

THE FALCON POST

FOREST HILL COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Falcon Families,

As this school year comes to a close, I cannot help but reflect on the many accomplishments of our Falcons. I am so proud of our scholars for their perseverance and grit throughout this school year in which we as a community continued to face unique circumstances while teaching and learning during a pandemic. It was amazing, however, to see our hallways filled with energy and an enthusiasm for learning from both faculty and students through the very last day of school.

Now that summer is here, I want to encourage our scholars and their families to take time to relax and rejuvenate over the break. You've earned it! Summer is always a good time to start reading a new book or to go outdoors and enjoy the beautiful South Florida sunshine. On campus this summer, our classrooms will be meticulously cleaned, waxed, and shined for the start of the new school year. Many of our Falcon faculty and staff members are also hard at work this summer developing new educational opportunities for our students to thrive and succeed.

Additionally, communication and involvement are extremely important to us at Forest Hill High School. In this newsletter you will find information about Freshman Orientation and Open House in August. Please also look for additional communication to follow during the summer in regard to Quarter 4 report cards, accessing State and accelerated test scores, 2022-2023 schedules, and other important information pertaining to the upcoming school year.

And now it is with fond memories that my time as Principal at Forest Hill High School draws to a close. I am excited for the new adventure ahead as I move with my family to Port St. Lucie, Florida this summer. I wish all of our Falcon scholars and families a restful summer and a healthy and successful start to the new school year. Recharge over summer break, make wise choices, stay safe and well, and be ready to start the new school year off strong in "Falcon Awesome" fashion!

Educationally Yours,

Esther M. Rivera

Administration

Principal

Mr. Michael Aronson

Assistant Principals

Mr. Greenberg

9th Grade

Mr. Provenzano

10th Grade

Mr. Loyd

11th Grade

Mrs. Orocofsky

12th Grade, ESE

Dr. Saarela-Vening

Academies & 11th/12th IB

Ms. Younce

Community School

Dr. Smith

SSCC

June 2022 ◀ Volume 4 ◀ Issue 1 ◀

6901 Parker Avenue ▶ West Palm Beach, FL 33405 ▶ 561-540-2400 ▶ fhhs.palmbeachschools.org



School Contacts

Guidance Counselors

- ▶ Mrs. Noel
9th/10th Grade, A-Gr
- ▶ Ms. Vielot
9th/10th Grade, Gu-Pe
- ▶ Ms. Paul
9th/10th Grade, Ph-Z
- ▶ Mrs. Kokotoff
11th/12th Grade, A-D
IB, DP/CP
- ▶ Mrs. Corcoran
11th Grade, E-Z
AICE
- ▶ Mrs. Proby
12th Grade, E-Z
- ▶ Mr. Lares
9th-12th Grade ELL

Coordinators

- ▶ Ms. Lopez
ESE
- ▶ Ms. Palan
ELL
- ▶ Coach Boruch
IB MYP
- ▶ Ms. Deere
IB, DP & CP
- ▶ Ms. Malone
AICE & AP
- ▶ Ms. Sardina
CTE & Choice Programs
- ▶ Coach Emerson
AVID

Activities

- ▶ Dr. Smith
Director

Athletics

- ▶ Josue Gutierrez
Director
- ▶ Coach Emerson
Assistant Athletic
Director



Teacher Feature: Mr. Johnson

Our very own, Mr. James Johnson, World History/Holocaust Studies teacher, was featured by WPTV News Channel 5 for his accomplishments and mentorship. Congratulations, Mr. Johnson, for truly being an amazing teacher and demonstrating the passion each of our teachers embody! Check out the news segment at this link: <http://1.sdpbc.net/ojy1g>.



Mr. Johnson of Forest Hill High School encourages, motivates teachers during challenging times.

We Appreciate Our Teachers

Teacher appreciation week, May 2-6, 2022, was hosted this year by our Falcon Student Government Association (SGA) in collaboration with our National Honor Society (NHS), Culinary Department, and School Administration. It was a time to celebrate all faculty and staff members on campus, including night staff and School Resource Officers to show them how special and appreciated they are to the students and school community.



Students in SGA planned and organized each day of the week with special gifts for the teachers. They even fundraised the money to cover the costs of their events and gifts for the faculty. Teachers were given coffee and muffins on Monday, a cookout for lunch on Tuesday, ice cream on Wednesday, tacos and chips on Thursday, and a Forest Hill coffee mug and bags of coffee, hot chocolate, or tea on Friday. The students wanted the event this year to be a reflection of their heartfelt appreciation for their teachers with recognition that the job of an educator is never easy.

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Welcome, Mr. Aronson!



Falcon faculty and staff recently welcomed our new Principal to Forest Hill High School. Please join us in providing a warm welcome to Mr. Michael Aronson. Mr. Aronson has worked within The School District of Palm Beach County for 22 years, most recently serving as Principal at Polo Park Middle School and previously at Pahokee Middle-Senior High, and is excited to join us as a Falcon!

Congratulations & Farewell, Ms. Rivera!

Congratulations to Ms. Esther Rivera on being named Director of Student Services for St. Lucie Public Schools. Ms. Rivera served as Principal of Forest Hill Community High School for three years and has made a tremendous impact on the lives of so many Falcons. We will miss her, but we are grateful for all she has done and wish her good luck on her new adventure.



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Mental Health Awareness Fair

The month of May was Mental Health Awareness and Trauma Informed Care Month in SDPBC. On May 27, 2022, Forest Hill High School participated in our very own Mental Health Fair to promote awareness and action. Falcons had the opportunity to participate in a fun lunch where they were able to visit with sponsors from multiple local organizations that provide a variety of support services.

The event was organized by our Behavioral Health Professional, Ms. Latoya Pegram, and Grade 12 Assistant Principal, Ms. Cynthia Orocofsky. Students enjoyed dancing to music, making friendship bracelets, eating popcorn, and visiting with therapy dogs, including our very own, Ms. Ellie Mae. Happiness and joy were in the air as the event was a time of positive interactions for all who participated.

A Big Thank You

Thank you to the following organizations who participated:

- ▶ American Care Giving Youth
- ▶ Palm Beach Behavioral Health Coalition
- ▶ Hanley Foundation
- ▶ Center For Family Services
- ▶ Chrysalis Center
- ▶ Drug Abuse Treatment Ass.
- ▶ Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies
- ▶ Pace Center For Girls
- ▶ PBC Youth and Family Counseling
- ▶ Social Age Counseling
- ▶ Youth Services



If students require emotional, wellness, or mental health support, the following resources may be contacted:

- ▶ Your scholar's guidance counselor, onsite therapist, school behavioral health professional, or classroom teacher
- ▶ The student mental health helpline 561-432-6389; Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm
- ▶ Dial 2-1-1 for immediate support

Therapy Dog Brings Smiles & Support to Falcons

Meet Ms. Ellie Mae, Forest Hill High School's very own certified therapy dog, who was recently featured for her support services on campus by WPTV News Channel 5! Ms. Ellie Mae shares an office in 7-110 with School Treasurer, Ms. Heidi Watkoski, her legal owner. Visit this link for the full story: <http://l.sdpbc.net/arbdcq>.




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<p>WELLINGTON 10115 Forest Hill Blvd. Suite 403 Wellington, FL 33414 (561) 792-5436</p>	<p>STUART 900 East Ocean Blvd Bldg D Suite 334 Stuart, FL 34994 (772) 220-8884</p>



Class of 2022

Valedictorian and Salutatorian Highlight

Abby Orasi is Forest Hill High School's Class of 2022 Valedictorian. Abby has been actively involved in student life and extracurricular activities during her time as a Falcon, not only serving as co-captain of the school's flag football team but also holding student leadership positions in National Honor Society, Senior Class Board, and FFEA. Abby is an IB Diploma Candidate and plans to study Psychology at the University of Florida.



Madison Porter is Forest Hill High School's Class of 2022 Salutatorian. She is an outgoing and very social individual but remains extremely dedicated and hardworking in her studies. She is the only student in her class to graduate with the AICE Diploma while also on track to receive the IB Diploma. In addition to her high academic achievements, Madison balances many extracurricular activities including dance at Florida Dance Conservatory, tennis, varsity cheer (co-captain), and leadership roles in National Honor Society, Senior Board, and FFEA. She will be attending the University of Florida beginning in the summer term and plans to study Marine Science.

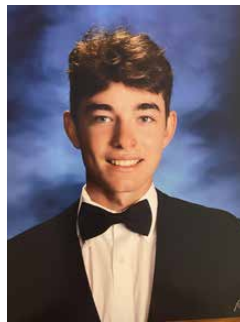


Student Body President and Senior Class President Highlight

Soraya Pearson has served as the Class of 2022 Student Body President over the Student Government Association (SGA) this school year. She hosted all of the school spirit events as the MC along with her SGA peers. Soraya is proud to have brought school spirit back to Forest Hill's campus after students were separated from campus during the pandemic. Soraya will attend the University of Central Florida where she plans to major in Communications and Political Science.



Brennan McGinley has been an active member in Student Government for all four years of high school and this year served as the 2022 Class President. Brennan will be attending the University of Florida in Gainesville and will be majoring in Business Administration.



Top 10 Falcon Scholars of the Class of 2022

Samuel Castillo | Gabrielle Ruiz | Abby Orasi | Adriana Gonzalez
Madison Porter | Madison Chapman | Karina Salazar | Emily Vargas
Matthew Rahrig | Roxana Graveran



GOT SPOTS?



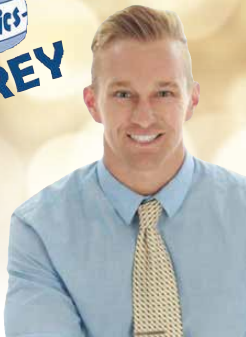
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Freshman Orientation and Open House

Freshman Orientation will take place on **Tuesday, August 2, 2022**. Open House will be on **Tuesday, August 30, 2022**. Stay tuned for more information coming this summer via Parent Link about both events held here at Forest Hill High School. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Cynthia Orocofsky by phone at (561) 540-3022 or email at Cynthia.Orocofsky@palmbeachschools.org OR Dr. Tara Smith by phone at (561) 540-3089 or email at Tara.Smith@palmbeachschools.org.

'The Falcon Post'
June 2022
Published Four Times Per Year
School District of Palm Beach County
3300 Forest Hill Boulevard
West Palm Beach, FL 33406
Issue #1

Class of 2022 Senior Picnic

It was another exciting "fun-in-the-sun" senior annual event held here at The Hill this year! The Class of 2022 Senior Picnic, hosted by class sponsor, Ms. Proby, and the Senior Class Board, took place May 3, 2022, on the football field. The senior class was able to socialize together a final time before their graduation on May 24, 2022. Senior scholars participated in playing team-building games, yearbook signings, and dancing to favorite songs. They were also able to participate in the tradition of "leaving their mark" on the school's campus by adding their handprints to a school hallway. We wish our senior graduates all the best on their future endeavors.



Check, Please

The FHCHS Theater Program presented *Check, Please* by Jonathan Rand, with copyright permission given by Playscripts Inc., on May 12 and 13, 2022, in the Forest Hill Auditorium. The comedy, the most popular one-act performed by high schools in the country, follows 13 blind dates through the lens of one "ordinary guy and one ordinary girl." The play was directed here at FHCHS by Mr. Henry Richards, Drama Teacher, and featured eleven student actors, starring Nevaeh Guevara and Jennifer Rey-Diaz. Mr. Richards extends "a big thank you" to all who participated and came out to watch the performance.



Dimension 20: Talk of the Town

Join us in congratulating Forest Hill High School's Dimension 20 Chorus, who was featured at all 32 SDPBC high school graduation ceremonies this year with rave reviews from schools across the county!! Additionally, Dimension 20 scored straight superiors (perfect scores) at the Florida Vocal Association State MPA Festival in April. Dimension 20 was the "talk of the town!" The judges were impressed with their look, tone, expressive singing, and soloist. We are making history!



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Chalk Fest

On April 20, 2022, fifty Falcon scholars participated in the annual Chalk Fest event hosted by Ms. Pirisino at The Hill this year. Students were provided with art equipment and a 10x10 square section of sidewalk at different locations outside Buildings 1 & 7 on campus. Falcon artists came with an idea and plan to create artwork all day! The winners of the event were Tracede D'Haiti (1st), Amira Mendieta (2nd), and Erika Fundora & Isaac Ramos/Christopher Dewey (3rd).

Leaves at the Bottom of a Gypsy's Teacup



This May the Forest Hill Literary Club released *Leaves at the Bottom of a Gypsy's Teacup*, a literary journal featuring short stories, poetry, and much more! *Leaves* contains pieces written and edited by our very own creative and talented Falcon scholars. Scan the QR or visit this link to read the publication: <http://l.sdpbc.net/mfouo>.

The Gale Academy of Environmental Science & Technology

On April 21, 2022, the Environmental Science Academy held their annual Nicholas Megrath Scholarship Awards Dinner at The Hill. The Media Center turned out to be a perfect place to gather, and the Culinary Academy students deserve a big shout-out for making it happen. They prepared and served approximately 45 people. Our Falcon scholarship winners were as follows:

- ▶ **Brandon Trujillo:** The Nicholas Megrath Scholarship (\$5,000)
- ▶ **Catherine Eurich:** The Leah Schad Memorial Scholarship (\$5,000)
- ▶ **Flavie Auguste:** Florida Association of Environmental Professionals (FAEP) Scholarship (\$2,000)
- ▶ **Angela Bonaccorsi:** Alan Parmalee Memorial Scholarship - Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group (\$2,000)



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FHHS ATHLETICS UPDATES

SPRING ATHLETIC INFORMATION

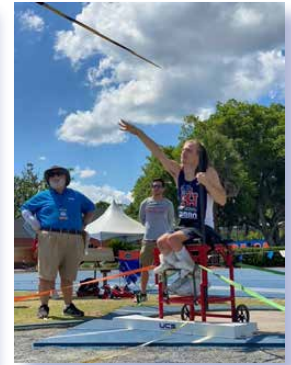
FHSAA Track & Field Championship

On May 14th, Chris Moore competed in his 3rd FHSAA Track and Field State Championship Meet at the University of Florida in Gainesville. He finished as the Para State Runner Up in both the Shot Put and Javelin events. He worked very hard in the weightroom and at practice getting better in these events over the course of this season. It was his best finish at the State Meet in the Para Shot Put event and his first season throwing Javelin. Chris is the first Forest Hill student athlete to compete in Javelin since it became a scoring event in Florida High School Track and Field meets last year. Additionally, Chris came in 3rd in the Para 200m and 800m Wheelchair Races at States. His time in the 200m (49.71) was his season's best mark. Please join us in congratulating Chris on this achievement!

Congratulations also to seniors Melvin Hubbard (100m) and Leandre Charles (110MH) on becoming the new school record holders in their respective events at the District Championship Meet in April.

If you're interested in joining the Forest Hill Cross Country team please join our Google Classroom for announcements about our summer conditioning workouts and the upcoming season! Google Classroom Code: izcgysg

—Coach Boruch



Excelling On and Off the Flag Football Field

The Falcon Flag Football Team completed another historic season, winning their first ever playoff game! Ultimately, the team fell to the #1 seed in the district semi-finals; however, the team had multiple come-from-behind wins and finished the season 9-5. Our lone senior is our school's Valedictorian! The team also boasts an average GPA of 3.44. They were even featured on local news outlets three times during their season! We are excited to continue all summer with travel ball.

—Coach Blum



Spring Football Jamboree

The Forest Hill Falcon Football Team stepped onto the field to play Glades Central in their Spring Jamboree Game on May 13, 2022. They were able to drive the ball on various possessions along with making key stops on the defensive side. Despite giving up two scores to Glades, the Falcons never backed down and continued making plays. The Falcons have a great group coming back next year, and it is going to be an exciting season. Student-athletes will be preparing all summer to get ahead and iron out the kinks from spring. Please come out and support our team this fall.

—Coach Ncaise

Athletic Updates continued on the next page...



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FHCHS ATHLETICS UPDATES

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SPRING ATHLETIC INFORMATION



Boys Weightlifting Season

The Boys Weightlifting team had a monumental year! They became the 2022 District Champion Runner Ups for both "Traditional" (total of Bench Press + Clean & Jerk) and "Snatch"! 15 of the Boys earned their spots as Regional Qualifiers, in which they traveled to St. Cloud and took 5th place in "Snatch" out of 20 schools. Christian Giles earned his spot as a State Qualifier and took 7th place in the "Snatch" at the State Finals. Congratulations on a successful season, boys!"

—Coach Schubiger



Softball Season

This was an amazing season for our varsity Softball Team. With the biggest roster yet for Coach Carvatta, there was a lot of growth from this young team with several girls new to the sport. This is showing a bright future for the players and Forest Hill's softball program. Team stats are as follows: 77 hits, 9 doubles, 6 triples, 7 homeruns, 42 RBI's, 10 doubles plays made on defense, and fielding percentage of .747.

—Coach Carvatta

Recent Athletic College Signings

- ▶ **Myckeriyah Cooper:** Basketball - Palm Beach State College
- ▶ **Cesar Arias:** Baseball - Community College of Baltimore County Dundalk
- ▶ **James Joseph, Anderson Maxi and Melvin Hubbard:** Football - Campbellsville University
- ▶ **Bernstein Bertrand:** Football - Beloit College
- ▶ **Michael Havican:** Football - Saint Vincent College

Congratulations!

