

2024 Boca Ciega Vol 30 March High School issue 1

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pirate's parrot



A Word from the Pirate Principal

Greetings Boca Ciega Pirates,

We are more than halfway through the school year and there is a lot happening on the Pirate Ship. Believe it or not, we are already looking towards the 2023-2024 school year. Assistant principals and counselors have been meeting with student groups to discuss grade level specific topics and class selection for next year. We are adding a few new courses, so please check out the BCHS website for updated course selection sheets. We strongly recommend for students taking Advance Placement courses to also take an AVID elective. The AVID elective is designed to assist students with rigorous course work using college and cross age tutors, the Tutorial process, the AVID Binder, collaborative structures and more. In addition, AVID juniors and seniors are guided through the college going process and receive assistance with the FAFSA. AVID students consistently place in the top 10 of their class and last year's AVID seniors earned more than \$2.5 million in scholarships. Please contact your child's counselor now to ensure AVID is on their schedule for the 2023-2024 school year.

Spring is synonymous with testing. Prepping for district, statewide and/or national tests are critical. Student achievement scores have an impact on a student's course schedule, scholarships, and college placement. Pinellas County Schools provides students with an array of platforms for test prep that include Albert iO, Applerouth, Khan Academy, Lexia, IXL and more. Students may access these programs by logging into their Clever accounts. Additionally, we encourage all to attend our after-school tutoring program every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school in the media center from 2-3 p.m. Certified teachers from the four core content areas plus Spanish are there to assist.

And lastly, I would like to encourage students from all grade levels to connect with our College & Career Center. Mrs. Milavickas and Mrs. Anderson-Rhodes are ready to guide students through exploring their post-secondary goals, creating a plan to achieve those goals, and helping them with next steps to make it happen. No other school in Pinellas County has such effective and efficient college & career counselors.

We strive for connectedness. Please follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Also, if you haven't checked out our school's website, please do so. It is kept current with relative information for both parents and students.

Thank you for your time, be kind and pass along that Pirate Pride.

Jennifer Gil

Principal
Jennifer Gil

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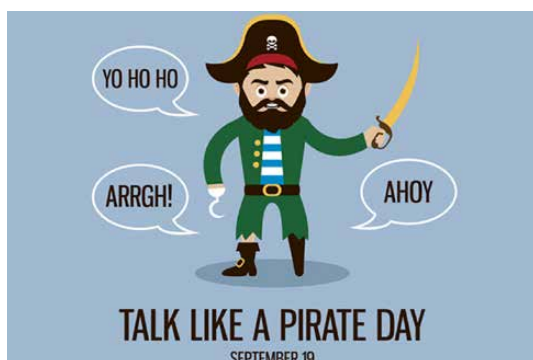
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District Website: www.pcsb.org



www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern



THE Boca Ciega Perspicacious Pirates Academic Team



Moderator/Coach: Ms. Lisa Erazmus

Team Members: Sophia Santiago (Captain), Dania Campbell, Hailey Claxton, Miles Dallara, Rowan Dyer, Sophia Fanous-Samaan, Danielle Gilana, Jayla Goddard, Isabella Lo, Brandon Lopez, Nhu Nguyen, Filip Ovcarov, Andy Petakarayotin, Scarlett Raiszadeh, Jesus Rosales, Aniya Sconiers, Carlye Walker

Our 2023-24 Academic Team had the largest crew in BCHS Academic Team history. This made for a very exciting journey on the high seas this year with every crew member pulling their weight in their respective specialties, from Math and Science to English and Humanities and everything in between. Every member had their time to shine in the crew's nest leading the charge to leave many of our opponents in the wake of the Pirate ship. Our last two matches saw the Pirates in 1st place, putting them at 5th place out of 16 teams in the district. Semi-finals and Finals are taking place on March 1st. Congratulations to our 2023-24 Academic Team!

COUNSELING CORNER

It has been a busy season for students and counselors alike! Several informative evening events took place at BCHS recently. Parents and families were invited to both a Seminar Information event and a Financial Aid workshop. At these events, parents learned and were assisted with the financial aid application process (FAFSA). At school, students at each grade level participated in Seminars with their counselors. Each student completed a Naviance task, received a transcript, participated in a college/post-grad presentation, and met individually with counselors to choose classes for next year. Many students selected dual enrollment options for Pinellas Technical College and St. Petersburg College. Students were encouraged to finish the 2023/24 year strong with excellent participation, grades, and attendance.

Please contact your scholar's school counselor with any questions. Thank you!

Girlfriends Club

By: Ms. Reid (Club Sponsor)

The Girlfriends Club has been active this year. In December, we held a successful food and clothing drive. During our January meeting, the young ladies enjoyed listening to speakers Kaitlyn Lomas and Rachel Rovegno talk about Business, Technology, and Real Estate. In March, our Girlfriends are looking forward to visiting Bethune Cookman College.



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BCHS DRAMA DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

The Addams Family

Book by Marshall Brickman & Rick Elise
Music & Lyrics by Andrew Lippa

APRIL 11th & 12th 7:00 pm
APRIL 13th (2 Performances) 12:00pm & 7:00pm

Tickets are sold at the door, cash only!

Curtain opens @ 7:00 **Tickets are \$10** Lobby opens @ 6:30

THE ADDAMS FAMILY A NEW MUSICAL is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are SUPPLIED BY THEATRICAL RIGHTS WORLDWIDE 1180 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, SUITE 640, NEW YORK, NY 10036. WWW.THEATRICALRIGHTS.COM

BCHS Drama Department Proudly Presents

Join us for a spooktacular evening filled with music, laughter, and a dash of eerie charm as our talented students bring to life "The Addams Family" musical! Prepare to be enchanted by the mysterious and kooky world of Gomez, Morticia, Wednesday, and the entire Addams clan as they navigate love, secrets, and the complexities of being delightfully different. Purchase tickets at the door for \$10.00 cash, and get ready for an evening that's creepy and kooky, mysterious and spooky—and altogether ooky!



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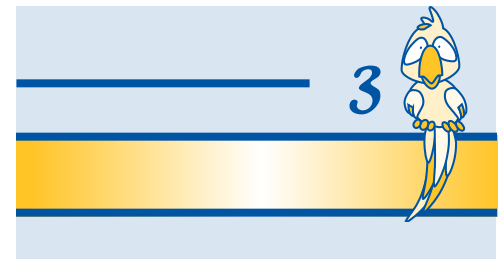
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Pinellas County School Board
525 Pennsylvania Ave
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Issue #1



Boca Ciega High School

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We focus on helping you move forward following high school graduation.

Have no idea where to start after high school... We can help.

Gain Knowledge about postsecondary education options like a four-year university, community college, technical school, careers, and other opportunities.



Join us for our bi-monthly meetings in Mrs. Reed's room 4-131 during 8th period. We meet on Friday's every other week.



Contact 727-358-9254 for questions
OR

Email at josiahwalker03@gmail.com

♦ Meetings are not mandatory. Join ones that interest you...



The BCCHS SCHOOL STORE

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

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

BCCHS Zip Up Hooded Sweatshirt Navy	\$25
BCCHS Hooded Sweatshirt (Blue, Pink, Gold, Grey)	\$20
BCCHS Short Sleeve T-Shirts (Blue, GREY)	\$10
BCCHS Long Sleeve Dry Fit T-Shirt: Blue.....	\$20

BCCHS 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 Mark Gabriel (BCCHS Work Program Coordinator) at gabrielm@pcsb.org. Thank you for your assistance.



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College and Career Center

Ms. Anderson-Rhodes Andersonrhodesh@pcsb.org

The College & Career Center is here to support all your post high-school planning, whether it is:

- Exploring different **career, military service, or apprenticeship** interests,
- Understanding how to get into your preferred **college, university, military academy, or**
- Finding ways to pay for college through **grants and scholarships**.

Check out our online resources below or see Ms. Rhodes in Rm 1-027.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS / REMINDERS

FEBRUARY 27: SOUTH COUNTY COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR

Join more than 130 Colleges, universities and businesses at the South County College and Career Fair. Please register using the QR code below:

February 27th, 2024 6:00-8:00 pm
Location: Pinellas Technical College
901 34th Street South St. Petersburg

- ✓ Colleges and Universities Admission Representatives
- ✓ Financial Aid Assistance, Bright Futures, and Scholarship Information
- ✓ Vocational and Trade Schools
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New Parent Master Class

Come learn about the college selection process, scholarships, Bright Futures, and much more!!
Starts @ 6:00pm



SCHEDULE A MEETING

Want to discuss your child's post high-school plans?



Stop by or schedule a 1:1 meeting

MARCH 6: IN-SCHOOL SAT

- All Juniors will take the SAT on **March 6** – It is now digital.
- Download Bluebook through Collegeboard.org and take several practice tests before your first digital exam.
- The big changes include: fewer questions, less time per question, results come back within days, and explanations for any questions missed are provided for free.

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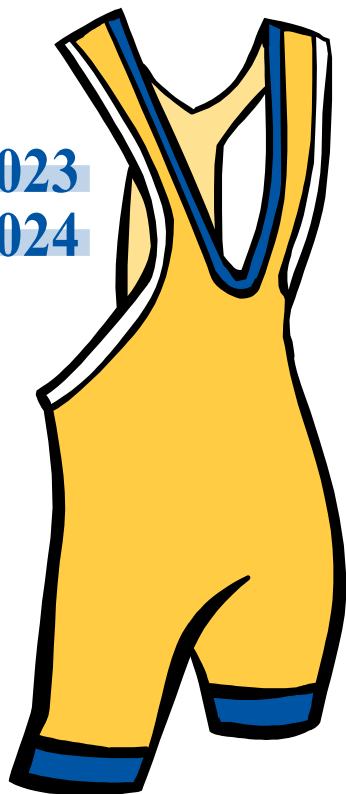
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Boys and Girls Wrestling Teams are Having a Great Year!

By Coach Alvarez

The boys and girls wrestling teams are having a great season thus far. The girls started off a bit slow placing 4th at the Princess Punchout after winning the tournament the previous year. That was a wakeup call as that was the lowest the Lady Pirate wrestling team has placed in its three-year history. They went on to win the Tarpon Rumble, were crowned Champions at the Cougar Invitational at Countryside, The Bulls Scramble at Parrish Community HS, The Pirate Scramble at Branden River; They were the Gladiator Invitational Champions, The Anna B. Alvarez Invitational Champions and also bested Wiregrass Ranch in a Girls only dual at the Ranch. The boys followed suit by missing the Dual regionals coming in third at District Duals at Lemon Bay. That also sparked something as the boys have brought home hardware in every tournament they have been to. They took 3rd at the Zephyrhills duals, City Championship Runners-up, brought home 2nd at the Gladiator Invitational, Won their dual against Admiral Farragut during Senior night in which Keyon Carbart, Devin Bonner, and Team Captain Leo Tiannoi were honored. Aiyana Edwards, Kierra Woods, and India Porter were also honored as our girls' seniors. As a side note Kathryn Ables, also a senior, was unable to wrestle this season due to personal reasons but was a huge part

of the success of the girls' team in its first two seasons of existence. She was our team captain last season. Up next will be the State series. The girls competed in the 2nd PCAC conference championship and once again were crowned champions. Aiyana Edwards, Da'Maria Raymond, India Graham, Jamiyah Wade, and Janhiya Jackson all won conference championships. The girls also completed the district championship, and for the 3rd time, the girls are district champions- This is a first in the state as we have won districts all three years girls wrestling has been a sanctioned FHSAA sport. The following young ladies will advance to the regional championships on September 17th: Fiona Meade (4th), Aiyana Edwards (runner-up), Taraji Jones (3rd), Shanice Youngblood (4th) Da'maria Raymond (District Champion), Jamiyah Wade (District Champion), Janhiya Jackson (District Champion), and Current state champion, now district champion Kinea Moore. Kinea is trying to make History and becoming the schools only two-time wrestling state champion.

Also, Heavyweight Devin Bonner has received an offer to wrestle and play football at St. Andrews University in North Carolina



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BCHS Students Shine in 2024 Pinellas County Art Region of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

By: Taylor Crosland

In a celebration of artistic excellence, Boca Ciega High School proudly announces the admission of several talented students into the prestigious 2024 Pinellas County Art Region of The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. The recognition is a testament to the students' academic dedication and creative prowess, showcasing the school's commitment to fostering artistic talent.

Eight Boca Ciega High School students have earned their place in the highly competitive art region through their captivating photographic works. LJ Bronson, Sophia Fanous-Samaan, Ryan Flynt, Victoria Hoeung, Torri Newsome, Leilah Soto, Tatiyana Stapleton, and Da'Nia Watkins have all demonstrated exceptional skills in the realm of photography, earning their spot among the region's most promising young artists. Jafnah Suha stands out for her admission through Drawing and Illustration, showcasing a different facet of artistic talent. These student's work reflects not only creativity but also a mastery of the fine arts, highlighting the diverse range of skills cultivated at Boca Ciega High School.

The achievements of Tatiyana Stapleton, Da'Nia Watkins, and Victoria Hoeung have been elevated with the prestigious Gold Keys, a recognition reserved for works of exceptional merit. LJ Bronson, demonstrating remarkable artistic acumen, earned a Silver Key, further solidifying Boca Ciega High School's presence as a hub for emerging artistic talent. Da'Nia Watkins deserves special mention for not only receiving a Gold Key but also securing two admissions into the competition, a feat that speaks volumes about her artistic versatility and dedication to her craft.

The entire Boca Ciega High School community is exceptionally proud of the accomplishments of these young artists. This recognition is a testament to their hard work, dedication, and the commitment to fostering creative expression at Boca Ciega High School.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are known for their rigorous standards, making the accomplishments of these Boca Ciega High School students even more impressive. The school community looks forward to witnessing the continued growth and success of these budding artists as they contribute their unique perspectives to the vibrant world of art. These students will be recognized on Thursday, February 8th at Gibbs High School. Please join us in supporting these students and view their work in the Grand Theatre Lobby & Gallery located at 850 34th St S, St. Petersburg, FL. Gallery viewing begins at 5:15pm and the ceremony begins at 6pm. Congratulations to LJ Bronson, Sophia Fanous-Samaan, Ryan Flynt, Victoria Hoeung, Torri Newsome, Leilah Soto, Tatiyana Stapleton, Da'nia Watkins, and Jafnah Suha on this outstanding achievement!



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