



ISSUE 1
SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

LEMON BAY HS
2201 Placida Road
Englewood, FL 34224
(941) 474-7702

Principal's Message

Welcome back students and parents,

We are thrilled to welcome you back to Lemon Bay High School for the 2024-2025 school year! We hope you all had a restful and rejuvenating summer.

We had an amazing six days of preschool to prepare, and our dedicated staff has been hard at work preparing for your child's arrival. We focused on five key areas to ensure a smooth and successful start to the school year:

- **Opening Schools:** We've made sure our classrooms and facilities are ready to support your learning and growth.
- **Professional Development:** Our teachers have participated in professional development opportunities to enhance their skills and stay up-to-date on the latest teaching methods.
- **Coaching for Teachers:** We've provided our teachers with coaching and support to help them implement effective instructional strategies. These coaches will be

in place to assist and give feedback to teachers throughout the year.

- **Collaborative Planning:** Our teachers have worked together to develop common lesson plans that will foster a cohesive and engaging learning experience for all students.
- **High-Level Questions:** We are committed to promoting critical thinking and problem-solving skills by encouraging our teachers to ask high-level questions in the classroom. Our district has paired up with the Center for Model Schools to help us identify areas of growth for our staff.

We believe that by focusing on these areas, we can create a positive and supportive learning environment where all students can thrive. Some tips to help ensure the success of your child:

- **Choosing your "E":** We are encouraging all students to "choose their E". Please speak to your child about one of these three options:

... continues on page 2

MANTITA MESSENGER

<http://lbhs.yourcharlotteschools.net>



2 Principal's Message ... continued from the front page

- ◇ Enroll – enrolling in college or trade school after high school
- ◇ Enlist – enlisting in a branch of the military after high school
- ◇ Employ – entering the workforce directly after high school

By choosing your “E”, it will help us to guide your child towards their goals. Going forward, students will be using a program called Xello to help with career planning.

- **Access FOCUS:** Our online student information system, to review your child's grades from last year. Talk with your child about areas of strength and areas that need improvement. Set achievement goals for the current school year and discuss specific strategies that will help your child achieve those goals.
- **Access FOCUS:** to learn the results of the accountability tests your child took during the Spring testing season. On all exams, level 3 and above represent proficiency, while levels 1 and 2 indicate your child did not earn a proficient score. Remember that the 10th grade FAST ELA and the BEST Algebra I EOC are the only two standardized tests students are required to pass in order to earn a high school diploma. If your child did not earn a proficient score on either of those tests, know that they will have multiple opportunities to be re-tested. However, you should discuss with your child a plan for improving their test score. If you need assistance with this task, please make an appointment with your child's guidance counselor.
- **Attendance** is important. Studies have found that students attending school daily have greater success in school and are more likely to graduate. Teachers prepare lessons for each school day and students attending school regularly will be able to keep up with the progression of learning in the classroom. Charlotte County has a new attendance policy for students. We sent home a contract to begin the year that reminds students that anyone missing more than 20% of instructional time will be withheld from extracurricular activities.
- **Exam Exemptions:** New this year, all students who meet certain attendance criteria can exempt Midterms and Final Exams, in the past, this was isolated to seniors. The threshold for exam exemptions are:

- ◇ **5 or less absences (unexcused and excused combined) – per period**
- ◇ **5 or less tardies – per period**
- ◇ **At least a “B” average in the course**
- ◇ **No out of school suspensions**
- ◇ **AICE/AP classes are at the discretion of the teacher.**

- **Access FOCUS:** weekly to monitor your child's current grades. Students will have classwork and homework that will help them prepare for the tests they will take in each of their classes to show learning is occurring. If students start to fall behind, it can be very difficult to catch up. This year Lemon Bay will offer four days of tutoring after school in the media center. Starting the week of August 26th, we will offer tutoring for one-hour (2:30 – 3:30) Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. New this year, we are offering tutoring Wednesdays from 2:30 – 4:30 and providing transportation to students residing in Charlotte County. To be eligible for the 5:00 bus, families will need to fill out the permission form located on our website.
- **Involvement:** Encourage your child to get involved in extra-curricular activities. Your child could join a club, try out for a sport, or participate in band, chorus, theater, or NJROTC. Involvement in sports, activities, and clubs will help students feel more a part of the high school, and data has shown that students who are involved in high school have better attendance and grades.
- **Active engagement:** Finally, speak with your children about actively engaging in their education. If they have questions about what is being taught in class, they should speak up and ask for help. If your child has questions about their schedules or about graduation requirements, they should schedule an appointment to talk with a counselor. If your child has concerns about safety issues, they need to approach an administrator. My door is always open to students, and so are the doors of all members of our administrative team. We want to know if our students, or parents, have concerns so that we can work together to resolve those concerns.

The entire staff is looking forward to a great and challenging school year. We are excited to see what this new school year will bring and look forward to partnering with you to ensure your child's success. As always, Go Mantas!!!

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Manta Rays “RIP” into Bullying

Student conflicts occur on any high school campus. Those conflicts typically result in a difference of opinions. Overcoming differences and embracing diversity is what we believe makes Lemon Bay High School a great school for our students. Our students strive to support each other and demonstrate kindness and compassion. Our school district and school take a strong stand to ensure bullying behaviors do not occur. Keep in the mind, the following “RIP” acronym if you are unsure if bullying is occurring and should be reported:

- R = Repeated (occurs more than once)
- I = Imbalance of Power (is the victim perceived as younger, weaker, less smart, or less socially accepted)
- P = Purposeful (it was deliberate or intended, not accidental)

What is Bullying? Bullying, which includes cyberbullying, occurs when a person or group of people repeatedly hurt, embarrass, or frighten another person. Cyberbullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication regardless of whether the bullying occurs on or off school grounds. Examples of cyberbullying include but are not limited to: text/instant messaging, e-mails, creation of a webpage impersonating another person and/or other electronic means through the internet.

Bullying is not:

- An altercation between equals
- Good natured playful teasing among equals or peers
- An isolated incident

You can report a bully situation on our school’s website using the “Report Bullying” button. You can also talk to an Assistant Principal about a situation you feel needs reported. Remember, we are here to help!

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)

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State Level Officials
Your officials also have options to view tips for incident and paper filing status.

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Manta Messenger
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Charlotte County Public Schools
1445 Education Way
Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1042
Issue #1



Attendance and Extracurricular Activities

The School Board maintains that daily school attendance is essential to the educational success of each student. Students are expected to be in school all day, every day and in class on time in order to receive full benefit from the instructional programs of the Charlotte County Public Schools.

At Lemon Bay High School, a student needs to be in good standing regarding attendance, academics and discipline in order to participate in “extracurricular” activities. Students failing to adhere to the requirements below may be subject to being withheld from extracurricular activities.

Extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to: athletics, co-curricular (Band, ROTC, Theatre), Homecoming, Prom and clubs. Students could also lose access to parking privileges, OJT periods, driver’s license (through DMV revocation), attending events at school (athletics/productions/concerts), walking in graduation commencement, etc.

Requirements:

- Attendance – absences not to exceed 20% of lost instructional time per period.
- Academics – 2.0 unweighted GPA or above and passing all core classes needed for graduation.

*If less than a 2.0 weighted GPA, current grades need to be 2.0 or greater

Discipline – no zero tolerance referrals and no repeat OSS/ISS infractions

*Lemon Bay High School believes prevention is key. If a student fails to meet one of the above requirements, a parent/student/administration meeting will be held to create an improvement plan to possibly restore lost privileges and get back on track for graduation.

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Mrs. Bedford Grade 9 A-G and Grade 12
 Mrs. Johnson Grade 9 H-N and Grade 11
 Mrs. Ragazzone Grade 9 O-Z and Grade 10
 Mrs. Dailey College and Career
 Counselor
 Ms. Robinson School Social Worker

Mrs. Grzechowiak School Social Worker
 Mrs. Diaz-Rawlins Guidance Office
 Administrative Assistant
 Mrs. Henry Data Management
 Technician

2024-2025

Notes from Band Program

A Great Start, Musical Growth, and Upcoming Events

The Lemon Bay High School Band has had an exciting and productive beginning to the school year! Our musicians have worked hard, refining their skills and preparing for a range of performances. From the Marching Mantas' dynamic shows at football games to our concert, percussion, and jazz ensembles' dedication to their repertoire, the progress has been impressive. Our students continue to rise to new challenges, showcasing growing confidence and musicality.

We invite our community to join us at these upcoming events:

- **Fall Concert – October 7 at 6:30 PM:** Join us for “The Mountains Are Calling,” featuring the Lemon Bay Jazz Rays, Percussion Ensemble, and Symphonic Winds, along with a special performance by the award-winning Marching Mantas! Experience a musical journey inspired by the beauty of the great outdoors. This is a free event, but tickets are required and can be reserved through our band website. The link to purchase tickets via TeachTix is available on our website.
- **CCPS Marching Band Showcase – October 10 at 7:00 PM:** Don't miss this exciting event at the LBHS football field, featuring performances by the marching bands from **Port Charlotte, Charlotte, and Lemon Bay High Schools.**

- **Winter Concert – December 12 at 6:30 PM:** Celebrate the season with a festive mix of holiday and winter music in the LBHS auditorium. This concert will also feature a **silent auction**, with proceeds going to support our band program.



Admission to all events is free, **but tickets must be reserved in advance.** While reserving your tickets, we invite you to consider making a **donation** to help support the band. Visit www.bandsoflbhs.com for ticket reservations and donation options.

Support the Band

We are actively seeking sponsors to help fund our upcoming trip to **Gatlinburg for the Smoky Mountain Music Festival**, as well as to cover other essential operating expenses. Your support is vital to ensuring that our students continue to enjoy incredible opportunities for growth and performance. Whether through sponsorship or a donation while reserving your tickets, every contribution helps us reach our goals.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities, please email sponsorship@bandsoflbhs.com or visit our website at www.bandsoflbhs.com. Your generosity makes a difference!

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Career Resource Center (CRC)

Who can benefit from the CRC? ALL STUDENTS GRADES 9-12

What goes on in the CRC? POST-SECONDARY HELP, INTEREST SURVEYS, COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES, SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, LUNCH & LEARNS – INFORMATION ON TECHNICAL COLLEGES, COLLEGES, UNIVERISTIES, MILITARY & CAREERS, ASVAB, EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

When can a student visit the CRC? DURING THEIR LUNCH, BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL OR A PASS FROM THEIR TEACHER.

Where is the CRC located? NEXT TO THE CAFETERIA – VERY CONVEIENT TO STOP IN ON THE WAY TO LUNCH.

Why is the CRC a great resource for students? STUDENTS CAN EXPLORE AND PLAN FOR THEIR FUTURE!

PARENTS & STUDENTS – Sign-up for the **CRC's REMIND Text** based on graduation year

Class of 2025
Text to: **81010**
Message: **@crc2025**

Class of 2027
Text to: **81010**
Message: **@crc2027**

Class of 2026
Text to: **81010**
Message: **@crc2026**

Class of 2028
Text to: **81010**
Message: **@crc2028**

ASVAB TEST – School day test on October 22th.
Sign-ups will begin October 1st.

ASVAB (Career Exploration Program) – approach to career exploration helps you identify your skills and interests and encourages you to explore all the pathways you can take to reach your career goal. Check out the website for practice and more information: www.asvabprogram.com

10th, 11th and 12th Graders: Sign up in the CRC to take the next ASVAB



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Class of 2025**
Senior Remind Code @lbh2025



Senior's Name: _____
 Senior's Email: _____
 Senior's Height & Weight (for cap & gown) Height: _____ Weight: _____
 Parent/Guardian Name: _____
 Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Package	Description	Size (SM, MED, LG, XL, 2XL, 3XL)	Unit Price	Amount
Bronze (required)	Cap, Gown & Tassel LBHS Medallion Diploma Cover Commencement Photo Class T-Shirt Lanyard Pin Digital Senior Video Senior Activities	size _____		\$100
Silver (optional items)	Yearbook Sr Long Sleeve (available thru Oct 11) Graduate Yard Sign OR Personalized Yard Sign*	qty _____ size _____ qty _____ qty _____	\$65 \$25 \$20 \$25	
Gold (optional)	Grad Bash (payment due on or before 2/28)	April 5	\$225	
TOTAL:				

*If PERSONALIZING a graduate yard sign, what **first** name would you like printed on the sign? _____

NOTES:

1. Participation in all senior activities is a privilege, and that privilege is based on academics, attendance, and behavior
2. All items in the Silver & Gold packages are available "a la carte" when added to the Bronze package
3. Half payments due 10/11; Full payments due 12/20
4. Return this form to Mrs. Slicker in room 04-226 to make your payment by cash or check; See Mrs. Coughlan in 01-114C to pay by credit card

Senior Calendar – Class of 2025

QUARTER ONE

Mondays	Each Week	Join us as a SENIOR REP. All are welcome to participate. 6:50AM and/or 2:15PM in Room 04-226 Welcome Back Senior Ice Cream Social 2:15PM in the Cafeteria Seniors & Parents Career & College Info Session 6:00PM Senior Parent Night 7:00PM at the Lemon Bay High Performing Arts Center (Auditorium) Charlotte County College Fair at Port Charlotte High School 5:00PM-6:00PM Financial Aid Presentation in Auditorium 6:00PM-7:30PM Visit College Booths in Main Gym
Wednesday	August 28	
Wednesday	September 4	
Wednesday	September 18	
Monday	September 23	Donuts at Dawn 6:40AM in the Courtyard
Monday	September 23	Movie Night 7:30PM in the Courtyard
Tuesday	September 24	Lip Sync! 7:00PM in the LBH Performing Arts Center (Auditorium)
Thursday	September 26	Homecoming Carnival/PowderPuff Football/Bonfire begins @ 5:00PM
Friday	September 27	Homecoming Football Game vs. Island Coast 7:30PM at Veteran's Stadium
Saturday	September 28	Homecoming Dance in the Gym 7:00PM-11:00PM
Friday	October 11	HALF OF SENIOR DUES PAYMENT DEADLINE
Wed & Thur	Oct. 23 & 24	Senior Yearbook/Cap & Gown Portraits – by appointment in the Black Box
Thursday	October 31	Senior Trick or Treat
Tuesday	October 31	Pumpkin Painting Contest
Wednesday	November 6	Senior Sunrise 6:40AM at football stadium
Wed & Thur	Nov. 13 & 14	Senior Yearbook/Cap & Gown Portraits – by appointment in the Black Box
Friday	November 22	Cookie Bake-off
Friday	November 22	Senior Superlative/Senior Elves Assembly
Dec. 2-13		SGA Toy Drive
Tuesday	December 10	Senior Elf Party
Tues-Fri	Dec. 17-20	Exams
Wednesday	December 20	SENIOR DUES DEADLINE

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Senior Photo Dates 2024-2025

Prestige Portraits (by Lifetouch)

Senior Pictures by online appointment only.

On-campus Picture Dates:

Oct. 23 & 24	Black Box 7:15-3:30
Nov. 13 & 14	Black Box 7:15-3:30
Jan. 14 & 15 (Final)	Black Box 7:30-3:00

Senior Panoramic Picture:

Jan. 24 Gym & Field 10:00 am

**Dates and designated areas are subject to change.

NOTE: Seniors will need to sign up for a Senior Picture appointment by either scanning QR code or going to www.prestigeportraits.com. Use the appointment code from the Prestige Portraits mailer or enter the state and city (Englewood) to access the calendar. During the appointment for your formal yearbook pictures, Cap & Gown as well as casual pictures will be taken. Only the formal picture will appear in the yearbook so they are just for your family's enjoyment!

Senior Picture Details

Boys: Tux shirts, ties and jackets will be provided. A white t-shirt can be worn under the tux shirt (pants will not show). Cap & Gown will be provided.

Girls: Black drapes will be provided. Please wear a spaghetti strap top that can be worn underneath this garment (no racer backs). Cap & Gown will be provided.

All Seniors: ALL appointments have to be made online. A sitting fee will be charged to you upon making your appointment. A few weeks after pictures are taken, picture package information will be mailed with proofs (sample pictures). Wear something nice to school that you would like to be wearing for your casual pictures which will be taken during your appointment as well!


The Sitting Fee Cost includes the formal sitting (Yearbook photo), a casual outfit sitting, and a Cap & Gown sitting!

Note: For the casual sitting, you can bring props such as a Letterman's jacket, instrument, athletic jersey/ball, ROTC uniform, etc. (the casual picture will not appear in the yearbook.)

Senior Pictures Notice: If you want your senior picture in the yearbook, you must have it taken by Prestige Portraits to make the pages look uniform.



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An Introduction to JROTC

If one were to state that JROTC solely offers military training to future recruits, it would display a lack of understanding of what JROTC is. While it is true that JROTC offers students the opportunity to engage in military training, it does so much more.

In a society where young people increasingly feel devoid of any sense of purpose, JROTC offers a positive perspective and gives students the chance to be a part of something bigger than themselves for the greater good. How does JROTC accomplish such a feat? It creates leadership based on the principles of "JJ DID TIE BUCKLE" an acronym used frequently by the Navy and the Marine Corps. Simply stated, it stands for the qualities a leader should strive for: justice, judgment, dependability, integrity, decisiveness, tact, initiative, endurance, bearing, unselfishness, courage, knowledge, loyalty, and enthusiasm. These values, seemingly abandoned, have become the foundation of JROTC principles.

Whether you think you may want to serve our country, want to have something to polish up your college application, or simply want to participate for a higher GPA, I can assure you that you will see exponential self-improvement in ways you previously deemed impossible.

JROTC holds many opportunities for students, remaining one of the few activities left that can unite students of all backgrounds. Submitted by Cadet Micah Hubbs

Think Pink

Lemon Bay High School Think Pink Club was extremely successful last year. The club raised \$7,000 to be donated to American Cancer Society and Dollars for Mammograms.



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 Tipline (1-800-780-TIPS).
- Contacting the Supervisor of District Security and Emergency Management at (941) 255-0808
- Calling 9-1-1.