

APRIL 2023 • ISSUE 2

EAGLETIMES

Punta Gorda Middle School

1001 Education Ave.

Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Phone: 941-575-5485

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear parents or guardians,

I can't believe it is this time of year and we are starting the fourth quarter already. This edition of the newsletter is very important because it contains many important dates including state testing and final exams. Please take some time to look at the dates and do your best to avoid scheduling appointments on these days. We will begin testing first thing in the morning so please be sure to have your student here on time, ready to go by 9:10. I also need to let you know that even though we have the schedule set, there is still a chance the date(s) could change. If that is the case, we will let you know as soon as we know. Also, most of the testing is on the computer so if something happens and a group is unable to test, it may change the whole schedule, but we will do everything we can to keep it the way it is listed now. We have also included the dates for some of our end of year events. We will be having awards ceremonies by grade level. As we get closer to that time, you will receive an invitation if your student is receiving an award so you can plan accordingly. Our last day of school for this year is Friday, May 26th. The last day of regular classes is Monday, May 22nd and then we have exams May 23rd - 26th. School Board policy prohibits us from giving any exams before May 23rd so please do not plan on taking your child out of school early. Thanks for all your support and help this year

Justina Dionisio, Principal

Mrs. Justina Dionisio,
Principal

Ms. Renee McLain,
Assistant Principal, Discipline

Mr. William Porter
Dean of Students

Mrs. Erika Hippler
Dean of Students

Dr. Scott Nicklas,
*Assistant Principal,
Activities & Facilities*

Dr. Christine Young,
Assistant Principal, Curriculum

Mr. Douglas Barr,
School Counselor

Jasmine Puskey,
School Counselor

Tamra Thompson,
School Counselor

Where Eagles
SOAR Everyday!



NOTES for 8th grade Busch Gardens Field Trip
Wednesday, April 26, 2023

1. **DEPARTURE AND RETURN:** Be at PGMS by 7:45AM. We meet in the cafeteria. The buses leave by 8:00AM. We will not wait for you. We will be back at PGMS by 8 PM. Please have your ride be on time.
2. **DRESSCODE:** Dress comfortably! Wear a t-shirt with sleeves and decent-length shorts. No holes in your shorts! Bring a hat, sunglasses, etc. **WEAR SUNSCREEN!**

If you get soaked on a water ride, you may want to bring a change of clothes.

3. **BRING MONEY:** You need to bring money for lunch, snacks, plenty of water, etc. Do NOT rely on your chaperone or others to buy items for you. You may bring breakfast, snacks, etc. on the bus and even into the park. You will have to carry items brought into the park in a bag. If you need a bagged breakfast or lunch from Champ's Café, let Mrs. Combs know ASAP.

CHAPERONES: Thank you for volunteering! Please park in the CPAC parking lot. You will get a map with designated spots as we get closer to the trip.

Feel free to check out the Busch Gardens, Tampa Bay website for specific details about the park.

Any questions, email Mrs. Combs,
diane.combs@yourcharlotteschools.net



8th Grade Farewell Dance: An Enchanted Night
Date: Saturday, May 13, 2023 at PGMS cafe
Time: 6:30 – 9:00 P.M.

Enjoy a night to celebrate the end of middle school and the new chapter of high school beginning. PGMS eighth grade students will be able to dance to our awesome DJ, enjoy pizza/snacks/soda, and celebrate their accomplishments!

- **Tickets:** Tickets will go on sale Thursday, May 4th, 2023, for \$15.00. Tickets will be on sale in Mrs. Combs' room (315) in the mornings only (8:50-9:10). Tickets will be sold through Friday, May 12th and at the door the evening of the dance. Purchasing ahead of time is highly encouraged to avoid missing any dance time!
- **Students attending:** Only current PGMS eighth grade students may attend. (This means no students from other schools or students from other grades may attend the dance.)
- **Dress:** Attire for the dance should be nice and also tasteful. Girls may have dresses with spaghetti straps or strapless dresses if they wish.
- **Parent pick up:** Students may not leave the dance early once they arrive. Your ride must be ready and waiting at 9:00 P.M. sharp.
- All library fines must be paid in order to purchase a ticket.

If you are in doubt as to whether you owe a fine, please see Ms. Sheehan. Mrs. Combs will also have a list of all students who owe fines that will be checked at the time of ticket purchase.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Combs,
diane.combs@yourcharlotteschools.net

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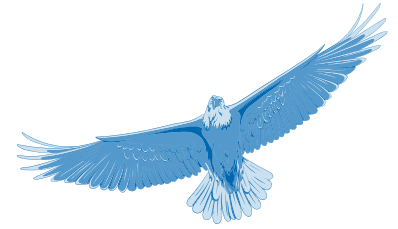
Summer Nicklas

summer.nicklas@yourcharlotteschools.net

Punta Gorda Middle School



The Punta Gorda Middle Fishing Team is working hard in the community. We have participated in several conservation projects and are always looking for more to do. The team recently had special visitors from Florida Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement Division visit our school. One of our most recent environmental projects was cleaning up the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center. Students broke out into teams to trailblaze and clean up debris. While Hurricane Ian hampered fishing efforts for a short time, students have been out and about actively fishing in our community.



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State Testing Info



Be sure to stay up to date on state testing information by visiting our school website and by listening to phone messages from Mrs. Dionisio or the district. If your contact information is not current, please update it in FOCUS or call the school at 941-575-5485.



Congratulations to the PGMS Volleyball Team on your District Championship!

Congratulations to Coach Jill Damico, Sammy Vega, Juliet Hurley, and Coach Erica Hurley on your 3 undefeated seasons in a row at PGMS!



Go Eagles!

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News from Computers

PGM 8th grader Jaclyn Smith spearheaded the Teacher Sign project in Mrs. Welton's 8th grade computer class this winter. Using presentation software skills learned in class, students worked with teachers to design and create signs that will help students locate and stay with their teachers during emergency drills. Jaclyn was the perfect person to coordinate the project, since she has Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and Word Expert certifications that she has earned as a student at PGMS.



If you would like to purchase yearbooks for students at the regular price of \$40, please do so soon, before they are sold out. If more than one yearbook is purchased, you will receive a discount. To make your purchase easy, simply click on the QR code and you will be directed to the site to make your purchase. Please contact renee.council@yourcharlotteschools.net with any questions.



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News from Band

Members of the Punta Gorda Middle School Band will be performing for local Seniors in our community on May 18. Wish them luck!



The PGMS PBIS team has been working hard this school year to celebrate student success! Our team is committed to helping students achieve improved social and academic outcomes, discipline issues, and support our staff along the way. With PBIS, families, students, and school personnel set goals and work together to achieve positive outcomes. Beyond daily interaction, each quarter, the team has been actively showcasing students that are making good choices on campus with our Eagle Buck reward system. Our S.O.A.R.-ing Eagle Awards and Eagle Bucks ensure that students see the impact their positive behaviors have on our campus with daily/weekly prizes and recognition.

Our second quarterly award recognition day was a huge success for all grade levels. Many Eagle Bucks earned are being spent in classrooms and at the school store. **Quarter 3 rewards will be celebrated on April 6th at the next PBIS Activity Day.** Keep earning those Eagle Bucks and SOARing Eagle awards, Eagles! We are so proud of you!

If you are a member of the community or own a business that would like to contribute to the PBIS efforts at our school, through donations, please contact Team Leaders, Summer Nicklas (summer.nicklas@yourcharlotteschools.net) or Eric Comment (eric.comment@yourcharlotteschools.net).



Art Club students are putting the finishing touches on their ceramic pieces. It seems that hearts are their favorite objects to create. That's really sweet!



Happy Hour

3PM-6PM M-F

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Congratulations to the Girls Basketball team on their District Championship Title!

Congratulations to the Boys Basketball team on a job well done in the Championship game!

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Important Dates



April 6th - Jog-A-Thon & PBIS Day

April 7th – No School – Good Friday

April 10th – SAC Meeting

April 26th – 8th Grade Field Trip (Busch Gardens)

April 29th – Spring Play

May 2nd – FAST Testing – ELA – All Grades

May 3rd – National Junior Honor Society Induction (7:00 pm)

May 9th – FAST Testing – Math – All Grades

May 16th – Science Testing – 8th Grade and Civics EOC – 7th Grade

May 17th – Algebra EOC – 8th Grade

May 18th – 7th grade End of Year Awards (2:00 pm) and 8th grade End of Year Awards (7:00 pm)

May 19th – 6th grade End of Year Awards (2:00 pm)

May 23rd – 26th – Semester Exams

May 26th – Last Day of School for Students