

# Poland Regional High School Board Newsletter

October 2017

## Staffing

- Nothing to report.

## Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development

- Our professional development time during Wednesday early release time and our October 6<sup>th</sup> workshop day was focused on:
  - ✓ A reminder that our primary professional development time this year is focused on assessment. I shared this with parents in our October newsletter: “Assessments are the tests, quizzes, projects and papers that your students complete throughout the year to demonstrate their new learning. As the district continues to write our K-12 curriculum, teachers will be writing, revising and reviewing every assessment students take to ensure that it is appropriate, rigorous and worthy of your child’s time and energy.” During the October 6 workshop day, we used chapters 1 and 2 of *Seven Strategies of Assessment for Learning* to understand the diversity of student motivation towards new learning and how to ensure that the purpose for new learning is clear to students. Teachers then began to process the reviewing of unit assessments and approving them to be entered in Rubicon Atlas as part of the District K-12 curriculum.
  - ✓ Roundtable grade level teams met to get the curriculum up and running for the year. 9<sup>th</sup> grade uses a common text, *7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*, to work on student transitions to high school. They focus on team building and developing relationships with families. 10<sup>th</sup> grade focuses on the Sophomore Exhibition, a presentation that ensures students have a clear understanding of their current reality and future plans. Students share their learning portfolio and conduct career research. 11<sup>th</sup> grade develops a career portfolio which includes opportunities to practice interviewing skills, learn how to write resumes, learn some financial literacy, and begin to finalize post-high school plans. Seniors begin work on their Senior Celebration, a project and presentation which allows them to engage in sustained work on an area or interest or passion which they share with their audience.
  - ✓ Several Learning Area coordinators will have been trained in reviewing SAT/Science test score data to plan for adjustments to our instruction based on student results.
  - ✓ We are getting up and running on our Google Classroom skills during this transition to Chromebooks. The vast majority of our students now have their device and reports are good so far.

## Facilities

- Lights in the high school and middle school gyms are set to be replaced in the next week or two. Gone will be the days of the shadowy night basketball games!

## Events

- Approximately 40 students participated in the annual Manufacturing Day field trip sponsored by a state organization working to make high school students aware of the career opportunities available in this industry. Thanks to Lesley Herschlag for organizing.
- PSAT day for 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade is October 11<sup>th</sup>

- Junior Community Service day is October 19<sup>th</sup>
- Guidance department hosts our annual Senior Parent Night on October 11<sup>th</sup> and begins late night college application help on October 25<sup>th</sup>.