



Welcome to the Palmetto Middle School PTSA Link. You are one of nearly 800 members of the PMS family that has elected to receive school news via e-mail. Thank you for staying connected and for your continued support of our PTSA!

Important Dates at Palmetto Middle School

April 30 – 1 Drama Club Production – Bye Bye Birdie
May 4 – 8 Teacher Appreciation Week
May 14 Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast & PTSA Meeting (9 am)
May 25 No School – Memorial Day

Education Funding Update

Please join the "Continue the Conversation" e-blast campaign to let your representatives and senators know that further cuts to education will not be tolerated. Simply click on the address of a rep ([click here](#)). Then, if you agree, copy and paste the proposed text ([click here](#)) from Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Assistant Superintendent-Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Type in your name and hit send. It's so easy, you can send to all 25 Miami-Dade Delegates within 15 minutes!

We had a tremendous turnout at the Save Our Schools forum on April 16th. The next two weeks are crucial as the final education funding bill (via the FL Budget) will be voted on and presented to the governor. If anyone has unanswered questions for Iraida Mendez-Cartaya or Dr. Hinds regarding education funding, please forward them to Kelli Cohen at kvcohen@aol.com. If education funding is not held harmless, please be prepared to encourage Governor Crist to veto the legislation.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are still needed to sell tickets for the 8th grade dance. Ticket sales will be sold during the lunch period in the breezeway on Monday 4/27, Wednesday 4/29, Friday 5/1, Monday 5/4, Tuesday 5/5, and Wednesday 5/6. If you can help, please contact Mary Warrell at carmicmom@comcast.net.

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4 – 8

A quick reminder – Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4 - 8. Budget cuts have hit everyone hard, and the teachers and staff have done so much for our kids. Let's show them how much we appreciate all their efforts! Our Spring Luncheon is Wednesday, May 6. We still need donations of all kinds of food and if you'd like to help out the day of the event, you are more than welcome to do so. We also will be providing them with a casual breakfast on Friday before school, as well as some treats in their mailboxes during the week. Please e-mail or call as to what you would like to do to help: Laura Schwartz (Leiasmom23@aol.com or 305/251-6330) or Susan Montesino (Suprmom1017@yahoo.com or 305/234-3212).

EESAC Committee Has Several Positions Open

Several positions are open on our EESAC Committee (Educational Excellence School Advisory Council). This important committee is charged with assisting in the development of our school improvement plan, as well as budget. If interested, please contact Melissa Montovino at melissamontovino@yahoo.com. Elections for these positions will take place at the PTSA meeting on May 14.

Calling All Musicians to the Pinecrest Community Center

Jazz musicians from 7th thru 12th grades – the Pinecrest Community Center located at 5855 SW 111th Street, next to Pinecrest Gardens, is offering an after-school jazz program each Monday from 5 - 6 pm starting May 4th. If you have two or more years of music study, and can play one of the following instruments: Alto, Tenor or Baritone Sax, Trombone, Trumpet, Guitar, Bass, Drums or Keyboard, this class is for you! Auditions will take place on Monday, April 27th from 5 - 6:30 pm at The Center. Please be prepared to play your best jazz piece. You will be asked to play the instructor's own selection as well. The eight-week class will be led by Maestro Oliver Diez. For more information, please call 305.284.0900.

Future DJs can mix it up on the turntables with DJ MGA. From vinyl to CDs, learn how to become an expert at beat matching, sampling, mixing effects and scratching from a professional DJ, Pinecrest's own Matt Andrews. If you're in 5th thru 8th grade, and love music, sign up for Mixing 101 and see how the pros do it. The four-week course starts Thursday, May 7th, from 6:30 - 7:30 pm at The Center. For more information, please call 305.284.0900.

Piano Slam – "The Music Speaks" 2 Pianos & Voices of Miami's Young Poets

Don't miss a free family-friendly concert on Tuesday, May 5 at 7:00 pm at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County Knight Concert Hall. This concert will feature Dranoff winners, Maarten and Jeroen Van Veen, and acclaimed spoken word artists Deborah Magdalena, Mecca aka Grimo, and On the 1s and 2s The Brass King in a classical piano concert and performance of the award winning poems (<http://www.dranoff2piano.org/>). Free tickets are available online at <http://www.arshtcenter.org/> (click on Performances) or call (305) 949-6722. (To request more than 10 tickets, you'll need to call).

Limited Number of Yearbooks Available

First come, first served. To pre-order one of the few remaining yearbooks, stop by Room 232 before/after school or during lunch. Yearbooks are \$25 and checks should be made out to Palmetto Middle School.

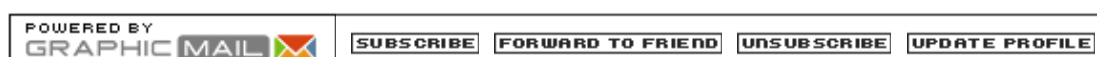
Links to Important PMS Information

To view/print the April Calendar of Activities, [click here](#).
To visit the PTSA web site, [click here](#).
To make a Parent Donation, [click here](#).
To join our PTSA and/or volunteer, [click here](#).
To learn more about The Listener's Program, [click here](#).
To opt-out of monthly mailing and receive your news via e-mail, [click here](#).
To visit the PMS web site, [click here](#).

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