

THE HOOK

April 2023

Volume XIII Issue 3

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Matanzas High School Parents and Students,

It is hard to believe that we are in the 4th quarter of the school year! This year has gone by so fast, and we have so much to celebrate at MHS this year. As we approach the end of the year and start to feel the end in sight and the weather warming up, I want to encourage our students to FINISH STRONG. The 4th quarter is an important quarter for students in all grade levels to ensure that all are on track to graduate on time.

In May, our 9th and 10th grade students will take the F.A.S.T. ELA Assessment (PM3) which will give us important data about our students' progress in ELA and allow 10th graders to satisfy their ELA graduation assessment requirement. Students in Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology and U.S. History will take their end of course exams, which are 30% of the grade in that course and are important for meeting graduation requirements and Scholar Diploma requirements. Teachers and students have been working all year to prepare us to excel on these assessments; we are all rooting for you!

The 4th quarter is also an important time to finish strong in your courses - if your student has fallen behind, take advantage of our free after school tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tutors are certified teachers and bus transportation is provided, so don't hesitate to get the help that they need to excel! Our students who may need to make up for failing grades can plan to be at Matanzas with us in June for summer school - we will be reaching out to families in April and May to discuss those needs and make arrangements.

Please also plan to join us at The Ship for upcoming performances, banquets and other end of year activities for our students involved in activities and sports. From the musical *Grease*, to band, steelband, chorus concerts, and more, there are dozens of ways to celebrate our students' hard work and achievements this year. Check the calendar on the MHS website for details. I hope to see you there! Go Pirates!

Ms. Bozeman



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Dean

To download a pdf version of this newsletter,
go to www.academypublishing.com/schools/matanzas/matanzas.php



VISION STATEMENT

Through the collective partnership with our families, students, staff, and community, Matanzas will become a premier high school in the nation by inspiring independence and confidence in all learners as they prepare for college, career, and life.

MISSION STATEMENT

By providing a rigorous education, Matanzas prepares all students for success and empowers them as passionate learners to lead lives of purpose.

MOTTO

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Who's Who At MHS

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LADY WRESTLING TEAM ARE STATE CHAMPIONS!

The MHS Lady Wrestling Team made history by being the first sport in school history and the first girls team in the county to bring home a **STATE CHAMPIONSHIP!** Also, the team is the first in the county, boys or girls, to be ranked 13th in the country! Congratulations to the team and coaches on this awesome accomplishment! We are so proud of you all!



February Senior of the Month,
Ben Kopach

CONGRATS TO OUR SENIORS OF THE MONTH



March Senior of the Month,
Natalie Plembeck

NEWS FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

ANY MEDICATION THAT IS STUDENT-SPECIFIC (prescription or non-prescription) MUST BE SIGNED OUT BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN BEFORE 2:30 P.M. ON THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL. If not signed out by 5/26/2023 ALL medication will be disposed of per policy.

Please review <https://www.mhsirates.com/school-services/clinic> for updates regarding the Health room/Clinic. All medically related forms should be found here.

****A SCHOOL ENTRY HEALTH EXAM (Physical) and a CERTIFIED FLORIDA IMMUNIZATION RECORD are REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS.**

- Health Information should be updated each school year, as well as emergency contact information.
- Medication - **Flagler County School Board policy prohibits students from carrying any medication to school, from school, or during school.**

If a student MUST have medication during school hours, appropriate paperwork/forms must be completed and a parent/guardian is required to bring the medication to the school. Unauthorized medication may be confiscated and reported to the Dean. Each medication must be in its original container and must match the doctor's order exactly.

****Epi-Pens, inhalers, diabetic medications and supplies, and pancreatic enzymes may be carried by the student with written authorization by a physician and the parent/guardian. The parent/guardian must complete appropriate paperwork with the school nurse IN ADVANCE of the student carrying these items. Any changes in medication must be in writing and brought to the clinic. This includes any over-the-counter medications such as Tylenol, Advil, cough drops, antacids, etc.**

****ALL Diabetics MUST have a DMMP from their physician on file in the health room.**

Please inform the nurse of any medical condition(s) for which your student may require treatment, especially if life-threatening.

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GUIDANCE NEWS

Seniors

You must complete your Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA- Bright Futures Application) **BEFORE** graduation, May 30, 2023. You also need at least 100 community service hours to qualify for the top Bright Futures award and qualifying SAT and/or ACT scores along with the other eligibility requirements that must be met by graduation. You must have your hours logged on your MHS transcript before graduation as well. Make sure you turn in your log sheets to Mrs. Moore, the Guidance Secretary, in the Upper Spot. Please be sure to register for the SAT and/or ACT to reach the scores needed to qualify. Students going for the Gold Seal Bright Futures award will also need to complete the FFAA application before graduation, turn in at least 30 community service hours, and earn qualifying test scores along with the other eligibility requirements. For more information and details see <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home>, the Bright Futures website.

Looking For Volunteer Hours?

Visit the Community Service board outside the building 6 Guidance Office, or visit the Flagler Volunteer Services link <https://flaglervolunteer.org/> for volunteer opportunities.

Juniors

Planning for college and career? Please visit the MHS Guidance Page for college/career prep information, resources, and an embedded college/career prep video. Now is the time to start conducting college research, touring/visiting colleges, accumulating community service hours, studying for the SAT and/or ACT, and putting a resume together. The college prep packet can help you with all of this! If you did not receive a college prep packet at your course selection meeting, please pick one up from Mrs. Moore, the Guidance Secretary, in the Upper Spot.

Underclassman

Please continue to work hard in school, and take advantage of opportunities such as test retakes, tutoring, and engagement in MHS athletics and extracurricular activities. Please check the MHS Pirates website <https://www.mhsirates.com/> to view all of the opportunities.

Dual Enrollment Students

Do you want to walk across the stage to accept your DSC Diploma for Spring 2023? Apply for DSC's graduation ceremony through your **MyDaytonaState portal**.

Visit <https://www.daytonastate.edu/graduation/index.html> for more information, FAQs, and details.

Please see the dual enrollment course registration deadlines below. Keep in mind that MHS has set earlier deadlines than DSC as we need to ensure that all pieces of the process are completed before the DSC deadlines.

- **Summer 2023 Course Registration MHS Deadline - April 30**
- **Fall 2023 Course Registration Deadline - May 30**

TRAVEL AND TOURISM FOOD TRUCKS

Students in Ms. Burke's Travel and Tourism class completed a study by creating their own food truck business, complete with a food truck design!



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PI DAY 3.14

The Mu Alpha Theta math club held a fundraiser where students donated to be able to 'pie' a staff member. The lucky winners on Pi Day, 3.14, were Mrs. Bozeman and Mr. Gutierrez.



AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY FIELD TRIP

In March, Coach Zaksewicz' African American History class took history outside of the classroom by traveling to Saint Augustine. Students appreciated the walking tour highlighting the city's African American history and found it to be an enlightening, educational experience.



MHS STUDENT PRESENTS AT UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

On February 17-18, 2023, Celeste Baker attended the Florida Undergraduate Research Conference at St. Thomas University in Miami Gardens, Florida. As a dual-enrolled student through Daytona State College, she presented a poster entitled "Instagram and Self-Esteem," with Braedyn Wasden, Caleb Kmon, Christian Pastrana, Jordan Hines, and Marco L'Heureux.



DIGITAL MEDIA 1 DRAW VECTOR LANDSCAPES IN ADOBE PHOTOSHOP



DIGITAL MEDIA 2 ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR PORTRAITS



MHS ARTISTS FEATURED AT ART SHOW

The 2023 High School Art Show at Expressions Art Gallery on Colbert included works of art from both MHS and FPC, with each school having their own awards. Students who had work displayed were chosen for their exceptional works of art. Congratulations to the following students for their recognition:

- 1st and Award of Excellence, Madeline Derringe
- 2nd and Award of Excellence, Ava Muldoon
- 3rd and Award of Excellence, Taylor Bender
- 4th and Award of Excellence, Kai Moylan
- 5th and Award of Excellence, Kenneth Robinson
- 6th and Award of Excellence, Maria Phillips
- Awards of Excellence: Olivia Wentworth, Kristina Lanin, Cohen Young, Paige Duckworth, Emma Diaz, Tirzah Henriksen, Olivia Rabbat, Michael Fabre

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SENIORS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

April 21 - Senior Class Grad Bash at Universal Orlando

May 5 - Prom Night at the Hard Rock Hotel in Daytona Beach

- Tickets go on sale April 17 - Only 500 tickets will be sold

May 11 - Senior Awards Night: Medals for GPA and individual awards

May 19 - Senior Field Day from 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM on the football practice field

May 26 - Graduation Practice at MHS Gymnasium starting at 9:00 AM

- Seniors: Arrive by 8:30 AM
- Final Hall Walk of MHS will take place after the graduation practice; bring your cap and gown if you wish to walk the halls one last time.

May 30 - Graduation at the Daytona Beach Ocean Center

- Seniors need to arrive between 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM.
- Doors open for parents at 2:00 PM.
- **Procession starts at 2:45 PM.**


EXPLORE EUROPE IN THE SUMMER OF 2024!

MHS faculty member Ms. Karen Saunier invites students to join an incredible travel experience in Berlin, Germany; Prague, Czech Republic; Krakow, Poland; and Budapest, Hungary, during the Summer of 2024! Experiencing and making a global connection can help students shape the future and make our world a better place. By registering your student now for this amazing opportunity, there will be plenty of time to plan, and you can enroll with low monthly payments.

Please email Ms. Saunier at saunierk@flaglerschools.com or call her at 386-447-1575 x8227 with any questions.


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Summer 2024



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<https://bit.ly/2wZn5Em>

STUDENTS GIVING BACK TO STUDENTS

For Valentine's day this year, Ms. Langley's 2nd period Spanish class decided that instead of receiving gifts, they would give to others. The Spanish class students chose Mrs. Hartwell's class and created a personalized card for each student. In addition to a card, each one of Ms. Hartwell's students enjoyed a cupcake and gifts! It was a great experience for all students in both classes to get to know each other better.



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STEELBAND CONTINUES TO AMAZE

Our last show for this school year is A Night of Pan on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 25 and 26 at 7:00 PM in the Pirate Theater. This show will feature all of this year's outstanding accomplishments. It is a show that you won't want to miss! The Night of Pan is admission by donation. Our Senior Celebration will be on April 26 at 6 PM to celebrate the fantastic steelband seniors of 2023.

Over spring break, Matanzas Blue Steel traveled to Lowndes High School in Valdosta, Georgia, to perform at the Southeastern Percussion Festival. While this is not a competitive event, Blue Steel received compliments as well as ample praise from the clinicians. Blue Steel was acknowledged as one of the premier steelband programs in the country by Dr. Grant, Director of Percussion at Lowndes High School. Dr. Rosener, Director of Percussion at Auburn University, said the performance was refreshing and exactly what he hopes for when he hears a steelband performance. It is always a moment of pride for Blue Steel to represent Pirate Nation with excellence throughout the country!

Matanzas Blue Steel has the honor and privilege of representing Matanzas High School and Flagler County Schools at the Virginia International PANFest in Virginia Beach, Virginia, on May 12 and 13. Blue Steel earned the silver medal in the high school category last year and hopes to repeat this victory!





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ITS BLOOMING BOOK REPORTS IN MS. ALLEN'S CLASS

Mrs. Allen's reading students enjoyed participating in mini Book Clubs last quarter. Upon completion of their book, each club created a unique Bloom Ball 'book report'. Stop by 6-211 to see them!



JROTC TEAMS PLACE AT STATE COMPETITION!

The MHS JROTC program is continuing to add to its already full trophy cases. On April 1, the drill team and color guard traveled to Union County to compete for the opportunity to advance to the State Competition. All five MHS teams qualified to go to the state finals! It is rare that all teams from a school advance to the state level competition. The fact that all teams from the MHS JROTC program did so is a testament to their hard work and dedication.

Congratulations to the teams that will travel to state:

- Color Guard (2nd place) commanded by Ana Heartz
- Male/mix platoon (1st place) commanded by Landon Smith
- Male unarmed squad (3rd place) commanded by Joseph Sherman
- Armed squad (2nd place) commanded by Kal-el Smith
- Female squad (2nd place) commanded by Kira Kuilan



CONGRATULATIONS CHORAL DEPARTMENT

Last month, the choral department was able to send two soloists and two ensembles to State Solo and Ensemble. The performances were held again at First United Methodist Church of Orlando where MHS students earned praiseworthy results!

Soloists

- Andrea Oliveras - Superior rating
- Diana Cangialosi - Excellent rating

Small ensemble - Excellent Rating:

- Juniors: Amanda Lopez, Alexa Wingfield, Lia Tagintsev
- Sophomores: Keila Brouse, Kendall Blais, Angelina Pineiro

Large Ensemble - Superior Rating:

- Seniors: Andrea Oliveras, Victoria Arce, Eliana Kraer, Stephanie Lorincz, Samantha Berkowitz, Britney Van Houten, Mena Katz-Veloso, Anne Demegillo



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CLUBS



SWAT MAKES ITS WAY TO THE SHIP

Students working against Tobacco, SWAT, is our newest club on campus with opportunities for teen leadership and earning community service hours. SWAT is all about students taking the initiative to say NO to Big Tobacco and stand up to their marketing, testing, and attack on our health.

SWAT's activities are about team-building leadership and always include a hint of fun! Whether you want to join in on a monthly clean-up on Flagler Beach, attend a government meeting to address Flagler County officials about new and changing laws, or just play a fun game of volleyball or kickball, SWAT Flagler has a little bit of everything. You can reach out to Ms. Doyle in 10-102 or find Lacy (pictured in center). SWAT is eight student members strong in just a few days. Come be a part of the leadership at the ground floor.



KEY CLUB MAKES POSITIVE IMPACTS

Through the dedication of the Key Club members, we have been making a positive impact in the community! Some of our members have completed training with the Humane Society, and we also have continued to repurpose old t-shirts into dog toys for the Society. We recently volunteered for the Sweet Heart Dance at Old Kings Elementary School. It was a great time serving cotton candy and helping with arts and crafts. During the February District Meeting, Key Club members from different schools came together to participate in the community service project of helping clean up the local parks.



JOIN ART CLUB!

Art Club has started up at MHS and will be meeting after school on

the 2nd and 4th Thursday for the rest of the 2022-2023 school year. All students are encouraged to join. See you in Ms. Vitkus' room 1-120!