

TO: Board of School Directors
FR: Lisa A. Brown, Superintendent
RE: May Board Report
DT: May 23, 2019

Apollo Awards – Our HS musical was recognized at the Apollo Awards, held on Sunday, May 19th, at the Hershey Theater. Briana Gingrich won the award for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Musical. The musical received nominations for Outstanding Musical and Outstanding Student Orchestra. Kayla Ortiz also received an Honorable Mention for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical. Kudos to our entire cast, pit, crew, and staff for their time and efforts! A special kudo goes to Jasmine Bucher for her dedication as the district’s musical director.

Concerts – May was filled with our MS and HS band, orchestra, and choral concerts. The concerts highlighted the talents of our students and the dedication of our music staff. We will get to see our band perform at the upcoming Memorial Day parade and at graduation.

Music Recognition – Eugene Lee has been recognized for participation in the All-East and National Orchestras. Eugene is the 1st Palmyra student to receive this recognition! Graham Rode was recognized for participation in the State Wind Ensemble.

CTC Recognition – The following Palmyra students were recognized at the CTC for Students-of-the-Quarter for the 3rd marking period:

Brianna Alberto (Health Careers Technology)
McKenzie Clark (Medical Assistant)
Lauryn Morrison (Medical Assistant)
Katlyn Nissley (Pastry Arts)

Excellence in Education – The Excellence in Education banquet will be held on Wednesday, May 29th. This event honors the top 5% of the graduating classes from each of the county’s high schools. Our students to be recognized include Amelia Baldo, Devin Gearhart, Ashley Green, Katie Hollen, Eugene Lee, Krystal Leung, Vivian Ly, Daniel O’Meara, Adaline Ramirez, Aaron Rinehart, Spencer Sattazahn, Nicole Shank, and Sarah Sheils.

IU STEM Awards – The IU held its 5th Annual STEM Awards Banquet on May 22nd. The district is honored to have both the IU Elementary STEM Teacher of the Year and the IU Secondary STEM Teacher of the Year be from Palmyra. Congratulations to Tyler Frantz and Jeff Remington for this honor! They each received \$500 to use to support their STEM instruction in their classrooms. In addition, the district receives \$2,000 in honor of each recognized teacher to use to support STEM instruction.

LCEHS Recognition – The annual Lebanon County Education Honor Society Banquet was held at the beginning of May. As this was Palmyra’s year to organize the banquet, the selection of the Educator of the Year also comes from Palmyra. Karen McCarthy was the deserving recipient of this recognition.

Athletic Recognition – Four of our teams earned Keystone Division Champion honors – Softball, Baseball, Boys Lacrosse, and Boys Track. Grant Haus and Ben Clary have been named PennLive’s Players of the Year for their respective sports (lacrosse and tennis). Ben won a silver medal in district level competition. Boys track members and Ben Clary will compete in state level competition beginning tomorrow. Grant Haus and Kyle Wasilewski have received All American recognition.

Safety Drills – Each of our buildings conducted a safety/intruder drill during the week of May 6th. Each year, we continue to refine our process, attempt to increase the authenticity of the experience, and place additional responsibilities on the part of our students and staff, and we continue to be pleased with the appropriate responses. A special thank you goes to our local police departments and community businesses/churches that assist with these drills.

TMI Drill – The district participated in the required TMI drill on May 7th. Although none of our district facilities are actually in the 10-mile emergency zone, the district does have students that reside within that zone. During the 2-hour drill, a member of PEMA is in the district observing how an actual TMI emergency would be handled.

Art Display – The Boardroom art display this month consists of work from our art teachers, Nate Carroll, Melissa Heilner, Alison Keener, and Phoebe Heath.

Envirothon (A report from Gina Mason) -

HS Envirothon –

On Thursday, April 25, 2019, six teams from Palmyra competed in the 35th Annual Lebanon County Envirothon competition at Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area. Palmyra competed against teams from Cedar Crest, Northern Lebanon, Lebanon High, ELCO, Lebanon Christian Academy, and Myerstown Enrichment Center High School (Homeschoolers). Palmyra captured the high score in each of the topics, Aquatics (Jake Klucinec and his team, the Tree Huggers), Forestry (Aaron Rinehart and his team, the Tree Musketeers), Soils (Sarah Sheils and her team, the Poplar Kids), Wildlife (Devin Gearhart and his team, the Tree Musketeers) and Current Issue – Sustainable Agriculture (a 5-way tie for first – Jamie Kantorczyk, Jacob Wagers & Mikey Adams, and Krystal Leung, and their teams).

Out of the 26 county teams that competed, Palmyra’s Tree Musketeers, consisting of Abby Rinehart, Aaron Rinehart, Eugene Lee, Devin Gearhart, and Jamie Kantorczyk, placed 1st. Palmyra’s Tree Huggers, Jake Klucinec, Abby Franchina, Mikey Adams, Molly Gearhart, and Jacob Wagers, placed 2nd. ELCO placed 3rd while Palmyra’s Poplar Kids (Krystal Leung, Vivian Ly, Sarah Sheils, Katie Hollen, and Lizzie Pease) and Henry Huggers (Liz Wenger, August Clements, Maddie Smith, Peter Frazier, and Sydney Lim) rounded out the top 5 places! Palmyra also captured 6th & 7th place as well. In addition, Devin Gearhart won a \$1000 Envirothon scholarship from the Lebanon County Conservation District.

Palmyra’s Envirothon participated in the Whitaker Center’s Inaugural Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 27. Palmyra Envirothon members shared their knowledge of our environment with our community.

On May 22, the Tree Musketeers team of Devin Gearhart, Eugene Lee, Jake Klucinec, Aaron Rinehart, and Jamie Kantorczyk became the State Envirothon Soils Champions for the 2nd year in a row and captured 9th place overall competing against 65 other county champion teams.

MS Envirothon –

On Friday, May 3rd, eight teams from Palmyra competed in the 21st Annual Lebanon County Envirothon competition at Coleman Memorial Park. Palmyra competed against teams from ELCO, Lebanon Christian Academy, Lebanon Middle School, and Northern Lebanon. Palmyra captured the high score in Aquatics – Alivia & her team, Forestry – Keaira & her team, and Current Issue – Emma and her team. Out of the 24 teams, Palmyra’s EndGame EcoStyle placed first (Michael Harris, Keaira Haney, Miy Moore, Lauren Frazier, Emma Sibbach, and Elena Kreitzer). Palmyra’s Oh My Goshawks placed third (Alivia Pitta, Katelyn Pavusek, Kaitlin Stroik, Megan Kreiser, Maggie Webb, and Julia Klucinec). Palmyra also captured 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th, 9th & 10th place overall.

ES Envirothon –

On May 9th eight teams from Palmyra (two from each elementary school) competed in the 26th Annual Lebanon County Envirothon competition at Coleman Park. Palmyra competed against teams from Annville, Lebanon, Northern Lebanon, Cedar Crest, and ELCO. Palmyra placed first in Wildlife (Lingle & Pine) and in Aquatics (Pine). Out of 23 teams, three of Palmyra’s teams tied for first (Lingle & Pine -2) and two at second (Lingle & Forge). There were only 7 blue ribbons awarded. Palmyra earned 6 of those 7 (both Lingle, Pine, & Forge teams).

Upcoming Events:

Others –

- *Baccalaureate – Sunday, June 2nd
- *Senior Awards Night – Wednesday, June 5th
- *Senior Class Trip to DC – Monday, June 3rd
- *Graduation – Thursday, June 6th
- *Last Day of School – Friday, June 7th