



*Dedication of
Forge Road Elementary School
and
Palmyra Area Middle School*

March 21, 2019



OUR MISSION

The Mission of the Palmyra Area School District

Palmyra Area School District, in partnership with parents and the community, is committed to providing a positive, safe learning environment in which all students are empowered to develop their unique potential to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens in a rapidly changing world.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Palmyra Area School District...

1. ... will always support core academic subjects (Reading, Writing, Math, Science, Social Studies) as district priorities.
2. ... will provide evidence-based interventions in the areas of literacy and math for targeted students at every grade level, realizing that a strong K-2 literacy foundation is imperative.
3. ... will adhere to all federal and state mandates.
4. ... will allocate resources to those non-core, academic, electives that meet the needs of the largest number of students, while maintaining a balance of offerings.
5. ... will create learning environments that better prepare students with 21st century skills (inquiry, research, collaboration, presentation, reflection, innovation) by:
 - a. integrating them across the students' Palmyra experience.
 - b. utilizing technology resources as tools for teaching and learning.
6. ... realize that to improve teaching and learning and meet our goals as a district, it is vital that we will maintain high-quality:
 - a. cohesive, strong leadership.
 - b. professional development related to our district vision.
 - c. rich work environments that foster respect, collaboration, & recognition.
7. ... recognize the need to:
 - a. examine other cost efficiency measures
 - b. rely on data to inform our decisions
 - c. research efficient, collaborative solutions with other educational entities, local programs, and area organizations before any student programs are cut.
8. ... will offer co-curricular activities for all students in an efficient and cost effective manner.
9. ... will create and maintain physical learning environments that are cost effective, with attention to the environmental impact.
10. ...will create safe learning environments for students and provide them with tools to be safe in school and in other life aspects.



Palmyra Area School District Administrative Personnel

Lisa A. Brown, Superintendent
Dr. Bernie Kepler, Assistant Superintendent
Darcy Brenner-Smith, Director of Business Affairs
Tawnjah White, Assistant Director of Business Affairs
Dr. Katherine Setlock, Director of Pupil Services
Carolyn Richards, Supervisor of Special Education
Noelle Brossman, Director of Human Resources
John Brougher, Director of Information Technology
Kim-Kathie Knudsen, Supervisor of Instructional Technology & Online Learning
Abbie Mahaffey, Reading/Language Arts Supervisor
Heath Dresch, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds
Kim Nixon, Assistant Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds
Brian Weidler, Athletic Director
Dr. Scott Richardson, High School Principal
Daryl Reisinger, High School Assistant Principal
Paul Steigerwald, High School Assistant Principal
Wally Popejoy, Middle School Principal
Kara Schoessler, Middle School Assistant Principal
Dr. Anne Hoover, Director of Elementary Education & Pine Street Elementary Principal
Rebecca Hoover, Lingle Avenue Elementary Principal
Nathan Rackley, Lingle Avenue Elementary Assistant Principal
James Hale, Forge Road Elementary Principal
Bret Applequist, Northside Elementary Principal

Palmyra Area School District School Board

Christopher Connell, President
Anthony Downey, Vice-President
Christine Fisher
Larry Geib
Beverly Hudson
James Kreiser
Gregory Krikorian
Michael Ludwig
Jeffrey Putt

Former Board Members Who Served During These Projects

William Bova
Ralph Duquette
Paul Fogle
Kurt Koennecke
Ellen Wargo

Renovations Contractor/Guaranteed Energy Savings Agreement

Reynolds Building Solutions/Reynolds Energy Services

Architect – SCHRADERGROUP architecture, LLC

Project Architect – Mark Hitchcock

General Contractor - Middle School Addition – eci Construction, LLC

Construction Management - Reynolds Construction, LLC

**Forge Road Elementary School
Dedication & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
March 21, 2019
6:00 PM**

**Welcome & Introduction of
Musical Performance:**

James Hale, Forge Road Elementary Principal

Star-Spangled Banner:
by Francis Scott Key

Briana Gingrich

Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Ava Wolfe

Welcome & Introduction of Guests:

Lisa A. Brown, Superintendent of Schools

Opening Remarks:

*Christopher Connell, School Board President
Darcy-Brenner Smith, Director of Business Affairs
Clarence Fox, Former Teacher at Forge Road (1957-61),
Former PASD Superintendent (1990-93)
James Hale, Forge Road Elementary Principal*

Student Essays:

Nathan McKelvie, Sydney Saterstad, Katie Shenk

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony:

Alejandra Weber, Jovie Weaver

Closing Remarks:

James Hale, Forge Road Elementary Principal

Fanfare Heroica:
by Brian Balmages

Band directed by Kathleen Reese

**6:30 – 7:15
Building Tours and Refreshments**

Palmyra Area Middle School
Dedication & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
March 21, 2019
7:00 PM

- Prelude:*** *Spotlight Strings directed by Andrew Kurtz
Canario by Gasper Sanz, Arranged by Robert Longfield*
- Star-Spangled Banner:*** *Cougar Noise directed by Alexis Farrell
by Francis Scott Key*
- Pledge of Allegiance:*** *Led by Logan Kepler, 7th Grade*
- Welcome & Introduction of Guests:*** *Lisa A. Brown, Superintendent of Schools*
- Opening Remarks:*** *Christopher Connell, School Board President
Darcy Brenner-Smith, Director of Business Affairs
Kara Schoessler, Middle School Assistant Principal*
- Student Essays:*** *Delaney Miller, 6th Grade
Emelia Kerr, 7th Grade
Madison Kearns, 8th Grade*
- Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony:*** *Students & School Officials*
- Closing Remarks:*** *Wally Popejoy, Middle School Principal*
- Alma Mater:*** *Jazz Band directed by Dean Howey*

7:30 – 8:15
Self-Guided Building Tours and Refreshments
Maps Available

Acknowledgments – Forge Road Elementary

Band Students

Flute: Helena Baker, Avery Cassel, Ella Clements, Katrina Drasher,
Mia Furfari

Clarinet: Zoe Corl, Ellie D’Puia, Kaley Edris, Sydney Saterstad, Adelyn Sivik,
Alejandra Weber

Saxophone: Cornelius Cummings

Trumpet: Gavin Bardsley, Ezra McKelvie, Evan Mosser

Horn: Anna Rashid

Trombone: Cooper Folkenroth, Sam Gladysz, Nathan McKelvie, Alexander Palmer,
Meghan Ross

Baritone: Douglas Kline

Percussion: Adam Boyer, Joshua Miller, Kate Shenk

Tour Guides

Ella Clements, Cornelius Cummings, Sara Garl, Claudia Hensil,
Olivia Huzvar, Vivian Jacoby, Hannah McInerney, Joshua Miller,
Meghan Ross, Addison Salus, Lukas Verdelli

Refreshments Provided by The Nutrition Group

Food Services Director – Maria Kreider

Acknowledgments – Palmyra Area Middle School

Cougar Noise

Abby Berarducci	Rachel Dilger	Kayleigh Harned	Madison Kearns	Samantha Miller	Addisan Sholly
Aebi Blake	Molly Finkin	Alexandria Heisey	Emily Kiefer	Tyler Moody	Doug Smiley
Aaron Braucher	Vanessa Flores	Bryan Hoffman	Kathryn Kyper	Lauren O'Brien	Emily Stahley
Weston Buchkovich	Briella Folkenroth	Shaylin Hoke	Brynn Leonard	Alivia Pitta	Zachary Swartz
Zachary Cutman	Jason Foutz	Megan Holl	Madalyn Leonard	Ryann Rossi	Ella Swartz
Emily Cutman	Megan Gallagher	Mallory Hudson	Karlee Marroncelli	Kaitlyn Schaeffer	William Weber
Max Davis	Ben Gingrich	Elizabeth Irwin	Brody Miller	Cameron Schaffer	Olivia Yeaney
Rachel Dewees	Jacob Gooden				

Jazz Band

Grayson Barger	Nick Dove	Keaira Haney	Ashley McCann	Michael Pallone	Kaitlin Stroik
Eli Bistline	Alyssa Dugan	Mallory Hudson	Brody Miller	Austin Rinehart	Jordan Swift
Luke Boyer	Heavyn Forney	Sarah Kober	Addison Miner	Cameron Schaffer	Dakota Thompson
Makayla Bucks	Megan Gallagher	Megan Kreiser	Tyler Moody	Addisan Sholly	Edward Valentine
Erik Cifuentes	Benjamin Gingrich	Bridget Krikorian	Kayle Neubert	Emma Sibbach	Maddi VanZant
Jon Cornett	Jacob Gooden	Benjamin Leach	Marissa Nicholson	Ayden Sivik	Brady Ward
Charlotte Cox	Lucy Grieco	Matthew Leach	Jazmyne Noland	Nicole Snyder	Maggie Webb
Max Davis	Madison Grinstead	Anastacia Mazur	Laura Nye	Alyssa Stroik	Jack Wolfe

Spotlight Strings

Grayson Barger	Madison Curry	Emily Kiefer	Li Lin	Elaina Potter	Emily Stahley
Alicia Battistelli	Amara Deibert	Navaeh Kieffer	Torry Lingle	Elise Potter	Kristen Thai
Luke Blouch	Kameryn Dengler	Olivia Kirkpatrick	Carmen McConaghy	Reva Sabat	Kaylee Thompson
Julia Bowers	Lauren Frazier	Rebecca Kober	Cy Melnyk	Austin Rinehart	Campbell Toler
Alaina Bryan	Molly Grant	Vanessa Kratzer	Claire Norris	Madeline Schoenbaum	Edward Valentine
Weston Buchkovich	Michael Harris	Morgan Lantz	Laura Nye	Braeden Sommer	Madeline Wadel
Ella Campisano	Abby Keiner	Cristian Lauga	Ella Pascale	Ana Soto	Brayden Zettlemoyer
Mackenzie Curry	Sarah Kennedy	Ricky Leung			

Student Council Ambassadors

Luke Boyer	Megan Kreiser	Lauren O'Brien
Ella Campisano	Katie Lintz	Doug Smiley
Rachel DeWees	Andrew Moss	Kaitlin Stroik
Megan Gallagher	Laura Nye	Jack Wolfe
Emily Kiefer		

Refreshments Provided by The Nutrition Group

Food Services Director – Maria Kreider

Forge Road Elementary History

Lawn Bell at Forge

The bell was cast in Philadelphia, and was brought to the area that became known as "Lawn Elementary" on a farm wagon around 125 years ago when the school was a one-room school house. Later the school grew to four rooms, and eventually became a seven room school that ended up being part of the Palmyra Area School District. After the closing of Lawn Elementary in 1981, the bell found a home at Forge Road Elementary. While at Forge, the bell has served as a symbol of local history and continues to be a source of pride for those that are nostalgic about the communities that make up our beloved school district. The bell has only been publicly rung three times in 40 years. Two of those occasions have been at the ceremonies for "Forge at Forty" and "Forge at 60".

Miss Seltzer's Bell at Forge

Miss Seltzer was a teacher that taught at an elementary school on Railroad Street in Palmyra. She was known for ringing a bell to give attention cues to her pupils. One tap of the bell meant that students should rise, two taps of the bell meant that students needed to pass their papers along, and many rings from the bell meant that she needed the students' immediate attention. When Forge was built in 1958, Miss Seltzer, along with other teachers, joined the Forge Road Elementary faculty. Her bell followed her to this building, and continued to be part of her daily teaching routine until the day she retired. Once retired, the new teacher that joined the faculty decided that most of Miss Seltzer's items were not needed. So she decided to take many trips from her classroom to the trash area. One of the items that was placed in the waste can was Miss Seltzer's bell. One evening as the students were leaving, and before the trash was discarded, one of Miss Seltzer's former students that made the trip with her to Forge from Railroad Street noticed that the bell was about to be thrown out. The student couldn't bear to see the bell thrown away because of all the memories that it represented for her. So, she rescued it and decided to place the bell in her book bag to take home. Thirty years later, the student returned Miss Seltzer's bell to Forge Road Elementary. Today, you can see the bell on display outside of the office area. It serves as a great memory for the building while paying respect to the traditions that make up our school. However, even more so, it is a great daily reminder for educators that we make lasting impressions on our students.

Forge Road Elementary in the Beginning

On October 19, 1958 each teacher at the Railroad Building who had half day sessions, took the pupils with their books, workbooks, and belongings on a walking trip to Forge, a building that would serve as their new school. On the day the building was dedicated in April 1959, it snowed all afternoon so much that the forsythia and daffodils were drooping from the snow. This didn't matter to the students. They were still excited about their new building and loved their learning environment. In fact, they seemed to think the outdoors were part of their classrooms because of the large windows that didn't have window shades attached to them. When it was lunchtime, most of the children went home to eat each day until 1960, when the cafeteria was created. Later changes came in 1969 when the new library was created the size of a full classroom, which was mentioned in a newsletter to parents; and the incorporation of parent/teacher conferences which continues today.

Palmyra Area Middle School History

The roots of Public Education in Palmyra can be traced to 1840 when two buildings were constructed as a part of the State system of free public schools. One building was erected on West Main Street and a second schoolhouse was constructed several hundred feet from the first. In 1874, a four-room schoolhouse was built, even though two rooms were not occupied for several years.

It was not until 1913 that the Palmyra Borough School District was created. The school board directors approved the building of a school on South Railroad Street in January 1914. This was due to the increased number of children in the community and added courses to the curriculum. The building was dedicated on October 12, 1915. Several dignitaries were present for the opening ceremonies, including Governor Martin Brumbaugh. This building served the needs of the community for grades one through twelve until the end of the 1936-37 school term.

Under the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works, a junior-senior high school was constructed on West Cherry Street for a cost of \$260,000. The cornerstone was laid in 1936 and the first graduating class held commencement exercises in this facility in the spring of 1937. The increasing student enrollment required the construction of an addition to the West Cherry Street facility, which was completed during the 1959-60 school year. The addition included several new classrooms and a gymnasium. In 1973, a senior high school was completed and the West Cherry Street facility became the current Palmyra Area Middle School.

The Palmyra Area Middle School again needed to expand. This third expansion was completed in September of 1981 and currently houses seventh grade students within this two-floor addition. The fourth renovation project started in 1997 and was completed in 1998. This project refurbished all sections of the Middle School, expanded classrooms, and added additional space in the Media Center.

The 2017-2018 renovation and addition project was completed in two phases. The first phase of the project was a GESA (Guaranteed Energy Savings Agreement) project which was a renovation of the existing building, classrooms, new roof, and HVAC system. Phase 2 included renovation of the main offices, counseling office, library, cafeteria, gymnasium, band room, and main hallway. The second phase also constructed a wing with 13 new classrooms, turned a large-group instruction room into two new classrooms, and created a new faculty room.

History of Middle School Building Costs:

1960 Junior-Senior High School Construction - \$1,576,315

1981- Renovation/ Additions - \$1,842,000

1998 Renovation/Additions - \$10,046,440

2018 Renovation/Additions - \$ 17,887,000

Palmyra Area Middle School Vision

The Palmyra Area Middle School is committed to creating a positive, inclusive, and safe environment where all achieve academic and personal success.

Forge Road Elementary School – Project Overview

Starting in April 2018 and continuing through the summer months, Forge underwent renovations that enabled the district to obtain better energy efficient heating and cooling and ultimately being a great cost saving feature. Students and staff will now be more comfortable during the school day during both winter and spring months. Additionally, new ceiling grids were added replacing outdated ceilings that were becoming increasingly harder to maintain. New hallway flooring was added along with a brand new gym floor, both incorporate the school colors of orange and black to add school spirit. An additional lunch line, serving area, and kitchen upgrades were all added to help students get through the lunch line in a more efficient manner, which will help as our building continues to grow. Classrooms received new windows, blinds, ceilings, flooring, bathroom upgrades and cabinets. The art room received new counter space and counter tops. First grade classrooms, offices, the music room and library, all received brand new carpet. Classroom signs featuring staff names and our cougar mascot are on display to identify different rooms for visitors. Finally, the exterior of the building had new walls constructed with stone and composite wood helping Forge to arrive at a more modern look and feel for those that travel past Forge Road in the community. Forge is now ready to continue providing great learning spaces for students over the next several decades.

Forge Renovation Cost: \$6,800,000

Forge Family Motto:

Here at Forge, we try to maintain a living, working, family atmosphere that is conducive to learning and growing. Our staff works well with one another, standing as a unified team, and always helping in a time of need.

Like our very own parents who were our first teachers, we believe in educating, protecting, and being supportive of the children that walk our hallways. We are convinced that students who feel safe and love their school will enjoy learning and will want to be here. After all, that is what elementary school should be about, fostering a love for learning, dreaming big ideas, and preparing for the future in a caring environment. Hopefully your family, and especially your children, will see this educational experience as a “home away from home” while they are attending Forge. Thank you in advance for your continued support and for being a valued part of our “Forge Family”. To our newest members, we are fortunate to have the opportunity to work with you. For those of you who are not new to Forge but have history with us, welcome back. You will always be part of our rich tradition and a source of pride.

Forging friendships, family, and the future..... since 1958.

Forge Road Elementary School



Guaranteed Energy Savings

The Middle School and Forge Road renovations were completed as part of a Guaranteed Energy Savings Agreement – or GESA – a process that requires competitive selection of a qualified Energy Services Company, a business that develops and installs energy efficiency measures to reduce operating and maintenance costs. The advantages of lower cost, great project control, improved scheduling, and an energy savings guarantee made the GESA method very attractive. Energy savings were achieved via new HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) systems at both buildings and the new building exterior at Forge.

Costs were also controlled through a “design-build” process that incorporated continued use of building elements that still have a significant remaining useful life. This project was a good fit with the District’s commitment to stewardship of limited resources, both financial and environmental.

Security and ADA Needs

Both projects focused on enhancing security and addressing ADA (Americans with Disabilities) compliance. Forge added a new wheelchair lift and the Middle School project included new ADA-compliant bleachers in the gymnasium. Security features include secure vestibules, camera systems and other enhancements.

Enrollment Growth

A driving factor for these projects has been to address enrollment growth in the past ten years.

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2018</u>
Elementary:	1,507	1,572
Middle School:	693	887

A widened main hallway, expanded cafeteria, and the addition of 13 classrooms will accommodate Middle School growth.

Palmyra Area Middle School



Forge Road Elementary School Faculty and Staff

James D. Hale, Principal
Michele Gottshall, Administrative Assistant

1 st Grade:	Mary Clements, Patricia Early, Holly Folkmer
2 nd Grade:	Heidi Cox, Warren Miller, Ryan Warner
3 rd Grade:	Heidi Kajder, Carrie Twaddell, Brenda Wasilewski
4 th Grade:	Cathy Appleyard, Michelle Luciotti, Kristen Teaman
5 th Grade:	Danielle Bartholomew, Joshua Brinser, Alexandra Heisey
Learning Support:	Shelly Hunt, Bethay Oleyniczak
Gifted Support:	Donna Foran
Reading Specialist:	Sharon Colpo, Megan Ressler
Guidance Counselor:	Lauren McGrady
Speech:	Barbara Ward
Physical Education:	Ryan Brooks, Kelci Milne
Art:	Nathan Carroll
STEM	Tyler Frantz
Music/Vocal:	Alison Williams
Band Director:	Kathleen Reese
Orchestra Director:	Chelsie Spotts
Psychologist:	Kellie Miller
Nurse:	Judith Robinson
Instructional Aide:	LaDawn Buck
Special Education Aide:	Joan Farabaugh
Monitor Aides:	Dawn Herr, Kathleen Kelly, Sandra Offner
Custodians:	Cindy Kelly, Steven Keefer, Phil Lebo
Food Service:	Mary Custer, Jeanne Fasnacht, John Klein, Lucinda March, Robert Margut

Palmyra Area Middle School

Faculty and Staff

Wally Popejoy, Principal
Kara Schoessler, Assistant Principal
Jennifer Hauck, Principal's Secretary
Kendra Daub, Attendance & Assistant Principal's Secretary
Janine Burrows, Counseling Secretary

English Language Arts:	Jessica Barnhart, Kate Figueroa, Ellen Flury, Kelly Gerhart, Jennifer Hitz, Laura Miller, Emily Penberth, Michelle Pheasant, Kristin Wehr
Math:	William Binder, Tyler Binkley, Todd Gies, Shawn Henry, Ashley Hoffman, Carla Kauffman, Tyler Massar, John Radkiewicz, Ryan Schumacher
Science:	Aaron Buckwalter, Amanda Deibert, Jesse Eisenbise, Matthew Franchina, Allen Harchak, Gina Mason, Dawn O'Harra, Shelly Spangler, Carolyn Ward
Social Studies:	Kenny Alquist, Daniel Cotchen, Mackenzie Enders, Kristy Herr, Christopher Kindred, Robert Martin, Brett Mitchley, Jeffrey Wilver
Special Education:	Leah Comiskey, Jamie Deffibaugh, Katie Dresely, Sara Frentz, Bethany Garber, Amy Hines, Stephen Kuter, Kerri Litz, Kelly O'Connor, Casey Smith
Unified Arts:	Alexis Farrell, Lisa Hernley, Dean Howey, Andrew Kurtz, Douglas Knepp, Louise Leach, Matthew Madonna, Caleb Mathias, Sean McClintick, Melanie Myer, Stephanie Ott, Jeffrey Remington, Logan Trout, Lauren Walters
Gifted Support:	Donna Foran
English Language Learning:	Valerie Carroll
Speech:	Barbara Ward
School Psychologists:	Cathleen DiCello, Arianna Russo-Wheeler
Special Education Consultant:	Amanda Maulfair
School Counselors:	Sara Dorwart, Jennifer Garrison, Michelle Waiter
Nurse:	Amanda Stroup
IU #13 Autistic Support:	Debra Alford
IU #13 Aides:	Candy Jacoby, Vicki Kauffman, Joan Smith
Instructional Aides:	Cindy Bortner, Heather Douglas, Christine Valvo
Special Education Aides:	Kristina Blantz, Arianne Chernich, Melinda Cleveland, Lisa Eisenhooth, Lisa Gladysz, Yvette Oskam, Lesley Reed, Kelly Ross, Lisa Twaddle
Café/Office/Library Aides:	Rodney Burgess, Dorene Koons, Deb Miller, Pam Weierbach
Custodians:	Robert Atwood, Scott Kanter, Jamie Kramer, Ron Long, Warren Miller, Lisa Shott
Cafeteria:	Joan Reale (Cafeteria Manager), Nette Balchunas, Mikayla Blantz, Susan Bross, Nicky Donley, Rochelle Engle, Peggy Harned, Torrie Mastellar, Olivia Ott, Diana Pence, Nancy Shirey