January 30, 2025

Volume 23

Issue 1

For the Parents/Guardians, Staff, Students, and Community of Cypress Lake High School

# School Phone 239-481-2233

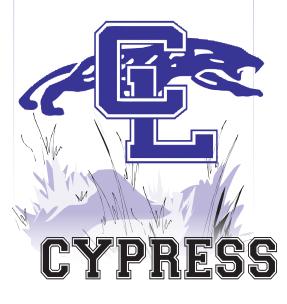
School Website http://cyh.leeschools.net

## 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 Family,

It is a GREAT school year at Cypress! Students have been busy around campus with arts events, clubs, activities, and athletics. Our projected graduation rate is the highest ever at this point in the school year. We thank our students, parents, and community members for all their support. As we turn the page on semester one, we want to thank the students, staff, and parents for their role in making the first two quarters successful.



Second semester is the time to finish strong. Academic focus is the

priority. The spring can be a busy time with performances, sports, activities, and testing. Use the Google Classroom along with monitoring FOCUS to see where assignments are posted to stay organized. Grades are posted on FOCUS. For information on how to sign up and passwords visit https://lee.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/. Students and parents should monitor FOCUS weekly.

#### Panthers are planners!

The instructional calendar for next semester (SY 2024-2025) <u>here</u>. Graduation is Saturday May 17th at 2:30pm it will be livestreamed <u>here</u>. Bell schedules and special day bell schedules are posted <u>here</u>.

As we embrace this season of reflection and warmth, we want to express our gratitude for your continued partnership throughout this year. We wish all members of the Panther family good health and joy this winter.

This time of year deepens our sense of belonging and renews our appreciation for the values that make Cypress Lake High School such a remarkable community. As a parent, you may sometimes feel like part of the backstage crew in the production that is your child's life. Your role is vital—you are, without a doubt, a main character in their story. While it may seem like they "need" you less as they grow, you'll find that they rely on you in new and profound ways. Each season of their life brings a beautiful new bloom, and your presence nurtures their growth every step of the way.

Angela Roles Principal

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.

LAKE HIGH SCHOOL Center for the Arts





"Paw Prints" January 30, 2025 Published Five Times Per Year Cypress Lake High School 6750 Panther Ln. Ft. Myers, FL 33919 Issue #1

#### The School Board of Lee County, Florida

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## PBIS Recognition

The school PBIS team developed PRIDE expectations years ago to encourage our students to exhibit positive behaviors. These expectations are prompt, responsible, independent thinker, dedicated and engaged. The students may be nominated by their teachers for exhibiting our Expectations. The students pictured received awards during class this month.

#### National Honor Society News

As part of a service-learning activity, the National Honor Society members created over 400 handmade Holiday cards to send to hospitalized kids.

Jeremiah's Italian Ice and NHS teamed up to have 2 days of tasty treats. Over \$500 was raised to help send support to Watauga County High School in Boone, North Caroline after their flooding from Hurricane Helene. Watauga County High helped Cypress Lake after Hurricane Ian and we were able to return the favor.

As part of their December Giving initiative, the NHS is holding a canned food drive. All items collected will be donated to the Gladiolus Food Bank.







Principal Roles and AD Rodriguez help dish out Jeremiah's Italian Ice.

Mallory Amos and Danielle Barsheshet enjoy a cool treat.



# Donations are Being ACCEPTED NOW!

As we enter the Holiday Season, many of us like to donate to those less fortunate. If you feel the same way:

- Donations of non-perishable/canned foods are always accepted at Ms. Karina's office (Rm#260)
- JROTC Toy Drive: Items can be placed in/at JROTC mailbox (Staff Mailroom)
- Donations of gently used clothes, shoes, and home goods/crafting materials are always accepted for the Panther Closet in the front lobby or Media Center.

#### JROTC Brains and Brawn

Congratulations to our JROTC Panther Battalion Leadership and Academic (JLAB) Teams for placing 4th overall at the 2024 Lee County School District JLAB Championship on Tuesday, December 3rd. They represented Cypress well.



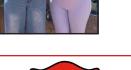


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## Parents of **IUNIORS**

Now is a good time for your student to start taking the SAT and/ or ACT. Students who are college bound and have completed Alg. 2 should start NOW. Students can find the links to register and the registration dates in their grade level google classroom.

It's also a good time to start planning some Spring college visits. Start early so your rising senior is prepared to start their senior year.

#### From the Counselors

Seniors need to turn in volunteer or work hours to their school counselors to qualify for the Bright Futures Scholarship. Seniors need to apply for the scholarship by creating a student account on the Bright Futures web site. Students must also meet the GPA and test score requirements to qualify for the scholarship. Seniors who plan to start college in the summer and who have met the gualifications need to turn in their hours and apply before the end of first semester.

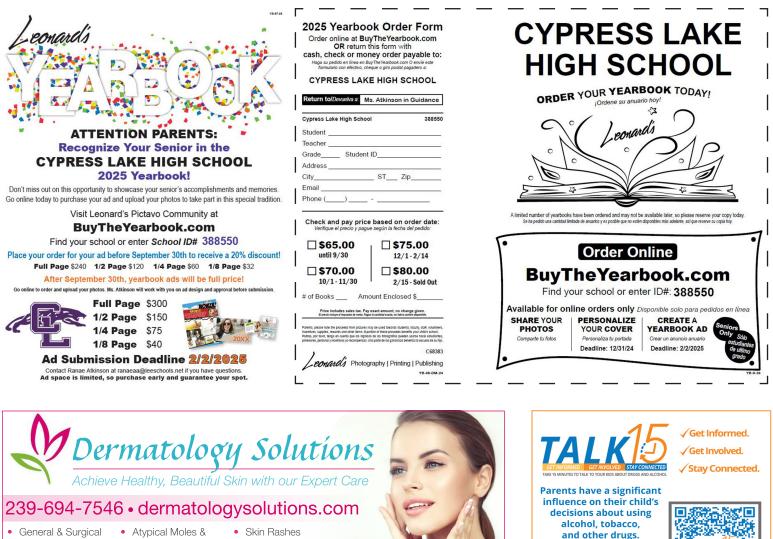
Scholarship information is posted on the senior google classroom and seniors can see their counselors with any questions. Below are the Bright Futures scholarship requirements:

Juniors who are considering applying to a four-year college next year should sign up to take an ACT or SAT test before the end of the school year.

Туре	16 High School College- Preparatory Course Credits <sup>1</sup>	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT <sup>*</sup> /CLT <sup>*</sup> /SAT <sup>*</sup> )	Volunteer Service Hours <sup>2</sup>	Paid Work Hours <sup>2</sup>
FAS	<ul> <li>4 - English (three must include substantial writing)</li> <li>4 - Mathematics (at or above the Algebra I level)</li> <li>3 - Natural Science (two must have substantial laboratory)</li> <li>3 - Social Science</li> <li>2 - World Language (sequential, in same language)</li> </ul>	3.50	2024-25 Graduates: 29/96/1340 2025-26 Graduates: 29/95/1330	100 hours	100 hours
FMS		3.00	2024-25 Graduates: 25/84/1210 2025-26 Graduates: 24/82/1190	75 hours	100 hours

Students can sign on www.ACT.org or www.collegeboard.org . Testing dates and registration deadlines are posted on those websites, in the junior google classroom, and in this newsletter.

Students wishing to meet with their school counselor should email their request to their counselor.



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#### Winner, Winner!

Students are put on Fees and Fines when they don't return books, Chromebook, PE uniforms, etc. In an effort to have more students pay their fines, the media center decided to hold a t-shirt drawing with students getting an entry for paying their fines. The winners of the Media Center Fees and Fines t-shirt drawing are Grade 9 Abigail Diamond, Grade 10 Isaiah Thomas, Grade 11 Joshua Marchan,

and Grade 12 Luigi Smith. The shirts were provided by the Panthers Booster Club. Congratulations to these students and thank you for ensuring that your accounts are cleared. Look for another drawing in April.





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#### Lead Like a Girl Summit

Three Cypress Lake students attended the 8th annual Lead Like a Girl Summit at Florida Southwestern State College. This summit highlighted leadership, education, advocacy, and development. While attending the summit, the mentor assigned to our students was Madam President of the Fort Myers Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated. Mrs. Arias shared her journey from a young girl to a successful lawyer through leadership, education, advocacy, and continuous development. Our students left informed, motivated, and ready for a successful future.

Students pictured:

Aundrea Vargas, Jael Johnson, Michaela Harrell

### **Advanced Studies** Information

The AICE and AP Calendars and information for testing is available on the Advanced Academics website.

- There are **NO MAKE UP** tests for Cambridge. If students miss a test due to an emergency, they may retake it in the fall for \$125 AS Level, \$200 A Level, and \$215 Global Perspectives. If students miss one part of the exam, that part will be sent to be scored and results will be received on the completed component.
- Students are required to attend both components of their examinations. Students who are absent on testing days are subject to exam fees (\$125 AS Level, \$200 A Level, \$215 Global Perspectives). Exam fees will be added automatically to their fees and fines.
- There is also a \$100 fee for missing AP tests. The AP Test calendar is linked here.



#### College Comes to Campus

Florida Southwestern State College, FSW, was on campus on Friday, December 13th. 89 students applied and were accepted to the college on the spot! This is great news for our seniors. The number



of students accepted at this time of the year was double what we've had in provious yeard

what we've had in previous years! Congratulations to all these seniors!





#### SAT Test Dates AUGUST 2024–JUNE 2025

These test dates and deadlines apply to all students—U.S. and international—taking the SAT:

SAT Test Date*	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes, Regular Cancellation, and Late Registration**
Mar 8, 2025	Feb 21, 2025	Feb 25, 2025
May 3, 2025	Apr 18, 2025	April 22, 2025
June 7, 2025	May 22, 2025	May 27, 2025

\*Students <u>who need to borrow a device from College Board</u> will need to register and request their device earlier than the registration deadline — at least 30 days before test day.

\*\*Late registration is available worldwide. Additional fees apply.

ACT National Test Dates 2024-2025						
Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline Late Fee Applies After This Date	Late Registration Deadline				
February 8, 2025	January 3	January 20				
April 5, 2025	February 28	March 16				
June 14, 2025	May 9	May 26				
July 12, 2025*	June 6	June 20				

# SCHOOL YEAR: 2024-2025

#### Yearbook and Senior Ads

The yearbook is currently on sale for \$75 until 2/14/25. On 2/15 the price will increase to its final cost of \$80. Purchase NOW so that you can guarantee there will be a copy for your student. Order at BuyTheYearbook.com using school ID 388550.

Parents of SENIORS... If you plan on purchasing a senior recognition ad for your student, the deadline for purchase and turning in photos and messages is February 2nd. As of now there are only 3 pages of space remaining.









#### SENIOR STUFF

There are so many scholarships for seniors posted in the senior google classroom. Some local ones to get completed ASAP are: LOCAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS due 3/1, LOCAL COLLABORATORY SCHOLARSHIPS due 1/14, BOSTON RED SOX SCHOLARSHIP due 1/9. These are just a few of many opportunities so sit down with your senior and look through all the scholarships that have been posted.

Ms. Atkinson will be hosting FOUR more FAFSA DAYS on campus: Jan 15th, Feb 6th, Mar 4th, Apr 11th. Please make sure both you and your senior

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AS on campus: Jan 15th, Feb 6th, Mar 4th, Apr 11th. Please make sure both you and your senior have already created your FSA ID so you are prepared to complete the FAFSA. If your student has not done this, have them make a time to meet Ms. Atkinson to get this done. Remember the FAFSA is good for students attending trade school or college. We had 28 FAFSA's completed at our December event and several students were awarded FULL PELL GRANTS valued at \$7,395. Even if you don't think your student will qualify, it's important to complete it as ALL schools and ALL scholarship applications require it.

### Coming to Cypress Lake for the 25/26 School Year





FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US CYPRESS LAKE HIGH SCHOOL 6750 CYPRESS LAKE DRIVE FORT MYERS, FL HTTPS://CYH.LEESCHOOLS.NET/



## Working on ESOL Certification

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

> Heidi Grant Sasha Johnson Courtney LaMar Andrew McCarley McKenzie Velez Brittany Wilson



#### Reminder to Avoid Fees and Fines

Now that we are back-toschool, please collect any overdue textbooks, library books, tech devices or accessories, and JROTC or sports uniforms that you may have. You can turn overdue items into the media center to be cleared from Fees and Fines.

## Report Suspicious Activity with FortifyFL

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool.

- Instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.
- Let students know! They can report anonymously from their personal devices or via the icon on their Chromebooks on their **launchpad**.



#### **QUICKLY AND EASILY SUBMIT A TIP** By accessing FortifyFL, students can provide a description of the threat, share pics and videos and optionally submit their contact information.

Anonymous or Non-Anonymous You decide whether you mant to include your name and contact information.

## QUICKLY SEND TO AUTHORITIES



FortityFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay tormation to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

#FORTIFYFL GETFORTIFYFL.COM



Include Photos

and Video

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photos or video with your tip report.



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To Addressee or Current Resident

#### **All-Star Panthers**

In this year's 36th Annual Rotary South All-Star Football and Cheer classic. Cypress Lake had six players and 2 cheerleaders invited to participate. The students were:

# CLHS FOOTBALL PLAYERS:

Zeke Dube-Garrett Joey Dube-Garrett Isaiah Livingstone Justice Hearne Rashawn Anderson Chartreal Jenkins

#### CLHS CHEERLEADERS:

Abigail Buckley

Kayla Trotman

Our very own Coach Joey Mendes was selected to coach in the state all-star game that was be played on Saturday, December 14th at the Villages High School in Middleton, Florida.

In addition, Chartreal Jenkins was 1 of 35 players to be selected from the South Region of Florida to play in the state all-star game. He was selected to play LB; this is a huge accomplishment for him personally and the school.

# Congratulations to our ALL-STAR PANTHERS!

# INSIDE THIS ISSUE

JROTC ADVANCED STUDIES INFORMATION

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