

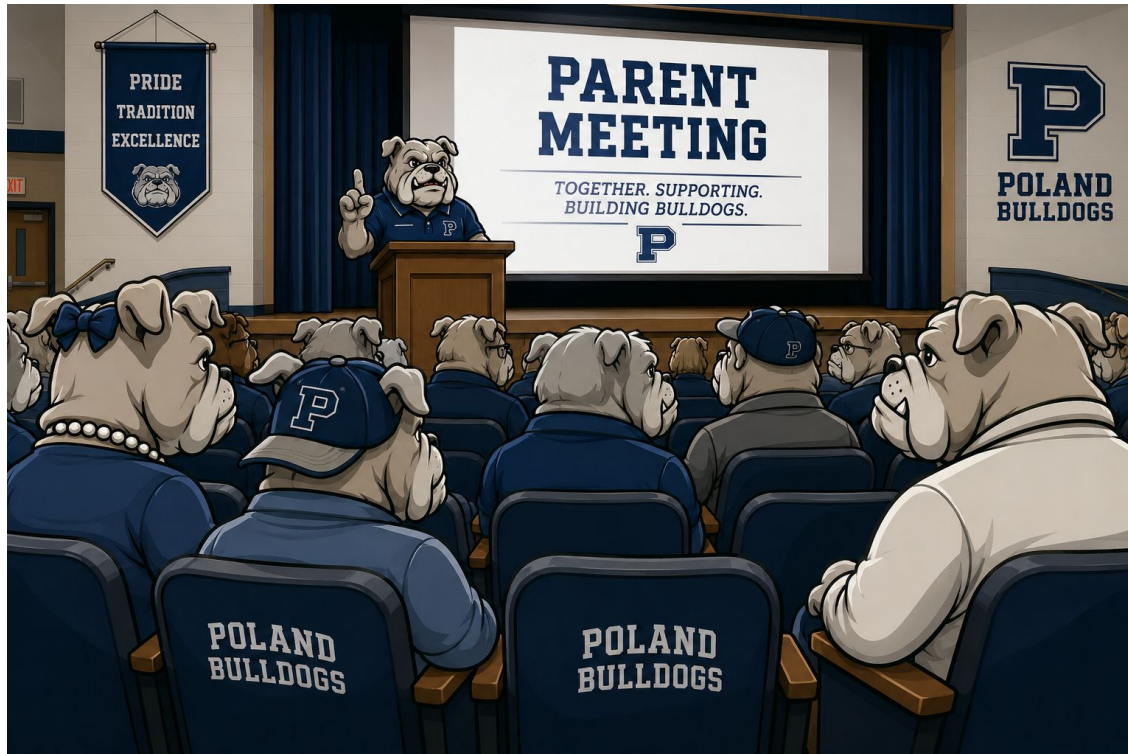
EVENTLINK



Download Eventlink

Fall Sports Parent Meeting

Poland Seminary High School
Nick Blanch, Athletic Administrator



THE POLAND STANDARD

Relationships • Accountability • Integrity • Preparation • Service



**BRUCE BROWN AWARD OF
EXCELLENCE**



POLAND BULLDOGS

FOR PROMOTING EDUCATION BASED ATHLETICS
IN OUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

2024

**THANK YOU,
BRIAN**

**Celebrating 17 Years of
Leadership and Service
to Poland Athletics**

ATHLETICS

9

northeast 8 athletic conference

CHAMPIONS



BOYS GOLF



GIRLS TENNIS



BOYS SOCCER



GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY



GIRLS SWIM & DIVE



BOYS SWIM & DIVE



BOYS BASKETBALL



BOYS TENNIS



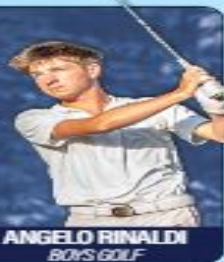
BASEBALL

let's go dogs

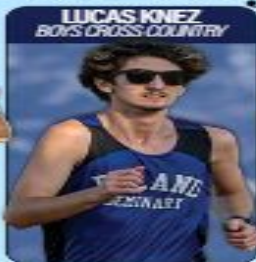
Nine varsity teams at PSHS were named conference champions after successful seasons against Northeast 8 Athletic Conference opponents. Junior High teams won five conference championships, including Girls Cross Country, Volleyball, Basketball, and Track & Field.

NE8 all-conference

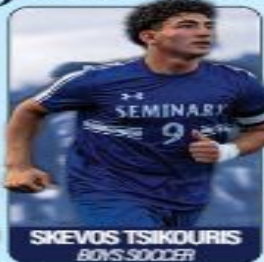
7 players of the year



ANGELO RINALDI
BOYS GOLF



LUCAS KNEIZ
BOYS CROSS COUNTRY



SKEVDS TSIKOURIS
BOYS SOCCER



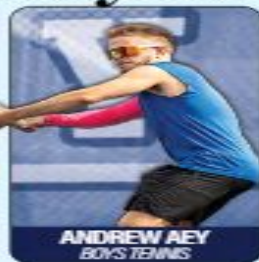
AARON VANDERVORT
BOYS SWIM & DIVE



SEAN ZURA
BOYS SWIM & DIVE



LAUREN VANDERVORT
GIRLS SWIM & DIVE



ANDREW AEY
BOYS TENNIS

50 first-team selections

In the 2025-2026 school year, 93 PSHS student athletes were recognized by coaches and administrators for their outstanding performance in the NE8 Athletic Conference.

36 second-team selections

DOGS to state

ohsaa state qualifiers



BOYS GOLF

AJ BATTAGLIA
RYAN LOMBARDO
MATTHEW MORRONE
PARKER OGDEN
ANGELO RINALDI



JOCELYNE SALATY

Girls
Cross Country



MCKENNA DALEY

Girls
Diving



AARON VANDERVORT

Boys
Swim



ELLA THOMAS

Girls
Wrestling



ANDREW AEY

Boys
Tennis



BOYS SWIM

JAKE O'BRUBA
ALEX KHOURY
AARON VANDERVORT
SEAN ZURA

200 Free & Medley Relays

school records

ANGELO RINALDI MATTHEW MORRONE RYAN LOMBARDO AJ BATTAGLIA	BOYS GOLF 19 HOLES, TEAM	297
JAKE O'BRUBA ALEX KHOURY AARON VANDERVORT SEAN ZURA	BOYS SWIM 200 METER, RELAY	1:41.99
VITO KOMARA	FOOTBALL PASS REC FOR TD	89 yds.
MCKENNA DALEY	GIRLS DIVING ONE-METER	423.45
AARON VANDERVORT	BOYS SWIM 100 YARD BUTTERFLY	53.47
IZZY GRECO	GIRLS BASKETBALL BLOCKED SHOTS, SEASON	53

college signings

LEANNA BOCCIERI SOFTBALL	ST. BONAVENTURE UNIVERSITY
KENNEDY HENDERSON GIRLS SOCCER	JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY
LAUREN COSS GIRLS SOCCER	WESTMINSTER COLLEGE
SOFIA ELIA GIRLS LACROSSE	BALDWIN WALLACE UNIVERSITY
DYLAN KELTY BASEBALL	MALONE UNIVERSITY
STEVIE KOPKASH BASEBALL	LAROCHE UNIVERSITY
LILY McDONALD SOFTBALL	ST. VINCENT COLLEGE

wkbn student athlete



Congratulations to Leanna Bocchieri who was recognized by WYTV/WKBN as a Student Athlete of the Week. Leanna exemplifies what it means to be a Poland Bulldog, balancing a 3.8 GPA, 12 varsity letters, and meaningful involvement in school and community activities. Her dedication sets a powerful example on the field and in the classroom.

Thank you, Brian Banfield



After a distinguished career leading the PSHS Athletic Department, Athletic Director Brian Banfield has retired. During his tenure, Bulldog student-athletes reached new heights at the league, sectional, district, regional, and state levels, while Banfield built a culture of excellence and pride that extended far beyond the scoreboard. "I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together at Poland and grateful for the support of our student-athletes, coaches, and community," said Banfield.

blue & white family



PSHS Cheer opened the season at Cheer Time Athletics Spirit Camp in Niles, earning two Elite Awards and sending nine Bulldogs home with the CTA All-American title. For the second straight year, Seniors Nina Kalouris and Melina Livosky marched in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade as members of the Spirit of America Cheer Group, while juniors Samantha McKenzie and Amanda Ray represented Poland at the Liberty Bowl in Memphis. At the Raider Extravaganza, the High School squad took 1st Place in the Game Day Building Division and the Super Spirit Award, with the Junior High also claiming 1st in the Traditional Building Division. The Bulldogs earned a 5th place finish at the OASSA State Cheer Championship.

13-love



The PSHS Boys Tennis team closed out a remarkable, undefeated 13-0 regular season. They are 2026 NE8 Champions again, making this the seventh consecutive season as conference champions! Senior Andrew Aey was named the Player of the Year, marking his fourth consecutive year receiving the honor. The team is coached by Jimmy Leslie.

In April 2026, the Poland Board of Education approved Nick Blanch as the new Athletic Director. A Poland Seminary alum, longtime teacher, and 17-year head girls basketball coach within the district, Blanch is a familiar face with deep roots in the Bulldog community. "It is truly an honor to serve as Athletic Director in Poland — a community that has meant so much to me as a student, teacher, coach, and parent. I'm excited to continue building on the strong tradition of Poland Athletics while supporting our student-athletes, coaches, and community with pride, integrity, and enthusiasm."



Welcome, Nick Blanch



In October 2025, Junior High Volleyball made history. The seventh and eighth grade teams battled back in third sets to win NE8 Championships on the same night, the first time both grades claimed titles together. What made the night even more special was who was in the stands. More than 20 high school players showed up to cheer, bringing energy and encouragement that helped fuel both comebacks!

don't forget

- The Boys Golf, Boys & Girls Soccer, Boys & Girls Basketball, and Softball teams advanced to the district championship matches this year. The Girls Soccer & Boys Golf teams were named OHSAA District Champions.
- Junior Ella Thomas placed 4th in her third appearance at the OHSAA Girls Wrestling State Tournament.

honored



PSHS Juniors Matthew Morrone and Angelo Rinaldi continued their standout careers at the OHSAA DII Golf State Tournament, earning First Team and Second Team All-Tournament honors respectively. Both Bulldogs have become fixtures at the state level, with Angelo competing at state for the third consecutive year and Matthew for the second.

Nick Blanch

Poland Graduate • Class of 1997

Poland Teacher Since 2002

Coach for 26+ Years

OHSAA Official

New AD

SAME Expectations

Meet Our Fall Leadership Team

Kim Brant

Tom Pavlansky

Brian Garcar

Melissa Kopanic

Chris Martin

Ron Rowe

Kim Grisdale

TBA

Jimmy Leslie (TBA)

Cara Bornemiss

Anne Marie Hurdley

Kirstie Bournias

Athletic Office

Football

Boys Soccer

Girls Soccer

Boys Golf

Girls Golf

Girls Cross Country

Boys Cross Country

Girls Tennis

Volleyball

Cheerleading

Athletic Trainer

THE POLAND STANDARD

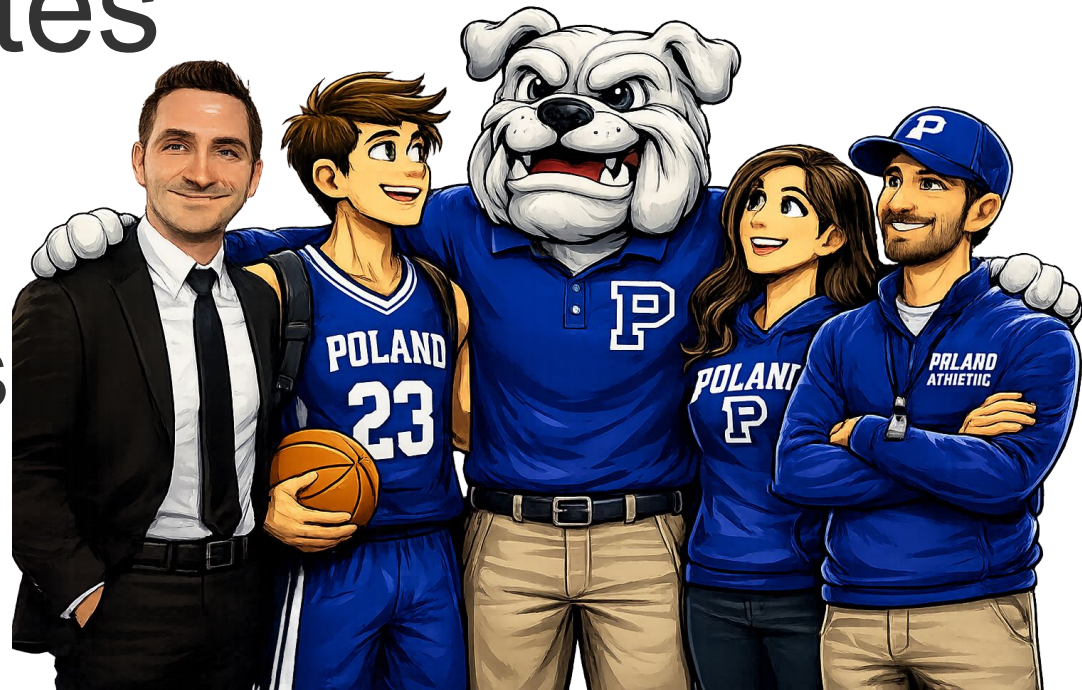
Relationships
Accountability
Integrity
Preparation
Service



**Every decision made in Poland Athletics
will be guided by these five principles.**

EXPECTATIONS

Student-Athletes
Parents
Coaches
Communications



The Poland Standard applies to everyone.

STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS

- Represent Poland & your family with pride
- Be accountable for your actions
- Put academics first
- Be present, prepared, and on time
- Compete with class
- Be a positive teammate
- Respect coaches, officials, and opponents

Athletics is a privilege, not a right.

High School Eligibility (Grades 9–12)

Student-athletes in grades 9–12 must:

- Be under the age of 20 for the duration of the school year. Once a student turns 20 during the school year, athletic eligibility ends.
- Receive passing grades in a minimum of **five** one-credit courses, or the equivalent, during the immediately preceding grading period.
- Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 1.0.
- Be properly enrolled in sufficient coursework to maintain athletic eligibility requirements.

Middle School Eligibility (Grades 7–8)

Student-athletes in grades 7–8 must:

- Receive passing grades in a minimum of **four** classes during the immediately preceding grading period.
- Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 1.0.

Additional Eligibility Information

- Physical Education courses do not count toward athletic eligibility requirements.

PARENT EXPECTATIONS

- Encourage effort, accountability, and resilience
- Allow your child to learn & grow through adversity
- Support the team and program
- Trust the coaching staff
- Promote positivity
- Model appropriate behavior
- Follow communication procedures

Passion is welcome. **Negativity is not.**

COMMUNICATION PROCESS



24-HOUR COMMUNICATION GUIDELINE



PLEASE ALLOW
AT LEAST **24 HOURS**
FOLLOWING ATHLETIC
CONTESTS BEFORE
CONTACTING COACHES.



RESPECTFUL
COMMUNICATION
LEADS TO
PRODUCTIVE
CONVERSATIONS.

COACH EXPECTATIONS

- Teach, lead, and mentor
- Communicate clearly and professionally
- Build positive relationships
- Hold student-athletes accountable
- Represent Poland with pride
- Uphold The Poland Standard

Coaches are entrusted with the development of our student-athletes.

PRACTICE & SIDELINE EXPECTATIONS

- **Practices are for coaches and student-athletes.**
- Spectators must remain in designated viewing areas.
- Activity areas are restricted to coaches and student-athletes.
- Coaches are responsible for instruction, supervision, & team management.
- Questions/concerns should follow the established communication process.

**We appreciate your support and cooperation
with these expectations.**

WE ARE ONE

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



GO BULLDOGS!

BULLDOG PRIDE

ONE TEAM
ONE FAMILY
ONE POLAND

 RELATIONSHIPS

 ACCOUNTABILITY

 INTEGRITY

 PREPARATION

 SERVICE

TELLING THE POLAND STORY



NICO RUGGIERI

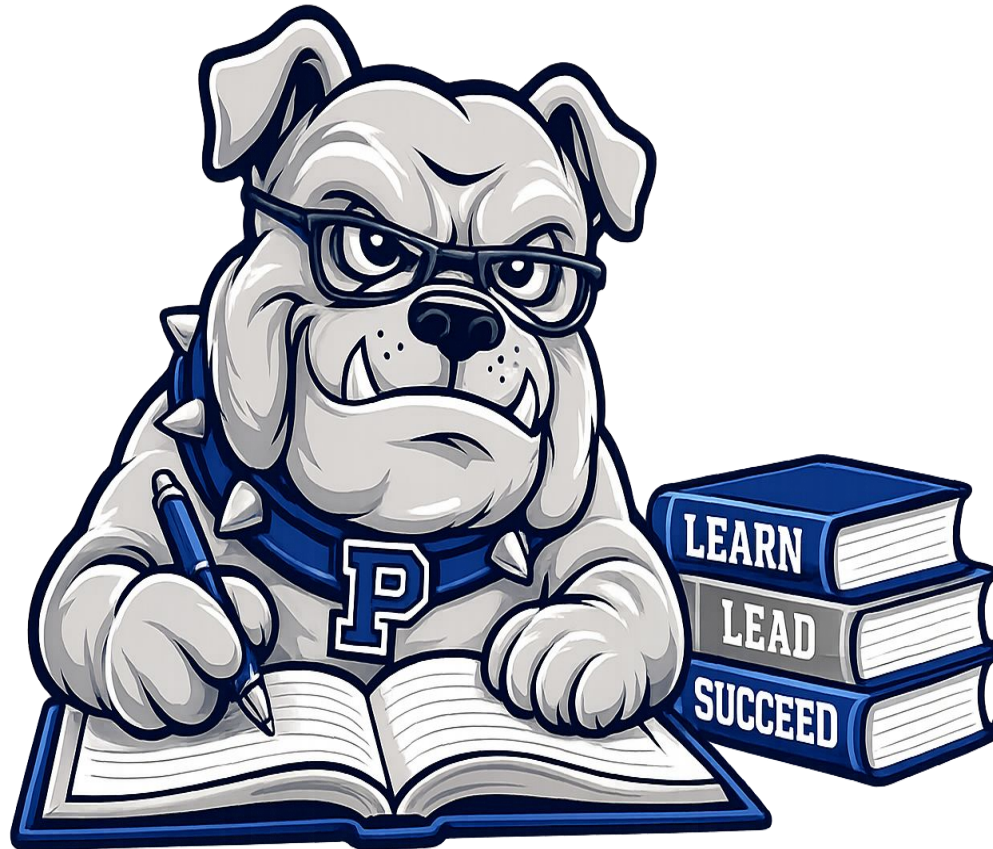
Director of Communications



THE POLAND STANDARD

Relationships • Accountability • Integrity • Preparation • Service

Things to Know





NORTHEAST 8 ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

TICKETS & ADMISSION

ALL NE8 SCHOOLS WILL USE CASH AT ALL EVENTS

- Varsity Tickets:
 - \$8 Adult
 - \$5 Student
- Middle School Tickets:
 - \$5 Adult
 - \$4 Student



SALEM



QUAKERS

BEGINNING IN
2027-28

SALEM JOINS THE NE8



2027-28
START DATE



ALL SPORTS
JOIN THE NE8



FOOTBALL
REMAINS IN THE EBC



Welcome Salem
TO THE NORTHEAST 8 CONFERENCE!



Football Reserve Season Tickets (Section 5 Only)

- Current reserve ticket holders may renew their seats beginning **Monday, August 10**
- New reserve ticket sales & home opener pre-sale tickets will begin **Monday, August 17**
- Cost for a reserve chairback season ticket \$50.00



RESERVE FOOTBALL

PARKING PASSES



COST FOR A SEASON
PARKING PASS IS

\$25.00



AVAILABLE BEGINNING
MONDAY, AUGUST 10



P



POLAND BULLDOGS

TOGETHER. SUPPORTING. POLAND.

ACTIVITY PASS

— ALL ACCESS. ALL SEASON. —

ADULT PASS

\$125.00

STUDENT PASS

\$60.00



**BOTH PASSES INCLUDE GENERAL ADMISSION
TO ALL POLAND HOME ATHLETIC EVENTS**



**SALES
BEGIN**

MONDAY, AUGUST 10



P

SENIOR CITIZEN



PASSES



POLAND RESIDENTS
(AGE 62+)

FREE

LIFETIME PASS



Available through the Athletic Office



No annual renewal required



Valid driver's license required for residency verification



NON-POLAND RESIDENTS
(AGE 62+)

\$50

ANNUAL PASS



Includes admission to all Poland home athletic events



AVAILABLE MONDAY, AUGUST 10

★ THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! ★





TOGETHER. SUPPORTING. POLAND BULLDOGS.





POLAND ALL SPORTS BOOSTERS

Recent Booster funding and projects include:

	Purchased 7th and 8th grade football uniforms	\$7,000
	Purchased a Digital Hall of Fame touchscreen and software package for the Fieldhouse	\$5,000
	Awarded (4) \$500 Myron Stallsmith Scholarships	\$2,000
	Contributed of \$1,000 toward the purchase of a new Softball pitching machine	\$1,000
	HUDL for Stadium and Fieldhouse	\$5,000



POLAND

ALL SPORTS

BOOSTERS



GOLF OUTING



BULLDOG 100 RAFFLE TICKETS



YOUTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

SUPPORT OUR ATHLETES
SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
& AD INFORMATION

FUNDRAISING EVENTS



GOLF OUTING (SPRING)



BULLDOG 100 RAFFLE (FALL)



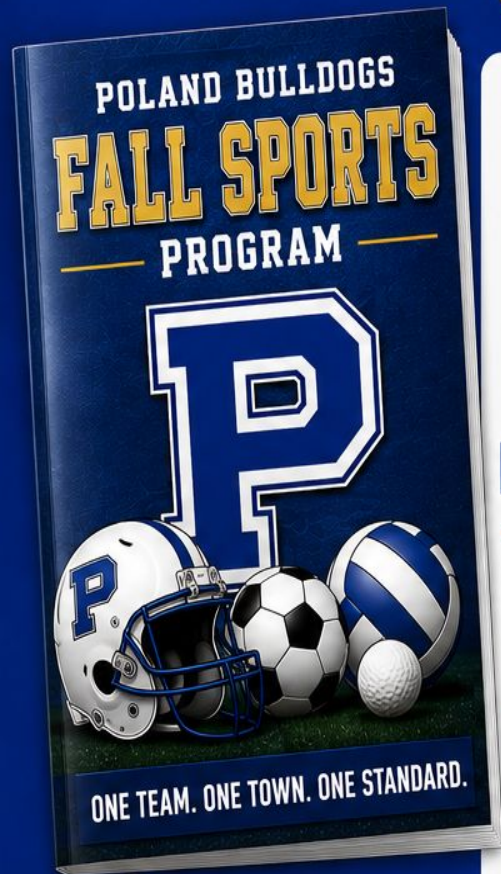
YOUTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT (WINTER)



**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
& AD INFORMATION**

P FALL SPORTS PROGRAM ADS P

Celebrate Your Student-Athlete



1



MEDIA DAYS

MEDIA DAYS BEGIN
AUGUST 4

Magic Moments will provide photo numbers after Media Day.

2



PICK UP A FORM TONIGHT

Forms are available at this meeting.

3



DEADLINE AUGUST 10

Return completed forms to:

Kim Brant
Athletic Office

kbrant@polandschools.org



DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!

PROGRAMS GO TO PRINT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING AUGUST 10.





**WE NEED
YOU!**



**ACTIVE
BOOSTER MEMBERS
WANTED**

POLAND ALL SPORTS BOOSTERS



GET INVOLVED!

CONTACT CHAD BRANT TO LEARN MORE!



cbrant19@gmail.com




(216) 402-8910

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING POLAND ATHLETICS!



 **Unsigned Forms**

(Click to notify student)

 Blanch, Cassandra "Cassie"

CRBlanch@student.polandschools.org

 Add Sports/Activities

 Update Forms

 PPE Medical

 1

 Profile

 Edit

Physical expires on 7/11/26 (in 33 days)

12th Grade

 Contact Information


 Student Handbook


 Acceptable Use Policy

 1:1 Chromebook Policy

 Consent to Release Photo/Image

 Transportation Information

 Health History & Medical Profile

 Annual Notice of Health Care Services

 Medications

 Injuries & Hospitalizations

 Past & Ongoing Health Conditions

 Emergency Medical Authorization

 Free & Reduced Price Meals

 Medication Policy Acknowledgment

 Attendance Policy

 Coach-to-Student Communication

 School Based Social Work Services

 Student Data & Technology Provider

 FERPA Directory Information



FINAL FORMS

**Completed
Annually**

**Required for
Participation**

PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION FORM

Signatures

I hereby state that, to the best of my knowledge, my answers to the questions on this form are complete and correct.

Signature of athlete: _____

Date: _____

Signature of parent or guardian: _____

Date: _____



**Physicals are valid
for one year**

**Submit to trainer
or upload**

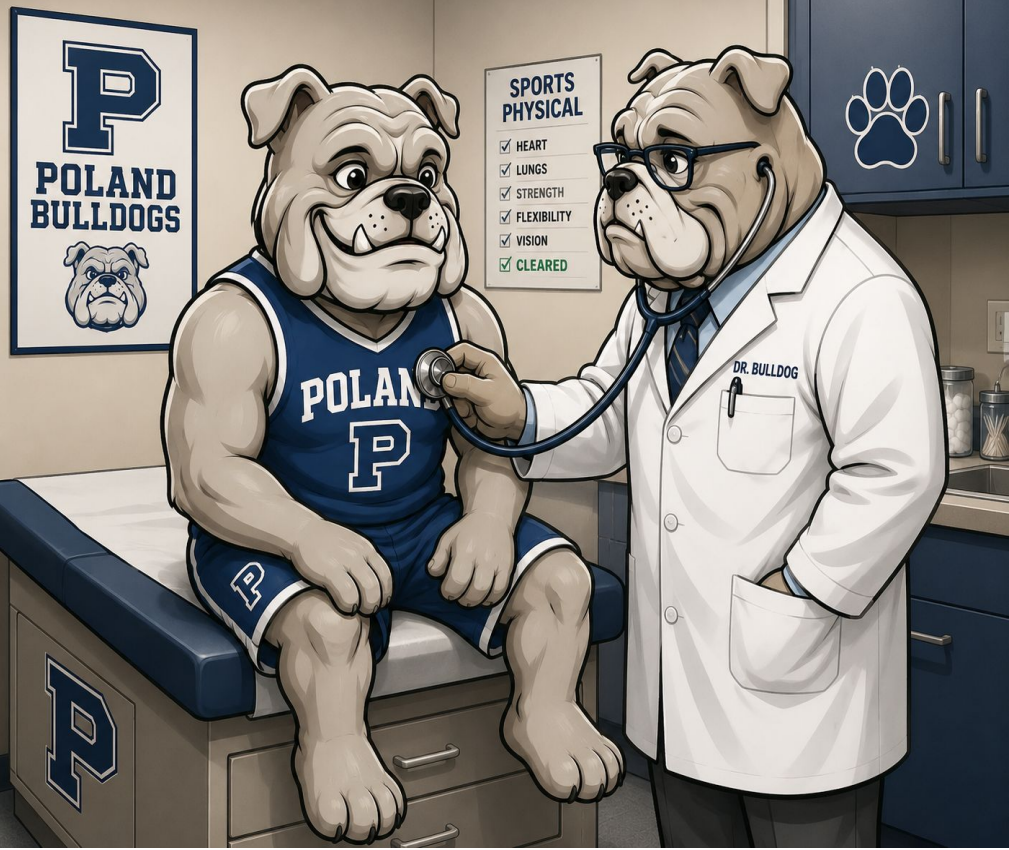
Physicals

Wednesday

June 10

10 am - 12 pm

Enter FH Lobby
with
Signed Physical



Site goes live TONIGHT!



ALL FORMS

MUST BE COMPLETED

BOYS & GIRLS
GOLF



BY

JULY 1



ALL OTHER
FALL SPORTS



BY

AUGUST 1



★ **EVERYTHING MUST BE GREEN!** ★

GREEN = READY TO PARTICIPATE



HEALTH & SAFETY

OUR STUDENT-ATHLETES' HEALTH COMES FIRST



CONCUSSION PROTOCOL



BASELINE TESTING



**INJURY COMMUNICATION
& RETURN-TO-PLAY**



ATHLETIC TRAINER

KIRSTIE BOURNIAS, ATC

kbournias@polandschools.org





STAY CONNECTED

FOLLOW. ENGAGE. SUPPORT BULLDOG ATHLETICS.



POLANDBULLDOGS.COM

Schedules • News • Results • Announcements



EVENTLINK.COM

Schedules • Tickets • Event Information

Download the EventLink App



@PolandAthletics | @bdog4ever



PSHS Athletics



poland.athletics



SCHEDULES



TICKETS



UPDATES



FOLLOW POLAND
ATHLETICS

WORKING TOGETHER

P



THE POLAND STANDARD

RELATIONSHIPS • ACCOUNTABILITY • INTEGRITY • PREPARATION • SERVICE

PASSION IS WELCOME. NEGATIVITY IS NOT.

P



BREAKOUT SESSIONS



IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE GENERAL MEETING



BOYS SOCCER
ROOM 38
(HOME EC)



GIRLS SOCCER
LIBRARY



BOYS GOLF
ROOM 13



GIRLS GOLF
ROOM 19



BOYS & GIRLS
CROSS COUNTRY
ROOM 45



GIRLS TENNIS
ROOM 44
(ART)



VOLLEYBALL
CAFETERIA



CHEERLEADING
ROOM 25



FOOTBALL
N/A
NO BREAKOUT SESSION
(COACHES WILL COMMUNICATE SEPARATELY)



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

PLEASE REPORT DIRECTLY TO YOUR SPORT'S BREAKOUT SESSION

