School District, where he taught choir at the Elementary School level. Before then, he spent several years teaching at the Middle and High School levels at the Vernon Verona Sherrill Central School District, his hometown. He was also the advisor for the VVS High School Drama Club, and the director for the VVS High School Musical.

He says he made the switch back to teaching High School because that's where his true passion lies. High School, after all, is where Chandler first really started singing in a choir, though his love for music goes back even further than that.

He sang in church choirs and was part of a regional community chorus. Chandler then turned his passion for singing into a passion for teaching. He graduated from The Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education.

At his core, Chandler says he loves the



bonding aspect of a chorus over a more solo style of performance.

"There's a big group of people who love to do the same thing," Chandler said. "That drew me and almost more than the music did."

Within just a few months at Pal-Mac Chandler's already made his mark. He's re-decorated the choir room with positive messaging on posters plastered throughout the room. He's also introduced some new team building games.

"[The students] have to know a little bit about each other to feel safe being so vulnerable and sharing something that is so deeply personal in front of other people," Chandler said. "Especially for the people that they just kind of know and are necessarily friends with, you know that puts you in a vulnerable position to be putting yourself out there as a high schooler."

Vulnerability is something Chandler says is helping him connect with the students, because he's felt vulnerable, too, especially

with switching schools.

He says he's made it a point to be an "open book" with his students, meaning he's not afraid to share his thoughts and feelings, but also being open to hearing how the group is feeling.

Chandler is also keeping an open book when it comes to helping shape the future of the High School's music program. He says the students, along with Band Director Deb Davis, have been key players in helping him catch up on the program's traditions, but also plan for new ideas.

"[They've been] Instrumental, if you will," Chandler said with a smile.

Check out a video feature on Chandler by scanning the QR code below





## ISN'T IT JUST PEACHY?

Pal-Mac Middle School students presented the musical "James and the Giant Peach." The musical is a family-friendly take on the classic Roald Dahl book.



Pal-Mac High School students put on a one-of-a-kind adaption of "The One Act Play that Goes Wrong," which featured laughs, mystery, and a set that fell apart (intentionally)!





# ATHLETIC NEWS

FALL 2022

## GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER

FINGER LAKES LEAGUE CHAMPIONS  
FINGER LAKES CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT CHAMPS  
SECTION V CLASS B1 CHAMPIONS  
FINGER LAKES EAST PLAYER OF THE YEAR: MAYA IKEWOOD

## COLLEGE SIGNINGS



**Robert Kinslow**  
(Lacrosse-Hobart College)  
**Noah Brooks**  
(Baseball- Siena College)



**Avery Fedor**  
(Swimming-Roberts Wesleyan University)



## GIRLS SWIMMING

SECTIONAL INDIVIDUAL WINNERS:  
ANGELINA TRAPP: 200 FREESTYLE AND 500 FREESTYLE  
ELIZABETH SHARE: 100 BUTTERFLY AND 100 BACKSTROKE  
400 FREESTYLE RELAY: JILLIAN ANTHONY, ELIZABETH SHARE, CHARLOTTE SANSON, ANGELINA TRAPP (NEW SCHOOL RECORD)

## BOYS GOLF

TYLER SANTELLI: SECTIONAL BERTH CLINCHED



**Chris Oaks**  
Section V Class C  
GIRLS Swimming  
Coach of the Year



**Mike Karns**  
Finger Lakes  
East Girls Soccer  
Coach of the Year





Two Pal-Mac Red Raider student athletes made history in the Fall, becoming the first two players to compete for two sports in the same season.

Seniors Mateo Sloan and Brett Rooks split time on the football field while also suiting up for the boys soccer, and golf teams respectively.

Sloan was the team's kicker and punter, while Rooks played several positions on all three phases of the game ranging from linebacker to fullback, as well as the team's long-snapper.

Both students didn't join the football team until this year. Sloan hadn't even played an organized game of football before this year.

"I kind of wanted to see that experience, you know?" Sloan said. "Just wanted to have fun with friends and all of that."

Rooks had tackle football experience, though he says he last played in a Pop Warner league.

"I figured I might as well do it my senior year," Rooks said.

Both Rooks and Sloan say they were encouraged by their friends, and even some coaches to join the football team.

"Basically everyone was all over me about it," Rooks said.

So why didn't they choose to take on the two-sport challenge sooner? Well, for starters, it wasn't even possible until recently.

Section V approved Dual-Participation for student-athletes in March 2020. The approval aligned with guidance from the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA), which a spokesperson says has allowed dual participants "for decades." The Finger Lakes High School Athletic Association, in which Pal-Mac competes, approved the move shortly after.

Pal-Mac adopted the policy in 2022, as Athletic Director Tom Schmandt said he first wanted to observe how the approach worked in other Districts before bringing it here.

The process is not as simple as telling coaches you're going to play for both teams. Per NYSPHSAA and Section V guidelines, a

student-athlete must meet the requirements for practice and game participation. Those requirements differ between a team sport like football or soccer and a more individually-focused sport like golf or swimming.

For team sports, players have to compete in at least six scheduled games, while individual athletes must compete in at least three games. Those scheduled games all must happen before the postseason.

For safety reasons, certain sports cannot be played at the same time.

Rooks and Sloan also met with Schmandt to get approval before moving forward.

"They are pioneers at Pal-Mac, at least in my tenure," Schmandt said. "It is difficult to do and both did it well."

On top of the state and local requirements, Schmandt said playing for two teams in one season is quite the time requirement for everyone involved.

"For me, it was easier to be a kicker just because I can go to football practice for like 30 minutes and kick a couple of times," Sloan said. "But if I had a football game I would miss [soccer] practice."

Rooks says he did not practice with the golf team in the Fall but did appear in most of their matches unless, of course, the match was on a Friday.

Athletics aside, Rooks and Sloan are both STUDENT-athletes, so on top of practices, they have to make sure they are hitting the books.

"I really didn't have many struggles with classroom stuff," Rooks said. "I'm usually a pretty smart kid, I get my homework done in class. So that didn't really affect me."

Sloan added he was able to stay focused in class, though the time spent practicing and playing did cut into his ability to work.

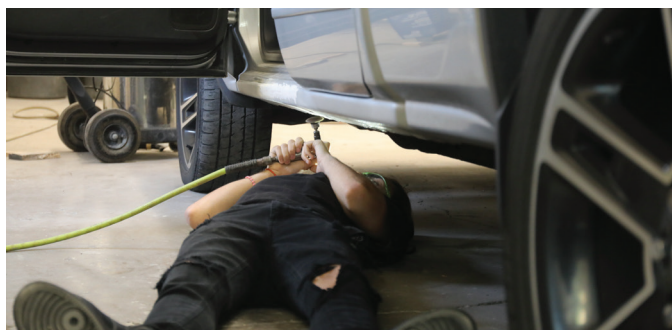
Regardless, Sloan and Rooks said they have no regrets.



# STUDENTS GET CAREER-READY AT WTCC

Some Pal-Mac students are taking part of the action at Wayne Technical and Career Center!

The center offers several programs that give our students a hands-on learning experience to get them career ready! Students in these pictures were working on electrical circuits, automobile repair, excavation simulators, and criminal justice.



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

Want to know the latest Pal-Mac news? If you use Social Media, you can find timely announcements, stories and events on all of our platforms. You can find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram at [@PalMac\\_CSD](#), or check out our YouTube Page, **Pal-Mac TV**. The District invites its followers to use the hashtag **#PalMacProud** when commenting and sharing posts. Links to all of our accounts are available on the District website, [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 Pulse, 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.



# AMAZING ALUMNI

Pal-Mac is full of amazing alumni, and we'd like to highlight them! The set up is simple: If you know a Pal-Mac alum who has done something amazing, fill out our Google Form! The form/ more info can be found by scanning the code below, or on the District homepage under the COMMUNICATIONS tab.



## CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

#PalMacProud • @PalMac\_CSD • palmaccsd.org • Pal-Mac TV



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

# PAPER

Did you know Pal-Mac offers a free online tutoring program for students in Grades 6-12?

Visit [Paper.co](https://paper.co) to learn more!

You can also contact Pal-Mac Superintendent for Instruction and Student Learning Brian Brooks at [brian.brooks@palmacsd.org](mailto:brian.brooks@palmacsd.org) with any questions.





## 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  
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