

MARINER NATION NEWS

Murdock Middle School

17325 Mariner Way, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

941.255-7525 Attendance: 941.255-7525

Hours Operation: 8:35 A.M- 4:20 P.M.

Administration

Principal: Lyman Welton

Assistant Principal: Jamie Verwey

Assistant Principal: Deshon Jenkins

Counselor: Sandra Tavares

Counselor: Kim Ceballos

ESE Liason: TBD

School Resource Officer: Officer Morse

Principal's Message

Students and families,

Welcome students and families to Murdock Middle School home of Mariner Nation. Students, we are looking forward to having all of you back on campus. For some of our 7th and 8th grade students it has been along time since you were here on campus. The same goes for many of our families. We are glad the time for social distancing for most of us is ending. Finally, the world of education is returning to something close to normal. This means we expect to see all our students on campus and in class every day. It also means that parents and family members are welcome once again to attend sporting events, concerts and teacher parent conferences. Every Mariner can be confident that they have a place at Murdock Middle School.

Parents your active participation in your middle school student's education is critical to their success. Some things you can do to help your student are listed below. We know young adolescence at times will push adults away. This may be normal behavior but it is critical that the adults stay involved. Students ages 10-14 need structure and supervision even if they don't really want it. So, parents/guardians here are 5 things you can do to support your middle school student:

1. Set clear expectations: I/We expect you to complete and turn in all your school work when it is due.
2. Monitor their grades weekly by logging on and checking Focus
3. Set a reasonable bedtime
4. Limit screen time.
5. Monitor their social media activity closely.

Students it is true that you are getting older. But it is not age that determines when a middle schooler is ready for more freedom. It is responsible behavior. Freedom is not given just because a student asks for it. It is earned when they demonstrate responsible behavior. Students we expect you to arrive to class on time, prepared to work. Your backpack or

...continues on next page

ISSUE 2 VOLUME 4

August 2021



Principal's Message

continues...

bookbag should be organized. You are to treat everyone with respect. These simple things will show the adults on campus and at home that you are maturing.

Our Faculty and Staff are looking forward to working with students and families to make the 2021-22 school year at Murdock Middle an exciting learning experience for every Mariner.

Covid 19/ Activity Update

The Charlotte County School Board voted to drop the mask requirement and to encourage schools to resume normal activities. This means masks are optional for anyone arriving on our campus. Those students, staff, and guests who

believe it is best for them to wear a mask, you are free to wear a mask on our campus. For those who feel safe enough to come to our campus with out a mask, you are free to do so. All campus activities have been restored. Soon we will be hosting sporting events and hope to see our gym filled to capacity with students and families cheering our Mariner athletes on to victory. In addition, school dances and socials will be once again be on our school calendar. Band concerts, family nights and other fun events are all in the planning stages so listen and watch for announcements as they are heading your way.

Lyman Welton
Principal

CAMP BOW WOW®
DOGGY DAY CARE & BOARDING



FIRST DAY FREE!

CAMP BOW WOW® PORT CHARLOTTE
941-875-9410 • campbowwow.com/port-charlotte

*LEGAL WOOF: Offer valid only at Port Charlotte location. Valid only for interview day. New customers only. Camper must meet entrance requirements. Other restrictions apply.

Title 1 Family Engagement

My name is Chell Pender and I'm Murdock's Tittle 1 Family advocate. You can reach me by email at chell.pender@yourcharlottechools.net or call the school and get my extension. I am here to help with any needs you might have.

We will have a live open house on August 6, 2021 at 5:00 pm. We will start with our Title 1 annual parent meeting in the gym. At this time I will also be having a sign-up table for PTO/SAC.

August 17th 2021 at 5:00 pm, I will host pizza with our Admin in the café. As a family you can meet our Administrators and be part of your child's school support and see a Bully Presentation by Mr. Jenkins.

I'm hosting different times to accommodate you when I offer a Finding Focus get together. On August 27th 2021 at 9:00 am I will have a breakfast for you, and I will do an evening on August 30th 2021 at 4:20 pm with dinner. Finding Focus will help you know how to navigate your child's grades, assignments and how to contact their teachers.

I look forward to meeting all my Mariner Families. If you can't make these meetings, you can always reach out to me, and I can make other accommodations to suit your needs. I will have information on our school website for you to see. Let's have a great year!!!

Welcome to the...



Hometown Grill

Dine-In | Take-Out | Delivery

Bring this coupon in to receive
15% OFF YOUR TOTAL PURCHASE
(Excludes daily specials)

941-629-5898
thehometowngrill.com
facebook.com/HometownGrillPC

Full Service Catering Also Available!
www.hometowngrillcatering.com

1931 Tamiami Trl., #10 • Port Charlotte, FL 33948
Mon-Fri 6:30AM - 1:30PM | Sat-Sun 7:00AM - 1:30PM



ANYTIME FITNESS®

Let's make **HEALTHY HAPPEN**

Mention this ad for
\$0 Enrollment!

MEMBERSHIPS INCLUDE:
• 24/7 Access •
• Group Classes •
• Free Fitness Consultation •

Anytime Fitness North Port | 1151 S. Sumter Blvd · North Port, FL 34287 | 941-426-9017 · anytimefitness.com

WELCOME

We Have a NEW Academic Assistant Principal

My name is Jamie Verwey and I am happy to be Murdock Middle's new assistant principal. I have taught for fourteen years, ten of which have been in Charlotte County. I have been married for ten years and counting to Andrew, who is a Firefighter/EMT for Charlotte County. We have two children Layton, 8, and Adalyn, 6. We also have two fur babies (dogs) named A.J. and Lazer.

I am thrilled to be a part of such an amazing group of people and can't wait to build positive relationships with the staff, students, parents, and community. I'm looking forward to a fantastic school year!

Jamie Verwey, Assistant Principal



Mariner Nation News
 August 2021
 Published Four Times Per Year
 Charlotte County Public Schools
 1445 Education Way
 Port Charlotte, FL 33948
 Issue #2

Susan F. Williams, M.D. P.A.
PEDIATRICS
 17928 Toledo Blade Blvd
 Port Charlotte, FL 33948
 (941) 743-7337 (PEDS)
 New Patients Welcome!

Early Dismissal/Late Arrival

Between 9:30 am and 3:30 pm the campus gates will be closed. To access the campus, approach the entry gate and push the intercom button. Wait for the front office staff to respond. Display your photo Identification and state the purpose of your visit to campus. "Hi I am Ms. Jane Doe and I am here to pick up John Doe for a dentist appointment." The gate will open. Proceed to a parking place. Upon entering the front office building you will need to display your id a second time. The front office staff will then buzz you into the building. Your student will need to sign out before leaving campus.

If you are bringing a student to campus late and the gate is closed, use the same procedure to gain access to the campus. You may drop your student off at the front office. The student will sign in and receive a pass before reporting to class.

Grades

Middle Students earn grades in all middle school classes. Academic credits are earned in each of the four core classes, Language Arts, Science, History, and Math. Students must pass all semesters in all core classes before being promoted to High School. Parents are highly encouraged to monitor their students grades weekly. This is done by logging on to Focus and entering their student's identification number.

WE KEEP YOU COOL & HEAT YOUR POOL!

Alex's Pool HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, LLC

CALL NOW : 941-629-ALEX (2539)
www.629alex.com

License #'s: CAC1815523 & CPC1458293.

Landsberg Bennett

PRIVATE WEALTH MANAGEMENT

landsbergbennett.com
 (941) 391-8000

CAO
 charlotte advanced
 ORTHODONTICS

**BRACES & INVISALIGN®
 FOR ALL AGES**

Dr. Christina Pepper
 Board Certified Orthodontist

WWW.ONEOFKINDSMILES.COM | (941) 629-2221

Interest-Free Payment Plans | Low Down Payment | Low Monthly Payments | Insurance Provider

**NORTHSIDE
 N P S**
 Psychiatric Services

**24 Hour Crisis Line
 941-575-0222**

Services for children, teens, & adults:

- Individual & Group Therapy
- Teleservices
- Bullying
- Trauma Therapy
- Psychiatric
- Psychiatric Services
- Parent/Child Conflict
- Anger Management
- Case Management

(941) 639-8300
 1032 Tamiami Tr. #107, Pt. Charlotte

Helping the world smile.. Beautifully!



Simply Smiles, P.A.

Dental Studio & DentiSpa

*Angela M. Boehler D.M.D.
"The Youth Fairy"*

Dental Studio

Comprehensive Family Dentistry in a peaceful, contemporary spa like atmosphere

Aromatherapy, relaxing music, happy gas, heated neck wraps and blankets

DentiSpa

Botox · Xeomin · Dermal Fillers · PDO Thread Lifts
Microneedling · Vitamin B12 · Dermaplaning
Hydrojelly Masks · TMJ Therapy · Brow Lift
Trigger Point Therapy · Lip Enhancements

941-625-5141

17912 Toledo Blade Boulevard, Suite B
Port Charlotte, Florida 33948



DARA B. SORAH, CPA, P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT AND CONSULTANT
Florida Institute of Certified Public Accounting/American Institute of Certified Public Accounting

DARA B. SORAH, CPA

1435 COLLINGSWOOD BLVD. SUITE G
PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33948

Ph (941) 979-8860 Fax (941) 889-7155
dsorah@darabsorahcpa.com



Taylor Minkus, DMD | Nicole Dunlap, DMD

Corrective Dental Procedures · Restorative Dentistry
Professional Teeth Cleaning · Teeth Whitening
Innovative Technology for Dental Care

941-625-7413 · completedentalcarefl.com

1940 Tamiami Trl., Ste. 102 · Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Statement of Non-Discrimination

The School Board of Charlotte County does not discriminate (including anti-Semitism [as defined in Bylaw 0100]) on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, transgender status, or gender identity), recognized disability, pregnancy, marital status, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information which are classes protected by State and/or Federal law (collectively, "protected classes") in its programs and activities, including employment. The School Board also ensures equal access for Boy Scouts of America and other identified patriotic youth groups, as required by 34 C.F.R. §108 (Boy Scouts Act). (School Board Policy 1122, 3122, 4122)

The District Title IX Coordinators and Equity Compliance Officers for the District are Adrienne McElroy (Director of Human Resources), available at (941) 255-0808 Ext 3090, Patrick Keegan (Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Employee Relations), available at (941) 255-0808 Ext 3122, and Michael Desjardins (Assistant Superintendent for School Support), available at (941) 255-0808 Ext 3073. The District Section 504 Compliance Officer and ADA Coordinator is Rebecca Marazon (Coordinator of Psychological Services), available at (941) 255-0808 Ext 3071. (School Board Policy 2260)

Extracurricular Activities

Middle school students will have several opportunities to participate in activities after normal school hours. This includes but is not limited to club meetings, sporting events, dances/socials, Band practice etc. It is essential that all students are picked up from these events in a timely manner. Students picked up late will not be permitted to participate in future after school activities.

Interscholastic Sports

Middle students are invited to try out for one of our sport teams. Charlotte County offers Girls and Boys Basketball, Girls Volleyball, Coed Track and Coed Wrestling. Before trying out for a team, students must turn in all paperwork to our Athletic Director, Coach Tim Gretzler. Details for required paperwork, game schedule and other important information can be found on our School Website, and District Website. You may also call the school if you need additional information. Dates and times for tryouts and practices are set by the coaches and will be communicated by them as the season nears.




Are you getting the fiduciary advice for your retirement that you deserve? Call us for a no-obligation review.

www.hibiscusinvestments.com
(941) 391-8140

Landsberg Bennett Private Wealth Management ("LBPWM") is an SEC registered investment adviser with its principal place of business in Punta Gorda, Florida. Investing involves risk, including risk of loss. For additional information about LBPWM, please request our disclosure brochure as set forth on Form ADV using the contact information set forth herein.

Dress Code

Middle School Dress Code is very different from elementary school. The School Dress Code is set by the State of Florida and by the District and not by individual schools. A complete description of Charlotte County student dress code is published in the Charlotte County Public Schools Student Code of Conduct. The following is a description of some but not all dress code requirements. No undergarments may be seen. This includes but is not limited to boxer shorts, underwear, and bra straps. No skin is to be seen above the knee. This includes shorts, dresses, or pants with holes above the knee. It is acceptable to wear leggings under pants or other clothing. Tape, paper, or pieces of material placed to cover a hole on clothing does not meet dress code. All shirts must cover the shoulder and the midriff completely. Clothing with logos that advertise weapons, drugs, alcohol are not permitted. All profane speech or sexual images are prohibited.



North Port Primary Care, P.L.
Girish D. Patel, MD
 Board Certified in Internal Medicine

2500 Bobcat Village Center Road, Suite E
 North Port, FL 34288
 Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00

Conveniently located next to Sarasota Memorial ER & Health Care Center!

Phone 941-429-4744 • Fax 941-429-4754
 northportpca@hotmail.com

Medicare and most insurance accepted.



FORTIFYFL
 SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

QUICKLY AND EASILY SUBMIT A TIP
 By accessing FortifyFL, students can provide a description of the threat, share pics and videos and optionally submit their contact information.

<p>Anonymous or Non-Anonymous</p> <p>You decide whether you want to include your name and contact information.</p>	<p>Convenient</p> <p>Submitting a tip is quick and easy using our mobile app or website.</p>	<p>Include Photos and Video</p> <p>You can also include photos or video with your tip report.</p>
---	---	--

QUICKLY SEND TO AUTHORITIES
 FortifyFL automatically routes your tip report to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.



<p>Your School Officials</p> <p>The tip report goes to your local school officials when submitted.</p>
<p>Local Law Enforcement</p> <p>Your local police department or sheriff office receive copies of your tips automatically.</p>
<p>State-Level Officials</p> <p>State-level officials also have access to your tips to make sure proper steps are taken.</p>

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

#FORTIFYFL
 GETFORTIFYFL.COM

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play





Slack
 ORTHODONTICS

Maura Stanchak, DDS, MS
 Specialist in Orthodontics

941-249-9193

18334 Murdock Circle • Port Charlotte, FL 33948
www.SlackOrthodontics.com

Complimentary Shop-at-Home Service



Blind Spot Etc

Your Ultimate Window Treatment Center
 Manufacturers of Plantation Shutters



941-743-2646
www.blindspotetc.com

1312 Market Circle, Unit 9 • Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Ways For Students To Report

1. Verbal reports to any adult
2. Written reports to adults
3. Anonymous Reports: Use online school website - the "Bully Button"

WHAT CAN A STUDENT DO IF THEY ARE BEING BULLIED?

- Say something to an adult
- Ask for help
- Find a friend
- Exit the area



Murdock Middle School

17325 Mariner Way
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Orlando, FL
Permit# 2346



Technical Educational Opportunities

Murdock Middle School and Charlotte Technical College have partnered to bring technical educational opportunities to interested 8th grade students. Students may apply to the Building Construction Technologies and/or the Public Safety and Security programs. Classes are offered at Charlotte Technical College during the normal school day. Transportation is provided. These are semester long courses, allowing students to apply for both programs. Seats are limited and are offered on a first come first serve basis. If interested please call 255-7525 and ask to speak with our Guidance Office.

School Hours

First period begins every morning at 9:10. The school day ends at 4:10. Any student arriving to campus after 9:10 must report to the front office to obtain a Tardy Pass. Tardy passes are required for both excused and unexcused tardiness.

Arrival

The parent drop off gate will open at 8:00 and close at 9:30 each morning. The pedestrian gates used by students walking or riding their bike to school will open at 8:30 and close at 9:30. Students walking or riding should not arrive before 8:30 as the sidewalk gates will be locked. Campus gates open for students at 8:40. Upon entering campus students will report directly to either their grade level pod, 6th grade to D pod, 7th grade G pod, 8th grade B pod, or to the café for breakfast.

Dismissal

Students are dismissed at 4:10. Any student riding a bus goes directly to the bus ramp. Walkers and bike riders exit campus using the sidewalk gate beside our marquee. Students going to parent pick up proceed directly to the front of the Administrative building.