



POLO R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Panther Pride

November
Volume 6, Issue 3

December Activities

- 1 – Winter Sports/Yearbook Pictures by Scholastic 8:30 am
- Youth Wrestling Practice 6-8 pm in Multi
- 3 – V/JV Wrestling vs. Savannah/ S. Harrison /SWL 5:30 pm
- Youth Wrestling Practice 6-8 pm in Multi
- 4 – K-8 Assembly w/NED Show for Character Education 1:30-2:15 pm in HS Gym
- 5 – All State Band Auditions @ Columbia
- 7 – V BB vs. E. Harrison 6 pm
- Tuba Christmas @ KC
- Youth Wrestling Practice 6-8 pm in Multi
- 8 – MS BB vs. Cameron 5:30 pm
- 3rd/4th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm
- 9 – HS Fall Awards Reception 6:30 pm
- Mentor/Mentee Mtg. 3:15-4 pm
- 3rd/4th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm
- 10 – V BB @ Osborn 6 pm
- Youth Wrestling Practice 6-8 pm in Multi
- 3rd/4th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm
- 7th/8th Grade CRBC Rechtermann Practice 3:30-5pm in HS Gym
- 11 – Itty Bitty Book Club in the Library 11am – noon
- 3rd-4th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm
- 12 – Polo Wrestling Tourney 9:30 am
- All District Band Concert
- 14 – V/JV BB vs. Wellington-Napoleon 5 pm
- 3rd/4th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm
- 15 – Holiday Concert 6:30 pm
- 16 – MS Fall/Winter Awards Reception 6:30 pm
- JV BB @ Lathrop Tourney 4:30 pm
- 3rd/4th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm
- 17 – End of 1st Semester
- After Prom Committee Mtg 6 pm in Commons
- Think First Assembly for Grades 7th-12th
- Youth Wrestling Practice 6-8 pm in Multi
- 18 – No School Teacher In-Service
- V WR @ Lexington Tourney 5:30 pm
- V/JV BB vs. DeKalb 5 pm
- 21 – BOE Mtg 7 pm
- Winter Break School Resumes 1/4/16
- V BB @ NCMC Shoot-Out TBA

Polo Early Childhood Center

On November 24, 2015, a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house was held to celebrate the completion of the new Polo Early Childhood Center. A grant was applied for with Community Development Block Grant over 2 years ago and this project is the completion of the building and grounds. The grant paid for 100% of the funding for the purchase of the property and construction of a new building to be used for Pre-School and Parents as Teachers.

Many individuals, businesses, teachers, and staff worked to write the grant and in the planning and design of the building. The city of Polo partnered with the Polo R-VII School District in the grant application to provide this facility for our community. Many businesses donated to the Neighborhood Assistance Program grant fund which allowed us to outfit the interior with new furniture, classroom stations, and equipment for the new building. The Pre-School Teachers and Parents as Teacher instructor spent many hours preparing the building for the open house.

Over 30 community members, board members, teachers, and pre-school students attended the ribbon cutting. Throughout the day, the building was open for tours. More than 50 guests toured the new building and classrooms. The new Polo Early Childhood Center is an asset to the community and will provide an excellent learning experience for our young students for years to come.



Stadium Seats Available for Purchase



They are \$50 for a regular size seat and \$60 for the wider seat. They are good quality chairs purchased by the Boosters from Pat's Army Store in Lexington, Missouri (letter jacket contact). The Boosters have these for sale at home sporting events, or they can contact Jill Rardon, Kim Snodgrass, or Nicci Jones to purchase.

Join us for Itty Bitty Book Club

When: 2nd Friday of every month from 11am -12pm

Where: Polo School Library

Who: All children under the age of 5 are welcome!

For more information contact:

Gretchen Brashear

Parents As Teachers Coordinator

brashearg@polo.k12.mo.us

Bridget Welch

Polo R-7 Librarian

welchb@polo.k12.mo.us

Subscribe Today for the Rural Reporter Polo Edition.

Mail in to P.O. Box 233, Polo MO 64671 or call in at (660) 255-4300 to place your subscription today for the Rural Reporter Polo Edition. The cost is \$26.75 for a full year. All that is needed is your name, address and billing information.

Postal Patron
Polo, MO 64671

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 31

TransCanada Corporation Grant

On October 29, 2015, the Polo R-VII School District was notified that they were awarded a community investment grant. Mr. Wilburn had applied for a grant for our Community Track Project in early October and is pleased to announce that we have received a \$5,000 TransCanada Corporation Grant.

This funding will be used to help in the construction of our all-weather track that will be available for school and community use. Thanks to grants we have received and the public's vote on a no tax increase bond extension, work will begin in early spring 2016 with the hope that the track will be completed in the fall of 2016. Wet weather during the 2015 construction season put track builders behind and has caused a delay in the beginning of our track project.

The community track will be open to use by the public. We will use the track for fitness activities for our students in physical education classes. The Polo track team will have a safe practice area and equipment as they prepare for track meets. When the track is completed, we will be able to host track meets which will bring people to town that will spend money in our community. It is a hope that we will be able to host youth track activities for Caldwell and Ray County students that are younger in age. The Polo Honor Society is hosting Relay for Life to raise funds for cancer research this year, the first in Caldwell County, and will use the track for activities in the future.



Wireless Technology

In the spring of 2015, the Polo School District applied for E-Rate funding to help pay for infra-structure improvements which would allow wireless technology for our students. This was the first year that E-Rate could be used for infra-structure improvements. E-Rate in the past has been available for telephone discounts for schools that are approved. E-Rate is available nationwide for schools as a grant that has to be applied for, and there is no guarantee schools will receive it.

Schools are responsible for a percentage of the cost based on free and reduced lunch qualifiers. At Polo, we were able to apply for 80% of the cost of technology improvements with 20% of the cost coming from our budget. Any time you are fortunate enough to get \$4 dollars in federal money for every dollar you spend, it is a great way to stretch the budget and provide the best for our students. The cost of the technology upgrades to the district was to be \$58,619. With the 80% to be paid with federal grant funds, our share would be \$11,724 and the grant would pay \$46,895.

On November 18, 2015, we were notified that we had received the grant. We are the second school in the Midwest to receive the grant according to the computer manufacturer, CDW. We are excited at this opportunity to put the infra-structure in place to benefit all our student learning. We are hoping that everything can be done over Christmas break and we can have the wireless carts available for teacher and student use at the first of the year. We just purchased 120 Chromebooks and 4 charging carts as promised with the no tax increase bond the community approved. This will improve access to the internet for all ages of students in our district and help in learning. The teachers have been anxiously awaiting the additional technology so they can use it in lessons they have already prepared. It is an exciting day to be a Polo Panther with all the improvements in our district over the last year with no additional costs to the taxpayers.

National Honor Society Happenings

By: Mercedes McNab

National Honors Society is an organization that helps high school students be recognized by their grades and what they do in the community. They do many different things, like community work, they help with field day for the elementary students, Stormy Farmer told me. They help with the Book Fair and Halloween Carnival, as well as the Relay for Life.

NHS was officially started in 1921 by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Even though there were local organizations similar, this was the first national organization. National Honor Society was founded by Dr. Edward Rynearson, the principal of the Fifth Avenue High School in Pittsburgh. By 1930, the organization had grown to have 1,000 chapters. There are four purposes to NHS: to develop character, to promote leadership, to instill a desire to render service, and to create enthusiasm for scholarships. NHS and NJHS are in all 50 states and U.S territories. Other places, such as, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Canada, and three schools in Pakistan, have active chapters.

NHS' motto is noblesse oblige, which translates into 'nobility obligates.' This means whoever claims to be noble must conduct themselves nobly, or one must act in a fashion that conforms with one's position, and to the reputation that one has earned. The motto was made for juniors and seniors, while NJHS has none. NJHS, National Junior Honor Society, was also founded later, in 1929, with many of the same goals in mind. The only one that was different was to encourage responsible citizenship.

Everyone reading this knows about the Book Fair, right? Well, every year scholastic has a book fair in our schools. How do they know we want to participate? The NHS tells them, and helps advertise them. They also help organize everything. The book fair has more than 1,001 employee and less than 5,000 employees. The book fair makes \$50 to \$100 million each year.

Before, I mentioned the relay for life, too. Bille Thompson said it was for cancer, and was probably one of the things that NHS members are most looking forward to. What do you know of the Relay for Life? The relay for life is a fundraiser to help stop cancer. It was started by the American Cancer Organization, with Dr. Gordon Klatt (1942-2014) as its founder. In May of 1985, Dr. Gordon Klatt ran first, which was 83.6 miles, raising \$27,000 through the pledges for the funding of cancer research. In 1986, he convinced people to help run, and they raised \$33,000, at the Stadium Bowl for the first relay. Now, a nationwide event rose close to \$5 billion and saves life.

NHS hopes to raise \$10,000 for cancer research. The Relay for Life will be held April 16, 2016 from 4-10pm at the track. They look forward to having a fun evening raising money that has touched everyone's life and helped so many.

<http://www.nhs.us/about-us.aspx>

<http://www.njhs.us/about-us.aspx>

http://www.glassdoor.com/Overview/Working-at-Scholastic-Book-Fairs-EI_IE315956.11,32.htm

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY16MS?pg=en&fr_id=73732

http://relay.acsevents.org/site/PageServer/?pagename=relay_learn_go_rdyklatt

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Honor_Society

All Good Things Come to an End

By: Stormy Farmer

Polo High School football ended the season with a record of 8-3. After losing some valuable talent from last year, the Panthers went into the season questioning how well the team would actually do and they proved everyone wrong. They worked as a family to beat every team that stepped up on the line against them. Practice makes perfect and the boys worked hard in every practice to become better than the team they were facing for the week.

Speaking of working as a family, Garret Jones said that the players could have been closer as a team if they would not have argued as much during their final loss against Maysville. "To me football is like family. We strive together." -Mike Lynch. Striving as a team will get your team farther than where you began. As Coach Ross said, "Effort was good, played hard, and just had too many mistakes." Polo football could have went farther, if there wasn't as many mistakes in the game against Maysville. Garrett Jones, said "he thinks the team could have went to the quarterfinals because we could have gotten injured players back on the field." Gunnar Martin said, "If we would have beat Maysville, I have faith we could have went to semifinals." Polo had the backing from the whole town to make it far because this team did incredible things this year.

Polo High School football team is going to buckle down in August to prepare for the next season. They want to be better and conquer things people think they can't. Joseph Hilburn, said "We are going to work on beating Maysville next year and go to the district championship." Coach Ross also said, "We're going to work on defense and special teams work. So we are the best we can be at all 3 phases of the game." Polo will always want revenge on a team that beats them out of the game they love so much.



No Act of Kindness, No Matter How Small, is Ever Wasted

By: Evonne Steward

During the month of November, the United Methodist Church in Hamilton held a Food Power event. Polo school students had the opportunity to participate by signing up to volunteer at this educational event.

What is Food Power? Food Power is a K-5th grade program that teaches children the importance of nutrition and healthy eating. It also teaches physical activity and the significance of exercising. It teaches them where food comes from and how the human body gives them energy to learn and play.

The students that volunteered had their own station where they taught a certain topic such as germs and washing your hands, the different food groups, the different bones in your body, etc.

I interviewed junior, Billie Thompson who kindly volunteered at this event. First off, I asked Billie what her topic was that she taught to the kids. Billie replied, "I taught them the importance of washing your hands and how to wash them properly to prevent illness or getting sick." At this station, Billie explained the lesson more thoroughly by teaching the children to wash their hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds to ensure that all the germs were gone.

Next, I interviewed senior, Erik Johnson who volunteered as well. First, I asked Erik what his topic was that he taught to the kids. Erik replied, "I taught them about the muscles in your body and how the heart is the most vital muscle in your body." During this station, Erik also taught the kids that the more you exercise and move around, the faster your heart beats. Volunteering means that you're being generous and caring. When asking Erik if he would volunteer all over again he gladly replied, "Yes, at first I didn't know what I was doing but it got easier after the first couple times." Erik really enjoyed getting to interact with the kids and help out as much as he could.

Get Your Yearbook Before the Price Raises!

After December 18, 2015, The price of yearbooks will be \$45 or \$50 with name stamping.

Contact Ms. Arth, Stormy Farmer, Cheyenne Parker, Mikayla Reavis, Evonne Steward or Mercedes McNab or order yours today!!

December 2015 Activities Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 *Winter Sports/Yearbook Pictures by Scholastic 8:30 am *Youth Wrestling Practice 6-8 pm in Multi	2	3 *V/JV WR vs. Savannah/S. Harrison/SWL 5:30 pm *Youth Wrestling 6-8 pm in Multi	4 *K-8 Assembly w/NED SHOW for Character Education 1:30-2:15 pm in HS Gym	5 *All-State Band Auditions @ Columbia
6	7 *V BB vs. E. Harrison 6 pm *Tuba Christmas @ KC	8 *MS BB vs. Cameron 5:30 pm *Youth Wrestling 6-8 pm in Multi *3 rd /4 th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm	9 *HS Fall Awards Reception 6:30 pm *Mentor/Mentee Mtg. 3:15-4 pm *3 rd /4 th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm	10 *V BB @ Osborn 6 pm *Youth Wrestling Practice 6-8 pm *3 rd /4 th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm *7 th /8 th Grade CRBC Girls Rechtermann Practice 3:30-5 pm in HS Gym	11 *Itty Bitty Book Club in the Library 11 am-Noon *3 rd /4 th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm	12 *Polo Wrestling Tourney 9:30 am *All-District Band Concert
13	14 *V/JV BB vs. Wellington-Napoleon 5 pm *3 rd /4 th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm	15 *Holiday Concert 6:30 pm	16 *MS Fall/Winter Awards Reception 6:30 pm *JV BB @ Lathrop Tourney 4:30 pm *3 rd /4 th Grade BB Practice Shelton/Gentry 3:30-5 pm	17 *End of 1 st Semester After Prom Committee Mtg. 6 pm Commons *Think First Assembly for 7 th -12 th *Youth Wrestling Practice 6-8 pm in Multi	18 *No School Teacher's In-Service *V WR @ Lexington Tourney 5:30 pm *V/JV BB vs. DeKalb 5 pm	19
20	21 *BOE Mtg. 7 pm *Winter Break *School Resumes 1/4/16 *V BB @ NCMC Shoot-Out TBA	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

December 2015 Menu

Menu is subject to change. Each meal includes one milk. Extra drinks are available for 30¢.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1 Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Fruit Taco Stack, Spanish Rice, Fruit	2 Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Riblet, Scalloped Potatoes, Fruit	3 Yogurt, Cereal Bar, Fruit Chili, Vegetable Sticks, Fruit	4 Biscuit, Sausage Gravy, Fruit Chicken Pattie on Bun, Corn, Fruit
7 Cereal, Oatmeal, Fruit Chicken Fajita, Spanish Rice, Fruit	8 Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Fruit Pizza, Corn, Fruit	9 Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Holiday Dinner	10 Yogurt, Cereal Bar, Fruit Meatball Sub, Green Beans, Fruit	11 Donut, Ham, Fruit Hamburger on Bun, Fries, Fruit
14 Cereal, Oatmeal, Fruit Sweet and Sour Chicken, Oriental Vegetables, Fruit	15 Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Fruit Corndog Nuggets, Baked Beans, Fruit	16 Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Beef Sticks, Mashed Potatoes, Fruit	17 Yogurt, Cereal Bar, Fruit Chicken Nuggets, Broccoli with Cheese, Fruit	18 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK
21 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	22 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	23 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	24 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	25 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK
28 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	29	30	31	

Non-discrimination Statement: The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities) If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form \(PDF\)](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call (866)632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202)690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.