

Poland Regional High School Board Newsletter

September 2017

Staffing

- We are hiring no one right now, shockingly.
- Erin Smith is our long-term substitute for Julia Edwards. Julia is on maternity leave until early November.

Curriculum and Instruction and Professional Development

- Our goals this year focus on several different areas. First, we will be focusing on increasing our assessment literacy as a faculty as we prepare to move forward in our district curriculum work. Our faculty book study is “Seven Strategies of Assessment for Learning,” a book the middle school studied last year. Teachers will be applying their new learning as they make agreements on assessments that will be entered into Atlas as part of our district curriculum. At the same time, Amy will be working directly with the grades 7-12 ELA teachers to refine the curriculum and make sure all grades are in agreement on the skills and knowledge to be taught in the middle school and high school. We will also be focusing again this year on student behavior and discipline. We will continue with the school-wide implementation of Restorative Practices and we are tightening our procedures for students leaving class during the day. We are implementing a hall pass system for the first time at PRHS with the goal of reducing missed instructional time and reducing conflicts in the hallways. Finally, we will be learning all about Google Classroom as we prepare for the roll-out of Chromebooks for all students in the high school.
- August Workshop PD: On Friday, we spent the morning introducing changes in discipline procedures and asking teachers to refocus their own classroom procedures to ensure students are clear on the expectations. In the afternoon, teachers began the assessment book study. Learning Area groups met on Monday afternoon to develop professional goals. On Tuesday, we conducted our mandatory training sessions, teachers met in Roundtable groups and teachers shared their classroom procedures with colleagues to get feedback. When surveyed, 96% of teachers agreed or strongly agreed that the time was purposeful, well organized and useful.
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PRHS by the numbers

- We have **61** (56 in 16-17, 51 in 15-16) students enrolled at LRTC
- We have **30** (17 in 16-17, 20 in 15-16) students enrolled in college classes first semester
- **2** students are enrolled in an AP4ALL course (online AP course offered through the state)
- Last spring **86** (67 in 16-17, 77 in 15-16) students took 119 AP exams (71 in 16-17, 108 in 15-16). 51% (41% in 16-17, 38% in 15-16) of the students earned a 3 or better (3 is passing).
- Our current enrollment is 484 (480 and 482 for the last two years): 9th-112, 10th-120, 11th-117, 12th-122.
- We had **54** students meet enough standards to recover **55** credits in summer school.

Facilities

- Tony Bennet and his crew did a great job this summer and the building looks great. New lights in both the HS and MS gym will be installed this fall. Basketball games will no longer be played in dim lighting!

Events

- Open House 9/6, Homecoming Bonfire 9/21, Homecoming dance 9/23