



Wolf Weekly

WHAT'S NEW WITH OUR PACK

OCTOBER 10, 2024

Good evening, Polaris Families,

We hope this week's communication finds you well and warm (? who ordered snow this soon...?!) anyway, this early snowfall was a good reminder that winter is indeed coming and it would be a good time to break out those winter bins to make sure students have proper gear to come to school with. Mainly geared to our elementary audience, but students will need proper gear (coats, gloves, snow pants, boots, etc.) here at school with them every day starting, well today!

Please take time to read this week's communication– the vital pieces of information really relate to us needing your help to make this Fall Festival (next week) a success! We hope you, your friends, your neighbors can join us for an evening of Fall Fun, but please take time to find ways to also contribute to this event. Family group teachers and advisors should have reached out on ways to help and PPTA's volunteer information is below. We are in desperate need of candy for the indoor trick-or-treating component of our event and can use all the help in setting up, and tearing down that we can get. We appreciate your support and generosity tremendously.

Quick reminder before I close- No school Monday or Friday this week! (see the calendar at the bottom for more details).

With gratitude and appreciation,

Tia

 **Save the Date | Fall Festival on October 18th | 5-7PM**

An annual tradition for our Polaris community, PPTA will again be hosting a Fall Festival to take place on Friday, October 18th from 5-7PM. There will be 20+ different games & activities; including a cake walk, face painting, potion's class, pumpkin painting, fortune telling, haunted mazes, enchanted maze... and so much more! All that, and I didn't even get to mention the Chili Cook-Off or the Basket Raffle! This event is truly shaping up to be outstanding and we are looking forward to you joining us for an evening of indoor fall fun! [Please check out our website](#)

[for more information](#). Events like this truly take a village, and we hope you are part of ours— for ways to contribute and help make this happen, please see below!

New in This Issue:

PPTA | 10/7 Meeting Recap

The Polaris PTA met on Monday to confirm details about the Fall Festival and to begin generating ideas for future events and initiatives to help support our school community. Dinner and Childcare were provided and Principal Tia shared a detailed Principal Report of all the current happenings in the school— sharing some major successes that have been seen so far this year. We encourage you to join our next meeting, scheduled for November 14 at 5:30 in room 157. **The biggest call to action is your support in the upcoming Fall Festival; currently, there are not enough volunteers to staff the festival operations.** Information on how to support our school for the Fall Festival can be found below.

Picture RETAKE Day | Tuesday, October 15

Fitzgerald Photography did a wonderful job with our Fall school photos this year— all photos that were taken on our Picture Day are now available to preview and/or purchase via the [Fitzgerald Photography Website](#). The password is your child's ASD student ID number. If you do not know that number you can login to Parent Connect and click demographics.

If you would like your child to get a picture retake, or if your child was absent the day pictures were originally taken, we are offering a Picture Retake Day next Tuesday. This is an open invitation for any student to get their pictures taken or retaken. Any student without a picture after Tuesday will, unfortunately, not be pictured in this year's yearbook. Please reach out to us if you have any questions.

Important Reminders from Previous Issues:

Fall Festival 2024 | WE NEED YOU to help make this happen 😊

Excitement is in the air once again for the annual Polaris Fall Festival! Set to take place on October 18th from 5-7, this event is open to the public so bring your friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors. We'll have 20+ activities & games, concessions, a basket raffle, and the infamous Chili Cook-Off! It takes the whole Polaris community to pull off this incredible event;

Here's how you can help:

- Support family groups and advisories by donating items to their basket and pick up a shift for their game/activity (communication should have come directly from them with specifics)
- Volunteer to help support PPTA during set up, clean up, and/or running one of the various activities they are taking on– see [PPTA's sign up sheet \[here\]](#)
- Donate Candy for Trick-or-Treating. Candy donations can be brought to the front office.
- [Sign-up to submit a Chili for the Chili-Cook Off!](#)
- Purchase items from [PPTA Amazon Wish List](#)
- [Prepay for your festival tickets](#) so you can stand in the Prepay Fast Line \$7/Individual Pass, \$25/Family Pass

Canned Food Drive

For the entire month of October, Polaris will be collecting food donations for the Anchorage Rescue Mission. Please bring any nonperishable items into either the office, your family group teacher, or your advisory and we will get them to the right place! Thank you in advance for your help and support.

[The Journey to 30](#) Anniversary Merchandise Sale | 2nd Run

We have exciting news– our Journey to 30 Merchandise was delivered and distributed today to those who ordered in the first run– however, based on the number of students, staff, and community members who have already reached out requesting to make a purchase, we have opened a second run of this merchandise! **This will be the last run of this limited edition swag, so if you are interested in a 30th Anniversary T-shirt, Sweatshirt, or Crewneck don't wait– make your purchase today! Please check out our [new campaign page](#) for more information. Sale ends November 1.**

Homecoming Dance | Photo Book Images Available Now

A huge, huge, thank you to Dori Yelverton who has, once again, sponsored an incredible photo booth for our students at our Homecoming Dance last Friday. Dori not only took these photos free of charge, but is graciously allowing us and our students to freely download them as well. Visit the [Evoke Images Gallery](#) to view and download. **Use passcode Polaris2024 to gain access and please consider using Evoke Images for your future photography needs.**

Parking Lot Safety and Courtesy Reminder

Safety, kindness, and respect are not only important qualities to live by, they are essential components of our school community. We recognize our parking lot is not the funniest place to be in the morning or the afternoon, especially when you have someplace to be, but at no time is it

acceptable to speed, drive aggressively, disrespect another parent, or use profanity around our students. Community members displaying this behavior will be reported to APD. If you see something, say something: we encourage our families to report parking lot incidents to 311 directly.

November 5th | Remote Learning Day

As announced by ASD last week, Tuesday, November 5th will be a Remote Learning Day across the entire Anchorage School District. More information regarding our [Remote Learning Day](#) plans for the 2024/25 school year can be found on our [school website](#).

Keeping Up with the Polarians | Check out Recent Postings

Our [new Facebook page](#) is gaining momentum and we have been posting updates and highlights from student activities! Be sure to check out, like, and friend us on [Facebook](#) to get notifications when new content appears 😊

Technology Policy

For more information about this policy, its origins, or our goals with this initiative, please visit the [Technology Acceptable Use Policy page](#) on our website.

Donations Requested:

We will still happily take any of the following items:

- **CANDY DONATIONS for the upcoming Fall Festival-** Trick-or-treating during the Fall Festival is one of the signature components of our upcoming annual event. As Halloween displays are already seen throughout the city stores, we will happily begin taking candy donations now and up through October 17. We sincerely appreciate your support in our efforts to make this years Fall Festival another successful event for our school community!
- **NEW** Gently Used Band Instruments (of all kinds!)-** Our Band Teacher, Brad, is looking to add to the Polaris Band Instrument Inventory! If you have an instrument you're not using anymore and think a student could benefit from using it, please consider donating it to the Polaris Band Program. If you have questions about this donation request, please reach out to Brad directly at hamilton_bradley@asdk12.org

If you are able to donate, all donations can be brought to the office. We sincerely appreciate your help!

Dates at a Glance

October 14	No School - Indigenous Peoples Day
October 17	Great Alaska Shakeout (State-wide Earthquake Drill) at 10/17
October 18	No School - ASD Grade Reporting Day
October 18	Fall Festival 5-7 PM
October 25	No School - Professional Development Day
October 30	PLC ½ Day; Dismissal at 11:30 (All K-12 Students)
November 5	Remote Learning Day
November 11	No School - ASD Inservice Day
November 20	PLC ½ Day; Dismissal at 11:30 (All K-12 Students)
November 28	No School - Thanksgiving Holiday
November 29	No School - Thanksgiving Holiday
December 6	Student-led Conferences
December 11	PLC ½ Day; Dismissal at 11:30 (All K-12 Students)
December 13	Student-led Conferences
December 20	No School - ASD Inservice Day
December 23-Jan 3	ASD Winter Break

Family Feedback

Feedback is important to us at Polaris. We would love to hear what we are doing well to serve your student(s) and family and also how we might continue to evolve and grow. Please consider submitting feedback using the [Family Feedback Survey](#). If you need immediate assistance, however, please contact the front office at (907) 742-8700.

“Our continued drive for excellence will never truly cease, it will merely open new doors of opportunity to strengthen who we are, what we do, and what we continue to become.”

-Dr. Tia Clay



**The Wolf Weekly is brought to you by the dedicated staff at Polaris
K-12.**

Not receiving the communication? The Wolf Weekly is sent every Thursday at 5PM to contacts currently listed in ParentConnect. Please make sure your contact information is current on the ParentConnect Portal. If you need assistance, please contact the front office at (907) 742-8700.