MISSION-BE A LEARNER, BE A LEADER, BE A TARPON VISION-Promote a culture where Tarpons do their best, do what is right and treat others the way they wish to be treated.

Charlotte High School

1250 Cooper Street Punta Gorda, FL 33950 Phone: (941) 575-5450 Attendance Extension: *7000 Fax: 941-575-5464

School Hours: 7:10 am - 2:10 pm **School Mascot: Fighting Tarpons** School Colors: Royal Blue and Gold



http://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net

August 2nd, 2024 Parents, Staff, Students And Community Of Charlotte High School

tothe

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we embark on another exciting school year, we extend a heartfelt welcome to our students, parents/guardians, staff, and community. The 2024-2025 academic year holds immense potential for our Tarpons, and we are committed to fostering an environment of high expectations. It is our firm belief that setting these standards will pave the way for our students to receive the best education possible.

This year, we are emphasizing the importance of our students coming to school every day, all day. We encourage our Tarpons to arrive at school ready to learn, fully engaged, and equipped to make the most of their educational journey. Regular attendance is also critical; we ask that our students be present every day, as each moment spent in the classroom contributes significantly to their academic growth.

A central theme of this year will be providing our students with diverse learning experiences. As they begin to explore their options in Enrollment, Enlistment, or Employment, we want to expose them to a variety of courses. This exploration will help them identify their passions and strengths, enabling them to make informed decisions about their futures.

To facilitate this process, we have been working on creating lessons that prioritize rigor and engagement. Our teachers are dedicated to implementing innovative teaching strategies that not only meet academic standards but also spark students' excitement for learning.

We cannot achieve our goals without the support of our parents/guardians. We kindly ask you to reinforce our high standards at home by encouraging your child to become involved in school activities and consistently strive for excellence. When we work together, we create a powerful partnership that will surely lead to our students' remarkable achievements.

> To kick off this school year, we invite you to join us for our Open House on Wednesday, August 7, 2024. This event will provide an excellent opportunity to connect with teachers, explore our curricula, and learn more about how we can collaboratively support our students' successes.

> > We are thrilled to see our Tarpons back in the classroom and are looking forward to an incredible year ahead filled with growth, exploration, and achievement. Let's make this year one to remember!

> > > Sincerely

Angie Taillon



"Always remember, Tarpon Pride never graduates!"

ADMINISTRATION Principal Angie Taillon

> Assistant Principals Nicholas Brown Jeffrey Damico Kathryn Pyle Andrew Tenney

Deans Kathleen Moore David Kelley Jamie Lowicz Amanda Webster

Guidance Counselors Trish Grieco, 9th & 10th (A-L) Josalyn Leath, 9th & 10th (M-Z) Veronica Alache, 11th & 12th (A-L) Kathleen Carroll, 11th & 12th (M-Z) Kameelah Goodman, Director of Guidance

> School Board Members Kim Amontree, Member Wendy Atkinson, Member John LeClair, Vice Chairman Cara Reynolds, Chairman Robert Segur, Member

Charlotte High School is known as Charlotte County's First and Finest High School. Having first opened its doors in 1926, CHS is rich in history, community support, and tradition.

Go Tarpons!



'Tarpon Line' August 2nd, 2024 Published Five Times Per Year Charlotte County Public Schools 1445 Education Way Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1052 Issue # 4



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Night courses available to start EMT or Firefighter program during your senior year.







UPCOMING DATES

August 7	OPEN HOUSE		
August 12	1st Day for Students		
August 20	Primary Election – No Students		
September 2	Labor Day – No School		
September 18	Students Early Release (Teacher Professional Learning)		

PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION

It is imperative we have accurate records (new addresses, phone numbers, etc.) so we are able to contact you in the event of an emergency involving your son or daughter. In addition, there are times when teachers and other school personnel also need to speak with parents and/or guardians. Please give the office a call if you need to update your information.



Bullying, which includes cyberbullying, occurs when a person or group of people purposefully and repeatedly hurt, embarrass, or frighten another. During freshman year, all Tarpons participate in a classroom lesson about bullying run by our Assistant Principal and School Resource Officer. Students are educated about how to identify, react to and report bullying. As a parent, it is important to have open dialogue with your child about their experiences at school. If you become aware of a bullying situation, please report it

immediately. Charlotte High School does not tolerate any form of bullying. For more information, or to report bullying, see the "Students & Parents" section of our website.



ADVERTISE IN THE TARPON LINE!

This is a wonderful way for your company to get community recognition and exposure, and at the same time help support your local schools! Email Carmen Blake at carmen.blake@ yourcharlotteschools.net

CHARLOTTE Behavioral Health Care

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The FOCUS portal allows parents and students 24/7 secure access to information such as attendance, assignments, grades, and discipline. Please visit chs. yourcharlotteschools.net, click on this link and get started today!

CHS STUDENT ID CARDS

Once students are issued IDs in the fall, they are expected to wear their ID over their neck and it must be visible at all times. Students will be required to show their ID when entering the school building and when they enter and exit the school bus. Students who do not have their ID will be issued a temporary badge. Those who repeatedly do not bring their ID to school may face disciplinary action.

If an ID is lost or needs repair, students should stop by the Dean's Office to get their ID or lanyard repaired or replaced. Students needing additional IDs, sleeves, or lanyards will pay \$3 for an ID and \$2 for a lanyard. Replacement sleeves are free.

DIRECTIONS FOR PARENT PICK UP



Our **MAIN parent drop off area is just off Henry Street** behind the Deep Creek Church. There are signs on Cooper Street directing you to this area. This is the largest area and is designed to accommodate a large volume of traffic. Students dropped off here enter the school on the gymnasium side of the campus.

Our **SECONDARY drop off area is at CPAC**. Because of the volume of students dropped off at CPAC, there is usually a waiting time to get in and out due to the seniors who drive to school who also use this area.

FOR SAFETY PURPOSES, THE VISITOR PARKING LOT OFF COOPER STREET IS NOT A DESIGNATED DROP OFF OR PICK UP AREA.

COUNSELOR NEWS YOU CAN USE

Exciting News from the Charlotte High School Guidance Team!

"Believe in yourself and all that you are. Know that there is something inside you that is greater than any obstacle." - Christian D. Larson

Attention Charlotte High School students! Get ready for an incredible 2024-2025 school year because your Guidance team is here to support you every step of the way.

First, let's introduce our amazing Guidance team:

- Director of Guidance: Ms. Goodman
- Upper Classmen (A-L): Ms. Alache
- Upper Classmen (M-Z): Ms. Carroll
- Underclassmen (A-L): Ms. Grieco
- Underclassmen (M-Z): Ms. Leath
- Career Specialist: Ms. Nicklas

Our Guidance team will increase availability for the 24-25 school year. Students are encouraged to schedule appointments to meet with their School Counselors in person. The Guidance Team will implement "Walk-In Fridays" from 12:20pm to 2:10pm every Friday. School Counselors will be available outside the cafeteria during all 3 lunch periods to answer student questions. Schedule adjustments are ongoing, with the last day for changes being August 26th.

These dedicated professionals are here to ensure your academic, personal, and career success. Whether you need help exploring college options, navigating the college application process, or finding your dream job, our Guidance team has got your back.

So, what are you waiting for? Let's make this the best year yet! Get ready to unlock your full potential, discover new passions, and achieve your goals. The future is bright, and we can't wait to see you shine.

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year, Charlotte High School students. Let's make it unforgettable!







SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

SAC is comprised of parents, students, and CHS staff members who are dedicated to the continued development, and maintenance of quality education programs at CHS. To become a member of this very significant council, please contact the Principal's Office.

CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL NON-ADOPTED BOOK LIST FOR 2024-2025

Our Non-Adopted Book List is available on the Charlotte High School website (chs.yourcharlotteschools.net) on the Students and Parents page.

PARKING INFO

Students who need to purchase a parking permit can do so starting Monday, July 29th, from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM in H Bldg Office. Students must have a current parking permit to park on campus. All students who apply must be free of any obligations and must bring a copy of their Driver's License, Registration, Insurance information and a completed 2024/2025 parking application, which can be picked up at CHS or downloaded from CHS home page (it is a 2-page document). The application must



be signed by the student and parent/guardian. Parking permits are \$40.00 which can be paid by cash or check. Once again, students may purchase parking permits starting on July 29th in H Bldg from 8:00 – 2:00. Any questions please call 941-575-5450 extension *7112.

CAREER CENTER

Career Center News from Mrs. Nicklas

I am so excited to venture into my new role as the Career Specialist at CHS! This year, I plan to meet with students about their plan after graduation, starting with seniors first. Parents and students, please be sure to view my website regularly for up-to-date grade-level information. I cannot stress enough how important it is for you to begin planning for your future today! I will help you through that process every step of the way, don't worry! Also, please be sure to sign up for REMIND messages from me, by graduating class. I am available by phone, email, in-person meetings, and REMIND to assist you this school year. The scholarship process begins in October. Let's get ready early to ensure that we have all of our ducks in a row with your resume', artifacts, and essays. If you are planning to join the workforce or enlist in the military right after high school graduation, I am ready to help you down that path, too.

Be on the lookout for important dates this year, including resume building meetings, FAFSA help, test-taking strategies, and more with your Enrollment, Employment, or Enlistment! Stay focused and get ready to shine, Tarpons! Your future is bright! *Freshmen:*

Welcome to high school! These next four years are going to fly by! Start thinking about what your goals are for after high school. The courses you take in high school show colleges what kind of goals you set for yourself. Are you signing up for advanced classes, honors sections, or accelerated sequences? Are you choosing electives that really stretch your mind and help you develop new abilities? Or are you doing just enough to get by? Start getting involved in your school and community. We have plenty of clubs you are able to join and a variety of volunteer opportunities. Start a file of important documents, achievements, volunteer hours, and so on. This will help you come Senior Year.

Sophomores:

Welcome back! This year you will be taking the PSAT. Take this opportunity seriously! Try your hardest and see where you are at as of now. Keep up your grades this year and stay involved in the school and community. Colleges like to see students giving back to the community and getting involved. Stay in the know with volunteer opportunities listed on my website that could lead to possible scholarship opportunities, as well. Update your file of important documents. Add any volunteer hours, paid work, accelerations, accomplishments, honors, or sports that you have been involved in. Start making a list of post-secondary schools you may be interested in. If you can, go visit them!

Juniors:

Your last two years of high school are about to start! Hasn't it gone so quick already? If you have not done so yet, sign up to take an ACT and/or SAT this year. Try to have at least one test on your record by the end of this year. Maintain good grades and stay involved in other academic activities. Remember, colleges want to see students involved in their school and community. If you have not volunteered in the community yet, now is the perfect time to find a volunteer opportunity that is right for you. Many offer scholarships during Senior Year to their volunteers. Get involved! Pick a club on our campus to join as well! If you do not see one that fits you, start one! Keep your grades up and make sure you are selecting courses that will lead you toward your future goal. If you have not started a list of schools you are interested in, then do so ASAP and start to visit the schools on your list. You should also start your resume so all you have to do is touch it up Senior Year. These next two years will fly by so do not lose focus! *Seniors:*

Final Year...WOW! Senior Year came up quickly! Isn't it hard to believe you are finally here? It is time to finalize the list of schools you are interested in. Many colleges and universities already have applications available for students to start applying to. Utilize resources like CommonApp, Coalition App, StudentAid.gov, and floridastudentfinancialaid.org. Visit the College Fair to help you decide which schools to apply to. Applications should be in before November 1st! Start essays and resumes right away. After you apply you can then worry about scholarships. Many local ones are available after winter break. FAFSA and Bright Futures applications are open October 1st so no need to worry about those yet. Get college applications done right away. If you plan to join the work force or enlist in the military, there is a process that you need to plan for, too. Be sure to stop by the Career Center to check in for new opportunities.



DR. BENJAMIN HELGEMO DR. WEN LIOU KRISTY CAREY, ARNP KRISTEN VULGAMORE, ARNP EMILY ZIELENSKI, APRN JENNIFER DIBERT, APRN

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ABSENCES/EXTENSIONS

CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER: 941-575-5450

Please be reminded that on the day your child is absent from school, the Attendance Office should receive a phone call before 7:30 a.m. from the parent or guardian explaining the absence. In addition, for your convenience, a 24-hour voice mail is available before and after school hours so you are able to leave messages regarding absences. Other important extensions you may need are as follows:

OFFICES	EXTENSIONS	OFFICES	EXTENSIONS
ATTENDANCE	*7000	ESE	*7111
ATHLETICS	*7004	FACILITIES	*7112
BOOKKEEPER	*7007	GUIDANCE/CURRICULUM	*7035
CAFETERIA	*7077	MAIN OFFICE	*7001
CLINIC	*7002	MEDIA CENTER	*7088
CPAC	*7086	PRINCIPAL	*7011
CUSTODIAL	*7078	REGISTRATION	*7006
DATA ENTRY	*7008	SOCIAL WORKER'S DIRECT LINE	941-205-0379
DEAN/DISCIPLINE	*7049	SW OFFICE	*7142

(Make sure to add the * before selecting extension number)

YEARBOOK

Capture Your Memories!

New School Year, New Yearbook Company! Introducing the Jostens 2024-2025 Yearbook by Charlotte High School! Home of the Fightin' Tarpons!

Get yours today at the special Back to School price of \$80! Don't miss out—prices will increase soon! Order online at Jostens.com, then click Find Your School. A link will be posted on our school website in the upcoming weeks. Order now and cherish your school memories forever.

KEY CLUB

Charlotte High School Key Club is looking for new members for the 2024-2025 school year. Key Club is an international student-led organization that helps students develop leadership skills while seeking out opportunities to serve the community. This is an excellent way to earn volunteer hours and gain valuable leadership experience. Our first meeting will take place on August 19th after school (2:15pm - 3:00pm) in G-218.



CHS DRAMA

CHS Drama and Troupe 0922 present Harvey by Mary Chase October 25 and 26 @ 6:30 PM and October 27 @ 2:00 PM

Elwood P. Dowd insists on including his friend Harvey in all of his sister Veta's social gatherings. Trouble is, Harvey is an imaginary six-and-a-half-foot tall rabbit. To avoid embarrassment Veta decides to have Elwood committed to a sanitarium. The doctors mistakenly commit her instead of her mild-mannered brother. The search is on for Elwood. Elwood and his invisible companion have a strange influence on more than one of the doctors and only at the end does Veta realize that maybe Harvey isn't so bad after all.

BLUE CREW

Blue Crew (Mrs. Zusman, Mrs. Stockbarger, & Ms. Alumbaugh) would like to put out a little information letting students and parents know that Blue Crew membership will again be \$50 this upcoming school year 2024/25. This \$50 membership gets the students a new Blue Crew t-shirt, a new sticker for their student ID, four blue crew activities throughout the year, and free entry to regular home sporting events (not exhibition games, tournaments, or playoff games).

We will be selling last year's t-shirts and any other older Blue Crew shirts for \$10 each. We will start selling memberships at CHS Open House on Wednesday, August 7th in the Aux. Gym.

Students are able to join Blue Crew anytime throughout the school year before or after school in C-Hallway, rooms C110, C111, or C113.









PRIVATE WEALTH MANAGEMENT



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TARPONS GETTING U.S. BACK TO THE MOON! By Paul DeGaeta

Tarpons past and present were shinning Monday, May 6, at the annual Kiwanis Foundation of Charlotte County Scholarship awards.

Bill Graham (CHS 1975) and Kyle Finch (CHS 2017), were the guest speakers. The 25 awards went to three High Schools: Charlotte, Port Charlotte, and Florida Southwestern Collegiate High School. Tarpons took home the lion's share with 13.

Graham and Finch have both been involved with NASA's Artemis Mission that will put the first woman and first person of color on the moon. Bill Graham runs ADVON, one of NASA's primary construction contractors. Kyle Finch is a mechanical engineer who is working on the Artemis Program.

These Artemis moon landings are scheduled for 2026, making Charlotte High's Centennial Celebration that much sweeter for the Tarpon Community.

6





ATHLETICS

Charlotte High School Online Athletic Clearance

- Go to <u>www.athleticclearance.com</u>. Click on the Florida picture.
- Click on <u>"Create an Account" and follow steps</u>. Or Sign in if you have previously created an account. Watch tutorial video if help is needed.
- **3. Register. PARENTS** register with valid email username and password.
- 4. Login using your email address that you registered with.
- 5. Select **"Start Clearance Here"** to start the process.
- <u>Choose the School Year</u> in which the student plans to participate. *Example: Football in Sept 2024 would be the* 2024-2025 School Year.

<u>Choose the School</u> at which the student attends and will compete for.

<u>Choose Sport</u>. *You can also **"Add New Sport"** if a multisport athlete. Electronic signatures will be applied to the additional sports/activities.

- Complete all required fields for Student Information, Educational History, Medical History and Signature Forms. (If you have gone through the AthleticClearance. com process before, you will select the Student and Parent/Guardian from the dropdown menu on those pages)
- Upload the physical form (EL2 page 4 only). You must upload your physical in order to be cleared. Physicals are valid for 365 days. If the athlete does not have medical insurance, you can purchase insurance online at <u>www.</u> <u>schoolinsuranceofflorida.com</u>.
- 9. Once you reach the **Confirmation Message** you have completed the process.
- 10. All of this data will be electronically filed with your school's athletic department for **review**. When the student has been **cleared for participation**, an email notification will be sent to the parent.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the athletic department at 941.575.5450 x *7004.

For Sports Schedules, go to:

https://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net/athletics.html



TARPONS FOR OUR TROOPS

"Tarpons for Our Troops" is a support organization at Charlotte High School with the goal of collecting donated items to send care packages to our troops overseas, who are Tarpon Alumni, and to also be an avenue for Tarpons here at home to support our military personnel.

Last year, we collected and organized supplies to send monthly care package to Army bases around the world. Thanks to the outpouring of our community, our first few shipments of over 45 boxes, were sent to an Army base in South Korea and to an Air Force Base in Italy. <u>The first</u> collection of the new school year begins on August 2.

Some of our community sponsors include Publix of Punta Gorda, the employees of the Punta Gorda Post Office, Tarpon staff, students, and parents, Kathy Sanders, PGMS Student Council and Diane Combs, Phoebe Menzer, Erika Kreegel, Gene Mari Wallis-Morgan, Dunkin' Brands, and Moose Lodge #1693.

Please join our Tarpons in supporting our troops through this program where our Tarpon community can truly shine. Contact Mrs. Summer Nicklas at summer.nicklas@ yourcharlotteschools.net or see her in the Career Center, for more information and learn how you can help with our collection effort. Join our REMIND group to stay-up-to date with meeting dates and for volunteer opportunities.

FIND YOURS HERE! ASSOCIATE | BACHELOR'S | CERTIFICATES

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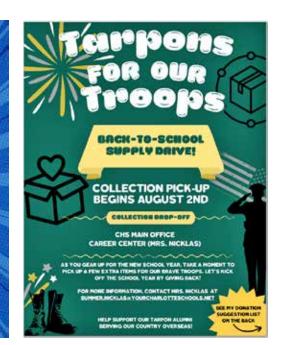
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Wear your support for our Troops!

TARPONS FOR OUR TROOPS

Order your t-shirt today. \$20 See Mrs. Nicklas in the Career Center or email summer.nicklas@yourcharlotteschools.net



DONATION SUGGESTION LIST

TOILETRY ITEMS: NO HOTEL SAMPLES

- Deodorant (NON-AEROSOL)
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes & Dental Flossers
- Lip Balm
- Sunblock, SPF 45, Zinc, Vitamin E, Aloe Vera Gel
- Gum, Breath Mints, Cough Drops
- Foot Powder (Travel Size)
- Baby wipes / Dude Wipes
- Body Wash, Liquid Soap, Facial Cleanser
- Shampoo /Conditioner (travel size)
- Hair Gel (for female troops to pull hair back)
- · Combs / Brushes / Bobby Pins
- Eve Drops (i.e. Visine)
- Nasal Spray
- Razors (disposable: "Intuition" or "Mach 3" type)
- · Shaving Cream / Shaving Soap (in boxes or tubes; NO CANS of Shaving Cream, please!) · Cotton Swabs (i.e. Q-tips)
- · Band-aids, Gauze Pads, First Aid Kits
- · Loufa Sponges / Buff Puffs / Washcloths
- Tissues (individual packs; travel size only)
- Bug Spray / DEET / Skin-So-Soft (NON-AEROSOL)
- Hand & Body Lotion / Moisturizer (travel size)
- Mouthwash (travel size)
- Vitamins (multi-vitamins are always needed!)
- Nail files / Emery Boards / Nail Clippers
- · Feminine Hygiene Products
- Cotton Balls
- Tylenol, Motrin, or Advil
- Moleskin
- · Shoe Insole Cushions (gel kind is best)

SMALL ENTERTAINMENT ITEMS

- Playing Cards
- Puzzle Books (Crosswords, Sudoku)
- Paperback Books Small Board Games
- Magazines
- Travel-sized Games Handheld Video Games
- Wireless Headphones

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS

- Protein Bars
- Trail Mix
- Dried Fruit
- Non-melting candy (M&Ms, Lollipops, Sour Patch, Pop Rocks)
- · Nuts: Peanuts, Mixed Nuts (salted preferred)
- Sunflower Seeds
- Granola Bars
- Hard Pretzels & Peanut Butter Pretzels
- Jerky (Beef, Turkey)
- Powdered Drink single-serve packets (Minute Maid, Gatorade, Kool-Aid, etc)
- Keurig pods (small boxes) & Instant Coffee
 - · Oatmeal Packs (instant: add water)
 - Cereal (Small, individual boxes)
- · Condiments, Spices; Sugar; Salad Dressing (no glass jars)
- Little Debbies[®] & Hostess[®] cake products
- Rice Krispie Treats (store-bought only)
- Small packs of Oreos or other cookies
- Snack Packs (Pudding, Fruit Cups)
- MICROWAVE FOOD (Popcorn, Chef Boyardee, Mac'n'Cheese...)

SHIPPING COSTS

 Donate \$23 to cover the shipping costs for one care package!

YOUR TIME!!

· Volunteering your time by writing a letter to send in the packages, assisting with assembling the packages, and attending future Tarpons For Our Troops events! See Mrs. Nicklas with any questions!



SCAN OR OR TEXT @ TARPONTRPS TO 81010 TO STAY STAY UP TO DATE!









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Charlotte County Public School Charlotte High School 1250 Cooper Street Punta Gorda, FL 33950 AUGUST 2024 ISSUE 4

Non Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Orlando, FL Permit #2346



REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES OR THREATS

Students, parents, CCPS employees, and members of the community have a responsibility to report suspicious activities and potential threats to schools. Any suspicious activity or threat shall be promptly reported to one of the following individuals, agencies or reporting tools:

- School Resource Officer or local law enforcement agencies.
- School Administrator or any available staff member.
- The FortifyFL Reporting APP or to the Crimestoppers Tip line (1-800-780-TIPS).
- Contacting the Supervisor of District Security and Emergency Management at (941) 255-0808.
 Calling 9-1-1.

Note: Reports may be done anonymously.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The School Board of Charlotte County does not discriminate (including anti-Semitism [as defined in Bylaw 0100]) on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, gender status, or gender identity), recognized disability, pregnancy, marital status, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information which are classes protected by State and/or Federal law (collectively, "protected classes") in its programs and activities, including employment. The School Board also ensures equal access for Boy Scouts of America and other identified patriotic youth groups, as required by 34 C.F.R. §108 (Boy Scouts Act). (School Board Policy 1122, 3122, 4122, 2260)

The District Title IX Coordinators and Equity Compliance Officers for the District are Adrienne McElroy (Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Labor Relations), available at (941) 255-0808, Michael Desjardins (Assistant Superintendent for School Support), available at (941) 255-0808, and Justin Boudreau (Director of Human Resources), available at (941) 255-0808. The District Section 504 Compliance Officer and ADA Coordinator is Rebecca Marazon (Coordinator of Psychological Services), available at (941) 255-0808. (School Board Policy 2260)

