



**BOOKER MIDDLE
SCHOOL**

MARCH 2018

THE TORNADO WATCH

Parent(s) and Guardian(s):

Wow! I can't believe the end of the year is quickly approaching. As you know, it is much harder to keep the students' focus on academics when the beautiful weather is beckoning our attention. You too, may be experiencing SPRING FEVER! To whatever extent you can, please continue to encourage your children to be attentive to their school work. The last weeks of school require great effort from students, since "the end is in sight!"

The great strides students have made this year can be lost in the final weeks of school if the students lose their focus. Therefore, please be reminded that everything counts. If we live our lives and educate our children to understand that everything we do has an effect, I believe that it will change the climate of our homes and schools.

Your cooperation and communication with your student(s) teachers and administrators is the key to great achievement. I urge you to continue your involvement with the school community. Please use the web-site to keep informed about the school and feel free to e-mail to offer suggestions, thoughts, and ideas. By working together, we can provide an effective educational environment for your student(s) and our community at large.

As always, your help is appreciated!

Sincerely,

Dr. LaShawn Frost

Dr. LaShawn Frost

Principal



VOTE MARCH 20, 2018: The referendum allows Booker Middle School to receive \$1,013,399 that funds important programs at our school. #SupportSarasotaKids | Read More: <http://bit.ly/SupportSarasotaKids-March20>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations, Students of the Month!!

Josh Anderson
 Jubilee Barrientos
 Jenaisa Behn
 Jamal Campbell
 Ursula Cook
 Luke Cooper
 Alanis Cruz
 Francisco De La Cruz-Molano
 Jonathan De Marini
 Olivia Duquesany
 Lucy Eiseman
 Alexa Gavia
 Nasya Glover
 Jazmyne Goddard
 Stephanie Gomez

Melisa Gutierrez-Padilla
 Lanarria Howard
 Jon'Asia Johnson
 Rocky Leon
 Margarita Leon-Freay
 Brandon Lozano
 Dennise Martinez
 Bryan Martinez-Flores
 Samantha Miller
 Hong Nguyen
 Jerry Oliance
 Jaylen Oliver
 Larah Periera
 Figueroa
 Raniyah Perry

Marcello Quevedo
 Edward Reaves
 Arturo Rodriguez
 Christopher Rudolph
 Anastasia Samedi
 Zyaire Singleton
 Dylan Tunstall
 Ever Valdez
 Alexandra Vidal
 Alicia Walls
 Anaiya Walls
 Paige Weaver
 Dionjana Williams
 Olivia Williams
 Ameera Williams

Testing Season

Thank you for assisting us with the testing season. You can continue to help us by ensuring that your student gets to school on time as we continue. Speak with your student about the importance of doing their best on the assessment and make sure they are getting enough sleep and are starting their day with a healthy breakfast

2017-2018 School Registration

School course selection will be distributed to students within the next few weeks. Please support your student through this process and ensure that you register and update your

Counselor's Corner

This time of year, school counselors check grades and meet with students for academic advisement to make sure they are prepared for next school year. It's a time of transition. Eighth graders are getting ready for high schools and 5th graders are preparing for the giant leap into middle school.

High school counselors visit 8th graders on our campus to register students for classes at their districted school.

Riverview and Sarasota high school counselors visit the week of March 12th. Booker high school counselors will visit the week of March 19th.

During the school day on March 22nd, incoming 6th graders will tour our campus. Later that evening their parents are invited to a "showcase" at 5:30 p.m. in the Media Center. It will be an opportunity to spotlight our various programs and academies.

ARTS CORNER

VPA Student Spotlight is on...

AUKAN COLIGUANTE-RIVERO

Editor's Note: We apologize to Aukan for the misprint of his name and are re-running his Student Spotlight with the correct information. We apologize for our error!



6th grader Aukan Coliguante-Rivero is a young man with a curious and quick mind and, as he says, "restless fingers." He is able to put both of those traits to good use as he expertly plays the piano in Mr. Nielsen's jazz band. Aukan's work in his first year has been a real stand-out! Mr. Nielsen says, "He our new up-and-comer pianist, who takes it very seriously and works very diligently. I'm actually writing him alternate parts. He's currently playing the trombone section because we don't have a trombone, along with 3 other parts. His work is very different than that of the rest of the jazz band and he goes home and works with his teacher, then a day or two later comes in with it ready. It's quite impressive!"

It is no wonder Aukan is such a talented pianist. He has been taking lessons at Music Compound since he was less than 5 years old! "I've always liked the piano. That is my passion," he stated. He then amended, "Band is half my passion and robotics is the other half. I'm kind of stuck in-between the two." The two both allowing him to "fiddle with his hands and expand my mind." This student is clearly wise beyond his years.

When he is not busy on campus with band or robotics he might be found working with the science fair club. He recently attended a science fair on Wednesday, January 31st. He said his big take-away from the event was that, "you can always learn new things and there are always opportunities to make new friends."

Aukan is looking forward to leveling out his knowledge, making new friends, and setting new goals at Booker Middle. "I want to explore and check out my options," he said. This eloquent 6th grader had this to offer students thinking of attending BMS, "Try your best to be a nice person and do what you think is right. Find the balance between going with the flow and making waves. You are going to have to be independent one day so start thinking independently." And to everyone he'd like to say, "There are people who can't speak for themselves. Sometimes they need you to speak and advocate for them. I know sometimes I just want to be heard."

Thanks for your wonderful words Aukan. We can't wait to see what awaits you here at BMS!

Aukan's Artist Pick:
Jimmy Forrest

"I've really liked playing 'Night Train.'"

Musician: Tenor Saxophone (1920-1980)

Jimmy Forrest is an American jazz musician, who played tenor saxophone throughout his career. Forrest is known for his first solo recording of "Night Train". It reached No. 1 on the Billboard R&B chart in March 1952, and stayed at the top for seven weeks. "Hey Mrs. Jones" (No. 3 R&B) and "Bolo Blues" were his other hits. All were made for United Records, which recorded Forrest between 1951 and 1953. He recorded frequently as both a sideman and a bandleader.



HAPPENING IN MARCH

BMS GENERAL

CULVER'S FAMILY NIGHT

Tuesday, March 6th
5:00-9:00 PM @ Culver's

CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN FAMILY NIGHT

Wednesday, March 14th
5:00-8:00 PM @ CPK

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Tuesday, March 20th
5:00-6:00 PM @ BMS

SAC MEETING

Tuesday, March 20th
6:00-7:30 PM @ BMS

BMS "SHOWCASE" FOR INCOMING FAMILIES

Thursday, March 22nd
5:30 PM @ BMS Media Center

VPA & Arts

MUSICAL: "Pirates of Penzance"

Friday, March 2nd
7:00 PM @ Booker High

MUSICAL: "Pirates of Penzance"

Saturday, March 3rd
2:00 PM AND 7:00 PM @ Booker
High

SPRING BAND CONCERT

Tuesday, March 13th
7:00 PM @ BMS

SPRING CHORUS CONCERT

Tuesday, March 20th
7:00 PM @ BMS

DRAGONFLY CAFE

Thursday, March 22nd
6:30 PM @ BMS Rm. 130

SPORTS AND ATHLETICS

TRACK & FIELD

Thursday, March 8th
4:30 @ Laurel

TRACK & FIELD

Tuesday, March 20th
3:30 @ North Port High

TRACK & FIELD

Thursday March 22nd
3:30 @ North Port High

Save the Date!

Master Classes FUNRAISER

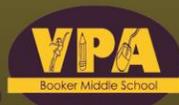


Saturday April 28th
4:00 - 7:30 PM
Booker Middle School

Parents and community members are invited to experience all the arty fun as you participate in visual and performing arts masterclasses taught by our own Booker Middle visual and performing arts teachers. Choose up to 2 fun-filled arts classes*to enjoy and join us for a reception afterwards.

Proceeds from the event will support Booker Middle School's arts education programs.

\$80 Single ticket or \$200 2 VIP tickets
LARGE PARTY? ASK ABOUT PURCHASING A MASTER PACKAGE!!



For reservations call VPA Coordinator Savannah Holds
(504) 813-2099
email bookermiddlevpa@gmail.com or visit
<http://bookermiddleschoolvpa.weebly.com>

Created by Booker's VPA Digital Design Program



Every day, Sarasota County School's EdExploreSRQ program is bringing learning to life for students in grades K-12. Through in-class and field trip Explorations, students are engaging in interactive learning experiences to deepen their understanding of:

- Arts
- Science
- Language Arts
- Social Studies
- Mathematics
- Careers & Technology



Learn more at EdExploreSRQ.com

REMEMBER HURRICANE IRMA?



While things are back to normal here, Puerto Rico is still living through Maria.

Almost five months later and still ...

- Over 450,000 without power or potable water.
- Over 300 schools still closed.
- Hundreds have lost their jobs, spent their savings, and are now losing their homes.
- Thousands of homes are destroyed with families living in inhumane conditions.
- Most roads and bridges in coastal and mountain areas are destroyed.

SRQ Helps Puerto Rico is a local non-profit initiative that is identifying and assisting those that have not been reached or that are still living in precarious conditions.

We need your help & donations!
VISIT OR EMAIL FOR MORE INFO:

 SRQ Florida Helps Puerto Rico
srqhelpspuertorico@gmail.com



Help our school earn \$\$\$\$! Please clip box tops off participating products and encourage your friends and family to clip as well! You can bring them to the front office of our school.

NEWS AND UPDATES

Staff/Student Basketball Game

Students and staff got to show their competitive spirit this month as they squared off in the Staff vs. Student Basketball Game. Everyone had a wonderful time. The students fought a good fight, but the staff were victorious this year. Look out next year though... students are coming for you staff members!



All-Girl Tech Team

February 28th- March 3rd Mr. Baxter brought our all-female TSA team to compete against 1600 students from across the state in various technology competitions at the Technology Student Association State Competition at Universal in Orlando. In the initial round they made the top 10 in all of their events which is a high honor in itself. In the final round, results were as follows:

Prepared Speech – 2nd place (Ursula Kushner)

Tech Bowl – 4th place (Ursula Kushner, Madeline Seah, Summer Storm)

Children's Stories – 4th place (Madeline Seah)

The next two entries were events in which mostly male and/or high school students competed.

Coding – 9th place (Madeline Seah, Summer Storm)

Vex Robotics – DNF after preliminary due to motor failure in drivetrain. (Ursula Kushner, Madeline Seah, Summer Storm)



Orchestra and Guitar Concert

On Thursday February 8th our Orchestra and Guitar students gave an absolutely dazzling performance. The audience was amazed at how proficient our beginner students have ALREADY become this year and how expert our advanced level players are. Thank you to Mr. Silva and Mr. Martin who put together this wonderful performance, and congrats to all our talented students.



Chickens In McCarthy Class

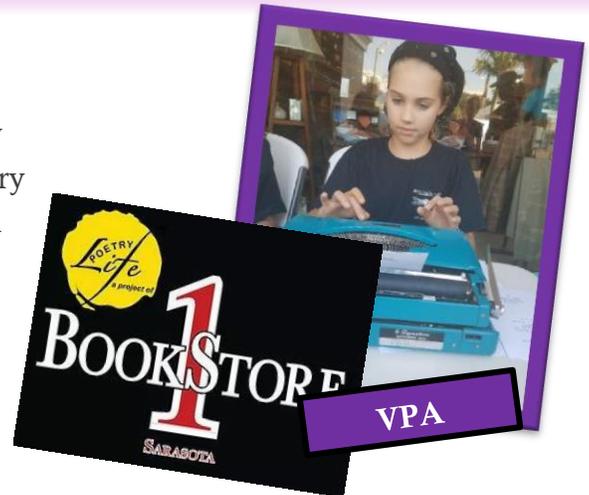
Mr. McCarthy's 7th grade science students were given the amazing opportunity to witness first-hand the miracle of nature. They watched in class and over a live stream as 3 eggs hatched into 3 precious baby chicks on February 9th. How cute are they?!



... BUT WAIT... THERE'S MORE!

Dragonflies Downtown

“Just Your Type of Poetry” on the first Friday of February in the vestibule of Bookstore One, downtown. It was poetry on demand for the many patrons and passers-by. Personal poems just for you.



CFES Student Scholar Symposium

Our Booker Middle School College For Every Student Scholar Symposium was such a fantastic event. Several of our students spoke as well as guest speaker, CFES president/CEO Rick Dalton.



VEX Robotics State Championship

Booker Middle School robotics students advanced to Florida VEX Robotics State Championship held at the Florida State Fairgrounds in Tampa. They had a wonderful time and did our school proud!



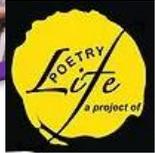
Theatre Students Shine At States

We are so proud to announce the official results from the Florida State Junior Thespian Festival! All nine students medaled in addition to attending amazing workshops and seeing thrilling performances from other students across the state of Florida. Well done students! **Here are the results:**

- Evangeline Brancati, Sage Leiber, and Nicole Parisi – EXCELLENT for “Ensemble Acting”
- Isabela Pizarro – EXCELLENT for “Monologue”
- Isabela Pizarro – SUPERIOR for “Solo Musical”
- Jackson Carney – SUPERIOR for “Monologue”
- Christina Brush and Anthony Lobo – SUPERIOR for “Improvisation”
- Abigail Holdway – SUPERIOR for “Monologue”
- Abigail Holdway – SUPERIOR for “Solo Musical”
- Marielena Savino – SUPERIOR for “Solo Musical”



... BUT WAIT... THERE'S MORE!



Dragonfly Café Poetry Banners

Dragonfly cafe received a check from poetry life sponsor and Bookstore 1 owner, Georgia Court, for poetry banners to be hung downtown for the month of April. Keep an eye out downtown for the work of our wonderful Ms. Fox and the Dragonfly Café!

FMEA Guitar Festival

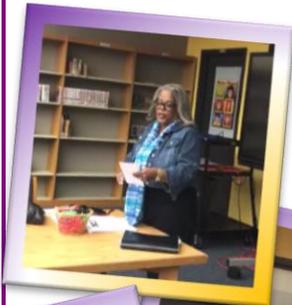
Mr. Silva brought some of his advanced level guitar students to the Florida Music Education Association's Guitar Festival. It was a day full of guitar activities including ensemble performances from elementary, middle and high school programs. It was a wonderful opportunity to perform, get feedback, and be inspired by other guitar programs.



Re-Wards Celebrates Black History Month

The ReWards program brought a wonderful group of speakers to the BMS's After School Enrichment program centered around Black History Month. The students were inspired by the incredible stories and messages of the speakers. Check them out on Facebook: ReWards Sports LLC

- Mrs. Kathy Marsh is the Museum Specialist for the Family Heritage House Museum at State College of Florida, Bradenton
 - Bro Lance Shabazz is a business owner and community leader.
 - Nate Brown is the club director from The Roy McBean Boys and Girls Club,
- &
Return guest Mr Arthur Larkins



Scholastic Art and Writing Awards

BMS had two students place in the eastern regional writing competition.

Alma Dasberg received a Golden Key award. Her poem is headed to the national evaluations.

Sophia Famiglio received a regional Honorable Mention.



... BUT WAIT... THERE'S MORE!

College and Career Readiness Workshop

Sid Friedman of the Education Foundation and Mr. Termine hosted a First Impressions workshop for Ms. Shaffer's sixth grade students. They discussed the importance of respectful interaction with the students and of eye contact, body language and word choice when speaking with anyone they interact with. Each student then had a chance to make an introduction. These students deserve to feel proud of their accomplishments and of who they are.

We're hoping to host more workshops like this so our students have opportunities to work on their personal development alongside their academics.



A Visit To The Opera

Mrs. Chapman's VPA Chorus students were treated to a day at Sarasota Opera and got to watch their wonderful production of Carmen through the opera's Opera Exploration program. Not only did they get to see the production, but they were also treated to activities and talk-backs that made the production come alive. Thank you to Sarasota Opera for offering our students such a wonderful opportunity!

	Booker Middle School Parent University Club <small>(receive free gifts and prizes, attend 7 and be inducted into the Parent university club).</small>
	Parent Full Name <hr/> ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Have you attended Parent University Workshops during the 2017-2018 school year?

If you have attended at least 7, you will be invited to be inducted into the Parent University Club. We will be having a dinner and celebration to honor your achievement. This event will be announced in May, so stay tuned. We congratulate you in advance and appreciate the hours you have given to support the educational needs of your student.

BOOKER MIDDLE
Booker Middle School
Arts Ads & Giving



Luminary*
 \$30,000 and Up!
 One Year

Muse*
 \$10,000 to \$29,999
 One Upgrade

Benefactor*
 \$5,000 to \$9,999
 One Initiative

Partner*
 \$2,500 to \$4,999
 One Discipline

Patron
 \$1000 to \$2,499
 One Performance

Subscriber
 \$250 to \$999
 One Student

Member
 \$50 to \$249

Sponsorships
 Student T-Shirt Sponsor(s) - \$3,000 (for the year)
 Arts Moment Sponsor - \$300 (for a month)
 VPA Student of the Month Sponsor - \$200

Advertising
 Newsletter Advertisement: \$150
 Program Outside and Inside Covers: \$125
 Program Full Page: \$100
 Program Half Page: \$55
 Program Quarter Page: \$30
 Program Eighth Page: \$20



Event Subscriptions
 Access to all VPA events - \$50 (1 person)
 VIP Access to all VPA events - \$250 (2 people)

TO FIND OUT MORE EMAIL BOOKERMIDDLEVPA@GMAIL.COM OR CALL (504)813-2099

*With the sponsorship of a specific discipline you will receive recognition and advertising opportunities specific to that discipline

CALENDARS

Making a plan for later in the year?

Check out all our school's calendars to make sure you know what is going on!



2017-18 calendar

sarasotacountyschools.net

JULY 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/ 30	24/ 31	25	26	27	28	29

3rd-7th - Non work days-240 day staff
24th - 220 Day staff return

AUGUST 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

7th - 196 day staff return
14th - School starts. 186 day staff return

SEPTEMBER 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3		5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

4th - Labor Day (students and all staff)

OCTOBER 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

13th - End of first grading period
16th - Professional Day (students, 186 day staff)

NOVEMBER 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22			25
26	27	28	29	30		

22nd-24th - Thanksgiving (students, 186, 196, 220 day staff)
23rd-24th - Thanksgiving (240 day staff)

DECEMBER 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/ 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

21st - End of second grading period
22nd - Professional Day (students, 186 day staff)
25th-29th - Winter Break (students and all staff)

JANUARY 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14		16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

1st-5th - Winter Break (students and all staff)
8th - Classes resume
15th - Martin Luther King Day (students and all staff)

FEBRUARY 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18		20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

19th - Presidents Day (students and all staff)

MARCH 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

13th - End of third grading period
16th - Professional Day (students, 186 day staff)
26th-30th - Spring Break (students and all staff)

APRIL 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

2nd - Classes resume

MAY 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27		29	30	31		

24th - Last day for students, 186 day staff
28th - Memorial Day (all staff)
29th - Last day for 196 day staff

JUNE 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

18th - Last day for 220 day staff



PARENT UNIVERSITY

5:30PM-6:30PM

AUGUST 30TH

SEPTEMBER 27TH

OCTOBER 19TH

NOVEMBER 30TH

DECEMBER 19TH

JANUARY 31ST

FEBRUARY 8TH

MARCH 15TH

MAY 16TH



PARENT INVOLVEMENT

5:00PM-6:00PM

AUGUST 29TH

SEPTEMBER 26TH

OCTOBER 24TH

NOVEMBER 28TH

DECEMBER 12TH

JANUARY 23RD

FEBRUARY 27TH

MARCH 20TH

APRIL 24TH

MAY 15TH



SAC

6:00PM-7:15PM

AUGUST 29TH

SEPTEMBER 26TH

OCTOBER 24TH

NOVEMBER 28TH

DECEMBER 12TH

JANUARY 23RD

FEBRUARY 27TH

MARCH 20TH

APRIL 24TH

MAY 15TH

FAMILY NIGHTS

See you there!

Come visit our generous community partners on their scheduled night and a portion of the profits from that evening is donated to our school! Flyers with details and coupons will be distributed at school. **Invite your friends!**

March 6th
5:00PM-8:00PM

Culver's Night
Culver's
2605 University Pkwy

March 14th
11:00AM-10:00PM

California Pizza Kitchen Night

192 N Cattlemen Rd #1

10/4/2017



Booker Middle School VPA Public Events Calendar 2017/2018

October

- 10 Fall Band Concert (7:00)
- 12 Fall Orchestra Concert (7:00)
- 19 Dragonfly Café (6:30) Rm 130
- 24 Fall Chorus Concert (7:30)

November

- 9 Vet Day Chorus Concert (Sarasota High)
- 9 Drama Showcase (7:00) (Amphitheater)
- 10 Drama Showcase (7:00) (Amphitheater)

December

- 5 Art/Multimedia/Poetry Show (6:00) (Gallery)
- 5 Joint Winter Music Concert (7:00)

January

- 11 Magnet Night
- 13 Winter Dance Concert (7:00) (Booker High School)
- 18 Dragonfly Café (6:30) Rm 130

February

- 8 Guitar & Orchestra Concert (7:00)
- 10 External Auditions

March

- 2 Musical (Booker High 7:00)
- 3 Musical (Booker High 2:00)
- 3 Musical (Booker High 7:00)
- 13 Spring Band Concert (7:00)
- 20 Spring Chorus Concert (7:00)
- 22 Dragonfly Café (6:30) Rm 130

April

- 12 Spring Drama Showcase (7:00) (amphitheater)
- 13 Spring Drama Showcase (7:00)
- 17 Instrumental Recital (Band) (7:00)
- 27 Dragonfly Café Away (6:30)

May

- 12 Spring Dance Concert (7:00) (Booker High)
- 15 Spring Joint Music Concert (7:00)
- 17 Art/Multimedia Show (5:30)
- 17 Dragonfly Café Swan Song (6:30)
- 21 Musical Theatre Cabaret (7:00) (Rm 407 Black Box Theater)
- 22 Dance Concert, Informal (7:00)

For more information on Booker Middle School Visual and Performing Arts events or admissions, contact VPA Coordinator Savannah Holds at bookermiddlevpa@gmail.com

Parental Notification Principal Attestation of Qualifications For Teachers and Paraprofessionals

Booker Middle School
Sarasota County School District

As required by P.L. 107-110, Section 1119(i) of Title I, Part A, I attest to the following for the school year 2017-2018:

- All teachers teaching in core academic subject areas and hired after the first day of 2001-2003 school year and teaching in a program and supported by Title I, Part A funds, are highly qualified.
- All instructional paraprofessionals, (except for translations and parental involvement activities) meet the requirements to be considered highly qualified.

Copies of this attestation are available at the school and district office and will be made available to the general public upon request.

Dr. LaShawn Frost

Title I Booklet Distribution

What is “Parent’s-Right-to-Know”

Federal law requires that the Sarasota County School District notify parents of all children in Title I schools of their rights to receive timely information on the professional qualifications of their child’s teacher. Parents may request information about the professional qualifications of the student’s classroom teacher including, at a minimum, the following:

- Whether the teacher has met the state qualifications and certification criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or certification criteria has been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certificate or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications

[Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1112]

If you did not receive a Title I booklet, please notify Debra Alvis-Greenwald (941)359-5824 or debra.alvis-greenwald@sarasotacountyschools.net

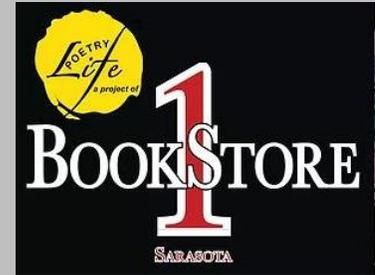
WE ARE SO LUCKY TO HAVE WONDERFUL

donors, volunteers, partners, and supporters!



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

of Sarasota County



EDUCATION FOUNDATION
OF SARASOTA COUNTY



A huge THANK YOU to Freddy's
for recognizing our teacher of the
month with \$100.00 visa card and
students with ice cream

Victoria Warren

Drew Carney

Kelly Carney

Janine Gevas

Colleen Buchmeier

Cathy Brush

Stacey Gold Leiber

Maria Savino

Kathy Pizarro



A Message from Superintendent Bowden on School Safety: Sunday, February 25, 2018

This is Todd Bowden, superintendent of Sarasota County Schools. The last two weeks have been trying for all of us as we've dealt with the loss of colleagues, friends and loved ones in Parkland, FL. In addition, we've had to deal with several threats to our own schools – the overwhelming majority of which were false alarms. Regardless of the threat, all of them have been carefully researched and investigated by our director of Safety and Security, School Resource Officers and local law enforcement. They have done a heroic job keeping us safe and protected, and we are thankful for their service.

The safety and security of our students is paramount to all we do. Our motto of "education first, safety always" has never been truer than it is today. I'm encouraged. The efforts made by Governor Scott and lawmakers in Tallahassee to enhance the safety of our schools is a positive first step to working with school districts across the state to keep our students safer. The School Board and I look forward to working with the Governor as well as the House, Senate and local law enforcement on any proposals that benefit our students and their continued safety and well-being.

I'm also encouraged by the resiliency of our students and community. Yesterday I had the pleasure of attending a Baltimore Orioles spring training game with many of our middle school students and their families, as well as BJ Ivey from Riverview High School, who was recognized as a community hero during the game for his inspiration to athletes and the students in his care. I was surrounded by kids laughing, playing around and rooting for the home team. For the first time in a couple of weeks, there was normalcy and positive energy. That's what I want to focus on tomorrow – the positive energy that stems from the knowing our children are safe, and the business of educating and inspiring our students every day. I look forward to seeing everyone on campus tomorrow and appreciate your support during this trying time. Thank you and have a blessed evening.

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