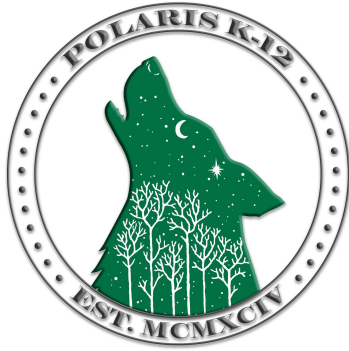


Polaris Leadership Endorsement



The Polaris Leadership Endorsement (PLE) mission is to develop, recognize, and sustain student leadership and community stewardship.

Student Leadership: Inspiring others to pursue a vision to the extent that it becomes a shared effort, a shared vision, and eventually a shared success. Student leadership requires harnessing the energy and talents within a community to advance the betterment of the school.

Community Stewardship: An ethic that embodies the responsible planning and management of resources to support members of many different perspectives, and interest as we jointly pursue the vision of our school's mission statement and future.

Student leadership is a valuable resource at Polaris - sustained through self-discovery, experience, learning, relationships, and active engagement. The Polaris Leadership Endorsement (PLE) is designed to develop and enhance your personal leadership skills and help you become more accomplished in the classroom, competitive in the workforce, and civic minded in your community. Upon completion of and evidence in all the program components, you will receive a Polaris Leadership Endorsement, 1.0 credit in Student Leadership on your transcript, and a leadership graduation cord.

Endorsement Components

- Governance Involvement & Participation
- Enrichment & Learning Activities
- Community Stewardship
- Leadership Experience & Application
- Leadership Mentorship
- Leadership Portfolio

Eligibility

- 3.0 GPA requirement for endorsement
- Demonstrate evidence in each component
- Graduate from Polaris to receive the transcript credit, cord, and endorsement
- Earn a minimum of 500 points

The guiding belief is that leadership is a process, not just a position.

The activities listed and defined in each component are continually evolving. Creativity and innovation is encouraged. The PLE encourages innovation and creativity. Please discuss new ideas with the PLE Advisor to earn credit toward your endorsement.

Activities with an (*) require a verified Leadership Activity Log.

Governance Involvement & Participation

Activity	Definition	Point Value (per year)
Advisory Op Group Rep	Attend a majority of the Op Group meetings per year and report back to advisories	10 per semester
Advisory Board Rep	Participating as a rep for your Advisory at Ad Board Meetings and report back to advisories	10 per semester
Middle School Mentee	Served as a middle school mentee on Polaris Op Board	15
Polaris Operational Board (and SAB Rep) Candidate	Ran for an Op Board position	15
Polaris Operational Board Elected Position	Elected as an Op Board Member	20
State or District Candidate	Ran for state or district position. Example: AASG district representative or E-board member, SAB Board Member.	20
State or District Elected Position	Elected and participated in district/statewide activities. Example: AASG district representative or E-board member, SAB Board Member	25
SAB Representative	Elected/serve as an Student Advisory Board representative	15

Enrichment & Learning Activities

Activity	Definition	Point Value
AASG Conference	Attended the Alaska Association of Student Government conference as a Polaris Delegate	15 per conference
UAA Emerging Leaders Workshop	Participation in a UAA Emerging Leaders Workshop	10 per workshop
Collaborative Cohort Study	Participated in a class or group study focused on expanding knowledge of, implementing and learning about leadership. Example: Pick a book on leadership and seminar with another or a group of student(s) frequently throughout the duration of the reading. (see requirements below)	20 per study
Personal Leadership Philosophy Development	Crafted a 1-2 page thesis about your personal leadership philosophy (see requirements below)	20

Community Engagement & Service

Activity	Definition	Point Value
Event Planning*	Working with a designated committee to plan an event. Example: Homecoming Dance Committee, Prom Committee, Spring/Fall Carnival	10 per event
Working an Event*	Assisting with the execution of a Polaris event. Example: setup/cleanup	5 per event
Volunteer*	Volunteering with a credible organization.	5 per 10 hours

Leadership Experience & Application

Activity	Definition	Point Value
Leadership Service*	Clubs, teams, religious activities, and other events in which the student demonstrates leadership.	5 per 10 hours
Leadership Position*	Holding a leadership position in organization outside of Operational Group.	15 per year
Polaris Student Ambassador	Serving as a Polaris Student Ambassador in any of the pathways.	10 per year

Leadership Mentorship

Activity	Definition	Point Value
Mentorship	Mentoring a leader in or outside of Polaris. An example would be mentoring a student engaged in the Emerging Leaders Program at UAA.	20

Leadership Portfolio

Activity	Definition	Point Value
Portfolio	Maintain/create a Leadership Portfolio in Digication or another approved platform that demonstrates your learning process and development as a leader with evidence from all components.,	25

Additional Information on Specific Components

Collaborative Cohort Study

- Select and read a book about leadership approved by PLE Advisor.
- Meet at least ten times with other students for a cumulative minimum ten hours in meetings
- Compose a minimum of ten responses to the text over the course of the meetings; responses may include ideas, reflections, comments, or questions related to the text or leadership. These responses should be included in your portfolio.

Mentorship

- Complete a cover letter and resume. Your cover letter should explain the leadership endorsement program, your desired outcome from a mentorship, and what you bring to the experience and hope to gain.
- Meet with the PLE Advisor and/or school counselor to discuss mentorship opportunities and reach out to potential mentors.
- Create a plan to shadow your mentor for a minimum of 15 hours.
- Maintain a journal of your experience.
- Complete a 1-2 page reflection of what you learned through your mentorship and how it has shaped your views and personal philosophy on leadership.

Leadership Philosophy

- To be completed AFTER a collaborative cohort study and a mentorship experience.
- A clear leadership philosophy will enhance one's capacity to lead oneself, others, groups, and organizations.
- A crucial skill for a leader is the ability to manage your own learning. Your leadership philosophy will be continuously evolving. This paper is intended to help you identify your what motivates you and what you wish to accomplish.
- 1-2 page paper.
- Explain views on and personal definition of leadership.
- Reflect how these beliefs have changed and developed over the course of the Study and through leadership experience

Leadership Portfolio

- This portfolio should be a culmination of your entire process and document and celebrate evidence from each component.
- Your portfolio should be designed in a manner that is presentation ready.