

September 30, 2024

Volume 22

Issue 5



For the Parents/Guardians, Staff, Students, and Community of Cypress Lake High School

### School Phone

239-481-2233

### School Website

<http://cyh.leeschools.net>

### Vision

Empowering students  
to succeed  
in a changing world.

### Mission

Students graduating  
from CLHSCA will be  
independent thinkers  
and responsible citizens  
with the skills and knowledge  
to make quality decisions  
ensuring future success.



## Principal's Message

Panther Family,

It is fall at Cypress! Our campus is full of happy energy with the return of students.

We thank all Panthers for a successful and smooth start to our school year. Cypress is such a special place to learn and grow. We are proud of our beautiful school and have high expectations for each and every student. Faculty and staff lead with passion and purpose! Our students are kind, compassionate, and eager to learn. We strive to make connections with students to help all Panthers reach their highest potential.

Arts, activities and athletics are in full swing! Panther students are busy! We hope you will join us and see concerts, games, performances and shows. Confidence and teamwork are essential for participation in arts, activities and athletics. We hold our annual "Club Rush" in mid-September. This event allows students to meet with each club and group at lunch and learn more about joining, if interested. Our many campus clubs are welcoming new members as they begin their work for the year ahead of them. We encourage all Panthers to find a connection, whether it is arts, athletics, clubs or other activities. A sense of belonging to your school community is important!

Our students are the most important part of our Panther family. I see so much good in our high school every single day. The laughter, smiles, and warmth are constant reminders of this. Students work hard at challenging material. They balance complicated activity, academic and work schedules. We are in this together. We continue to come together as a school community and focus on the good. We love our school. We are proud of our Panthers.

I continue to be amazed at the spirit and dedication of our teachers, coaches, directors and class/club sponsors. Our students are our purpose! It is a privilege to be the principal of Cypress Lake High School.

So PROUD to be a Panther!



To download a pdf version of this newsletter, go to

<http://www.academypublishing.com/schools/cypresslake/cypresslake.php>

Translation of the newsletter is available in Spanish and Creole. Contact the Main Office for details.

**CYPRESS LAKE HIGH SCHOOL**  
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# CLHS

## CENTER FOR THE ARTS



"Paw Prints"  
 September 30, 2024  
 Published Five Times  
 Per Year  
 Cypress Lake High School  
 6750 Panther Ln.  
 Ft. Myers, FL 33919  
 Issue #5

### The School Board of Lee County, Florida

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[www.leeschools.net](http://www.leeschools.net)

The School Board of Lee County, Florida, prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, marital status, religion, or sexual orientation.

## From Our Counselors

The Counseling Department welcomes all new and returning students and parents to Cypress Lake High School for the 2024-2025 school year. We take pride in serving you and look forward to a positive and productive year. At Cypress Lake High School, our dedicated team of counselors is here to provide unwavering support to students and their families as we embark on another exciting academic year. We understand that navigating high school can be both rewarding and challenging, which is why we are committed to being a reliable resource for each student throughout their educational journey. Our school counselors play a multifaceted role that encompasses academic advising and intervention and ensuring that each student is on track to meet their educational goals. Additionally, each year we meet with every student to guide them through the process of selecting courses and making informed decisions about their future paths.

Ms. Ranae Atkinson, our dedicated college and career specialist, plays an invaluable role within our team. With her extensive knowledge and experience in the field, Ms. Atkinson significantly contributes to the enhancement of our services. She is committed to providing students with the resources they need to navigate their educational pathways and prepare for their future careers. By utilizing her skills, she helps to create tailored programs and workshops that empower students to make informed decisions about their academic and professional journeys.

For our seniors, the coming months bring an exciting opportunity as they begin planning for life beyond high school. Our counselors will meet individually with each senior to discuss and finalize their graduation contracts, during which we will review crucial information concerning graduation requirements, mandatory assessments, and current academic standing. These one-on-one meetings are designed to ensure that students feel well-prepared and informed as they transition into the next phase of their lives, whether that involves further education, entering the workforce, entering the military, or exploring other opportunities. We are excited to collaborate with students and families, offering support and guidance every step of the way, as we work together to help each student reach their full potential.



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### SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Mrs. Moldawsky	KathyWM@leeschools.net	Students: A-D
Mrs. Moreno	BetsyMO@leeschools.net	Students: E-L
Mrs. Skinner	RosaiSk@leeschools.net	Students: M-R
Mrs. Owen	JessicaPO@leeschools.net	Students: S-Z
Ms. Ranae Atkinson	RanaeAA@leeschools.net	College & Career Specialist



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## SAT Test Dates AUGUST 2024–JUNE 2025

These test dates and deadlines apply to all students—U.S. and international—taking the SAT:

SAT Test Date*	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes, Regular Cancellation, and Late Registration**
<b>Aug 24, 2024</b>	Aug 9, 2024	Aug 13, 2024
<b>Oct 5, 2024</b>	Sept 20, 2024	Sept 24, 2024
<b>Nov 2, 2024</b>	Oct 18, 2024	Oct 22, 2024
<b>Dec 7, 2024</b>	Nov 22, 2024	Nov 26, 2024
<b>Mar 8, 2025</b>	Feb 21, 2025	Feb 25, 2025
<b>May 3, 2025</b>	Apr 18, 2025	April 22, 2025
<b>June 7, 2025</b>	May 22, 2025	May 27, 2025

\*Students who need to borrow a device from College Board will need to register and request their device earlier than the registration deadline — at least 30 days before test day.

\*\*Late registration is available worldwide. Additional fees apply.

## ACT National Test Dates 2024-2025

Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline Late Fee Applies After This Date	Late Registration Deadline	Photo Upload and Standby Deadline
September 14, 2024	August 9	August 25	September 6
October 26, 2024	September 20	October 7	October 18
December 14, 2024	November 8	November 22	December 6
February 8, 2025	January 3	January 20	January 31
April 5, 2025	February 28	March 16	March 28
June 14, 2025	May 9	May 26	June 6
July 12, 2025*	June 6	June 20	July 4

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## Attendance Matters!

Cypress Lake High School will accept parent notes to excuse five absences per semester for a total of 10 absences per school year. Beyond that, absences must be accompanied by proper documentation (doctor/dental notes, hospital notes, court subpoenas, immigration papers etc.), to be marked as excused. Formal documentation can be brought in at any time during the semester. **Excuse notes can be submitted to [0531.Attendance@LeeSchools.net](mailto:0531.Attendance@LeeSchools.net) or to the attendance box at the front office. Email is preferred.**



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## Yearbook Info

The 2025 yearbook is on sale. You can purchase it online at [buytheyearbook.com](http://buytheyearbook.com) or on campus with cash or check (made out to CLHS). The current cost is \$70 so buy now and save \$10.

### Find My School-Buy the Yearbook

Pictavo Community is a secure online portal for students, teachers, parents, grandparents and community members to connect with their school.

[www.buytheyearbook.com](http://www.buytheyearbook.com)

### 2024-2025 YEARBOOK COST

- August - Sept. 30th \$65
- Oct. 1st - Nov. 30th \$70
- Dec. 1st - Feb 14th \$75
- Feb. 15th - SOLD OUT \$80

**SENIOR YEARBOOK ADS** are still on sale. There is limited space so if you want to purchase one, do so early. Once the space is gone, it's gone.

- FULL PAGE - \$300
- ½ PAGE - \$150
- ¼ PAGE - \$75
- ⅛ PAGE - \$40

### FALL PHOTO RETAKE DAY (9TH - 11TH GRADE)

**Photo retake day is on Thursday, October 17th from 8:00am - 10:00am** in the library. Here are the **ONLY** reasons you should need a retake photo.

### PHOTO RETAKES ARE FOR...

- Students new to CLHS after Sept. 5th
- Students who were ABSENT on Sept. 5th
- Students who ordered a photo packet and didn't like their photo (photo packet

NEEDS to be RETURNED on retake day).

- Students who want to order photos will take their photo on retake day and then an image will be e-mailed to the parent e-mail on file so that parents can place an order online.

This is the **FINAL OPPORTUNITY** for students to get a student ID and be in the 2024-2025 yearbook.

### LAST OPPORTUNITY SENIOR PHOTOS

The Leonard's studio is open on Thursday evenings and all day Saturday. Students can book an appointment at [www.leonards.com](http://www.leonards.com) using their access code. If students do not want to go to the studio, there is ONE more chance on campus to be photographed. Leonard's will be on campus Thursday, October 24th from 8:00am to 12:30pm taking photos. Students will be able to reserve a time for on campus. The signup sheet for this will not open until the week of October 7th. The cost for the photo session is \$20. Students can bring cash or checks made out to Leonard's.

Males should wear a light-colored t-shirt and females should wear a thin strapped tank top.

**2-3 weeks after you take your photos, you need to log-in and choose the 1 photo you want sent for the yearbook. If you don't do this... they will choose for you. Seniors who wait until October, you may NOT get to choose which photo you want in the yearbook.**



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## Academic Achievements

**Congratulations** to the following Cypress Lake High School students for their academic achievements and national recognition from College Board!

Barsheshet	Danielle	First Generation, Hispanic	Cypress Lake High School
Perez	Valeska	Hispanic	Cypress Lake High School
Philippe	Keishna	African American	Cypress Lake High School
Portillo	Alexander	First Generation	Cypress Lake High School
Portillo-Chavez	Daniel	First Generation	Cypress Lake High School
Ramirez German	Sofia	First Generation, Hispanic	Cypress Lake High School
Vargas	Alyssa	First Generation, Hispanic	Cypress Lake High School

## AICE/Cambridge Course Retake Exams

September 30 English General Paper (11) AM Thinking Skills (11) PM	October 9 Mathematics (51) PM	October 22 Psychology (21) AM Marine (21) PM
October 1 Global Perspectives (11) AM Travel & Tourism (11) PM	October 17 History (11) AM Marine (11) PM	October 23 English Language (21) PM
October 2 English General Paper (21) AM Thinking Skills (21) PM	October 18 Psychology (11) AM	October 25 Psychology (31) AM
October 7 Mathematics (11) PM	October 21 History (21) AM English Language (11) PM	November 4 Psychology (41) PM
		November 8 Drama (11) PM

Please contact Dr. Doucette (brendado@leeschools.net) with questions about registering for retakes. The registration window will open on August 13th, 2024, when Cambridge exam scores are released, and close on August 15th.

Please see the exam dates and mark your calendars in case you need to retake an exam.

ALL students taking Cambridge courses should join Google Classroom (c5iislc) for all the latest information & resources.

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## Cypress Lake High School Celebrates it's Cambridge AICE Diploma Recipients



Over 150 schools in Florida participated in the Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Diploma program. The Cambridge AICE Program is an International Pre-University Preparation Program, part of the Cambridge Assessment Group, a not-for-profit organization and a department of the University of Cambridge in England.

Fort Myers, Florida – At Cypress Lake High School, 10 students have earned the Cambridge AICE Diploma. Additionally, 3 students have earned the diploma with merit, which is awarded to students who have earned between 250 and 359 points out of 420. The Cambridge AICE Diploma helps students develop critical thinking, research, collaboration, and presentation skills essential to academic success. Students also earn college credit and are eligible for academic scholarships through Bright Futures.

"We proudly recognize the achievements of students who earned the Cambridge AICE Diploma," said Dr. Doucette. "With the help of dedicated teachers and staff, our Cambridge students explored their passions through scholarly research as part of an impactful, multiyear program. We hope that our students continue to develop their critical thinking skills and use their diplomas to advance their academic careers."

To achieve the Cambridge AICE Diploma, learners must achieve a minimum of seven credits (including Cambridge International AS Level Global Perspectives & Research) from subject groups 1, 2, and 3 (and optionally Group 4). Learners must achieve at least one credit from each of Groups 1, 2, and 3. Furthermore, students must complete their program within 25 months.

Higher education institutions across the US and around the world recognize and reward student achievement in Cambridge International AS & A Level courses and exams and the Cambridge AICE Diploma. Students may receive college credit, advanced course placement, or scholarships for qualifying grades on Cambridge International AS & A Level exams.

Over 900 institutions in North America have policies for Cambridge students, including MIT, University of Washington, Duke University, Columbia University, New York University, University of California campuses at Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and more, University of Virginia, Florida State University, North Carolina State University, Arizona State University, to name just a few. All public colleges and universities in Florida, Indiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and Washington award credit for qualifying grades on Cambridge International AS & A Level exams.

Cambridge International AS & A Level exams may qualify students for academic or merit scholarships. States and institutions may also have scholarships specifically for Cambridge students. For example, Florida students who receive the Cambridge AICE Diploma and meet other requirements are eligible for Bright Futures, which covers full tuition at any public Florida institution.

Of the students who participated in the Cambridge AICE Diploma program at Cypress Lake High School:

- 10 were awarded the Cambridge AICE Diploma by earning seven credits or more across the required groups. [They are Leia Busby, Isabella Quesenberry, Evan Skaggs, Regan Erfourth, Kira Thompson, Matthew Zafra, Greenley Haley, Leah Chamberlain, Trevor Whiteside-Hamilton, and Landon Maas.]
- 3 were awarded the Cambridge AICE Diploma with Merit by earning between 250 and 359 points out of 420. [They are Leia Busby, Isabella Quesenberry, and Evan Skaggs.] The Advanced International Certificate of Education is an innovative and accelerated method of academic study offered solely through the University of Cambridge International Examinations, a division of the University of Cambridge in Cambridge, England. AICE provides a flexible, broad-based curriculum that is offered worldwide at schools and colleges in over 160 countries. For over 170 years, the prestigious University of Cambridge has been setting worldwide curriculum standards through their examinations.

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## Out of Field Teachers

The following teachers are engaged in training to add English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) to their certificates.

- Sasha Johnson
- Andrew McCarley
- Courtney LaMar
- McKenzie Velez
- Brittany Wilson



## Reminder to Avoid Fees and Fines

### Fees and Fines

Now that we are back-to-school, please collect any overdue textbooks, library books, tech devices or accessories, and JROTC or sports uniforms that you may have. You can turn overdue items into the media center to be cleared from Fees and Fines.

## Report Suspicious Activity with FortifyFL

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool.

- Instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.
- Let students know! They can report anonymously from their personal devices or via the icon on their Chromebooks on their **launchpad**.



# 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>You decide whether you want to include your name and contact information.</p>	<p><b>Convenient</b></p> <p>Submitting a tip is quick and easy using our mobile app or website.</p>	<p><b>Include Photos and Video</b></p> <p>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.

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## 20th Annual SPECIAL OLYMPICS 2024

Cypress Lake High School's "Be A Buddy" program integrates students with disabilities with mainstream students through their involvement in the activities and events with the Special Education Department. This year we are holding our 20th annual Special Olympics High School Field Day on Friday, December 13, 2024. We will host all (15) high schools in Lee

County. After the events, we host a lunch for approximately 1800 people who participated and donated their time to help make the Special Olympics Field Day possible.

We would really appreciate any donations of food, (wings, pizza, mac & cheese, hamburgers, hotdogs, pasta, baked beans) drinks, monetary donations or other items needed to have lunch after the events. The event will be on December 13, 2024, and all donations can be picked up by student volunteers.

If you are interested in donating any of these items, please contact Mr. Dusenberry at 481-2233 ext. 5165 or his cell 239-699-0129 or email [toddld@leeschools.net](mailto:toddld@leeschools.net).

To show our appreciation, your company's name will be posted around the track on the day of the event and put in the quarterly newsletter that goes to all parents, guardians, local community leaders, and businesses. Thank you in advance for your donation.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

YEARBOOK INFO

ACADEMIC  
ACHIEVEMENTS

AICE DIPLOMA  
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AND MORE!

