

THE SHARK'S TOOTH

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FOR THE PARENTS, STAFF, STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY OF GULF COAST HIGH SCHOOL

As we are about to begin the last quarter of the school year, I just wanted to thank all students, parents, staff, and teachers for making this school year possible. Covid-19 has impacted education, but I could not be more proud of the collective effort that all of the stakeholders involved at Gulf Coast High School had for making this year the best that we could. Thank you all for your sacrifices and understanding as we learned how to educate students in a pandemic.

Attention class of 2021 students and parents, please be on the lookout for the protocols that we will have to follow for Graduation and Senior Awards Night. As a school, we will continue to post the latest information on our school website, on Canvas and place the information in our weekly 5 Things Happening at Gulf Coast newsletter.

I wish the best of success to all students as they begin taking all state and final assessments, and I hope that everyone gets to relax and enjoy time with friends and family over the summer break.

In appreciation,

Joe Mikulski, *Principal*
"Shark Pride,"

Mission Statement

The Mission of Gulf Coast High School is to provide a safe learning environment in which students have the opportunity to receive the highest quality education to facilitate future academic and career success

Administrative Team

Mr. Joe Mikulski, **Principal**
Mr. Eric Nelson, **Assistant Principal, Curriculum**
Mrs. Caroline Hylemon, **Assistant Principal**
Mr. John Lambcke, **Assistant Principal, Discipline**
Ms. Catherine Crawford, **Assistant Principal**
Mr. Greg Maniscalco, **Instructional Support Specialist**
Mr. Alan Scott, **Activities/Athletic Director**
Mrs. Cindy Giles, **Guidance Department Chair**
Mr. Mike Shaw, **Plant Operator**

APRIL 2021

VOLUME 15 • ISSUE 1

<http://www.collierschools.com/gch>

Attendance and Discipline

It is the final stretch! There are already some students with excessive tardies and excessive absences for the second semester. Students need to be in classes **every day** – preparing for state testing, finals, and AP/AICE exams. We want all of our students to finish the year strong. As a friendly reminder, students need to wear their Gulf Coast High ID badge on their lanyards around their necks every day.

- With warmer weather, please be sure that **dress code** will be followed – no cropped shirts showing midsections, tube tops or off-the-shoulder tops, or shorts that are shorter than fingertip length. **Dress for success!**



MC3

The MC3 class recently started campus recycling. The students received training from the Recycling Coordinator from Waste Management to get us started. We also have students in the cafeteria, Activities department helping with cleaning up the courtyard after lunches (along with opening and shutting umbrellas). Everyone is enjoying these on-campus training opportunities and looks forward to finishing up the year with a bang! Thank you to all who have supported all of our on-campus students.



Model UN

The Model UN team competed in NAIMUN (North Atlantic Invitational Model United Nations) sponsored by Georgetown University February 12-14. NAIMUN is basically "Nationals" in the MUN world—over 2500 delegates from 200 schools from around the world competed. Our kids did great! They faced all of the top private and public schools—many of which have MUN as a class for 4 years. Of the 26 kids who participated, 17 placed in their rooms! We are very proud of not only the kids who placed, but also the whole team for working together and supporting each other through our hardest completion of the year. If you see the following kids, please congratulate them.

1st Place (Best)

- Sarah El-Hefnawy
- Surya Dodia
- Abby Parker
- Zayn Dalao

2nd Place (Outstanding)

- Hadi Dalao
- Melisa Villarreal
- Sydney Shaw
- Win Hlaing (Book award)

3rd Place (Honorable)

- Peter Weidner
- Ava Weidner
- Christie Ryan
- Clarisse Fontes

4th Place (Verbal Commendation)

- Sabian Saliasi
- Devansh Barve
- Julia Zuercher
- Jeremiah Paul
- Leah Verwolt



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Finishing Strong

We are rapidly approaching the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Right now, the focus of your student should be on a strong finish **and you can help**. Your attention and involvement in this effort will reinforce the importance you place on your child's education. **Please take the following steps to support your student during this critical time.**



- **Reinforce positive and successful school habits.** Attention in class, homework, test preparation, and attendance are key factors.
- **Access and review your student's progress, attendance, and test schedules** on (*Parent Portal*.)
- **Help your student to create a plan** to improve current weaknesses and prepare for final exams.
- **Be aware of tutoring and study assistance** classes available at the school and encourage your student to participate.
- **Re-establish your student's home-study routine.**
- **Help your student to stay focused.** 'Coasting' is a natural but deadly tendency.

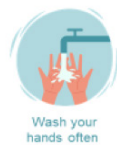
Your involvement is a tremendous positive factor for a strong finish. Your interest, willingness, and dedication to helping your child succeed provides an unmistakable message. Your child will thank you for it - someday. Reach out to Counseling Department or Attendance & Discipline for questions and or support!



From Nurse Patty Cashdollar

Remember to be safe and healthy. Follow the Coronavirus health and safety tips. Any health-related questions, please feel free to call the GCHS Clinic: 239-377-1409

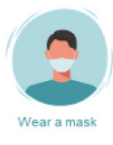
Coronavirus health and safety tips



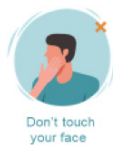
Wash your hands often



Use hand sanitizer



Wear a mask



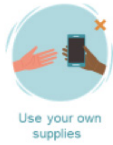
Don't touch your face



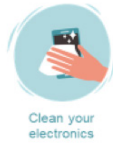
Cover your sneezes and coughs



Avoid close contact



Use your own supplies



Clean your electronics

NCWIT

Congratulations to the Gulf Coast High School computer programming students who were honored with many national and regional National Center for Women & Information Technology awards this past year.

NCWIT is a non-profit community that convenes, equips, and unites more than 1,100 change leader organizations to increase the influence and meaningful participation of girls and women from every community - at the intersections of race, ethnicity, class, age, sexual orientation, and disability status - in the influential field of computing, particularly in terms of innovation and development.

- GCHS has 17 of the 33 students who were selected in the Southwest Florida region.
- Mia Ginsberg and Mariam Moussa are National Honorable Mention and Affiliate Winners. Only 360 high school girls across the nation were selected as National Honorable Mentions.
- Ava Vellozzi, Sydney Shaw, Shealyn Rodriguez, Shyeya Rajaram, Ishita Chakkalakal, Anastasia Johnson, Sophia Huerta, Milena Petrovic, Natasha Gattas, and Walezka Abdala are Affiliate Winners (regional winners).
- Sara Arroita and Ananya Gurajapu, Evangeline Liu, and Angelina Delorenzo are Affiliate Honorable Mention awardees.
- Courtney Morse is Affiant Rising Star awardee.



GCHS Scholar Bowl

The GCHS Scholar Bowl team came in 1st place in round 1 with 360 points. The complete scores are at the bottom of the picture below. The students who participated were:

- Win Hlaing
- Charles Jaikaran
- Bharath Ram
- James Wass

Our next match is the Semifinals on April 8th, 2021.

"The Shark's Tooth"

April 2021

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Issue #1



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Important Dates 2021

- April 2nd - No School
- April 21st - Early Dismissal
- May 28th - Early Dismissal/Graduation

Grade Reporting Periods

- March 26th - Third Quarter grading period ends
- April 6th - Distribution of Report Cards
- May 6th - Interim report cards published
- May 28th - Graduation
- June 11th - End of 4th Quarter/Last day of school for students

Holidays

- May 31st, 2021 - No School Memorial Day

Testing Dates:

- FSA Writing Assessment: April 5-16
- FSA ELA / EOC's:
 - May 3 - May 28
- AP/AICE Exam Window:
 - April 26 - May 21
- Final Exam Window for Seniors:
 - May 17 - 21
- Final Exam Window for Underclassmen:
 - June 8 - June 11

GCHS Athletics

Spring is upon us, which means bring out the popcorn and cracker jacks; it's baseball/softball season! NFHSnetwork.com will have all of your Shark Lacrosse events live as we aim for postseason hardware. Don't blink, you might miss all the action on the track, as the Boys and Girls Track and Field teams are in action. Was the Australian Open on too early in the morning? Don't worry, Sharks Boys and Girls Tennis are in action now. Check the GCH Website for their match schedules. Seniors! Graduation is around the corner; please make sure to stay up to date with all Senior schedules at the GCH website.



Hello Gulf Coast students,

Many of you have or will be registering soon for next year's courses. I encourage you to discuss with your parents to make the best choices to reach your academic goals. If you have questions, please email your counselor. Your counselors are highly skilled and have many years of experience to help guide you and make sure you complete all of your graduation requirements. They will also inform you if there are prerequisites or obligations you must meet before enrolling you in a specific class.

Guidance Department Update

Counselor Corner in Canvas – All GCHS students have a course in canvas called Counselor's Corner, with many resources posted by the guidance department. Students and parents can visit to get information on community service, Bright Futures, scholarships, dual enrollment, SAT/ACT, scholarships, and financial aid. Check it out!

Course selection - The guidance department has been working with all students to select courses for next year. Our core teachers have made recommendations, and students are adding their elective choices. Parents should review their child's selections and let their counselor know if they would like to make any changes.

Seniors

✓ Bright Futures

- Bright Futures applications should be completed, but if not, students should complete ASAP. Instructions can be found on Canvas in the Counselor Corner course under modules. Reminder letters were sent home in February for students who are missing requirements. Students who fail to complete the application will lose their chance to qualify for this scholarship.
- The following Bright Futures requirements must be completed prior to graduation; qualifying GPA, community service hours, qualifying SAT/ACT test scores (students can test in June).

✓ Transcripts

- Colleges will require a final transcript at the end of the school year. Students will complete a form at graduation practice requesting their final transcript be sent to the school of their choice.
- Students who have completed dual enrollment classes should send their FSW transcript to their college at the end of this school year to ensure that they get credit for these courses. Transcripts can be requested on the FSW website.
- Seniors who have passed a Cambridge AICE exam can earn college credit by sending their AICE Transcript to their college. The link to the request form can be found in Canvas in the Counselor Corner Course under modules.

Juniors

SAT and ACT Testing

- All juniors who are college bound or who hope to qualify for Bright Futures should take an ACT or SAT or both during the second semester.
- All juniors who have not yet passed FCAT Reading should take either the ACT or SAT during the second semester. Students who achieve the designated concordant score can use it to satisfy their FCAT graduation requirement.
- For testing information and registration please go to the following sites:
 - SAT - www.collegeboard.com
 - ACT - www.ACTstudent.org

Fee waivers are available for SAT and/or ACT for students who are approved for free or reduced lunch. Students can obtain a waiver in the guidance office during lunch time.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Seniors and Parents should complete a FAFSA application. FAFSA is the largest source of financial aid in the United States, including scholarship, grants, and loan. <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>

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| 2020–2021 Test Dates | Accommodations Request and Documentation (Where Required) Must Be Received by: |
|---|--|
| SAT® and SAT Subject Tests™ August 29, 2020** | July 10, 2020 |
| SAT September 26, 2020** | August 7, 2020 |
| SAT and SAT Subject Tests October 3, 2020** | August 14, 2020 |
| PSAT/NMSQT® October 14, 17 and 28, 2020 | August 25, 2020 |
| SAT and SAT Subject Tests November 7, 2020* | September 18, 2020 |
| SAT and SAT Subject Tests December 5, 2020** | October 16, 2020 |
| PSAT 10 Testing Window February 22–March 26, 2021 | December 11, 2020 |
| SAT March 13, 2021* | January 22, 2021 |
| PSAT 10 Testing Window April 13–April 30, 2021 | February 22, 2021 |
| Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) May 3–7, 10–14, 2021 | January 15, 2021 |
| SAT and SAT Subject Tests May 8, 2021** | March 19, 2021 |
| SAT and SAT Subject Tests June 5, 2021* | April 16, 2021 |

Testing Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

A student with a documented disability may be eligible for accommodations on national college exams, including ACT, SAT, PSAT, AP, and Certification Exams including Adobe, Microsoft, Autodesk, QuickBooks, and ServSafe Exam.

ACT and SAT Accommodation Request must be started early, and the request process may take up to seven (7) weeks and does not begin until all required documentation is received. For guidelines and documentation requirements, see the following testing links:

- **College Board: SAT, PSAT, AP :** <https://www.collegeboard.org/students-with-disabilities>
- **ACT:** <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act-educator/accommodations.html>
- **Certiport, Certification Exams:** <http://www.certiport.com/PORTAL/desktopdefault.asp?page=common/pagelibrary/Disabilities.htm#Process>
- **ServSafe Exam:** https://www.servsafe.com/ServSafe/media/ServSafe/Documents/SSFS_Exam_Accommodation-1-3-2018.pdf
- **The SAT®/AP/PSAT website:** <http://www.collegeboard.com/ssd/prof/eligible.html>
- **The ACT/PLAN® website:** <http://www.act.org/aap/disab/index.html>



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SWFLMUN

The Gulf Coast MUN team had a great competition at SWFLMUN March 1st and 2nd hosted by FGCU and the Naples Council on World Affairs. The students were awarded \$17,750 in scholarship and award money—including Christie Ryan who earned \$6,000 in the top multi-year award. Hadi Dalao (club president) won the "Best of the Best" award for the single best performance of this year. In addition, the members of the team worked together to Earn 3 delegation awards: China (1st), Spain (2nd), and Ethiopia (3rd). We are really proud of their hard work and dedication in this very difficult year!

Special Awards:

Special Competition Award: 3rd place

Position Paper Awards:

5th: Sarah El-Hefnawy

4th: Hadi Dalao

1st: Noah Thorne

Multi-year Performance Awards:

Walezka Abdala: \$1500 George Gotschall Memorial Award

Hadi Dalao: \$2000 David & Beverly Worthington Award

Clarisse Fontes: \$2500 Ronald & Marianne Gymer Award

Christie Ryan: \$6,000 Ralph J. Bunche Award

Best of the Best:

Hadi Dalao: \$1000

Delegation Awards:

1st - China (GCMUN)

Members: Hadi Dalao, Clarisse Fontes, Leah Verwohlt, Sydney Shaw, Walezka Abdala, Julia Zuercher, Noelle Morey, Melisa Villarreal, Abagale Parker, Christie Ryan

2nd - Spain (GCMUN)

Members: Zayn Dalao, Surya Dodia, Josh Albanos, Kate Kramer, Osei Allen, Win Hlaing, Sarah El-Hefnawy, Jeremiah Paul, Marco Alertorio

3rd - Ethiopia (GCMUN)

Members: Ava Weidner, Emma Upson, Sara Hooper, Andrew Herrmann, Peter Weidner, Noah Thorne, Stella DeFrain, Valerie Orozco, Maya Doonan

Committee Awards:

UNEA: United Nations Environment Assembly

1st: Clarisse Fontes,

3rd: Zayne Dalao

SOCHUM: Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian Committee

1st: Surya Dodia,

2nd: Emma Upson

3rd: Leah Verwohlt

UNPF: United Nations Population Fund

1st: Sydney Shaw,

2nd: Sara Hooper

3rd: Aarnav Sheth

DISEC: Disarmament and International Security

2nd: Walezka Abdala

3rd: Kate Kramer

4th: Andrew Hermann

NPRC: Non-Proliferation Review Committee

1st: Osei Allen,

2nd: Peter Weidner

3rd: Julia Zuercher

Committee Awards - continued:

UNHCR: The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

1st: Noelle Morey

2nd: Win Hlaing

3rd: Noah Thorne

WHO: World Health Organization

1st: Sarah El-Hefnawy

2nd: Melisa Villarreal

3rd: Stella DeFrain

SPECPOL: The Special Political and Decolonization Committee

1st: Valerie Orozco

2nd: Abbie Parker

3rd: Jeremiah Paul

UNODC: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

1st: Christie Ryan

2nd: Maya Doonan

UNSC: United Nations Security Council

1st: Hadi Dalao



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Let's say goodbye to a hard-working and dedicated officer!

Corporal Rogers started with the CCSO in 1989. He opened GCHS in 1998 and was here all but two years. We were celebrating 23 years at GCHS! He is now assigned to the Marine Bureau. Thank you for your service! We will miss you, Corporal Rogers!



Corporal Davis has been with CCSO for 28 years.

Corporal Davis has served for 5 years at GCHS.

He is dedicated to supporting students by building positive relationships with them and attending many GCHS sporting events with his wife.



Let's welcome our newest YRD, Deputy Langdale!

Previously worked at the Glades County Sheriff's office for 12 years Road Patrol/YRD. Deputy Langdale is looking forward to working with the staff and students of Gulf Coast High School.

GCHS is so fortunate to have such dedicated YRD officers who work well with all of the students and is passionate about keeping the GCHS community safe!



A few spots are left!



We need you!

Advertise in the *The Shark's Tooth*! This is a wonderful way for your company to get community recognition and exposure, and at the same time help support your local schools!

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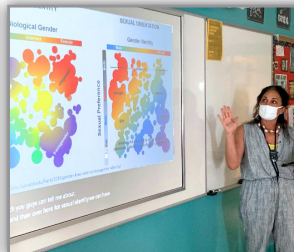
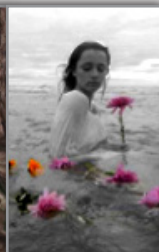
Stand Up for Justice: Discussions on Gender

On January 26th, the Gender & Sexuality Club, also known as GSA, kicked off the semester by hosting *A Discussion on Gender & Science* led by Ms. Beth Barrus, a biology teacher here at GCHS. We at Gulf Coast High School value diversity and inclusion, and this forum provided students and staff with a safe space to explore the biology of gender - particularly as it relates to transgender individuals - in a more personal and informed manner ultimately seeking to understand each other better. The event was a huge success. It was attended by students and staff from all corners of campus. The time and energy put in by Ms. Barrus to present information and engage students was incredible, and the feedback from students was evidence of this.

Based on their work in creating and implementing this forum, Mr. Daniel Shaw and Ms. Beth Barrus were nominated for the *Stand Up for Justice Award* given out annually by the Jewish Federation of Greater Naples. Last week the Jewish Federation announced Mr. Shaw and Ms. Barrus had won first place for their efforts to empower students and staff to create a safe and welcoming environment for LGBTQ students at Gulf Coast High School. Mr. Daniel Shaw and Ms. Beth Barrus will be recognized at the organization's annual meeting on April 13th.

Because of the incredible feedback from students and staff across the school district, this has developed into a four-part series. On March 2nd, former AP Psychology teacher Jessica Duesler led *A Discussion on Gender and Psychology* that also engaged our GCHS community in understanding some of the data relating to the human psyche and one's gender identity or gender expression. It was amazing to see students dive deeper into some of the sociological explanations for the increased levels of victimization we are seeing across our school district while also exploring ways in which they can help to support these students.

Part three of the series will be *A Discussion on Gender & Religion* led by Rev. Dr. Dawson Taylor on Tuesday, April 27th. Then we will conclude the series with *A Discussion on Gender & Sociology* led by Mr. Adam Baldwin on May 13th. The discussions are after school in room 6-164 from 2:15 - 3:15 pm, and all students and staff are invited to participate. If you have any questions or wish to learn more about these discussions, please contact Mr. Daniel Shaw at shawd1@collierschools.com.



Karina P. - Honorable Mention Photography / Gold Key Award Fashion