

BEARCAT CHRONICLE

AUGUST 2023

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2

For the Parents, Staff, and Community of Crystal River Middle School



344 NE Crystal Street
Crystal River, FL 34428

352-795-2116

<https://crm.citrusschools.org/home>



ADMINISTRATION

Brian Lancaster *Principal*

Keith Crisp *Assistant Principal*

Shannon Rossi *Assistant Principal*

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

I am excited to welcome you all to our school community as your new middle school principal! My name is Brian Lancaster, and I am honored to have the opportunity to serve this wonderful community.

As we begin the new school year, I am committed to ensuring that our students receive the best possible education in a safe and caring environment. Our dedicated team of teachers and staff are passionate about helping our students achieve their full potential, and we will work tirelessly to support their academic, social, and emotional growth.

I look forward to getting to know each and every one of you and working together to make our school a place where everyone feels valued, respected, and empowered. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any member of our team if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Brian Lancaster
Principal

Check out the CRMS Website

<http://crm.citrusschools.org>

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us on **Twitter**

@CrmBearcats



WELCOME OUR NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Greetings Bearcats! My name is Shannon Rossi, and I am thrilled to become a part of the Crystal River Middle School family as an assistant principal. All students whose last name begins with letters M-Z will be assigned to me. As a proud native of Citrus County and an alumna of Citrus County Schools, this community holds a special place in my heart. My aim is to foster an environment where students can thrive and reach their full potential.

Throughout this academic year, I eagerly anticipate building connections with both students and their families. By working collaboratively, we can create a supportive network that fosters education, motivation, and success for every student. As we unite as a team, I firmly believe that together, we will unlock the path to success for all.

Shannon Rossi

KEITH CRISP

Hello Bearcat Families!

This is Mr. Crisp, one of the Assistant Principals at CRMS. All students whose last name begins with letters A-L will be assigned to me. I am beyond excited for the 23-24 school year, and I cannot wait to welcome students back to school!

Just like last year, our PBS program will recognize and reward students displaying positive behavior on campus and at school events. Students will earn points to redeem at the school store and exciting school events. We are grateful for our local partners and continuing to work together to offer positive incentives for positive behavior. Students will also earn an opportunity each quarter to participate in a schoolwide PBS day.

Parents and guardians, to provide your child with a learning environment that is free from distraction, please remind your child of the CRMS Policy about **Personal Electronic Devices** and **Dress Code**.

- Students may not use personal electronic devices during school days. Personal electronic devices must be turned off and stored in a backpack from 7:20 to 2:20.
- Dress code guidelines can be found in the CCS Code of Student Conduct. Students in violation of dress code may be required to change clothing and may receive disciplinary consequences.

We believe that every student deserves the opportunity to learn in a safe and nurturing learning environment. I am looking forward to working with you to make this your child's best year yet!

Respectfully,

Mr. Crisp
Assistant Principal

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GUIDANCE



Lanna Wentworth
Professional
School Counselor

I am Ms. Wentworth, a former Bearcat and graduate of CRH, and I'm so happy another school year is beginning! I love the fresh start that each new school year brings, reuniting with our current students, and getting to know our new ones. This will be my 7th year as a School Counselor at CRM and I have loved every minute of it – well, almost every minute. In all honestly, serving our students has been one of my life's greatest joys. I am so grateful to have the opportunity to invest in our children and our community. Please know, our Guidance team is here to support our students and their families so please don't hesitate to reach out to us. Hope to see you soon!



Christine Stewart
Professional
School Counselor

Hello awesome Bearcats! I'm Mrs. Stewart and I'm one of your school counselors. I can't wait to catch up with our students from last year and meet our newest Bearcats. I'm excited to work with students and their families to build a safe and supportive environment that helps all students reach their fullest potential. I look forward to seeing our students and families throughout the year and during our school sponsored events. It's going to be a fantastic year!



Dawn Balmert
School Social
Worker

Welcome to a new school year, Bearcats! My name is Ms. Balmert and I'm your School Social Worker. I'm excited to start my 6th year at CRM getting to know the new faces and catching up with the ones from last year. As a former Bearcat and graduate from CRH, I love having the opportunity to help shape and support this current generation. Throughout the year, I look forward to meeting with your child to ensure they have a positive, healthy, and successful school year! I hope to see you around campus, at sporting events, or any other chance to support our Bearcats!

'Bearcat Chronicle'

August 2023

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344 NE Crystal Street
Crystal River, FL 34428
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A NOTE FROM GUIDANCE

Just a few reminders as we start a new school year:

ABSENCES

When a student has been absent from school, the parent/guardian is required to send a note with the student's legal name, date of absence(s), and reason for the absence(s) signed by the legal parent/guardian within two (2) days of the student's return to school. If the written statement is not provided by the parent, the absence(s) will be unexcused.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

There will be no schedule changes after the first few weeks of school. Thank you.

DELIVERIES

Delivery of non-school related items, i.e. balloons, flowers, fast-food deliveries, etc. will not be accepted by the front office. We will attempt to get assignments, school projects, change of clothes and other school related items, delivered by the parent/guardian, to their students.

EARLY DISMISSALS

Please make sure your child knows about any scheduled appointments or has pertinent family information before he/she leaves for school in order to avoid miscommunication. Administration strongly encourages appointments be made outside of school hours to help us keep classroom interruptions to a minimum.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation,

Lanna Wentworth and Christine Stewart



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SAEC SCHEDULE- SCHOOL ADVISORY ENHANCEMENT COUNCIL

Parents and guardians who are interested in becoming voting members of the 2023-2024 CRM Advisory Council can sign up at the Open House on August 8th or by contacting the Principal Brian Lancaster.

Meetings will be held Thursday's at 7AM in the media Center.

Meeting Dates

- September 14, 2023
- November 16, 2023
- February 8, 2024
- April 14, 2024
- May 16, 2024



FUND RAISING

General Fund Raising

Money raised will go to support the club or group sponsoring the fundraiser with Staff appreciation receiving 10%.

American Fundraiser

Money raised will go to support the Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Program at CRMS.

GO BEARCATS

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ATHLETIC SCHEDULE FALL

(All event dates and times are subject to change)

Football

Practice begins Aug 10th

Date	Home Opponent	Away Opponent
Aug 29	Bye	
Sept 5	LMS	6:00 CRHS
Sept 12	SS	6:00 SS
Sept 19	CSMS	6:00 CRHS
Sept 26	IMS	6:00 CHS
Oct 3	Explorer	6:00 CRHS
Oct 10	Championship	TBD

Golf

Practice begins Aug 21st

Date	Host	Teams	Time
Sept 7	CRMS at Plantation	CRMS/ Buffalo/ IMS/ Middle	3:00
Sept 14	IMS at Inverness Golf CC	CRMS/IMS/SS/Middle	3:00
Sept 21	CSMS at Citrus Springs Golf CC	CSMS/Bufalo/CRMS/IMS	3:00
Sept 28	CRMS at Plantation	Citrus County Championships	3:00
Oct 5	Buffalo at Nancy Lopez	Conference Championships	1:00

Volleyball

Practice begins Aug 10th

Date	Home Opponent	Away Opponent
Aug 28	Middleton	3:00
Aug 30	Buffalo Ridge	4:00
Sept 7	SS	4:00
Sept 11	VW	4:30
Sept 14	LMS	3:00
Sept 18	IMS	3:00
Sept 21	CSMS	3:00
Sept 25	LMS	3:00
Sept 28	CSMS	3:00
Oct 2	IMS	3:00
Oct 5	CHAMPIONSHIPS AT LMS	3,4,5



Cross-Country

Practice Begins August 21st

Date	Host
Sept 13	LMS
Sept 20	CRMS at CRHS
Sept 28	IMS
Oct 4	CSMS



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CRYSTAL RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE

HEAD No caps, visors, hoods, bandanas or other head gear, except with administrative permission.	ACCEPTABLE 	NOT ACCEPTABLE 
UPPER GARMENTS All garments must cover shoulder to shoulder. No rips/tears or skintight items. All garments must be long enough to clearly overlap the beltline or stay tucked. NO halter tops, tanks tops, spaghetti straps or muscle shirts.	ACCEPTABLE 	NOT ACCEPTABLE  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin-top: 10px;"> Straps must be 2 inches wide </div>
LOWER GARMENTS Undergarments and the buttocks MUST remain entirely covered even while seated. Dresses, skirts and shorts must be at least mid-thigh or below in length. No rips, holes or tears in clothing above the mid thigh on boys or girls	ACCEPTABLE 	NOT ACCEPTABLE  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin-top: 10px;"> Shirt must come to mid thigh if wearing leggings </div>

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NEW TITLE I INTERVENTIONALIST



Sarah Seffern

Welcome Back Bearcats! My name is Sarah Seffern, and I will be serving as the new Title I Interventionist. This will be my 11th year in education and have worked in a variety of roles to include 3rd grade, 4th grade, ESE provider, reading interventionist, modeling best practices, and providing teacher support. Prior to my teaching career, I served in the U.S. Army for 12 years where I traveled the world, met amazing people, and gained a tremendous amount of life experience! We are a blended family of 8, so you will likely see (or hear) a few, or all of us out and about. I am so excited to begin my journey here at Crystal River Middle School!

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” — Nelson Mandela

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Please sign and return this newsletter to your student advocacy teacher during your 6th period for PBS Points!

Parent Signature