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Charlotte High School

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School Colors: Royal Blue and Gold



May 18th, 2020

<http://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net>

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

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Tarpon Family,

As you know, the Governor of Florida made the decision to keep schools closed for the remainder of the school year amid the coronavirus pandemic. Our faculty, staff, and families are steadfastly committed to the education of our children and have always gone the extra mile. It was no surprise that many weeks ago our community courageously stepped up to the challenge of transforming CHS to a complete distance learning school. Your continued support of our mission has such an energizing effect on our staff. The doors on our campus may be closed for a while, but learning at CHS is definitely wide open.

Class of 2020 and senior parents - we are proud of you! Congratulations on the tremendous accomplishment of graduating. This spring has brought unexpected challenges, but challenges are nothing new to them! We know they will persevere, overcome, and continue striving toward their next goal. This is not the way any of us would have wished for a senior year to end! Know that we are committed to doing everything in our collective power to give the Class of 2020 the best path forward to that future -- a future that they have worked so hard to earn and that they deserve.

We are standing together as a staff in the face of COVID-19, and we joined together to send this newsletter as a show of unity for all our students and families. We may be apart, but we are in this TOGETHER! As always, thank you for your partnership and support. We wish you and your family the best for a healthy, happy, safe summer. If you are ending your time as a Tarpon parent, we thank you for your feedback and support and wish you and your child success and happiness. If you will have someone at CHS again next year, we look forward to seeing you in the fall!

Sincerely,

Cathy Corsaletti
Principal

Tarpon Line



"Always remember, Tarpon Pride never graduates!"

ADMINISTRATION

Principal

Cathy Corzaletti

Assistant Principals

Nicholas Brown

Jeffrey Damico

Kathryn Pyle

Andrew Tenney

Deans

Kathleen Moore

Tom Mut

Guidance Counselors

Joe Haynes, 9th Grade

Josalyn Leath, 10th Grade

Cindy Gering, 11th Grade

Lucinda Rempala, 12th Grade

School Board Members

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Wendy Atkinson, Vice Chairman

Kim Amontree, Member

Cara Reynolds, Member

Ian Vincent, 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 18th, 2020

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

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COUNSELOR NEWS YOU CAN USE

Here we are the class of 2020, who have worked hard and diligently to get to the end of our high school years. What we expected to happen surely didn't. We were ready for our Prom, our Graduation, our evening of Project Graduation and what did we get...? Basically a "Stay at Home", stay away from our friends, and Lock down. This is the last thing we would ever have wanted or expected. Wait a minute, this wasn't supposed to happen at all. This was not in our plans.

Now we have a new plan...

Because you are young, because you are strong, because you have a bright future ahead of you, here is what we are going to do. We are going to be thankful for every breath we take, every move we make and every moment we have. Someday we'll look back on these days and realize that no matter what the adults around us thought of us, we survived, we were strong, we were brave and we were ready to move onward and upward. Someday we will be telling our children about how tough it was, how we struggled and how we carried on in order to, in some cases, just to survive.

We have heard our elders talk about being the Greatest Generation. We will be known as the Most Resilient Generation. One who can face as much adversity that could have possibly been thrown at us, survive it, and come out ready to conquer the world.

Keep your chins up, follow the safety advice coming from the medical community. When you are old, sitting in your rocking chairs after a long, productive, healthy life, the respect and the admiration that will be shown to you by the youth of your nation will be like nothing anyone has ever experienced. Your generation will forever be known as the Toughest, Strongest, Smartest, Most Resilient Generation, in the History of Man and WomanKind. We are so very proud to have known you, guided you, taught you, but most of all learned from you. Onward and Upward Class of 2020. Make it a great day or not, the choice is always yours.

-Ms. Rempala, Senior Counselor.

NOTES FROM YOUR COUNSELORS

Freshman

All 9th graders, you need to be sure that you are staying on top of your online work in both Edgenuity and Google Classroom. These are grades for your classes, and remember that everything counts! Your teachers are your contact if you have questions about the online format, and this includes unlocking tests.

All 9th graders and parents need to be part of the Class of 2023 Remind group. If you are not part of it already, text the message @gradme2023 to the number 81010. This is the best way to stay in touch with Mr. Haynes.

Sophomores

Sophomores make sure that you are staying on top of your online work in both Edgenuity and Google Classroom. You should be working on your classes daily (Mon through Fri). Your teachers are your contact if you have questions about the online format, and this includes unlocking tests. If it is a credit recovery class, Dr. Damico is looking every day and will unlock when needed.

Important dates to remember:

- SAT test for May 2 has been canceled. The next SAT is scheduled for June 6, registration deadline without fee is May 8.
- ACT test, June 13 registration deadline without fee is May 8th.
- ACT test July 18 will now be held at Charlotte High School. Deadline is June 19th.

Students and parents need to be part of the Class of 2022 Remind group. If you are not part of it already, text the message @gradme2022 to the number 81010. This is the best way to stay in touch with your counselor, Mrs. Leath.

We will get through this together. Please feel free to contact me at any time. Please stay safe and healthy!

Juniors

Happy Online Learning! Make sure you have joined the Junior Remind app-both students and parents of 11th graders. I am sending out new information daily so be sure to join. Text the message @gradme2021 to the number 81010.

Be sure to work on your Edgenuity and Google Classroom. If you need a test unlocked, email your teacher. If it is a credit retrieval class, Dr. Damico is looking every day and will unlock when needed.

If you need help, text me or go to the CHS website for valuable resources.
Stay Home, Stay Safe, Stay Healthy.

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NOTES FROM YOUR COUNSELORS

Seniors

- **Make sure you have joined all Senior remind apps.** Mrs. Smith (@Tarpon2020) for anything related to Senior activities, Senior Dues, and the Graduation ceremony. Mrs. Eyster (@cncready20) for any questions about post secondary planning including college scholarships and applications, financial aid, ASVAB. We may not be in school, but planning for your future should not stop. Ms. Rempala (@gradme2020) for any social, emotional, or for anything else for which you have questions.
 - **How do I get help?** Use the valuable resources available on the chs.yourcharlotteschools.net main page.
 - **Transcripts:** If you are looking for transcripts to be sent, there is a link on the Senior page (<http://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net/transcript.html>) to fill out and send to Sue.sorrentino@yourcharlotteschools.net
 - **If you need tests unlocked:** Please email your teachers directly to proceed. If you are working on Edgenuity for credit recovery courses, please continue to email me to have these unlocked. Jeff.Damico@yourcharlotteschools.net will be watching throughout the day and unlocking them.
 - **Student Progress Reports in Edgenuity:** Edgenuity offers daily or weekly reports to parents for students in the Edgenuity program. You may send an email to lucinda.rempala@yourcharlotteschools.net or text me on remind, with your child's name and your email and reports will be sent to your email.
 - **Testing Waivers:** You may have heard that State testing has been waived this year. So for Seniors, this means you can consider it not being a graduation requirement. It is as though it was never required. Your diploma won't look any different. So unless you are below a 2.0, we are ALL working towards a standard diploma this year. Silver lining.
 - **Edgenuity Progress:** Some of you have worked ahead and that is okay. Please know teachers are adding grades into focus each week, so you need to be on target. Please see direction from the District on progress, completion and grading for IC Edgenuity courses. These links can be found on our school's webpage. Remember CR Edgenuity courses go to 80% complete with a 70% or higher grade. If you are struggling in
- Edgenuity credit recovery, please reach out to me as I can still help you just like a classroom teacher.
- **Internet and Chromebooks:** If you do not have internet, or you know a senior who does not have internet or a Chromebook, please reach out to me right away so I can help them.
 - **What if I fall behind:** If you fall behind, just keep working. I can help you figure out how much you need to get done and how many hours you need to work to make it happen. There are 462 of you and only 1 of me. I can't tell if you are struggling, having technical difficulty, or if you are just not working. Please don't be afraid to ask me for help even if you think I can't help you because I bet I know someone who can.
 - **I'm struggling and I need to talk to someone:** We may be online, but we are still here. There are still resources available if you need food or need to talk. I will send out whatever I have when I find out what is available. Also, remember, if you are in crisis, you can also text 741-741 for a crisis counselor and they are available 24/7 to "talk". The district is also keeping an updated page on Mental Health Services as they become available at <https://www.yourcharlotteschools.net/Page/25125>.
 - ****Tests dates**:** Please see our calendar of dates for more specific dates of tests. <https://tinyurl.com/testing1819>
 - **EOC testing:** You may have heard there will not be EOC exams this year. Seniors who needed either Algebra 1 or the FSA ELA test to graduate will be waived. Students who miss the exam this year will be scheduled for retakes next school year for those two exams. http://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net/files/effects_of_school_closures.pdf?t=1587154834150
 - **AP testing:** Parents are encouraged to register for a webinar hosted by Trevor Packer, head of the AP Program, to learn more about at-home testing, the exam schedule, and AP review classes. He'll interview an AP teacher about how to best prepare for exams and a representative from college admissions about how students can earn college credit and placement with exam scores. Links on chs.yourcharlotteschools.net and scroll down for How to help your students Prepare for AP Exams



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For more information please contact Jennifer Candia at Jennifercandia21@gmail.com, or call 941-999-0561 or go to charlotteharbor.younglife.org or check us out on Facebook at Charlotte County Young Life



KEEP UP TO DATE

Follow @CHSTarponNews for information and announcements as they are posted to our website.



The FOCUS portal allows parents and students 24/7 secure access to information such as attendance, assignments, grades, and discipline. The username and password may be requested from any office staff or guidance counselor.

Please visit, <http://yourcharlotteschools.net/index.cfm> and get started today!

BULLYING

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.



CAREER CENTER

Now is the perfect time to research College and Career Opportunities! My Career Shines is a GREAT tool and can be found on the launch pad. The three interest surveys should be completed again if you have already done them as things tend to change from year to year. If you haven't done them yet...get going! Take them one day at a time and then have fun exploring your results. You can explore occupations by looking over the detailed descriptions of each job, see salary information, what type of degree or certificate is needed, and you can even see which schools offer that type of degree or certificate. Explore college/university websites, start your college list, start your resume, look up scholarships, etc. My website can be found on the launch pad as "College and Career Ready" or go to tinyurl.com/cncready.

"The best way to predict your future is to create it" - Abraham Lincoln

Seniors, do not quit! Finish this quarter strong. Colleges are still watching you and waiting to see how you handle this situation academically. Make sure you have all volunteer hours turned in to Mrs. Reich. Log in to your Bright Futures account to update your number 1 listed school to the school you plan on attending in fall. Feel free to reach out via Remind or email if you have any questions.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MEDIA CENTER

Read Library Books Now & All Summer with the Sora App

School may be closed, but the Charlotte High School's digital library is **always open!** Students have access to more than a thousand ebooks and audiobooks that may be accessed through the Sora app (a free app for android and iOS). Here's how:

1. Download the Sora app from your phone or device app store.
2. Find Charlotte High School.
3. Enter your 8-digit ID number.
4. Search for books to read or listen to.

Help is available by sending Mrs. Cain a message on Remind. Be sure to look for the new 2020-21 Florida Teens Read nominees!

School is closed, but the digital library is **always open.**

OPEN 24 HOURS

Read on Sora
The student reading app.



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.



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RESOURCES DURING COVID-19

CCPS Student Support Services has a website providing you with a wealth of resources during the COVID-19 pandemic. It can be accessed by going to the CCPS website and is under Student Support Services/Mental Health and Wellness/COVID-19 Mental Health Resources. A link can also be found on the CHS home page. There you will find links to activities, support services, mental health resources, and financial resources you may need during this time. Here is a list of the current links under the COVID-19 Mental Health Resources tab:

- Daily Social Emotional Learning Activities
- Coping Skills
- Strategies for Managing Stress
- Taking Care of Your Mental Health in the Face of Uncertainty
- Information about Valerie's House, a local grief support group
- Florida Department of Education: Free resources for families and teachers
- Taking Care of Your Behavioral Health
- Free Bilingual Emotional Support Helpline
- Charlotte County Financial Resources
- Small Business Resources
- COVID-19 Resources Toolkit
- Homeless Support for Stimulus Payment

The list of resources is ever growing, so check back periodically for additional support.

-Cindy Allen, School Psychologist
Lisa Bratton, School Social Worker

OFFICES	EXTENSIONS	OFFICES	EXTENSIONS
Charlotte High School	575-5450	ESE	1801
ATHLETICS	1113	FACILITIES	1802
BOOKKEEPER	1120	GUIDANCE/CURRICULUM	1214
CAFETERIA	1419	MAIN OFFICE	1101
CLINIC	1105	MEDIA CENTER	1704
CPAC	3405	PRINCIPAL	1116
CUSTODIAL	1420	REGISTRATION	1110
DATA ENTRY	1112	SOCIAL WORKER	1216
DEAN/DISCIPLINE	1237		

YEARBOOK


Dear Parent:

While the CHS community faces unprecedented times, the yearbook staff is working diligently to produce a piece of our school's history. For many of you, this will be one of the few things you have to remember the school year with so many cancelled events.

There is still time to reserve a copy of the 2020 TARPON YEARBOOK. The yearbook will include coverage of this year's events and its effects on our students.

Yearbooks are on sale for \$100 until sold out. Supplies are limited.

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Good Job!

STUDENT GOVERNMENT NEWS

Congratulations to the following students who will be members of Charlotte High School Student Government for the 2020-2021 school year:

Representing the Class of 2023

- Breanna Alumbaugh
- Karlee Casarella
- Tyler Chapin
- Megan Fair
- Emma Keefe
- Lauren Lamour
- Hailey Pyle
- Shelby Smith
- Ashlyn Stephenson
- Melissa Suarez Serrano

Representing the Class of 2022

- Jada Carter
- Ava Culver
- Rosmaryis Duverge
- Alyssa Gilliard
- Tori Immich
- Maya Joseph
- Christian Kreegel
- Kylie Robinson
- Kayla Vasquez
- Alex Vega
- DJ Woods

Representing the Class of 2021

- Dylan Anthony
- Rylie Hickox
- Teddy Kiselev
- Huyen Le
- Brielle McArthur
- Jayden McArthur
- Kylie McQueen
- Ashleigh Miller
- Rachel Walker

CULINARY CORNER

Culinary, Cooking, Cyberspace and Covid-19
By Paul DeGaeta

Covid-19 has made 2020 the “Year of Hand Washing.”

If your Tarpon is a current or former Culinary Arts student at CHS, they are likely the most knowledgeable people in the household of how to properly wash hands (outside of healthcare, first responders and restaurant workers). They’ve learned hand washing at every level Culinary class and practiced it in every lab. Long before the Surgeon General was preaching in front of the news cameras, they learned about not touching their faces or phones after washing their hands. Our first week assignment we reviewed the process. One of my students submitted this, take a few minutes and review the process so you’re doing it right - it could save a life:

PROPER HAND WASHING

1. Wet your hands and arms with water as hot as you can stand.
2. Lather hands and lower arms with a good amount of soap.
3. Scrub your hands and lower arms with the soap for 10 to 15 seconds (Sing Happy Birthday to yourself twice).
4. Clean underneath your fingernails and between your fingers.
5. Rinse your hands and arms under the hot water.
6. Then dry your hands with a single use paper towel (or hot air dryer).
7. Use the paper towel to turn off the faucet and to open doors.

THOSE 5-10 SHELTERING POUNDS

There are always Silver Linings; “sheltering in place” is allowing people the time to rediscover cooking and hopefully family meals. This is a great time to advance your culinary repertoire and skills. Online there are zillions of ‘how-to’ videos, cooking blogs and every recipe imaginable. They take you step by step and you can learn just about anything; How to Smoke Mullet, Competitive BBQ Ribs, Vietnamese Pho Noodles, Puerto Rican Pernil - anything. Don’t be scared, roll those sleeves up, wash your hands and jump in. Just remember to go for a walk and get some exercise too!

CULINARY CLASSES ONLINE

The training and switch over to online schooling seemed to go fairly smooth. It’s an adjustment, but everyone seems to be getting more comfortable every day. That first two weeks, my culinary students completed a Home Made Pasta lesson (really at Home!!) and took a shot at the “perfect scrambled eggs”. They really impressed me, showing off their culinary skills in their home kitchens. I am pretty proud of their results.



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! Carmen Blake * carmen.blake@yourcharlotteschools.net

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Our New Normal

We have all as a country been going through some major changes recently, and individually as well. Some of us are working from home, some of us are no longer working. Our children are now doing school from home. We no longer go out to eat, head to the mall, or other places we used to go for fun. We are spending more time at home now than ever before. We are going through loss. Loss of a loved one, loss of our typical freedoms, and loss of our normal. Now we are digging in and trying to figure out our new normal. As we go through this transition, it is vital to recognize that we are grieving, and it is okay... even healthy to go through the grieving process. As a parent, we need to recognize that our children are also going through the grieving process. As adults we have likely been through difficult times before, experienced loss before, and navigated the unknown at some point as well. However, all of this can be quite new for our children. You may see children expressing their grief through acting out, withdrawing, or other unwanted behaviors because children often aren't able to recognize their own emotions or know how to manage them. It is important that we talk with our kids about the emotions, thoughts, and questions that they are going through right now. We need to make sure to listen to them, validate how they are feeling, and look for ways to comfort them and help them feel safe. It is also important to roll model self-care during this time. We can find our new normal together with our families. For more information or resources please visit us online at www.drugfreecharlottecounty.org or find us on social media: Facebook – Drug Free Charlotte County, Twitter - @DFCCTweets, Instagram - drugfreecharlottecounty.

HELPFUL HINTS

Helpful Hints to Stay Motivated!

- ➔ Use your **Planner!** Fill in what needs to be done and the date it's due and then cross off each item off as you complete it. If you can't find your planner, make a simple chart or even just a list! The more you cross off, the more you'll be motivated to complete!
- ➔ Find a **quiet place** to work, away from distractions (Think creatively -laundry room, garage maybe!) Find a **time** to work when the rest of the family is less active and less distracting (early in the morning or late at night).
- ➔ Sometimes **setting a time** limit makes the tasks seem less overwhelming. Set a timer for 15-20 minutes and work on one subject until the timer rings. Then, take a break for the same amount of time. Rather than going back to work on the same subject, change subjects and set the timer again. This will add variety and you'll make progress in all subjects. Once you start seeing your completion rate improve, you'll feel better about continuing.
- ➔ Establishing a "**reward**" for yourself for a specific goal (like a certain number of assignments to complete each day or a specific increase in the progress completion percentage in a difficult subject) will give you something to work toward. The reward could be simple- take-out food, a video game, etc. (Kind of like adults do when they're on a diet or something.)
- ➔ For your Google Classroom classes, you can **look at FOCUS** and figure out exactly what you have to complete in order to reach a passing grade that's acceptable to you. (Of course, I don't advocate leaving any work incomplete, but in this situation, some work is better than none at all!)
- ➔ You could Facetime or even just text with a classmate and **work together**- maybe even get a group together (on the phone). Working together can make it a bit easier (sharing ideas, etc. or even just having someone else who understands what's going on)
- ➔ For difficult topics, "**teach**" your work to parents, siblings, etc., explaining each step as you complete it. This will help your understanding and make the work go much quicker.
- ➔ If you have a job and are working a lot of hours, add school work to your work schedule. **Make it a requirement**, just like going to your job. You wouldn't tell your boss that you're too busy to work. Don't be too busy to get your education! (Think about how prepared you'll be for college/work/adult life if you learn how to juggle all of your responsibilities now!)
- ➔ Of course, our **counselors/support staff** are available to students if you're struggling during this very unusual and stressful time. Sometimes just talking to someone helps to ease the stress.

I hope this helps! Keep working hard- **YOU CAN DO THIS!!!**



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8




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.

The School Board complies with all federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with all requirements and regulations of the U. S. Department of Education. It is the policy of the Board that no person in this District shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, marital status, disability, or legally-protected characteristic, be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to, discrimination in any program or activity for which the Board is responsible or for which it receives financial assistance from the U. S. Department of Education.—Policy 1122



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.

<p>Anonymous or Non-Anonymous</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">You decide whether you want to include your name and contact information.</p>	<p>Convenient</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Submitting a tip is quick and easy using our mobile app or website.</p>	<p>Include Photos and Video</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">You can also include photos or video with your tip report.</p>
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QUICKLY SEND TO AUTHORITIES

FortifyFL automatically routes your tip report to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

<p>Your School Officials</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">The tip report goes to your local school officials when submitted.</p>	<p>Local Law Enforcement</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Your local police department or sheriff office receive copies of your tips automatically.</p>	<p>State-Level Officials</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">State-level officials also have access to your tips to make sure proper steps are taken.</p>
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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

