

# 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: ..... Shelly Kramer

School Resource Officer: .... Officer Morse

## Principal's Message

Mariners,

As we move to the final days of the 2021-22 school year I took a moment to reflect on some of this year's unique experiences. One of our highlights initially came to me in the form of a text from our Superintendent of Charlotte County Schools, Mr. Dionisio. It was a small statement that carried big news. It simply read "Congratulations on earning a B. This of course was in response the state releasing school grades. Moments later I received another congratulatory text from Mrs. Edwards, our Assistant Superintendent of Learning. At the time I was certainly excited by the news and experienced a great deal of pride for our faculty, staff, students, families, and the admin. team. It was several weeks later when I began to recognize our incredible accomplishment. There are over five hundred middle schools in the State of Florida, only a very few schools demonstrated student learning gains. In fact, a large percentage of schools experienced a drop in student scores. Today, I want to once again, say congratulations to our entire Murdock Family. Everyone played an important role in the success of our students in the middle of very difficult times.

In a number of other areas our students continue grow. Our Band students increased the number of public performances this year including a first time ever joint concert with a school from another district. Further some of our musicians excelled and where invited to attend Honor Band. Our science students competed in the Science Fair. Our Boys Basketball Team won the District Championship for the first time in nearly 10 years. Several of our 8th graders enrolled in courses at Charlotte Technical College and excelled. All of our student growth came as we continued to adjust to yet another phase of Covid-19.

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ISSUE 4 VOLUME 2

May 2022





## Principal's Message *continues...*

It is wonderful to see our students doing well and congratulations are well deserved. However, I am also writing with a second purpose in mind. I want each Mariner to use their past successes as encouragement for future endeavors. Soon we will have our current year's progress tested. One thing we can say with confidence, "If we take the tests, competition, or performance seriously and put in the hard work required, then we will continue to succeed." Mariners, you can confidently approach these challenges with the knowledge that you have what it takes to excel.

Congratulations and keep up the good work,

Lyman Welton  
Principal

## TAG

Providing numerous strategies, Mr. Herring's TAG classes are preparing themselves to perform extremely well on the state assessment test, i.e., the FSA. Thus, his students are working vigorously on the writing process, as well as short story reading, which implements critical thinking and literary analysis. Subsequently, they will work on their novel projects: diorama, journal, or posterboard.

## Media Center News **SPRING**

Happy Spring! With so many choices it's a great time to read. School library books, public library offerings, eBooks, and audio books there's something for everyone. Reading can lead to a better life. The benefits of regular reading include stronger vocabulary, better communication skills, increased attention span, stress relief, increased knowledge and empathy, and a safe way to explore the world.

As we approach the end of the school year and our library closes for the summer, head over to the public library. They have a wonderful selection of books and eBooks, as well as many fun community programs for kids. Also, the SORA app never closes. With over 200 eBooks and audiobooks to choose from there is something for everyone. Students can access these materials using MMS SORA, which is on Classlink or by using the SORA app on a smartphone. The SORA app is a free download. Whatever you choose to read, just read.

Our reading challenge: The Mariner Reading Regatta had a successful run. The purpose of the challenge was to have students up their reading game by increasing the number of books read in a three month period. Students were welcome to read books of their choice from any library. Eighty students entered the Regatta and over half fully participated. Students received brag tags as they sailed along and, at certain points, qualified for incentives. Those who read at least five books were entered into a chance drawing for a Books A Million gift card. Title One is providing lunch from Tijuana Flats to participants who read at least seven books. Students who completed the Regatta, reading a total of nine books, received a MMS Reading Regatta T-shirt. The Regatta was a fun reading challenge that will be an annual event during the third marking period.

Students are welcome to visit the library during the school day to check out books, work on research projects, and enjoy a little quiet reading time. In addition to the school day, the Media Center is open in the morning before 1st period. During this time, students can work on homework, read, check out books, do personal research, and catch up on current events.

As summer approaches, remember all library books and materials are due by May 13th.

Happy reading!

Pam Ping, Media Specialist, Credit Recovery Coach  
x5231

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## Your Donation Can Make A Difference!

Murdock Middle School is focused on providing students with the best education possible and providing students and staff with the tools necessary to succeed not only in the classroom but throughout the community. Your involvement makes a difference! When parents and guardians like you give to our school we are able to lay the groundwork for future student achievement. Sending students home with the tasks of selling door-to-door, collecting money, and delivering goods has become a daunting task for everyone. Therefore, in order to continue to support our school, we need to earn money in an alternate way. Please considering helping us avoid fundraising and door-to-door sales by supporting our PTO with your donation. **Your gift can make a huge impact on our students' education and future success!**

### What does Murdock Middle School do with your money?

- » In previous years, the MMS PTO has:
- » Provided supplies for each classroom
- » Provided financial support for student events
- » Purchased items to make the school look better & improve student pride
- » Purchased incentives for students
- » Purchased computer accessories and software
- » Purchased clothing and shoes for students

### YOUR DONATION IS TAX DEDUCTABLE!

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 I do not want to bake, so here is the money I would have spent on those cupcakes

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 I do not want to hit up friends, family, co-workers, so here is the money I would have spent buying cookie dough

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 I do not want to walk, swim, or run in any activity. Here is the money I would have spent on my "free" t-shirt

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 I really wouldn't have helped anyway, so here is \$100 in lieu of my attendance

\_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_ I am making this donation to express my appreciation for having nothing to buy, sell or do except filling out this form

Please submit this form and your check, in an envelope marked Murdock Middle to the school office or mail it to us at: **Murdock Middle School - 17325 Mariner Way - Port Charlotte, FL 33948.**



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## Parent & Family Engagement

I would like to take this opportunity, to say thank you to all the families that came out to our Family Laser tag event, it was a huge success, and plan to do more events like that. We will be completing our PFEF(parent family engagement plan) for this year and starting next years in May, if you would like to be part of the team, please call me at 941-255-7525 ex.5214 or email me at chell.pender@yourcharlotteschools.net. As the family advocate for the school, i would love to hear some ideas that you might have to help enrich the lives of your children as well as yourselves. I'm open to all and any ideas so just reach out.

I wanted to share some information with families that receive SNAP/EBT. There is a website: [www.Museums4all.org](http://www.Museums4all.org).

If you go to this website, it allows families on SNAP to attend museums for as little as \$3 for a family of 4!!! It is a good opportunity to plan some outings for the summer!

## MAC (Mariners Achievement Club)

This has been a good year for us, We have focused our efforts to organizing our schools shoe and clothes closet. We will be hosting a breakfast for lunch for our entire staff on April 1st, where these kids will be cooking up pancakes, eggs, and sausage for our staff on their own. We will be hosting Are you smarter than a Mariner? Which is kids going against the staff in basic trivia knowledge that will be live streamed by Mr. Hoyle and his crew. Finally, we will wrap up our year, with an end of the year celebration and car wash for the staff, during Staff Appreciation week!!! These children are all hard workers and pillars of the community, and I'm very proud of all of them.

## Title 1

Murdock Middle school is a title 1 school, which we are allowed to enrich the lives of our students educationally with others means like having small field trips. This year we have a few small field trips going out. We have already gone to Ringling Brothers museum with a history class, Imaginarium in fort Meyers with science class. within the next few weeks we will be going the Port Charlotte escape room, Mote aquarium with stem, as well as the Bishop Museum in Bradenton. We do our best to give these children the best experiences we can for them to learn outside the classroom.

I wanted to give some of our community partners a huge shout out, for helping with our kids at Murdock:

- Shipping Post
- Wells Fargo-Bishop Museum
- McDonalds in Port Charlotte on Cochran
- Port Charlotte Escape room
- Taste of Cuba in Port Charlotte
- Winterhaven Church
- Chik fil a in Port Charlotte

Chell Pender, Title 1 Family Associate



## Business 1 Class

In Mr. Park's Computer Applications in Business 1 class we are exploring columns and lists in a word processing document. Students created *bookmarks* using shapes, WordArt, Numbered Lists and Pictures.

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## From Our Assistant Principal

Hello Mariners!

It is that time of year when state testing approaches rather quickly. Please make sure that your child is staying on top of their grades and earning their credits in their core classes. The writing test is the first to occur which will be Thursday, April 7th. Students will have two hours to read the passages and the prompt, plan, and write their essays. Sixth graders will do this paper and pencil. Seventh and eighth graders will do this on the computer. The FSA Language Arts/Reading test will be delivered in two 80 minute sessions on May 3rd and 4th. Students will be expected to read and respond to multiple passages. Please remind them to read the questions first and to go back and find their evidence. The FSA Math test will be May 5th and 6th. Students will be expected to read and solve math problems in a timely manner. Eighth graders who are taking the Algebra 1 EOC will be held on May 12th and 13th. Our 7th graders are scheduled to take the Civics EOC on May 17th. Our 8th graders will take Science on May 17th as well. Final Exams are scheduled for the last week of school. I know that this seems like a lot but trust me, your child has been well prepared by their amazing teachers. Please help boost their confidence and encourage them to always do their best each and every day.

Mrs. Verwey, Assistant Principal

FSA Writing Grades 6-8	April 7, 2022
FSA ELA Grades 6-8	May 3-4, 2022
FSA Math Grades 6-8	May 5-6, 2022
Algebra 1 EOC (Select 8th graders)	May 12-13, 2022
Civics EOC (Select 8th graders)	May 16, 2022
Civics EOC (7th Grade)	May 17, 2022
Science 8th Graders	May 17, 2022
Final Exams Grades 6-8	May 23-26, 2022

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## 4.0 Luncheon



## Some of the Reading Regatta Winners!!!!!!



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**State-Level Officials**

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## 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
- Find a friend
- Ask for help
- Exit the area

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## Inside this Issue

Spring Media  
Center News

MAC: Mariners  
Achievement Club

Title 1, TAG

*and more!*

