

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of Creekside,

The 2017 Graduation is now a precious memory. Indeed, it was a blessing to facilitate the learning pathways of such a gifted and talented Class! As I make the journey into retirement, I am humbled and grateful to have served the students, teachers and parents of the Creekside community.

*U.S. News & World Report* recently released its top ranked Best High Schools in America and Creekside was prominently featured. CHS earned the prestigious recognition of Gold Medal! Further, *The Washington Post* published its America's Most Challenging High Schools and again Creekside is ranked very prominently. These prestigious rankings speak volumes about our students, teachers, parents and supportive community stakeholders.

Congratulations to Mrs. Michelle Clark, volunteer extraordinaire! Mrs. Clark is the district's Outstanding Adult Volunteer as well as the Florida Department of Education Region II Outstanding Adult Volunteer. This makes Michelle one of the top five adult school volunteers in the state. She has been extremely successful in raising funds for school needs. Her most notable and favorite activity is the CHS Running of the Knights 5K, which has raised \$90,000 over the last five years for athletics, band activities and performing arts. Michelle was instrumental in implementing the Ambassador Program at CHS. Through her efforts, high school tours were provided to new families, or those considering relocating to St. Johns County.

A big shout-out goes to The Athletic Boosters for sponsoring the seventh annual Running of The Knights! Truly, this 5K and Fun Run fundraiser proved to be our biggest and best to date. It is exactly what we desire Creekside to be: student driven, staff interactive, family and community oriented filled with great enthusiasm!! We look forward to you joining us next year.

Congratulations to Matt Clark, Nick Deal, Jackson Storey and Matthew Ortiz for their heroic efforts to finish as Track & Field State Runner-up! These four young men valiantly represented CHS. Jackson Storey is the Back-to-Back 800 meter State Champion and Matt Clark came home with the 1600 meter and 3200 meter Individual Championship.

I am privileged to announce that twelve Creekside students (listed below) have earned the distinction to participate in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program! These distinguished students will have the opportunity to choose their top two colleges or universities to begin direct communication with admission officials. National Merit recognition in many ways applauds the efforts of parents and teachers.

**National Merit Honors:** Hadley Browder, Cuyler Cashwell, Noah Chestang, Benjamin Debruin, Zachary Graves, Kaylie Headings, Sofia Lee, Noel Reyes, Madeline Ross, Hannah Savoldy, Thomas Talbot and Sylvia Van Boskirk.

In closing, I leave you with a quote from Coaching Legend John Wooden: *"Things work out best for those that make the best of the way things work out."*

Let's be a blessing to others,

Sincerely,

*Randy*

J. Randy Johnson  
Principal



## ADMINISTRATION

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To download a PDF version of this newsletter, go to <http://academypublishing.com/schools/creekside/creekside.php>

# THE SHIELD



## VISION STATEMENT

The vision of Creekside High School is to inspire in all students a passion for lifelong learning, creating educated and caring contributors to the world.

"The Shield"

May 2017 • Issue 2

Published Six Times Per Year

Creekside High School

St. Johns County School District

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The mission of Creekside High School is to provide students an opportunity to achieve academic, athletic, fine arts, and extra curricular excellence within a safe and secure learning environment. Creekside High School staff and students will strive to model and support the six pillars of Character Counts.

## SCHOOL MISSION

# CREEKSIDE NEWS

## PTSO News

It has been a great year and we want to thank all the Parents, Administrators, Students and Teachers for joining the PTSO this year and for all your efforts in making a positive impact at Creekside High School. Through the membership fund we are able to support our school in many different ways and create new events for our students.

We kicked off May with **Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week**. Our PTSO sponsored a week of fun, food and a gift raffle for our teachers and staff. Our themed days included Maple Street May Day, Doughnut Day, Trail Mix Snack Day, the force was strong with us on Star Wars Day and ended with a Cinco de Mayo Lunch. I want to extend a huge "Thank You" to all the parents who donated food, gift cards and gift basket items; a special "Thank You" to our business sponsor **Kathy Scott with State Farm Insurance**, who graciously assisted us with some of the luncheon costs and Arleen Fontaine, the committee chair who put the entire festive week together!

In addition to Teacher Appreciation Week, the **PTSO had a busy second half of the year and has sponsored some key initiatives and events. They include:**

- The purchase of Computer equipment for the ESE Classroom and Guidance Department.
- The inaugural "Be the Best You" Student Video Contest. Congratulation to our winners! Check out the all the video submissions on the Creekside website under the Parent tab and click on PTSO.
- Sponsorship for visiting Author speaking engagements in the Media Center
- Goodbye Seniors Breakfast

The PTSO also sponsored the **Senior Awards of \$500** to three seniors. Congratulations to our winners: Clarice Amici, John Coles and Tyler Woodrow.

Our new board has been voted in and they are getting geared up for the new school over the summer. Excitement is building as they prepare for the fall.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Diane Grant, PTSO President



## Volunteerism

And who said there are no volunteer opportunities when your student is in high school??? Just this last quarter alone, Creekside parent volunteers completed over 850 hours of volunteering for admin related needs like proctoring, parking pass sales, proctoring, book room help, proctoring, Miss Creekside, proctoring, Teacher Appreciation, and then there was proctoring. While we celebrate these volunteers and their generosity of time, there are many more volunteer parents supporting Athletics, Band, Drama, Chorus, Clubs, and SO MUCH MORE!!! Thank you to everyone who is able and willing to give their time and fun spirit to support Creekside students, staff, and Administration. I always refer to our volunteers as awesome, now you know why. With sincere appreciation, Debbie Nievinski chsknightsvol@gmail.com.



## AFTER HOURS INJURY CLINIC

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# CREEK SIDE NEWS

## Local Authors Visit Creekside

Retired Naval Officer, J.R. Sharp visited Creekside High School recently. He wrote the book *Feeding the Enemy* which is based on how his family survived fascism in Italy during World War II. The students and teachers were captivated by the innovative means his family used in order to have food on the table and survive. Students and teachers were asking to buy a copy of his book after he shared his story. In fact, he gave two copies away and sold three. His book is available on Amazon and provides a look at what was happening with farming families during the Second World War.

Rodney Hurst, activist and author of *It Was Never About a Hotdog and a Coke* visited Creekside this week. He challenged students to question American history as it is often taught and to seek the truth. Students were surprised to learn of the remarkable contributions made to society by African Americans that they did not know or had not been taught. Once again, Creekside folks were seeking to buy a signed copy of his book! Mr. Hurst's books are available on Amazon, also.



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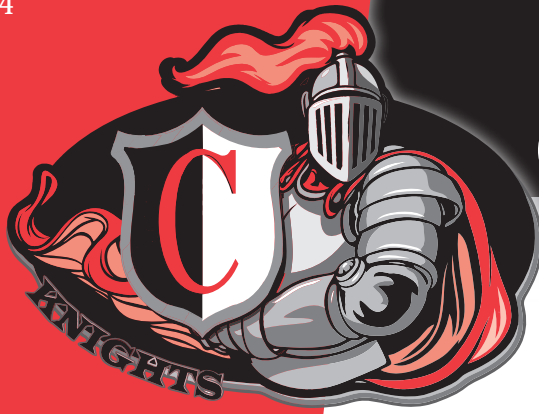
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# CREEKSIDE NEWS

## 7th Annual Running of the Knights

The Creekside Knights Athletic Boosters Club is pleased to announce that the 7th annual Running of the Knights was a huge success! With over 800 registrants overall including a 1-Mile Fun Run, 5K and Centipede Team race, the race was not only competitive, it was also fun!

The proceeds from the event will help fund expenses related to renovation and installation of a state-of-the-art strength facility, team travel expenses, and other sports equipment. The Power of Creekside Band Program will purchase a much-needed new travel trailer to transport equipment to and from band performances. We would like to thank our volunteers, coaches, teachers, students, staff members and our feeder schools Fruit Cove Middle, Julington Creek Elementary, Durbin Creek Elementary, and Patriot Oaks for participating in this growing community event. We would also like to thank our generous sponsors including our two title sponsors Bozard Ford Lincoln and Outback Steakhouse, our race partner First Place Sports, First Florida Credit Union, Wendy's, Moe's, BSN Sports, Carrabba's, RISE Wellness, Leonard's Photography, UPS Store, Zaxbys' and many, many more!

The overall winner for the Men's 5K was Creekside's own Matt Clark coming in at 15:32, and the Women's 5K winner was Creekside Coach Mandy Yates with a time of 20:08. Matt set a new 5K men's course record breaking (his brother) Jimmy Clark's record of 15:37 set in 2012. Miss Creekside 2018, Morgan Landen was on hand congratulate the winners and hand out awards. Visit [www.1stplacesports.com](http://www.1stplacesports.com) to view complete race results.



The Centipede teams always bring color and fun to the event. The winners by category:

- Fastest: "Sassy Seven"
- Longest: "Power of Creekside"
- Most Creative: "Pavlov's Dogs" (Psychology Club)
- Funniest: "Drumline"
- Best Effort: "Lady Bugs"
- Most School Spirit: "Minnie Knights"
- Best CHS Representation – "Macbeth"

The Shining Knights performed for the crowd and the National Anthem was sung by Creekside's own talented trio: Johnny Henderson, Derek Langley, and Nicholas Lulias. Our Leonard's Studios logo contest winner was Creekside junior, Gabriela Spingola. In addition to winning a \$500 scholarship, Gabriela's logo design will be used to market the 2018 event next year!

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# CREEKSIDE NEWS

## NHS News

**NEW MEMBERS:** We have over 100 new members being inducted into Creekside’s chapter. Students being inducted applied during the spring admission period and received acceptance letters near the end of the school year. The official induction ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, August 15 at 6pm in the auditorium.

**PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS:** Applications for membership are taken each spring. At that time sophomores and juniors that meet eligibility requirements should apply. Check the Creekside NHS website for details.

**NEW STUDENTS TO CREEKSIDE** can transfer their membership from another school by having a letter/email from their previous school sent to Creekside’s NHS Chapter Advisor, Mr. Keefe, stating that they were a member in good standing at their previous school.



**Here are this coming year’s NHS officers:**

*Front Row: Caroline Webb, Craft Talbot, Delaney Rust*

*Back Row: Thomas Talbot, Jose Mena, Mac Crici*



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# CREEKSIDE NEWS

## Creekside FBLA is Heading to Anaheim for National Competition

In March 75 Creekside FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) members participated at the State Leadership Conference in Orlando. These members had to qualify at the District level in January, which is comprised of ten area high schools. With over 4000 students participating from the State of Florida and competing in 60 various events, we are proud to announce our winners:

Student(s)	Placement	Event
Sam Calabrese	2nd Place	Agribusiness
*Kelsey Zweibohmer Sylvia VanBoskirk	4th Place	Business Financial Plan
*Gayatri Ramesh	5th Place	Business Plan
*Zach Kowalski	5th Place	Computer Problem Solving
Molly Bias Cory Grossman	3rd Place	Digital Video Production
Emalee Hitchcock Jordyn Rudolph	5th Place	Digital Video Production
Brittany Nievinski	2nd Place	Information Management
Rachel Stewart	5th Place	Introduction to Financial Math
*Daniel Malloy	3rd Place	Introduction to Information Technology
*Taryn Clarke	5th Place	Journalism
Sean Klein Dawson Goldman Justin Byrd	1st Place	Management Decision Making
*Julianne Martinez *Ronnie Piccione	3rd Place	Management Information Systems
*Gwen Flores *Madison Hood *Kristina Pionessa	2nd Place	Management Information Systems
*Sean O'Neill	4th Place	Networking Concepts
*Anna Perkins	2nd Place	Public Speaking I
Tyler Szczepanik Parker Scott Garrison Turnage	4th Place	Entrepreneurship
*Teegan Bailey *Clay Carter *Trevor Flint	1st Place	Network Design
Harrison Bori Noel Reyes Brianna O'Rourke	5th Place	Network Design
Megan Holder	2nd Place	Future Business Leader

\*Members who will be competing at the National competition in Anaheim, CA, June 27 through July 2.



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# CREEKSIDE NEWS

## The POWER of Creekside

The **POWER** of Creekside Marching Band will once again be lighting up Friday nights this coming fall with the "Music of Prince". The 230+ member Band performs at all home games.

- Band Camp: August 10th and 11th from 4 to 8pm and August 12th from 830am to 5pm.
- Marching Band rehearsals are Tuesday evenings 6-8 and Thursdays 4-5:30pm.

**Highlights** from the previous year include:

- Performance at Battle of the Bands/Jazz Festival in Memphis, TN
- Commissioned piece "Blues for the Knight" published through Jaelan Publishing
- Superior ratings at all FBA assessment events
- Bronze Medalists Guard for FFCC season
- National Honor Band performer at Carnegie Hall
- All State participant
- Festival of Winds performers
- Joint performance with Jacksonville University and Dallas Brass

We are looking forward to a great year in 2017-2018! Continue to check our website for more information, full calendar, fundraising opportunities and more.



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# THE SHIELD

*For The Parents, Students, Staff And Community Of Creekside High School*

To Addressee or Current Resident



## Creekside Athletics Youth Summer Camps Register now!

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Creekside Youth Summer Camps offer opportunities to explore new athletic activities and/or refine and enhance campers' skills. Campers will work on individual and team skills. Participants will be working with experienced Creekside coaches and mentored by varsity level athletes. We have both indoor and outdoor activities throughout the summer. All camps will be held at Creekside High School. Please check the Creekside Athletics website to register and for more information.

### Knights Next Generation Volleyball Camp

- Girls entering 4th-8th grade
- June 26-29 | 9am-12pm | Creekside High School
- Check out [www.kngvolleyball.com](http://www.kngvolleyball.com) for more details
- Questions? Email [kngvolleyball@gmail.com](mailto:kngvolleyball@gmail.com)



Creekside Cheer is proud to offer their **9th Annual Summer Kids Cheer Camp** from July 17th – 20th . Children entering grades K – 8 are welcome to attend! Every Camper can expect interactive and fun instruction from coaches and players including Cheers and Chants, Arts and Crafts, Jumps, Stretches, Dances, Games and more! All campers will also be invited to perform at the first Knight's Varsity Home Football game!! Cost is \$120 if paid before July 2nd. HURRY – We fill up FAST! GO TO the Creekside High School Athletics page to register online or download the registration form.

Email [Laura.Clary@stjohns.K12.fl.us](mailto:Laura.Clary@stjohns.K12.fl.us) for more information.