



Poland Regional High School

Mechanic Falls, Minot, & Poland • Maine

2008-2009 School Profile

Dennis Duquette, *Union #29 Superintendent*
Cari Medd, *Principal*
Raymond Lafreniere, *Dean of Students*
Don King, *Director of Co-Curricular Activities*

PRHS Enrollment Information

559 grades 9-12
126 senior class
10:1 student/faculty ratio

Student Services Counseling Staff

Hillary Bush, Director of Guidance, students G-M
Kate Driver, School Counselor, students N-Z
Carrie Mrowka, School Counselor, students A-F
Belinda Ouellette, Registrar

The teaching staff at PRHS are an exceptional group chosen for their passion for teaching and their commitment to our distinct, ambitious mission. With an average of over twelve years of teaching experience, more than half hold advanced degrees.

On September 1, 1999, Poland Regional High School opened its doors as the newest school in the state of Maine and quickly emerged as one of the state's most rigorous and progressive high schools. A member of the Coalition of Essential Schools and a leader in the implementation of *Promising Futures*, PRHS has devised a curriculum that is both standards-based and personalized. PRHS is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

The Union #29 towns of Poland, Minot, and Mechanic Falls cover 147 square miles with a population of approximately 9,100. Prior to 1999, PRHS students attended other area high schools. Poland Regional High School is now the school of record for all three communities. Our current enrollment is 559 students in grades 9-12. Located 11 miles west of Lewiston-Auburn and 33 miles north of Portland, Poland is home to the Poland Spring Bottling Company. The region is also known for its lakes and summer camps.

We welcome all visitors to our school! Our daily advisory period, called Roundtable, is the optimal time for college/military/career representatives to schedule a visit. Please call the Guidance Office at (207) 998-5400 x133 to arrange a visit.

Directions to PRHS

Take the Maine Turnpike (I-495) to Gray, Exit 63 (formerly Exit 11). Turn left onto Route 202, then right at the next light. PRHS is approximately 16 miles (from Exit 63) on the left, just before the intersection of Route 26 and Route 11.



CEEB #200-797

Class of 2008

86% INTEND TO
ENROLL IN COLLEGE

Those colleges include:

Bentley College, Bowdoin College, Central Maine Community College, Colby-Sawyer College, Colorado Mountain College, Culinary Institute of America, Elmira College, Green Mountain College, Heartwood College of Art, Husson College, Johnson & Wales University, Lasell College, Merrimack College, Mount Wachusett Community College, New England School of Communications, New Hampshire Community Technical College, New Hampshire Technical Institute, Northwestern Hair Academy, Plymouth State University, Quinnipiac University, Rochester Institute of Technology, Southern Maine Community College, St. Joseph's College of Maine, Swarthmore College, United Technical Institute, University of Maine at Presque Isle, University of New England, University of Maine, University of Maine at Augusta, University of Maine at Farmington, University of Maine, University of New Hampshire, University of Southern Maine, University of Vermont, Virginia Career Institute, Wagner College, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

- **6%** enlisted in the military
- **8%** entered workforce



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<http://www.poland-hs.u29.k12.me.us>

Organizing for Instruction

The PRHS curriculum is designed to be demanding enough to prepare all students for post-secondary education. Students are heterogeneously grouped and enrollment is open with all course standards at the college prep level.

An *Honors Challenge* also exists in all courses for those students who seek to explore the content area in greater depth and breadth. A successfully completed Honors Challenge is noted by an H on the transcript.

PRHS Graduation Requirements

24 COURSE CREDITS ARE REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION, IN ADDITION TO COMPETENCY IN THE AREAS DETAILED BELOW:

<i>Learning Area</i>	<i>Demonstrate Competency</i>
English ...	AP Literature, AP Language, <i>OR</i> Senior English
Math	Math 4 <i>OR</i> Integrated Math/Physics
Science	Integrated Science 2 <i>PLUS</i> 2 additional science credits
Social Studies	Humanities 3 <i>PLUS</i> Comparative Government & Economics
World Language	French 2, Latin 2 <i>OR</i> Spanish 2
Visual/Performing Arts	2 credits of Visual and Performing Arts courses
Wellness	Wellness 3
Technology	Introduction to Technology <i>PLUS</i> an additional ½ credit in Technology

ALL STUDENTS MUST ALSO PASS FOUR YEARS OF ROUNDTABLE AND COMPLETE FOUR CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

Standards-Based Assessment System

In each course, teachers establish *standards*, the essential skills and knowledge that students must achieve in order to receive credit. Final recorded grades will demonstrate the degree to which students have mastered those standards, which are grounded in the Maine State Learning Results. To earn credit for the course a student must meet a preponderance of all standards in that course. Passing each standard at a minimal level earns a student a grade of Competent (CO) in the course, with grades of Advanced (AD) and Distinguished (DS) corresponding to higher degrees of accomplishment.

Change of Grading System

Beginning Fall 2007, students were no longer able to earn a grade of *incomplete* in any of their courses.

GRADES and credits are posted for each semester. Grades indicating interim progress are reported twice per semester. CLASS RANK at PRHS is not determined.

updated Fall 2008

Academic Information

Integrated Mathematics 1-4: Our acclaimed Core-Plus program is designed to prepare students for future success in problem solving, reasoning, and applications. The curriculum is one of two to receive an “exemplary” recommendation from the U.S. Department of Education. By the end of Math 4, all students will not only have an understanding of the concepts and skills of geometry and algebra (I & II). They will also have the necessary background in statistics, probability, and discrete mathematics to go in numerous directions for more advanced math, including AP Statistics or AP Calculus.

Humanities: The PRHS Humanities curriculum combines what is usually taught in high school English and social studies. Each course uses literature to inform the study of a historical time period and uses history to enrich the understanding of works of literature. In grades 9 through 11, these courses are team-taught daily for 80 minutes. Each humanities course results in 2 credits, one in English and one in social studies.

Integrated Science I-II: All PRHS students take Integrated Science I and Integrated Science II as part of the freshmen & sophomore loops. This inquiry-based course spirals at increasing levels of sophistication through biology, earth and space sciences, chemistry, and physics. Following these courses, students are well prepared for more in-depth and focused science studies. NOTE: ALL PRHS SCIENCE CLASSES INCLUDE A LAB COMPONENT.

Junior/Senior Individualized Team: Students who seek to continue and enhance their team-based 9th and 10th grade experience, and who desire a greater degree of personalization (with the attendant responsibility), may opt to be part of the JSIT. Along with their core teachers, JSIT students create and implement individualized learning plans that complement their previous studies and their learning goals. JSIT courses are listed on the student’s transcript with a J prefix (such as *JChem*).

AP Courses: English Literature, English Language, US Government & Politics, History, Calculus AB, Statistics, Computer Science, and Biology. In addition, through Advanced Music, students may prepare for the AP exam in Music. These courses are open to all students willing to invest the effort.

Roundtable: All students participate in advisory groups called Roundtables. These small groups meet daily for thirty minutes with the same advisor until graduation. The curriculum for this course includes, but is not limited to, the Senior Celebration, Sophomore Exhibition, and Junior Career Portfolios.

Sophomore Exhibition: All sophomores, as a part of Roundtable, develop and present a cross-curricular Exhibition. Students gather, reflect, and present on evidence that shows their progress in meeting Maine’s Guiding Principles.

Senior Celebration: Each senior designs, researches and presents a rigorous, complex year long project that demonstrates graduation-level competencies in information literacy, research, and public speaking. They begin the project in Senior Roundtable during the fall and present it to a panel of students and staff by spring.

PRHS students may also earn academic credit through the following programs: Lewiston Regional Technical Center, University of Maine-Augusta, University of Southern Maine, Virtual High School, Lewiston-Auburn College (USM & UMA), Bates College, St. Joseph’s College, Central Maine Community College, other area high schools, internships, independent study and select summer programs.

**PRHS Program of Studies is now available online at our web site (see obverse for address).*