



December 2021 ★ Volume 18, Issue 5

# Minutemen Messenger



For the Parents, Students and Community of Cocoa Beach Jr./Sr. High School

## Cocoa Beach Jr./Sr. High School

1500 Minutemen Causeway  
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931

Tel - 321.783.1776

Fax - 321-877-0901

[www.brevardschools.org/  
CocoaBeachJRSR](http://www.brevardschools.org/CocoaBeachJRSR)

### Office Hours

7:30am - 4:00pm

### Student Hours

8:45am - 3:30pm

### Friday

### Early Release

8:45am - 2:15pm

### Administration

**Dr. Mark J. Rendell**

Principal

**Mr. Kevin Rhyne**

Assistant Principal  
Curriculum

**Mr. Stephen Link**

Assistant Principal  
Facilities

**Mrs. Mary Ellen**

**Galanopoulos**

Assistant Principal/Dean

## A Message From the Principal

Hello Minutemen,

We are in the midst of another great year. We are about halfway through and have much to be thankful for and much to celebrate. Our students and staff continue to shine. In this newsletter we highlight some of their accomplishments.

We have a State Championship team and a State Runner-Up team to celebrate. Our students are competing at a high level in Academics and Athletics. And there are honors and awards, such as Teacher of the Year, Employee of the Year, and our Students of the Month. A special shout out to the Elks Lodge of Cocoa Beach for sponsoring the Student of the Month program.

We also hosted three different Alumni Reunions this Fall, as the Classes of 1970, 1971, and 1981 all visited campus during their reunion weekends. Cocoa Beach is a special place and these older Minutemen certainly had some stories to share about their time on campus. Their sentiment seemed to be that while the physical campus has changed a little over the years, the spirit of Beach Pride is intact, and remains strong.

Don't forget to check out our website and Facebook page for more information about all of the great things happening at Cocoa Beach.

*Mark J. Rendell*



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High School  
1500 Minutemen  
Causeway  
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931  
Issue # 5



**Home of the Minutemen**



**COCOA BEACH JR SR  
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL**



**2021**

**We are looking for  
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be *Bigger, Stronger and Faster!***

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Kevin Robinson, Athletic Director at:  
Robinson.Kevin@brevardschools.org

## Employees of the Year

We are honored to announce that Georgann Savage has been chosen as our Teacher of the Year and Lori Murrin has been selected as our Employee of the Year! Both of these ladies are extremely valuable members of our team and contribute so much to our school. Mrs. Savage teaches Mathematics here at Cocoa Beach. She teaches a wide range of courses, including AP Calculus. Students enjoy her classes and students respond to her gentle but firm push for high performance. Mrs. Murrin is our Front Desk Clerk, which makes her the first person anyone meets when they come in to Cocoa Beach. Her positive attitude and pleasant demeanor make everyone feel welcome and happy to be at our school. Please join us in congratulating these two for their selections!



**Georgann Savage**  
Teacher of the Year



**Lori Murrin**  
Employee of the Year



## Academic Team Achievements

The Cocoa Beach Academic Team once again had a strong season. They won numerous dual matches and finished 2nd overall in the district regular season standings. In the District tournament they took the 3rd place trophy. Congratulations to the academic team! Members are: Adam Carr, Nate Horton, Johnnie Jones, Noble Knight, Archie Mehta, Bethany Stein, Tommy Tibbetts, and Malinda Todorovic. They were coached by Mr. Prince.



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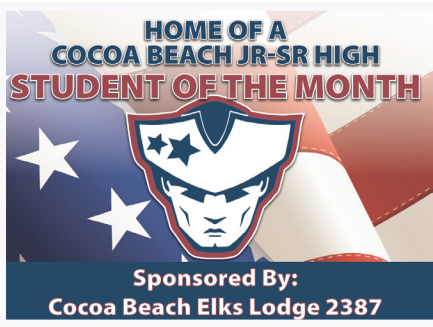
*Come and see us!*



## Students Of The Month

### Congratulations to our Students of the Month!

These young people were chosen by their teachers for doing the right thing and exhibiting all of the characteristics of Beach Pride! Each Student of the Month receives a "dry fit" T-shirt and a yard sign to display proudly on their front lawn provided by a local business partner. Our sponsor this month is the Cocoa Beach Elks Lodge. We thank the Elks for their support!



### Students of the Month - September

Brandon Abbott	Remi Martinez
Jafar Ahmed	Jack Mattson
Max Allen	Augden McCrosson
Isabel Anderson	Charly Montione
Yahia Beasha	Dalton Morgan
Kiley Bertrand	Kyle Pearson
Nathan Bohannon	Oliver Pedyash
Ben Burton	Vittoria Pisa
Cassandra Canicatti	Evangeline Rossick
Kahili Carey	Nick Ruch
Abby Clayton	River Saint-Gabrielle
Alison Colburn	Caden Salmon
Caleb Crain	Kyle Sampson
Helena Davis	Madison Schaible
Christopher DeMuro	Foxx Sharp
Sebastian Dodd-Degiovine	Zoie Shepard
Bella Dyer	Zoe Sherrer
Lillian Hiestand	Preston Sherrill
Nathan Horton	Noah Slotin
Preston Houvouras	Kaleb Strickland Smith
Ethan Iverson	Malachi Stubbs
Kaya Kilgore	Ivy Taylor
Joshua Klusek	Nora Vinson
Aaron Lin	

### Students of the Month - October

Kiersten Aldridge	Preston Houvouras
Bastien Baron	Robert Jeyaseelan
Melissa Basily	Rachel Juarez
Landon Benoit	Katie Laferriere
Renzo Bognot	Lucas Lawandales
Adam Carr	Augden McCrosson
Kennedy Coleman	Oscar McEllin
Charlotte Cordis	Kayla McQueen
Avalean Crouser	Paul Moore
Olivia Crowley	Jenna Morgan
Tara Dacus	Alana O'Harrow
Alanna Daniels	Keli Petrie
Victoria Deese	Airon Ronquillo
Christopher DeMuro	River St. Gabrielle
Torrie Dortly	Laci Starr
Piper Garry	Michael Steen
James Goldsmith	Andrew Sterling
Madeline Gray	Gabrielle Strickland-Smith
Ava Hardesty	Carlo Villafane
Katie Hiestand	Nora Vinson
Cayeson Hobbs	Trinity Walker
Maya Hornquist	Megan Waryk
Ella Hornquist	Ashton Weber
Cooper Houvouras	Thomas Yarborough



## Contact Us

**Cocoa Beach Junior/Senior High School**  
Telephone - 321.783.1776

### Front Office Staff

*Lisa Peloquin* - School Secretary, x 23003  
*Lori Murrin* - Attendance/Front Desk, x 23001  
*Rosemary Araujo* - Bookkeeper, x 23004

### Guidance Support Staff

*Trudy D'Amico* - Guidance Asst., x 23026  
*Kathryn Kope* - Registrar, x 23027  
*Gene Trent* - Testing Coordinator, x 23098  
*Susan Prince* - Data Entry, x 23028

### Counselors

*Emery Carr* - All I.B. Students, x 23024  
*Carleen Mackin* - Grades 10-12, x 23023  
*Melissa Haley* - Grades 7-9, x 23025

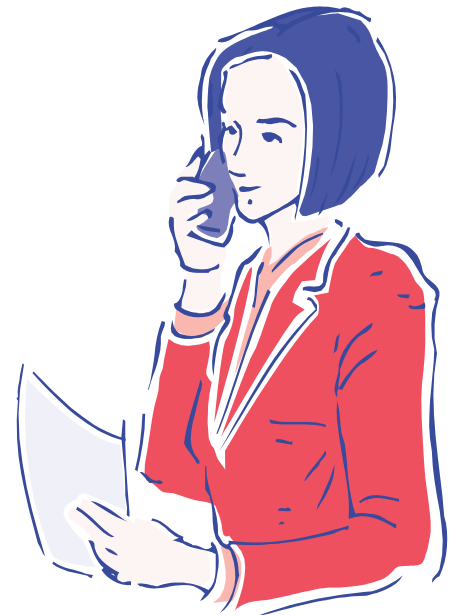
### IB Program

*Matt Kellam* - IB Coordinator, x 23131  
*Lynn Malaret* - IB Clerk, x 23091

### Clinic - X 23010

### Library Media Center - x 23099

### Tech Specialist - x 23014



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## School Counselors

### Emery Carr

All I.B. Students

321.783.1776 x23024

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<https://www.brevardschools.org/Page/18629>

(to schedule an appointment)

### Melissa Haley

Grades 7-9

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<https://www.brevardschools.org/Page/18629>

(to schedule an appointment)

### Carleen Mackin, Guidance Chair

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[mackin.carleen@brevardschools.org](mailto:mackin.carleen@brevardschools.org)

<https://www.brevardschools.org/Page/18629>

(to schedule an appointment)

For general guidance inquiries, please contact the guidance clerk, Mrs. D'Amico at (321) 783-1776 Ext. 23026 or [damico.trudy@brevardschools.org](mailto:damico.trudy@brevardschools.org).



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## JROTC News State Champions!

Our Cocoa Beach JROTC Raiders competed at the Florida JROTC Raider Championships and finished as State Champions and State runner-up. Florida has 164 JROTC programs, with 67 competing at the State Championship. The Florida Raider Championship divided the 67 schools in tiers based on the JROTC student population. Cocoa Beach Raiders competed in Tier 3. Our female Raiders, led by senior Alexi Kellum, dominated their division and placed first overall in their Tier 3 and Tier 2 (schools with over 160 Cadet in their program) divisions.

Our male team led by senior Ricardo De La Cruz placed second overall in their tier and was 1.15 seconds away from placing first overall. Our Raiders have worked extremely hard since August, and their daily work has led to success for the JROTC program and Cocoa Beach High School.

Alexie Kellum led Our Lady Raiders with team members: Alex Adams, Allie, and Vittoria Lane, Kaitlyn Staddie, Reagan Fish, Ever Sills, Ali Jo Tuggle, Aariyah Robinson, Katie Hiestand, Val Pruna, and Sophia Ricks.

Ricardo De La Cruz led our Male Raiders with team members: Sebastian Widick, Billy Day, Gareth Bennett, Miles, and Neil Danker, Anthony Self, Max Perez, Hugo Baron, Kalle Bogdan- Rivera, Eyden Diebert, and Javier Gonzales.



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*Congratulations!*



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## Girls Basketball Tournament Champs!

Congratulations to our Varsity Girls Basketball team for winning the Clash on the Coast Tournament! In the first round they beat Space Coast by a score of 39-26. In the championship game they defeated defending champion, West Shore in the championship game by a score of 40-28. Haley Overdorf received All Tournament honors and AJ Overdorf was named Tournament MVP. Way to go girls!



## Brevard Schools FOUNDATION

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### Teachers Earn Grants

Congratulations to Ms. Buckley, Mr. Siljestrom, and Ms. Soto for garnering Mini-Grants from the Brevard Schools Foundation! Funds ranging from \$500 - \$1500! Way to go! With these additional funds the teachers are planning some interesting and exciting activities.



## Preston Houveras Wins Athlete of the Week

Senior Swimmer Preston Houvouras was named the Florida Today 321 Sports Athlete of the week for September 13-18. Preston dominated several events during two swim meets that week, leading the Boys teams to victory in both. Congratulations to Preston!



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## Helping Your Teen Get the Most Out of High School

**From NEA and National Parent Teacher Association**

Parents want their children to do well in high school but sometimes it is a challenge to figure out how to support them. High school is a time when parent involvement is critical; teens need your help even if they don't realize it. Following are some hints on how to help your teen get the most out of high school.

### HELP YOUR CHILD SHOW UP AT SCHOOL WITH A GOOD ATTITUDE AND READY TO LEARN

- Studies indicate that showing up is important but not sufficient for school success. Physical and mental states are important factors in getting the most from school.
- Keep tabs on school attendance. Check report card attendance reports. If you suspect a problem, immediately call the school. Do not encourage your child to skip school for special trips or activities not related to school such as a family vacation or an outing with friends. That makes school seem less important than having fun.
- Make sure your teen gets plenty of sleep. Recent studies show that teenagers need nine or more hours of sleep nightly and that students earning As and Bs generally are getting to bed earlier than students with lower grades.
- Don't accept the "I'm never gonna use this after high school" excuse for not working hard in a particular class. For example, algebra may not be everybody's favorite subject, but studies show that courses like algebra are critically important in college acceptance decisions and achievement.
- If you have a senior, beware of "senior slump." Recent reports indicate that students may consider the last year of high school a waste of time. However, students who waste their senior year are often unprepared for college-level work even if they took challenging courses during their earlier high school years.

### HELP ORGANIZE TIME AND MATERIALS

- Just because students are in high school does not guarantee they are all prepared to do high school work, especially long-term projects, on their own.
- Help your teen keep an assignment calendar with dates for long-term projects as well as daily homework. Review the calendar at the beginning of the week to plan how time will be used and make allowances for other activities such as sports and clubs.
- Help your teen divide long-term assignments into smaller tasks and develop a timeline for when tasks should be finished in order to have the entire assignment completed on time.
- Make sure there is a place for quiet study away from the television and telephone along with a place to keep school materials, including materials necessary for long-term assignments.

### TAKE AN INTEREST

- Studies show that parent involvement drops dramatically as students move from elementary school into middle and high school. Yet given the complexities of today's high schools, this is a time when many students are most in need of parental support and involvement.
- You might not understand a subject such as physics or early American literature but you can still listen to your teen talk about what is happening in class. Also listen to what is happening outside of class. Listen to what your teen is trying to say without immediately judging or offering advice. Encourage your teen to join a club or sport at school. Outside activities are educational and often increase students' interest in school.
- Help your teens put their concerns or problems into words and encourage them to try and figure out possible solutions or coping strategies.
- Try to find at least one teacher with whom you can communicate regularly for updates or advice on your teen's general well-being in high school.
- The ultimate goal is to help students become self-sufficient managers of their time and resources in order to get the most out of high school. They may need your help even if they don't realize it. Help them to develop habits and strategies for greater achievement while encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their work.

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- Viewing student grades and report cards
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## Attendance

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10 percent, or about 18 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Make school attendance a priority.
- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day, make that the expectation.
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick. Complaints of headaches or stomach aches may be signs of anxiety.

### HELP YOUR TEEN STAY ENGAGED.

- Find out if your child feels engaged by his classes and feels safe from bullies and other threats. Make sure he/she is not missing class because of behavioral issues and school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, work with your school.
- Stay on top of academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors if necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage meaningful after-school activities, including sports and clubs.

### COMMUNICATE WITH THE SCHOOL.

- Know the school's attendance policy - incentives and penalties
- Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in behavior. These could be tied to something going on at school.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not piling up.
- Ask for help from school officials, after-school programs, other parents or community agencies if you're having trouble getting your child to school.

### Cocoa Beach Jr/Sr High School

tel: 321.783.1776 fax: 321.877.0901  
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### Cocoa Beach Jr/Sr High School

## Bell Schedule

2021~2022

Period 1	8:45 - 9:35
Period 2	9:40 - 10:29
Period 3	10:34 - 11:23
Period 4	11:28 - 12:47
A Lunch 11:23-11:53 (Class 11:58 - 12:47)	
Buildings 4, 5, 15	
B Lunch 12:17-12:47 (Class 11:28 - 12:17)	
Buildings 2, 3, 6, 14, 16, PE	
Period 5	12:52 - 1:41
Period 6	1:46 - 2:35
Period 7	2:40 - 3:30

## Friday Early Release

2021~2022

Period 1	8:45 - 9:22
Period 2	9:27 - 9:59
Period 3	10:04 - 10:36
Homeroom	10:41 - 11:16
Period 4	11:21 - 12:23
A Lunch 11:16-11:46 (Class 11:51-12:23)	
B Lunch 11:53-12:23 (Class 11:21 - 11:53)	
Period 5	12:28 - 1:00
Period 6	1:05 - 1:37
Period 7	1:42 - 2:15





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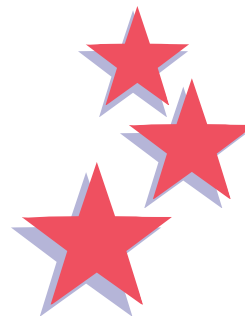
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**To Addressee or Current Resident**



## Alumni Visit Campus

We were fortunate to host three different reunions on campus. The Classes of 1970, held their "50th Reunion" a year late, as they did not hold it last year, due to the pandemic. The Class of 1971 held their official 50th reunion. And the Class of 1981 held their 40th Reunion. Each of the classes gathered in the Media Center to look at Yearbooks and reminisce. They of course also visited the Courtyard to take pictures on the Bridge.



**Class of 1971 - Back On Campus!**

