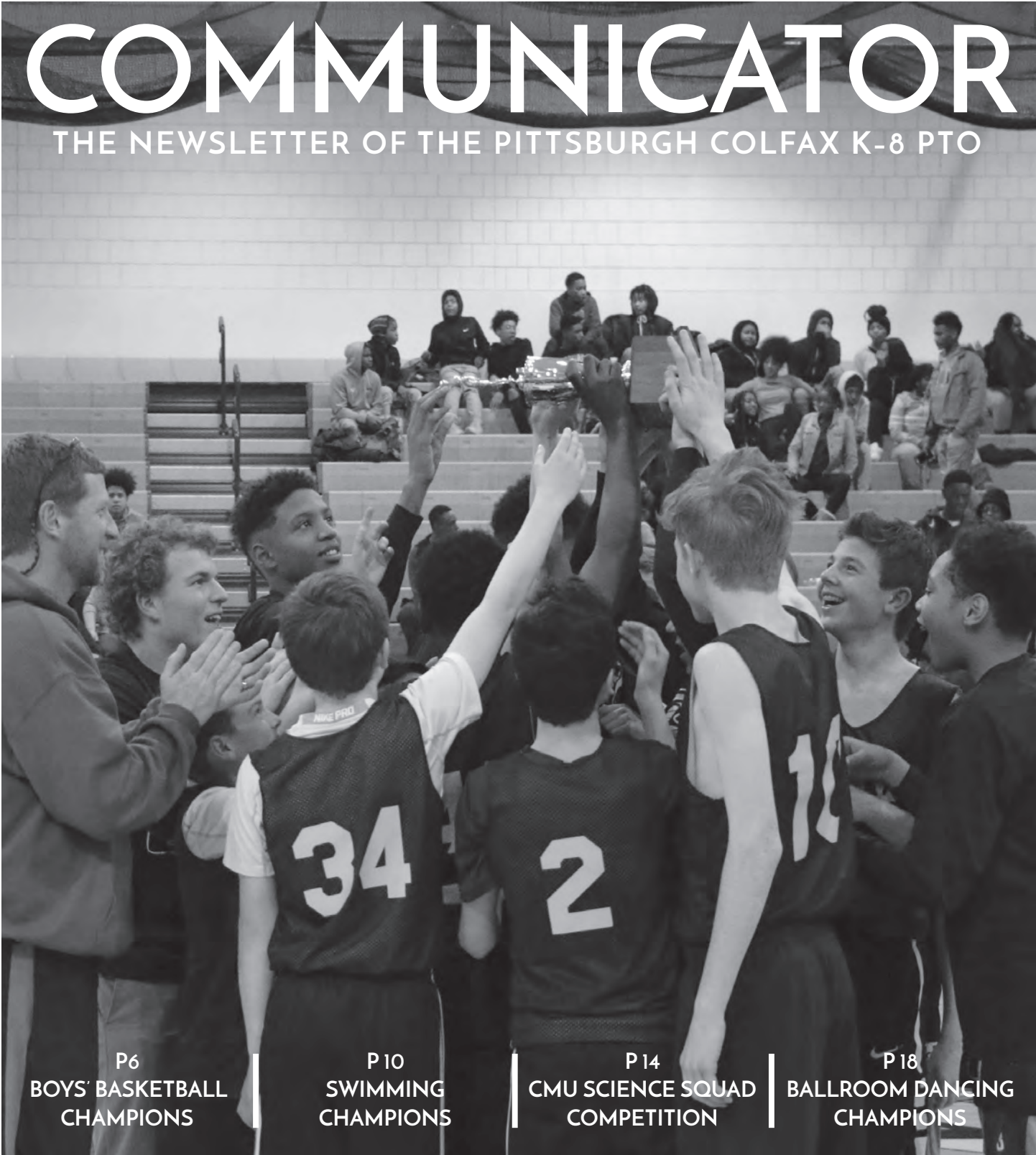


# COLFAX

# COMMUNICATOR

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PITTSBURGH COLFAX K-8 PTO



P6  
BOYS' BASKETBALL  
CHAMPIONS

P10  
SWIMMING  
CHAMPIONS

P14  
CMU SCIENCE SQUAD  
COMPETITION

P18  
BALLROOM DANCING  
CHAMPIONS



# A LETTER FROM THE PTO

Dear Colfax families and friends:

There are just under 50 days left in the academic year. Third quarter report cards will be sent home on April 16. Teachers will kick off annual testing in a few weeks. Though bittersweet, I am forced to acknowledge that the school year is winding to a close. Luckily, there is still so much going on with the Colfax PTO! Be a part of your school and your community by donating to or volunteering with the PTO today. Enclosed, you will find many ways in which to be involved.

Before describing some of the great events and activities that the PTO will support this spring, I want to take a moment and say “thank you” to the parents, teachers, family members and friends of Colfax who assisted with planning our 12th Party 4 Play, held on February 24, 2018, at the Edgewood Club. As many of you know, this annual event brings in more than half of the PTO’s operating budget. We rely on funds raised at Party 4 Play to pay for field trips, the school garden project, lunchtime chess classes, the spring musical (I hope to see you there!), school technology, and so much more. This year, Party 4 Play Chair Chelsa Wagner, along with more than 20 volunteer committee members, organized a fantastic party! Thank you all for your outstanding work.

The Spring Movie Night has been rescheduled for Friday, April 13. Movie nights are always a great time; the kids have a blast watching their favorite movies with their friends. Stay tuned for more information.

Save the date for the Middle Level Spring Musical—Aristocats Jr. Performances will be held on Saturday, May 19 and Sunday, May 20. Both our regular movie nights and the annual Spring Musical are noteworthy examples of PTO-funded events.

I encourage you to consider being a part of the organizing committee for Colfax’s Carnival, to be held on Tuesday, June 5. This community-wide event is fun for the whole family. Come enjoy games, bounce houses, food tables and more. As a special treat, our international families spend hours putting together tents reflecting the various countries represented at Colfax. Highlighting our strong community and its diversity is a perfect way to end the year. Contact VP Special Events if you are available to help with planning Carnival or, specifically, organizing the “international tents.”

Lastly, I want to let you know that, effective February 6, 2018, I stepped down as PTO President. I am very grateful for the opportunity to have met so many parents, teachers and staff at Colfax in this role. And I am honored to have been the voice of the Colfax PTO. We are a community like no other. Unfortunately, given some changes in my professional life, I do not have as much time as I think needs to be devoted to PTO-related tasks. Per our Bylaws, the PTO will be holding its annual board elections in April and May 2018. The PTO President is selected in April and the remaining board members are selected in May. You can find a copy of the Bylaws on the PTO’s website at [www.colfaxpto.org](http://www.colfaxpto.org). In the interim, please contact Abbie Campsie with any questions about the Colfax PTO.

All the best,  
Julie Wilson



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## 2017-2018 COLFAX PTO EXECUTIVE BOARD

Interim President: Abbie Campsie  
[president@colfaxpto.org](mailto:president@colfaxpto.org)

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Colfax PTO Site: [www.colfaxpto.org](http://www.colfaxpto.org)

Join us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/pghcolfax](http://www.facebook.com/pghcolfax)



*Ice Skating Night*

## IMPORTANT DATES

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**APRIL 11**  
PSCC/PTO MEETING  
PTO PRESIDENT ELECTION

**APRIL 13**  
SPRING MOVIE NIGHT

**WEEK OF MAY 7**  
TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

**MAY 9**  
PSCC/PTO MEETING  
PTO OFFICERS ELECTION

**MAY 19 AND 20**  
MIDDLE LEVEL SPRING MUSICAL

**JUNE 5**  
CARNIVAL

**JUNE 7**  
EIGHTH GRADE PROMOTION



Boys' 4th/5th Basketball Team  
Shakespeare Monologue

# PRINCIPAL REMARKS

Greetings Colfax Families and Friends,

I hope this edition of the Communicator finds you and your family doing well, and that you took an opportunity over Spring Break to enjoy a bit of extra time with each other to play and relax.

On March 14, some of our students participated in the nation-wide student Walkout day to honor the lives of those in the fatal shooting last month and to call for stricter gun control laws. As principal of this school, I am proud of our students who made the choice to rally in solidarity with others across the country. They are learning that exercising and demonstrating their rights and beliefs can lead to changes in legislation that directly impact them.

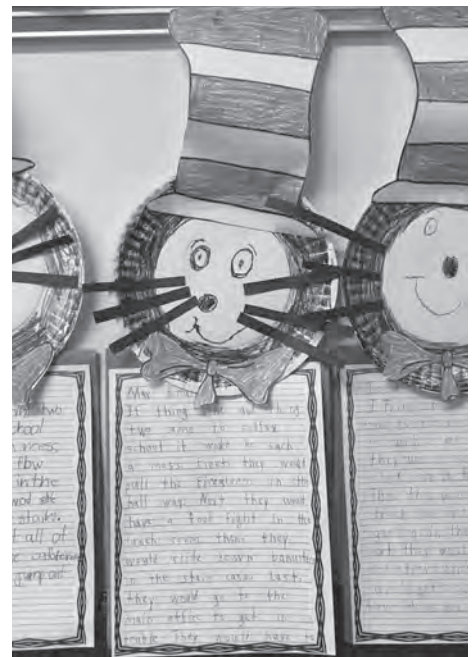
A special thanks to all Colfax friends and families who joined us during our annual Party 4 Play event. It was a wonderful evening of dancing, conversation, fellowship, and fundraising. I want to personally thank those who were a part of the planning committee, the donors and contributors. A special thanks to the PTO for their tireless efforts to consistently provide opportunities to benefit our children through learning, exposure, and play.

Please mark your calendars as our official PSSA testing period at Colfax are as follows:

- PSSA ELA: APRIL 10-12
- PSSA MATH: APRIL 17, 18
- PSSA SCIENCE: APRIL 24, 25

More specific information will be shared as schedules are finalized. Make-ups will be scheduled, as needed, throughout the testing window. To minimize the number of make-ups, however, we encourage families to arrange any time off school before or after the testing window. Attendance, effort and behavior will be emphasized. We want our students to be present and to do their very best!

Regards,  
Dr. Woods



*Yearbook Photographer Working Hard  
100 Days of School Project  
Dr. Seuss's Birthday Celebration*

# 2017-18 COLFAX COBRA BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM MIDDLE SCHOOL CITY CHAMPIONS!!!

Submitted by Coach Lydon



## THE STATS:

Pittsburgh Public Schools  
Middle School Boys'  
Basketball Championship  
1/31/18  
Taylor Allderdice High School

Final score:  
Colfax 59 - UPrep 24

First championship win for  
Colfax boys in 108-year history  
of the league!

## ROSTER:

### GRADE 8

5 Trey Scott  
20 Brandon Pezzelle  
21 Brandon Davis  
25 Cole Feldstein  
30 Keyon Freeman  
33 Avery Ruben

### GRADE 7

2 Ian Waite  
10 Sam Kelly  
14 Jonah Beltz  
32 Ethan Anish  
34 Owen Bluman

### GRADE 6

1 Jack Segall  
11 Spence Waite  
13 Alex Schafer  
41 Terrell James

Head Coach: Dennis Boyce

Assistant Coaches: Daniel Lydon, Noah Segall



**First championship win  
for Colfax boys in  
108-year history of the league!**



Dear Colfax Families,  
Well a final congratulation to the Boys' Middle School Basketball Team for winning, for the first time ever, the city championship! Well done; so much hard work and dedication to get it all done! Special credit, of course, goes first to the talented and hard-working kids on the team. But needing to be mentioned with the most of respect for his coaching skills, is Coach Boyce (who got hurt mid-season and could not finish it out). I must also mention Jack Segall's older brother, Noah, who also helped tremendously. The team had to play both top seeds back-to-back in the playoffs, but stepped up to the challenge both times. In the championship game, they clicked the best they had all year, and it was a convincing win. I am happy I was able help some and to share in some of the fun. I'm sure that these moments will be a time they will never forget, and I am so genuinely happy for them all. Great kids—great season!

—Coach Lydon



Recognition at Allderdice High School



## *Do what you love the most at JCC Specialty Camps*



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To register: Katie Whitlatch • 412-697-3540 • [kwhitlatch@jccpgh.org](mailto:kwhitlatch@jccpgh.org)



# ELEMENTARY UPDATE

Submitted by Valentina Krauss, K-5 Representative

February packed a lot of fun into a short month. Students celebrated the 100th day of school in various ways, from crafting projects and playing games featuring 100 items, to dressing as 100 year olds. Valentine's Day brought more festivities with classroom parties and the time-honored tradition of making mailboxes and exchanging Valentines. Much of the time in the classroom was spent exploring the achievement of African Americans throughout history for African American History Month.

March brought exciting field trips and better weather, which meant more opportunities to play outside at recess. Kids prepared for the Math Kangaroo exam, which was given on site at Colfax for the first time. And teachers implemented positive behavior incentive programs to keep the students on task heading into Spring Break.



# SWIMMING CHAMPIONS!

Submitted by Robyn Stefanyak

**Congratulations to the Pittsburgh 2018 Boys' and Girls' Swimming Champions. Both teams were undefeated this season, bringing home several medals.**



The following is a list of medals the teams won during the 2018 Middle School Swim Championships held at Allderdice High School on Wednesday, January 24, 2018.

**Event 1 "200 Yard Medley Relay" 1st Place**  
Gold: Alina Weise, 6th; Ella Washburn, 6th;  
Yuna Nakamura, 7th; Virag Salvador, 6th

**Event 2 "200 Yard Medley Relay" 1st Place**  
Gold: Diego Portela, 7th; Cole Schaefer, 7th;  
Liam Friedlander, 7th; Ezra Dubowitz, 7th

**Event 3 "Girls' 200 Yard Freestyle" 2nd place**  
Silver: Isabelle Hagley, 7th

**Event 4 "Boys' 200 Yard Freestyle" 1st, 2nd and 3rd**  
Gold: Liam Friedlander, 7th  
Silver: Diego Portela, 7th  
Bronze: Andrew Sherbinin, 7th

**Event 5 "Girls' 100 Yard Individual Medley" 1st and 2nd**  
Gold: Yuna Nakamura, 7th  
Silver: Ella Washburn, 7th

**Event 6 "Boys' 100 Yard Individual Medley" 2nd and 3rd**  
Silver: Ezra Dubowitz, 7th  
Bronze: Dylan Nauhaus, 6th

**Event 9 "Girls' 50 Yard Butterfly" 1st**  
Gold: Yuna Nakamura, 7th

**Event 10 "Boys' 50 Yard Butterfly" 2nd**  
Silver: Liam Friedlander, 7th

# GIRLS' TEAM

Coach Lorena Mitchell

## 6TH GRADE

Casey Bloom  
Ava Czerwinki  
Maya Holstein  
Virag Salvador  
Ella Washburn  
Alina Weise

## 7TH GRADE

Alejandra Buenaposada-Rino  
Leticia Gomez-Faulk  
Isabelle Hagley  
Madison Hunter  
Yuna Nakamura  
Adi Schreiber  
Cia Sherpa

## 8TH GRADE

Shaina Abelev  
Antonia Allen  
Hannah Hagley  
Elizabeth Sindi



# BOYS' TEAM

Coach Dominick Woods

## 6TH GRADE

Dylan Nauhaus  
Varun Bhat  
Vipin Bhat  
Reily Donly  
Henty O'Boyle  
Jean Paul Portuguez  
Josue Torres

## 7TH GRADE

Victorious Sankofa  
Ezra Dubowitz  
Liam Freidlander  
Ian Kuchera  
Thomas Nicol  
Nathan Margolis  
Diego Portela  
Cole Schaefer  
Michael Serbin  
Andrew Sherbinin  
Benito Taormina  
Fernando Vielma  
Eli Wynn

## 8TH GRADE

Gabe Barash  
Issac Graves

Event 12 "Boys' 100 Yard Freestyle" 1st

Gold: Cole Schaefer, 7th

Event 14 "Boys' 50 Yard Backstroke" 1st and 2nd

Gold: Diego Potela, 7th

Silver: Henry O'Boyle, 6th

Event 15 "Girls' 100 Yard Freestyle Relay" 1st

Gold: Isabelle Hagley, 7th;  
Casey Bloom, 6th; Alejandra Buenaposada-Rino, 7th; Hannah Hagley, 8th

Event 16 "Boys 100 Yard Freestyle Relay" 1st

Gold: Dylan Nauhaus, 6th;  
Nathan Margolis, 7th; Josue Torres, 6th;  
Fernando Vielma, 7th

Event 17 "Girls' 50 Yard Breaststroke" 2nd and 3rd

Silver: Ella Washburn, 6th

Bronze: Isabelle Hagley, 7th

Event 18 "Boys' 50 Yard Backstroke" 1st and 3rd

Gold: Cole Schaefer, 7th

Bronze: Ian Kuchera, 7th

Event 19 "Girls' 200 Yard Freestyle Relay" 1st

Gold: Ava Czerwinski, 6th;  
Virag Salvador, 6th; Ella Washburn, 6th;  
Yuna Nakamura, 7th

Event 20 "Boys' 200 Yard Freestyle Relay" 1st

Gold: Diego Portela, 7th;  
Cole Schaefer, 7th; Liam Friedlander, 7th;  
Ezra Dubowitz, 7th

# CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

*Submitted by the Fourth Grade Teaching Team*

The fourth graders went to spend time with the kindergartners. They buddied up and read an article about Oprah Winfrey. Then, students worked together to come up with a sentence that described a detail about what they read. Students celebrated Black History Month by working together to honor the life and legacy of Oprah Winfrey.



# BATTLE OF THE BOOKS 2018

Submitted by Sheila Reed

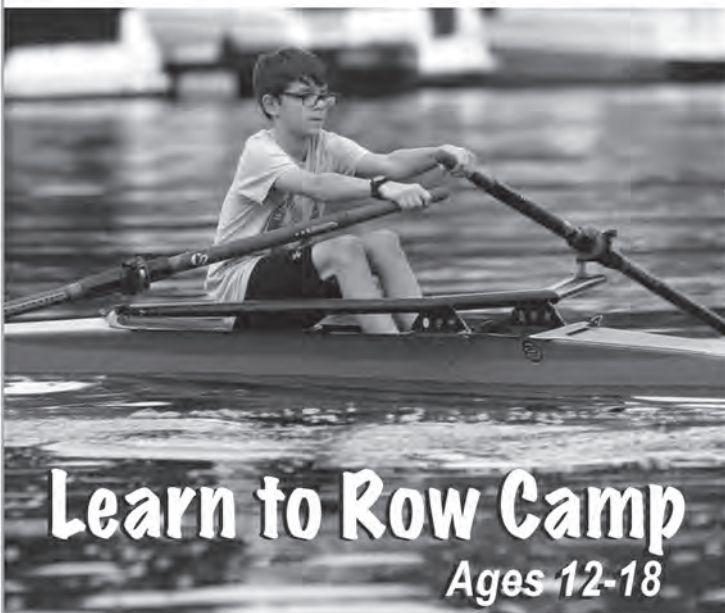
Congratulations to this year's Battle of the Books teams! Your hard work and dedication has paid off.

The 8th grade team won for the 3rd year straight! They represented Colfax and showed great dedication to their team bringing home the trophy! Congrats, Cobras!!  
**McKees Mavericks;** Antonia Allen, Jack Rosenthal, Micah Primack and Nate Sirlin.

Our 7th grade team did really well as they battled with other schools in the room. Way to Go!  
**Five Leaf Clover;** Audrey Olmsted, Elie Kannel, Hannah Schwartz, Haruka Doi and Abigail Feinstein.



## The best days of summer!



[steelcityrowing.org/summercamps](http://steelcityrowing.org/summercamps)

# THE ANNUAL PA JUNIOR ACADEMY OF SCIENCE COMPETITION AND CMU SCIENCE SQUAD

Submitted by Mr. Wolfe

On Saturday, February 3rd, Colfax competed in the 84th Annual Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science Regional Competition at Duquesne University. We should be so very proud of our 26 competitors. At the end of the afternoon they earned 11 first places, 9 second places and 6 third places!



The students were:

**Maya Regus**  
Momentum Conservation–Inelastic Collisions

**Michelle Star**  
Archimedes Principle

**Sam Sherpa**  
Thermal Conductivity of Metals

**Haruka Doi**  
Measuring Refraction in Sugary Liquids

**Jack Rosenthal**  
Mentos and Surface Tension

**Felix Germain**  
Measuring Spring Constants

**Liam Friedlander**  
Gravity and Acceleration

**Shaina Abelev**  
Wave Interference-Double Slit Experiment

**Audrey Olmstead**  
Pendulum Period

**Zoe Obenza-Bridges**  
Buckling of Wooden Dowels

**Cia Sherpa**  
Citrus Fruit Battery

**Victorius Sankofa**  
Surface Tension

**Kendell Webster**  
Heat and Magnetic Field Strength

**Micah Primack**  
Loop-de-Loop

**Sharay Delacruz**  
Frequency, Wavelength and Velocity

**Cole Schaeffer**  
Water Pressure Exerted as Depth Changes

**Kaya Regus**  
Index of Refraction of Water vs. Plastic

**Taleah Barren**  
Index of Refraction-Critical Angle

**Donise Griffin**  
Using Surface Tension to Move a Boat

**Caden Harper**  
Circular Motion and Centripetal Acceleration

**Ellie Kannel**  
Salinity, Temperature and Surface Tension

**Arian Afont-Garcia**  
Newton's Law of Cooling

**Nate Sirlin**  
Lever Lifting

**Alan Maeroff**  
Shooting a Target with Angles

**Gabe Barash**  
Shooting a Target without Angles

**Abigail Feinstein**  
Bernoulli's Principle

Besides everyone mentioned above two others, Shakyna Golphin (Momentum Conservation-Elastic Collisions) and Natalie Stevens (How Do Ice Packs Work) participated in the CMU Science Squad. Donise, Micah, Jack, Sam, Nate, Michelle, Kendell, Sharay, Haruka, Zoe, and Audrey will compete at the PJAS State Competition at Penn State (Main Campus) in May.

These students' work came about with our collaboration and help from Dr. Kisslinger and CMU. This program was Dr. Kisslinger's creation which started about 20 years ago. I have been fortunate to have been part for 14 years, 12 of which have been here at Colfax. Since we began in 2005–06, 343 7th and 8th graders have participated.

Currently, we are now engaged in our 6th grade CMU Science Squad (until the beginning of May). Students in this program will be participating in a lecture/demo series (with a tremendous amount of hands on activities) with CMU professors and they will be exploring topics of energy, motion, and the universe (as well as how water striders can walk on water).

# MRS. MURRAY'S MULTIPLICATION WIZARDS

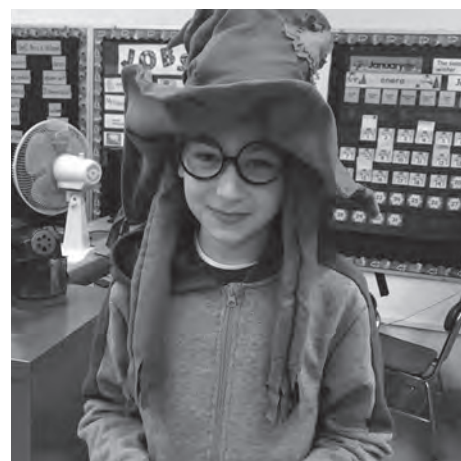
Submitted by Mrs. Murray

Third graders are working on automaticity of multiplication and division facts and 5th graders are working to fine tune this skill, as well. Students board the Hogwarts' Express and move through each car (factors) until they reach Hogwarts (by passing the 12's tables), where they are sorted into their houses and receive their wand. They then begin year 2 (Division tables).

## MULTIPLICATION WIZARDS: A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Submitted by Asher Schwartz, student

I personally think that Multiplication Wizards is an entertaining way of practicing our multiplication tables. The way it works is we have 3 minutes to do a worksheet with 60 multiplication problems on it. You start at 0 and work your way up to 12 by completing worksheets in the 3 minutes and getting everything right. After you finish number 12 you put on "The Sorting Hat" and are put in one of the houses at Hogwarts. Multiplication Wizards is fun to do at the end of the day when there isn't time to do much else. Also it ends math class with something fun. Because you are timed it motivates you to do things fast and get the problems correct so you can move on to the next number. And of course, it helps with learning our times tables.



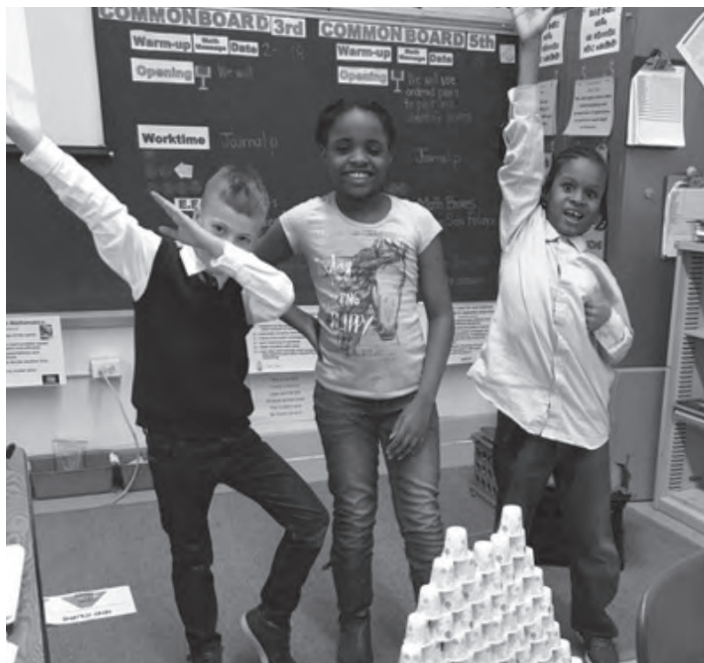
# MATH FOR 100 DAYS OF SCHOOL

Submitted by Mrs. Murray

Third graders dressed up like 100-year olds for the 100th day of school, and our math classes were full of activities around the number 100.

We timed how long it took to do the following things 100 times: blink, jump up and down, write your name,

clap—to name a few. We tried to see how many arrays we could build with 100 Cheerios, how many ways we could make 100 using all 10 digits only once, how high we could stack 100 cups, and how creative we could get with 100 marshmallows and toothpick sculptures.







## *Hit the Road with us at Noar/Bogrim Travel Camp*



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To register: Katie Whitlatch • 412-697-3540 • [kwhitlatch@jccpgh.org](mailto:kwhitlatch@jccpgh.org)


**JCC  
PGH**

# BALLROOM DANCING CHAMPIONS!

Submitted by Robyn Stefanyak



MERCY  
A HERITAGE OF HOPE  
Presents

 **DANCING CLASSROOMS**  
PITTSBURGH

**COLORS OF THE RAINBOW**

**Final Team Match**  
Fall 2017

Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall  
4141 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Did you know that Pittsburgh Colfax 5th graders participate in an amazing ballroom dancing program?

The students receive 19 lessons at school and learn 5 different dances.

In the fall of 2009, the prevention program of Pittsburgh Mercy Health System brought the renowned Dancing Classrooms to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. They introduced the program to 300 children in six Pittsburgh Public Schools.

Dancing Classrooms is about much more than dance. It's an innovative strategy and approach that enhances learning readiness and social development, providing students with:

- **Practice in problem solving:** as children are challenged to overcome personal shyness and to learn intricate dance steps and participate in a variety of performance venues across diverse audiences;
  - **Development of creative thinking skills:** as children develop discipline in approaching the "new" and become comfortable that they can move from not knowing to knowing using their own imaginative and personal skills;
  - **Resiliency facing challenges and the unknown:** as children learn to improvise to correct for mistakes and come to better understand the importance of trial and error in improving performance;
  - **Training in professional courtesy and behavioral skills** that enable children to move across and interact with various levels of society, including various workplace and educational settings;
  - **Appreciation for various cultural backgrounds of others and widened understanding of and support for cultural differences;**
  - **Team building and cooperation,** both of which are essential to workplace, educational, and social success; and
- **Greater sense of self-efficacy and personal commitment to consistent effort and practice to reach a goal,** qualities that are essential for anyone, but that are particularly essential in children in poverty, who face far greater hurdles each day than most of us can imagine.

At Pittsburgh Colfax, we embrace this program. Ms. Jen Milligan is our dancing instructor. In the beginning of the program, the 5th grade students are always very reluctant to dance. By the end of the program, the students LOVE it! So many of the students want to be chosen to go to the competition at the end. This year the following students were chosen to be on the competition team.

#### CAPTAINS

Evelyn Aldrich & Malcolm

#### MERENGUE DANCERS

Che Castro Jarrett & Jaden Small

#### FOX TROT DANCERS

Joslyn Barren & Luke Peralta

#### RUMBA DANCERS

Oliwa Saykewicz & Stash Alfont-Garcia

#### TANGO DANCERS

Leilah Reed & Salvatore Rizzo

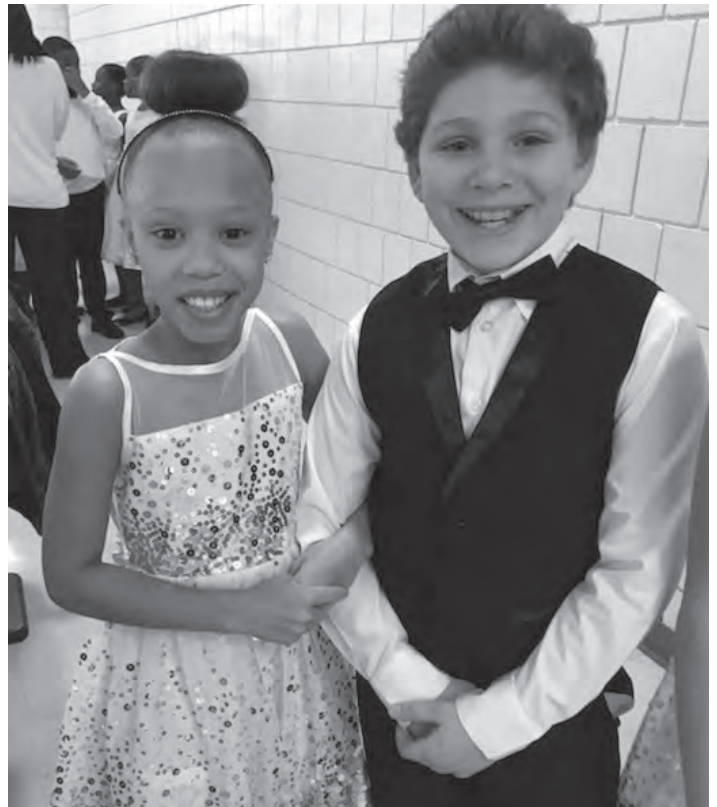
#### SWING DANCERS

Jayla Blakely & Zev Pelled

#### ALTERNATE DANCERS

Maddalyn Dennis & YooYoung Chou

THESE AMAZING DANCERS TOOK 1ST PLACE AT THE BALLROOM DANCING COMPETITION ON FEBRUARY 3RD. THEY DID A FANTASTIC JOB.





## *Put on a Show at JCC Performing Arts Camp*



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Grades 4-10 • June 18-July 13  
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To register: Katie Whitlatch • 412-697-3540 • [kwhitlatch@jccpgh.org](mailto:kwhitlatch@jccpgh.org)

**Annie Jr.**  
Our 2018 show



# 12TH ANNUAL PARTY 4 PLAY

Submitted by Chelsa Wagner

On Saturday, February 24th, parents, faculty and friends of Colfax joined for the 12th Annual Party 4 Play, Colfax PTO's largest annual fundraiser. The event was started twelve years ago to raise money to build the school's playground. Now over a decade later, the event's proceeds continue to fund student enrichment activities so vital to the student experience at Colfax.

The event took place at The Edgewood Club, and was catered by First Class Catering (FCC). DJ SMI provided the music, and had the parents and faculty on the dance floor all night. A very special thank you to our 2018 sponsors who helped by underwriting the event:

A special thank you to all the parents who donated tickets for their teachers. Throughout the night attendees bid on silent auction items and raffles. The silent auction included jewelry, original works of art, hotel stays, restaurants, community activities and more. The live auction featured always popular "principal for a day," "gym teacher for a day," swimming party at Colfax, tickets to the Lexus Club box seats at PNC park, box hockey seats with signed Sid Crosby jersey and four signed hockey pucks. The event raised over \$20,000 to support student enrichment activities.

Thank you so much to everyone who made this possible. There is a ton of volunteer effort that goes into this event, from securing donations for the silent auction, setting up the venue and displays, putting together the raffle items, managing the financials, volunteers, and so much more. It is a great community effort that reflects the strength of the Colfax community. We cannot thank you all enough for your dedication and generosity. And if you missed it this year, please do plan to join us next year.

## Thanks to our Sponsors!



Allegheny County District Attorney Steve Zappala

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Brian Schreiber and Suzanne Schreiber • Zauyah Waite  
Stéphanie Weinstein and Amit Patel • Michael Weisberg and Liz Goldberg

**Thank you for your support of Colfax students!**







Thank you to all the following silent auction donors and all the parents who contributed also to make the raffle items!

- |                                    |                                       |   |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Betsy Schwartz                     | Eyes on Regent Square                 | P3R Dick's Sporting Goods               |
| Ace Hotel                          | Fab LuLaRoe                           | Pittsburgh Marathon                     |
| Allegheny Valley School            | Fallingwater Education Department     | Pei-Qun XIA                             |
| Arriviste Coffee House             | Five Points Artisan Bakery            | (Therapeutic Massage by Pei / LMT)      |
| Bagel Factory                      | FlatBoat Fair Traders                 | Petland (Village of Eastside)           |
| Bella Christies Bakery             | Giant Eagle                           | PICT Classic Theatre                    |
| Big Burrito (Mad Mex)              | Girasole                              | Pittsburgh Center for the Arts          |
| Bodiography dance performance      | Gymkhana Gymnastics                   | Point Breeze Beauty Salon               |
| Cafe Zinho                         | Harris Grill                          | Point/Park Brugge                       |
| Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh     | Hatch Art Studio                      | Riverside Design Group, Inc             |
| Centre Ave. Massage & Spa          | Henne                                 | Sarah Galusha                           |
| Cheeks                             | Hotel Indigo                          | Senyai Thai Kitchen                     |
| Children's Museum of Pittsburgh    | Independent Hospitality Group         | Shady Grove                             |
| Chloe and Isabel -by Tracy Royston | JCC of Greater Pittsburgh             | Shadyside/Oakland Courtyard by Marriott |
| Chocolate Moose                    | Jen Primack                           | Shop412                                 |
| Choolaah Indian BBQ                | Juju                                  | Shorkey Family Auto Group               |
| Cindy Chepanoski                   | Kimberly Gonxhe, artist               | Social Restaurant                       |
| Contemporary Concepts              | Kurzweg Law Office                    | Spoon                                   |
| Cure                               | Leon Miller Co.                       | Squirrel Hill Baseball                  |
| Dave and Busters                   | Lindsey Weissberg                     | Steve Irwin - River Forest Country Club |
| Dina Ellen                         | Littles                               | Studio E                                |
| Dinette (Sonja Finn)               | Luke & Mike's Front Porch             | Sunburst Guitar studio                  |
| Dory and David Levine              | Mr. Lydon                             | Tan Izakaya                             |
| Dr. Woods                          | Mr. Woods                             | Taza D'Oro                              |
| E Joelle Designs by Evelyn Wedner  | M. Nail Salon on Walnut               | Thaddeus Mosley, Sculptor               |
| E.B. Pepper                        | Madeleine George                      | The Nail Spa on Forbes                  |
| East End co-op                     | Make Your Mark Artspace & Coffeehouse | TK Sports at Homestead Library Facility |
| East End Veterinary Medical Centre | Mark Haffner                          | Trader Joe's                            |
| Eddie V's (Chelsa Wagner)          | Massage Envoy                         | Union Standard                          |
| Edgewood Club                      | Mike Gordon                           | Upcycled designs                        |
| Ellen & Bob Katzen                 | Millie's Homemade Icecream            | Visit Pittsburgh                        |
| Eva Gelman - College Quest         | Miss T's Beauty Lounge                | Waterworks Cinema                       |
| Evelyn James Interiors             | NuGo                                  | Williams Sonoma                         |
| Ever Pretty in the Steel City      | Oom Yung Doe                          | Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh Downtown       |
| (Gretchen Bierenbaum)              | Orr's Jewelry                         |   |

Again, there are so many who put in so much effort that aren't listed by name here. To all of you (and the many unsung heroes behind the scenes, including the tireless members and volunteers of the PTO): Thank you!!!



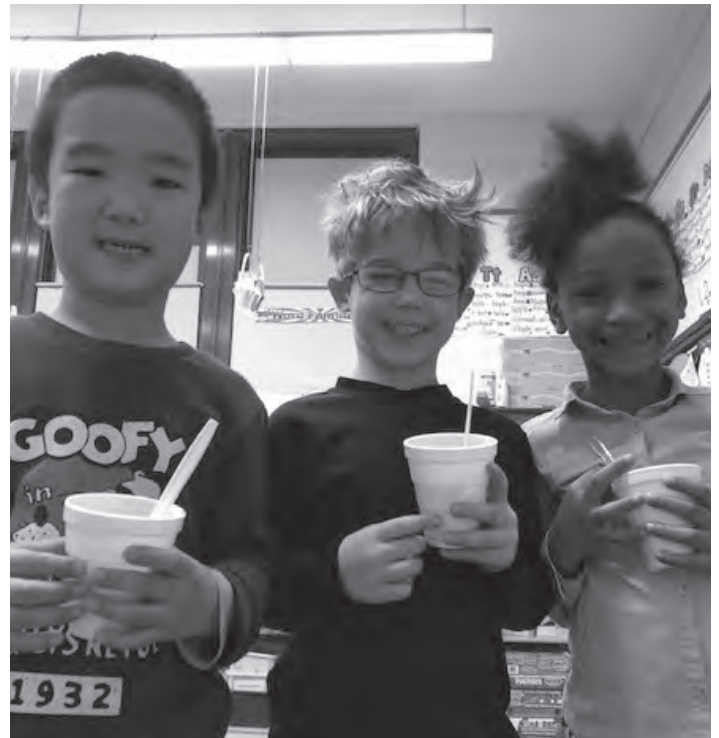
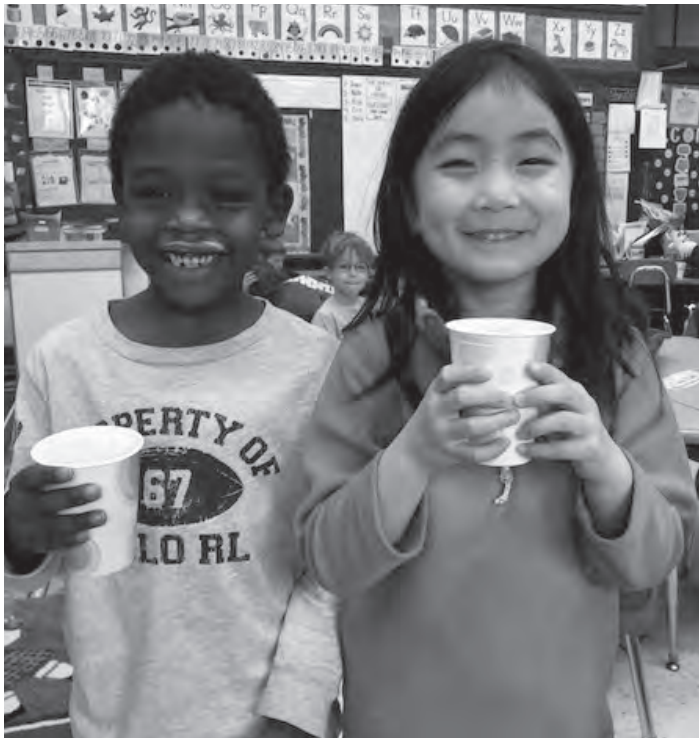
# WHAT'S COOKING IN KINDERGARTEN?

Submitted by Mrs. Filipek

Kindergarten students have been doing a lot of cooking and eating during the past couple of months. In literacy, during the month of February, students were learning about many different cultures. The Kindergarten teachers thought it would be wonderful if families volunteered to make a snack/treat/dish that was traditional to their family.

We tried many wonderful foods including: pizzelles, teriyaki chicken, Chinese steamed buns, mandel bread, kolache, and much more!

We also are teaching about healthy eating, through the "Common Threads—Small Bites" curriculum. This awesome program teaches students about nutrition and healthy cooking through a series of eight 1-hour lessons. We have had so much fun trying new, fun and healthy foods!



# FIFTH GRADE OPERA FIELD TRIP

Submitted by Elizabeth Hazlett

On Friday, March 9 the fifth-grade students attended a children's opera as part of an Opera-In-Schools program offered by the Pittsburgh Opera. Before going, the students spent several class periods in music learning about the different voices and elements of an opera. They also learned about the opera they would be seeing, which was a different spin on *The Three Bears*, entitled *Goldie B. Locks* and the *Three Singing Bears*.

Before the opera began, the director was asking the audience various questions about voices and appropriate ways to respond during the show. I am very proud to say that our fifth graders knew all the answers! The students had a great time and were anxious to know when they can go back!



Thanks to these EMS volunteers, who taught the kids CPR!

## UPDATES FROM THE NURSES' OFFICE

Submitted by Nurse Short

Winter has been busy in the Nurses' Office!

In addition to the usual flow of illnesses and injuries, health screenings are being completed. All students receive height and weight measurement and vision screenings. Students in grades K, 1, 2, 4, and 6 receive hearing screenings.

The Epilepsy Foundation visited 2nd grade

classrooms to discuss seizures. Breathe PA lead an asthma workshop. Smile Pennsylvania the Mobile Dentist provided dental exams and cleanings. Pittsburgh EMS taught CPR and AED use to 5th, 7th, and 8th graders as well as Colfax staff.

Wash your hands and eat a rainbow of foods a day!



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LESSON**

# SKI CLUB

Submitted by Abbie Campsie

Colfax Ski Club is in its 6th year at the school. It includes students from 4–8th grade. Skiing is a wonderful way to enjoy the winter weather, of which Pittsburgh has had its fair share this season.

Like last year, we had three successful trips to Seven Springs. The conditions were good since we received several large dumps of snowfall in the mountains. The weather for our 1st and 3rd trips was in the 30s and 40s, but our 2nd trip was very cold. The temperature was around 9 degrees Fahrenheit. The kids and adults were troopers and came in frequently to warm up. It took a while for my toes to defrost!

We had 48 skiers this year—a mixture of new, intermediate, and advanced. The children really seemed to enjoy themselves, regardless of level. Sometimes they get a little silly at the end of the night, but our students are always well behaved.

I've enjoyed chaperoning the trips these past six years. Next year will be my last year running the ski club and I'll be looking for someone to take it over.

Thank you to Mr. Wolfe, Ms. Herr, and Tiffany Stuckey for being fabulous chaperones this year.



## 2017–2018 COLFAX PTO CALENDAR

### APRIL

- April 11 PSCC/PTO Meeting
- April 13 Cobra Store Grades K–5  
Spring Movie Night
- April 27 Cobra Store Grades K–5

### MAY

- May 7–11 Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 9 PSCC/PTO Meeting
- May 11 Cobra Store Grades K–5
- May 19–20 Middle Level Spring Musical
- May 25 Cobra Store Grades K–5
- May 28 No School—Memorial Day

### JUNE

- June 1 Last Cobra Store Grades K–5
- June 5 Carnival
- June 7 Eighth Grade Promotion
- June 8 Last Day of School

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To register: Katie Whitlatch • 412-697-3540 • [kwhitlatch@jccpgh.org](mailto:kwhitlatch@jccpgh.org)



*B*ecome a part of Colfax! Have a book donated in your name for your birthday!

- 1* Pick out your favorite hardcover book! Get it from the store or your book shelf.
- 2* Get the book to us! Bring it in anytime during your birthday month or have it delivered to the Colfax Media Center.
- 3* Stop by the Media Center and choose between two designs for the bookplate and fill in your name!

Your book will be displayed on the Birthday Books bookcase for your birthday month! Thereafter, your book will go into circulation and be forever on the shelves of the Colfax Media Center with your name inside!

Contact Amanda Cline with any questions at [amandakasscline@gmail.com](mailto:amandakasscline@gmail.com).

# Colfax Carnival Needs

Carnival is a fabulous end of year event where students, teachers and families get to spend time playing games, winning prizes & enjoy good food. It is an amazing event but we need over 150 volunteers to make it happen! Please help us make this year's Colfax Carnival a success!

We need volunteers in many areas including:

**Games:** Help collect tickets and keep games running smoothly. Includes games like: Plinko, Duck Pond, Giant Dice, Hoop Toss and many others.

**Food:** Sell food items such as pizza, hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream or potluck plates.

**Tickets:** Sell tickets to play our fabulous games

**Prizes:** Work our prize room, helping kids spend all of the tickets they have won

**Inflatables/Dunk Tank:** Collect tickets and keep the kids moving through our rented inflatables or supervise their attempts to dunk their teachers

**Anything:** Choose your shift and we will email you once we know where you are most needed

\*\*\*\*\*

My name is: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to help during this time slot:**

5:00 - 6:00

6:00 - 7:00

7:00 - 8:00

Games

Food

Tickets

Prizes

Inflatables/Dunk Tank

Anything!

**I can also help with:**

Setup from 9 – Noon

Setup from 1:30 - 4:00

Cleanup from 8:00 - 9:00

	Gross Rev	Expenses	Net Rev	FY 2017/2018 Approved Budget	Balance as of 3/12/2018
<b>REVENUE-FUNDRAISING</b>	<b>\$48,159.92</b>	<b>\$9,544.98</b>	<b>\$39,702.85</b>	<b>\$50,500</b>	<b>\$39,702.85</b>
General Donations/Ask Drive	\$19,610.00	\$235.73	\$19,374.27	\$19,000	\$19,374.27
Winter Fundraising Event (Party For Play)	\$21,663.92	\$6,985.32	\$14,678.60	\$20,000	\$14,678.60
<b>Other Fundraisers Total</b>	<b>\$6,886.00</b>	<b>\$2,323.93</b>	<b>\$5,649.98</b>	<b>\$11,500</b>	<b>\$5,649.98</b>
Run Shadyside	\$1,750.00	\$0.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,500	\$1,750.00
Plant and Bulb Sale	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500	\$0
Newsletter Advertisements	\$1,995.00	\$0.00	\$1,995.00	\$1,000	\$1,995.00
Carnival	\$0.00	\$912.50	\$0.00	\$1,500	\$0
Boxtops	\$912.50	\$0.00	\$912.50	\$500	\$912.50
Family Fun Nights (Fiesta, Iceskating, Movie night..)	\$598.55	\$472.12	\$171.43	\$500	\$171.43
Talent Show	\$0.00	\$130.41	\$0.00	\$500	\$0
Miscellaneous (e.g. spiritwear, restaurants, artware sale..)	\$1,629.95	\$808.90	\$821.05	\$4,500	\$821.1
Citizens Bank Interest	\$2.17	N/A	\$2.17		\$2.17

<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$30,640.00</b>		<b>\$72,000</b>	<b>\$30,640</b>
<b>Educational Activities</b>		\$19,560.00		\$30,500	\$19,560.00
Enrichment Activities (e.g., teachers grants, chess club, etc.)		\$7,125.00		\$9,000	\$7,125.00
Frick Enviromenta Center		\$5,000.00		\$6,500	\$5,000.00
Frick House (field trip)		\$2,500.00		\$2,500	\$2,500.00
Grow Pittsburgh (gardening club)		\$3,000.00		\$6,500	\$3,000.00
Spring Musical		\$1,935.00		\$6,000	\$1,935.00
STEAM program (one time expense)				N/A	N/A
<b>Field Trips</b>		\$4,422.38		\$10,000	\$4,422.38
<b>Principle Discretionary Fund</b>		\$2,924.55		\$10,000	\$2,924.55
<b>Middle Level/Cobra Store</b>		\$1,667.39		\$4,000	\$1,667.39
<b>Technology (e.g., laptops, tablets)</b>		\$0.00		\$12,500	\$0.00
<b>School Infrastuture (e.g., outside equipment, school supplies, pool)</b>		\$210.00		\$2,000	\$210.00
<b>PTO Business Expenses (e.g., insurance, professional &amp; legal fees)</b>		\$839.00		\$1,500	\$839.00
<b>Teachers abd Staff Appreciation</b>		\$1,016.68		\$1,000	\$1,016.68
<b>8th grade promotion/Miscelanious</b>		\$0.00		\$500	\$0.00

\* STEAM Program-money are rolled over into Technology for FY 2017/2018 Budget

**Library Fund** (one time expense, money doanated by parents directly to the library) **\$280**

Bank Balance as of 3/12/2018

Business Advisor Checking:	\$58,892.44	**
Business Money Market (Playground acct):	\$16,080.41	
<b>Total Bank Balance</b>	<b>\$74,972.85</b>	

\*\*Note: This represents the balance according to Citizens Bank as of 3/12/2018. This balance does not reflect all outstanding expenses as some checks have not cleared.

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# THE ASK DRIVE

## THE ASK DRIVE FUNDRAISER

*Submitted by Abbie Campsie*

The ASK Drive is one of Colfax's largest fundraisers. This year we raised **\$19,500**. The money raised goes toward our overall budget, which is spent on various items in our budget. Field trips to the Frick for 1st, 2nd, and 4th grade; field trips like the pumpkin patch in Kindergarten; and a director for our middle level musical, just to name a few. Every year we like to acknowledge parents, families, and teachers who contribute to this great cause. Without your continued generosity, we would have to do without a lot of the programs and extras our children and their parents have grown to love and expect. Thank you!!!

Julie Wilson and Marcio Silva

Abbie Campsie and Ken Haber

Tiffany and Mark Stuckey

Dory and David Levine

Jeanine Weiss

Jitka Benedikova

Amy and Jon Malen

Marybeth and Scott Hagely

Raffaella Greco

Bohman Family's

Liz Goldberg and Mike Weisberg

Gabriella Gonzalez and Family

Daffney Retter and Patrick Yoest

Ellen Hayman

Carolina and Bernhard Kuhn

Sukanya Srinivasan and

Henry Willis

Stephaine Pashman and

Jeremy Feinstein

Emanuele Cauda

Carol Smith

Sharon Achilles and

Stuart Olmstead

Richard I. Lerach and

Elizabeth E. Kraus

Sarah Galusha and

Matthew Chinman

Abby Horn and Chip Carter

Linda Martin and

Noel Walkington

Cathy and Will Schaefer

Christina, Jon, and Olivia Boyle

Kazu and Yohei Doi

Daniel Bain and Emily Elliott

Matthew and Alison Culyba

Parents of Sara M. Fernandez,

Antonio and Georgina

Daniel J. Brasier and Aryn Gittis

Jamie Tew and Sunny Park

Valentina and Justin Krauss

Darcy and Michael Gordon

Kerry Reynolds

Sarah and Brett Sirlin

Stephanie Weinstein and

Amit Patel

Scott and Sarah Canna

Jennifer and Brian Primack

Mary Pat and Eric Friedlander

Tamara Dubowitz and Jay Aronson

Rachel and Bryan Clark

Rachel and Benjamin Rosenfeld

Sarah and Gary Minnaert

Aimee Curtright and

Neal Washburn

Sara Goodkind and Jeff Shook

Amy and Russ Shorkey

Charlotte Lann

Ashley Ingram

Eleanor Adams

Greathouse Family

Yanzhen Niu

Sara and Ken Segal

Zitelli Family

The Kurzwegs

Kuchera Family

Kristine Pugliese

The Fishbach Silk Family

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Michele Levine

Heewook Lee

Yijing Li

Haixia Wang

Divya Heffley

Jonathan Perret

Francis Monaghan

Jonathan Cohn

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Elizabeth Irizarry

Christine Holtz

Noriyuki Yoshio

Huiru Kang

Erin Casci

Yan He

Rachel Brown

Chikako Nakama

Lin Jia

Derek Bell

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Peizhi Zhou

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