

School Phone 239-481-2233

School Website http://cyh.leeschools.net

Vision

Empowering students to succeed in a changing world.

Mission

Students graduating from CLHSCA will be independent thinkers and responsible citizens with the skills and knowledge to make quality decisions ensuring future success.



Principal's Message

Panther families,

We are already halfway through the 3rd quarter. Second semester is a time when students are focusing on maintaining good grades in their classes by doing their classwork and homework, turning it in on time, studying for tests and quizzes and doing their very best on classroom, district and state assessments. We call it "Prime Time", because this is when we really have a laser focus on academics at Cypress Lake High School. Juniors and Seniors are taking SAT and ACT tests, Seniors are finishing college and trade school applications, and scholarship applications are being completed. Our College and Career Counselor and our School Counselors are hard at work



preparing our upper-classmen to transition to post-secondary opportunities, like college, trade schools, the military or careers. Underclassmen are getting ready for the new Florida Assessment for Student Thinking (FAST) assessments in reading and English classes, which will measure proficiency in Florida's Benchmarks For Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) and End of Course Exams in Biology, Algebra, Geometry, and U.S. History.

Towards the end of March, students will begin meeting one-on-one with their School Counselors to select their classes for next year and to look at their progress towards graduation. Students need to maintain a GPA above 2.0 and have at least 24 credits to graduate from a Florida High School. Parents, you can always check to see how your Panther is doing in school through the FOCUS Parent Portal. If you do not have an account, you will want to go to our website, cyh.leeschools.net, to get information on how to register for an account, because interims and report cards are all done online now through the portal. Help your Panther to be successful by checking their grades and attendance often. Students need to be in school to learn. Make sure your student is here, on time, every day to make sure they do their best in class and on the upcoming assessments.

We have so many activities and celebrations upcoming: art and sports banquets, academic awards, Prom, and Grad Bash, to name a few. The CLHS Class of 2023 will be graduating at 2:30 on Saturday, May 20th at FSW Arena. We are beginning our Spring sport season, so come out to support our Panther Athletes in Baseball, Softball, Lacrosse, Tennis, and Track and Field. Cypress Lake High School is truly a special place to be. We like to say, "You will learn here, you will grow here, you will amaze yourself here." Come and be amazed by our Panthers this Spring at a performance, game, or event.

Sincerely, Angela Roles

To download a pdf version of this newsletter, go to http://www.academypublishing.com/schools/cypresslake/cypresslake.php
Translation of the newsletter is available in Spanish and Creole. Contact the Main Office for details.

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Issue #2

The School Board of Lee County, Florida

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www.leeschools.net

The School Board of Lee County, Florida, prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, marital status, religion, or sexual orientation.



Out of Field Teachers

Florida State Statute 1012.42 recognizes that teachers at times must be assigned duties in a class outside the field in which the teacher is certified. The following teachers at Cypress Lake High School are certified, but may be assigned one or more classes outside their areas of certification and are required to take appropriate steps to comply with the statutory regulation.

Bryce Briggs	Physical Education K-12	
Brock Harding	English 6-12	
Casey Howard	Mathematics 5-9	
Elroy Powell	Elem Ed K-6 & ESE K-12	

In addition, the following teachers are engaged in training to add English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) to their certificates.

Erin Williams - David Greenberg - Samantha Wolff - Deborah Jo Dover - Khrystyne Graves -Austin Hayman - Casey Howard - Andrew McCarley -Brock Harding - Lee Ann Gordon -McKenzie Velez - Elroy Powell



Yearbook News

The <u>deadline</u> is getting closer to guarantee your student a copy of the 2022-2023 yearbook! All orders placed by March 1st will be guaranteed a copy, orders after that will be available on a first come, first serve basis.

ORDER NOW. The staff is working so hard to create an amazing book of memories to showcase all the REAL, wonderful experiences students have here at Cypress Lake High School and Center for the Arts.

Buy The Year book.com

School code – 707506



Leave the Scene Clean Art Contest

Congratulations! Ace Sotelo was chosen as the first-place winner for grades 10th-12th for the Leave the Scene Clean art contest. Veronica Parker and Lesley Montalban were also chosen as Honorable Mention winners for grades 10th-12th!

Ace's winning illustration will be enlarged and appear on a Lee County Waste Pro truck and will be printed on a reusable tote bag. The trucks will be revealed in April at the awards and the bags will be available in the fall.

The awards reception will be on Monday, April 3rd from 5pm-7pm at the Edison & Ford Winter Estates and the winning artwork will be on display in the Caretaker's House through the end of April in honor of Earth month.



Lesley Montalban







CAPE CORAL FORT I

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IROTC Panther Battalion News

We are extremely proud of the Cypress Lake High School JROTC Panther Battalion and their recent accomplishments and their drive to seek the mantle of leadership! Over the past few weeks, both our Drone and Robotics Teams won the District Championships and qualified to compete in the WORLD competitions in Texas in April.



In addition, our JROTC Leadership Team competed and earned the top title in the district and continue toward the National Leadership Competition.

Our Marksmanship Team had a great season and placed top 6 in the district. Panther Proud!

In early February, JROTC students traveled to Tampa and visited the University of South Florida (USF) and University of Tampa (UT). JROTC students spent the entire day touring both campuses and experiencing opportunities and campus life. In addition to a campus orientation tour, students received an admissions and financial information presentation by university administrators, graduate students and Senior ROTC members.

During the month of February, JROTC students took part in the annual Food Drive to support the Community

Cooperative. The Food Drive provides an opportunity for students to donate and participate in community service significantly impacting the capabilities of the Community Cooperative's mission to fight hunger.

We are extremely proud of Cypress Lake Senior Annabelle Mehrhoff, who in January, was awarded the Corporal Tommy Jardas Foundation Scholarship. The annual scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior who is in excellent academic standing and has submitted an essay about their experience at Cypress Lake High School and their future goals. Congratulations, Annabelle!



CLHS University of Tampa Trip 2023

Cape Coral Technical College and Fort Myers Technical College

Any Senior wanting to attend one of our local Technical Colleges in the Fall will need to apply ASAP when the application opens at 8:00AM on Monday, March 6th. Students should have all documents downloaded and saved onto their Chromebook prior to application opening so that the application process and document uploading can go smoothly. All necessary information can be found on each schools' website.

- https://capecoraltech.edu/admissions/
- https://fortmyerstech.edu/futurestudents/admissions/

Florida Southwestern College DECISION DAY

FSW will be on campus Friday, March 10th for DECISION DAY! This is a great opportunity for Seniors to apply for FREE and get an instant decision! Students will be able to sign up for a time by e-mailing Ranaeaa@leeschools.net.



FAFSA & FFAA

It is so important for SENIORS to complete their FAFSA and FFAA (Florida Bright Futures). Our last on campus FAFSA help day will be March 14th in the library from 8:30 - 12:30.

FAFSA https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa FFAA https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg. org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home





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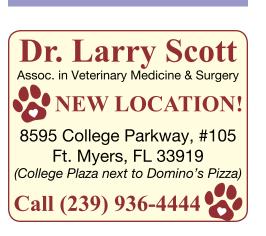




Just a few more opportunities remain for students to schedule their SAT and ACT for this school year. Spring is a great time for Juniors to take an SAT and/or ACT to see if they prefer one over the other.







Music Notes

Congratulations to Isabella Moon for making the All-State Honors Ensemble! Bella worked very hard to learn music and represent the Strings Department at Cypress. We are Panther Proud!

Also, Congratulations to Anna Jones and Ben Manekin for being selected to play in the Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and to Nathaniel Hayes and Addison Wilson for being chosen to play with the Southwest Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra.



All-County Honors Orchestra

Congratulations to the following students who auditioned and were accepted into the All-County Honors Orchestra: Mia DeAlmeida, Isabella Moon, Arco Williams, Kaeden Musich, Estrella Flores-Perez, Kailey Tapia, Evelynn Mufalli, Anna Jones, Ben Manekin (First chair Bass), and Cole Kennedy. Way to go Panthers!

All-County Choir

The following students earned the honor of being in the All-County Choir.

Aiden Fleming	Chloe Lowman	Gabrielle Cabai	Nikolas Bakos
Ashley Perez-Marquez	Conner Stroh	Hannah Lehmann	Orli Gottesman
Ashlyn Maloney	Danelle Jean-Baptiste	Jackson Coffman	Sam Ramos
Aubrey Barnhouse	Dania Jean-Baptiste	Katrina Dowds	Sasha Britton
Bright Olivier	Emma Schliemann	Kristen Noble	Skylar Manietta
Caleb Rimes	Esther Olmo	Nikita Danesh	Wyatt Crecelius





Mock Trial Competition

Students competed in the District Mock Trial Competition in February and had the best finish in school history – 2nd place! The students beat a higher-seeded and heavily-favored Cape Coral team Saturday morning to get into the finals, where they narrowly lost to Fort Myers. Only one member of our team, our senior Riley Morauski, has ever competed in Mock Trial before, so the future is looking bright for Cypress Lake Mock Trial! Congratulations to the following students: Valeska Perez, Brigitte Maillakakis, Gus Lessinger, Riley Morauski, Ansley Nash, John Stone, Abigail Johnson, Ariya King, Addison Wilson, Naya James, Evelin Rienzo, and Peyton Hemmer.





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Dancing Our Way to the Top!

We are extremely proud of our dancers who participated in the Florida Dance Performance Assessment and the National Honor Society for Dance Arts state Honors Concert on February 4th and 5th at Blake High School in Tampa.

Our dancers earned a Superior ranking on the Florida Dance Performance Assessment

The Florida Dance Performance Assessment is our version of a state level assessment that includes three sections. They consist of a Technical Proficiency, Movement Acquisition and Ensemble Performance sections. The Technical Proficiency includes a set of Ballet, Modern and Jazz etudes that the students learn ahead of time and perform in front of an adjudicating panel. The level of work that was required of our students was equal to college conservatory dance. The Movement Acquisition section requires the students to

learn dance phrases and perform them on the spot. The genre is not known ahead of time and could include ballet, modern, jazz or musical theatre dance. They are also adjudicated on how quickly they pick up the movement, if they apply corrections and/or imagery or technical suggestions and how well they perform that movement with expression. The final section is Ensemble Performance where they perform a piece of choreography on stage with no costumes or special lighting and are adjudicated on how well they perform as an ensemble with expression, musicality and technical proficiency. Our piece was Go! choreographed by Stephanie Mas, a guest artist. It was an intense, physically demanding and fierce 4-minute piece. The students perform all of the sections back to back. The emotional and physical demands are extremely high and exhausting. They were absolutely amazing!

The Honors Concert is a state-wide concert that is done that evening with different chapters of the National Honor Society for Dance Arts getting an opportunity to perform for a state-wide audience. The students performed Go! in this concert and received multiple compliments on how strong they were as performers and on their performance.

The next day consisted of college auditions and master classes. Our students auditioned for colleges, universities, conservatories and festivals from around the state and nation. They did a wonderful job and were given opportunities to continue to study at some of the most prestigious dance schools in the state

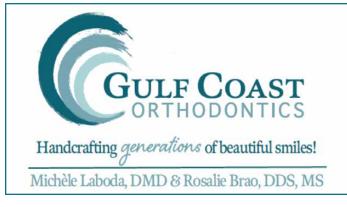
They worked so hard and we are so immensely proud of them. Please congratulate these students: Julia Best, Ashley Buckley, Juliana Cabai, Sophia Flavio, Annette Gorny, Kaelyn Heggemeier, Faith McCarthy, lasmyn Menezes, Kasey Morisset, Makayla Rivas, Emma Rossington, Emma Smith and Neveah Stanley.



Congratulations Teachers of Distinction 2023!

Kayla Lisa has been selected as Golden Apple Teachers of Distinction for 2023!

On behalf of The Foundation and the business community, please accept our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the outstanding job you do every day.



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Since the 1960s <u>Cypress Lake High School</u> has been the proud home to some of the hardest hit areas from Hurricane Ian including the barrier islands and Harlem Heights communities. We will continue to be there for our families. In the wake of the storm we have partnered with <u>Collaboratory</u> and <u>United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades</u> to set up the Panther Relief Fund, directly supporting our students, staff, and their families, many of whom have lost everything. Through generous support of our community near and far, we were able to raise close to \$14,000! Over the next few weeks, 30 deserving Cypress families will receive a check for \$450 and will have access to further support from the United Way. Thank you to everyone who reached out, donated, and supported those in need in any way. **Once a Panther, Always a Panther!**

Kudos to...

Theater Success

Shakespeare in LOVE was the latest performance by our theater department and it was a roaring success! **Congratulations** to ALL involved! The set, the costumes, the tech, and the cast were stellar!

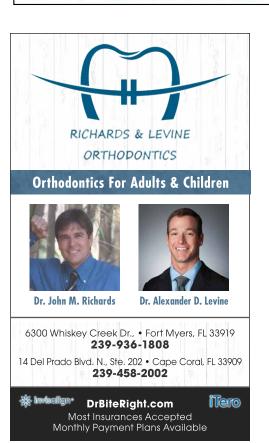


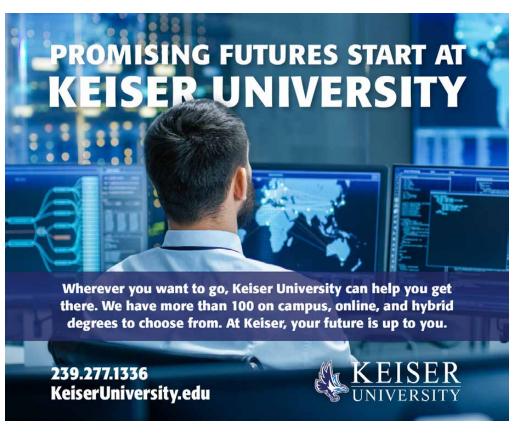


TAG Takes First Place!

On Saturday, February 11, 2023 TAG competed in the South Quarterfinal of the International Championship of High School A Cappella in Winter Park. The kids competed against 8 other groups from all around Florida. TAG finished in first place and will now move on to the Semifinal in early March against the second and third place groups and the top groups from Mississippi, North Carolina and Tennessee. The winner of the semi-final gets to represent the south in the final in New York City in April.

CONGRATS TO TAG AS THEY TOOK
THE FIRST STEP IN GETTING BACK TO THE FINALS.







VEX Robotics

This weekend our robotics teams competed in the Lee County JROTC District VEX Robotics Spin Up! We ranked 1st (Team B) and 5th (Team A) in the qualification rounds and were finalists in the final match. Both teams earned Finalists certificates and our Team "B" earned the coveted VEX Excellence award. The Excellence Award is the highest award presented in the VEX Robotics Competition. This award is presented to a school or organization that exemplifies overall excellence in creating a high quality VEX robotics program. Both teams are also qualified for the Florida State Robotics Competition and National Competition.





TEAM A:

22 teams. Team 2, the first-place

winner was piloted by freshmen

- Cadet Andreas Ruiz
- Cadet Alyssa Vargas



TEAM B:

- Cadet Shaslei Convers
- Cadet Anna Rodrigues

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JROTC Drone Team

Cypress Lake HS JROTC Drone Team began the season with a first and third place win at the South Zone competition against

Hrebal, Jackson. The team's members consisted of Nguyen, Nathan, Klabunde, Kailany, Ruiz, Andres, Convers, Shaslei, and Rodrigues, Anna. If any JROTC students are interested in joining the team, they contact Sergeant Major Ortega.



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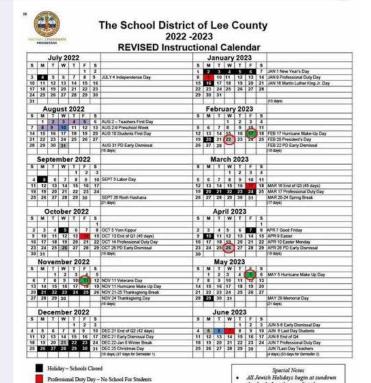


Lee County Art Fest

CLHS students placed 3rd for the manatees and Honorable Mention for the animal heads at chalk block Better pics coming soon.

Also, the following students placed at art under 20:

- 3D 2nd place Hunter Demond
- Recycle 2nd place Kay Borst
- Painting 1st place Alayna Calkins
- Painting 2nd place Morgan Moravec
- Painting HM Zach Yoshida
- Painting HM Paige Berry
- Drawing 2nd place Suliet Guiterrez
- Drawing HM Yaritza Soto Rodriguez
- Drawing HM Jamison Aceved
- Mixed Media 2nd Place Vanessa Moran
- Digital 1st Place Kandyce Iranelli



Preschool Days - No School For Students

Harricane Make-Up Day – Full Day for Students and Staff

First and Last Student Day

Early Dismissal Days

Full Day for Students and Staff