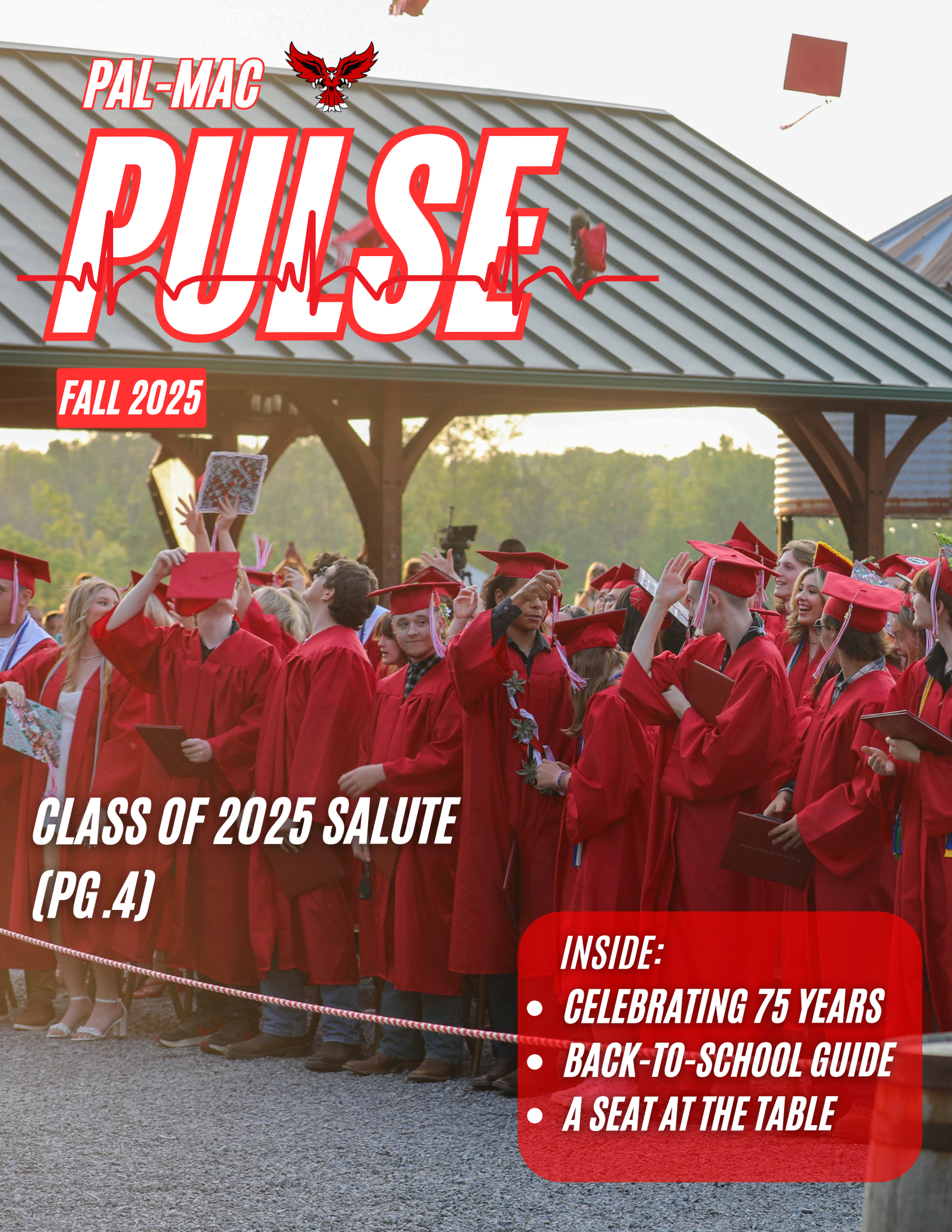
PAL-MAC

PULSE

FALL 2025



CLASS OF 2025 SALUTE (PG.4)

INSIDE:

- CELEBRATING 75 YEARS
- BACK-TO-SCHOOL GUIDE
- A SEAT AT THE TABLE

PAL-MAC PULSE

Pal-Mac Pulse Pal-Mac Magazine
Fall 2025 Volume 32

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

Board of Education
Laura Arrington, President
David Landon, Vice President
Amy Boesel
Chris Doyle ('89)
Susan Herendeen
Gary W. LaBerge ('61)
Sherry Lambert
Chad Lindstrom ('96)
Sarah Newman

Official Newspaper
Times of Wayne County

Writing and Design
Drew Hyman, in cooperation with the W-FL BOCES Centralized Communications Team

Credits
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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
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A LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Like many of you, I was deeply moved by the celebrations honoring Pal-Mac's 75th anniversary last year.

From welcoming back graduates and staff to connecting with new faces in our community, it was a powerful reminder of what makes this place so special.
At the heart of it all was one thing: **Our community.**

Community is about connection, whether through shared values, history, or simply the place we call home. While some of those may differ, one thing unites us: **We are all Pal-Mac.**

And at Pal-Mac, one of our core values is the power of positive relationships. This means providing open and honest communication, as well as respecting each other's opinions and needs, all while providing encouragement and support.

As we begin our 76th year, I encourage us all to carry that same spirit forward. Let's continue showing up for one another, just as we did during the 75th.

We're proud of the work we do to help our students learn, grow, and contribute. And we're even prouder to do it alongside each of you.

With appreciation,

Laura Arrington
Board of Education President



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WANT TO SEE MORE CONTENT? CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!



GRADUATION




















SENIOR WALK







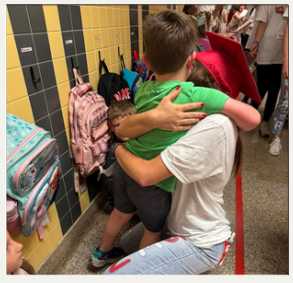
WE ARE VERY PROUD!!




MOM




Gymnasium
Health Office
Library
Main Office
FLOOR
1



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

The stories didn't just echo through the halls at Pal-Mac, they sang.

On Wednesday, June 4 the District marked its 75th anniversary with a day that was equal parts celebration and a reunion of hearts and history.

The morning began with a retiree luncheon, with more than 40 former faculty and staff in attendance, including former Superintendent Jim Tobin, who led the district until his retirement in 2005.

They gathered in the High School Lower Cafeteria, not for a staff meeting or a professional development day, but for laughter, shared memories, and lunch courtesy of the District's Food Services team.

High School Math Teacher and Administrative Intern Chris Oaks ('02) offered opening remarks before Superintendent Dr. Bob Ike addressed the group.

Attendees tested their knowledge with a trivia quiz pulled from the history-laden wall decorations and shared favorite stories from their time in the district.

School Board members including President Laura Arrington, Vice President Dave Landon, Chad Lindstrom ('96), Sarah Newman, Amy Boesel, and Gary LaBerge ('61) were also in attendance.

Before the luncheon, the guests were greeted in the Performing Arts Center (PAC) lobby with a living museum of sorts. Yearbooks. Photo albums. Old tech. A Pal-Mac flag, and much more were on display.

District Archivist Christina Serafin and several community members provided the artifacts for the display, which allowed everyone to take a trip down memory lane.

Retirees could also view a timeline of the District's history.

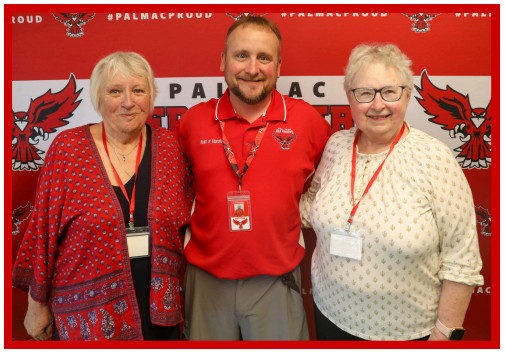
One former teacher said she'd spent "my whole life" in the building.

"It's so wonderful to hear all of you talking to each other and feel the energy in the room," said Superintendent Dr. Bob Ike. "Seventy-five years is a long time to honor as a school. Think about the hundreds of students who have walked through the halls and classrooms."

The evening's culminating event was the High School Select Choir's Senior Night performance–















which doubled as an emotional tribute to the 75th anniversary. Under the direction of Ms. Katie Fisher, both the Select and High School Choirs performed an eclectic set ranging from 90s pop hits to classical selections.

But it was the final two songs that bridged past, present and future.

Stepping back onto the Pal-Mac stage was Mrs. Ann Gatta Beaucage, the founder of the Select Choir and a former music teacher who retired in 2004 after more than 40 years of service. Beaucage traveled from Utah with her husband Dave, also a long-time Pal-Mac teacher, to conduct the final two pieces of the night.

"I think Pal-Mac is unusually excellent," she said. "I meant to come here for three or four years and planned to move on, but I didn't because of the students, the community, and the administration."

The McFarlane family brought even more legacy to the stage, with four family members performing: Cim ('88), Jacob ('21), Emily ('23), and current student Nella.

"It's so wonderful to hear all of you talking to each other and feel the energy in the room," Dr. Ike said.





"75 years is a long time to honor each year as a school. Think about the hundreds of students who have walked through the halls and classrooms!"

As mentioned, the evening also recognized the graduating seniors of the Select Choir: Morgan Adamson, Teagan Bross, Anakin Cathey, Isabelle Cole, Phoebe Cole, Ryan Fink, Ava Ribstein, Jenna Steines, Madeleine Sullivan, Sadie Thompson, Sabastian Villatoro, Logan Vogl, and Jairdan Whitney.

The day may have been about celebrating a milestone, but real meaning could be found in the faces of those who returned, in the smiles exchanged over sandwiches and salads, in the voices that joined together in song, and in the moments when history and present day stood in harmony.

For 75 years, Pal-Mac has been more than a school district. It's been a community, a family, a chorus.

And on this day, everyone came home to sing.

RELIVE ALL OF THE MOMENTS











THE ARTS



THEATRE

Both our Middle and High School Drama Clubs put on FANTASTIC shows in the spring. First, the middle school presented its spin on the classic book "Charlotte's Web."

Next, the high school capped off their year with "Black Comedy."

The shows featured 2 casts, with each cast showcasing their talents twice (and for some, 4 times!)











VISUAL ART

Our talented student artists had their works on display in several art shows throughout the spring!

More than 100 high school and middle school artists had their work featured in the annual Wayne County Arts Show.

Not to be outdone, our intermediate and primary school students also shared their great work. PMP hosted an arts night for families, while PMI proudly featured student art in its yearbook design!

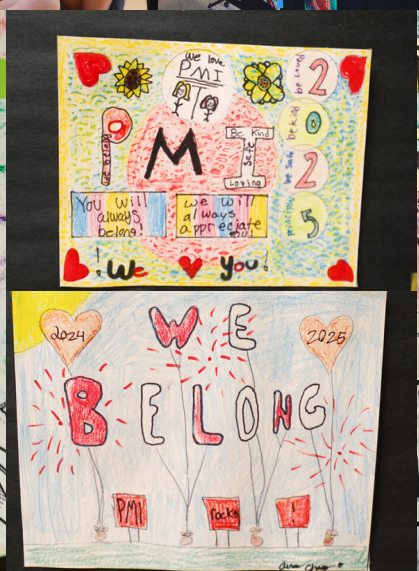
Mr.Mahnke's high school ceramics classes also displayed some work in a unique way: Making soup bowls for teachers to purchase!













MUSIC

The spring was a BIG time for our music program! The middle schoolers returned to the Lilac Festival stage in May for an afternoon full of hits! They later joined their high school buddies in bringing back a Pal-Mac tradition "Concert on the Green." The concert was performed in the High School Bus Loop.

The Middle School Choir also added a jam-packed concert to wrap up its year.

Our 4th Grade Band and Choir then put on a phenomenal show to close out our regular concert season!!
Both ensembles performed an arrangement of songs ranging from childhood classics to food-themed tunes!

Congrats to all of our student musicians, and our fantastic directors on another successful year!

















AWARD SEASON

Our programs took home several awards in the spring for their efforts!

The Middle School Con Brio, Jazz Band, and Honors Band all participated in the Six Flags Darien Lake Music Festival and received outstanding scores from the judges.

The High School Theater Program brought in over a dozen awards for its performance of "Mamma Mia!" Performers and crew members were recognized at the annual Elenbe Awards and the Rochester Broadway Theatre League (RBTL) Stars of Tomorrow!

Additionally, several student artists took home awards at the annual Wayne County Arts Show.







SPORTS ZONE



NY STATE FIRST PLACE, HIGH GUN NOVICE (TRAP)

AIDEN FREIDA



NATIONAL RECOGNITION

US LACROSSE 1ST TEAM ACADEMIC ALL AMERICAN
LILY BOESEL

US LACROSSE BOB SCOTT AWARD WINNER: LUKE VANGORDEN



OUTSTANDING RED RAIDER AWARD

TARYN GOODNESS
THOMAS PREMYSLOVSKY



COACH OF THE YEAR

E.J BURSE (GIRLS LACROSSE)
COLESTON SCHEIK (BASEBALL)



SECTION V SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

BASEBALL

GIRLS LACROSSE

SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAMS

SOFTBALL: 95.32
GIRLS LACROSSE: 94.45
BOYS TRACK & FIELD: 93.75
BOYS TENNIS: 93.34
BOYS LACROSSE: 92.52
GIRLS TRACK & FIELD: 92.49
BASEBALL: 91.23

PAL-MAC REPRESENTS AT THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS









FULL LIST OF INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM AWARDS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR ATHLETICS PAGE



School Breaks & Holidays

Early dismissal days are not included

FRI. 10/10 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY (NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS)
MON. 10/13 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY COLUMBUS DAY, OBSERVED
TUES. 11/11 VETERANS DAY (OBSERVED)
WED. 11/26 - FRI. 11/28 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
MON. 12/22 - FRI. 1/2/2026 WINTER BREAK
MON. 1/19 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY
WED. 1/29 LUNAR NEW YEAR, NYS HOLIDAY
MON. 2/16 - FRI. 2/20 FEBRUARY RECESS
FRI. 3/13 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY (NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS)
MON. 3/30 - FRI. 4/3 SPRING BREAK
FRI, 5/22- MON. 5/25 MEMORIAL DAY, OBSERVED
FRI., 6/19: JUNETEENTH

End of the Year Events

THURS., JUNE 4: DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS (DFS) RECOGNITION CEREMONY

THURS., JUNE 11: GRADUATION (@ LINCOLN HILL FARMS, CANANDAIGUA)

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Pardon our dust! Pal-Mac underwent several improvements while you were away this summer!

First, our Middle School Main Office was renovated so that visitors enter the Main Office, not the hallway. Crews also replaced at the roof at the school.

The boilers at the Primary School were also removed and replaced with a brand new set!

All of these projects were a part of the Facility Improvement Project of 2021, which was approved by voters at the end of 2021.









The Palmyra-Macedon Central School District supports a distraction-free learning environment.

As such, beginning with the first day of school, the District will officially implement a cell-phone and personal electronic device (PED)- free policy.

This rule is in effect from the first bell to the final bell, including during lunch, passing time, bathroom breaks, field trips, and any time on school property during the day.

This policy will assist the District in its efforts to provide an environment where students learn, grow, and succeed.

Studies show being constantly connected to a phone makes a student more stressed. Not having phones buzzing will allow us to finally pause and not have to worry about being online 24/7.

Everyone wants to feel seen and heard. When we're constantly looking at our screens, it can make others feel invisible. Let's give each other our attention. We all deserve that.

The District emphasizes the importance of parents discussing the new rule with their children and encouraging them to embrace it as a positive step toward their academic and personal growth.

Remember, **we are all in this together.**

More resources can be found on the District Safety page under the "Distraction-Free Learning" tab.

DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS SETS ANOTHER RECORD FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



CHAPTER REMAINS AMONG THE MOST SUCCESSFUL IN NEW YORK STATE AS IT CROSSES $200K MARK FOR THE FIRST TIME

The Palmyra-Macedon Dollars for Scholars (DFS) Chapter recently set another record as it gave out more than $247,000 in scholarships to the Class of 2025. The Chapter held its annual awards ceremony in the Pal-Mac High School Gym on Thursday, June 5.

The total came to $247,100 across several scholarships, which were given to 88 students. The total includes $222,300 in scholarships directly from the Chapter.

This was the first time in Chapter history it reached the $200,000 mark. Since it was founded in 1988, the Chapter has awarded more than $3 million in scholarships, which makes it among the most successful in New York State.











MORE PICTURES/INFO



A Seat at the Table: Board of Education adds new student Board members

wo Palmyra-Macedon students are now seated at the table with District decision-makers as the first-ever student representatives on the Pal-Mac Board of Education.

Lily Cooley and Dane Hartwell began their one-year, non-voting terms in July, following their official appointment at the Board's organizational meeting. Their selection comes as school districts across New York begin to implement a new state law requiring every public school board to include at least one student member.

As student BOE members, they will sit with Board members at public meetings, present regular reports, and participate in workshops and special meetings when invited. While they do not vote or attend executive sessions, their role is to represent and reflect the views of the broader student body.

"We're so excited to welcome Lily and Dane to the Board of Education," said BOE President Laura Arrington. "Their perspectives and voices as students are incredibly valuable, and we look forward to learning from them. Having their insight at the table will help ensure that student experiences remain at the heart of our decisions."

Cooley, a member of the Class of 2027, is active in Model UN, Peer-to-Peer, lacrosse, tennis, and helps plan activities for her class. She said she's eager to serve as a liaison between students and the Board, ensuring student feedback informs schoolwide decisions.



"One of my goals is to make a bigger impact while I am in high school by making school experiences positive for all students."

-Lilly Cooley

"I will bring a unique perspective that represents the student body effectively," Cooley said. "One of my goals is to make a bigger impact while I am in high school by making school experiences positive for all students. I'm working on surveys that give students a chance to share their feedback on school decisions so they feel heard."

Hartwell, a junior, participates in both symphonic and jazz band, serves as Class Treasurer, plays on the tennis team, and is involved in Model UN. He said he's committed to helping students feel heard and supported.

"I am excited for the opportunity to work collaboratively with the Board," Hartwell said. "And I am committed to helping create an even better educational environment for every student at Pal-Mac."

The path to appointment involved a comprehensive selection process. Interested students in grades 9 through 11 had to complete a written application, which included essay responses about leadership, communication and their vision for student advocacy.

Applicants also submitted two letters of recommendation , one from a Pal-Mac staff member and one from a non-relative adult.

Finalists were reviewed by a committee consisting of the high school assistant principal, a school counselor, and a student club advisor, who then made formal recommendations to the Board of Education.

Cooley and Hartwell were introduced to the Board at its June meeting and officially began their terms in July after taking an oath of office.

" When I use my experiences alongside the voices of other students, I can help make our school and community more positive," Cooley said. "This opportunity is helping me grow into a stronger leader."

Their terms will continue through the end of the school year, with the option to reapply for up to two additional terms if no other applicants step forward.

FUTURE READY

At Pal-Mac, we strive for our students to be positive contributors who have the skills necessary to be citizens, participate in the economy, and make a difference in the world around them. This includes providing opportunities to pursue future-ready programs.



FIRST-EVER SEAL OF BILITERACY RECIPIENTS

Seniors Elise Tome and Jayden Vinke became the first students in Palmyra-Macedon High School history to earn the New York State Seal of Biliteracy, a prestigious recognition of advanced language proficiency.

The Seal is awarded to high school seniors who demonstrate a high level of skill in English and at least one other language. It appears as a seal on their diploma and is recognized by colleges and employers as a mark of distinction.

Students interested in pursuing the seal can email Erin McIntyre anytime at erin.mcintyre@palmaccsd.org It's preferred a student reaches out in the fall of their junior year. There is no cost to pursue the seal.



SENIOR SIGNS COMMITMENT TO WORKFORCE

Senior Peter Mastowski (right) joined several Career and Tech students in signing a commitment to enter the local workforce!

Peter signed a letter of intent to join the team at House Worx Custom Carpentry & Cabinet Installation during the second-annual Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES CTE Signing Day.

Peter was a part of the Diesel Tech program at the Wayne Technical and Career Center!



FUTURE IN EDUCATION CLUB TAKES SPECIAL TRIP

High School students in the Future in Education Club recently took a trip to the Rochester Museum & Science Center (RMSC), but they weren't alone!

Students from their host sites had a chance to come along and explore the museum together!

Club members spent several months organizing the visit. The goal was to practice experiential learning, which builds background knowledge and helps the students become more well-rounded. It was also a chance to have some fun!

2025 STUDENTS OF THE YEAR



Xander Wood (Primary School)



Cecelia Lofgren (Intermediate School)



Aubrey Young (Middle School)



Morgan Adamson (High School)

GIVING BACK

Pal-Mac students expressed the value of kindness throughout the spring semester!

(1) We start at the Primary School, where Lucy brought in four-leaf clovers for each of her classmates as a way to express how lucky she was to be their friends! But she didn't stop there, she also hand wrote each student a small note of appreciation.

(2) Students at PMP and the Intermediate School marked Autism Acceptance Month in a colorful and meaningful way! Students used creativity, compassion, and connection to build on our culture of understanding and acceptance.

(3) An Intermediate School also classroom made a connection with classrooms several states and time zones away!
Ms. Wootton's 5th graders took part in a project known as "The Great Mail Race," which involved writing and receiving letters from other school districts!
The effort started with a letter from a school in Hawaii, and has since grown to several other schools!

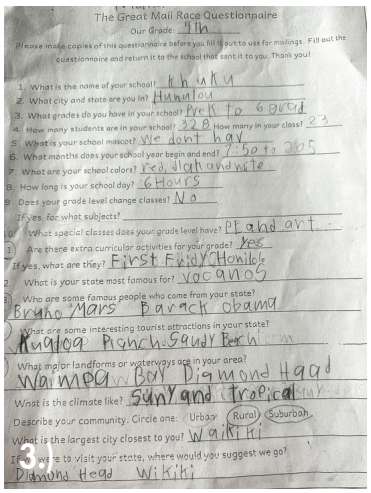
(4) Middle School students Addie, Brogan, and Sarah created and dropped off 250 hygiene kits that included everything from shampoo and bar soap to toothbrushes and toothpaste.
The kits were created as part of a hygiene product drive the students launched in March.
The kits will go into the weekend wellness bags at all four schools and the extras were split between the MS nurse, MS clothing boutique run by Mary Brooks, and the District's Caring Cupboard!


1.)

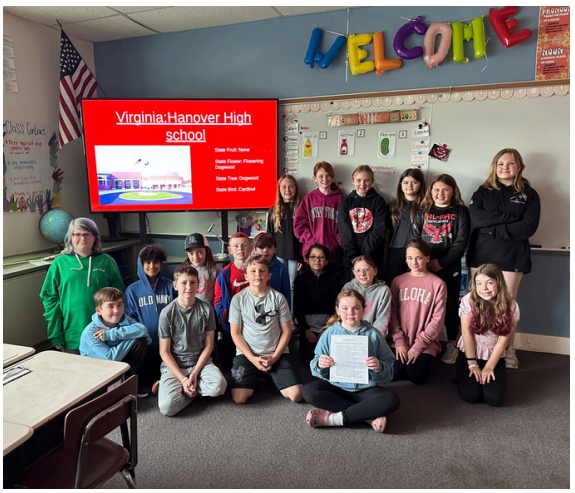



2.)





3.)




4.)





Pal-Mac ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Jim McGinnis ('70)

1970 Pal-Mac graduate Jim McGinnis is well-known in the community. So if you know him, please enjoy this story. If you don't know him yet, it's about time you did.

McGinnis has been a staple at the Palmyra Community Center (PCC) for the better part of five decades. His name is even etched into one of the gym floors. He's consistently provided a friendly face for the students and community members who pass through the doors daily. It might actually be quicker to list what he doesn't do at the center.

He focuses primarily on youth programs, coordinating everything from basketball leagues and after-school activities to summer camps.

"I just enjoy it," McGinnis said. "It's pretty cool to have a job that you really enjoy, and that you're getting paid for."

A Palmyra native, McGinnis usually starts his workday at 1 p.m. and doesn't leave until close to 10 at night. He typically oversees 50 to 90 students a day through the after-school program, which includes structured activities and snacks.

That's on top of assisting with adult programming and managing the center's busy basketball leagues.

"In the months of October through March, I'm here about seven days a week," he said.

In the months of October through March, I'm here about seven days a week," he said.

It's been like that since he first entered the center as a student himself, back when it was located on Main Street. When he wasn't playing sports at Pal-Mac, he was at the PCC, staying active and staying connected.

"I just enjoyed Pal-Mac. I thought they did a great job," he said. "I enjoyed my teachers. I enjoyed my friends."

After high school, McGinnis began working at Garlock in Palmyra during the day and at the PCC in the evenings. Eventually, he made the center his full-time job, and never looked back.

Over the years, McGinnis earned a few nicknames, including "Jimbo" and "PCC Jim," the latter of which is even printed on his license plates. His presence is so well known that it's not unusual for someone to recognize him at Byrne Dairy or while out running errands."What he finds especially meaningful are the relationships that have endured over time.

"Oh yeah, kids have come back to help coach," he said. "The kids that are coming now, their parents came to the center."

Photos, trophies, and memorabilia line the walls of his office and the game room, telling the story of countless trips, programs, and seasons. There's even a pair of Nike shoes customized with "PCC Jim" stitched into the back.

He's also proud of the strong connection between the center, the school district, and the community. The PCC regularly partners with the district to host events and offer summer programming.

"It's a small community, but we got what a large community's got," McGinnis said. "And a lot of large communities don't even have it."

Through the decades, McGinnis has earned several honors- including the Palmyra-Macedon Rotary Club's Paul Harris Fellow Award and the 1997 Friend of Education Award. In 2012, he was named a Pal-Mac Graduate of Distinction, a recognition that still means a great deal to him.

"That was a real honor," he said.

But for someone who's poured so much into his community, the awards are just a small piece of the story. What really matters to him is setting an example for the next generation.

"The advice is, if you're going to work, you're going to go a long way," McGinnis said. "If your habit is working hard, good things will happen."

Want to see more stories like this?
Visit our web page!

— HAPPY — Retirement



Warren Bushart
Director of Food Services



Irene Grande
Food Services



Sandra Hermenet
Teacher Aide



Darlene Lombardo
Teacher



Laurie Ruston
Math Teacher



Candace Schneggenburger
Science Teacher



Dorothy Veit
Senior Clerk Typist

Thank You





A STAR-SPANGLED GIFT

On the eve of Flag Day, the District accepted a special donation: A new American flag. The James R Hickey Post in the Village of Palmyra donated the flag as part of the District's new flag pole, which was installed between the Primary School Main Entrance and the District Office.

Post representatives joined District leaders as well as student leaders from the Primary School during a special ceremony. The post's color guard presented the flag and then raised it up the new pole. The group of student leaders even recited a patriotic poem about the flag!



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

OUR SCHOOLS

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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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