

**MISSION-BE A LEARNER, BE A LEADER, BE A TARPON**  
**VISION-Promote a culture where Tarpons do their best, do what is right and treat others the way they wish to be treated.**

# Charlotte High School

1250 Cooper Street  
Punta Gorda, FL 33950  
Phone: (941) 575-5450  
Attendance Extension: \*7000  
Fax: 941-575-5464

School Hours: 7:10 am - 2:10 pm  
School Mascot: Fighting Tarpons  
School Colors: Royal Blue and Gold



## May 1st, 2024

For The Parents, Staff, Students And Community Of Charlotte High School

<http://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net>

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As this school year comes to a close, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the journey we've had together. It's always a bittersweet time as our seniors prepare to graduate and embark on new adventures. While we are excited to see them move forward, it's hard to say goodbye to this chapter of their lives at Charlotte High School.

I am incredibly proud of our graduating seniors and the hard work they've put in over the past four years. The friendships and connections they've made here will hopefully last a lifetime. To our seniors, remember that once a Charlotte High School Fightin' Tarpon, always a Charlotte High School Fightin' Tarpon. You are always welcome to come back and visit your CHS Family!

As we enter April and May, our focus is on ensuring all our Tarpons meet end-of-year expectations and future graduation requirements. This means our students will be taking quite a few assessments, and we want to make sure they are prepared to do their best. The pressure can seem immense, so I encourage you to support your child in getting enough rest and managing stress during this time. Our Guidance Counselors are also here to help, so please reach out if additional support is needed.

For our underclassmen, exciting new classes and electives await them for the 2024-2025 School Year. Our Guidance Counselors have been hard at work assisting students with their course selections.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our students, staff, families, and community for your unwavering support during my first year as principal of Charlotte High School. It has been a pleasure getting to know many of you, and I look forward to continued growth and success in the future.

Thank you for your ongoing support in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Angie Taillon  
Principal

# Tarpon Line



"Always remember,  
Tarpon Pride  
never graduates!"

## ADMINISTRATION

Principal  
**Angie Taillon**

Assistant Principals

**Nicholas Brown**

**Jeffrey Damico**

**Kathryn Pyle**

**Andrew Tenney**

Deans

**Kathleen Moore**

**David Kelley**

Guidance Counselors

**Josalyn Leath, 9th grade**

**Trish Marcus, 10th grade**

**Kathleen Carroll, 11th grade**

**Amy Perkey, 12th grade**

**Kameelah Goodman, 12th grade**

School Board Members

**Kim Amontree, Member**

**Wendy Atkinson, Member**

**John LeClair, Vice Chairman**

**Cara Reynolds, Chairman**

**Robert Segur, Member**

Charlotte High School is known as Charlotte County's First and Finest High School. Having first opened its doors in 1926, CHS is rich in history, community support, and tradition.

**Go Tarpons!**



'Tarpon Line'  
May 1, 2024

Published Five Times Per Year  
Charlotte County Public Schools  
1445 Education Way  
Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1052  
Issue # 3



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## UPCOMING DATES

May 16	Graduation, 7:30 pm at Charlotte Sports Park
May 24	Last day for students



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Fighting Tarpons**

Public School



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## PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION

It is imperative we have accurate records (new addresses, phone numbers, etc.) so we are able to contact you in the event of an emergency involving your son or daughter. In addition, there are times when teachers and other school personnel also need to speak with parents and/or guardians. Please give the office a call if you need to update your information.



The FOCUS portal allows parents and students 24/7 secure access to information such as attendance, assignments, grades, and discipline. Please visit [chs.yourcharlotteschools.net](http://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net), click on this link and get started today!

## ABSENCES

**CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER: 941-575-5450**

Please be reminded that on the day your child is absent from school, the Attendance Office should receive a phone call before 7:30 a.m. from the parent or guardian explaining the absence. In addition, for your convenience, a 24-hour voice mail is available before and after school hours so you are able to leave messages regarding absences. Other important extensions you may need are as follows:

OFFICES	EXTENSIONS	OFFICES	EXTENSIONS
ATTENDANCE	*7000	ESE	*7111
ATHLETICS	*7004	FACILITIES	*7112
BOOKKEEPER	*7007	GUIDANCE/CURRICULUM	*7035
CAFETERIA	*7077	MAIN OFFICE	*7001
CLINIC	*7002	MEDIA CENTER	*7088
CPAC	*7086	PRINCIPAL	*7011
CUSTODIAL	*7078	REGISTRATION	*7006
DATA ENTRY	*7008	SOCIAL WORKER'S DIRECT LINE	941-205-0379
DEAN/DISCIPLINE	*7049		

*(Make sure to add the \* before extension number when dialing.)*



Bullying, which includes cyberbullying, occurs when a person or group of people purposefully and repeatedly hurt, embarrass, or frighten another. During freshman year, all Tarpons participate in a classroom lesson about bullying run by our Assistant Principal and School Resource Officer. Students are educated about how to identify, react to and report bullying. As a parent, it is important to have open dialogue with your child about their experiences at school. If you become aware of a bullying situation, please report it immediately. Charlotte High School does not tolerate any form of bullying. For more information, or to report bullying, see the "Students & Parents" section of our website.

## CHS STUDENT ID CARDS

Once students are issued IDs in the fall, they are expected to wear their ID over their neck and it must be visible at all times. Students will be required to show their ID when entering the school building and when they enter and exit the school bus. Students who do not have their ID will be issued a temporary badge. Those who repeatedly do not bring their ID to school may face disciplinary action.

If an ID is lost or needs repair, students should stop by the Dean's Office to get their ID or lanyard repaired or replaced. Students needing additional IDs, sleeves, or lanyards will pay \$2 for an ID and \$1 for a lanyard. Replacement sleeves are free.

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Line

## ADVERTISE IN THE TARPON LINE!

This is a wonderful way for your company to get community recognition and exposure, and at the same time help support your local schools! Email Carmen Blake at [carmen.blake@yourcharlotteschools.net](mailto:carmen.blake@yourcharlotteschools.net)



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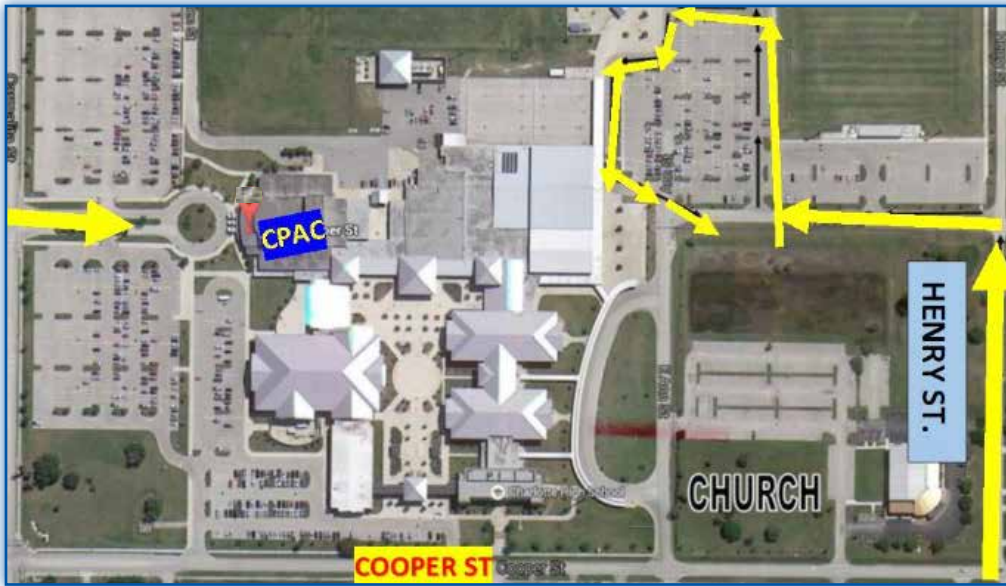
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## DIRECTIONS FOR PARENT PICK UP



Our **MAIN parent drop off area** is just off Henry Street behind the Deep Creek Church. There are signs on Cooper Street directing you to this area. This is the largest area and is designed to accommodate a large volume of traffic. Students dropped off here enter the school on the gymnasium side of the campus.

Our **SECONDARY drop off area** is at CPAC. Because of the volume of students dropped off at CPAC, there is usually a waiting time to get in and out due to the seniors who drive to school who also use this area.

**FOR SAFETY PURPOSES, THE VISITOR PARKING LOT OFF COOPER STREET IS NOT A DESIGNATED DROP OFF OR PICK UP AREA.**

### COUNSELOR NEWS YOU CAN USE

**Freshmen Tarpons**, we are approaching the end of your first year of high school! It has been such a pleasure working with you and your families. Please remember that if you failed one or more core classes in the first semester, you will need to recover those in Edgenuity. You can access Edgenuity through your ClassLink. It is not too late to bring your grades up to pass this semester if you did not do well in Quarter 3. If you have any questions about credits, please contact me via Remind. If you have not signed up for my Remind, please do. It is the most effective way to communicate with me. Finish strong!

**Sophomores!** As we come to the end of this school year please make sure you are finishing it with success. You can do this by working hard in your classes, preparing for your finals, and finishing up any credit recovery that you may have in Edgenuity. In looking ahead to your graduation requirements, you need to make sure you have plans to complete or have already completed a HOPE credit & a Performing or Practical Arts credit. I have enjoyed getting to know you all this year and I look forward to watching you grow throughout your high school journey.

**Juniors**, we are quickly approaching the end of your Junior year and the beginning of your Senior year here at CHS....WOW! My challenge to each of you is to continue to finish this year strong with focus on your graduation requirements and your plans after your high school experience is complete. Please use these last few weeks to improve your GPA and successfully complete your current classes, so summer school will not be needed. If you have classes in Edgenuity to complete, those need to be wrapped up before the end of the school year or please make plans to attend summer school. If you have not met the testing graduation requirements of the Algebra 1 assessment and/or the FSA/ELA, please consider signing up for an SAT or ACT this summer (at ACT.org or SAT.org).

**Seniors** - By the time you read this you will be almost finished with your Senior Year! As we reflect on your remaining time here at Charlotte High School please remember:

- Credits: work until the last day to ensure that you earn required credits. Failure to do so will jeopardize your graduation.
- Handle your business, be sure that you are on track to graduate.
- Edgenuity: Get it done!
- Come in and see your counselor if you have any questions concerning your graduation status!
- Keep going until you've reached the finish line!



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## CAREER CENTER

**Freshmen:** Finish this year strong! Take your time and do well on your finals. Take time over summer to start working on volunteer hours that can later assist you with scholarships. Start using Xello to research which careers you might be interested in. Enjoy your time off but try to get some future planning done!

**Sophomores:** Be sure to update your resume and other important documents. Summer is a great time to get involved by volunteering at local organizations. Many offer scholarships for volunteering, so get out there and support the community. Stay active and continue the online search for programs. Use Xello as a guide for career planning.

**Juniors:** Stay involved in extracurricular activities and seek out leadership roles in your community that will look good on your college application. Start communicating with admissions officers and recruiters at colleges on your list. Find out when you can start applying and mark deadlines in your calendar. Take the time over summer to get organized with the upcoming senior year events and critical dates. You can start working on essays for colleges and scholarships. Look online at the College and Career Ready website for assistance.

**Seniors:** By now you should have committed to a school and know what your plans are for the fall. Be sure to request final transcripts be sent to the school you plan to attend. You can turn requests in to Mrs. Sorrentino the week of graduation practice, but they will not be ready for pick up until diplomas are ready, after June 1st. Be sure to write thank you letters to all that wrote letters of recommendations for you, scholarship sponsors, and others that have assisted you along the way. Congratulations on finishing strong!

## MEDIA CENTER

### Enjoy Library Books All Summer Long with Sora Ebooks & Audiobooks

Students may checkout ebooks and audiobooks all summer long with our digital Sora collection. It can be accessed via the Sora app on a phone or any device that connects to the internet. Remember, the Sora app is also located in ClassLink. Students using the mobile app will be able to sign in with the same credentials they use to log into Chromebooks at school.

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## CTE CERTIFICATIONS

The CTE Department would like to announce that the following students gained their industry certification:

Darren Pyle – Entrepreneur  
 Jack Cimato – Entrepreneur  
 Ethan Bastinelli – Entrepreneur  
 Breanna Slorp – Entrepreneur  
 Wyatt Henderson – Entrepreneur  
 Remelo Frontel, Jr. – Entrepreneur  
 Cris Henry – Photoshop  
 Joshua Richardson – Photoshop  
 Mark Zambito - Photoshop  
 Cole Lowe – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Jeffrey Kesler – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Dayna Patton – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Maddox Crowell – Photoshop  
 Dale Smith – Premier Pro  
 Rian Twogood – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Damian Medina – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Dominic Dotario – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Jan Ruiz Rodriguez – Photoshop  
 Robert Ball – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Rocco Vacanti – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Hai Le – Photoshop  
 Dustin Boyer – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Oliver Helgemo – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Aishleeza Vazquez – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Emily Dominguez – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Danielle Miller – Photoshop  
 Dante Blow – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Gavin Crowley – Photoshop  
 Isabella Maggione – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Zander Durant-Cummings – Photoshop  
 Carolina Castillo DeJesus Dias – Entrepreneur  
 Joseph Ford – Entrepreneur  
 Cody Raulerson – Entrepreneur  
 Kassandra Mihalakis – Entrepreneur  
 Brayden Leahy – Entrepreneur  
 Jillian Lisby – Entrepreneur  
 Kade Pena – Entrepreneur  
 Vincent Federici – Entrepreneur  
 Johanna Cekuta-Bolyard – Entrepreneur  
 Lyla Thomson – Agriculture Associate  
 Ely Griffith – Agriculture Associate  
 Myleigh Kraft – Agriculture Associate  
 Madison Lewis – Agriculture Associate  
 Gabrella Offerman – Agriculture Associate  
 Aiden Hahn – Agriculture Associate  
 Ty Matson – Animal Science Specialist  
 Paige Vander Weide – Animal Science Specialist  
 Colby Flowers – Animal Science Specialist  
 Kelsey Alberts – Photoshop  
 Chloe Fish – Photoshop  
 Nathan Platt – Photoshop  
 GeorgiaRee Schuller – Photoshop  
 Jessica Vegas – Photoshop  
 Angelica Mendoza – Photoshop  
 Elijah Spalding – Photoshop  
 Soshanna Evans - Photoshop  
 Sophia Elkins – Photoshop  
 Mikaylah Parker – Photohshop  
 Kaviyana Clarke – Photoshop  
 Lila Curry-Whitehurst – Photoshop  
 Kendrew Malbrache – Photoshop  
 Jade Storey – Photohshop  
 Carr McCray – Photoshop  
 Catlin Kassie – Photoshop  
 Leah Hunnius – Photoshop  
 Wyatt Diloreto – Illustrator (bundle)  
 Ella Lombardo – Photoshop  
 Kieran O’Connell – Photoshop  
 Caleb Ruggiero – Photoshop  
 Novalee Hunter - Photoshop  
 Sander Vincent – Photoshop(bundle)  
 Alexis Said – Photoshop  
 Kayden Childers – Illustrator(bundle)  
 Trell Polk – Photoshop  
 Andrew Berta – Photoshop  
 James Ewing – Illustrator (bundle)  
 Stephen Mullican – Illustrator (bundle)  
 Preston Henderson – Photoshop  
 Adam Ferreira Da Rocha - Illustrator  
 Reid Campbell – Entrepreneur  
 Lilliana Carlson – Entrepreneur  
 Destiny Macdonald – Entrepreneur  
 Caroline Massie – Entrepreneur  
 Helen Arias – Entrepreneur  
 Dalton Hill – Entrepreneur  
 Alexandria Fitzgerald – Entrepreneur  
 Elizabeth Sacilowski – Entrepreneur  
 Ryan Kane – Entrepreneur  
 Alexander Hobbs – Premier Pro  
 Lauren Trabucchi – Premier Pro  
 Xavier Ballinger – Premier Pro  
 Matthew Shane Beasley – Photohshop  
 Noah Bredfeldt – Illustrator (bundle)  
 Seth Desimpelaere – Illustrator (bundle)  
 Kylee Hutchinson – Photoshop  
 Stephen Warne-Emard – Photoshop  
 Jacob Pomerantz – Photoshop  
 Lucas Torres – Photoshop  
 Austin Boyd – Photoshop  
 Devon Moats – Photoshop  
 Jake Matzen – Photoshop  
 Katie Shaw – Photoshop  
 Tristen Carter – Photoshop  
 Thomas Zambito – Illustrator  
 Kamrin Goodnow – Illustrator  
 Robert Berry – Illustrator  
 Wyatt Luce – Illustrator  
 Preston Henderson – Illustrator  
 Reese Bergeron – Illustrator  
 Jullianne Backus – Illustrator  
 Khang Du – Illustrator  
 Victor Sostre – Photoshop  
 Makhli Headley - Photohshop



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# Project Graduation

Welcome parents and students, once again to another great year of planning for Project Graduation! Do you know what Project Graduation is? Project Graduation is a community funded event put on FREE for our students the night of graduation! One more big party as a class! Free food, free games, free T-shirts, everyone leaves with a prize! There's even a \$1000 grand prize at the end of the night! So, come find out what it's all about! We need parent volunteers for planning and for the event. Our meetings are held in the Media Center the second Tuesday of each month at 6pm. Project Graduation will also have a table set up at open house for info so hope to see you there!

## SENIOR NEWS 2024



**2024**  
class of  
**GRADUATION INFORMATION**

When: 7:30 PM on Thursday, May 16, 2024  
Where: Charlotte County Sports Park  
Tickets: Each student will receive 10 tickets

## Graduation Practice

ALL held in the CHS AUX Gym

### Monday, May 13th

4:00 PM- Plan to arrive at 3:45.

OR

### Tuesday, May 14th

9:00 AM- Plan to arrive at 8:45.

- Must attend at least ONE of the practice times.
- Plan to be at practice for at least 2 -3 hours.
- Schedule your work AROUND practice times.

#### If all obligations are cleared:

- cap and gowns will be given at both practices.

### Wednesday, May 15th

9:00 AM- Plan to arrive at 8:45.

- ALL MUST attend this practice.
- Plan to be at practice for at least 3 hours.
- Schedule your work AROUND practice times.

#### If all obligations are cleared:

- cap and gowns will be given during practice.
- tickets will be given at then end of practice.



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### SPARK CLUB

SPARK Club is looking for new members for the 2024-2025 school year! SPARK is an acronym for Spreading Positivity And Reinforcing Kindness, and that's just what we do. Throughout the year, we sponsor monthly activities to increase morale, share a positive message, and recognize kindness. CHS students especially look forward to our annual Christmas Kindness Contest and testing season "Lucky Ducks" and enjoy receiving Halloween treats and participating in a Valentine's Day scavenger hunt. If you'd like to be a part of ensuring that these traditions (and many more) continue, join us!

SPARK Club meets every Friday morning before school, as early as 6:35, but bus riders are welcome whenever the bus arrives. If you'd like more information or if you're ready to join now, stop by Room B121 to pick up an information sheet. Be sure to see our display at Open House in August. We look forward to welcoming new members!

### ATHLETICS

For Sports Schedules, go to:

<https://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net/athletics.html>

# TARPON ALL SPORTS BANQUET

# SAVE THE DATE

**MAY 20 2024**

CPAC  
6PM

### NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Charlotte High School National Honor Society would like to announce our newest candidates that will be inducted into our NHS chapter this August.

Current Juniors: Katie Beeler, Jordyn Burkey, Gisele Davis, Kerrigan Goodspeed, Claire Hegarty, Alexandra Iacobelli, Matt Moldoff, Madison Planer, Kasey Roy, Caleb Ruggiero, Angela Sanchez, Matthew Schuler and Logan Stchur.

Current Sophomores: Olivia Baran, Elizabeth Eubank, Aubree Hoke, Jaxson Moening, Madison Poitras, and Arista Turner.

Current Freshmen: Lexi Angelini, Luke Bailey, Madeline Bradsher, Sophie Calvino, Leif Bretan, Sam Bretan, Madleany Carralero-Perez, Emry Gaerlan, Emily Dominguez, and Micah Schaeffer.

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## ART

Congratulations to all our Tarpon artists whose work was selected to hang at the Student Art Show in Punta Gorda's own beautiful Visual Arts Center. Each district high school prepared work for the show - on display April 16 - 25th.

A variety of scholarships and awards were presented including a Superintendent's Purchase Award. The show was sponsored by Alexia Martin- Whitco Insurance Agency.

The students, parents and community celebrated with a gallery opening reception on April 25th.



## TARPONS FOR OUR TROOPS

### Tarpons For Our Troops SUCCESS!

The first shipment arrived on base in South Korea right on time. A unit of over 200 soldiers, including Class of 2023 CHS Graduate, Brendan Chavarria, were instructed those boxes had arrived on base and as you can see in the picture, many were able to enjoy donations right away from our Tarpon community. Many of the soldiers let us know how much they all enjoyed the items and thanked all of us for sending them. They loved the personalized notes from students, too! As you can see, the Tarpon towels were a hit! Tarpons have MOJO.....made it all the way to South Korea! Thank you to freshman, Amber Conger, and Senior, Natasha Linares, for your help on packing day. Our final collection date is on May 17th for this school year. At that time, we will be shipping to Tarpon Alumni and their units serving overseas in Italy and South Korea. Donations can be dropped off in the main office or can be brought in with students. If you know of a Tarpon Alumni currently deployed, please reach out to our Tarpons for Our Troops Sponsor, Mrs. Summer Nicklas. Please email [summer.nicklas@yourcharlotteschools.net](mailto:summer.nicklas@yourcharlotteschools.net) for more information on how you can get involved in our collection effort. Tarpon Proud! Thanks again for your support, Tarpon Nation!



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- Long - Term Care
- Life Insurance

Sommer T. O'Neil is registered with, supervised by, and offers securities through Kovack Securities, Inc. \*Member FINRA/SIPC\* 6451 N. Federal Highway, Ste 1201, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308 (954) 782-4771. Advisory Services offered through Kovack Advisors, Inc. Altrus Investment Services is not affiliated with Kovack Securities, Inc. / Kovack Advisors, Inc.



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## REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES OR THREATS

Students, parents, CCPS employees, and members of the community have a responsibility to report suspicious activities and potential threats to schools. Any suspicious activity or threat shall be promptly reported to one of the following individuals, agencies or reporting tools:

- School Resource Officer or local law enforcement agencies.
- School Administrator or any available staff member.
- **The FortifyFL Reporting APP** or to the Crimestoppers Tipline (1-800-780-TIPS).
- Contacting the Supervisor of District Security and Emergency Management at (941) 255-0808.
- Calling 9-1-1.

## STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The School Board of Charlotte County does not discriminate (including anti-Semitism [as defined in Bylaw 0100]) on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, gender status, or gender identity), recognized disability, pregnancy, marital status, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information which are classes protected by State and/or Federal law (collectively, "protected classes") in its programs and activities, including employment. The School Board also ensures equal access for Boy Scouts of America and other identified patriotic youth groups, as required by 34 C.F.R. §108 (Boy Scouts Act). (School Board Policy 1122, 3122, 4122, 2260)

The District Title IX Coordinators and Equity Compliance Officers for the District are Adrienne McElroy (Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Labor Relations), available at (941) 255-0808, Michael Desjardins (Assistant Superintendent for School Support), available at (941) 255-0808, and Danielle Hudzina (Director of Human Resources), available at (941) 255-0808. The District Section 504 Compliance Officer and ADA Coordinator is Rebecca Marazon (Coordinator of Psychological Services), available at (941) 255-0808. (School Board Policy 2260)

**FORTIFYFL**  
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

**QUICKLY AND EASILY SUBMIT A TIP**  
By accessing FortifyFL, students can provide a description of the threat, share pics and videos and optionally submit their contact information.

- Anonymous or Non-Anonymous**  
You decide whether you want to include your name and contact information.
- Convenient**  
Submitting a tip is quick and easy using our mobile app or website.
- Include Photos and Video**  
You can also include photos or video with your tip report.

**QUICKLY SEND TO AUTHORITIES**  
FortifyFL automatically routes your tip report to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

- Your School Officials**  
The tip report goes to your local school officials when submitted.
- Local Law Enforcement**  
Your local police department or sheriff's office receive copies of your tips automatically.
- State-Level Officials**  
State-level officials also have access to your tips to make sure proper steps are taken.

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

#FORTIFYFL  
GETFORTIFYFL.COM

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play | FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION