

**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 Line: 941-575-5457  
Fax: 941-575-5464

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



## May 6th, 2021

<http://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net>

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

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Tarpon Family,

The end of a school year can be exciting, exhausting, and sometimes filled with anxiety. For our seniors, it is a time to celebrate graduation, reminisce for a moment, and make final preparations for their next step. The undergraduates may use this time to prepare for finals and reflect on achievements. We need to make sure our students FINISH STRONG!!!

We know there have been struggles this year, but we feel confident that our instructional platforms, our student and family outreach, and our health protocols are working well. I personally would like to thank our students, parents, and community members for all of their support during this challenging school-year. In order to ensure the safety of all students and staff, we ask that students continue to practice health protocols. Students must wear masks properly, practice physical distancing, wash and disinfect hands, and take this process seriously each and every day. Safety is our top priority!

Albert Einstein once said, "Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think." As this school year comes to a close, we hope that we have given your child some tools to become creative, critical thinkers. Critical thinking skills help students gain control of their own learning and empathy for other points of view. Our goal has been to enable our students to become more successful at learning and realize their own potential.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish our seniors well as they close out their high school chapter. I truly believe that Charlotte High School has prepared your child to be ready for their future careers. Congratulations and best of luck!

As always, thank you so much for your partnership and support. All of us at Charlotte High School 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 Corsaletti**

Assistant Principals  
**Nicholas Brown**  
**Jeffrey Damico**  
**Kathryn Pyle**  
**Andrew Tenney**

Deans  
**Kathleen Moore**  
**Tom Mut**

Guidance Counselors  
**Amy Perkey, 9th Grade**  
**Joe Haynes, 10th Grade**  
**Josalyn Leath, 11th Grade**  
**Cindy Gering, 12th Grade**

School Board Members  
**Wendy Atkinson, Chairman**  
**Cara Reynolds, Vice Chairman**  
**Kim Amontree, Member**  
**Robert Segur, 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 6th, 2021

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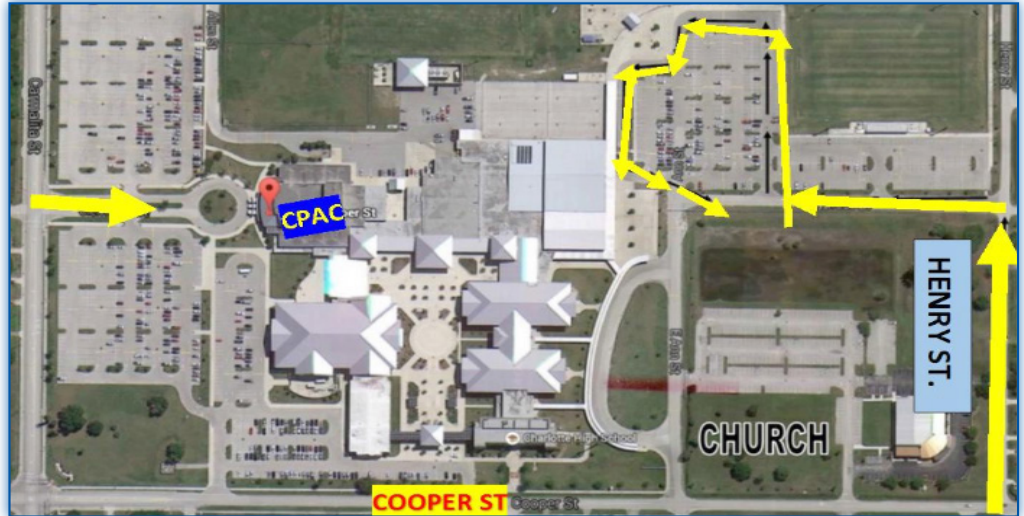
**SCIENCE FAIR**  
Congratulations to Erik Courtney and Elliot Courtney  
for winning 3rd place in their category at the  
Regional Science Fair this year!



## DIRECTIONS FOR PARENT PICKUP

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.



## ABSENCES

THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE NUMBER IS 941-575-5457

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
Charlotte High School	575-5450	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	*7036
DEAN/DISCIPLINE	*7049		

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

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## DRUG FREE CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Good kids can make bad decisions. That thought rolled around in my head as I listened to story after story of grown adults in recovery talking about the decisions they all made as kids that led to the addictions that destroyed their lives, that robbed them of everything and everyone that mattered to them. None of them were bad kids, and most of them grew up in happy homes with parents that loved them. This scared me a bit and made me think.... then what in the world can us parents do to keep kids from choosing alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD)?

So, the good news is that research shows that teens say their parents are one of the top reasons they choose not to use ATOD. That's right, they may act like they know all about everything sometimes, but when you talk, they really are listening. So, while there isn't a book on the right way to raise our kids, but there are steps that we can take to help our kids make good choices when it comes to ATOD. Here are some tips.

### Communicate with love and understanding:

1. Pick a time that makes sense. You want to make sure that you can devote complete attention to the conversation without any distractions. You also want to think about your child's schedule/routine and avoid times when they may be rushed or busy getting ready for school/work or doing homework. Picking a time when you and your kiddo are in a good mood is also helpful.
2. Have a plan. Think about what you want to say ahead of time. This will help you to organize your thoughts and feel more relaxed. When you are relaxed, your kiddo will be more relaxed. However, remember it isn't just about what you want to say but listening as well.
3. Practice active listening. Look at your child while they are talking. Show them your listening by mirroring back to them what they are saying. Use comfortable body language and avoid crossed arms or making unapproving facial expressions. Occasionally smiling and nodding your head can let them know your still paying attention.
4. Be respectful in your responses. Avoid fault finding, sarcasm, comparing, and belittling. Give them time to express themselves. Use encouragement when they talk about choices that they have made that are positive. Consider telling them that you're proud of them for sharing with you.

### Listen and hear them when they share:

1. Rather than telling them what solution you would do, try guiding them into coming up with a solution by asking guiding questions.
2. Don't shoot down their ideas. Ask them about what they think would be the pros and cons of each solution. Praise them when they come up with solutions on their own.
3. Don't make assumptions, rather ask questions about the situation.
4. Avoid putting people down. Your kids may share about friends. If you start talking poorly about their friends, they may be less likely to share in the future.
5. Make sure you are focusing more on solving the problem than the problem itself.

### Make sure your kids know where you stand and set clear limits:

1. Let kids know that you don't approve of ATOD use.
2. Make sure they know your expectations for them.
3. Tell your kids why you have set the limits.
4. Come up with some specific consequences together if they break the rules about ATOD.
5. Make sure to compliment them when they do follow these limits.

### Be there for your kids:

1. Spend time with your kids AND their friends. Try new activities. Work on goals together.
2. Make time for them every day.
3. Take an interest in their hobbies and things they are involved in.
4. Be present at things that are important to them.
5. When your kids are going to be going somewhere, call and talk with the parents first and make sure there will be parent supervision.
6. Meet your kid's friend's parents. Make sure that where they are going is a safe place. Get contact information for the parents as well. Find out the parent's rules about ATOD.
7. Know where your child is, ALWAYS. Have your child check in with you when they leave somewhere and when they arrive as well. Call and check in with your child at different times.



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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.



**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.

## NJROTC

CHS NJROTC is wrapping up another successful year of service to the school and community. This is the 48th consecutive year of the NJROTC unit being an integral part of CHS. Despite not having access to many of the normally scheduled activities due to COVID, the Tarpon Cadets managed to rack up over 2500 hours of community service and school support, as well as hosting two NJROTC athletic events.

CHS is home to the nationally ranked #10 Air Rifle Team in the country! Our Air Rifle Team won several regional competitions and finished #2 in the state. Air Rifle is an NCAA and Olympic Sport, and Charlotte is home to one of the best! Our JV team will continue practicing for the remainder of the year.

We have a number of other teams that compete in a variety of different activities. The Academic Team placed in the top 10% in the nation in the Navy National Academic Postal Competition and the Academic Brain Brawl Team qualified for States as for their virtual, "Jeopardy" style tournament. The Orienteering Team was able to enjoy an in-person season this spring and finished #5 in the State. We have a dedicated and talented Cyber Patriot team that excelled in the national Cyber Patriot competitions right from our classroom. Cyber security is a growing security concern for the United States and is a growing field for the US military. Our Competition Color Guard Team finished in 2nd place in the SW Regional Color Guard Competition. We continued to have Drill Team and Athletic Team practice to be ready to go to compete against other Florida units next year. We are a competitive program!

We encourage all incoming and current Tarpons to consider NJROTC as an elective for two years of their high school tenure. You can earn all of your PE, Fine Arts, and Hope credits, through NJROTC as well as earning an advanced pay grade if you choose to enlist into the Military. You may also improve your chances of getting an ROTC college scholarship or entrance into one of the US Service Academies, due to our leadership opportunities.

## JOIN A CLUB!

Anime Club	Fasion Design Club	Kindness/Positivity (S.P.A.R.K.)	Pride Club
Book Club	Fellowship of Christian Athletes	Leo Club	Robotics
Bowling Club	Future Farmers of America (FFA)	Mock Trial	Sign Language
Creative Writing Club	Interact Club	Modern Music Masters/Tri-M	Tarpon Leadership Academy
Drama Club (Thespians)	Key Club	National Honor Society	WCHS/TNN

## HOPE AMBASSADORS

Charlotte High has recently received quite an honor! We have been chosen by the governor's office as one of only 25 schools throughout the state to participate in Florida's Hope Ambassadors Pilot Program. The program focuses on peer-to-peer student mentorship and ensuring that schools promote a culture of kindness, compassion, and resiliency.

Our Hope Ambassadors, working in conjunction with SGA and SPARK club have sponsored several programs thus far, including a "Hopeful Hearts" contest in February to spread messages of hope, "Boost Your Spirits" posters from which students take positive messages when they need a lift, and "Signs of Kindness" have been placed in various areas of the school to remind students to be kind.

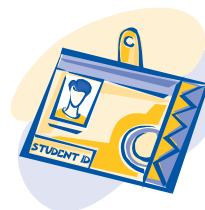
Our next project is "Lucky Ducks." Small rubber ducks with motivational messages will be placed throughout the school prior to FSA testing. Students finding the ducks will be reminded to keep swimming to the FSA finish line.

We are honored to have been selected as Hope Ambassadors and look forward to expanding our membership during the 2021-2022 school year.

## 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. 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 sleeve or lanyard.



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## UPCOMING DATES FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

May 14	Senior Class Meeting
May 25	Baccalaureate, 6pm at First Baptist Church Punta Gorda
May 27	Graduation, 7pm, TBD
May 31	Memorial Day-NO SCHOOL
June 4	Last Day Students



## MEDIA CENTER

Read all summer with Sora!

- Download the Sora app or visit <https://soraapp.com>
- Find Charlotte High School
- Enter your student ID number.
- Find a book, tap on borrow, and enjoy!

**Sora**  
The student reading app

## SENIOR NEWS

Make sure you are checking the CHS Webpage frequently, for updates as the end of year events start coming together. We have a Class of 2021 link on the front page. There are several important dates ahead. May 14th, is the Senior Class meeting where the seniors will get information about Graduation Practice, Graduation, and receive their Yearbooks. They will also have a chance to turn in their Chromebooks, if they haven't already, by then. Graduation Practice on 5/25th is a requirement if you want to be a part of the Graduation Ceremony. This is also where the Seniors will receive their Cap and Gown, and tickets. Graduation Practice starts at 9:00am and will end once we have everything ready for Graduation. Graduation itself is May 27th at 7:00pm. Continue to watch the Webpage for more information.

## CHS PROJECT GRADUATION 2021

- An all-night extravaganza to celebrate graduation for Charlotte High School. \$1000 grand prize drawing!
- An evening of entertainment, food, and prizes awaits you and your fellow graduates. Come for one last night of revelry with your friends to celebrate the end of your time at Charlotte High School.
- Casino games, palm reading, canvas painting, games and prizes. All food and drinks are provided. A hypnotist will amaze you as he puts several of your classmates under his spell.

You are welcome to leave at any point of the evening, but once you leave, you won't be readmitted. You must stay for the entire event to participate in the drawings for the grand prizes. A TV, volleyball net, bicycles and more are some of our top prizes. The grand prize of \$1000 is open to all attendees.

We ask that everyone in attendance wear a mask or face covering, sanitize their hands often, and maintain distancing when possible. We will have COVID waivers to sign prior to entry to the event.

Reserve your spot by May 1st to guarantee your receipt of a Project Graduation shirt. Shirts will be given out as you enter the building.

### CCPS MASK MANDATE

All students, staff and individuals must wear masks and or face coverings on school property to the maximum extent possible effective July 22, 2020 and until further notice. This includes schools, district office buildings and busses.

## 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](mailto:carmen.blake.yourcharlotteschools.net).

## CHROMEBOOK INFO

For chromebook help, go to [chs.yourcharlotteschools.net](https://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net) homepage and click on this link.

### Chromebook Help

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## COUNSELOR NEWS YOU CAN USE

**"It is not how you start...but how you finish. Finish Strong!" Anonymous**

We are in the last quarter and quickly approaching the end of the school year. We will continue to succeed during one of the most difficult times in our lives. We are TARPON STRONG. We will finish strong!

### Important dates to remember:

- **SAT Test:** June 5th - Deadline without a late fee is May 6th. Deadline with a late fee is May 26th. Register at [www.sat.org](http://www.sat.org).
- **ACT Test:** June 12th - Deadline without a late fee is May 7th. Register at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

**\*Juniors and Seniors only- If you qualify for free or reduced lunch, please see Mrs. Rhodes in Guidance for a Test Fee Waiver for ACT or SAT.**

### Career Center

#### **Freshmen**

Finish your final semester strong. You do not want to be retaking classes senior year to make up credits! Be sure you select classes next year that will help you with your goals after high school. Look at your My Career Shines account to see what careers you might be interested in. Get involved. Clubs, activities, and community involvement look great on a college and/or scholarship application. Record and keep track of your credentials (awards, volunteer hours, etc.).

**Sophomores** - Begin your college search. Utilize My Career Shines to see what schools and / or majors interest you. Start your resume that way you are not scrambling to finish it senior year. Believe it or not, you do forget things over your high school career! Continue getting volunteer hours completed and turn in. Colleges and scholarship sponsors love to see students actively volunteering in their community. Finding a steady summer job is a great idea as well. Finish second semester strong! If you have any credits to make up, get them done NOW!

**Juniors** - Senior year is almost here! It is time to start thinking about ACT and SAT. Be sure to send your scores to a Florida public university when you go to sign up for a test. This will allow Bright Futures to obtain your test scores as well. Start looking at my website to see what scholarships you wish to apply for next year. We have many local, state and national scholarships on my website so start looking! If you can visit schools over summer then try to do so. Start your resume if you haven't yet and keep up with your volunteer hours. Remember, colleges want to see you giving to your community! Start looking into college applications and deadlines. Many open up over summer so keep up to date with each school you plan on applying to. Check out college essays if they are posted and start planning. Senior year will not be as stressful and busy if you start planning and preparing now.

**Seniors** - Decision time! What is your plan? College, Career, or Military? Start finalizing what you are going to do after high school. If you know what college you are attending make sure you update Bright Futures to receive the funds. If you have not done so already, start communicating with your college academic advisor to make sure you are getting everything completed in time to start the Fall semester. Speak to them about your financial aid package so you know exactly what it is you are receiving. Get your volunteer hours turned in by graduation. Finish second semester strong and enjoy the rest of your senior year!

### Notes From Your Counselors

**Freshmen** - Hello Tarpon Freshmen. You have survived your first year of high school with only a few weeks left of school, continue to stay focused and always work with an end goal in mind. It has not been an easy year with the pandemic but you are coming out stronger than ever before. You have taken the next step towards your future. Continue to grow and learn with your experiences and embrace the challenges.

**Sophomores** - Hello Sophomores, this year has been a crazy one to say the least! Your 10th grade FSA Reading is a graduation requirement, so I am recommending that you take that assessment seriously, as well as any EOCs you may have. Please also take your classes seriously and work your hardest for the remainder of the year. I have little interest in inviting you to summer school this year.

**Juniors** - Hi Tarpon Juniors, soon to be Seniors! I am so excited to work with you all during your last year of high school. I am very proud of the Class of 2022. Remember it is not too late to make a change, if what you are doing now is not working. Use the resources available to you on campus including free tutoring and credit recovery lab. If you have credits to make up, do not wait until summer school or senior year, come see me so we can discuss starting Edgenuity now.

**Seniors** - Seniors, great job on getting to the end of the high school chapter of your lives! If you need one last shot at an SAT or ACT for your Bright Futures or for college, please be sure to sign up for the June SAT or ACT (see the info above). I am proud of you all and I have enjoyed being your counselor. Good luck in your future!!



**Dan Bowen, D.V.M.**

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## ATHLETIC NOTES

Charlotte High School has a proud tradition of athletic excellence. The effort put forth by athletes and coaches of the past have laid the foundation for our future. Did you know that since 1990 Charlotte athletics have won 114 district titles and 33 regional titles, 7 team state runners-up and 6 team state champions? So, on occasion, when I reference Punta Gorda as "Title Town" you can see why.

The 2020-21 athletic year was in doubt for our entire state. With the uncertainty surrounding each program due to Covid-19, our coaches and student athletes maintained a strong balance between academics and athletics. In the classroom this year our varsity athletes maintained a 3.22 overall GPA, which is very impressive. Competition wise, the Tarpons had a banner year winning 6 district titles, 4 regional titles, 1 team state champion and 4 individual state champions. We are hoping to add more hardware to this year's haul with baseball, softball, track and field, and boys weightlifting still competing.

I would like to thank the community for supporting all of our programs. Whether in the stands or assisting our fundraising efforts, Charlotte High can always count on you.

### Athletic Fun Facts:

**Q:** What teams have won the most district titles?

**A:** Boys- Wrestling with 23, Girls- Track and Field with 16.

**Q:** What individuals have won the most state titles?

**A:** We have a tie with three athletes winning 4 state titles- Wes Stockbarger 2002-04- Track and Field (2x discus, 2x shot put), Ryan Schnulle 2010-12 - Track and Field (4 x 800 2x, 1600m and 800m and Lucas Willis 2018-21- Wrestling (He actually has won 5 titles as he won a title as an 8th grader for Somerset Academy).

**Q:** Who was the Tarpons first state champion?

**A:** Richard Roundtree 1949 - Track and Field (winner of the 100 and 200 yard dash).

**Q:** Who is the longest serving head coach in Tarpon History?

**A:** Tom Massolio, Boys Basketball, 24 years (1997 - current day).



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All Charlotte High School & FSW High School students are invited to join us!

**CHS Younglife Club**  
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Locations Rotate Every Week

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



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# Tarpon Line

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MAY 2021 ISSUE 3



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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.

*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><b>Anonymous or Non-Anonymous</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">You decide whether you want to include your name and contact information.</p>	<p><b>Convenient</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Submitting a tip is quick and easy using our mobile app or website.</p>	<p><b>Include Photos and Video</b></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.



**Your School Officials**

The tip report goes to your local school officials when submitted.

**Local Law Enforcement**

Your local police department or sheriff 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**



