

February 2020

# THE HOOK

## Volume X Issue 2



### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Greetings Pirates,

The groundhog didn't see his shadow so spring is just around the corner. And just like spring, we are seeing growth at The Ship!

Our graduation rate continues to climb and reach new heights! In December, the number of seniors graduating in four years locked in at 94%! This is a two-percentage point increase over last year and an 11-percentage point increase in the past two years. For the second year in a row, Matanzas leads the way for Volusia/Flagler County high schools! Our sub-population groups are also making strides in their graduation rate. During the last two years, these groups have experienced significant gains:

- Students with Disabilities- 33% increase
- Multi-Race - 31% increase
- African American - 15% increase
- White - 10% increase
- Hispanic - 2% increase (91% to 93%)

Our goal is 100 percent, so there is still room to grow. Our students and staff are working diligently to make that happen. What can never be lost is the impact this is having on young peoples' lives.

Here are a couple quotes from some of our seniors who are in our Grad 100 lab:

- "Redemption. I was able to better myself and fix the mistakes that I made in my previous years in high school."
- "Being in here has helped me focus and work hard and being in the lab with Coach Roe has helped get my GPA up and get me the chance to graduate on time."

Also, we are seeing gains in students earning industry certifications. These certifications provide our students with specific job-ready employable skills. In 2017, 59 exams were administered with 21 passing. We witnessed tremendous growth over the last two years as we focused on preparing our students for employment upon graduation. In 2019, 136 exams were given with 70 passing. **This year, we are anticipate giving 244 exams with the expectation of over 150 passing! These students are learning skills in Carpentry, Culinary, Microsoft Applications, and Marketing fields.** The certifications will enable students to quickly enter the workforce when they graduate.

Together, we are working with our students, staff, and community to make a difference. Everyone has a part to play in helping our students be successful. I want to encourage you to have a role in making a positive impact by mentoring a student. You could be the difference that a student needs in making right choices and reaching goals.

Join me in celebrating our Pirates when you see them out in the community. Cheer them on, and be the difference!

### Administration

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*Principal*

MRS. NICOLE CASTANHEIRA  
*Assistant Principal*

MS. MANDY KRAVEROTIS  
*Assistant Principal*

MR. KENNY SEYBOLD  
*Assistant Principal*

MR. BOB SAWYER  
*Dean*

MR. ZACH RIGNEY  
*Athletic Director*

To download a pdf version of this newsletter,  
go to [www.academypublishing.com/schools/matanzas/matanzas.php](http://www.academypublishing.com/schools/matanzas/matanzas.php)



## GUIDANCE NEWS!

- **Seniors** - As graduation is quickly approaching, please make sure you are attending all your classes and not letting "senioritis" take over. You are almost there!
- **Juniors** - Save the dates:  
March 4, 2020 for the school day SAT.  
 If you are a DSC student, please see guidance for a verification letter to give to your professors.  
April 16, 2020 at 6 pm for the "Junior Dinner and Details". Find out the information for college applications, scholarships, technical schools and 'everything senior'. Senior year is coming faster than you think!
- **Underclassmen** - Please make sure you are taking advantage of tutoring and test retakes especially as we are heading into the fourth quarter.



*Congratulations to our February Senior of the Month, Brea Dwyer!*



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## PRE-ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK!

The yearbook staff has been working incredibly hard this year on a very unique yearbook. This year's theme is "Color Outside the Lines". We can't wait to share it with the rest of the student body.

Yearbooks are on sale for \$80. Pre-order your yearbook on [jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com) or with Mrs. Graifer in Room 1-202. Mrs. Graifer will accept cash or checks made out only to MHS Yearbook. Last year we SOLD OUT! The only way to guarantee you will get a yearbook is by pre-ordering one now. Once the yearbooks arrive, there is only a small number available to sell. Don't be left out! Order your yearbook today!

## CAMBRIDGE AICE

Applications for the AICE program 2020 are now being accepted. The due date for completed applications is March 13, 2020. Don't miss out on the opportunity to be part of the AICE Program where earning the diploma gives you the highest Bright Futures Scholarship! Also, if you pass the exam, your AICE classes can give you college credit. For more information, contact Mrs. Castanheira ([castanheiran@flaglerschools.com](mailto:castanheiran@flaglerschools.com)) or Mrs. Trimmer ([perri-trimmerp@flaglerschools.com](mailto:perri-trimmerp@flaglerschools.com)).

### SENIORS

#### • **Cap and Gown Payment Days:**

- Thursday, January 29 - 10:45 am until 12:30 pm
- Wednesday, March 4 - 10:45 am until 12:30 pm

#### • **Cap and Gown Delivery Days:**

- Tuesday, March 31 - 10:45 am until 12:30 pm
- Tuesday, April 7 - 10:45 am until 12:30 pm
- Tuesday, April 21 - 10:45 am until 12:30 pm

#### • **Graduation Practice:**

- May 26 at 9:00 am in the Pirate Gym

#### • **Graduation Ceremony:**

- May 28 at 4:00 pm at the Ocean Center
- Procession starts at 3:45 pm
- Seniors need to arrive at 1:45 pm at the latest.
- Please visit the [MHSPirates.com](http://MHSPirates.com) website under the student section to see all the important information regarding the senior class of 2020.

## BOYS STATE

Boys State is a selective educational program where participants learn the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of citizens. MHS is proud to have three delegates chosen to participate in this summer's event. Congratulations to Lloyd Sanchez, Samih Samaan, and Chaz Gutierrez as well as to the two alternates chosen, Dylan Grady and Kyle Douglas.

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Tapping of new members will be the first week of March, and the official Induction Ceremony will be April 1, at 6:30, in the Pirate Theater.

Seniors who have purchased stoles and medallions will receive them at the Induction Ceremony. All NHS members will receive their gold and blue NHS tassels at the Induction.

Any NHS member who still needs community service hours should see Mrs. Lemus for community service hour opportunities.

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## SAT SCHOOL DAY

On Wednesday, March 4, 2020, all 11th grade students will have the opportunity to take a free SAT during the school day. This test is an important step for any student thinking about college and career. The SAT is accepted at all U.S. colleges; it measures what students are learning in high school and what they need to know to succeed in college and career. Now, with SAT School Day, we can ensure that all of our students have access to this important stepping-stone and make sure that ...

- Your teen is more comfortable and confident by testing in a familiar place.
- You don't have to worry about the logistics of getting your teen to a test center.
- No one has to worry about weekend conflicts or disrupting family time!

Don't forget that the SAT comes with a FREE personalized study plan through Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy®. Learn more at [satpractice.org](http://satpractice.org).

MHS April 2020 Testing Calendar						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 FSA ELA Writing	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 CDF Practice Test	17	18
19	20 Block Class Quarterlies this week	21	22	23 Monitoring the Future Survey for seniors	24	25
26	27	28 AICE Marine Science Exam Part 1 (PM)	29 AICE General Paper Exam Part 1 (AM)	30 AICE Marine Science Exam Part 2 (PM)		

## LADY PIRATES SOFTBALL TEAM

The softball team starts up the 2020 season this month with plans to defend last year's district championship. The girls have been working on the field and in the classroom. Thanks to everyone who has supported our fundraisers and donated to fill the concession stand. Please come out to support the Lady Pirates this season.



### March 2020 Matanzas HS Softball Schedule

Day	Date	JV	Varsity	Opponent	Location	Bus Time
Tue	Mar 3	5:00	7:00	JV - Warner, Var - New Smyrna Beach HS	Home	-
Thu	Mar 5	-	4:00	Pine Ridge HS	Pine Ridge HS	TBA
Fri	Mar 6	5:00	7:00	Mainland HS	Home	-
Tue	Mar 10	-	6:30	Seabreeze HS	Ormond Beach Sports Complex	TBA
Thu	Mar 12	6:00	7:30	Bartram Trail	Home	-
Fri	Mar 13	5:00	-	Warner Christian	Home	-
Spring Break Mar 13-22 we will have practice Wednesday and Thursday morning, the 18th & 19th.						
Wed	Mar 25	5:00	7:00	Palatka HS	Home	-
Fri	Mar 27	-	4:30	Deland HS	Deland HS	TBA
Tue	Mar 31	5:00	-	Warner Christian	Home	TBA



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## 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

Make Good Choices.  
Hold Yourself Accountable.  
Strive for Excellence.



## WHO'S WHO AT MHS

### Athletic Secretary

Clarice Dias

### Attendance Clerk

Tammy Freeman

### Bookkeeper

Sharon Jackson

Denise Barger

### Discipline Office Secretary

Maryann Mlinic

### Guidance Secretary

Kathy Summerlot

### Testing Secretary

Eugenia Moore

### Media Clerk

Judy Rosell

### MIS

Angela Coates

### Registrar

Kathy Ryan

### Receptionist

Paula Teixeira

### Secretary to the Principal

Marie Drumm

"The Hook" • February 2020 • Issue #2  
**Flagler County School Board**  
P.O. Box 755  
Bunnell, FL 32110  
Published Five Times Per Year



## FROM THE CLINIC

According to the CDC

### Flu Symptoms

Influenza (flu) can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. Flu is different from a cold. Flu usually comes on suddenly. People who have the flu often feel some or all of these symptoms:

- fever\* or feeling feverish/chills
- cough
- sore throat
- runny or stuffy nose
- muscle or body aches
- headaches
- fatigue (tiredness)
- some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

\*It's important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever.

### What should I do to protect myself from flu this season?

CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine for everyone 6 months of age and older as the first and most important step in protecting against this potentially serious disease.

In addition to getting a seasonal flu vaccine, you can take everyday preventive actions like **staying away from sick people** and **washing your hands** to reduce the spread of germs. If you are sick with flu, **stay home from work or school to prevent spreading flu to others**. In addition, there are prescription medications called antiviral drugs that can be used to treat flu illness.

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncird/index.html>



## CHEER NEWS

Matanzas Cheer rang in the New Year in London! Seniors Ally Robinson and Madison Asbill along with Junior Mar Figueroa were named All-American this summer at UCA camp and represented MHS by walking in the New Year's Day parade!



*Congratulations to Coach Wood and the Matanzas Cheer Team who received sixth place in the semi-finals at State!*

## MU ALPHA THETA

In January, Mu Alpha Theta competed at Buchholz regional math competition. This was the first math competition for many of the students. The Statistics team of Vincent Zheng, Kate O'Mahoney, Serena Kravantka, and Sara Husk won fifth place.

In February, the team competed at the Eastside Invitational regional competition. The Calculus Team of Sam Samaan, Nicholas Vilay, Michelle Taing and Sarah Flannery, won fifth place. The Statistics team won third place. Kate and Vincent also won individual awards. Kate was 12th, and Vincent was 10th!



*All Americans in London, England*



Mark your calendar for the pre-tryout meeting on Monday, April 6, at 6 pm in the MHS dining hall. Only upcoming 9th graders and current 9th -11th are able to tryout. You must have a 2.0 GPA and a physical on file in the MHS athletic office with Mrs. Dias.

## YOU MANAGE YOUR WORK. NOW MANAGE YOUR MONEY.

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## CONGRATULATIONS, DALTON HAWLEY!

Dalton Hawley signed to run cross country, track and field in the fall at Brevard College in North Carolina.



## CONGRATULATIONS, TIM MCGUIRE!

Congratulations to Tim McGuire on his commitment to play lacrosse next year at Westminster.



## LADY PIRATE LIFTERS

The Lady Pirate Lifters finished third in Regionals this month, placing seven of eight lifters! Andie Tice was Regional Champ, and six others have a chance to go to States!



## WE HAVE A WINNER!

In recognition of CTE Month, a door decorating contest was held. Mrs. Johnston's class won awards for both the Most Industry Recognizable and Most Creative door. Digital Media/Multimedia Foundation 1 student Karissa Jackson was the Pirate Designer of the winning door.



## MOST WINS!

Matanzas Lady Pirates Basketball team celebrated the most wins in the history of MHS.



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## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR VYSTAR INTERNS



*Congratulations to these VyStar interns on their Certificate of Achievement!*

*L-R: Kaitlyn Gerhard, Raquel Torrao, Samara Brooks, Bailey Russell, Natalie Valenteychik, Katherine O'Mahoney, Alexis Mourufas*

## FORENSIC SCIENCE INVESTIGATORS

The end of January found the MHS Forensic Science Investigators at Buddy Taylor where middle school students could visit the flagship booth and learn more about this MHS program.



## THE NEWSIES IS COMING TO MHS!

Now is the time to seize the day! Come join Matanzas High School Troupe 7108 as we perform Disney's Newsies! Performances are on April 2, 3 and 4 in the Pirate Theatre at Matanzas High School. Tickets are \$10 and will be available for purchase on <http://pirates32137.booktix.com>.

As they say, it takes a town to raise a child, and this production is no exception. With the help of the construction, art, and engineering departments, we have been able to make incredible set and prop pieces. We are also proud to work with the chorus and drama departments who came together to build the all-star cast and crew. With Ethan Fink as Jack Kelly, the suave leader of the Manhattan Newsies, and Lauren Januszkiewicz as Katherine Plumber, an ambitious young reporter, the performances are sure to let the world know that Troupe 7108 is here! Join us in carrying our banner, and watch what happens when the Newsboys strike back!

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- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School age 4-12

**† Ash Wednesday †**  
**Wednesday, February 26**  
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**Annual Rummage Sale**  
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## LAW AND JUSTICE AT THE FLORIDA STATE MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

This month Law and Justice Flagship students became the first students in Flagler County History to compete in the Florida State Mock Trial Competition. Standing in their way was Atlantic High School, which has sent a team to represent the 7th Judicial Circuit at States for the past 19 consecutive years.

This year's case was the State of Florida vs. Casey Murphy. The MHS team was made up of mostly sophomores including the team's lead attorneys, Myracle Pigninelli and Isabella Miller. Other roles included the Defendant Caleb Struble, police sergeants Casey Murphy and Gabriel Gonzalez, psychologist Shannon Douglas and Ilya Korelev playing Taylor Young. Sam Alfano and Tara Preneau played both attorney and witness roles.

The Circuit competition was two separate trials, allowing both teams the opportunity to present their prosecution and defense sides of the case. Although the team is young, they competed with confidence. If MHS advances, it will be the first time Atlantic High School will be denied a spot at State in over two decades. Go, Pirates!



## CULINARY NEWS



Pirates earning Safe Staff Certification: Julianna Bogdanov, Leslie Bravo, Isaiah Crews, Lukas Dials, Madison Franz, Felicity Krem, Keilani Lopez, Aleksis Maksimyk, Viktoria Maksimyk, Jason Parsons, Jenna Payavis, Jenna Robinson and Heri Ruiz.

Culinary students recently enjoyed a visit from Chef Barber of Johnson and Wales University. Chef Johnson shared his recipe for Pot Stickers. The printed recipe included a secret ingredient only revealed by asking the chef.



Culinary students have been busy cooking and earning important certifications, including National Prostart, ServSafe, and Safe Staff. Five students earned their National Prostart Certification. Eight students earned the coveted ServSafe certification: John Betancourt, Abigail Brouse, Lucie Dudley, Jesalyn Evans, Janiya Myles, Joshua Ramotar, Halle Scalf, and Raquel Torrao.



*Our very own Pirate Chef Kittrell and Johnson and Wales Chef Barber*



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## PERCUSSION

The Matanzas Percussion Program has some exciting programs planned for this school year! On Wednesday, April 8, at 7 pm in the MHS Courtyard, our Caribbean Cafe will feature Blue Steel performing with Mr. Victor Provost, the steelpan professor at George Mason University! The Caribbean Cafe is a dinner fundraiser so it is a ticketed event. Tickets can be purchased at [pirates32137.booktix.com](http://pirates32137.booktix.com).

Closing out the school year, on Wednesday, April 22, at 7 pm in Pirate Theater is Percussion Palooza, the countywide percussion concert featuring percussion from the different music programs in Flagler Schools. Our biggest and most popular show is A Night of Percussion on Thursday, April 23, at 7 pm in the Pirate Theater. This show will feature all the amazing accomplishments of our Percussion Program including the percussion ensembles, steel bands, and drumline! It is a fast-paced, non-stop, interactive show that you won't want to miss! All shows (excluding Caribbean Cafe) are suggested donation of \$5 per person. Thank you so much for your support of the Matanzas Percussion Program. We can't wait to see you at our next show!



## MHS CONSTRUCTION

MHS Construction are putting into practice what they learn in the classroom by constructing a new security shack for the back parking area of MHS.



## Inside This Issue

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