

December 2016



THE WILDCAT'S

Diplomat Middle School ROAR

Proud to be a
Behavior Support
"PBS" Model School



Upcoming Events :

- December 5: 4p** Soccer Try-Outs begin
- December 6:** Volleyball Rd. 1 Playoffs- TBA
- December 6: 4p** Crafty Club Meets
- December 6: 7p** Winter Concert (Chorus)
- December 7:** Volleyball Rd 2 Playoffs- TBA
- December 8: 10a** Cape Coral Social Club- Jazz Band
- December 8: 4p** SGA- Student Government Association Meets
- December 8: 7p** Winter Concert (Orchestra)
- December 9:** Quarter 2 Interims
- December 12:** Volleyball Boys QTR Final Playoff-TBA
- December 13:** Volleyball Girls QTR Final Playoff-TBA
- December 13: 4p** Crafty Club Meets
- December 13: 4:15p** The BFG Movie
- December 14:** Volleyball Boys semi-final playoffs-TBA
- December 15:** Volleyball Girls semi-finals playoffs-TBA
- December 19:** Volleyball Finals-TBA
- December 20: 4p** Crafty Club Meets
- December 20-22:** Early Dismissal Days
- December 22: 4p** SGA- Student Government Association Meets
- December 22:** End of 2nd Quarter
- December 23:** Professional Duty Day.
- December 26 - January 6:** Winter Break

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Hello Wildcats,

With only three weeks remaining of this calendar year and of the first semester of the school year, I want to thank you all for being Wildcats. Each of you contributes to our school in some way.

Our administrative and support staff ensure that our building is clean, efficient, and organized. They ensure our office is a welcoming place for all who enter, ensure our guest teachers know how to make it through the day, keep our finances in order, enroll new students, and help those who do not feel well. They make the lives of the teachers easier because of all they do.

Our teachers ensure that our students are receiving the best education possible. They focus on developing students' thinking skills, reading and speaking skills, and developing their ability to express themselves through writing. Our teachers develop the student's ability to problem solve, to be inquisitive, and they spark student interest in learning the subject areas for which they are passionate.

They open up a plethora of possibilities for our students because of all they do. Our students ensure that they are taking advantage of a Wildcat education.

They work hard, spend time studying, and complete projects assigned to them. They become members of clubs, activities, and sports to increase their social lives and their worlds. They think about others and how they can have an impact on the world around them. They volunteer, they help their parents at home, and they strive to be the best people they can be. They are opening up the doors to the world for themselves because of all they do.

Our parents ensure that their students are doing everything they can to learn as much as possible while they are with us. Our parents know that middle school offers a firm foundation for high school, college, and life beyond the walls of their homes. Our parents know that they and we are working together to develop well educated, thoughtful, and caring people. Our parents are making the lives of their children easier because they have high expectations of them, they expect that their students will always give their best. They are opening up the doors of the world to their students because of all they do for them.

Thank you all for choosing to be a Wildcat. Each of you impacts our students and our world. You are helping to produce the next generation of leaders. Thank you for all you do.

Proud to be in the Pride,
Maura Bennington, Principal

Home of the Wildcats!

REMINDER TO PARENTS: 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 \$5 per school day. Student must be picked up immediately after dismissal. After school care is no longer available.

Si necesita información en Español, favor de llamar a Iris Talento a 574-5257, entre las horas de 9:10 AM y 4:10 PM.

**YEARBOOK PRICE
CHANGE**

Yearbook Prices have changed from \$33.00 to \$35.00

They can be ordered online from the Diplomat Middle School Website

www.dpm.leeschools.net OR from the publisher **www.balfour.com**



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::

Kelly Denney	ESOL
Alicia Ford	ESOL
Ben Uphoff	ESOL
Linsey Uphoff	ESOL
David Migliore	Gifted

**“WORK HARD.
BE KIND.”**



The School Board of Lee County, Florida

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The School Board of Lee County, Florida, prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, marital status, religion, or sexual orientation.





Counselor's Corner

Dear Parents,

What an exciting 1st semester this has been!!!



We are so proud of our students here at Diplomat Middle School, who raised over \$3000 for our PEACE Initiative! All monies collected will go right back to the students for supplies, rewards, and incentives.

On November 4th we (along with Mr. Jackson, Mrs. Bennington, and former DMS current high school students), presented high school success information to our 8th graders. November is the start of the high schools holding open houses. We encourage you and your students to look at all your choices. We gave the students high school open house dates and times. They are also listed below for your convenience.

Thursday, November 10th was our first Straight A Café for the year. The Straight A Café is a special time where we acknowledge the students for their hard work. The students, along with parents, administrators and school counselors gather for donuts and beverages to celebrate student success. Students are also presented with a Certificate of Achievement.

We are busy getting our peer mentoring/teacher mentoring program off and running. The program matches sixth graders, needing to be mentored for various reasons, with 8th grade students. We also match 7th and 8th graders with teacher mentors. We see great results with this program.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season!



Attention Parents and Student of the Class Of 2017

Are You Ready For High School???

Please visit our neighboring high schools in order to learn about all the programs and opportunities that await you!!

- 12/1 - Island Coast High School Student Assignment Open House - 5:30
- 12/13 - North Fort Myers High School - Red Carpet Night - 6:30
- 1/11 - Arts Informational Night - North Fort Myers High - 6:30
- 1/17 - Cape Coral High School - International Baccalaureate (IB) Information Night - 6:30
- 1/19 - Mariner High School - Choice Open House - 6:00
- 1/24 - Ida Baker High School - Student Assignment Open House - 6:00
- 1/25 - Cape Coral High School - Student Assignment Open House - 6:00
- 1/25 - North Fort Myers High School - AICE Information Night - 6:30



A BIG THANKS TO OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS

7-Eleven (Andalusia & Diplomat)
SAM's Club (Pine Island Road)
WALMART NEIGHBORHOOD - Pine Island
David Mann – for
donation of a
Euphonium
V.I.P. Limo
Miceli's Restaurant
Winn-Dixie (Cape
Coral Pkwy)
Walmart
Neighborhood
(Skyline)



Beef O' Brady (Kismet)
Publix (Kismet)
Neft Studio
State Farm Insurance
(Agent Joan Schlereth)
Stuff A Bagel
Walmart Neighborhood (SW Pine Island)
Publix (Pine Island/Del Prado)
Monarca's Restaurant

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



8th Grade Busch Gardens Field Trip

Saturday - January 28th, 2017

Eighth Grade Students and Parents,
January 28th, 2017 will be our annual field trip to Busch Gardens. We will have 150 seats available on a first come, first serve basis. **We must have your completed permission slip, emergency contact information, district permission form and money to reserve your seat.** All items must be turned in by Friday, December 15th.

Cost- \$80 (or \$25 if you have a Season Pass) with NO REFUND

➤ Please Make Checks Payable To: Diplomat Middle School

Morning Of January 28th

- Arrive at School: 7:15 A.M.
- Depart School at 7:30 A.M. (**Do Not Be Late!** We Will Leave At Exactly 7:30 A.M.)
 - Bring Money For Food At The Park (We Will Not Provide Food or Drinks.)
 - School Dress Code Will Be Enforced.
 - Do Not Bring Any Blankets or Pillows On The Bus.

RETURN

- Bus Will Leave The Park At 4:45 and arrive back at Diplomat by 7:00 P.M. (Parents Need To Be At The School By 7 P.M.)

Student Assignment 2017-18
January 23– March 24, 2017

Parents of **currently** enrolled students in Lee County Public School grades five, eight, and students in Pre-K attending Lee County Public Schools who are eligible for kindergarten for 2017/18, will be mailed their child's personalized application on January 19, 2017. This is a very exciting time of year for students and parents as they plan for 2017-2018.

Those receiving the applications can save time by applying online! Please read the documents sent to you very carefully, and determine if you want to apply online, mail it back to us, or bring it to one of our offices in person. This is a nine-week application period. There is no need to stand in long lines the first few days since you have nine weeks to submit the application. All applications are processed as a group.

Parents of children who will be five on or before September 1st, 2017 and who are not enrolled in one of the district's Pre-K programs must visit one of our offices to register for kindergarten for the 2017/2018 school year (bring registration requirements). This should be done during the first application period (January 23 – March 24) to increase the chances of being assigned to your preferred school. Brand new students cannot apply on-line – they must be registered in person.

There are **no automatic assignments** – parents need to register incoming kindergartners even if they have an older sibling already attending the preferred school.

Please visit www.leeschools.net for registration requirements and Student Assignment Office locations.

Lee County is home to Florida's top ranked virtual school. Lee Virtual Instruction Program is the only Kindergarten through 12th grade public school in our area. This challenging virtual learning program follows the school district calendar. Students have access many of the same courses as they would in a traditional school including Advance Placement(AP), Dual Enrollment (FGCU, FSW, FMTC and CCTC) along with the flexibility of a dynamic schedule. Students who complete the virtual course of study receive the same accredited diploma as any other public school. There are two application periods for LVIP. The first application period coincides with the Student Assignment's first application period. The second one begins the Monday after Thanksgiving for second semester enrollments and closes prior to final exam week of the first semester. Applying to LVIP does not affect your current School Choice assignment until the student completes orientation and enrollment in the LVIP program. Lee Virtual also offers a variety of summer courses for original credit. Visit Lee Virtual Instruction Program at <http://lvip.leeschools.net/>.

Selección Escolar 2017-2018
Enero 23 – Marzo 24, 2017

Los padres de familia de estudiantes actualmente asistiendo a las Escuelas Públicas del Condado de Lee en los grados quinto, octavo, y Pre-kínder atendiendo a una de las escuelas públicas que son elegibles para Kinder recibirán en el correo una aplicación personalizada en enero 19 del 2017. Este es un tiempo muy importante del año para los estudiantes y sus padres para planear para el año 2017-18.

Los que reciben esta aplicación pueden ahorrar tiempo aplicando por computadora. Por favor lea los documentos que le enviamos cuidadosamente y determine si usted quiere aplicar por computadora, mandar la aplicación por correo, o traerla en persona a una de nuestras oficinas. El periodo de aplicación es de nueve semanas. No hay necesidad de pararse en líneas largas los primeros días de aplicación ya que usted tiene nueve semanas para aplicar. Todas las aplicaciones son procesadas en grupo.

Los padres de los niños que cumplirán cinco años antes o el día 1 de septiembre, 2017 y que no están matriculados en una de las escuelas del distrito en el programa de Pre-K deben visitar una de nuestras oficinas para matricular a sus niños por primera vez en kindergarten para el año escolar 2017/2018. Por favor aplique durante enero 23 y marzo 24 para aumentar los chances de ser asignado a una de las escuelas de su preferencia. Estudiantes nuevos no pueden aplicar por computadora, estudiantes nuevos deben aplicar en persona.

No hay **asignaciones automáticas** – los padres de familia necesitan matricular a todos los niños que van a entrar a kindergarten aun cuando tengan hermanos que ya están asistiendo a esa escuela.

Por favor visite la página del Internet www.leeschools.net para los requisitos de matrícula y para información acerca de donde están situadas nuestras oficinas.

El Condado de Lee tiene una de las mejores escuelas virtuales de la Florida. El Programa de Instrucción Virtual de Lee es la única escuela pública de Kindergarten hasta el grado 12 en nuestra área. Este desafiante programa de aprendizaje virtual sigue el calendario del distrito escolar. Los estudiantes tienen acceso a muchos de los mismos cursos como lo harían en una escuela tradicional incluyendo la Clases Avanzadas (AP), Inscripción Dual (FGCU, FSW, FMTC y CCTC) junto con la flexibilidad de un programa dinámico. Los estudiantes que completan el curso virtual de estudio reciben el mismo diploma acreditado que cualquier otra escuela pública. Hay dos periodos de aplicación para LVIP. El primer periodo de solicitud coincide con el primer periodo de solicitud de la asignación de estudiante. El segundo comienza el lunes después del Día de Acción de Gracias para las matrículas del segundo semestre y cierra antes de la semana del examen final del primer semestre. La aplicación a LVIP no afecta su asignación actual de Elección Escolar hasta que el estudiante complete la orientación y la inscripción en el programa LVIP. Lee Virtual también ofrece una variedad de cursos de verano para el crédito original. Visite el Programa de Instrucción Virtual de Lee en <http://lvip.leeschools.net/>.

