



POLO COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER



Established 1992

<http://www.polo222.org/dist/dsfoundation.html>

Summer 2011

Improving Educational Opportunities Through Community Involvement

THE POLO FOUNDATION

Polo has a long-standing reputation for providing quality education for its students. Part of the reason behind this tradition comes from a strong partnership between the parents, the schools and the community. In these days of school consolidations and money troubles, Polo Community School District continues to hold its own. And we have you and others to thank.

In 1992, the Foundation was formed with the goal of continuing this strong educational system. This Foundation was created to provide opportunities that the District budget may not allow. Please consider a donation to the Foundation as your gift to the Polo Schools.

The Polo Foundation is:

- A tax exempt, non-profit corporation chartered in 1992.
- Managed by a Board of Directors consisting of dedicated school district volunteers.
- Operated independently from, but in cooperation with, the Polo Community School District.
- Actively involved in raising funds from private and corporate sources which support scholarships and enrichment programs throughout the District.

2011-12 POLO COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

Current PCSF Board members are President Kyle Carlock, Shari Wakenight, Jonette Wood, Becky Patterson, Cliff Bardell, Jamie Gorzny, Carrie Grobe and Kayla Bergstrom. Jennifer Grobe serves as the Board of Education representative. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact Chris Rademacher @ 1-815-946-3815 or crademacher@polo222.org.

SMART BOARDS IN THE SCHOOLS

The Polo School District will have installed a SMART Board interactive whiteboard into 37 of the district classrooms by the start of the 2011-2012 school year. The Polo School Foundation has assisted with this process through the yearly grants given to the three schools.

Combining the simplicity of a whiteboard with the power of a computer, the SMART Board interactive whiteboard lets the teacher deliver dynamic lessons, write notes in digital ink, and save their work – all with the simple touch of a finger. The SMART Boards are a catalyst to bring learning to life and engage, inspire and motivate students.

2011 Local Scholarship Recipients

Polo School Foundation

- Sara Bartnick-Daughter of Brad & Valerie Bartnick
- Cody Johnson-Son of Gary & JoEllen Johnson
- Kyle Pearson-Son of Ken & Terry Pearson

Betty McCaffrey Scholarship

- Dylan Cox-Son of Randy & Michele Cox
- Luke Miller-Son of Jim & Barb Miller
- Byron Morgan-Son of Bill & Michelle Morgan
- Daniel Stockton-Son of Troy Stockton & Erica Falk
- Chris Weber-Son of Michael Weber & Jennifer LaVerdure

Polo Lion's Club

- Dylan Cox- Son of Randy & Michele Cox
- Dane Mitchell-Son of Paul & Nancy Mitchell

Suits PC Scholarship

- Luke Miller- Son of Jim & Barb Miller

Howard W. Garrison – Music and Agriculture

- Cassidy Terry-Daughter of Drew & Tina Terry
- Anna Ohlwine-Daughter of Phil & Deb Ohlwine

Polo Education Association

- Anna Ohlwine- Daughter of Phil & Deb Ohlwine
- Daniel Stockton- Son of Troy Stockton & Erica Falk
- Ashley White-Daughter of John & Pam White

Adee Scholarship

- Ryan Nance-Donaldson-Son of Joseph Donaldson & Chasity Nance

Chad Johnson Memorial Scholarship

- Scott Scholl-Son of Bruce & Julie Scholl
- Cassidy Terry- Daughter of Drew & Tina Terry

Elly Wedin Erdman Scholarship

- Anna Ohlwine- Daughter of Phil & Deb Ohlwine
- Makenzi Wolf-Daughter of Randy & Shelli Wolf

Luetta Johnston Scholarship

- Ashley White- Daughter of John & Pam White

Justus Bartelt Memorial Scholarship

- Victoria DuBois-Daughter of Hart DuBois & Dana Sellers
- Jeremiah Ludewig

Lucille & Pat Patterson Scholarship

- Megan Patterson-Daughter of Tom Patterson & Becky Patterson

Bill Jenkins Memorial Scholarship

- Byron Morgan- Son of Bill & Michelle Morgan
- Scott Scholl- Son of Bruce & Julie Scholl

Patrick Rademacher Memorial Scholarship

- Megan Patterson- Daughter of Tom Patterson & Becky Patterson



Polo School Foundation
Cody Johnson, Sara Batnick & Kyle Pearson



Justus Bartelt Memorial Scholarship
Tori Dubois, Jenny Kyker, Jeremiah Ludwig
and Steve Bartelt



Polo Lion's Club
Dylan Cox, Gene Schmidt and Dane Mitchell



Bill Jenkins Memorial Scholarship
Byron Morgan, Elly Jenkins and Scott Scholl



Please contact the Polo School Foundation if you would like to set up a scholarship.

Lucille & Pat Patterson Scholarship
Megan Patterson and
Cathy Brown

In Memory of Kathy Sowinski
August 7, 1949-April 1, 2011

Mrs. Kathy Sowinski taught in the Polo School District for 40 years, from August of 1971 to March 2011. She earned her Bachelors of Science in Elementary Education from Wisconsin State University in Whitewater and received her Masters of Science as a Reading Specialist from Northern Illinois University. She was a literacy advocate for the children of Polo, teaching first grade for 35 years and as a reading specialist for 5 years. She was one of the architects of the current Response to Intervention Programs (RTI) at Centennial Elementary.

Kathy was a remarkable teacher in the Polo School District. She walked into Centennial Elementary every day with strength, determination, and grace. It was not the number of years here that made her so remarkable, but her dedication to making a difference in the life of each child she taught, whether it was in the first grade classroom or teaching a struggling kindergartener how to read. She was admired and respected by the teachers lucky enough to work alongside her and learn from her.

Not only will Kathy be remembered for her passion for teaching, but also for her long, courageous battle with cancer. She will forever be admired for her positive attitude and determination to not let her illness overcome her desire to meet the needs of those around her. She will always be a hero to many because she was a survivor of a disease that she courageously battled every day for 16 years. She found the strength with the help of her friends, her husband, and her beautiful daughter and best friend, Vanessa.

While she will be greatly missed by her colleagues, friends, neighbors, students, and especially her family, she is finally at peace from the pain she never showed.

For all those that knew and loved her, it has been a true privilege.

By Susan Hopkins



17th ANNUAL POLO FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Polo School Foundation will host their 17th Annual Polo Foundation Golf Tournament on August 13, 2011 at Edgewood Golf Course. The Tournament was originally created by the Polo Rotary. However, the Polo Rotary disbanded in 2003. Last year's event raised \$5,000 for the Polo Foundation. Forms can be obtained at: <http://www.polo222.org/Pdf/Golf11.pdf> or by contacting Chris Rademacher @ 815-946-3815.



Please visit the Polo School Foundation web site at <http://www.polo222.org>

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Through your generous donations in the past, the Foundation continues to enhance our children's educational experience. The Foundation's investment portfolio now includes money-market accounts, bonds, income mutual funds, variable annuities and more. The interest from these accounts and your TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS enable us to fund many special requests for our school children. You may:

- Make a gift of cash, check, securities, or personal property in any amount.
- Pledge a specified dollar amount with payments made monthly or annually.
- Designate gifts as a memorial to loved ones, living, or deceased.
- Bequest money in your will or trust.
- Name the Polo Community School Foundation as an insurance beneficiary.
- Specify a school (Centennial, Aplington, High School) or student in a particular field (Medical, Education, Arts, etc.) to receive your donation.
- Please send me more information on setting up a scholarship fund. You can contact me at:

Contributions can be made in person or by mail to: Polo Community School Foundation, Polo Community Unit School District #222, 100 Union Avenue, Polo, IL 61064. (Return this section with your donation, please.)

It is now the policy of the Foundation to publicize donor lists. Please indicate if you do not want your name published.