

POLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

STAFF

We are still in need of ed techs to appropriately serve our students.

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our guidance staff has been busy seeking funds to support student academic achievement. Carrie Rhoads applied to UMFK seeking funding support for fees and book costs for our students taking college classes with them. We are pleased to announce that we have been granted access to \$1,655 to support our kids. Additionally, Hillary Bush applied to join, and was accepted, to the 2019 AP Fee Relief Program Pilot sponsored by The College Board. This pilot aims to assist students who are not eligible for already-existing College Board fee reductions by providing them with a \$20 per-exam subsidy in 2019. Given that each AP exam costs \$93, this fee reduction, in addition to the new funds in the budget, will go a long way toward eliminating this financial barrier to participation.

Our October workshop day was devoted to preparing teachers to implement peer and self-assessment in their classrooms. Research shows that these types of activities can significantly improve student learning and motivation, when done well and embedded in the daily work of the classroom. Our goal is to have these strategies throughout all classrooms by the end of the school year. Much of our work on Wednesdays has been focused on curriculum development and planning Roundtable curriculum.

One of our new initiatives this year is the development of a common re-assessment process available to all students across all courses. In the past, whether or not a student got a second chance on a failed assessment was left to teacher discretion. This proved to be an advantage for some students and a disadvantage for others, depending on their teacher. Starting this year, there will be a common process and set of guidelines so that all students have an equal opportunity to relearn material if they don't get it the first time.

FACILITIES

Nothing to report!

EVENTS

- Homecoming activities were a hit with many students participating.
- October 11th was PSAT day for all sophomores and juniors. Our commitment to equity of opportunity is demonstrated by the full funding of these tests in our district budget.
- October 11th also kicks off the college application season with our annual senior parent night, followed by several guidance "late nights", after school hours hosted by our counselors to provide real-time help on applications.
- October 19th is Junior Community Service day