

Three Oaks Middle School

The Heron's Call



A letter from the Principal

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year. The school year is off to a great start. Our incoming sixth graders have acclimated to the block schedule and the students and staff are working hard preparing for a productive year.

The intramural sports program has begun with cross country and basketball leading the way. We are very pleased with the number of students who turned out to participate. Our after school tutoring programs will begin on Tuesday, September 18. Students are encouraged to attend on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays (when school is in session) for either intramural sports or after school tutoring. The program times are from 4:00 to 5:15 p.m. See enclosed schedule. After school bus transportation is available for students who are assigned to a bus and will drop students off at the nearest school to their home.

I would like to urge all parents to become involved in their children's education through membership in our Three Oaks Middle School (TOMS) Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). Our next PTO meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 24, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. in the media center. And our next School Advisory Council Meeting will be on September 26, 2018, at 8:30 a.m., also in the media center. I look forward to an outstanding school year. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about your child.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Carson

Michael S. Carson
Principal

Dates to Remember

Monday, September 3
Labor Day/No School

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
September 4, 5, 6**
Basketball and Cross Country
Team Practice

Monday, September 10
Rosh Hashanah/No School

Monday, September 17
Student Council
New Socks Drive

Tuesday, September 18
After School Tutoring Program Begins

Monday, September 24
PTO Meeting 5:00 p.m.
Media Center

Tuesday, September 25
School Picture Day

Wednesday, September 26
SAC Meeting 8:30 a.m.
Media Center

**Wednesday, November 21 -
Friday, November 23**
Thanksgiving Break

**Monday, December 24 -
Friday January 4**
Winter Break

Monday, January 7
Hurricane Makeup Day

Tuesday, January 8
Professional Duty Day



The School Board of Lee County, Florida:
Cathleen O'Daniel Morgan, District 7 (Chairman);
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District 2; Chris N. Patricca, District 3; Steven K.
Teuber, District 4; Jane E. Kuckel, PhD, District 6;
Dr. Gregory K. Adkins, Superintendent.

"Sock-tember" is Coming!

"Socks are among the most needed items at homeless shelters, yet among the least-often donated. According to Tom Costello Jr., founder and "Chief Sock Person" at the Philadelphia-based nonprofit group, even regular donors of clothing such as coats and pants will usually wear their own socks until they have holes and then throw them away."

There are several reasons why the homeless desperately need new socks:

- * People very rarely donate new socks to the homeless
- * The number one needed clothing article is new socks
- * Numerous health problems



New socks are highly requested item of clothing at homeless shelters. To help with this, Student Council will be collecting new socks of all types during the month of "Sock-tember".

Please donate new and unused socks to help with this request by bringing in all sizes, infant to adults! The class that collects the most socks during "Sock-tember" will receive a donut and juice party!



Advancement via Individual
Determination

The AVID electives have begun by getting "organized." Each students' binder is organized by class. The requirement is to maintain this binder with the appropriate supplies and coursework. This counts as part of the student's grade. Students have begun introducing themselves to their teachers and administration with a handshake, eye contact, and a clear voice. This is great practice for the interview process in future. Mrs. Kaczmarek will be doing some team building activities that bring students together so that sharing perspectives is the norm. She will also continue to teach and support, the school wide initiative, of Cornell Note Taking. This is a research based way for students to organize thoughts, facts, vocabulary, and any other information related to the topic at hand. They are off to a great start!



**ATTENTION STUDENTS
PICTURE DAY IS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
SMILE PRETTY**

After School Activities 2018-2019

After school tutoring program will begin on September 18, 2018. To provide for student safety, students are required to be picked up no later than 5:30 p.m. Violations of the 5:30pm pick up time will result in possible dismissal from all after school activities. There is a daily cash fee of \$1.00 per minute for students not picked up by 5:30 p.m. All Three Oaks Middle After School Programs on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays are **FREE** to our students. Fee Based supervision is on Monday and Friday at a cost of \$4.00 per day per child.

Monday - Fee Based Program Only
No Bus

Tuesday
Math Tutoring
Civics
Student Council

Wednesday
Math Tutoring
Cadet Leadership

Thursday
Reading Club
Math Tutoring
Scholar's Club every other Thursday

Friday - Fee Based Program Only
No Bus



Bus transportation for bus riders is available to school sites on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

An announcement will be made if buses are not available.

South Bus: Three Oaks Elementary, River Ranch Rd @ Estero High School Gate A, Pinewoods Elementary, Bonita Middle, Bonita Elementary.

North Bus: San Carlos Elementary, Wa-Ke-Hatchee Rec Center @ Lexington Middle, Heights Elementary, Cypress Lake High, South Ft. Myers High, Dunbar Middle, Central Ave @ Ft. Myers Middle, Ft. Myers High



Do you want to snorkel with sea turtles?

Marine Lab - Positive Behavior

Monday, February 18, 2019 - Wednesday, February 20, 2019

\$520 per student

- The cost of the trip includes snorkel gear, three boat trips to different marine ecologies, invertebrate lab, discussion, charter bus transportation, room and board.
- Trip fees will be collected in 3 installments.

Students will participate in a three day, two night adventure snorkeling on the coral reefs, sea grasses, and mangroves, and interacting with wildlife such as tropical fish, crabs, sea urchins, and sea stars.



Q: Who may attend the marine lab trip?

A: Any student at Three Oaks Middle that meets the following requirements are eligible to attend:

- passing all classes with a 70% or higher (semester 1 average)
- no more than 8 unexcused absences for the 2018-2019 school year
- no referrals for the 2018-2019 school year

Q: How can I sign my child up for the marine lab trip?

A: Contact your child's science teacher for an informational letter in late August.

Q: Can parents chaperone the marine lab trip?

A: There are 45 spots for students. Any spots not filled by students will then be available for parent chaperones. The cost for parent chaperones will be the same as students.

Q: Who is in charge of the marine lab trip?

A: Please feel free to contact Tara Williams (Trip Coordinator) at 267-5757 or tara1w@leeschools.net

Q: Where can I get more information about the Marine Lab Facility?

A: Please visit Marine Lab's website at <http://www.marinelab.org/> to browse the educational opportunities at the facility.



School Messenger Replacing Parentlink



The School District of Lee County is moving to a new system to share important information from your child's school and the district.

SchoolMessenger Communicate replaces this system, currently known as Parentlink, but works very much the same way and enables us to send you emergency broadcasts, attendance alerts and event reminders. In addition, a companion app allows teachers and parents to directly communicate with each other, individually or in groups.

To sign up for your free account and download the app, visit <https://go.schoolmessenger.com/#/home>. Once you have an account, you can set your communication preferences for calls and emails. We have also placed a detailed user guide on our website www.leeschools.net.

There is also a way to receive text messages, however under a rule by the Federal Communications Commission, you must opt in for that service. The process is simple and only takes a few seconds to complete.

Simply text any one of these words: subscribe, optin or yes to the number 67587. You will know you were successful if you receive the following reply message:

You are registered 4 School Messenger notifications. Reply STOP to cancel, HELP for help. Msg&data rates may apply. Msg freq. varies. schoolmessenger.com/txt

You will want to repeat the opt-in process for any wireless numbers that you wish to include.

In addition to performing the opt-in process above, you will want to ensure that the district has your wireless number(s) in the student information database. If you have not already provided that information to your school, please contact them and provide them with that information.

Please note, although the district does not charge you for this service, it does not pay for text message charges that may be incurred by you for sending or receiving text messages. Check with your wireless carrier for possible charges.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact your child's school.

Intramural Sports Start Dates

Basketball August 15, 2018
Cross Country August 21, 2018
Volleyball October 16, 2018
Soccer December 11, 2018
Track and Field February 12, 2019
Golf March 26, 2019
Tennis March 26, 2019



Student and Parent Focus Portal Accounts

Focus Student Portal

The *Focus Student Portal* is active & accurately reflect student grades and assignments. Students can access the Focus Student Portal using their District credentials to log-in the same way teachers & staff do.



Focus Parent Portal

The *Focus Parent Portal* is active & accurately reflect student grades and assignments. Schools can direct parents to the School District's website for directions on [Opening an Account/Resetting Passwords in Focus](#). **The Focus Parent Portal is NOT for student use.**

Registering for a Focus Parent Portal Account

In the interest of protecting student confidential information, we have created the following secure procedures for parents/guardians to create a *Focus Parent Portal* account. There are two options available to parents/guardians:

OPTION 1: ONLINE REGISTRATION & AUTOMATIC ACTIVATION

>> *SCHOOL VERIFICATION NOT REQUIRED* <<

During the registration process, if parents can provide the current email address they have on file with the district, their child's Student ID, Date of Birth, **AND** the last 4-digits their child's Social Security Number (providing the student's SSN is on file with the District), the system will automatically verify their *Focus Parent Portal* account and give them immediate access to their student's information. If their child's SSN is not on file with the district, or the parent elects not to provide it, Option 2 must be used to request access to their child's information.

OPTION 2: ONLINE REGISTRATION AT HOME & SCHOOL ACTIVATION

>> *SCHOOL VERIFICATION REQUIRED* <<

During the registration process, if parents can provide the current email address they have on file with the district, their child's Student ID, Date of Birth, **BUT** their child's SSN is not on file with the district (or they elect not to provide the last 4-digits of their child's SSN), the parents may create their *Focus Parent Portal* account. However, they will not be provided access to their student's confidential information until the child's school verifies the parent's request. The approval process should be completed within 1-2 business days of receiving the request. An alert will appear on the *Focus Portal Page* notifying schools of the number of parent accounts waiting to be verified. To verify parent accounts, school-based users with the appropriate permissions simply need to select the **VERIFY PARENT ACCOUNTS** report under the **USERS** tab and check the box next to each parent account they want to verify. Clicking **SAVE** will provide parents/guardians with access to student information via the *Focus Parent Portal*.

Chromebook Notes

- * Bring in your Chromebooks every morning – **Fully Charged**
- * Students who do not bring in their Chromebooks are expected to call a parent to bring it to school, we have very few spares
- * Please carry your Chromebook in its case so you do not damage your Chromebook- (**DO Not walk in the hallways using the Chromebook** or carry it around by the monitor)
- * If you intentionally damage your Chromebook (including removing keys, barcodes, etc), you will be charged accordingly for the damage
- * If you lose your Chromebook you will be charged \$300.75
- * Students should always be logged in to Launchpad since it is single sign on and most of their resources can be accessed from there
- * Your teacher monitors your internet activity in the classroom with Goguardian, off hours your internet activity is still recorded and monitored.
- * The complete history is on Goguardian and we are emailed if there is a severe problem and we have seen **GOOGLE** disable student accounts when they have detected serious inappropriateness.

Notification of the presence of asbestos-containing materials in the school

To the chairperson of the Parent Teacher Organization and the students of Three Oaks Middle School: This school has been recently inspected and certain asbestos-containing materials or assumed asbestos-containing materials such as: fire doors or roofing materials that are tested prior to repairs or removal as needed; have been located in the school buildings. Please be aware that the School District of Lee County has an active management plan designed to ensure that the building is maintained safely for all occupants. These materials are being controlled in accordance with the Asbestos Management Program for the School and following the limitations and procedures of the policies and requirements of the Asbestos Management Program of the School District of Lee County. The report listing the location, quantities, and condition of all known materials contains the details of the control procedures and is available at the school office for your inspection during normal school hours. Copies of the whole parts of the school's asbestos file can be supplied to you at a cost of \$0.15/page. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dorn J. Beddow, Asbestos Inspector/Management Planner-School District of Lee County

Teachers Out Of Field

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 Three Oaks Middle 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.

The following staff members are in the process of adding a subject area to their teaching certificate:

English – Kathryn Carparelli

Math – Beau Voltz (taken and passed math 5-9 in June 2018, needs to have area added to teaching certificate)

The following staff members are enrolled in training to add the English as a Second Language (ESOL) endorsement to their current certificates: Kristi O'Bannon, Mary Carroll

The following staff members are enrolled in training to add the Gifted endorsement to their current certificates: Lacey Mendoza, Alan Staal

The following staff members are enrolled in training to add the Reading endorsement to their current certificates: Kristi O'Bannon and Mary Carroll

Kathryn Carparelli (has reading endorsement work completed out-of-state, needs to add endorsement to Florida teaching certificate)

Attendance Standard

- ▶ All students are expected to be on time and present each day school is open during the school year.
- ▶ Students may not be absent from school without permission of the principal/designee.
- ▶ The school principal or designee is the only person authorized to excuse a student's absence.
- ▶ A note from a parent/guardian is a request that a student's absence be excused.
- ▶ When a student accumulates an excessive number of absences (5 days in a calendar month or 10 days within 90 calendar days) and additional absences occur which are caused by illness, a written statement from a physician verifying that the absence was caused by an illness may be required by the principal to be submitted by the parent/guardian (School Board Policy 4.16).
- ▶ Habitual tardiness is defined as six (6) or more tardies to school or to an individual class per quarter
- ▶ For enforcement of compulsory school attendance, three (3) unexcused tardies or unexcused early sign-outs may, at the discretion of the school principal, be considered equal to one day of absence.

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