



THE COLFAX COMMUNICATOR

The official newsletter of Colfax K-8 PTO

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi Colfax Families,

At the beginning of the year, my welcome announcement described the optimism and anxiety we all felt as our kids spent the first few weeks of school remotely (hard to remember, right?). With all that's going on recently, it can become easy to be overwhelmed by anxiety. At the same time, I am more confident, hopeful, and optimistic than ever for our Community. This year, has provided several reasons why:

First, the amount of time and effort the PTO has put into serving the school. Words cannot fully explain my gratitude for the efforts of each board member. A sincere thank you to Ross Ingram, Ashley Ingram, Ross McGowan, Joe Moore, Robin Taylor, and Lisa Zur. I owe Ross Ingram an extra thank you for providing so much support and guidance for me to transition into the PTO President role this year.

Second, a big thank you to each of the homeroom reps. We asked a lot of you this year – and you delivered! You not only helped provide supplies and support for each classroom, but also helped us to ensure that there was an air purifier in each classroom. This was an enormous feat that cannot be overlooked. I also want to thank all of our volunteers who made outdoor lunches and recesses possible last Fall.

Third, the quality of our teachers and their resilience in the face of online, hybrid, and in-person teaching. As an educator myself, I know how difficult this can be, especially when you have to transition to different formats throughout the year. We all owe so much to the teachers for taking care of and educating our kids this year. One week for teacher appreciation is not enough to express the Colfax Community's support for what you do.

Finally, for the efforts of Dr. Woods, her leadership team, and all the staff. They've also had to transition and deal with a lot this year, from contact tracing to finding substitute teachers for each class, to doing their everyday jobs. We truly appreciate your day-to-day leadership. You and your team's tireless efforts are what make the school so strong.

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

President's Note	1
Dr. Woods's Note	2
Community Member Spotlight	3
Food Truck Spring Fling	3
Intramural Sports Update	4
2022-2023 PTO Board Officers	4

As always, it's a pleasure to serve as PTO President and I look forward to leading the effort again next year.

Sincerely,
Dave Lebel
PTO President



DR. WOODS'S SUMMER END-OF-THE-YEAR MESSAGE

Dear Colfax Families,

This has been an amazing school year. We managed to transition quickly throughout synchronous, asynchronous, in-person, individual quarantine periods, and building closures due to positive COVID-19 cases. I want to thank you all for the patience shown these past 10 months; especially as it relates to staff turnovers, absences due to illnesses, and district wide decisions.

Together we have enjoyed successes and overcome challenges, yet despite all, we continued the work needed to ensure the safety, educational and emotional needs of our students and staff. I would also like to take this moment to extend a special thanks to all the volunteers, PTO board and President David Lebel, and others who supported our Colfax team in many endeavors. You will probably never realize how much your presence and collaboration contributed to achieving our schools' academic, social, and personal goals.

I would like to thank our hard working and caring teachers and staff who have made a huge difference in our school. Their commitment is outstanding and unwavering. Thank you for providing engaging lessons, culturally centered environments, and well-rounded experiences for students. You wear more hats than many realize and I am forever grateful for you all.

And finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate all of our students. We learned so much from our authentic relationships and by listening to YOU! Continue to use your voice to advocate for yourself and others. I wish you all a very happy, safe and enjoyable summer. Remember to take time to unplug and unwind. Spend much needed time with your families and friends. Take walks, talk to people in-person or on the telephone, and read a good book.

I look forward to seeing you all of our returning families in August and wish our promoted 8th grade students and those transitioning to new places and spaces all the best!

Take care,

Dr. Woods



COLFAX COMMUNITY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Since our last Communicator, we have spotlighted several more wonderful Colfax community members.

MS. DAVIS
MIDDLE LEVEL
TEACHER

MS. GUILFOYLE
SPEECH THERAPIST

**FARMER IAN
BONNET**
GROW PITTSBURGH

MR. ZELESNICK
LIBRARY/MEDIA
SPECIALIST

We look forward to continuing this tradition of honoring special community members, so please join us in nominating in the fall.



Thank you to all the families who came out to celebrate the 2021-2022 school year at the Food Truck Spring Fling! Fun was had by all! Thank you to Ashley Ingram and Cristina Ruggiero for spearheading the event. We look forward to more events in the 2022-2023 school year. Please stay tuned for ways to get involved with the Colfax PTO.

STAY INFORMED

PTO WEBSITE, EMAIL & DIRECTORY SIGN-UPS
<http://www.colfaxpto.org>

PTO FACEBOOK
[facebook.com/pghcolfax](https://www.facebook.com/pghcolfax)

PPS FACEBOOK
[facebook.com/PittsburghPublicSchools](https://www.facebook.com/PittsburghPublicSchools)

COLFAX FACEBOOK
[facebook.com/ColfaxK8](https://www.facebook.com/ColfaxK8)

COLFAX TWITTER
[@PPSColfax](https://twitter.com/PPSColfax)

PPS TWITTER
[@PPSNews](https://twitter.com/PPSNews)

PPS CALENDAR
<http://pghschools.org>



CX SPORTS



INTRAMURAL SPORTS UPDATE

Students who participated in intramural sports this year were honored at the Middle School Sports Banquet on June 10 at Blue Slide Park with pizza, snacks, drinks, games and time with friends!

Middle grade students were able to participate in a variety of sports this year including track , cross country, flag football, and basketball as well as other sports.

Thank you to the Colfax staff for making sports happen this year for our Colfax Cobras!



2022-2023 PTO BOARD

PRESIDENT: David Lebel

TREASURER: Ross Ingram

ASSISTANT TREASURER: Ashley Ingram

COMMUNICATIONS: Robin Taylor

FUNDRAISING: Lisa Guizzetti Zur & Kelly Anderson

SECRETARY: Ross McGowan

SPECIAL EVENTS: Sarah Grubb

VOLUNTEERS: Joe Moore

PTO IMPACT

The PTO was proud to support end-of-the-year festivities for nearly every grade this spring at Colfax. Events included field trips to Millie's factory, Rita's Italian Ice, and much more. Thank you to the generous contributions to the PTO throughout the year that made this possible!