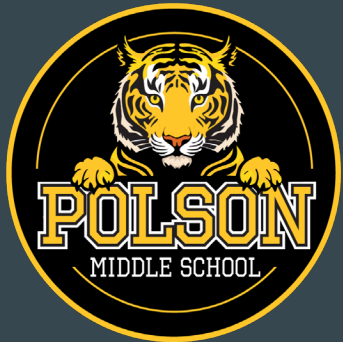


Welcome to
Walter C. Polson Middle School
2026-2027

...



Kathryn Hart - Principal
Martha Curran - Assistant Principal

Introductions

Administration

- Kathryn Hart – Principal
- Martha Curran – Assistant Principal
- Chris Farrell - MPS Athletic Director

7 & 8 Grade Level Counselors

- Maryssa Susi - Grade 7 Counselor
- Claire Golebiewski – Grade 8 Counselor

Introductions

Team Leaders

- Bryan Augustine - Team 7-1
- Allison Whittle - Team 7-2
- Mary Rothfuss - Team 8-1
- Brian Courtmanche - Team 8-2
- Leslie Sperling - RA/WL

Polson Pride: Our Core Values

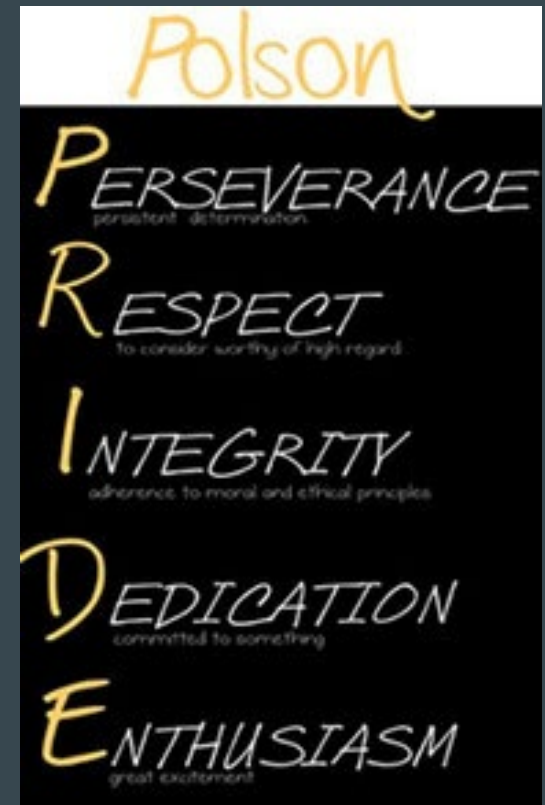
Perseverance

Respect

Integrity

Dedication

Enthusiasm



Polson 2026~~2027~~

Projected Enrollment: 545

- Grade 6: **180**
- Grade 7: **183**
- Grade 8: **182**

Bell Times

- 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM (Bells start and end the day)

Teaming Model

- 2 teams in grade 7 and 2 teams in grade 8

Transition Plan

- Elective Course Selections
- Team meetings with grades 6, 7 and 8 teachers
- Scheduling meetings
- Team Placement on Infinite Campus in August
 - Know Login information to IC
 - Keep Google Email active

Facility Updates

Main gym closed May 11-Nov. 28, 2026

Auditorium closed June 19-Dec. 31, 2026

- **Main Gym**

- Restore floor
- New bleachers
- New lighting, paint and finishes

- **Auditorium**

- Replace seating and flooring
- New lighting and sound system
- Stage renovations

Facility Updates

- **HVAC**

- Cool all instructional spaces
- Replace existing HVAC systems

- **Electrical System**

- Update main system
- Install generator

Polson Renewal Plan on [website](#)

Policies and Procedures

- **Arrival and Dismissal**
 - **Late arrival, early dismissal...enter in IC**
- **Lockers**
- **Student Planner**
- **Dress Code...we need your help!!!**

- ***Entry Physical for Grade 7 students - anything from June 1, 2025 to present.***

Cell Phone Policy

- Phones are not allowed during the school day in any space:
 - Classrooms, including LMC
 - Hallways or cafeteria
 - Locker rooms or bathrooms
- Phones should be stored in the locker for the entire day.

NEW in 26-27: No Smartwatches allowed

Please don't text or call your child. The office staff is happy to get a message to students.

Cell Phone Policy

What if a student forgets the rule?

We keep their cell phone safe in the office until 2:30.

What if it continues to happen?

3 times - email

4 times - ask you to come pick it up

Option to keep phone in the office If students continue to have difficulty meeting expectations

Help us help your child!

Attendance and Tardies

- 9 absences excused for all
- 4 tardies/ trimester excused for all
- Enter in Infinite Campus
- Counselors meet with students after 9 absences or 3 tardies
- **Required** to send a letter regardless of reason

Suggestions:

- Get a note from doctors when possible
- Plan vacations during school holidays
- Email principal for unusual circumstances

Safety and Supervision

In School, Out of School, and Online

- **Safety Drills**
(Fire Drills, Crisis Drills, Security Personnel)
- **Social and Emotional Needs**
(Grade level counselors, social worker, school psych, MYFS)
- **Technology - - *what can parents do?***
(Securly, social media, texting, cell phones)

Supervision is Critical!

Bullying Prevention and Intervention

- Educational programs - character education, lessons by school counselors, health class
- Report in a variety of ways
 - Staff member
 - Email
 - Visit the office
 - Parent contact us
- Safe School Climate Specialist investigates
 - *Follow steps outlined in Policy #5131.911*
- Social Emotional Student Study Team meets every 6 weeks to review student needs

Empower students to speak up!

Any questions related to our
Policies and Procedures?



ACADEMIC PROGRAM



Academic Program Goals

Provide **equal access** to programs for all students,
across all teams

Appropriately place students

Balance class sizes

Variety of offerings to foster the diverse set of
talents



Profile of a Graduate

Skills, knowledge, attributes and competencies necessary for a successful transition to life after high school

critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, self-direction, global awareness

- Woven into curriculum instruction and assessments
- Measured in various content areas
- Developed over time (K-12)

In 6th Grade...

CORE Classes

**One 70minute
period of each**

**Science and Social Studies
every other day**

Language Arts

Math

Science OR

Social Studies



Music Options:

- Band
- Orchestra
- Chorus
- Digital
Technology



Additional Options:

- Theatre
- Musical Theatre
- Journalism
- TED
- Art Explorations
- Healthy Living
- Game On!

Related Arts Periods

World Language

Grade 6

Spanish (3/6)

Grade 7 and 8

Spanish or French
(6/6)

PE and Related Arts

Grades 6-8

PE (3/6)

and

One Trimester of:

- Computers (3/6)
- Health (3/6)
- Art (3/6)

Electives- Student CHOICE!

Grades 7-8



Special Education

Special education teachers are assigned to teams.

Academic Intervention

Reading specialists and a math specialist that provide academic interventions.



Interventions also include counseling.

Grade 7

Homeroom
8:00-8:03

Period 1
RA
8:05-8:45

Period 2
CORE
8:47-9:40

Period 3
CORE
9:42-10:34

Period 4
RA
10:36-11:16

Period 5
CORE
11:19-12:17

Period 6
LUNCH
12:20-12:45

Period 7
RA
12:49-1:29

Period 8
CORE
1:32-2:30

Grade 8

Grade 8
Homeroom 8:00-8:03
<u>Period 1</u> CORE 8:05-8:59
<u>Period 2</u> RA 9:01-9:41
<u>Period 3</u> CORE 9:43-10:47
LUNCH 10:49-11:14

<u>Period 5</u> RA 11:17-11:57
<u>Period 6</u> CORE 12:00-12:53
<u>Period 7</u> CORE 12:55-1:48
<u>Period 8</u> RA 1:50-2:30

Mathematics

Prepare students to:

- Be mathematically literate
- Understand and apply concepts
- Be adept at computation

7th Grade

- Two courses
(Math 7, Pre-alg)
- Math Placement
letters mailed in May

8th Grade

- Two courses (Pre-
algebra, Algebra)

Mathematics Some Unit Highlights

Regardless of level...

Grade 7:

- **Proportional Reasoning**
- **Expressions, Equations and Inequalities**

Grade 8:

- **Linear Functions**
- **Systems of Equations**

Science

- **Support claims with evidence and scientific reasoning**
- **Create and analyze graphs to understand data**
- **Interpret data and draw evidence-based conclusions**
- **Think critically about current scientific topics**
- **Explore science connected to everyday life**

Science- Some Unit Highlights

Grade 7:

- Ecology and Human Impact
- Genetics and Evolution
- Geologic Processes

Grade 8:

- Forces and Motion
- Astronomy
- Chemistry

Social Studies

- **Read and analyze nonfiction sources from past and present**
- **Understand different perspectives and reasoning**
- **Form and support opinions with evidence**
- **Build historical, cultural, and geographic understanding**
- **Research and source credibility**

Social Studies Some Unit Highlights

Grade 7:

- **The Struggle for National Identity-WWI**
- **Upstanders and Bystanders-WWII**
- **Enduring Legacy**

Grade 8:

- **Westward Expansion**
- **The Civil War**
- **Reconstruction**

Language Arts



- ✓ To improve quality of writing skills
- ✓ To increase volume of and independence in reading
- ✓ To help transfer reading skills across content areas and genres
- ✓ To handle increasing text complexity
- ✓ To increase vocabulary through morphology

LA- Some Unit Highlights

In both grades:

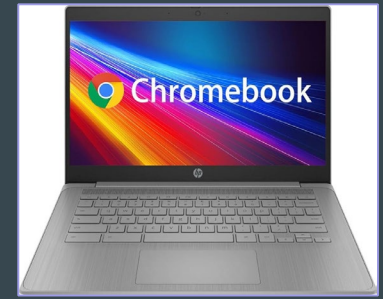
- **Whole Class Novels & Book Clubs**
- **Literary Analysis & Creative Writing**

Also featuring...

Historical Fiction in grade 7 and

Dystopian Literature in grade 8

Technology



We want students to use technology with purpose, balance, and integrity.

- **Tool to support learning, not replace thinking**
- **Balanced with discussion, hands-on learning, and collaboration**
- **Online safety systems help support appropriate student use**
- **Our goal is to prepare students to be responsible and thoughtful digital citizens**

Any questions related to our
Academic Programs?

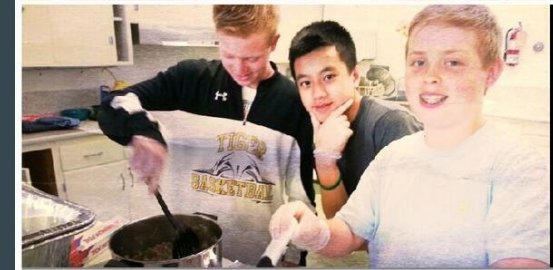


BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



Get Involved!

- **Intramural/Interscholastic Athletics**
- **Academic Intramural Program**
(French Club, Debate, Cooking, Artistic Expressions and more...)
- **Student Council, Excel Club, Peer Helpers, Impact Club, Robotics**
- **Community Service Initiatives and Unified Sports/Clubs**





POLSON

A T H L E T I C S

INTRAMURALS

Introduce students to a variety of physical activities/games that promote a healthy lifestyle without focusing strictly on competition

- Focus on skill development
- Provide an opportunity to be physically active or try something new
- Have fun in a low pressure environment



POLSON

A T H L E T I C S

Intramurals/Interscholastic Sports

- Offerings, forms, dates, and costs are posted on the Polson and athletic department websites
- Emails will also be sent as reminders both from the school and FinalForms
- Must have had a physical within the last 13 months.



POLSON

A T H L E T I C S

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC OFFERINGS (6th, 7th)
All grades have the ability to tryout.

FALL

Girls Soccer
Girls Volleyball (New in 26-27)
Boys Soccer
Cross Country
Field Hockey

WINTER

Girls Basketball
Boys Basketball
Wrestling

SPRING

Softball
Baseball



POLSON

A T H L E T I C S

- **Email from FinalForms**
 - **First contact in Infinite Campus then add people**
 - **Receive in the next few weeks**
- **Login and set up your account**
 - **Back to school forms**
 - **After school clubs**
 - **Field trips**
- **Coaches communicate via SportsYou, FinalForms and MPS email address**





POLSON

A T H L E T I C S

~ Steps to Participate ~

- Register on FinalForms
- Pay Participation Fee in Infinite Campus \$90 per sport
- Send current physical within 13 months to school nurse (Option to upload digital copy)
- Look out for important information/ dates from the athletic department and coaches.
- Updates via email from FinalForms and Website



Welcome to Polson PTO!



Donations have helped support..

8th Grade Dance

Veterans Day

District Art Show

8th Grade Celebration

Career Day

Bus Driver Luncheon

Teacher Appreciation Week

Field Trips

Custodian Appreciation

Back-to-School Teacher Luncheon

Law Day

Cultural Arts Presentations





Suggested PTO Donation Levels



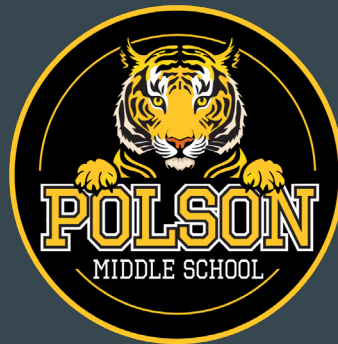
Polson Patron	\$100
Polson Friend	\$75
Polson Family	\$60
Polson Student	\$40



venmo



Questions?
Comments?
Concerns?



Looking forward to a great year! Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need anything.