

# Polaris High School Stakeholder Report 2016-2017

## Graduation

The mission of Polaris High School is “Opening Doors Through Graduation”. In the three years prior to the change from an independent study model of instruction to the current model, the average graduation rate was 11.66%. In the four years since the change, the average graduation rate has increased to 63.75%



Last year 41% of the students who graduated from Polaris High School completed their diploma before their classmates in the traditional schools. This was an increase of 3 percentage points from the previous year and represents tens of thousands of dollars in scholarship money for our students.

We are excited to announce that this year our graduation ceremony will be held in the UCCU Center at Utah Valley University. Students are already excited to know that they will be able to have this opportunity.

## R.O.O.T. Values

Starting the 2016-17 academic year Polaris High has adopted four root values to help students be more successful in school and in their post-high school endeavors.

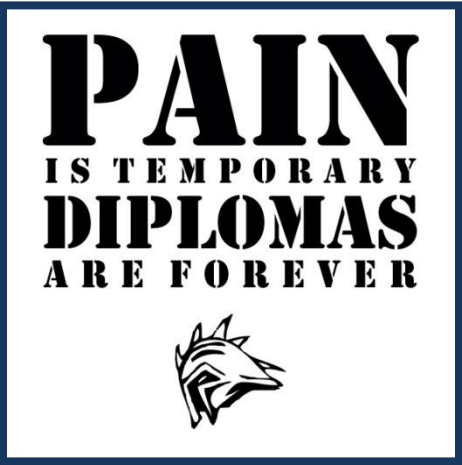
The values were introduced in an assembly at the beginning of the year and students were given a t-shirt with the values logo (below).

Lessons about the values are taught during advisory classes on the first Friday of each mini-term.



# School/Community Council & School Land Trust Money

The School Community Council (SCC) is made up of Parent, Teacher, and Administration representatives. The Council provides guidance in the direction of the school, including giving input on school policies,



developing the School Improvement Plan (SIP) and directing the expenditures of the School Land Trust money.

Principal Lori Thorn is the

administrative member of the Council and Vivian Shepherd serves as the President of the Council for the 2016-2017 school year. Elections for the 2017-2018 school year will take place in the fall. Please notify the School Administration if you are interested in being involved in the School/Community Council.

Each year, Utah Schools develop a School Improvement Plan (SIP), a roadmap for school staff to use as they strive to improve teaching and learning in their schools.

The Polaris High School SIP for the 2015-2016 school year consisted of the following goals:

1. Improve graduation rates by .5% from the 2015 to 2016 academic year.
2. Increase the reading level of students who are reading below grade level by at least one grade.

While the trend of our graduation rates is still significantly improved, our graduation rates decreased from the 69% in 2014-15 to 62% in 2015-16.

However, the reading level of students identified as needing the intensive reading support did increase above the goal.

Polaris High School has been allocated \$15,534 for the 2016-17 school year. This money is being used in support of the current School Improvement Plan goal of decreasing the dropout rate by .5% from 2016 to 2017 in the following ways:

Professional Development for teachers including bringing in a national presenter on developing resiliency.

Purchase software to help students access portions of the curriculum at various reading levels to increase academic engagement.

Purchase technology for the classrooms.

## Student Demographics:

Males .....	56%
Females .....	44%
Seniors .....	71%
Juniors.....	27%
Underclassmen .....	2%
White .....	67
Hispanic.....	28%
Other Ethnicity .....	5%
Students in poverty.....	54%
Students with learning disabilities.....	16%
Young Parents .....	
2016 Graduates.....	124
Early Graduates 12th .....	47
Early Graduates 11th .....	5