

December 2021

THE HOOK

Volume XII Issue 1

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As I reflect on the year for Pirate Nation, I cannot help but be excited for all the positive things and events that have happened in spite of the pandemic. Our staff has been amazing in their energy and effort to help our students succeed. Their countless hours, the tutoring, and their positive presence each and every day in the classroom. The custodial team makes sure our school remains clean and ready for students and staff. The support staff greet families, students, and others with a smile and ensure the day-to-day operations run smoothly. Our coaches and club sponsors provide our students with positive situations to showcase their talents and to give back to our community. I am so grateful for each and every one of our staff.

A special shoutout for Ms. Noel Bethea and Troop 7108 for their efforts this fall. Their performance of "The Ship Sails On" earned straight superiors at Districts and was selected to go to state and represent the district with their performance. A first for Pirate Nation. Well done, Troop 7108!

Boys' Golf, Girls' Golf, Boys' Cross Country, Girls' Cross Country all advanced to regions with their performances, and both cross country teams competed at states. A big THANK YOU to Coach Julie Menendez for her years of service to Pirate Nation and her efforts with our volleyball team. I appreciate all you've done for our Lady Pirates!

Thank you as well to the parents, grandparents, and caring adults in our students' lives. You help make Pirate Nation what it is today. It takes all of us coming together to provide our students with the best experiences possible to prepare them for the future.

May this holiday season be filled with joy and peace, and may your hearts be filled with gratitude.



Administration

MR. JEFF REAVES
Principal

MS. MANDY KRAVEROTIS
Assistant Principal

MS. SARA NOVAK
Assistant Principal

MR. JOSH SCOTT
Assistant Principal

MR. JOHN WHITE
Dean

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go to [www.academypublishing.com/schools/
matanzas/matanzas.php](http://www.academypublishing.com/schools/matanzas/matanzas.php)

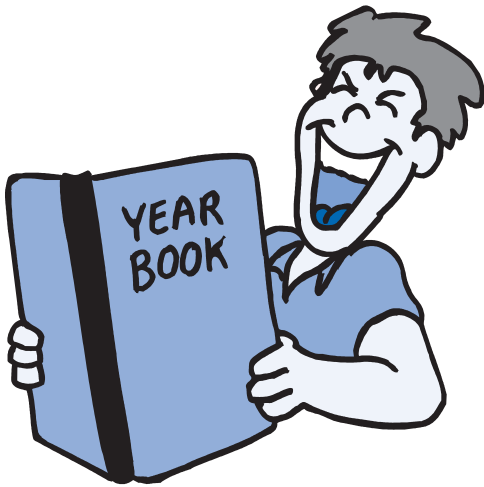
Happy
Holidays





YEARBOOKS ARE ON SALE

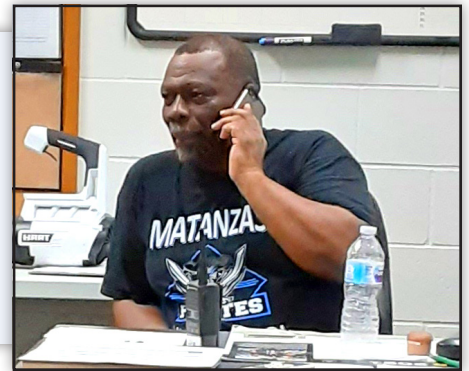
Yearbooks are now on sale for \$70. You can purchase them at jostensyearbooks.com, or bring cash or a check made out to MHS Yearbook to Mrs. Graifer in Rm. 1-202. If you would like to purchase either a business ad or a senior ad, please do so ASAP. Ads can be purchased at jostensyearbooks.com, or you can email Mrs. Graifer for more information at graifers@flaglerschools.com.



NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL JOSH SCOTT!

Mr. Josh Scott is MHS's newest Assistant Principal. Born in Michigan, Mr. Scott moved to Live Oak, Florida when only two years old. He attended Flagler College where he earned a degree in Secondary Social Science Education. Later, he relocated to Canada where he earned a Master's degree in Education Administration. In 2019, Mr. Scott joined the Pirate Ship where he taught biology, AICE Thinking Skills, AICE Global Perspectives, and AICE US History before becoming our newest AP. In his free time, Mr. Scott enjoys golfing, fishing, and gardening. He is excited about the opportunity to help students and to keep MHS one of the best high schools!

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GREAT KIDS AWARD

Sheriff Rick Staley recently visited MHS to present Hailey Swett with an award for being a "Great Kid." Her award states, "Hailey is an exceptional student that exemplifies this award for her outstanding work and positive interactions with ESE students. She treats all students as a friend and peer. She helps them understand and complete their assignments. Hailey is a perfect role model to these students and shows them compassion. She is the best candidate for an award of this magnitude for all she does for the ESE population." We couldn't be prouder of Hailey!



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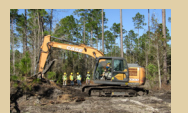
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2021-2022 Registration Dates
Spring 1st Session - Oct 12
Spring 2nd Session - Jan 10th



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SENIORS OF THE MONTH



October: Tate Winecuff



November: Tori Phillips

SENIOR NEWS

Please stay updated by checking the Senior Updates Page frequently, following the Senior Twitter account @Pirate_Seniors, the MHS Facebook page, Schoology, your MHS email, the MHS homepage, and check the daily announcements found under the Students tab on the MHS Pirates website.

The Award Spring Application for Senior Local Scholarships is now open! Please visit this web page to complete the application <https://flaglerschools.awardspring.com/>

Please be sure to turn your community service log sheets in to the Guidance Secretary ASAP! You need 100 hours as part of the eligibility requirements for the top Bright Futures award, and having approximately 250 hours makes you more marketable for scholarships.

You must complete the Florida Financial Aid Application (Bright Futures Application) before graduation as part of the eligibility requirements.



HONORING OUR VETERANS

MHS JROTC held a moving Veterans Day ceremony to honor all who served, including several local veterans. A special thanks to the cadets and the guest speaker, Lt. Col Lydon.

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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Receptionist

Holly Keck

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Paula Teixeira

MIS

Angela Coates

Attendance Clerk

Tammy Freeman

Technology Support Specialist

Chris Winslow

Media Specialist

Cate Brandner

Media Clerk

Judy Rosell

Registrar

Kathy Ryan

Guidance Secretary

Eugenia Moore

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Flagler County School Board

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FUTURE EDUCATORS OF AMERICA

Austin Wilson represented Flagler County Schools and Matanzas High School at the Florida 8th Annual Future Educators of America (FEA) Regional Conference on Friday, November 19. The theme for Florida Future Educators for 2021-2022 is "Ride the Wave to Success and Teach!" Austin and the Future Educators of America are preparing to attend the State Conference in Orlando, Florida, in January 2022.

Future Educators of America is a club for students interested in a future in teaching. FEA provides hands-on opportunities, field experience, and college tours in addition to membership in professional organizations, Florida Future Educators of America and Educators Rising. Members of FEA compete at the regional and state level for up to \$10,000 in scholarships. Students who are interested in a career in education are welcome to join by emailing Mrs. Keen for more information at keen@flaglerschools.com.



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CLASS OF 2022 SAVE THE DATES

Universal Orlando Grad Bash

Friday, April 8, 2022

- Attention Seniors interested in attending this year's Grad Bash event: Only 150 spots are available. Purchase of a ticket will give you entry into both parks.
- Depart MHS on Friday, April 8 at 4:00 PM.
- Return to MHS Saturday, April 9 at 5:30 AM.
- Early discounted Grad Bash Tickets will go on sale starting December 1 for \$90.
- Any available extra spots will be on sale after the holiday break for \$100.

Graduation PRACTICE Information

Friday, May 27, 2022

Time - 9:00 AM- 11:30 AM

Location - Matanzas High School Gym

- Graduation Practice is **MANDATORY**.
- Please arrive no later than 8:30 AM so we can be sure to have all the necessary paperwork filled out and turned in.
 - Be sure to bring a pen for filling out the paperwork.
 - **DO NOT WEAR YOUR CAP AND GOWN TO PRACTICE.**



Graduation CEREMONY Information

Saturday, May 28, 2022

Time - 4:00 PM

Location - Daytona Beach Ocean Center

- **Senior Arrival** - before or by 2:30 PM (Do NOT arrive later than 2:30!)
- **Doors Open for Parents** - 3:00 PM
- **Procession of Senior Class** - 3:45 PM

ATTENTION ALL DUAL-ENROLLED STUDENTS

Please share your Spring DSC course schedule with your school counselor. This information is needed in order to place your DSC courses on your MHS schedule.

Be sure to return all of your Fall textbooks. It is Flagler Schools policy that students return all dual enrollment textbooks no later than one week after final exams for each term enrolled. No additional dual enrollment textbooks will be issued until all Fall books are returned or any financial obligations are paid.

Visit the dual enrollment books page and follow the steps carefully to order your Spring 2022 textbooks: <https://flaglerschools.com/cms/One.aspx?portalId=1363814&pageId=45415450>

If you have any questions about the dual enrollment textbook process please email DSCvouchersMHS@flaglerschools.com.

Bookmark the Dual Enrollment Information page and check it often for updates and deadlines. The Summer 2022 course enrollment deadline is May 4th and course registration begins on March 31. <https://www.daytonastate.edu/dual-enrollment/index.html>

Stay up to date on information by checking the Senior Updates Page often, and by following the Senior Twitter account @Pirate_Seniors, the MHS Facebook page, Schoology, your MHS and DSC email, the MHS homepage, and check the daily announcements found under the Students tab on the MHS Pirates website.



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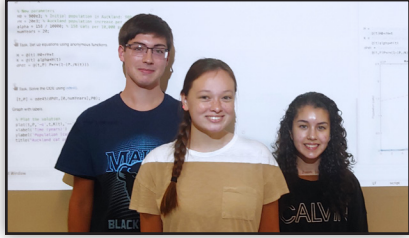
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MATH CLUB PREPARING FOR THE NEXT CHALLENGE

The math club will be participating in the Mathworks Math Modeling Challenge again this year. The challenge is a 14-hour competition where a team of students tackle a real-world problem with real data and math modeling to suggest a solution. Last year's challenge asked students to model the capacity of current broadband internet across the US and to suggest improvements that would allow the capacity to manage requirements of the future load. To prepare for this spring's challenge, the team participated in a virtual workshop on Matlab to learn about the program's use in math modeling. This was an intense workshop on programming using the concepts of calculus and statistics that the students had previously studied in class.



JUNIOR SYDNEE WONG

Sydnee Wong's love of poetry was ignited as an elementary school participant in the Josh Crews Writing Club. Her poem "Half-Light" was selected as a winner of the nature edition of the Words & Wonders Competition for the city of Orlando. Sydnee finds poetry writing a great creative outlet, but she also hopes to explore writing stories where she can develop characters and build a plot.

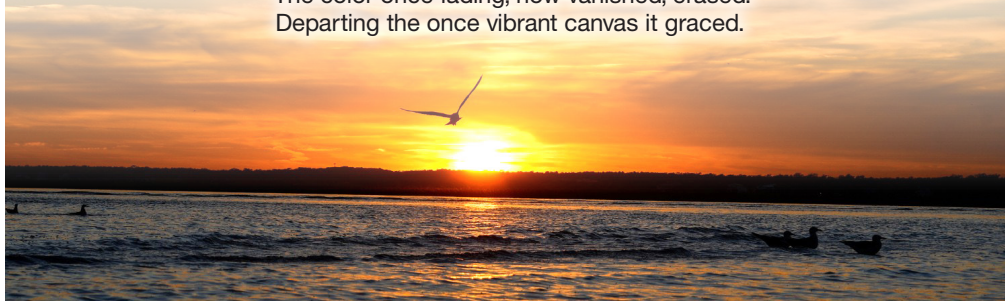
Half-Light
by Sydnee Wong

A palette of colors paint the skies, as the evening sun slowly dies.

Upon water's surface the fading light gleams.
Softly, warmly, in the most brilliant of beams.

Will the light return? Perhaps it might.
Another light's end, as day shifts to night.

The color once fading, now vanished, erased.
Departing the once vibrant canvas it graced.



MARK YOUR 2022 CALENDARS NOW FOR PERCUSSION

Tuesday, February 1 at 7 PM

Solo Bistro in the MHS Cafeteria, featuring the Percussion ensembles and solos preparing for District Solo and Ensemble Assessment.

Thursday, March 31 at 7 PM

Outback Night in the MHS Courtyard, featuring Blue Steel performing with Mr. Victor Provost, the steelpan professor at George Mason University! Outback Night is a dinner fundraiser sponsored by Outback Steakhouse. Tickets can be purchased at pirates32137.boottix.com.

Tuesday, April 26 at 7 PM

Closing out the school year in Pirate Theater is Percussion Palooza, the countywide percussion concert featuring percussion from the different music programs in Flagler Schools.

Thursday, April 28 at 7 PM

Our biggest and most popular show is A Night of Percussion in the Pirate Theater. This show will feature the percussion ensembles, steelbands, drumline, and all of the amazing accomplishments of our Percussion Program this year! It is a fast-paced, non-stop, interactive show that you won't want to miss! All shows (excluding Caribbean Cafe & Outback Night) are a suggested donation of \$5 per person.



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CONGRATS TO TROUPE 7108!

Congratulations to Matanzas High School's Troupe 7108 for their performance at the District 3 Thespian Festival held at Lyman High School in Longwood on November 11-13, 2021. The troupe performed in the acting, musical, and technical events. The students prepared for this event last quarter in the acting and technical theater classes, and the hard work, perseverance, and attention to detail paid off. Throughout the festival, troupe 7108 earned Superior for fifteen events and scored Excellent in eleven events. Thirty-nine students attended the 2-day festival held at Lyman High School with twelve chaperons guiding, supervising, and praising the students. It was a long day filled with dedicated students, parents, and teachers who set goals strived to achieve those goals and learned through the process.



Zoom chat with the playwright, Laura Lundgren Smith of *We are the Sea*.

The troupe earned high accolades in the following:

Best in Show

Duet Acting: Chloe Irving and Emanuela Hartman

Honorable Mention Playwriting: Isabella Martin

One-Act: *We Are The Sea*, by Laura Lundgren Smith earned Straight Superiors (4 perfect scores) and will be representing District 3 at states in Tampa in March.

All-Star Supporting Actress: Rachel Kopp
One Act nods went to crew, Jonas Winter, and cast, Andrea Oliveras

The cast and the crew of the One Act will perform at the state Thespian festival in March representing Matanzas High School, Flagler County, and District 3 in Tampa, Florida.



A few spots are left!

We need you!

Advertise in the The Hook! 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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TOUR OF PROGRAMS

In November, Matanzas hosted Bunnell Elementary students on a tour of our Programs of Study. The students had a great experience preparing their lunch with our Culinary Students, playing lawyers and judges in our Courtroom, visiting our on-campus Vystar Credit Union, and evaluating the construction of our Pirate Tiny House. It was great to expose them to the hands-on, interactive learning spaces that Matanzas High School has to offer.



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SPORTS



LADY PIRATE LIFTERS OFF TO A GREAT START

The Lady Pirate Weightlifting Team is off to a great start, beginning the season with a 3-0 record! The team is anchored by fifteen Seniors who have what it takes to cement themselves in a long history of successful weightlifters that came before them. Records are meant to be broken, and this group will certainly do that. Five school records have been broken so far this season, and there's more to come!



GIRLS GOLF CONTINUES TO AMAZE

Girls golf had an amazing season! They WON districts, placed 6th in regionals, and Alexandra Gazzoli went on to represent Matanzas at State placing 2nd! She shot a 74-70 resulting in a score of 144, even par! The girls worked so hard this season, and we can't wait until next year.



PIRATE WRESTLING BREAKING RECORDS

As Winter sports are starting our Pirate Wrestling teams are geared up and ready to go and compete at the highest level in the state. This year, Girls Wrestling is sanctioned through FHSAA for the first time in state history. With the Lady Pirates finishing in the top 5 over the last 4 years, these ladies are on a "Vision Quest" to climb to the top of the podium and bring home the school's first State Championship.

At the moment we have two female wrestlers, Freshman Tiana Fries and Junior Isabella Tietje, who are ranked 5th in the state. Our boys' team is one of the most successful teams on campus. The boys are led by our ranked wrestlers: Junior Carter Wilder ranked 6th, Senior Tyson Mills ranked 4th, and Sophomore Jordan Mills ranked 4th. We have qualified the most athletes to the state tournament in school history with multiple finalists and placers. This year we have hit numbers of student-athlete participation never before seen. The boys are a growing program, and we expect nothing less than a spectacular season. Please support these teams by joining us at our home tournaments as we blow away our competition.

