

Palmetto has "A" drive to strive for success - we're fast and furious!

# PALMETTO MIDDLE SCHOOL



## Link #4

Palmetto Middle PTSA

Palmetto Middle PTSA Newsletter

Oct. 2017

### Important Announcements & Dates

Hi Palmetto Middle Community-

Happy October! There are a lot of things going on this month.

PTSA membership collection continues and I want to THANK everyone who has turned in their form. We have also received very generous PTSA donations, and I thank you for that as well. As for our homeroom membership contest, right now the following homerooms are leading in the Membership Drive: Ms. Mayock is in first, Ms. Alvarez is in second, and there's a tie for third- Ms. Schaefer and Coach (Mrs.) Diaz. If you still haven't turned it in, you can do it online here. (Link to <http://www.pmspts.org/join.html>)

We hope you bought tickets and plan to attend our [#orangeandblack](#) Cocktail Party on Friday, Oct. 20th. For more information and ticket sales, go here.

(Link to <https://mkt.com/palmettomiddleschoolgear>)

Don't forget to buy a BOO GRAM for your favorite little goblin. Forms will come home the week of October 16th.

You can copy the form, decorate it, bedazzle it... whatever you want! For \$1 each, we will attach a treat and deliver it to them on Halloween. We will collect the form and money before school in the breezeway the week of October 23rd.

### Upcoming Events



**Monday, Oct. 16th-**  
School Tour, 9:15 AM

**Friday, Oct. 20th-**  
Cocktail Party, 6-8 PM

**Monday, Oct. 23th -  
Thursday, Oct. 26-**  
Red Ribbon Week

**Friday, Oct. 27th-**  
No School

**Thursday, Nov. 2nd-**  
PTSA Board Meeting,  
9 AM

**Thursday, Nov. 9th-**  
PTSA General Meeting,  
9 AM

**Wednesday, Nov.  
15th-**  
Picture Make-Up Day

To see a complete calendar of upcoming events please [click here](#):

Both activities need volunteers please! If you can help sign up:

Cocktail Party (link to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d45acaa2da46-orangeandblack>)

Boo Grams- (link to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d45acaa2da46-valentine>)

I hope you enjoy the new section of our e-newsletter called "Get to Know..." This month it is Mr. Ersoff, one of our fabulous science teachers at our school. The point of this section is to get to know the various members of our Palmetto Middle School community in a fun way. If you have any recommendations for questions, or certain people you'd like to see interviewed, email your ideas to [KatieLAbbott@comcast.net](mailto:KatieLAbbott@comcast.net)

Hope to see you on the 20th,  
Katie Abbott  
PTSA President  
[KatieLAbbott@comcast.net](mailto:KatieLAbbott@comcast.net)

### **Important Dates:**

Wednesday, Oct. 11th- Picture day.  
Make-Up Day Wednesday, Nov. 15th.

Monday, Oct. 16th- School Tour, 9:15 AM

Friday, Oct. 20th- Cocktail Party, 6-8 PM

Monday, Oct. 23th - Thursday, Oct. 26-  
Red Ribbon Week

Friday, Oct. 27th- No School

Thursday, Nov. 2nd- PTSA Board Meeting, 9 AM

Thursday, Nov. 9th- PTSA General Meeting, 9 AM

Palmetto Senior High School Tour Dates:

[PTSA Calendar](#)

and

[PMS Calendar](#)

#### **Quick Links**

[Palmetto Middle Website](#)

[PMSPTSA Website](#)

[New Parents Guide](#)

[Clubs and Activities  
Calendar](#)



<https://www.amazon.com/?tag=palmettomiddleptsa-20>

amazon



## Volunteers and Members needed

### Race Volunteers Needed

Want to do some good and give back to the community?

Does your child need some community service hours?

One of our Cocktail Party sponsors, Life Time, needs volunteers to help at various events they have, such as the Miami Marathon. Opportunities include handing out water to athletes, etc. It would be great to get a group of our school community members together for an upcoming event. Interested in joining and getting more

details? Contact Jill Nateman at [jnateman@bellsouth.net](mailto:jnateman@bellsouth.net)

and/or our Life Time volunteer coordinator Jessica Mejia, at [JMejia@lt.life](mailto:JMejia@lt.life)

THANKS!

### Become a Special Volunteer for The Listeners/Oyentes Program

We would like to inform you about a wonderful school volunteer program that will provide great benefits to all students of M-DCPS. This program has successfully been a part of M-DCPS for over 40 years. The

Listeners/Oyentes Program is here to support the teachers and counselors by helping to defuse the emotions of the children that our volunteers listen to, so that these students can better absorb the lessons being

taught. To learn more and to see our training schedule, please visit [www.listenersprogram.org](http://www.listenersprogram.org)

**17%!!**

Currently we have only received PTSA Membership forms and payment from 17% of our student families. Some homerooms are at 0%!

**\*\*We need your support!!**

Unlike Elementary Schools, we do not have huge fundraisers throughout the year, and we rely on our Family Membership Drive to help us gain the funds we need to just cover our basic expenses. Want to know all that PTSA does? Attend our meeting and find out! You'll be surprised. ALL monies are given BACK to the school for school improvements, projects, student support, and more. PLEASE join PTSA and consider a family donation.

Forms went home the first week of school. Checks preferred. Form is [here](#) and can be delivered to your child's homeroom teacher in an envelope with your check, or you can use a credit card online here (worse for us- they take a cut):

<http://www.pmsptsa.org/join.html>

**The PTSA Membership Contest ends on Thursday, 10/26 and the homeroom class contest winner will be announced on Friday, 10/27 during homeroom.**

Thank You

### **Registration for Volunteers**

Don't forget to register as a volunteer for Miami-Dade Public Schools. You MUST register as a volunteer in order to participate or volunteer at any events at the school.

You need to do this every school year. For more information go here:

<https://www.engagemiamidade.net/community-school-volunteers>

### **Media Center Volunteers Needed**

The Media Center (AKA Library, but it's so much MORE than that) needs you! The Media Center at Palmetto Middle School is run by parent volunteers. In the

mornings, students like to come to the Media Center to work on school work, use the computers, and check out books. This is one of the most needed and rewarding volunteer positions at Palmetto Middle.

The Media Center will be open each morning from 8:30am to 10am. If we have enough volunteers we can insert another shift, and go until 11am. We need at least two volunteers per shift in case of sickness or emergency.

We need volunteers...Perhaps someone you would like to share a shift with? It's an excellent way to get to know the teachers and the school.

Tora Bueno is putting together the volunteer sign-up. If interested, please let her know which day of the week you would like to volunteer. She can be reached at [torabonnier@me.com](mailto:torabonnier@me.com)

Thank you !

### **Green Help**

Ms. Ortiz needs a few helpers with her green initiatives for the year. One is to help before school when the Green Team (students) meet. Their job is to take care of our school's various gorgeous gardens. Her other big need is to help her prepare the school so that we can receive a Green School designation. Interested? Contact Ms. Ortiz at [tortiz1@dadeschools.net](mailto:tortiz1@dadeschools.net)

### **Copy Room Helpers**

PTSA has historically helped teachers with their copy needs on a daily basis. This year we have a few remaining days available for copy help. It involves coming to school once a week on your assigned day, and spending about an hour copying for teachers. If interested, please email [KatieLAbbott@comcast.net](mailto:KatieLAbbott@comcast.net)

Teachers are VERY appreciative of this service.

Thank you for your consideration!

**Wanted! AV/TV Installer!**

Is there a parent or community member out there who would be willing to offer their skills to help the school install some TVs that were donated? They're large, interactive smart TVs. If you can, please contact [KatieLAbbott@comcast.net](mailto:KatieLAbbott@comcast.net)

Thanks!

## Get to know....

### Get to Know... Mr. Ersoff!

1. What do you teach at Palmetto Middle (subject and grades)?

I am currently teaching 6th Grade Forensic Science and 7th Grade Science - Gifted.

2. How long have you been teaching? How long at Palmetto?

I have been working for Miami-Dade County Public Schools for 32 years (I know, hard to believe!). I have worked as a teacher (15 years) and an educational technology specialist at the regional and district levels (17 years).

I have been a science teacher at Palmetto Middle School for 6 years.

3. What was your favorite school memory from last year?

My favorite memory from last school year was throwing the 7th grade Egg Drop Competition containers from the roof of the science wing and watching the looks on the faces of my students as most of their containers exploded into tiny pieces.

4. What is something the Palmetto community may not know about you?

I was a student at Palmetto Junior High School so many years ago that the yearbook was printed in black and white.

5. If you won \$500, what would you do with it?

If I won \$500, I would probably use some of it to buy some kayaking gear and the rest I would use to take my wife out to a fancy dinner.

6. You have a FREE day to do whatever you want! What would you do?

If I had a free day I would Kayak in Biscayne Bay, The Everglades, or the Keys.

7. What did you do as a career before you taught (if anything!)?

I was a musician (keyboards, guitar, and trombone) and I worked at Suniland Music (now called Miami Music Works).

8. Where did you grow up?

I was born and raised in Miami. I went to Coral Reef Elementary, Palmetto Junior and Senior High Schools, and The University of Miami. - GO CANES!

9. Have any hobbies?

As you might have guessed from some of my previous answers, my hobby is kayaking.

10. You just won a free round-trip ticket anywhere in the world. Where would you go and why?

If I won a free round-trip ticket anywhere in the world, I would have to find a place where my wife would be happy and entertained while I am off kayaking.



### Interested in Palmetto Middle School ?

There are more middle school options than ever.

Come find out why Palmetto Middle School is a great choice for your child.

School Tours 2017-2018:

All School Tours take place at Palmetto Middle School

(7351 SW 128th Street, Pinecrest)

at 9:15 AM in the Media Center.

**2017:** October 16th, November 20th

**2018:** January 22nd, February 20th, March 19th, April 16th, May 21st

## **Coffee w/Principal Gonzalez**

Join our Principal, Mr. Gonzalez, and several select teachers at your home school for Palmetto Middle information and Q&A. All start at 9:00 AM.

October 18th- Palmetto Elementary

October 19th- Howard Drive Elementary

October 25th- Pinecrest Elementary

November 1st- Coral Reef Elementary

## **"Lancer Experience"**

On Tuesday, December 5th,  
5th Grade students from Howard Drive Elementary, Palmetto Elementary, and Pinecrest Elementary Schools will take a field trip to Palmetto Middle School to see what it's all about.

## **Other Palmetto Middle School Resources:**

Other Important Resources:

PTSA Web Site/LINK e-newsletter sign-up:

<http://www.pmsptsa.org>

School Web Site: <http://palmettomiddle.com>

PTSA on Facebook: [fb.me/palmettomiddleptsa](https://www.facebook.com/palmettomiddleptsa)

PTSA on Instagram:

[@palmettomiddle\\_ptsa](https://www.instagram.com/palmettomiddle_ptsa)

PTSA has an app- download and allow pushes

Palmetto Middle on Twitter: [@PMLancers](https://twitter.com/PMLancers)

PTSA has an app- download and allow pushes

- Excellence in Your Own Backyard-

## **Announcements**

### **Pizza Thursdays!**

Pizza days have returned. This year, on THURSDAYS in the breezeway, pizza will be sold after school for \$1 a slice. There are also beverages for sale. THANKS PTSA

pizza sales team!

Pizza Thursdays!



## Support Palmetto Middle Theater

Support Palmetto Middle Theater on Wednesday, Oct. 18th at Chipotle. When you purchase food from them between 5-9 PM, show the flyer below on your smartphone and Chipotle will give a percentage of sales to our fabulous theater group. Thank you for your support !

# ONE FOR THE TEAM



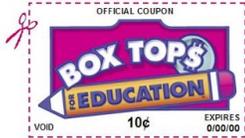
Show your team spirit by joining us for a fundraiser to support Palmetto Middle School Thespian Troupe 88203. Come in to the Chipotle at **12227 South Dixie Highway** in Pinecrest on **Wednesday, October 18th** between **5:00pm** and **9:00pm**. Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 50% of the proceeds will be donated to Palmetto Middle School

Thespi   203.

If placing an order online during your fundraiser, please note you must choose the pay in-store option and inform our cashier of your participation before paying. Gift card purchases during fundraisers do not count towards total donated sales, but purchases made with an existing gift card will count.

## Palmetto Middle Collects Box Tops

Please clip your Box Tops from qualifying purchases for Palmetto Middle. We do collect them and make some easy \$\$ off of the program. A drop-off box is in the Main Office. Bonus points for cutting them out on the line, saves us time. Thank you Jill Marvel and Jill Olster for helping with this project (again!)

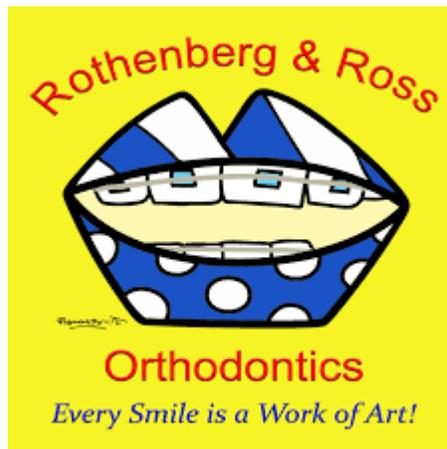


## Business Sponsorship Opportunities

Do you own a business, or know of one which may be interested? Help Palmetto Middle be the best its can be by becoming a (TAX-DEDUCTIBLE) business sponsor. Great advertising as well- reach families of over 1,000 students, faculty, and community members. See the attached for more information.

[2017-2018 Business Sponsorship Packet](#)

## Sponsors



Thank you Rothenberg & Ross for being a SILVER LEVEL business sponsor! Orthodontics of South Miami has built a reputation over the past 40 years for creating outstanding smiles that are truly work of art.

Dr. Len Rothenberg and Dr. Greg Ross specialize in orthodontic care for children and adults of all ages. We pride ourselves on the personal relationships made with our patients and their families, and the individual attention given by Dr. Rothenberg, Dr. Ross and our team at every visit. Located in South Miami and serving patients from Pinecrest, Miami, Kendall and all of South Florida, our goal is to provide our patients with a smile that can give them the confidence and self-esteem to Live Life Smiling! We offer several treatment options, all customized to each patient's specific needs and goals. We are a Preferred provider of Invisalign treatment and provide many esthetic options to traditional braces. Our practice offers the latest in Orthodontic technology and appliances to give our patients the best treatment and outcome. Our mission is to make beautiful, healthy smiles while enhancing the self-esteem of our patients. We have learned to give the same personalized, loving care to all of our patients, especially those with special needs.



pinecrest orthodontics

Thank you Pinecrest Orthodontics for being a Patron Sponsor! Dr. Victoria Rothman just opened a brand new orthodontic practice right down the street from school. She offers various orthodontic treatment options including braces and Invisalign. She treats both children and adults in a warm and friendly family environment. For more information about her and the practice, check out her web site: <http://www.pinecrestortho.com>

# JORDAN M. KEUSCH, P.A.

CIVIL APPEALS AND LITIGATION SUPPORT  
WWW.JMKPA.COM

Jordan M. Keusch, P.A. ("JMKPA") is a local law firm founded by Pinecrest native and proud Palmetto Middle alum (1984) Jordan M. Keusch. JMKPA limits its practice to civil appeals and litigation support in Florida state and federal courts. Mr. Keusch is a veteran civil trial and appellate litigator who opened JMKPA in October 2011 after practicing at prominent local boutique firms and the Miami office of a major international law firm. JMKPA assists its clients with legal issues throughout the litigation process from drafting the complaint through post-appellate opinion motion practice. Mr. Keusch also has appeared in Florida state courts as an expert witness regarding the reasonableness of appellate fee requests. If you or your client need appellate or litigation support counsel, JMKPA would welcome the opportunity to work with you and assist in moving your case forward towards a favorable resolution. For more information, please visit the firm's website, [www.jmkpa.com](http://www.jmkpa.com).

## Sponsors News



pinecrest orthodontics

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**OCTOBER IS NATIONAL ORTHODONTIC HEALTH MONTH**

**GET REWARDED FOR YOUR HALLOWEEN CANDY. BRING IT IN. WE'LL BUY IT BACK.**

**November 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
9:00am – 5:00pm**



-  Get cash for your candy
-  \$1 per pound (up to \$5)
-  Candy must be unopened

*All candy donated will be shipped in care packages to our troops overseas via Operation Gratitude*



**Life Time** has offered these special discount codes for their upcoming races. Note that these are for the longer races 5k and above, not the Kids' runs.

- 1) Baptist Health Turkey Trot 5K/10K - November 23rd  
Turkeytrotmiami.com

**Code: GRPTSATT17 - \$5 Off 5K or 10K**

- 2) Miami Marathon & Half Marathon - January 28th 2018  
+ Tropical 5k on January 27th  
Themiamimarathon.com

**Code: GRPTSAMM18 - \$10.00 Off the Marathon and Half,  
\$5.00 Off the Tropical 5k**

