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pirate's parrot



From the Principal

The BCHS Community,

As the second quarter of instruction for the 2018-2019 school year continues, we encourage all students to take full advantage of our FREE after school Extended Learning Program (ELP). ELP occurs every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school in room 4-101 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm. We have teachers from core subject areas there to assist our students in meeting their academic goals.

Our first semester classes will conclude with exams right before the winter vacation. During our semester one exam week we will follow a regular bell schedule with two exams per day:

	Tuesday, 12/18	Wednesday, 12/19	Thursday, 12/20	Friday, 12/21
7:05-8:33	Period 1 review	Period 2 review	Period 1 exam	Period 2 exams
8:40-10:10	Period 3 review	Period 4 review	Period 3 exam	Period 4 exams
10:47-12:15	Period 5 exam	Period 6 exam	Period 5 makeups	Period 6 makeups
12:22-1:50	Period 7 exam	Period 8 exam	Period 7 makeups	Period 8 makeups

All of our students should be regularly working on www.SATpractice.org to improve their academic skills. If your son or daughter is an 11th or 12th grader, he/she should also be preparing for the SAT and ACT assessments. Please be sure to speak with your counselor or Ms. Harris (in 4-102) if you need help registering for either of these college readiness and entrance assessments.

Our school hosted approximately 50 college, university, technical school, and military branches for our second annual BCHS College Fair on October 1st. All of our AVID students, juniors, and seniors were able to interact with admissions advisors during the fair. Please mark your calendar for our annual College and Career evening session on Wednesday, January 30th, 2019. The event is from 6pm to 8pm we invite all students and parents to learn about the many opportunities and to meet with college, university, technical school, workforce, and military representatives.

Please call Ms. Bonnie Davis at 893-2780 ext. 2326 if you do not have access to FOCUS for your child's schedule, grades, and attendance. Thank for all you do for our students. We are proud of the efforts of our students and the efforts of our dedicated staff.

Sincerely,
Michael P. Vigue, Principal of The BCHS

Principal
Michael P. Vigue

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Our Vision
The Vision of the Boca Ciega High School is 100% Student Success.

Our Mission
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www.pcsb.org/bocaciega-hs
District Website: www.pcsb.org



Attendance

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 Pinellas County School Board
 525 Pennsylvania Ave
 Palm Harbor, FL 34683-5223
 Issue #3

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10 percent, or about 18 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Make school attendance a priority.

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day, make that the expectation.
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick. Complaints of headaches or stomach aches may be signs of anxiety.

Help your teen stay engaged.

- Find out if your child feels engaged by his classes and feels safe from bullies and other threats. Make sure he/she is not missing class because of behavioral issues and school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, work with your school.
- Stay on top of academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors if necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage meaningful afterschool activities, including sports and clubs.

Communicate with the school.

- Know the school's attendance policy - incentives and penalties
- Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in behavior. These could be tied to something going on at school.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not piling up.
- Ask for help from school officials, afterschool programs, other parents or community agencies if you're having trouble getting your child to school.

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Counselors Corner

Don't Let Money Prevent You From Pursuing College!

- 59% of Florida high school seniors who complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) qualify for a Pell Grant, one of the largest forms of federal aid available to low-income students. But Florida ranks 34th in the nation for FAFSA completion.
- Last year, fewer than 50% of Florida's public school students had completed the FAFSA by June 30, 2018. According to FCAN estimates, high school graduates in Florida leave behind over \$100 million in Pell Grants each year because they do not complete the form. **DON'T LET THIS BE YOU!**

The sooner you complete the FAFSA the better. All graduating students should complete the 2019-2020 FAFSA. If a student is considering starting classes this summer they will also need to do the 2018-2019 FAFSA.

WHAT IS NEEDED FOR THE FAFSA

- FSA ID for both the student and the dependent student's parent/stepparent.
 - CREATE at www.fsaaid.ed.gov
- Your Social Security number.
- Your alien registration number (if you are not a U.S. citizen).
- Your 2017 federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned.
- Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable.)
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable.)
- Parents' date of birth, Social Security number, marital status, and date parent was married, divorced, or widowed.

Once you have these items you are ready to submit your FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov

What is BCHS doing to help!

We are hosting FAFSA FRIDAYS, where seniors/early graduates/parents can register to for a one on one FAFSA appointment with Mrs. Forbes. The link is on the left side of our BCHS Homepage, or you can navigate to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508044aaaa923a4fc1-fafsa>.

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Save the Date for Our Spring Play-

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Yearbooks For Sale

The 2018-2019 **Treasure Chest Yearbook** is on sale at the pre-sale price of \$60.00. You can purchase yearbooks with cash, check or money order from Ms. West, in the Media Center. You may also purchase yearbooks using a credit card using the link provided on the BCHS HI-Tide website (www.bocaciega.org). The price for yearbooks will increase to \$75.00 at the beginning of the second semester.



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Boca Ciega JROTC Pirate News

The pirate brigade is in full swing preparing for Veteran's Day, fundraising for military ball, beginning mail-out and so much more. Cadets are working hard to make this the best year yet. An important note for parents is the opening of the yearly mail-out. It is crucial that as many students as possible participate in the mail-out to help fund all the events JROTC participates in. Students and parents can go to the JROTC website and go to the mail out tab and enter addresses of people they think would support our program. Additionally, the Veteran's Day ceremony will be held on 8 November at 9am. Finally, on 18 October there will be the monthly parent meeting with additional updates and answers to any questions.

Marksmanship

Boca Ciega's marksmanship team opened their season with a home win against Clearwater High School. Their success continued when they came in second place (by two points) in a match that took place at Zephyrhills High School. It was in this match that they competed against some of their biggest competition. Here is how they placed:

- Megan Knapp - 2nd Overall
- Nadzumie Flores - 1st place in Kneeling
- Jordyn Miller - 2nd place in Kneeling
- Annie Newnum - Top Novice Shooter

On October 6th the BCHS marksmanship team hosted their own match at Sickles High School, where Team 1 placed first overall! Anxhela Hila was recognized with multiple awards when she placed 1st Overall, 2nd in prone, 1st in standing, and 2nd in kneeling. Hanna Conlan took 2nd place Overall, and also took 2nd place in Standing. Megan Nelson took 2nd Overall for Precision Shooters. Chloe Nepinsky was the top Novice Shooter. They have a busy schedule with many more matches left for their season.

Raiders

The Raiders started their season off at Alonso High School Raider Meet. They placed 3rd Overall on the Rope Bridge. They are working hard to qualify for States at the November 3rd District Raider Meet which will be held at Boca Ciega High School.

Drill

The drill team is working hard to prepare for their season!



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BCHS Work Experience Program

The BCCHS Work Experience Program has several students in need of part-time employment. If you are familiar with a business that may be hiring, please email Tom Arneson (BCCHS Work Program Coordinator) at arnesont@pcsb.org. Thank you for your assistance.



The BCCHS School Store

The BCCHS School Store is open for business. Our store offers clothing items, school spirit items, helium balloons, and school supplies.



The BCCHS clothing would make a great gift! We offer the following:

- BCCHS Hooded Sweatshirt (Blue, Pink, Gold, Grey) \$20
- BCCHS Short Sleeve T-Shirt (Tie-Dye) \$15
- BCCHS Short Sleeve T-Shirts (Blue, Gold) \$10



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Swoosh!

Attention! Attention! The Lady Pirate basketball try outs are just around the corner! We are very excited about our returning athletes, but even more excited about our incoming talent. The Lady Pirates are banking on having a great season and are looking forward to advancing to next rounds of the District Playoffs.

Try outs will be on October 29th through 30th from 2:30-4:30 each day. All participants are encouraged to be present for both sessions.

If you are considering trying out for this year's Lady Pirate Basketball team, the time to complete an athletic packet is now. These packets can be picked up from any office area. You may also get a packet in room 4-108 from Coach Green, or in room 4-114 from Coach Odom.

Sincerely,
Coach Cheryl Greene



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