



**POLO PARK**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

# Stallion Sentinel

NOVEMBER 2021

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 1

## Polo Park M.S.

11901 Lake Worth Rd.  
Wellington, FL 33449  
tel: 561-333-5500  
fax: 561-333-5505

### Administration

**Mr. Michael Aronson**  
Principal

**Mr. Craig Corsentino**  
Assistant Principal - 6th Grade

**Mrs. Melissa Leiva**  
Assistant Principal - 7th Grade

**Mrs. Fallon Kauker**  
Assistant Principal - 8th Grade

### School Counselors

**Ms. Naomy Soto-Coleman**  
6th Grade

**Ms. Kelly Mayville**  
7th Grade

**Ms. Kris Connors**  
8th Grade

### County Web Address

[www.palmbeachschools.org](http://www.palmbeachschools.org)

### School Web Address

[www.poloparkmiddle.org](http://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 2021-2022 school year! I never imagined starting a school year the way we have. The last two years have been very challenging, but I do have to commend our staff and students for stepping up and rising to the occasion.

I want to assure you who that we are still doing everything possible every day to deep clean, sanitize, and socially distance. I am so proud of the efforts of our staff and students to keep everyone safe. We continue to ask that if your child is feeling ill, that you do not send them to school. Additionally, please remember that non-district personnel are not allowed on campus without an appointment and that you will be asked to put on a mask before you are allowed to attend any on-campus appointments or activities.

Curriculum Night was virtual again this year, but I have heard rave reviews on how we handled it. The number of parents who attended Google Meets 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.

I am saddened by the number of traditional events that we have had to cancel or postpone for this year, such as Night of Science, but we are excited that we are able to run our Athletics and Intramural Programs and our looking forward to bringing others back. That being said, many of our clubs have begun to meet in-person. We will provide you with updates and information as things change in the future.

As always, if you have any questions, please free to reach out by phone or email.

Sincerely,  
Michael Aronson

## Polo Park Pride

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

## 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.

## Polo Park Student Raises Funds for Make a Wish Foundation

Sixth grader, Aiden Edelsberg, is making a change. This summer, after complaining about being bored, Aiden's mom took him out for ice-cream. While enjoying his treat, Aiden's mom showed him information about the Make a Wish Foundation. Aiden did a little research and decided he wanted to make a change in someone else's life, he wanted "to make someone smile and to make someone's wish come true." Aiden created a video which is posted on his mom's Facebook page. With the help of his family and friends, Aiden has raised \$3,600.00 towards his \$5,000.00 goal. If you would like to make a donation or for information, you can email him at: [aidenmaxxgivesback@gmail.com](mailto:aidenmaxxgivesback@gmail.com).



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

## Polo Park Student Recognized for World Peace Poem

Brody Quilleon was recognized as a winner of the Rotary International World Peace Initiative Poetry Competition this year. The event was held on September 22, at the Wellington Rotary Peace Park. Please read Brody's poem.



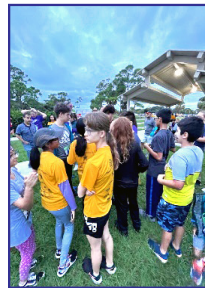
May peace prevail on earth  
 May you never forget your worth  
 For inclusion and love is the answer  
 Hatred of any kind is a cancer.

The world cries out for justice  
 If only everyone embraced a moral compass  
 Truth be told, you own your joy  
 Hearts and minds cannot be bought like a toy.

Together, we will pursue our dreams  
 Of embracing each other no matter how hard that seems  
 We must choose to experience a rebirth  
 And only then will peace prevail on earth.

## 7th Annual Heroes for Education Walk

On October 31st, Polo Park Cyber Stallions participated in the 7th annual Heroes for Education 5K Run/Walk. "I was excited for our teams to get the chance to bond outside of the classroom," said Mr. Grad. First Lego League is all about Core Values (Teamwork, Discovery, Impact, Inclusion, innovation, and Fun). However, we do not get the chance to use our core values outside of the school often enough. On Sunday we did. We were the top participating middle school in the county. Not only did our students participate but we had their parents and siblings join us as well. It was a huge success and our students had a chance to give back and raise money for our Palm Beach County Teachers. Way to Go Cyber Stallions



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**Nora Bernstein**  
[nora.bernstein@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:nora.bernstein@palmbeachschools.org)  
 Polo Park Middle School

## Student 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 September.



Camilla Kostik  
6th grade



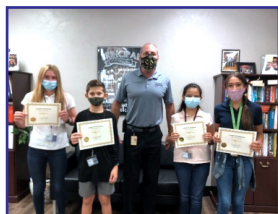
Daniel Tadeo  
7th grade



Miriam Kamel  
Electives



Ashlyn Nevarez  
Athletics



Mr. Aronson with September's  
Students of the Month

Not pictured: Jasmine Jones 8th grade.

## Perfect Scores for FSA

Polo Park was proud to recognize a number of our students who received perfect scores on their FSA. These students received a certificate from the state of Florida.



**POLO PARK  
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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Programs, credential levels, technology, and scheduling options vary by school and are subject to change. Not all programs are available of all U.S. states. South University, West Palm Beach, University Centre, 9801 Belvedere Rd., Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411. © 2021 South University. All rights reserved. Financial Aid is available to those who qualify.

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## Our 2021-2022 PTSA Business Partners

Thank you to all our loyal business partners for their generous support of Polo Park Middle School. Families of Polo Park - let's do all we can to support them as well!

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- Chick-fil-A
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- PDQ, Wellington
- Health Appraisers, Scott Safriet
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- Rescue Clean 911
- Healing Hands of Wellington
- Parsons Orthodontics
- Shullman Orthodontics
- Score at the Top Learning Center
- 20/Twenty Eyecare
- Deaina Brown Family Law

# THANK YOU

## PTSA

As the 1st quarter of the school year closes out, we are happy to announce our fundraisers have been going very well, including our Spirit Nights at local restaurants, after-school snack sales, SaveAround coupon books, Pasta catalog sales, and sale of Spiritwear. Let's keep these going well for our school! In the Winter and Spring, we look forward to some big events, like our annual Walk-a-thon, two dances, and Beautification Day. We can't do all this without our wonderful business partners! We thank them for all their support!

The teachers and staff were welcomed back in August with a fantastic luncheon featuring yummy food from California Pizza Kitchen, a donut wall and popcorn bar for dessert, and 'Welcome Back survival' goodie bags. Next up to celebrate them will be a Holiday luncheon in December. If you would like to contribute to this event, or sponsor a particular item, please email [hospitality@poloparkptsa.com](mailto:hospitality@poloparkptsa.com). We also sponsor the Honor Roll celebrations each quarter and school Employee of the Month recognitions.

Our Spirit Night at Five Guys on 10/13 went great. Lots of happy customers who sent us pics! The birthday shout-outs on the new marquee have been a fun addition. We are doing a few per week if you want to contact us about availability of an upcoming month! Our after-school PDQ sales on campus once a month have been a big success! The students love grabbing a sandwich or nuggets on their way out and we have sold out quickly! Finally, if your child wants more Spiritwear, please contact [waysandmeans@poloparkptsa.com](mailto:waysandmeans@poloparkptsa.com) and we can check our inventory for your size (note> limited quantities left).

Mark your calendar for our upcoming events. We have a FUN event for the kids planned for **Friday, November 5**, starting 4:30pm at Adrenaline! \$20 at the door for 3 hours and there will be food for sale as well. Our next Spirit Night will be on **Wednesday, November 17** at PDQ. Enjoy a night off from cooking and help our school at the same time! The annual Walk-a-thon, loved by our students, will be on **January 21st** this year! Our annual winter 'glow' party for all students will be on **February 25th** where there will be a DJ, photo booth and food. More confirmed event dates to come.

Be sure to follow us on social media throughout the year for important information. Facebook – Polo Park Middle School PTSA. Instagram – Poloparkptsa. Twitter – Poloparkptsa. The school website main page is also a good resource.

We hope to see some new faces at our December 13th PTSA General Meeting. Come hear what is happening around our school and how you can get involved. These meetings are held in our Media Center at 5:30pm, three times a year.

A special thank you to everyone who has already purchased a PTSA membership. It is not too late if you have not yet gotten yours! The link is: <https://poloparkptsa.memberhub.com/store>. As well, if you would like to donate directly for any of our events, please contact us. Other ways to donate to our school are through BoxTops or choosing Polo Park Middle School with AmazonSmile so whenever you shop on the site, we get a percent from Amazon.

Polo Park PTSA is looking forward to all of the exciting events this school year and a big thank you to all our volunteers! We appreciate your time and great ideas!

## 8th Grade Shirts

**ATTN 8th GRADE PARENTS:** 8th grade shirts will be on sale Nov 1st thru 15th. Pre-sale orders only, by PTSA. Be on the lookout for purchasing instructions.



**Jon Goldblatt, LMHC, Psy.D**  
Licensed Mental Health Counselor

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## World Day of Bullying Prevention

On Friday, October 1, Polo Park celebrated World Day of Bullying Prevention. Everyone was encouraged to wear blue to show their support. Pictured below are members of the administrative staff dressed in blue and pictures of students signing the pledge against bullying.



## Kindness Ambassadors Club

The Kindness Ambassadors Club is collecting items for an organization called Forgotten Soldiers. PoloPark will be collecting toiletries that will be included in care packages that will be sent to soldiers abroad. Items needed include: baby wipes, dental floss, lip balm/Chapstick, hand sanitizer, shaving cream, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, conditioner, baby/foot powder, tampons, mouthwash, lotion, sunscreen, body wash, bar soap, Q-tips, toothpaste, and tissues \*\*We do not accept hotel toiletries or used items

Let's help to support America's deployed military service members to ensure they are not forgotten.

## From the Library Media Center

This past month, we held our first literacy events of the year, in the library media center. On Thursday, Oct 28, Dr. Shirey's classes attended a read aloud in the library. Keeping with the holiday spirit, her students received a treat bag at the end of class. Our Not So Spooky Read-Aloud was held on Friday, October 29. We had 45 students in attendance. Students were treated to a reading of *The Widow's Broom* by Chris Van Allsburg while they had lunch in the library. They each received a treat bag as they left for class, it may not have been a spooky, but rather a spooktacular way to end the week. We hope to have more literacy events in the future.



Not So Spooky  
Read-Aloud



Ms. Beach's students got caught  
reading in the library media center.



## FCCLA

Membership is growing in FCCLA! We are always looking for more members to join this amazing national student-run organization. Our meetings are every Wednesday from 4:10-5:15 PM in Room 2-104.

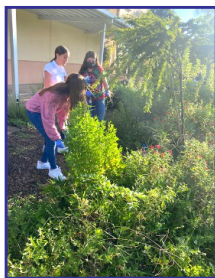
Our club officers for the 2021-2022 school year are:

- **President** - Chelsea Yens
- **Vice-President** - Danny Vax
- **Secretary** - Gabriel Sanchez
- **Treasurer** - Alise Desravins
- **Parliamentarian** - Luke Anderson
- **Historian** - Arianna Bradley and Jordan Molnar

Our District VIII meeting was held on October 20th with the other schools in our district. Thaleah Jagessar was elected as the District Secretary and Alise Desravins as the District Historian. We are looking forward to the State Leadership Conference in Orlando in March. A number of our members will be competing in Florida Proficiency and STAR Events.

Please consider being a FCCLA sponsor to support our members. Your monetary donation will help us attend these great conferences. Please contact Mrs. Holmstock at 561-333-5500.

## NJHS Helps in Polo Park's Garden of Dreams



Pictured above are members of Polo Park's National Junior Honor Society working to keep our Garden of Dreams looking beautiful.

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## What's Happening In Science

As part of the space portion of the Flight and Space pre- engineering program, **Mr. Stabler's 8th grade classes** simulated rocket engines and different rocket fuels using different liquids and household chemicals. Not all the "fuel" mixes are successful for making thrust, but for many it was "3.....2.....1.....liftoff!"



Mr. Stabler's pre-engineering students hard at work exploring rockets



Mr. Craig's students and their gliders

In **Mr. Craig's 8th grade classes** students were tasked with designing and producing a glider for maximum glide time.



**Mr. Bernstein's 7th grade classes** have been studying how some forms of energy move in waves. We learned the difference between electromagnetic waves, such as light, which can move through the emptiness of space, and mechanical waves, which need matter to move. We also learned how changing some characteristics of a wave, such as wavelength or frequency, can make an observable change in the wave's energy.

For example, PVC pipes of different lengths can produce different frequencies of sound, and we used this fact to make music. We also learned how light will change speed and bend when it moves at an angle from one material into another. This changing-speed-and-bending is called refraction.

With refraction, we used our hand lens in class to focus the sun's rays onto a piece of paper towel. This was a popular lab with everyone in the class!



Using sound pipes to make music



Using hand lenses

**Mr. Stabler, Mr. Farisi, Ms. Gullbrand and Mr. Tomaro's 6th grade science classes** built rockets as a culmination to the unit on Forces and Motion. Rockets were launched using 90 PSI of air pressure. Prizes were awarded to the students whose rockets went the farthest. The rocket launch demonstrated Newton's Laws of motion.



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## See What's Happening in Family and Consumer Science Classes!

The **Hospitality and Tourism class** has been traveling around the USA, Canada, Latin America and now Europe, studying their amazing sites and unique cuisines. Students are designing a Travel Brochure of their country of choice. Included in their brochure is great information about their country so that you will want to travel there this summer. Which country will you visit?

**Culinary 1 classes** competed in the annual Halloween Challenge. The winners in Period 3 was Kitchen 5: Jack Bordonaro, Seth Freund, Gavin Galloway, Ayad Morad, and Ethan Tong.

Period 6 was Kitchen 3: Austin Abinet, Michelle Carrio, Joey Mooney, and Hayden Roessler.

The **Culinary 2 class** competed in the annual Cupcake Wars Halloween. The winner was Kitchen 2: Cianna Elkins, Kai Jentzsch, Konstantin Kopchev, Liam Narunsky, Alisha Quashie, and Sarah Rowe.

## County Champions

After a year without sports at Polo Park, the school returned to athletics with a bang, winning the baseball County Championship on Thursday, November 4. The Stallions beat Christa McAuliffe Middle School 2-0 in the title game, capping off a season that saw them finish with a 12-1 record. Even more incredible, the team only gave up nine runs the entire season to their opponents. 8th grade co-captains Santiago Baptista and Peyton Holton led the way the entire season, both offensively and defensively. 8th grader Tyler Johnson was the pitching star for the Stallions, winning all four games he started without allowing a run all year. Fellow 8th graders Danny Hennessey and Lucas Bratton also had pitching wins during the year, while Dominic Luchina, Sean Glenn, and Beckett Englert had many strong contributions throughout the season. The win gave Polo Park their second County Championship in school history with the other coming back in 2008. Congratulations Coach Kaliser and assistant Coach Gilman on leading the boys to a great season and such an amazing achievement.



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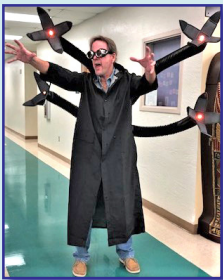
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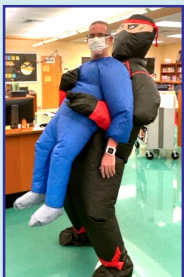
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## Halloween – The Annual Faculty and Staff Costume Contest

Each year the teachers at Polo Park dress up for Halloween. Students get to vote for the most original and the funniest costumes. This year, students voted using a Google Form; the results were:



Mr. Tripp Won for Most Original Costume



Mr. Grad Won for Funniest Costume



Some pictures from the festivities.