



**POLO PARK
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Stallion Sentinel

NOVEMBER 2019

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2

Polo Park M.S.

11901 Lake Worth Rd.
Wellington, FL 33449
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fax: 561-333-5505

Administration

Mr. Michael Aronson
Principal

Mrs. Fallon Kauker
Assistant Principal - 7th Grade

Mr. Larry Matz
Assistant Principal - 8th Grade

Mr. Craig Corsentino
Assistant Principal - 6th Grade

Ms. Nicole Haddock
Dean

School Counselors

Ms. Brittny Kirik
6th Grade

Ms. Naomy Soto-Coleman
7th Grade

Ms. Kelly Fredley
8th Grade

County Web Address

www.palmbeachschools.org

School Web Address

www.poloparkmiddle.org

Mission

Polo Park Middle School will empower our students to attain their maximum potential through partnering with parents and the community to foster the understanding, cooperation, and communication skills necessary for students to become literate, productive citizens.

For the Parents, Staff, Students, and Community of Polo Park Middle School

Principal's Message

Dear Polo Park Family,

Thank you for a successful first few months of the 2019-2020 school year! I want to thank everyone whom has taken the time to be part of our many school and PTSA events. I encourage you to continue to attend and support events throughout the school year.

This fall we had the State Attorney's Office here to do a presentation to our students on the effects and legal ramifications of vaping and bullying/cyberbullying. This presentation will be repeated on December 2nd at 6:00 at Wellington High School.

Curriculum Night was amazing. The number of parents who came out shows how important your child's education is to you. I hope each of you had the opportunity to see all of the great things that our teachers are doing in their classrooms.

Night of Science was equally successful. I was flabbergasted at the number of participants, Science Fair boards and events for the students to partake in.

We also had an overwhelming number of families here for our Choice Open House. With the addition of the Pre-Engineering Program we have added over 400 students over the last two years.

Congratulations go out to both our baseball and softball teams on a successful season, with the baseball team reaching the County semi-finals. As well as, to the over 600 students who made the Honor Roll with at least a 3.5 GPA for the first nine weeks.

As you walk around our campus you will see the results of the hard work that the maintenance department has been doing to beautify our campus.

As we approach the winter break and the end of the second semester please be reminded that the last week of the semester we will be on a block schedule for semester exams. Upon returning in January, we will begin our diagnostic testing.

Sincerely,
Michael Aronson

Polo Park Pride

- Be Positive
- Be Respectful
- Be Independent
- Be Disciplined
- Be Excellent

Vision

Polo Park Middle School is committed to empowering students to become productive and responsible citizens with the skills needed to succeed in a diverse and global society. Students will become responsible, independent, and creative life-long learners.

If you need help translating this document, please contact Polo Park Middle School at 561-333-5500.

Creole Version:

Si w bezwen èd tradui dokiman sa a, tanpri kontakte Polo Park Middle School nan 561-333-5500.

Spanish Version:

Si necesitas ayuda para traducir este documento, favor de comunicarse con Polo Park Middle School al 561-333-5500.



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Issue #2

From the Library Media Center

We have been busy in the library media center. Our move from Dewey to genre in the fiction section is now complete and we celebrated the grand re-organizational re-opening with a pizza party. Students were able to enter their names in a drawing to have lunch with a friend in the library. Ninety students enjoy pizza and dessert.

Our book fair was a huge success. Students enjoyed visiting with their ELA classes. I want to thank everyone who visited the book fair on the Night of Science and a huge thank you for all my volunteers. The winner of our Night of Science book fair basket was Nicholas Ruggeri.



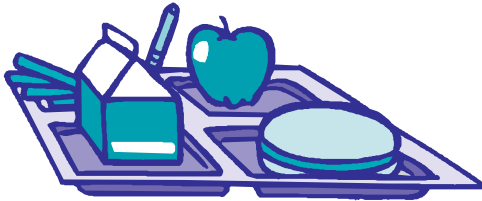
As soon as our book fair was packed and awaiting pickup, our processing room was transformed once again, this time into an Ancient Egyptian museum. Ms. Dos Anjos and Mr. Yuzenis brought their classes to study the ancient artifacts. Thanks to a donation from the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, we have beautiful museum quality replicas that enhance our students' learning. I recently wrote a grant and was awarded over \$22,00.00 from the Jacobs Wellington Charitable Fund. These funds will be used to purchase laptops and a laptop cart for use in the library media center. A huge thank you to the Jacobs family for their continued support of education at Polo Park and the Village of Wellington.

On Halloween, I was able to share Chris Van Allsburg's *The Widow's Broom*, with Ms. Lockey's classes. Treats accompanied the read aloud. It is my strongest belief that students still need and enjoy being read to. I look forward to sharing other favorites with them in the future.

News From The Cafe

If you need to apply for Free or Reduced price meals, please visit the following website. The process is easy and we should have results within 48 hours. www.palmbeachschools.org/sfs, if you need any assistance on this, please call 561-383-2000 and ask for the free and reduced department.

Please remember that lunches cost \$0.40 for reduced price lunches and \$2.30 for regular lunches. This does not include any ala carte snack items.



Sewing Club

Join the Sewing Club. Our students have begun sewing their backpacks. It is never too late to learn how to sew. We meet every Thursday from 4:15 to 5:15 pm. in Room 2-104. See Mrs. Holmstock for more information.



We are continuing to grow our Million Word Club and Half Way There Club readers. I hope to have their T-shirts in the next few weeks.

Happy reading,
Mrs. Bernstein



1st Annual Nutcracker Winter Showcase

Saturday, December 21st
at 5:30pm
Park Vista High School

Tickets are on sale starting Oct. 28th
through Eventbrite or Facebook

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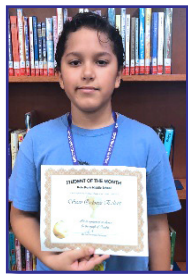
@moran5614 Dr. Mark E. Moran

Phone: (561) 495-9511
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Students of the Month

Each month grade level teams select a student who stands out both academically and behaviorally for the Academic Student of the Month. Additionally, elective teachers pick an outstanding student for the Elective Student of the Month and our coaches and physical education teachers pick an athlete for the Athlete of the Month. The students receive a certificate and their pictures are posted outside the main office for all to see. Please congratulate the following students recognized for the month of October.



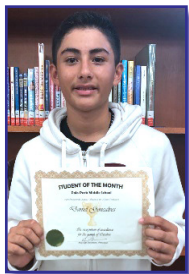
6th Grade
Sean Ordenez Echart



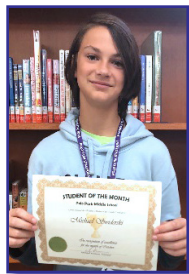
7th Grade
Emma Dell'Osa



8th Grade
Chelsea Francois



Athletics
Daniel Goncalves



Electives
Michael Swiderski

Robotics

The Polo Park Robotics team is kicking off another year of competition. This year we have three teams who will be competing. It has been a great month and a half so far. We have had guest speakers who work for NASA, FPL, the City of Wellington, and County Animal Control, as well as video conferencing from experts around the country. They have been instrumental in helping our teams decide on their projects for this year. The teams consist of veterans and rookies. Last year was a great season and we look forward to doing even better this year. Here are our competition dates:

- 1/18/20 - Scrimmage @ the South Florida Fairgrounds 10 AM-12 PM
- 1/26/20 - Qualifier @ The Greene School 8 AM-4 PM
- 2/1/20 - Qualifier @ Palm Beach State in West Palm 8 AM-4 PM
- 2/8/20 - Qualifier @ Ramblewood Elementary in Coral Springs 8 AM-4 PM



GET CONNECTED!



**POLO PARK
FACEBOOK**

www.facebook.com/poloparkptsa



**SCHOOL INFO
& NEWS
PHOTOS**



STAY INFORMED!

For More Information, & To Stay In The Know. Check out our Polo Park Middle School PTSA Facebook.

FBLA Chapter 2019-2020

The local chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) at Polo Park Middle School has begun for the 2019-2020 school year. The PPMS chapter is in its eleventh year of organization.

Five FBLA officers have been selected to represent Polo Park for this school year. The FBLA officers for this year are:

- **President** - Kaden Balfour
- **Vice President** - Rebecca Roldan
- **Secretary** - Jordan Duffey
- **Treasurer** - Adrian Miller
- **Social Coordinator** - Obrian Ortiz

These five officers, along with all other FBLA members, will compete in business and computer competitions against other middle schools in the Palm Beach County School District. This organization provides students with the opportunity to apply their classroom instruction in business practices and procedures through leadership development activities and competitive event experiences. The FBLA club sponsor is Kathryn Gilbert.

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School-Sponsored Shirts

This year all Polo Park t-shirts and school-sponsored clothing will be available for purchase online at our online store: <https://polopark.pyra360.com/>. The school T-shirts can be worn to school at all times. The P.E. T-shirt is only to be worn to P.E. classes and not during the regular school day.

This year's athletic event T-shirt is also available on this site. The athletic T-shirt can be worn to school at all times and gets you in to all of the home sporting events free.

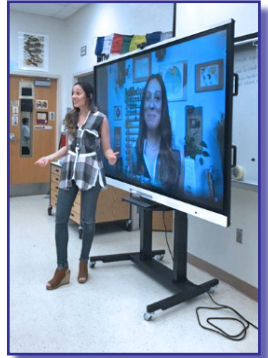


Art

Ms. Wortzel's art classes had a special lesson from Pam Tati, a professional fashion designer trained in NYC at the Fashion Institute of Technology. She came to teach our students how to repurpose clothing that they outgrew into reusable shopping bags.

The students learned about repurposing fashion and recycling fabrics and about caring for our fragile earth.

We are very grateful to Ms. Tati for devoting two days to educating and enlightening our students about their potential to create and design and impact the planet in a positive way.



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Family, Career And Community Leaders Of America



Jana Hanson, Kheathan Jagessar, Amalia Sanchez (back row), Emma O'Connor, Louna Torre, Emma Rivera de Rosales and Isabella Calamaras (front row) attended the FCCLA District VII meeting on October 21 in West Palm Beach.

The students met members from our district and three of our state officers. The state officers provided information about FCCLA, including our state theme and targets, and how they got involved in the organization. They voted for our new district officers and a state officer, and participated in group activities. They also participated in the State Community Service Project which is *Tune in for Our Troops!* This project is about helping and supporting our troops by collection donations and writing letters. A list of requested donations will be sent out to our Polo Park students. Your donations will be greatly appreciated.



We have three district officers representing Polo Park: Emma R. is our new District Secretary, Emma O. is our new District Historian & Kheathan is our new District Vice-President.

Our members are working on their STAR EVENT competitions that they will present at the State Leadership Conference in Orlando in March. Students who place first and second place in their event will be able to compete this summer at the National Leadership Conference in Washington, DC.

We would also like to encourage faculty, staff, parents and businesses to help support our club by donating money or becoming a sponsor so that our members can attend these great events. Please contact Mrs. Holmstock at 561-333-5544. Your support is greatly appreciated. You can visit FCCLA's state website: flccla.org or the national website: fcclainc.org to find more information about FCCLA.

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America meets every Wednesday after school in Room 2-104. Any Polo Park student is welcomed to join. You can be part of a great national student run organization, learn leadership skills, compete, and travel. You will also meet amazing students throughout the United States who have the drive and ambition to be our future leaders.

Night of Science

On Wednesday, October 23, Polo Park Middle School hosted its Seventh Annual Night of Science, a night to celebrate all things STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) related.

The aroma of various food trucks wafted through the air as people meandered through the campus, exploring all sorts of interesting exhibits and science fair projects done by Polo Park students.

The free event was presented by the South Florida Science Museum, the Polo Park's engineering students and National Junior Honors Society (NJHS), who helped out by running exhibits, greeting visitors, and helping the science-goers find their way around. It ran from 6-8 p.m. as the school opened its doors to everyone in the community.

"After the food trucks, (people come) to see their own science fair projects and then the hands-on activities," explained Polo Park teacher Shaun Stabler, a faculty host and supervisor for the event. "For us, we want to have parents want to come see their kids exciting projects, get hands on with science and see how science isn't just in the classroom. Science happens all around us."

Attendees engaged their minds with several fun and enthralling exhibits in the gym. Among these exhibits were a 3-D printer, virtual reality, and even a bearded dragon.

Another crowd pleaser was the Scholastic Book Fair, drawing many attendees to the school library. Run by the PTSA and librarian Nora Bernstein, all book fair profits benefit Polo Park's library program.

This year, Polo Park added something new and exciting to this event: a planetarium. The planetarium, donated by the Science Museum, was being operated for people hoping to get a glimpse of space.

"This is the first year we're running it ourselves," said Stabler. "It was donated to us by the science museum. You can see the phases of the moon and the constellations and stars."

Apart from planetarium and food trucks, the students loved coming to see their own science fair projects. Displays of student science fair experiments were set up in the cafeteria, media center and gym for all to see. They got a chance to admire hard and usually difficult accomplishments. They also are able to support their friends work.

"I was slightly embarrassed to see mine," Hannah Katon, a Polo Park eighth grader stated. "It was really fun seeing my friends project's though."

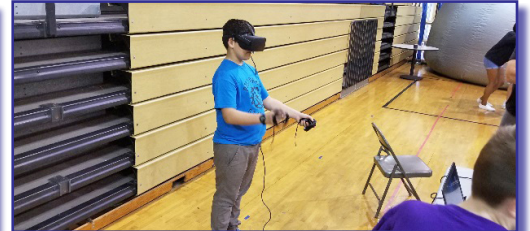
The food trucks, always one of the most popular spots during Science Night, were from PS 561, Crazilicious, Dough Dough's Donuts, Melted Madness, Best French Fries, and Kona Ice.

There was even a DJ in the middle of the courtyard playing fun, exciting music to help add some extra energy to evening.

The Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) also was on hand, providing memberships, selling Polo Park hoodies, signing people up for the school newsletter and offering the community information about volunteering and sponsoring opportunities at Polo Park. They even had some candy and raffles for the patrons of the event.

It was estimated that nearly 1000 people attended the event and ideas and plans for next year's science night are already under way. Stabler said he would like to see the engineering department keep growing the hands on challenges and he would like to continue working more with the planetarium.

Overall, the evening was once again a great success. This annual tradition will undoubtedly continue to be a great accomplishment for years to come.



A few spots are left!



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and exposure,
and at the same time
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Nora Bernstein

nora.bernstein@palmbeachschools.org

Polo Park Middle School

Family And Consumer Sciences

Advanced Culinary:

The Advanced Culinary class participated in Cupcake Wars: Halloween. Each lab chose their own recipe and decorations. A number of faculty members judged the cupcakes. The criteria were:

- Illustrates Halloween theme
- Presentation and neatness
- Taste
- Reflects creativity and originality
- Level of difficulty



Kitchen 1



Kitchen 2



Kitchen 3



Kitchen 4



Kitchen 5



★ The 2019 Cupcake Wars: Halloween Competition Winner: Kitchen 3 ★

Rayna Dymkowski, Dylan Fienberg, Jaden Browning, Anthony Gianunzio, and Tyson Elliott

Beginning Culinary:

The Beginning Culinary class participated in the Halloween Challenge. Each lab baked chocolate or yellow cupcakes and chose their own decorations. Each class competed against one another. A number of faculty members judged the cupcakes. The criteria were:

- Illustrates Halloween theme
- Presentation and neatness
- Reflects creativity and originality
- Level of difficulty

★ The 2019 Halloween Challenge Competition Winners ★



Period 2- Kitchen 3: Jeidy Vasquez, Cesar Mejia-Silva, Sean Glenn, Jace Gurien, Isabella Pichot, and Kai Jentzsch



Period 3- Kitchen 1: Myariah Arreaga, Sophia Caruso, Melody Pierre, Alexa Iannone, Haylee Martin, and Ethan Hirsch



Period 4- Kitchen 1: Arianna Rose, Philip Iannone, Nico Tardivo, Jordan Amster, Jake Azzaro, and Bradley Farrar



Period 6- Kitchen 2: Brett Nelson, Damaris Rondon, Jordyn Centofanti, Kylie Mata, Elaina Makled, and Audrey Layton

PTSA

The PTSA Board would like to begin by thanking all the parents who have come alongside us with helping hands for our back to school activities and Fall events! It takes many volunteers to accomplish our goals and we appreciate each one of you. We also want to thank those of you who have shown your support by purchasing a membership with us this year! We are still short of our membership goal, so if you haven't joined yet, it's not too late! Contact Mayra Morgado at membership@poloparkptsa.com to join! We were very happy to see some new faces at our General Meeting back on September 19th and look forward to our next General Meeting in the Spring.

Our "Polo Wear" sales of long sleeve t-shirts and hoodies was a success and we love seeing students wearing their school logo with pride! We've concluded our schoolwide Palmetto catalog fundraiser and hope everyone enjoys their purchases. We are still selling clear totes (\$10 each) and hoodies (\$35 each) in remaining assorted sizes. Contact Brenda Velez at waysandmeans@poloparkptsa.com for purchase information.

BoxTops has gone digital this year so please download the app and help our school earn points that turn into school resources! Go to BTFE.com for more information. If you have clipped actual BoxTops, please send in to the front office. 40 or more BoxTops earns your child a full size candy bar! Contact Shanna Finkel at boxtops@poloparkptsa.com with any questions.

We will be hosting our annual student Walk-A-Thon on Friday, January 31st. Planning for this event will begin this month and we would love for you to be part of the fun! If you are interested in being on the planning committee and/or helping day of event, please contact Darla Murga and Claudia Davis at walkathon@poloparkptsa.com and they can let you know of volunteer needs.

A huge shout out to our wonderful and generous business partners: Adrenaline, 20 Twenty Eyecare, The Foot and Ankle Clinic, Dr. Tabora, Chick fil-A, Bolay, Code Ninjas Wellington, Cooper Orthodontics, Elstein Law, 19 Sports, Five Guys Burgers and Fries, HealthCare Appraisers, Kona Ice, Kelly Richter - EXIT REALTY, Little Caesars, PDQ, Rescue Clean 911, Santelli Orthodontics, Smile Designs, Score At The Top, Shullman Orthodontics, Shults Orthodontics, Sole Escape, Skate Zone, Allstate -Todd Miller, Tricoli Team Keller Williams, and Urban Air Wellington. Want to see your business listed here? Contact Christina Sullivan at businesspartners@poloparkptsa.com for information on how to become a PPMS Business Partner!

Our last bit of news is very exciting! With all of our fundraising efforts, we have been able to fund teacher grants to Mr. Besman, Ms. Blackford, Mr. Climo, Ms. Conant, Ms. DaSilveira, Mr. Grad, Mr. Hanson, Ms. Lockey, Mr. Milington, Ms. Strackman, Mr. Tripp, and Ms. Wortzel. As technology is always a priority, we have helped fund the purchase of 24 Chromebooks. We also provided half of the necessary funding for "Stop The Bleed" kits for all classrooms. We were also able to fund campus improvements such as refurbishing our school marquee by main entrance, power washing in common areas, schedule tree trimming in main parking lot, order additional benches for placement along car line sidewalk, and begin saving toward upgrading to a digital marquee.

We are excited about all that is happening to make our school the best it can be! There are many aspects of PTSA and a variety of ways to get involved. Please contact our PTSA President, Jen Safriet to get plugged in at school. She is more than happy to connect you to the right person and help you get started! She may be reached at president@poloparkptsa.com with any questions, comments, and/or ideas!



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MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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*For the Parents, Staff, Students,
and Community of Polo Park
Middle School*

Polo Park Middle School
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