



October 1, 2018 THE WILDCAT'S ROAR

Diplomat Middle School

Proud to be a Positive
Behavior Support "PBS"
Model School



Upcoming Events :

- October 1:** Cross Country @ Diplomat (5:30)
- October 3:** Cross Country @ Trafalgar (5:30)
- October 4:** DMS Basketball Playoffs
- October 8:** DMS Basketball Playoffs
- October 9:** Cross Country @ Trafalgar (5:30)
- October 10 & 11:** DMS Basketball Playoffs
- October 15:** Professional Duty Day (No School for students)
- October 16:** Volleyball tryouts
- October 17:** Cross Country (XC Championship)
- October 17 and 18:** DMS Basketball Playoffs
- October 18:** Student Picture Retake
- October 19:** PEACE Walk
- October 23:** DMS Basketball Playoffs
- October 25:** McTeacher Night
3:00-10:00 P.M. 8 NE Pine Island Road (by Santa Barbara and Pine Island)
- November 6:** All-County Chorus Rehearsal
- November 8:** All-County Band Audition
- November 14:** Poinsettia Sales begin (Music Dept.)
- November 21-25:** Thanksgiving Break
- November 29:** McTeacher Night
3:00-10:00 P.M. 8 NE Pine Island Road (by Santa Barbara and Pine Island)
- November 30:** Winter Chorus Concert

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Hello Wildcats,

Congratulations on being an A+ school for the 2017-2018 school year. You worked hard and you deserve it. Parents please remember to continue using Castle to review your student's grades, behavior records, and progress monitoring. This is a great resource to help us ensure we continue with our A+ work.

Many of you had the opportunity to meet 8th grade language arts teacher, Lorna Ermacora this school year. Please read a small biography of Mrs. Ermacora, inside this newsletter. Mrs. Ermacora passed away on September 17. She will be remembered and missed for her dedication to her students and to Diplomat. Her mission, as well as the mission of Diplomat, was and is to prepare students for their future. Part of that preparation consists of inviting those students who have earned great grades to special social events.

The first of three Lock-ins is scheduled for the beginning of November. The lock-ins are a great social event for students and an opportunity for you parents to have an early date night. The lock-in is from 4:00pm to 8:00pm. To participate, students must meet two requirements, 1. earn only As, Bs, and Cs, on their report cards, and 2. have no discipline referrals this school year. Be on the lookout for information coming soon. If you are looking for ways to be involved at Diplomat Middle, please contact Tanya Norris to learn more about our School Advisory Committee and our PTO, 574-5257. Contact Caroline Toadvine to ask how you can help with our spring talent show, 574-5257. Contact Lisa Seale if you have a couple of hours a month, or per quarter, we would love to have you assist in the copy room, at the front desk, or help with our book fairs, 574-5257.

This school year has already given us great opportunity to know that we should always give 100% of ourselves to whatever endeavor we choose to participate. Always give the best of yourself so you know that you gave it your all.

Proud to be in the Pride,

Maura Bennington

December 13: Fall Concert (6:30-7:30)

December 14: Winter Theatre Production
(6:00-7:30 P.M.)

December 19-21: Early Dismissal

December 22-Jan. 6: Winter Break

Florida State Statute 1012.42 recognizes that teachers, at times, must be assigned duties in a class outside the field in which the teacher is certified. The following teachers at Diplomat Middle School are certified, but may be assigned one or more classes outside their areas of certification and are required to take appropriate steps to comply with the statutory regulation:

William Reamer	ESOL
John Roe	ESOL
Nina Johnson	ESOL
Matthew Ziemer	ESOL
Ben Uphoff	ESOL
Linsey Uphoff	ESOL
Kathy Adams	Reading/ESOL
Ashley Ushko	Reading/ESOL

We are excited to announce that Diplomat Middle School is now the home of a brand new Automated External Defibrillator (AED). An AED is a lifesaving tool that is used to address a sudden cardiac arrest. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, according to the American Heart Association. Early and effective CPR/intervention has been demonstrated to double or triple the chance of survival. Members of our administration and staff have received specialized training through Project ADAM. This project also donated our new AED that could save lives. The device is safe to be used on people of any age who are experiencing cardiac arrest. It is located next to the stage in the cafeteria. You can contact our School Nurse Joscelyn McManus RN, with any questions or if you would like additional information on Project ADAM.

Many Thanks Mr. Holland

The Diplomat Music Department would love to thank the Mr. Holland Opus Foundation for their generous donation to our musical family. They reached out to us and asked if any assistance could take place. Mr. Dahlberg responded with a list of needs and they were able to help out.

Today, we received drum sticks, bass drum mallet, valve oil, slide cream, triangle beaters and five trumpet mouthpieces. The total gift average roughly three hundred dollars.

Again, we thank the foundation for their generous gift and appreciate all donors that assist in keeping music alive in our Lee County schools.

SPIRIT BAND

The Spirit Band is kicking off with the basketball season. Come out and support your team while the Spirit Bands gets you into the groove at our local games. The band is made up of student volunteers that have one year or more in band. All musicians are welcome to join. Next month, we will plan to introduce a dance/cheer squad to the Spirit Band. If interested, contact Mr. Dahlberg.

Fall Concert in the Courtyard

Mark your calendars today for Thursday, December 13th. We will have our Fall Concert in the Courtyard featuring our bands and guitar classes. Come out for a family night of music, food and fun. The concert starts at 6:30.

With heavy hearts, we share the sad news of the passing of Lorna Ermacora. She fought a 21 month battle with pancreatic cancer, continuing to work with her students on a daily basis until just one week before her passing on September 17th. She was strong in her fight and dedicated to her students and her school. Before joining the Diplomat family, Lorna taught as an Open End teacher at Challenger Middle School for one year, and then spent three years at Gateway Charter High School teaching Language Arts. Lorna began teaching at Diplomat Middle School in August of 2012, teaching 6th grade Language Arts. Through the years, she also taught yearbook, journalism, 8th grade Career class, and 8th grade Language Arts. She loved reading and writing and sharing those passions with her students. Her students knew that she would not accept less than their best work. They thought she was funny, entertaining, strict, and held high expectations of them. She also served Diplomat as a Newspaper advisor, girls' volleyball coach, and co-chair of our school marketing committee.

Lorna was married for over 18 years and they have a teenage daughter who attends one of our West Zone high schools.

REMINDERS TO PARENTS:

It is important that our students are in school everyday and that they are on time for each class, including the beginning of the day. Just as students receive a detention during the day for being tardy to classes, students will also receive a detention on every third unexcused tardy to school. Therefore, every 3rd unexcused tardy will result in an after school detention.

If your morning schedule is tight, you may use our before school care for a small fee each school day. Students may come on campus at or after 9:15 am, without the need of our fee based care. Students who arrive before 9:15 am, become a part of our before school care at a cost to parents of \$35 for registration and \$5 per day that is attended.

Student must be picked up at dismissal each day, 4:00pm, or at the designated end time of any school sponsored event.

Lee County School Board Policy 4.16:

No student shall be released within the final 30 minutes of the school day unless the principal/designee determines it is an emergency.

4 KEY FINDINGS for Middle Grades

1. Middle grade attendance and GPA provide the best indication of how students will perform in high school classes.
2. Students who are chronically absent or who receive F's in the middle grades are at high risk of being off track for graduation in ninth grade, and possibly dropping out of school.
3. College readiness depends on strong grades in middle school, as well as high school.
4. Improving grades and attendance in the middle grades can have a large pay-off for high school success; even more so than improving test scores.

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7-Eleven (Andalusia & Diplomat)

BJ's (Pine Island)

Buon Appetito Restaurant

Culver's (Pine Island Road)

Garden Club of Cape Coral)

Miceli's Restaurant

Monarca's Restaurant

Neff Studio (Kismet and Del Prado)

Publix (Kismet and Del Prado)

SAM'S Club (Pine Island Road

Sue Ellen Florist

Stuff a Bagel (Pine Island & Skyline)

VIP LIMO of Fort Myers

*Thank
You* 

If you, or someone you know is interested in becoming a business partner with our school, please contact Diane Ford (dianef@leeschools.net). Donations of time, supplies, services, or monetary support are welcome.