

HIDDEN



all about **the Bulldogs**

PAWS



From the Superintendent



Craig Hockenberry

Dear Poland Residents,

Here we go again; 2024-2025 topped ALL the charts! Our academic ranking came in with Poland Middle School earning the highest award in the state getting tagged with a FIVE STAR ranking with McKinley and the Seminary close behind with 4.5 STAR rankings. We showed growth in nearly every aspect measured by the Ohio Department of Education. We were granted EXEMPT status by the Ohio Department of Education for meeting the academic performance benchmarks. We also had a remarkable 113 students graduate from the Seminary, earning 1,587 College Credit Plus credit hours.

We continued our athletic dominance in the Northeast 8 Conference earning seven conference titles and several athletes earning **Player of the Year**. We all had the chance to enjoy the great sounds of the Poland Marching Band, Choir, musicals, plays, and art shows across Mahoning County.

We ended the year with a strong, healthy Five-Year financial forecast, clean audit, and continued progress following the Forging Bulldog Forward plan, repairing and maintaining our facilities.

This is all because of our amazing teachers, incredible students, principals, dedicated support staff, and supportive parents who are a part of sensational culture winning at Poland.



According to U.S. News & World Report, McKinley ranks in the top 8% of Ohio elementary schools, Poland Middle in the top 6%, and PSHS in the top 11% of high schools statewide. U.S. News considers any school in the top 40% of state schools to be a "Best School."

Poland Seminary High School's Advanced Placement® (AP) program earned Bronze Honor Roll for increasing college-going culture and providing opportunities for students to earn college credit.

2024-2025 Achievements



Poland Local School District was granted "Exempt Status" beginning in 2024 for meeting state performance benchmarks. Exempt status gives school districts flexibility in decision-making and hiring.

Poland Middle School received the Overall 5-Star Building Award for the second year in a row for their performance on the Ohio Traditional Report Card.

District Leadership



Dr. Maria Hoffmaster
Assistant Superintendent

Poland Board of Education



Mr. Gregg Riddle
Board President



Mr. Jeff Sabrin
Board Vice President



Dr. Laurent Dinopoulos
Board Member



Mrs. Michelle Elia
Board Member



Mr. Larry Warren
Board Member



Mrs. Janet Muntean
CFO/Treasurer

POLAND LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
3030 DOBBINS ROAD
POLAND, OHIO 44514

2023-2024

POLAND LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT CARD

OVERALL RATING:
★★★★★ **4.5 STARS**
EXCEEDS STATE STANDARDS

COMPONENTS

GRADUATION ★★★★★ 5 STARS	GAP CLOSING ★★★★★ 5 STARS	ACHIEVEMENT ★★★★ 4 STARS
EARLY LITERACY ★★★★ 4 STARS	PROGRESS ★★★ 3 STARS	

SCHOOL RATINGS

MCKINLEY ELEMENTARY (K-3) ★★★★★ 4.5 STARS	POLAND MIDDLE (4-6) ★★★★★ 5 STARS	POLAND SEMINARY HIGH (7-12) ★★★★★ 4.5 STARS
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ABOUT THE STATE REPORT CARD
DISTRICTS AND SCHOOLS RECEIVE AN OVERALL RATING OF 1 TO 5 STARS IN HALF-STAR INCREMENTS. THE OVERALL RATING IS COMPRISED OF FIVE RATED COMPONENTS.
OHIO SCHOOL REPORT CARDS ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO PROVIDE PARENTS, CAREGIVERS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, EDUCATORS AND POLICYMAKERS INFORMATION ABOUT DISTRICT AND SCHOOL PERFORMANCE – TO CELEBRATE SUCCESSES AND IDENTIFY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT.



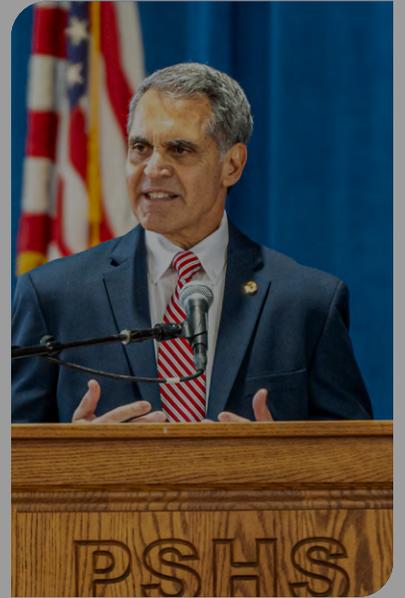
Michael Daley delivered the Valedictorian Address, offering congratulations to his fellow classmates. Reflecting on his time as a soccer goalie, he emphasized the importance of being a good teammate on the field and in life.

Poland Seminary High School Class of 2025



Valedictorians

(Left to Right):
Ian Vandervort, Gavin Mathew, Jeffery Kollar,
Quinlan Bulick, Michael Daley, Kate Harrell



Mr. Norbert Diaz served as the commencement speaker, encouraging graduates to live with honesty, serve others, and be their best selves, just as he was inspired by the character of his own family and colleagues.

COMMITTED to service



Michael Daley has been appointed to the United States Naval Academy, and Oliver McCully has earned a full-tuition scholarship to Tulane University through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (AROTC) program.

"I am extremely grateful for all the people who have supported me throughout this process, including all of my teachers, coaches, and mentors during my time in Poland," says Daley.

McCully said, "I am honored to be committed not only to Tulane University and its Army ROTC program but to the values of loyalty, honor, and integrity that the Army upholds."

THE stats

113
GRADUATES

\$3,012,347
EARNED IN SCHOLARSHIP

75 GRADUATES
ATTENDING OHIO SCHOOLS

1,587
SEMESTER HOURS EARNED



ACADEMICS

trained to lead

DIGGING INTO nature



Bulldogs took their learning outside and got their paws in the dirt. At PSHS, Mrs. McGee's students joined the YSU Legacy Forests project by planting trees as part of an ongoing effort to restore Ohio's native woodlands. Students planted saplings with care towards a greener future. Meanwhile, McKinley students explored the wonders of Mill Creek Park, spotting wildlife and learning how plants and animals work together in nature.



FETCHING details

Ms. Landers' fourth graders explored two exciting research projects this year: what makes jumping beans move, and how candy is made. Through observation and inquiry, the students practiced research, writing, and presentation skills in collaborative groups.



314 and so on...

Fifth grader Kathryn N. set a new school record by reciting **250** digits of Pi during the annual Pi Day Competition!

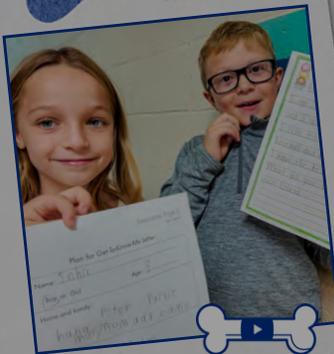


THE DOORBELL rang

Bulldogs welcomed guest experts from near and far. The Western Reserve Joint Fire District taught first graders fire safety, while second graders explored old-school learning with the Mahoning Valley Historical Society. Sixth graders used VR headsets from the ESC of Eastern Ohio to explore future careers. Mrs. Anzevino's class got brushing tips from Dr. Padgett's dental team, and PSHS Anatomy students met virtually with engineers and researchers to dive into medical innovation.

PEN paws

Second-grade Bulldogs turned kind thoughts into surprise mail for their favorite staff members! Before the big delivery day, students learned how to craft personalized letters with clear greetings, organized sentences, and friendly closings. They practiced neat handwriting and thoughtful word choice. Once stamped, sealed, and addressed, the letters were hand-delivered across the building, sparking big smiles and pawssitivity!



HAPPY howlidays



From poems to parades and pastries, Bulldogs brought creativity to the holiday season. Ms. Lawless's second graders explored holiday traditions from France, Italy, and Mexico, while their poetry took center stage at "Lawless's Lounge" and "Kelliher's Cafe" with cocoa and readings for friends.

Third graders brought the book "Balloons Over Broadway" to life by designing their own Thanksgiving parade balloons. Their parade video was popular!



At PSHS, Culinary Arts students competed in a winter cake decorating contest, baking show-stopping treats with fondant and frosting.



QUIZ BOWL victories

The PSHS Quiz Bowl team finished a strong season, tying for first place in the Mahoning Quiz Bowl League's Second Division with a 10-4 record. At the league tournament, the team earned a fifth-place finish. Freshman Cody Collins and sophomore Eli Hagler ranked among the top ten individual scorers in the division. Varsity Team Members: Sehaj Kaur, Eli Hagler, Cody Collins, Douglas Stoudt, Jr., and Rashmeet Kaur.



MATH 24

The Math 24 team from Poland Middle School showed their skills in regional competitions this year, facing off against over 200 students from Mahoning and Trumbull counties. Coached by Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Kaschak, the Bulldogs competed in events at Campbell and Canfield, proudly representing Poland. Congratulations to fifth grade students Ella M. and Katarina F. for placing in the Top 16 at events!



ENGLISH festival

Poland Bulldogs made their mark at the YSU English Festival. At the high school level, Francesca DiTommaso earned first place in "Not So Trivial Pursuit," with Monica Moore taking third. Erika Casey placed second in Writing Games, and Monica earned an Honorable Mention. Jack Downie and Noah Babyak won first place in Connections, while Jake Hagler earned top honors in Writing Games. Matthew Hymes placed first in Not So Trivial Pursuit, and Abby Hagler, Giuliana Falasca, Kate Walko, and Jake Hagler were recognized for their essays.



BIG DOG bracelets

Business is booming! Mrs. Martin's and Mrs. Creed's students launched their own bracelet company thanks to a mini-grant from the Poland Schools Foundation. After setting prices and marketing, the Bulldogs received over 100 orders. These young entrepreneurs proudly stamped "Poland" and "Bulldogs" into the bands to promote school pride and used their earnings to plant flowers at the middle school.

BOTS THAT bark



Bulldogs brought Evos, Spheros, and EV3 robots to life in STEM! Fourth graders coded robots using only paper, markers, and logic. Fifth graders leveled up with block-coding maze-running Spheros, while sixth graders engineered EV3 motors to move crates and complete precision tasks. Students enjoyed challenges like engineering notecards to balance scissors, building record-setting nickel launchers, and opening a cardboard arcade for kindergarteners. Each project delivered hands-on lessons in design, data collection, and iterative problem-solving.

BULLDOG buddies

Students from the PSHS Early Childhood Development class visited Dobbins throughout the year for hands-on holiday fun with the preschool pups. From monster crafts at Halloween to turkey building at Thanksgiving and Whoville games on Grinch Day, the Bulldog Buddies brought lots of smiles to every visit. They made memories that last forever!



PRIMAL pups

Sixth-grade Bulldogs traveled back in time to experience the survival struggles of early humans. In a hands-on simulation, students raced to gather water with spoons, foraged for scattered food, and built shelters using only limited supplies. Along the way, they debated how to move villages closer to water sources, engineer better carrying tools, and defend food from the elements. With each challenge, students gained insight into the resourcefulness and cooperation that sparked civilization.



IF DOGS could talk

The PSHS Speech & Debate team had a standout season, sending seven Bulldogs to the OSDA State Tournament. Arjun Tuli advanced to the Finals in Congressional Debate, finishing 15th in Ohio. Rashmeet Kaur reached semifinals, and Rowan Downie made it to quarterfinals in Informative Speaking. What a year of powerful voices and podium finishes!



CLEAN paw prints

At McKinley Elementary, Bulldogs showed off their precision through penmanship. Four students were named finalists in the Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest: Autumn L. and Madison P. (Grade 1), Lucia B. (Grade 2), and Millie G. (Grade 3).

DOGS with blogs

Mrs. Herdman's third-grade students transformed into real estate agents to sell eerie, one-of-a-kind haunted houses. Using vivid adjectives, strong nouns, and persuasive writing, they crafted flyers that dared readers to buy. Later, the Bulldogs turned inward with Autobiography Islands, mapping out their own life stories. They explored what makes them unique while learning how to organize and present a personal biography.



LOUD AND proud



Mrs. Hurdley's Communications students learned the power of public speaking. Partnering with Mrs. Pecchia's class, students worked in teams to present meaningful mottos they live by, complete with visual aids. They hosted professional-style panels on Youngstown landmarks like YSU and the Covelli Centre, celebrating hometown pride. These Bulldogs found confidence in their voices and strength in their stories.

RIGHT TO READ week

Right to Read Week at McKinley Elementary was one for the storybooks. Mrs. Fitch's first graders got hands-on with green goo after reading Bartholomew and the Oobleck, whipping up their own oobleck! Miss Gura's class transformed into Things from Cat in the Hat and marched through the halls for their annual parade. Surprise guests from the PSHS Basketball teams visited classrooms for a special "Stop, Drop, and Read" session, sharing stories with younger Bulldogs.



ARTS

creativity unleashed

BULLDOGS to the Butler



Twelve student artists from McKinley Elementary and Poland Middle School were selected to showcase their work in the 2025 Butler Institute of American Art Celebrates Young Artists Exhibition. Among them, Everly R. earned 1st Place for Grade 1. Additional awards went to Alexander T. (Kindergarten, 3rd), Charlotte G. (Grade 1, 3rd), Briella H. (Grade 4, 2nd), and Evan M. (Grade 5, 3rd).



PEACE posters

Poland Local Schools took part in the annual Lions Club Peace Poster Contest, encouraging students to share their visions of global harmony through art. Congratulations to seventh grader Giuliana Falasca, whose thoughtful design earned local recognition and advanced to the national level.

THE ART of learning

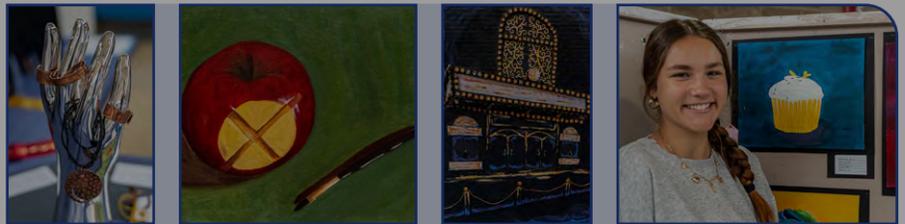


Students at Poland Middle School enjoyed creating candy-inspired radial symmetry displays that popped with color, pattern, and a touch of sugar-fueled imagination. To explore implied texture and cultural design, the ESC introduced VR headsets for a virtual tour of Colombia and beyond, immersing students in vibrant scenes of natural beauty, architecture, and everyday life. Portfolios were decorated by many artists' tributes this year, including Keith Haring and Andy Warhol.



SCHOLASTICS

PSHS students made a strong impression at the 2025 Northeast Ohio Scholastic Art Awards Exhibit at YSU. Alexa James and Annabella White earned Silver Key awards for their individual artworks. Honorable Mentions were awarded to Zoe Baird, Bella DiPasqua, Hannah Drummond, Ashlynn Kushner, Jocelyne Salaty, and Leonardo Valente for their works.



ART shows

PSHS proudly hosted the Exceptional Art Show and PSHS Art Show, celebrating creativity unleashed. To view artwork from the 2024-2025 school year, visit polandbulldogs.com/art.



SILVER KEY portfolio

PSHS Senior Gavin Mathew earned a Silver Key for his outstanding art portfolio in the 2025 Northeast Ohio Scholastic Art Awards Exhibit at YSU, along with a gifted designation from the ESC of Eastern Ohio. "Everyone has a special gift, and they should use it. With art, you get to express your creativity in so many forms," said Mathew.





PSHS WIND ENSEMBLE I - SUPERIOR

CLASS A - OMEA LARGE GROUP CONTEST



SUPERIOR

Congratulations to the PSHS Wind Ensemble on earning a Superior (I) rating in Class A at the OMEA District 5 Large Group Contest. The Symphonic Band also received outstanding feedback during a clinic with judges. Bravo to all of our student musicians and directors Mr. Hvizdos and Mr. Penney for their exceptional work!

The PSHS Wind Ensemble performed a wide-ranging and challenging repertoire across three concerts this year, including marches, contemporary works, and show tunes. Their performances showcased a level of musicality well beyond their years. Many student musicians balance packed schedules with impressive dedication and academic achievement.



HONORS band & choir

Poland's finest musicians hit the right notes at this year's OMEA D5 Honors events. Ella Creed, Makenna Raphington, Isabel Thayer, and Addison Hale represented Junior High in the Honors Choir among the region's top young vocalists. In Honors Band, high school students Annika Davenport and Nathan Hupp joined junior high performers Isabella Falasca, Jake Hagler, Zachary Jafelice, and Nathan Vagas in a showcase of talent.



SUGAR rush

The PSHS Marching Band delivered a high-energy halftime show this season that was nothing short of sweet. With crowd-pleasers like *Cake by the Ocean*, *Sweet Child o' Mine*, *Pour Some Sugar on Me*, and *I Want Candy*, the Bulldogs served up musical dessert all fall long. The marching band performed at band nights, drum nights, and local events as the pride of our community.



SOLO & ensemble

Over 45 student musicians from Poland Seminary High School and Junior High participated in the 2025 OMEA District 5 Solo & Ensemble events. High school students earned 8 Superior and 3 Excellent ratings, while junior high musicians brought home 11 Superior and 6 Excellent scores. Standout performances included solos, duets, trios, and full ensembles across percussion, brass, woodwinds, piano, and voice.



CANINE choir

The PSHS Chamber Choir hit all the right notes this year with a dynamic mix of pop tunes, Broadway selections, and patriotic music. Two senior soloists took center stage with standout performances from Broadway. The choir also honored Veterans Day with heartfelt tributes. A highlight came during their spring concert, when they brought back *Cups from Pitch Perfect*, a routine they first learned virtually from Mr. Penney five years earlier.



BARNYARD dogs

McKinley Elementary's performers delighted audiences with two productions this year. In December, second graders became magic reindeer in *"Antlers!"*, strutting down the runway singing festive tunes. In spring, first graders were animals in *"A Barnyard Moosical"*, featuring dancing goats, cows, pigs, and chickens. With catchy songs like *"Funky Chicken Strut"* and *"When Pigs Fly"*, the barnyard buzzed perfect harmony.



UNDER the sea

The Poland Players made waves this year with a double feature of drama and Disney. First, they brought laughs and mystery to the stage with *Caught in the Act*, a backstage comedy where nothing is as it seems. Then, they dove into *The Little Mermaid*, complete with a live pit orchestra, colorful costumes, big musical numbers, and even some friends from McKinley and Poland Middle School! The Bulldogs proved they can command the spotlight on stage or under the sea.



Memories were made when the Poland Players performed a preview of *The Little Mermaid* for students at McKinley Elementary. PSHS junior Delaney Demetrios, who played Ariel, reflected on the experience: "I remember watching high school performers and thinking, 'That's what I want to do someday.' It's a full circle moment that I get to inspire kids to want to do some of the things I do."

ATHLETICS

fetching wins all season long



BOYS GOLF



BOYS SOCCER



GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY



BOYS BASKETBALL



BOYS TENNIS



NE8 Conference Champions



GIRLS SWIM & DIVE



BOYS SWIM & DIVE



GIRLS SOCCER

District Champions



BOYS SOCCER

NE8 All-Conference

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



MICHAEL DALEY
BOYS SOCCER



LUCIENNE HOPPS
GIRLS TENNIS



ANGELO RINALDI
BOYS GOLF



CARMINE TUKALO
BOYS BASKETBALL



IAN VANDERVORT
BOYS SWIM & DIVE



MADDIE BELL
GIRLS SWIM & DIVE



KENNEDY HENDERSON
GIRLS SWIM & DIVE



JOCELYNE SALATY
GIRLS SWIM & DIVE



ANDREW AEY
BOYS TENNIS

40 FIRST-TEAM SELECTIONS

33 SECOND-TEAM SELECTIONS



BOYS GOLF

AJ Battaglia, Ryan Lombardo, Matthew Morrone, Zach Ohlin, Angelo Rinaldi

STATE QUALIFIERS



SEAN ZURA

Boys Swim



MCKENNA DALEY

Girls Diving



ELLA THOMAS

Girls Wrestling



ABBIE MILLER

Girls Wrestling



SAVVA DIRIENZO

Boys Wrestling



BOYS SWIM

Gabe Bettross, Jake O'Bruba, Sean Zura, Ian Vandervort
200 Freestyle Relay

CHEER to state



PSHS Cheer kicked off a strong season at Cheer Time Athletics Spirit Camp, where the Bulldogs earned multiple Elite Awards and individual honors for spirit, stunt, and leadership. Seven athletes were named CTA All American Cheerleaders, earning invitations to perform at YSU, the Cleveland Cavaliers, and even the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. At the Girard Cheer Competition, the team brought home top placements and specialty awards, including Grand Champion for the junior high team. PSHS Cheer wrapped up their season as qualifiers for the OASSA State Cheer Championship, competing among Ohio's best.



SCHOOL RECORDS

ANGELO RINALDI
MATTHEW MORRONE
AJ BATTAGLIA
RYAN LOMBARDO **BOYS GOLF**
9 HOLE, TEAM **137 (-7)**

GABE BETTROSS
IAN VANDERVORT
JAKE O'BRUBA
SEAN ZURA **BOYS SWIM**
200 FREESTYLE RELAY **1:29.90**

GABE BETTROSS
IAN VANDERVORT
SEAN ZURA
AARON VANDERVORT **BOYS SWIM**
200 MEDLEY RELAY **1:42.70**

ANGELO RINALDI **BOYS GOLF**
18 HOLES, INDIV. **69 (-3)**

MATTHEW MORRONE **BOYS GOLF**
9 HOLES, INDIV. **30 (-6)**

VITO KOMARA **FOOTBALL**
INT. RETURN FOR TD **104 yds.**

CASSIE BLANCH **GIRLS BASKETBALL**
CHARGES TAKEN, SEASON **12**

TYSON TARAJACK **BASEBALL**
STRIKEOUTS, 7IP **17**



HISTORY made

PSHS made history this year with two Bulldogs placing at the OHSAA State Tournament in girls wrestling. Sophomore Ella Thomas (44-4) earned third place in the 100-pound weight class, the highest finish ever by a PSHS girls wrestler. Freshman Abbie Miller (31-6) secured fourth in the 145-pound class. With dominant seasons and multiple titles, the Girls Wrestling team opened a proud new chapter for wrestling at PSHS.

ONE GAME at a time



Backed by 13 determined seniors, the Poland Bulldogs football team powered through an impressive 11-3 season. They surged into the Division V playoffs with commanding wins over Canton Central Catholic, Martins Ferry, and Manchester.

KEEP A PAW ON IT bright future

- **Junior High** earned multiple NE8 championship titles: Boys Cross Country, Girls Cross Country, 7th Grade Volleyball, 8th Grade Girls Basketball, 8th Grade Boys Basketball, and Junior High Girls Track & Field. Freshman Boys Basketball were dominant, also winning the NE8.
- The **PSHS Boys Basketball** team advanced to the District Championship in a strong playoff run in 2024.
- The **PSHS Boys Tennis** earned their 6th consecutive NE8 title, continuing their success in the conference.

OHSAA RECORDS

VITO KOMARA **FOOTBALL**
INT. RETURN FOR TD **t5-104 yds.**

COLLEGE SIGNINGS

LUCY HARRELL **HOPE COLLEGE**
GIRLS LACROSSE

LAINY MCGIVERN **TIFFIN COLLEGE**
STUNT

SOPHIA GENERALOVICH **JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY**
GIRLS SOCCER

AWARD of excellence



The PSHS Athletic Department was honored with the Bruce Brown Award of Excellence from the Ohio Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. This statewide recognition celebrates schools that consistently promote education-based athletics through intentional leadership, equity, and a commitment to student growth. Mr. Brian Banfield was also named the Poland Schools Foundation's Distinguished Staff Member of the Year.

WKBN STUDENT ATHLETES



Congratulations to seniors **Lucienne Hopps** & **Michael Daley**, who were recognized by WYTV/WKBN as Student Athletes of the Week. Both students exemplify what it means to be a Bulldog, balancing 4.0 GPAs, athletic excellence, and meaningful involvement in school and community activities. Their leadership set a powerful example on and off the field.



polandbulldogs.com/athletics

ACTIVITIES

man's best friends



CANNED FOOD drive



Each year, the PSHS Student Council and Poland Middle School PANDA Club lead a district Food Drive to benefit the Poland Food Pantry. In 2024, Bulldog Nation stepped up in a big way, collecting and donating over 15,000 food items. Thanks to the generosity of students, families, staff, and the community, Poland Local Schools made a powerful impact for local families in need.



KIDS HEART challenge

McKinley Elementary Bulldogs raised over \$27,000 for the American Heart Association through the 2025 Kids Heart Challenge. Thank you to all students, families, and staff who donated to support heart health. Mrs. Donahue's third grade class led the charge as the top-earning classroom and shared their favorite tips for staying heart-healthy: play basketball, add colorful fruits and veggies to your plate, get good sleep, and never skip your jumping jacks.



INTERACT club



The PSHS Interact Club stayed true to its mission of service this year, offering student-led tutoring sessions for middle schoolers, volunteering in nursing homes, and assisting at community events with the support of the Poland Rotary. One of the most memorable moments came at the Leonard Kirtz Prom, where club members helped students get ready for the big event and danced alongside them.



KINDNESS club

The Poland Middle School Kindness Club made a difference all year long with thoughtful projects that brought warmth and cheer to others. From writing holiday cards to veterans and patients at Boardman St. Elizabeth's to crafting ornaments and uplifting messages for their school, these Bulldogs were busy spreading smiles. They also collected winter accessories for students in need and hand-tied fleece blankets to share comfort with the community. They finished the school year writing cards to thank staff members.



A KIND collab

The Poland Middle School Kindness Club and PSHS Interact Club joined forces for a heartwarming service project: surprising the Western Reserve Joint Fire District with care packages and handwritten notes. Fifth and sixth graders teamed up with high school students to fill each bag with snacks and gratitude, then hand-delivered them to local firefighters. Led by Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Butch, and Mr. Martin, these Bulldogs made a difference in our community.





VETERANS day

Poland Local Schools came together to honor Veterans Day with gratitude. At PSHS, the Wind Ensemble and Chamber Choir performed at the annual assembly, which featured guest speaker Mr. Denney. Eighth grade ELA students at the Junior High studied *In Flanders Fields* and wrote letters to Veterans through Operation Gratitude, while sixth graders invited local Veterans to join them for lunch. At McKinley, the third grade class delivered a thoughtful presentation under the direction of Ms. Senatore, sharing music and history in honor of those who served.



STUDENT council

The Poland Seminary High School Student Council led by example this year. They kicked off the season of giving with a schoolwide canned food drive and hosted the Thanksgiving assembly, where students reflected on gratitude. Junior High Student Council members visited the Blackburn Home to spread holiday cheer. They delivered treat bags and handwritten letters, sang carols, and shared their favorite traditions with Poland community members.



The PSHS Student Council led a Clingan Cleanup, giving back to the community by picking up trash along the road.



RED RIBBON week

During *Red Ribbon Week*, sixth grade PANDA Club members took the director's chair, creating their own daily video PSAs to kick off each morning. From choosing joy to chasing dreams, staying healthy, and being brave, each short film delivered a meaningful message about making good choices. The videos were played for students across the district each morning of the week. These Bulldogs showed what it means to lead by example!

START WITH hello

During *Start with Hello Week*, students from kindergarten through high school took part in activities focused on connection and friendship. From interviews at lunch to daily discussions on being an upstander, Bulldogs practiced making new friends and building a stronger school and community. With simple questions, thoughtful compliments, and honest conversations, our students proved that making a difference can begin with just one word... Hello!



2nd Grade - McKinley Elementary

Kindness with Mrs. Kelliher's Class

KINDNESS WITH Kelliher's

Mrs. Kelliher's second grade class brought smiles to McKinley Elementary by spreading kindness one surprise at a time. Working as a team, the Bulldogs creatively thanked staff members throughout the building for all they do. In just five days, their thoughtful acts made a big impact and even inspired their fellow second graders to join the kindness movement.



PUPSTARS

at the dog show



MATH 24 showdown

It all started with a bold challenge from fifth grade Math 24 wizard Colton... Could Mr. Nico outmatch the fifth grade competition team? In a fast-paced faceoff of mental math, the students scored more cards than Mr. Nico and their coach, Mrs. Martin. Ahem... For the record, the adults did score some points, despite Ben and Marcella saying they wouldn't score any!



HYPE videos

This year, PSHS hype videos amassed over 36,000 views, featuring our Bulldogs creatively in 20 sports.



HOLIDAY battle

Excited to join the Poland Players someday, Mari, Gabby, and Alex recorded a short skit to determine the best holiday. Getting into character and singing, the stars showed they're ready for the stage!

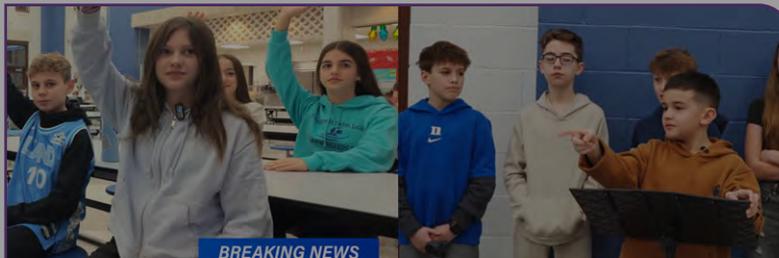
In 2021, we began sharing our story on YouTube with just 50 subscribers, highlighting Bulldog excellence in academics, arts, athletics, and activities. Since then, we've grown to over 1,100 subscribers and published more than 350 videos, each one capturing Bulldogs as the stars of their own show. But these videos are more than just highlights... they're a window into the multi-talented and spirited hearts of our Bulldogs.

We are excited to continue presenting the amazing progress and talents of our students through social media and videos. As a reward for their hard work in the classroom, we often let them come up with the video ideas too. When students are this passionate, talented, and true to themselves... how could we ever say no?



JINGLE all the way

Fifth and sixth grade Bulldogs turned WIN time into a complete holiday production with their lip sync video to Jingle Bells by Michael Bublé. From snow confetti to synchronized dancing, students brought the cheer with handmade props, creative costumes, and joyful choreography... all filmed in under two hours!



SNOW DAY reunion

A group of sixth-grade Bulldogs held a press conference at Poland Middle School. Reprising their roles as the original 2022 "More Snow Days" petition signers, the students passionately defended the joys of school closings. Students came prepared with forecasts, press questions, and a refusal to settle for two-hour delays.



BULLDOG biskits

This year, Poland Schools launched a new video series called Bulldog Biskits: short-form skits showcasing Bulldogs in action. Designed for quick laughs, bright moments, and classroom creativity, each "biskit" is bite-sized! Some of our favorites include when student teacher Mrs. Ardale guessed her students correctly just by their voice and when Mrs. Alexee's Bulldogs sang holiday carols around McKinley.



PAW-PUP podcast

A podcast studio popped up on campus one day... The students recorded all the reasons they love their teachers.



subscribe

polandbulldogs.com/youtube



PAWSITIVE

The Bulldog Way 



BULLDOGS



POLAND



To celebrate the values that shape our schools, students took their school mottos and turned them into something unforgettable! The students recorded theme songs and music videos! At McKinley Elementary, students narrated and demonstrated what it means to be PAWSITIVE: positive, always respectful, working responsibly, and safe. At Poland Middle School, the Bulldog Way came to life through narrations and scenes focused on taking care of yourself, others, our school, and our community. Learn the dance yourself and sing along:

polandbulldogs.com/music-video

DOBBINS EARLY LEARNING CENTER

pups moving up

Poland Local School District hosts a preschool at the 3030 Dobbins Road facility. The Dobbins Early Learning Center hosts over 70 students in three preschool classes:

- Monday-Friday (Transitional Kindergarten) 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Monday + Wednesday + Friday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Tuesday + Thursday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

At Dobbins Early Learning Center, our preschool pups enjoyed a year full of hands-on learning, creativity, and joyful traditions. From festive concerts and science day experiments to field trips and special Mother's and Father's Day celebrations, students made meaningful progress on their journey to Kindergarten. Community guests visited to read stories and share about their careers, adding real-world connections to the classroom. Music and movement took center stage during both the Christmas and Graduation performances. To wrap up the year, the pups pedaled with purpose in the Trike-A-Thon, raising \$932 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

To learn more about the Dobbins Early Learning Center, visit polandbulldogs.com/preschool.



ACCOUNTING

check out Poland's checkbook



AUDITOR OF STATE award

Poland Local School District has received the Auditor of State Award for its excellent performance in the state audit. The award is presented "for excellence in financial reporting in accordance with GAAP and compliance with applicable laws for the fiscal year ended 2024." Ohio Auditor of State Keith Faber has signed, "The citizens you represent are well-served by your effective and accountable financial practices." This marks at least the fifth time since 2016 that CFO/Treasurer Janet Muntean and the district have received this recognition, a testament to an ongoing commitment to excellence. Congratulations to Mrs. Muntean for her outstanding leadership and dedication to the Bulldogs!

MORE resources

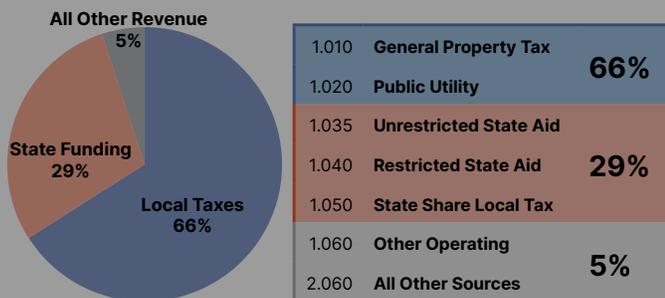
The Treasurer's Department webpage is a comprehensive resource, regularly updated with learning materials, links, and documents designed to enhance your understanding of school finance. Over the last two years, we have added a multitude of resources, including a handy glossary of school finance terms, updates from the state, and financial reports that help you understand "Poland's checkbook."



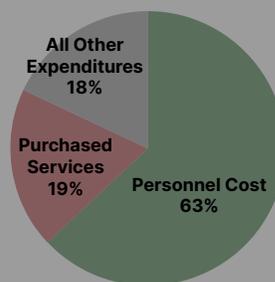
polandbulldogs.com/treasurer

In November 2024 and May 2025, CFO/Treasurer Janet Muntean presented the Five-Year Forecast to the Board of Education. The five-year forecast serves as a tool to communicate and assess the financial health of a school district. Local school districts are required to submit five-year forecasts twice annually to the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. Each five-year forecast contains two components: 1) historical and projected financial data and 2) notes to explain any significant changes or "assumptions" a district used to develop the reported financial projections.

revenue



expenditures



3.010	Personnel	63%
3.020	Benefits	
3.030	Purchased Services	19%
3.040	Supplies/Materials	
3.050	Capital Outlay	
4.055	Principal \$	
4.060	Interest \$	18%
4.30	Other Objects	
5.010	Transfers-Out	

SIMPLIFIED financial statement

	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Beginning Cash Balance	\$9,812,690	\$9,903,262	\$7,624,015	\$6,965,249	\$5,398,856
+ Revenue	\$25,531,834	\$25,570,649	\$26,133,802	\$25,527,766	\$23,411,875
+ Renewal Levies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,070,123	\$3,266,385
+ New Levies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
- Expenditures	\$25,441,262	\$27,849,896	\$26,792,568	\$28,164,282	\$28,722,094
= Revenue Surplus or Deficit	\$90,572	-\$2,279,247	-\$658,766	-\$1,566,393	-\$2,043,834
Ending Cash Balance with Levies	\$9,903,262	\$7,624,015	\$6,965,249	\$5,398,856	\$3,355,022
Revenue Surplus or Deficit without Levies	\$90,572	-\$2,279,247	-\$658,766	-\$2,636,516	-\$5,310,219
Ending Cash Balance without Levies	\$9,903,262	\$7,624,015	\$6,965,249	\$4,328,733	-\$981,486

*Forecasted as of 05/21/2025.



2025-2026 Academic Calendar



Teacher In-Service Days	August 18-27, 2025
Labor Day - No Classes	September 1, 2025
First Day of Classes	September 2, 2025
Parent Teacher Conferences - No Classes	October 9, 2025
NEOEA Day - No Classes	October 10, 2025
End of First Quarter	October 31, 2025
Thanksgiving Recess - No Classes	November 26-28, 2025
Winter Recess - No Classes	December 22, 2025 - January 1, 2026
Teacher In-Service Day - No Classes	January 2, 2026
End of Second Quarter / First Semester	January 16, 2026
Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No Classes	January 19, 2026
Parent Teacher Conferences - Classes In Session	February 12, 2026
Presidents' Day Weekend - No Classes	February 13 & 16, 2026
Teacher In-Service Day - No Classes	March 13, 2026
End of Third Quarter	March 20, 2026
Spring Recess - No Classes	April 3-10, 2026
Memorial Day - No Classes	May 25, 2026
Class of 2025 Graduation	May 30, 2026
Last Day of Classes - End of Fourth Quarter / Second Semester	June 2, 2026
Teacher In-Service Day	June 3, 2026

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Poland Seminary High School

3199 Dobbins Road
Poland, OH 44514
(330) 757 - 7018

Principal: Kevin Snyder
kjsnyder@polandschools.org

Assistant Principal: Michael Daley
mdaley@polandschools.org

Poland Middle School

47 College Street
Poland, OH 44514
(330) 757 - 7003

Principal: David Purins
dpurins@polandschools.org

McKinley Elementary School

7 Elm Street
Poland, OH 44514
(330) 757 - 7014

Principal: Matthew Beard
mbeard@polandschools.org

Dobbins Early Learning Center

3030 Dobbins Road
Poland, OH 44514
(330) 757 - 0851

Director: Miranda Foster
mefoster@polandschools.org



Poland Local Schools
3030 Dobbins Road
Poland, OH 44514



Mrs. Tracy Kaschak
Distinguished Teacher of the Year



Mr. Mike Zembower ('00)
Distinguished Alumnus of the Year



Mr. Brian Banfield ('93)
Distinguished Staff Member of
the Year



POLAND SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

The Poland Schools Foundation named Mrs. Tracy Kaschak, Poland Middle School teacher, as the Distinguished Teacher of the Year. Mr. Brian Banfield, Athletic Director, was named Distinguished Staff Member of the Year. Mr. Mike Zembower was the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year. They were recognized at the annual Recognition Banquet in March.

The Poland Schools Foundation awarded mini-grants to teachers at Poland Local Schools for over 6 unique projects this year. Grants supported teachers with interactive materials to improve the learning experience.

You can learn more about the Poland Schools Foundation at:
POLANDSCHOOLSFOUNDATION.COM

WEEKLY newsletter

We can't believe we didn't tell you sooner... Almost every Friday during the school year, we send out a weekly update email to our parents, featuring the latest news and achievements from Poland Schools. Join us on our mission to educate, empower, and inspire our students, and never miss out on the good news:

POLANDBULLDOGS.COM/NEWSLETTER



DOG bones

Our YouTube channel brings almost every story in this book to life with over 120 videos produced this school year. Visit polandbulldogs.com/bulletin to enjoy an interactive version of our Bulldog Bulletin containing "DOG BONES". Go digging for dog bones! Click on one to watch the video!



GO fetch

Can you sniff out the 20 paw prints we hid inside this bulletin?



POLANDBULLDOGS.COM/BULLETIN

MR. NICO'S notes

I have about 1,800 reasons why I feel like the luckiest person in the world. You've seen many of them in this bulletin, our students and teachers excelling in the 4 A's. I love the Bulldogs not just for the tricks they can do on camera, but for who they are when no one is watching:

humble, kind, curious, energetic, intelligent, loving, disciplined, loyal, and most of all, always there for you.



I see these qualities in our students every day at school, and I hope you, our community, can see them too. Our students define what it means to be a Poland Bulldog, not by how they appear online and in bulletins but by how they carry themselves every day.

This publication is dedicated to the thousands of outstanding reasons I love to tell our story: the students, teachers, staff, administrators, and Poland community who are all Poland Bulldogs.

Thank you for being cameraman's best friend.