



# TERRIER TIMES

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 4  
DECEMBER 2022

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is amazing how time flies and we have already come to Happy Holidays! During the recovery process post Hurricane Ian, we want to remind our Terrier families that we are here for support. Our school, district, and community have resources available for our students and families in need.

Our commitment to recovery is unwavering and our Terrier pride is stronger than ever. We will continue to communicate with our families during this period of transition.

We soon look forward to welcoming our students, teachers, administration, and support staff back into Port Charlotte Middle School after a long absence and time in the virtual world. Positive energy and smiles will quickly fill our hallways and campus demonstrating the unity in our community.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Mr. Matthew Kunder  
Principal

## ADMINISTRATION

Principal

**Matthew Kunder**

Assistant Principals

**Tara Whisenant**

**Jon Hock**

Dean

**Zack Wheeler**

Guidance Counselors

**Eric Grzechowiak**

**Alexa Manaski**

ESE Liaison

**Marjorie Lauture**

Social Worker

**Brittany Baumhardt**

School Resource Officer

**Deputy Anderson**

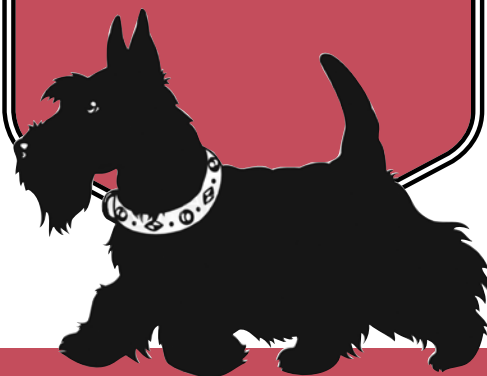
23000 Midway Blvd.  
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**Phone:** 941-255-7460

**Fax:** 941-255-7469

**Attendance Line:** 941-255-7467

**Office Hours:** 8:00 - 4:30



## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



### SEPTEMBER

#### 6th grade

Nathan Ordonez  
Sophia Schwint

#### 7th grade

Thomas Hughes  
Dora Gedeon

#### 8th grade

Emma Smith  
Victor Peters

### OCTOBER

#### 6th grade

Tessa Joy  
Curtis Clark

#### 7th grade

Immanuel Ortega  
Bryleigh Buckhave

#### 8th grade

Jason Peel  
Chloe Scimemi



#### 'Terrier Times'

December 2022 • Issue #4  
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Charlotte County Public Schools  
1445 Education Way  
Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1052



### PCMS TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Ms. Ford was selected by her colleagues for this much earned recognition. Ms Ford is also one of the five finalists for the District Teacher of the Year - please wish her well!

### PCMS SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Mrs. Mary McCall for being selected as Port Charlotte Middle School's support employee of the year!

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# 3

## MESSAGE FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Thank you to all parents, students, and staff for your support of our basketball programs this year. Our players were able to persevere through the difficult challenges facing us this year and put together a great season. Thank you Coach Webb and Coach Washington for providing your time and effort to coach these young men and women.

Volleyball season is fast approaching. Please make sure to submit physicals as soon as possible if your student intends to try out for volleyball. Physicals are due by Thursday, January 5th, and tryouts begin on Monday, January 9th.

Thank you again for your support. Go Terriers!

Zack Wheeler

## REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES OR THREATS

Students, parents, CCPS employees, and members of the community have a responsibility to report suspicious activities and potential threats to schools. Any suspicious activity or threat shall be promptly reported to one of the following individuals, agencies or reporting tools:

- School Resource Officer or local law enforcement agencies.
- School Administrator or any available staff member.
- **The FortifyFL Reporting APP** or to the Crimestoppers Tipline (1-800-780-TIPS).
- Contacting the Supervisor of District Security and Emergency Management at (941) 255-0808
- Calling 9-1-1.
- **Note: Reports may be done anonymously.**

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## TITLE 1 INFORMATION

All reports for our Title 1 program are available, upon request, in our Family Center, in the lobby of our front office, and on our website, under About Us - Title I. There you will find the link below.

### TITLE 1 PUBLISHED REPORTS & OTHER RESOURCES

- SPAR: School Accountability Report link available on our PCMS school website on Title I page [http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclbspar/year1617/nclb1617.cfm?dist\\_schl=8\\_131](http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclbspar/year1617/nclb1617.cfm?dist_schl=8_131) complete listing of schools that are at capacity (closed to reassignments) is also available on the school district's website. If you decide to select a school other than your child's assigned geographic school, be careful to research the special conditions such as athletic eligibility that are attached to reassignment obligations. Transportation is not provided for students who have obtained a reassignment. Out-of-County students no longer need to obtain a signature (release) from their county of residence. Parents or guardians who have any additional questions may call 941-255-0808, extension 2139.

## We need spots filled...



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# 5

## OUT OF FIELD TEACHERS

**The following teachers are currently teaching Out of Field:**

Irene Brewster	Math
Madeline Guerrero	Reading Endorsement and Missing ESOL/ELL hours or endorsement
Cherstin Haga	English and Reading Endorsement
Brittany Lynch	Reading Endorsement
Mayann Rasmussen	Social Science
Toni Salvatore	Media Specialist
Kimberly Smith	English
Molly Weschler	Science

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THE PATIENT AND ANY OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT HAS A RIGHT TO REFUSE TO PAY, CANCEL PAYMENT, OR BE REIMBURSED FOR PAYMENT FOR ANY OTHER SERVICE, EXAMINATION, OR TREATMENT THAT IS PERFORMED AS A RESULT OF AND WITHIN 72 HOURS OF RESPONDING TO THE ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE FREE, DISCOUNTED FEE, OR REDUCED FEE SERVICE, EXAMINATION, OR TREATMENT.





## VIRTUAL LEARNING INFORMATION

In order to support students during this time, instruction will continue through Canvas. Students should be logging in to Classlink each school day for attendance purposes and completing assignments in each of their courses. Teachers are available between 9:10 am-1:10 pm to provide support through Google Meets or Canvas posts, as well as via email. For tech support, please submit a Help Desk Ticket through Classlink at any time. Live tech support is available from 8:00 am-4:00 pm. Any additional support needed, please contact the Front Office at 941-255-7460.

### Tips and Tricks for Virtual Learning

When faced with the challenges presented by online learning, students should consider using the following tips and tricks to stay focused and succeed academically:

#### 1. Engage through Discussion Posts

When transitioning from in-person to online learning, it is important to socialize through online platforms. This offers a chance to further explore class content, gain a new perspective on a topic, and develop social-emotional skills. Participating in class discussion posts makes online learning more enjoyable; "researchers have found that a sociable learning environment results in increased learning satisfaction," (*7 tips for online learning: How to excel as an online student, 2020, para. 8*).

#### 2. Set Clear Goals

Without the structure of a set schedule, it is easy to become overwhelmed with the workload that comes from online learning. However, setting clear goals and breaking assignments into smaller steps can help students avoid feeling anxious and overwhelmed. "Take major assignments and break them into manageable pieces you can address step by step," (*7 tips for online learning: How to excel as an online student, 2020, para. 10*).

#### 3. Take a Break from Screen-Time

While using technology to access lessons for virtual learning is necessary, it's important to remember to take a break from screen-time each day. Reading a book, exercising, playing outside, or engaging in a creative art project are great ways to take a tech-free break. This has positive benefits for mental health and helps reset your focus, (*7 tips for online learning: How to excel as an online student, 2020*).

#### References:

- 7 tips for online learning: How to excel as an online student. (2020, November 17). Yale University: Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning. <https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/7-Tips-for-Online-Learning>

### Supporting Students Through Tough Times

While the safety and security of students remains a top priority, the Terrier family recognizes that this interruption to the learning environment has led to concerns about students' academic achievement. Rest assured that teachers are hard at work creating enriching and engaging lessons for virtual instruction. Additionally, there are resources and opportunities available to parents and students to support their learning during virtual instruction and after we transition back to the building.



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### Student Resources during Virtual Instruction:

- Technology issues can be addressed through help desk tickets on Classlink or by calling: 941-255-7460 and requesting the Help Desk.
- Teachers can be reached through Google Meets, Canvas email, or the Remind app to provide help and support
- Canvas contains all lessons for courses



### Tips for Supporting Students:

- Create a Set Work Schedule: Students will have an easier time transitioning back into the classroom if they stick to a routine during virtual instruction.
- Create a Quiet Work Space: Students need a quiet area that allows them to focus on school work throughout the day. Find a quiet area or room for your child to use during virtual learning.
- Be Flexible: This transition may be difficult for your child. Remember to be flexible as they adjust to the changes.
- Stay In Touch: Talk to your child about their school work and lessons to ensure they are engaging. Reach out to your child's teachers with any questions or concerns.
- Use School Resources: Once we return to in-person instruction, use the school resources to continue to support your student. Take advantage free math and English tutoring.



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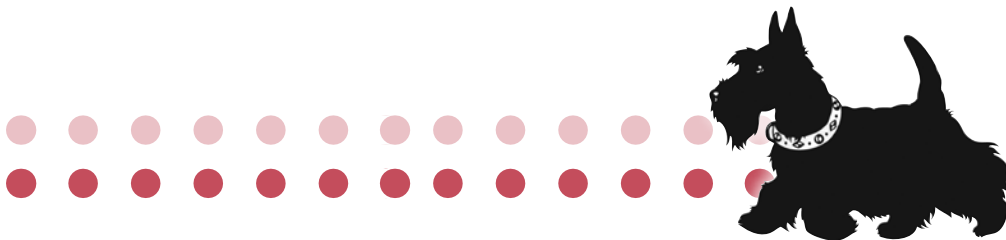
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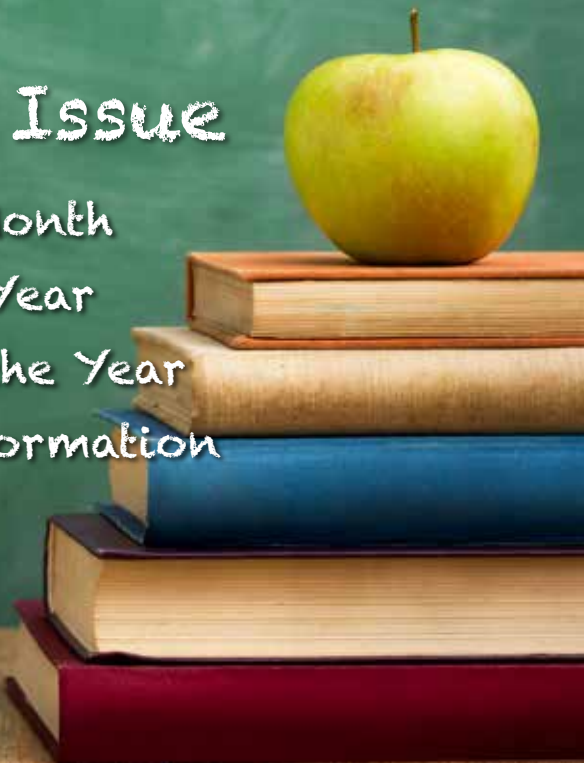
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Student of the Month  
Teacher of the Year  
Support Person of the Year  
Virtual Learning Information  
and more!



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