

April 2022

# THE HOOK

Volume XII Issue 3



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Thank you, Joe Rizzo

What a privilege to have known and worked with Mr. Joe Rizzo. It is hard to find another individual who is equally passionate for our Flagler County students and schools. Mr. Rizzo's leadership for the Flagler Education Foundation played a critical role in advancing our district's efforts for our Program of Studies and Career Technical Education (CTE). At The Ship, he saw the vision of our efforts and assisted in finding philanthropic partners and professionals in the trades. The tiny house project, our courtroom for Law and Justice, and Black Pearl Cafe are just a few examples. For our district, he assisted in forging relationships with Advent Health, local government, and community partners. He helped bring tours to our campuses to highlight the ingenuity and creativity of some of the most precious resources of Flagler: our schools and our students. His efforts for Take Stock in Children are recognized throughout the state.

One project I thoroughly enjoyed working with Mr. Rizzo on was the Josh Crews Writing Project. This project stemmed from a friendship with his fellow high school student, Josh. The project began as a tribute to his friend but has now grown to reach hundreds of young writers. Additionally, the project has raised tens of thousands of dollars to support education.

Joe was a true friend to me, our students, and our schools. I will miss our times together, our conversations, and his desire to help provide the best for our students and community. "Give thanks often. It's the greatest prayer we can offer, the greatest practice we can do." Thank you, Joe #Gratitude

## Administration

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go to [www.academypublishing.com/schools/matanzas/matanzas.php](http://www.academypublishing.com/schools/matanzas/matanzas.php)

## SENIORS OF THE MONTH



March:  
Marisa Pereira



April:  
Ethan Drost





## INTERACT CLUB MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The Interact Club has had a very busy school year with a busy May to follow! Since August, we have raised over \$5000 to host a Rise Against Hunger food packing event to be held on Saturday, May 14 in the cafeteria. The club will package over 15,000 meals to send to food-insecure students all over the world. All are invited and encouraged to participate!

The club has also been actively involved in assisting the Rotary Club of Flagler Beach and Second Harvest Food Pantry with bi-monthly food distributions in Pierson, Florida. Working with other service clubs and area organizations, the Interact Club has helped with beach cleanups. Our fundraisers include car washes, spirit nights, a movie night, and trivia nights, all of which serve to raise funds for various endeavors. There's a trivia night on April 20 in the MHS cafeteria at 6 PM to raise funds for Ukraine relief!

Our volunteers have been working hard to make the world a better place all year, and we have several graduates who will go off and show the world just how great they are; the club, the school, and their teachers are all very proud of them!

If you would like information on Interact Club activities, events, and membership, please email Tom De Ceglie at [decegliet@flaglerschools.com](mailto:decegliet@flaglerschools.com) and follow us on Instagram by searching [matanzasinteract!](#)



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## MHS CREATIVE WRITING CLUB & THE JOSH CREWS WRITING PROJECT

The MHS Creative Writing club recently attended the 10th Book Launch for the Josh Crews Writing Project Anthology. The club featured the works of seven club members, who are now published authors: Lauren Sampsele, Madelyn Lambert, Violet Ochrietor, Hannah 'Buz' Sing, Silpa Soe, Gabriel Laureano, and Gracie Lockey. Grace represented MHS by presenting one of her original poems, in addition to collaborative pieces from our club's Write Around activities.



## WORLD LANGUAGE CLUB

Attention students! Want to be a *real* pirate? Then start exploring new lands. We have a new club on campus! The purpose of the World Language Club is to foster interest and understanding of world languages and their respective cultural traditions. There will be a focus on French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, and Russian, but the club welcomes any language and culture. The World Language Club is open to all students and collaborates with the Hispanic Society. If you are interested in joining this new exciting club, please contact Ms. Harmon at [harmonk@flaglerschools.com](mailto:harmonk@flaglerschools.com) or stop by room 1-206.

## LAW & JUSTICE FLAGSHIP

Thank you to the Flagler Tiger Bay Club for inviting MHS Law & Justice students to their luncheon. MHS Law & Justice student Sierra Kemp was able to share with guest speaker, House Speaker Designate Paul Renner, and others about the MHS flagship.



## GREETINGS FROM THE CLINIC

### REMINDER

**STUDENT MEDICATION** held in the clinic **MUST BE SIGNED OUT BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN.** It cannot be sent home with the student.

- **PICK UP MEDICATION BY 2:30 PM on MAY 26, 2022.**
- **MEDICATION NOT PICKED UP WILL BE DISPOSED OF ACCORDING TO DISTRICT AND DOH PROCEDURES.**

**In preparation for the 22/23 school year, please remember the following:**

1. An updated Emergency Contact form is needed each school year. This can be completed in Skyward as well.
2. Medication to be administered at school **MUST** be signed in by a parent or guardian, and the appropriate order form(s) completed by the ordering physician or a parent must accompany the medication. (Forms can be found on the MHS site under Clinic.)
3. **ALL** diabetics **MUST** have an updated DMMP from their physician on file in the clinic. A note from the physician and parent must be on file if a diabetic student can self-manage care.
4. **Please be sure to inform the clinic of any medical conditions for which your student may require treatment.** Pertinent medical information is important in emergency management.

## Ask Your Counselor Today About Fall Dual Enrollment Programs!



Registration for Adult Fall Programs Opens in June



**386-447-4345** [FlaglerTech.edu](http://FlaglerTech.edu)

# NHS INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS

The Matanzas High School chapter of the National Honor Society inducted 52 new members this year. We'd like to congratulate all of the members on their accomplishments.

- |                   |                  |                    |                  |                 |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Julianna Bogdanov | Ciara Gordon     | Maya Kulesza       | Merritt Rice     | Kirra Taylor    |
| Gabe Breckenridge | Sarah Graham     | Stephanie Lorincz  | Casey Schagen    | Senna Thayer    |
| Philip Cangialosi | Amaya Gross      | Emma Markese       | Hanna Schagen    | Isabella Tietje |
| Haley Carr        | Hananiah Guillen | Mikala Markowski   | Josephina Silano | Emilie Vedder   |
| Bella Chiri       | Kaylee Hartline  | Austin McKay       | Jaden Smith      | Austin Weeks    |
| Madelyn Derringe  | Madison Herbert  | Gillian Moisao     | Kal-el Smith     | Rilee Whitmore  |
| Jeremiah Donoso   | Alexis Hixon     | Dominick Nocero    | Sydney Spruill   | Kaiden Wooters  |
| Mae Fasnacht      | Sierra Howard    | Andrea Oliveras    | Kyra Spruill     | Nick Znascko    |
| Anya Fox          | Bradd Humphrey   | Natalie Plambeck   | Kelsey Spruill   |                 |
| Joel Gargon       | Jake Inman       | Jacqueline Prevost | Monica Stevens   |                 |
| Stanley Gatzek    | Chloe Irving     | Gabriel Ramirez    | Ava Taing        |                 |



## SPOTLIGHTS ON SPORTS

### BOYS WEIGHTLIFTING

Senior weightlifters Jacob Warren, Cameron Sleep, Tate Winecoff, Walker Skoglund, Zeke Flores, and James Antione were honored before the March match against Seabreeze. The Pirates defeated the Sandcrabs 51-35. Matanzas sophomore Cole Hash earned the top total for the night. Ethan Wakefield won the 154-pound class for the Sandcrabs. MHS sophomore Dakwon Evans won the 169-pound class with a 455-pound total. Other weight class winners included Jayden Sao, Cameron Sleep, Aiden Schissler, and Tate Winecoff.



### MATANZAS SOCCER

For the second year in a row, the team won its district game. The soccer team finished the season 11-5-1.

### LADY PIRATES WRESTLING

The girls wrestling team finished as district and regional team champions! Mariah Mills placed 3rd, Isabella Tietje placed 6th, and Christina Borgmann placed 8th. Tiana Fries is the first-ever Lady Pirate to win the 110 lbs. FHSAA State Wrestling Championship! Congratulations, Lady Pirates!



### TRACK

The MHS Track and Field Team has been busy competing and breaking school records left and right! They hosted the Freshman/Sophomore meet on March 24 at The Ship. The girls' team



ran away with a First Place trophy while the boys' team finished with a strong fourth place. This meet marked the seventh meet out of a total of ten meets this season. The District Championship will take place on April 20 at Orange Park High School in Clay County, followed by Regionals at Ft. Walton Beach and States at UNF. A special thank you to the Track and Field parents who have supported our student-athletes with cases of water, fruit, and snacks in addition to volunteering at the three home meets. It takes a lot of provisions to keep our 80+ athletes hydrated and fed during our track meets. With much appreciation, MHS Track and Field Coaches (Coach Kane, Coach Johnson, Coach Saunier, Coach Maitland, and Coach Cox).

## VISION STATEMENT

Through the collective partnership with our families, students, staff, and community, Matanzas will become a premier high school in the nation by inspiring independence and confidence in all learners as they prepare for college, career, and life.

## MISSION STATEMENT

By providing a rigorous education, Matanzas prepares all students for success and empowers them as passionate learners to lead lives of purpose.

## MOTTO

Make Good Choices.  
Hold Yourself Accountable.  
Strive for Excellence.



## WHO'S WHO AT MHS

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### Receptionist

Holly Keck

### Bookkeepers

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Maria Urrutia

### MIS

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### Attendance Clerk

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### Media Clerk

Judy Rosell

### Registrar

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## GARDEN CLUB POSTER WINNERS!



Mrs. Johnston's Digital Media students submitted entries to the Garden Club poster contest last semester, competing with other high school students in Flagler County. Matanzas students earned two of the awards! Third place was awarded to Ashton Stogsdill of FPC, and 2nd place went to our very own, Angelina Rodriguez. We are proud to announce that first place was awarded to Sophia Martinez. Congratulations, Ladies! The winning students will be presented with their awards at the Spring Festival and Plant Sale.

## GOLD KEY AWARD WINNERS



Raina Ritchie's *Seeing Stars*

MHS art students Lex Lopez and Raina Ritchie were both recipients of Gold Key Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for their digital art entries. Lex was awarded Honorable Mention for *Carnage Incarnate*, Silver Key for *The Beast and Snowglobe*, and Gold Key for *See*. Raina was awarded Honorable Mention for *Wandering Eyes* and *A Funny Sort of Feeling* and Gold Key for *Seeing Stars*.



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## CLASS OF 2022 INFORMATION

### Senior Awards Night

*Date:* Wednesday, May 11

*Time:* 6:00 PM in the Pirate Gym

*Invitations:* Will be delivered to students who will receive an award that evening.

If you are unable to attend, the award or medal will be available for pick up in room 9-202.

### Graduation Practice - MANDATORY

*Date:* Friday, May 27, 9:00 AM, arrive no later than 8:30 AM with a pen/pencil.

*Location:* Matanzas Gymnasium

*Graduation Tickets:* Any additional or extra graduation tickets will be given out at the end of practice.

### Graduation Information

*Location:* Ocean Center in Daytona Beach

*Date:* Saturday, May 28, 4:00 PM

### Seniors, please arrive no later than 2:30 PM!

Doors open at 3:00 PM for guests of the graduates.

Please be seated BY 3:45 PM; the procession begins promptly at 3:45 PM. DON'T BE LATE!

*Ticket Information:* Tickets will be handed out to seniors on the cap and gown delivery date (10). Dates will be announced for seniors who need to pick up additional tickets (5 at a time).

*Graduation Important Information:*

### ATTIRE:

- Dress business casual or better
- No decorating the top of the cap. If you decorate your cap, you will be given a new cap for the ceremony, and your decorated cap returned after the ceremony.
- No flip-flops or tennis shoes.

Ocean Center Security measures will be in place for both Flagler County Graduations. Clear bags only!

Balloons and flowers will not be allowed in the Ocean Center for the ceremony. Please leave these items in your car.

Parking passes are \$5.00 and go on sale starting Friday, April 1. Purchasing through the school will speed up the parking process at the Ocean Center.

- Passes can be purchased in Coach Roe's office, 9-202.
- If you do not buy a parking pass from MHS, you will need to purchase one from the Ocean Center to park for this event.

### Late Cap and Gown Pick Up

*Location:* Coach Roe's office, 9-202

*Date:* During school hours (8:00 AM until 2:30 PM)

## JOIN THE AMIGOS

### Hispanic Society and get in on the 2023 trip to Barcelona, Spain!

If you are interested in learning and connecting with students who speak Spanish and have a passion for the Hispanic culture and community, then get involved with the AMIGOS Club!

**Meetings:** In Mrs. Lagocki's room, 6-245

**After School on Tuesdays & Wednesdays during 2nd Lunch**

To learn more about our **BARCELONA, SPAIN** tour, go to the following links:

- Information and Enrollment: [www.eftours.com/2473213ck](http://www.eftours.com/2473213ck)
- Parents Page: <https://www.eftours.com/tour-website/2473213CK#parents>

\*The trip is NOT required to join/participate in the Spanish Club. Please join if you are interested in practicing the language and participating in Hispanic cultural events and activities.

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## PIRATES PAINT SEA LIFE

Stop by Ms. Rutledge's classroom to see the awesome paintings by the Beginning Painting I class. Here is just a small sample of the amazing works:



By Angelina Descartes      By Leah Stevens

## BAND OF PIRATES

The Matanzas Band of Pirates has been very busy this semester rehearsing for concerts and their Music Performance Assessments. We have had students participate in the Florida All-State Band, Flagler All-County Honor Band, District Solo and Ensemble, District Concert Assessment, State Solo and Ensemble, and State Concert Band Assessment. The students have grown so much this semester and continue to make their school community proud.

In January, Anthony Poorte participated in the Florida All-State Honor Band where he was honored to work with world-renowned band director Alfred Watkins. Later that month 35 Matanzas band students participated in Flagler All-County Band under the Direction of clinician Jason Duckett. In February, 60 students participated in the Florida Bandmasters Association (FBA) District Solo and Ensemble Music Performance Assessment (MPA) where 90 percent of them received a Superior Rating and qualified for the State Festival in March. Early March the Concert and Symphonic Bands participated in the FBA Concert Band MPA at Flagler Auditorium. Both bands received a Superior Rating for their performance. The Symphonic Band qualified for the State MPA and will perform at the University of Florida on April 22. In March our Winter Guard and Percussion Ensembles performed at the FFCC Championships. The students had stellar performances and both received a Superior Rating. The Band of Pirates hopes to see you at their upcoming performances:

- April 22, 7 PM, Symphonic Band at State MPA
- May 10, 6:30 PM, MHS Spring Concert, Pirate Theater

## TROUPE 7108

That's a wrap! Troupe 7108 traveled to Tampa, Florida for the Florida State Thespian competition. Their One Act, *We Are The Sea* written by Laura Lundgren Smith won an overall superior!

Students Ethan Fink, Izzy Bethea, and Isabella Martins won Superiors in their individual events. Eliana Kraer and Samantha Berkowitz received a Superior for a duet acting scene. Andrew Khamtheang and Ethan Fink achieved an Excellent for their duet. Rachel Kopp also earned an Excellent for her playwriting. The Troupe is thankful to all their sponsors and for all the support that made attending this wonderful experience possible. The trip was a memory that will forever be fondly remembered by all in the troupe.

To check out more of our Troupe's memories and accomplishments check us out on Instagram: @mhstroupe7108.



## GUIDANCE NEWS

### Seniors

You must complete your Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA- Bright Futures Application) **BEFORE** graduation, May 28, 2022. You also need at least 100 community service hours to qualify for the top Bright Futures award and qualifying SAT and/or ACT scores along with the other eligibility requirements. You must have your hours logged on your MHS transcript before graduation as well. Make sure you turn in your log sheets to Mrs. Moore, the Guidance Secretary, in the Upper Spot. Please be sure to register for the SAT and/or ACT to reach the scores needed to qualify. Students going for the Gold Seal Bright Futures award will also need to complete the FFAA application before graduation, turn in at least 30 community service hours, and earn qualifying test scores along with the other eligibility requirements. See the Bright Futures website for more information and details - <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home>

### Looking For Community Service Hours?

See the Flagler Volunteer Services website for volunteer opportunities - <https://flaglervolunteer.org/>.

### Juniors

Planning for college and career? Please visit the MHS Guidance Page for college/career prep information, resources, and an embedded college/career prep video.

### Dual Enrollment Students

Please see the dual enrollment course registration deadlines below. Keep in mind that MHS has set earlier deadlines than DSC as we need to ensure that all pieces of the process are completed before the DSC deadlines.

Dual enrolled students taking Spring A and B classes: DSC textbooks are due no later than May 12, 2022. All textbooks must be returned to Ms. Moore in the MHS Upper Spot by 2:45 PM that day. **Fall 2022 Course Registration Deadline** - May 15.

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## UP NEXT: WE WILL ROCK YOU

Set to the hit music of Queen, *We Will Rock You*, written by Ben Elton, is a must-see musical that explores the power of self-expression and rock n' roll in a society that only seeks conformity. Matanzas High School senior, Andrew Khamtheang, who plays Galileo Figaro, had a few words to say of his own. "The music is so perfect since it has upbeat songs, tearjerker songs, and epic songs such as Seven Seas of Rhye." When asked about his character, he said, "Galileo Figaro is a character of curiosity and charisma. He may have a debatable mindset when it comes to his dreams, but he's charming and holds the uncontrollable power of the legends of music of the past."

Director Noël Bethea and Assistant Director Amanda Cypert are excited to welcome guests to the Matanzas High School theater. Shows will be Thursday, April 21, and Saturday, April 23 at 7:00 PM with in-school performances at 1:30 PM on Friday, April 22 for students, and a 2:00 PM performance on Saturday, April 23. The matinee performance on Saturday, April 23 will be performed by the *We Will Rock You* understudies. Tickets can be purchased for \$10 at <http://pirates32137.booktix.com>. Permission to put on this performance has been provided by Theatrical Rights Worldwide.

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## MHS ROTC

The MHS JROTC program is continuing its winning ways. The Drill Team and Color Guard took home multiple trophies from their competition in Union County. They also placed in four events at the Area One State Qualifying Drill Meet. By doing so, they qualified to go to the State Drill Meet at Lakeland, FL. The Rifle Team has completed the season undefeated with an 8-0 record. Although they lost a close match in the postseason, they qualified to compete in the State Rifle Match at Coral Gables, FL. The top shooters for the rifle team are Evangeline Moseley, Brooke Miner, Gillian Mosaio, Kayla Wiesenberger, and Terri Arthur. The color guard presented the colors at the school board meeting and



in a charity event at the Palm Coast VFW. In February, thirty cadets traveled to Charleston, SC for the annual trip. Among the places they visited were, Ft Sumter, the USS Yorktown Aircraft Carrier, and the Citadel.



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## CONGRATULATIONS TO BEN KOPACH!

Matanzas' own Ben Kopach is now a two-time International Grand Champion for Community Problem Solvers. Inspired by seeing the joy on an ESE student's face when competing on the Pirate Bowling Team, Ben developed his project 'The Full Experience'. The aim of his project is to increase ESE student involvement in sports and other after-school activities. Ben contacted ESE teachers, coaches, club advisors, and parents for help to arrange the logistics. The project resulted in 15 to 20 ESE students now being involved in activities from the culinary program to student government.

## CONGRATULATIONS, SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS!

Matanzas High School proudly announces that three students placed in the VFW Post 8696 local scholarship award.

- 1st place: Isabella Martins
- 2nd place: Isabella Gordon
- 3rd place: Joshua Malmberg

That's right! Matanzas went one, two, and three in the awards! Go, Pirates!



## PICTURE THIS!

Our yearbook theme this year is Picture This! The cover is very special and something that we've never done before. Don't miss out on the amazing yearbook our staff created! It was created by Matanzas' 10th grader, Mae Faenacht.

Yearbooks are on sale now and can be purchased through the website, [jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com), or via Mrs. Graifer in Room 1-202. The school will accept cash or a check made out to **MHS Yearbook** for \$85. Purchase yours now before they sell out!

## A NIGHT OF PERCUSSION IS COMING!

Our biggest and most popular show A Night of Percussion will be held on Thursday, April 28 at 7 PM in the Pirate Theater. This show will feature the percussion ensembles, steelbands, drumline, and all of this year's amazing accomplishments of our Percussion Program! It is a fast-paced, non-stop, interactive show that you won't want to miss! All shows are suggested donation of \$5 per person. Thank you so much for your support of the Matanzas Percussion Program. We can't wait to see you at our next show.



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## PBIS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Part of the Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) is handing out Pirate Tokens to students who exhibit exemplary behavior and make good choices. Recently, students were able to redeem their tokens to participate in a March Madness-style basketball tournament. Thank you, Dean Robinson, for all your efforts!

### **PBIS NEXT UP:**

April 22 - PBIS Giveaways and Prom Tickets



## PIRATES GO BANANAS!

On the last weekend of Spring Break, something historic happened. Viral sensation professional baseball team The Savannah Bananas made the trip down I-95 to play their first non-home games of their 2022 World Tour.

In the middle of Banana-Mania, you could find some Pirates. Our very own social studies teacher, Professor Graifer, is a member of the Bananas World Tour production as their resident "Bananannouncer" charged with hyping up thousands of fans in all cities of the tour. When the Bananas decided to come to Daytona, Mr. Graifer was asked to help find some quality staff members, and some Pirates stepped up to join in on the fun!

Several students came on board to help with ticket sales, merchandise, and anything else required to help people go bananas. Among them were Corbin Payne, Grace Mccutchen, Cristian Lopez, Brandon Page, and Christian Castineira (not pictured).

### Here's what a few of them had to say:

- *Corbin Payne: "I had a great time working for the Savannah Bananas! They made me feel so welcome and just like a member of the family."*
- *Grace Mccutchen: "The experience you will receive with the Savannah Bananas will be unlike any other experience you have ever had! Fun and games in this environment are strongly encouraged. It will be a night you never forget. Working here will give you a story you can tell your grandkids."*
- *Brandon Page: "The Bananas was a very fun and entertaining experience. Everyone was caring, and it was an enjoyable time. I would love to work with them again if I had the chance."*

After serving more than 8,000 fans at one of the nation's most historic ballparks, Flagler Schools should be proud to know that Pirate Nation showed up and showed out as Central Florida went Bananas!

