“Even though the future seems far away, it is actually beginning right now.”

-Mattie Stepanek

It is hard to believe that we are already in full stride of the 2015-16 school year. We have had a great start, which is a tribute to our students, families and staff. For this we thank you for your constant support. Over the summer, we had a few changes in staff. Mrs. Stephanie Vagas and Mr. Jason Wellendorf (Special Education), Mrs. Christie Mitch (Spanish), Ms. Madison Gessler (Language Arts), Mrs. Susan Holub (Art), Mr. Robert Sainato (Math), Mr. Patrick Williams (Technology/Media), Mr. Michael Vagas (Guidance), and Mrs. Bev Hartman (Attendance Secretary). We want to welcome them to our staff and know that they are going to help Poland Seminary High School carry on its tradition of excellence.

School and all of its activities are in full swing. The fall athletic season is well underway and students will soon be preparing for winter activities. Our clubs, teams, band and overall student body has made PSHS proud thus far, a trend we hope will continue. We want to commend our Bulldog Marching Band for their spectacular performances (weather permitted) so far this year. Our Boys and Lady Bulldog teams have made PSHS proud by not only their performances on the field, court, or course but most importantly with their class and character. Our Poland Players are currently getting ready for opening night of “Miracle on 34th Street”, which is November 19th and will go through the weekend. Mrs. Fonagy will again have a cast and crew of over 100 students involved showing her great leadership and how well rounded PSHS students are.

The above quote seemed to fit best for this school year, being that there are countless changes coming up from Columbus, and those changes seem to keep changing on a daily basis. There are new graduation requirements for all freshmen and sophomores. There are new end of course exams in math, language arts, science and social studies.

Please see link:


During this school year there will be more state testing going on than the norm because of the transition from the old graduation requirements to the new. This year students will be taking the following state exams:

Freshmen and Sophomores: Biology (2 days), Language Arts (2 days), Algebra/Geometry (2 days)

Sophomores: US History (2 days)

Juniors/Seniors: Government (2 days)

Here are some informational links from the Ohio Department of Education:

Dates:


FAQ's:

http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-Graduation-Requirements/Latest-Updates-on-Graduation-Requirements/Graduation-FAQs-for-2015_2016

We have linked site for practice problems as well as a FREE ACT PREP (sponsored through YSU) to the “Principal Message” -

https://sites.google.com/a/poland.k12.oh.us/polandseminaryhighschool/school-announcements

We will continue to work, adapt and change to prepare our students to put them in the best position to succeed in and out of the classroom so that they can help carry on the strong tradition of academic excellence at Poland Seminary High.
We want to thank our S.T.E.P. parents, especially president Mrs. Kreatsoulas, for all their hard work setting up and assisting in our September 23rd Open House. All of their preparation and hard work will hopefully result in an excellent turn out. If you were unable to attend and would like to join S.T.E.P., please feel free to call and we will put you in contact with a S.T.E.P. representative.

“Communication is a skill that you can learn. It's like riding a bicycle or typing. If you're willing to work at it, you can rapidly improve the quality of every part of your life.”

-Brian Tracy

As has been our mission over the last few years, we are trying extremely hard to communicate better with our students and families in a variety of ways. As many of you have already realized, we utilize our “All Call” system for a variety of school related reasons. If you are not receiving calls, would like to change or add a number, please call Mrs. Hartman and she will make the necessary changes. We are also working hard to improve our school website: http://www.polandbulldogs.com/1/Home. We have worked hard to revamp the whole site to better improve it for our students and families. Studies show that more and more individuals are receiving news and other information electronically, so we are trying to take advantage of this trend to reduce costs and expedite communication to our families. If you would like to be a part of this communication tree, please fill out the information in the Parent/Guardian Email list. It will automatically import your information to a spreadsheet (Thank goodness for Google Docs). You will only receive emails dealing with school information and anything you enter will stay with PSHS. By this time, you hopefully have accessed your student’s grades on-line through “Progressbook”. There was an update to the system, so if you are having any trouble or need your account information please feel free to call so we can remedy the situation. Progressbook has replaced paper interims, however, if you would like to continue to receive hard copy interims, please notify the guidance office or teachers directly.

“In every conceivable manner, the family is link to our past, bridge to our future.”

-Alex Haley

In conclusion, we want to thank all of our students’ and their families for their support. You do not get enough credit for the great job you all do each and every day. One of the reasons the Poland Local School District is the best place to work is because of the wonderful students, the direct result of strong, supportive and loving parenting. There are truly no students like the ones that attend PSHS. They are the greatest student body I have ever been around. As a parent myself, I commend each and every one of you for the wonderful young men and women you send to Poland Seminary High School every day. Have a great fall and holiday season!