



The Wildcat's Roar

Diplomat Middle School



Proud to be a
Positive Behavior Support "PBS"
Model School



Mark Your Calendars

December, 2015 and January, 2016

- December 16: Spirit Cats—4:10 to 5:10 PM in Room 6-119
- December 16: Volleyball Playoffs 1st Round:
5:30 to 7:30 PM at Gulf Middle (DMS vs. Gulf)
- December 17: Volleyball Playoffs 2nd Round:
5:30 to 7:30 PM at Mariner Middle (DMS vs. Mariner)
- December 21—January 3: Winter Break
- January 4: Soccer Try-outs Begin—4:10 to 5:10 PM
- January 5: Choice Open House—5:30 to 7:00 PM
- January 11: Community Service Club—4:00 to 5:15 PM in Media Center
- January 11: Student Government—4:15 to 5:15 PM in Room 6-100
- January 13: Florida Music Educators All-State Conference
- January 15: School-wide Writing Exam
- January 19—21: Early Dismissal
- January 22: Professional Duty Day (No School)
- January 26-29: Literacy Week
- January 26: Soccer Practice Begins—4:10 to 5:10 PM
- January 26: SAC Meeting—6:00 to 7:30 PM in the Media Center
- January 26: All-County Orchestra Rehearsal—5:00 to 8:30 PM at CLHS
- January 27: Spirit Cats—4:10 to 5:10 PM in Room 6-119 (Hart)
- January 28: All-County Orchestra Rehearsal—5:00 to 8:30 PM at CLHS
- January 29: All-County Orchestra Rehearsal—All School Day at CLHS
- January 29: All-County Orchestra Concert—7:00 PM at CLHS
- January 30: 8th Grade Field Trip to Busch Gardens

Hello Wildcats,

Just a couple of school days remain before Winter Break, and I want to share my thoughts and acknowledgements with you before you leave.

I have been an educator for eighteen years and worked in three amazing schools, Cypress Lake Middle, Cape Coral High, and Diplomat Middle. What I am sharing with you is true in each of these schools, but has especially struck me this school year here at Diplomat.

Students, parents, family members, and community members, the City of Cape Coral has been blessed with the teachers at Diplomat Middle. As I was sitting at our orchestra concert last week I began thinking of the level of commitment this community has in its Wildcat teachers. Our teachers are truly absorbed in their careers and in their students' lives. They spend five days a week with our students and then add evenings and sometimes Saturdays for sporting events, musical events, art events, theater events, science events, math events, history events, club events, and the practices for all of these events.

I understand that all of us are dedicated to our careers, and we spend hours making sure we are successful, so that our companies are successful. Teachers though..... teachers' careers ARE their students. Teachers work to ensure everyone around them is successful. They work to ensure that the companies for which their students will work will be successful. They work to ensure the world of tomorrow will continue to be a great place because their students are capable problem solvers. Teachers strive to ensure their students become the best versions of themselves that they can be.

I am grateful for the opportunity to watch how our teachers affect the lives of our students. Thank you, Wildcat teachers, for choosing teaching. Thank you for giving of yourselves so that others continue to grow. Thank you for being a teacher. Thank you for being a Wildcat.

Proud to be in the Pride,

Maura S. Bonington

COUNSELOR'S CORNER



The character words for December are kindness and compassion. This month we will be talking to the students about the importance of giving to others. Giving does not necessarily mean giving a material item, rather it can be thinking about and doing what we can for others to make a positive difference in our school and community. The best gift is the gift of "giving" and what better way to give than through being kind and having compassion.

In January the character word is commitment. We will, of course, be challenging the students to look at past goals, evaluate progress, and make new ones.

Mr. Carden and I have been and will be busy doing academic counseling, credit checks, schedules for semester two, and getting our programs—specifically mentoring and small groups—up and running.

Mr. Carden and Caroline Toadvine
School Counselors

Work Hard! Be Kind!

Congratulations Lady Wildcats - Lee County Girls' Basketball Champions!

It was an intense game—the Heart Attack Kids taking their supporters through a myriad of highs and lows. The first half of the game, our Wildcats continuously trailed Cypress. No wonder: Cypress was masterful with their rebounds. They were making shots, as if the ball were guided by GPS; their confidence in passing, unsurpassed. Quietly under Coach Papp's steady eye, the Lady Wildcats played their game... calm and cool as cucumbers. Panic and gloom were missing from the court: they kept playing as they've played the entire season, never once showing signs of doubt, or a lack of confidence.



At halftime, our team trailed by no fewer than fourteen points. The Wildcats took their place, steeled in brazen determination. "Give up" was not a word they allowed in their vocabulary. Slowly, like a turtle racing a hare, they began masterfully cracking at the weakening Cypress defense. They stole the ball, making more shots, earning hard-fought rebounds. They chipped away at the Cypress lead, shrinking the gap.

With fewer than twenty-four seconds on the clock, the score was tied. Cypress had the ball.

The Lady's stole it back... and scored! The final seven seconds were agonizing; the seconds seeming like days in ISS. The crowd went wild. The impossible was achieved. Hooray, Lady Wildcats! Make sure you congratulate Coach Papp and her team. It was one of the most exciting basketball seasons our school has ever seen. Great job!



Congratulations to Claire Schreiber and Jacob Woodard!



Claire and Jacob will represent the Lee County School District and Diplomat Middle at the Florida Education Association All-State Conference in Tampa, Florida in January.

A Big Thanks to our Business Partners

7-Eleven (Andalusia & Diplomat)

David Santiago (DMS Photography Services)

SAMs Club (Pine Island Road)

V.I.P. Limo

Miceli's Restaurant

Enchanted Florist

Winn-Dixie (Cape Coral Pkwy)

Walmart Neighborhood (Skyline)

Walmart Neighborhood (SW Pine Island)

Publix (Pine Island/

Del Prado)

Publix (Kismet)

Neff Studio

Super Target (Pine

Island Road)

Beef 'O' Brady (Kismet)

Danny Yates Landscaping

Duffy's Sports Grill (opening in October)

Landscape Pros of SWFL

Forestry Landscaping Resources

Rodino's Pizzeria

Stuff a Bagel (Pine Island & Skyline)

Subway (Kismet)

Lowe's (Veterans & Santa Barbara)

Sonny's BBQ (Pine Island Road)

Chili's Bar and Grill (Pine Island Road)



Thank You!!!

If you would like to become a Business Partner, please e-mail Mrs. Diane Ford: DianeF@leeschools.net or Mrs. Lorna Ermacora at LornaE@leeschools.net.

Student Assignment 2016 – 2017

Attention 8th grade parents:

On January 8th, 2016, the school district will mail a personalized school choice application to you.

For your convenience, you may apply online. Directions to do so will be included with the application you receive.

This is an exciting time!

**The enrollment period begins on
January 11, 2016, and ends
April 1, 2016.**

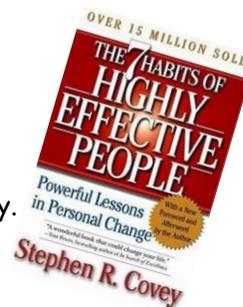
Please express
congratulations to the
following talented students
who have been chosen to
participate in the
2015 All-County Middle
School Chorus!



Faith Cockcroft
Angie Encalada
Chloe Evans
Ashlyn Washko

As you know, our school is using *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*, written by Sean Covey, to instruct in leadership classes. The habits that are being encouraged are:

1. Be Proactive—Take responsibility for your life.
2. Begin with the End in Mind—Define your mission and goals in life.
3. Put First Things First—Prioritize, and do the most important things first.
4. Think Win-Win—Have an everyone-can-win attitude.
5. Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood—Listen to people sincerely.
6. Synergize—Work together to achieve more.
7. Sharpen the Saw—Renew yourself regularly.



Take time to talk with your children about how the study and application of the *7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* are effecting their school and home life.

Home of the Wildcats!

REMINDER TO PARENTS: If your morning or afternoon schedules are tight, you may use our before and after school care for a small fee each school day. Students may come onto campus at or after 9:05 am, without the need of our fee based care. Students who arrive BEFORE 9:05 am, become a part of our before school care at a cost to parents of \$5 per school day.

Students must be picked up immediately after dismissal to avoid the need of our fee-based after school care. Those students who are still on campus, waiting to be picked up after dismissal is complete at 4:10pm, will become part of the fee based program, at the parent's expense, at a cost of \$5 per school day.

ALL-COUNTY ORCHESTRA

All-County Orchestra auditions were held on November 19. Of the 20 auditioning students, 16 were selected for the All-County Orchestra, several of whom making principal or leadership positions.

Please congratulate the following Wildcats for their hard work and preparation:

Claire Schreiber—Assistant Concert Master (2nd Chair)

Renee Toia—violin

Finn Carey—violin

Faith Dailey—violin

Meckenzie Wright—violin

Samantha Molnar—violin

Kaylee Jones—violin

Lana Pettersen—Principal viola (1st Chair)

Sasha Gorbinovski—viola

Brandon Giompalo—viola

Mia DeGregorio—Principal cello (1st Chair)

Helen Defaira—cello

Kassandra Cooper—cello

Mathew Fowler—cello

Sierra Weaver—Assistant bass (2nd Chair)

Lily Martinez—bass



The All-County Orchestra Concert will be January 29th at the Cypress Lake High School Auditorium, 7:00 PM.

Soccer Tryouts: January 4th!

Google What???

What is Google Classroom? Do you want to understand more about the Google Apps for Education that your student is learning? Many of the resources online are written towards students or teachers, but are still great for parents to explore. Here are a couple of links to check out:

Video: Google for Education 101

<https://goo.gl/Lnyv0M>

Web: Google for Education

<https://www.google.com/edu/>

Web: Google Classroom Help

Center <https://goo.gl/9gq2No>

Enjoy Your Winter
Break!!



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