

BEARCAT CHRONICLE

AUGUST 2024

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 2

For the Parents, Staff, and Community of Crystal River Middle School



344 NE Crystal Street
Crystal River, FL 34428

352-795-2116

<https://crm.citruschools.org/home>



ADMINISTRATION

Brian Lancaster *Principal*

Keith Crisp *Assistant Principal*

Shannon Rossi *Assistant Principal*

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Students, and Members of the Crystal River Community,
I am excited to welcome you back to Crystal River Middle School for another fantastic year! As I enter my second year as principal, I am filled with enthusiasm and optimism about the opportunities that lie ahead for our school community.

Last year, we accomplished so much together. From academic achievements to extracurricular successes, our students demonstrated remarkable growth, resilience, and a commitment to excellence. These accomplishments are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, the unwavering support of our parents, and the collaborative spirit of our staff.

As we begin this new school year, I am eager to continue building on the strong foundation we've established. Our focus remains on creating a safe, and engaging learning environment where every student can thrive. We will continue to prioritize academic excellence, and the development of skills that prepare our students for success in the future.

I look forward to working closely with each of you—parents, students, and community members—to make this school year the best one yet. Your involvement and support are crucial to our success, and I encourage you to stay connected, share your ideas, and participate in the life of our school.

Thank you for your continued trust and partnership. Together, we will ensure that Crystal River Middle School remains a place where every student can achieve their full potential.

Here's to a wonderful year ahead!

Sincerely,

Brian Lancaster, Principal

**Check out the CRMS
Website**

<http://crm.citruschools.org>

Like us on

Facebook and follow
us on **Twitter**

@CrmBearcats



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL- SHANNON ROSSI

Welcome back to another exciting school year at Crystal River Middle School!

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break. As the Assistant Principal, I am thrilled to welcome our returning students and extend a warm greeting to those who are new to our community.

Our dedicated staff has been working diligently over the summer to prepare for an engaging and productive academic year. We are committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and stimulating learning environment where every student can thrive.

Communication between home and school is vital for student success. We encourage you to stay connected with us through our school website, newsletters, and social media channels. Please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher or our administrative team with any questions or concerns.

We are excited about the opportunities this new school year brings and look forward to partnering with you to ensure a successful year for all our students. Together, we can achieve great things and make this year memorable and impactful.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Let's make this year the best one yet!

Shannon Rossi

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL- JOSEPH PAPRZYCKI

Dear Crystal River Middle School Community,

My name is Joe Paprzycki, and I am thrilled to join the Crystal River family as your new Assistant Principal. It's an honor to work alongside our dedicated staff, inspiring students, and supportive parents as we continue to make our school a place of growth and excellence.

As we prepare for the year ahead, we will focus on fostering a positive environment where every student feels valued and empowered to achieve their best. We are committed to providing a nurturing atmosphere that encourages academic success, personal growth, and a strong sense of community.

I encourage everyone to stay connected and involved in our school community. Whether attending school events, volunteering, or simply staying informed, your participation is vital to our success.

Thank you for welcoming me into the Crystal River Middle School community. I look forward to meeting each of you and working together to make this year a memorable and successful one.

Here's to a fantastic school year ahead!

Joseph Paprzycki



'Bearcat Chronicle'
August 2024

Published Four Times Per Year
Crystal River Middle School
344 NE Crystal Street
Crystal River, FL 34428
Issue #2

TRANSITION FAIR ESE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES INVITED!

Transition Fair for ESE Students and Families

- Free Event for ESE students and their families!
- This event aims to empower exceptional student education students and their families by offering insights into the wealth of resources and support services available within the community.
- When: October 19th, 2024
- From: 9am-12pm
- Location: Redemption Point Church in Inverness

CRMS WELCOMES RON FRINK NEW TITLE | INTERVENTIONIST

Ron Frink attended Crystal River Elementary, Middle, and High Schools, graduating from CRHS in 1986. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from UCF and a Masters Degree from St. Leo University. He worked for the Citrus County Sheriff's Office for 29 years. He spent most of that time, 12 years, as a School Resource Officer and supervised the SRO unit for 13 more years. He started teaching at CRMS as substitute teacher two years ago. Last year he joined us full time as a 6th Grade American History Teacher. He is also an online college professor teaching classes in Critical Incident Management and Homeland Security. We look forward to him serving as the Dean of Students.

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ATHLETIC SCHEDULE FALL

(All event dates and times are subject to change)

Fall Sports

FOOTBALL- Practice begins August 12th

Date	Home/ Away	Vs.	Time
Sep 3	Away	Lecanto	6:00
Sept 10	Home	CSMS	6:00
Sept 17	Home	Inverness	6:00
Sept 24	Away	CSMS	6:00
Oct 1	Home	Lecanto	6:00
Oct 8	Away	Inverness	6:00
Oct 15	Make-Up		

VOLLEYBALL- Practice begins August 12th

Date	Home/ Away	Vs.	Time
Sept 5	Away	South Sumter	4:00/5:00
Sept 9	Home	Wildwood	3:00/4:00
Sept 12	Away	Lecanto	3:00/4:00
Sept 16	Away	Inverness	3:00/4:00
Sept 19	Home	CSMS	3:00/4:00
Sept 23	Home	Buffalo Ridge	3:00/4:00
Sept 26	Away	Middleton	4:00/5:00
Sept 30	Home	Lecanto	3:00/4:00
Oct 3	Away	CSMS	3:00/4:00
Oct 7	Home	Inverness	3:00/4:00
Oct 10	Home	County Championships	3/4/5:00

CROSS COUNTRY- Practice begins August 19th

Date	Host	Time
Sept 11	LMS	3:30
Sept 18	CRMS @ CRHS	3:30
Sept 26	IMS	3:30
Oct 2	CSMS County Championships	3:30

CROSS COUNTRY- Practice begins August 19th

Date	Host	Time
Sept 11	LMS	3:30
Sept 18	CRMS @ CRHS	3:30
Sept 26	IMS	3:30
Oct 2	CSMS County Championships	3:30

GOLF – Practice begins August 19th

Date	Host	Time
Sept 5	CRMS Plantation SS, Midd, CRMS, SR	3:00
Sept 12	CSMS Citrus Springs CSMS, IMS, SS, CRMS	3:00
Sept 19	CSMS Citrus Springs CSMS, BR, CRMS, SR	3:00
Sept 26	CRMS Plantation Citrus County Championships	3:00
Oct 3	Buffalo Nancy Lopez Championships	1:00

GUIDANCE



I am Ms. Wentworth, a former Bearcat and graduate of CRH, and I'm so happy another school year is beginning! I love the fresh start that each new school year brings, reuniting with our current students, and getting to know our new ones. This will be my 8th year as a School Counselor at CRM and I have loved every minute of it – well, almost every minute. In all honestly, serving our students has been one of my life's greatest joys. I am so grateful to have the opportunity to invest in our children and our community. Please know, our Guidance team is here to support our students and their families so please don't hesitate to reach out to us. Hope to see you soon!

Lanna Wentworth
Professional School Counselor



Hello awesome Bearcats! I'm Mrs. Stewart and I'm one of your school counselors. I can't wait to catch up with our students from last year and meet our newest Bearcats. I'm excited to work with students and their families to build a safe and supportive environment that helps all students reach their fullest potential. I look forward to seeing our students and families throughout the year and during our school sponsored events. It's going to be a fantastic year!

Christine Stewart
Professional School Counselor



Welcome to a new school year, Bearcats! My name is Ms. Balmert and I'm your School Social Worker. I'm excited to start my 7th year at CRM getting to know the new faces and catching up with the ones from last year. As a former Bearcat and graduate from CRH, I love having the opportunity to help shape and support this current generation. Throughout the year, I look forward to meeting with your child to ensure they have a positive, healthy, and successful school year! I hope to see you around campus, at sporting events, or any other chance to support our Bearcats!

Dawn Balmert
School Social Worker

A NOTE FROM GUIDANCE

Just a few reminders as we start a new school year:

ABSENCES

When a student has been absent from school, the parent/guardian is required to send a note with the student's legal name, date of absence(s), and reason for the absence(s) signed by the legal parent/guardian within two (2) days of the student's return to school. If the written statement is not provided by the parent, the absence(s) will be unexcused.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

There will be no schedule changes after the first few weeks of school. Thank you.

DELIVERIES

Delivery of non-school related items, i.e. balloons, flowers, fast-food deliveries, etc. will not be accepted by the front office. We will attempt to get assignments, school projects, change of clothes and other school related items, delivered by the parent/guardian, to their students.

EARLY DISMISSALS

Please make sure your child knows about any scheduled appointments or has pertinent family information before he/she leaves for school in order to avoid miscommunication. Administration strongly encourages appointments be made outside of school hours to help us keep classroom interruptions to a minimum.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation,

Lanna Wentworth and Christine Stewart

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SAEC SCHEDULE- SCHOOL ADVISORY ENHANCEMENT COUNCIL

Parents and guardians who are interested in becoming voting members of the 2023-2024 CRM Advisory Council can sign up at the Open House on August 8th or by contacting the Principal Brian Lancaster.

Meeting Dates

- September 12, 2024
- November 14, 2024
- February 13, 2025
- April 10, 2025

FUND RAISING

General Fund Raising

Money raised will go to support the club or group sponsoring the fundraiser with Staff appreciation receiving 10%.

American Fundraiser/Photographs

Money raised will go to support the Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Program at CRMS.

OUT OF FIELD

Crystal River Middle School is proud that all our teachers and administrators who work with our students are certified by the State of Florida or other governing board. We appreciate the following teachers who have volunteered to teach a subject outside of their primary certification and are currently taking classes to obtain certification in the area they are teaching out-of-field.

Out-of-Field Teachers:

Teacher Name	CURRENT ACTIVE CERTIFICATION AREA	PENDING CERTIFICATION SUBJECT AREA FROM FLDOE	OUT OF FIELD ASSIGNMENT (COURSE TEACHING)
Sydney Ervin	Long Term Substitute	Middle Grades Mathematics	Math
Isabel Walter	Health	Science 6-12	Science
Lisa Kell	Science 6-12	ESE	ESE Inclusion
Anne Comeau	Middle Grades Math	ESE	ESE Inclusion
Lori Mobley	Educational Leadership	ESE	ESE Inclusion



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CRYSTAL RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE

<p>HEAD</p> <p>No caps, visors, hoods, bandanas or other head gear, except with administrative permission.</p>	<p>ACCEPTABLE</p> 	<p>NOT ACCEPTABLE</p> 
<p>UPPER GARMENTS</p> <p>All garments must cover shoulder to shoulder. No rips/tears or skintight items.</p> <p>All garments must be long enough to clearly overlap the beltline or stay tucked.</p> <p>NO halter tops, tanks tops, spaghetti straps or muscle shirts.</p>	<p>ACCEPTABLE</p> 	<p>NOT ACCEPTABLE</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin-bottom: 5px;">Straps must be 2 inches wide</div> 
<p>LOWER GARMENTS</p> <p>Undergarments and the buttocks MUST remain entirely covered even while seated.</p> <p>Dresses, skirts and shorts must be at least mid-thigh or below in length.</p> <p>No rips, holes or tears in clothing above the mid thigh on boys or girls</p>	<p>ACCEPTABLE</p> 	<p>NOT ACCEPTABLE</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin-bottom: 5px;">Shirt must come to mid thigh if wearing leggings</div> 

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