

MARINER NATION NEWS

Murdock Middle School

17325 Mariner Way, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

941.255-7525 Attendance: 941.255-7525

Hours Operation: 8:35 A.M- 4:20 P.M.

Administration

Principal: Lyman Welton

Assistant Principal: Jamie Verwey

Assistant Principal: Jake Monteleone

Counselor: Sandra Tavares

Counselor: Kim Ceballos

ESE Liaison: Cara Stefanik

School Resource Officer: ... Officer Morales

Principal's Message

Partnering for Success

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. As we embark on quarter two of our school year, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support of our students and staff. Your involvement is essential in fostering a positive and nurturing learning environment at Murdock Middle School.

This year, we are focusing on the importance of academic achievement and its impact on your student's future success. Research consistently shows that strong academic performance in middle school is closely correlated with future career opportunities. Students who excel in middle school are more likely to pursue higher education, secure well-paying jobs, and lead fulfilling lives.

As parents and guardians, you play a vital role in supporting your child's academic journey. Here are some ways you can help:

- Encourage Homework: Create a dedicated study space and ensure your child has the necessary resources to complete their assignments.
- Monitor Grades Every Week: Use Focus to check your students' grades. Let them know you are always going to check their grades.
- Explain Their Role as a Student and Yours as a Parent/Guardian: Tell your student that "school is your job and grades are your responsibility." "My job is to monitor, support and encourage."
- Stay Connected with Teachers: Attend parent-teacher conferences and communicate regularly with your child's teachers to stay informed about their progress. Use Remind, email, or phone calls. Keep the tone positive.

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ISSUE 4 VOLUME 5

October 2024

Principal's Message

continues... _____

- Foster a Love of Learning: Encourage your child to explore their interests through reading, extracurricular activities, and hands-on projects.
- Provide a Supportive Home Environment: Young adolescents need lots of support. Saying "I am proud of you, I love you, and I believe in you" is still important during late childhood and teenage years.

Students who are successful in middle school are more likely to have strong families and make a high paying wage in the future. By working together, we can create a thriving learning community where every student has the opportunity to reach their full potential. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
 Lyman E. Welton
 Principal
 Murdock Middle School



All-Complete Retreat

Murdock Middle held its first ever All-Complete-Retreat and to say it was a success is an understatement. Each period, students who qualified based on attendance, behavior, and academic success were treated to a day of fun and socialization. Outside, we had three inflatables, and we had an area for students to play flag football. Inside the gym we had basketball and volleyball. Lastly, we had a social room with games and art. Students were doing everything they could to participate. We cannot wait to hold this event again and look to build on the success of all students while doing so.

The next All-Complete-Retreat will be held on Friday, December 6th, 2024. For students to qualify, they need to ensure that, per period, they have no missing work, have at least a "D" or higher, less than five absences, and no referrals. Again, that is by period. Also, they cannot have more than 3 minor referrals and cannot have a major referral resulting in OSS. We hope that all students try to ensure that they get the chance to participate in the event in December! Let's have an excellent end to the first semester as we tackle Quarter 2 and get to have fun on December 6th!

Discover Your Future with Xello!

Murdock Middle School is excited to introduce you to Xello, our new Career and Technology App designed to help your child explore potential career paths. Xello offers a fun and interactive way for students to learn about different jobs, industries, and skills needed for success.

By using Xello, your child can:

- Discover their interests and strengths
- Explore various career options
- Research colleges and universities
- Build a personalized career plan



We encourage you to check out Xello with your child and see how it can help them make informed decisions about their future.

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 1445 Education Way
 Port Charlotte, FL 33948
 Issue #4

Parent Power: The Impact of Weekly Grade Checks



Did you know that simply monitoring your child's grades weekly can have a significant positive impact on their academic success?

By regularly reviewing your child's grades and discussing them together, you're sending a clear message that you value their education and are invested in their progress. Here's why weekly grade checks are so important:

- **Early Intervention:** Identifying potential academic challenges early on allows you to address them promptly, preventing them from escalating.
- **Increased Motivation:** Knowing that their parents are tracking their progress can motivate students to work harder and strive for excellence.
- **Improved Communication:** Regular grade discussions provide an opportunity for open and honest communication between parents and children.
- **Enhanced Accountability:** When students know that their parents are aware of their grades, they are more likely to take responsibility for their academic performance.

Help Your Student Succeed in School

Did you know that regular school attendance is essential for your students' academic success? By being in class every day, you're giving your student the best chance to learn new things and reach their full potential. Don't let your child fall behind the students who come to school every day.

Missing school can make it difficult to keep up with their classmates and understand the lessons being taught. When that happens, students can feel embarrassed because they don't know as much as their peers who are always in class. It's also important to be present for group projects and discussions as these opportunities help them develop important job-related skills like teamwork and communication.

Make a commitment to have your student(s) attend school every day and see the positive impact it has on their learning and growth!

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MURDOCK MIDDLE SCHOOL

8TH GRADERS

"YOUR FUTURE IS CALLING YOU"

Check out your options at the CTC. Students who are looking to make hands-on learning part of their high school experience should consider dual enrollment at Charlotte Technical College (CTC).

CTC's diverse range of programs lets students explore their passions while gaining valuable, practical skills. Several CTC programs allow enrollment as early as 9th grade, including:

- Applied Information Technology
- Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair
- Baking & Pastry Arts
- Building & Construction Technology
- Criminal Justice Operations
- Digital Design
- Game Simulation/Animation
- Professional Culinary Arts & Hospitality

The CTC campus is just a short walk from PCHS, and transportation is provided for students who attend CHS and LBHS. Most courses are Honors or Advanced Placement weighted, and all courses satisfy the Practical Arts credit requirement for high school graduation. Many of the industry certifications earned at CTC can even be used to satisfy graduation requirements for math and/or science.

For more information about dual enrollment at Charlotte Technical College, check out the CTC website at yourcharlotteschools/CTC or click on the QR code to learn more about specific high school programs at CTC:



YOU ARE THE MISSING PIECE!

Help **Murdock Middle School** by advertising in the *Mariner Nation News!*

Your advertisement helps fund the newsletter and at the SAME TIME your business gets community recognition and exposure.

If you can help us out by advertising or would like more information, contact the school today!

Brianna Rogers
brianna.rogers@yourcharlotteschools.net



Mariner Basketball's 24-25 Season



The basketball playoffs were held on October 5th, 2024, at Port Charlotte High School. After a couple of hard-fought games, our boys finished second place in the district and our girls finished in third.

We cannot wait for next year as we try to surpass those results and look for continued growth and development for all our student athletes!

Boys: This season, our boys were coached by Richie Mateo. Our boys finished the regular season with three wins and three losses. Two of those wins were against LA Ainger Middle School and the other win was against Port Charlotte Middle School. However, two of those losses were against Punta Gorda Middle School and the other loss was against Port Charlotte Middle.

Girls: Our girls were coached by Matt Washington for the second year in a row. Last year, our girls finished the season with zero wins. This year, our girls finished with two wins. One win was during the regular season and the other win came during the playoffs, both against LA Ainger Middle School.



Volleyball Tryouts

Mariners,

Volleyball tryouts are right around the corner. If you are interested in trying out for our girls' volleyball team, make sure you have an up-to-date physical on file to be eligible to play. Physical forms and consent forms can be found on our school website under *Our Programs- Athletics*. All forms must be completely filled out for our athletes to participate.

**Volleyball tryouts are from October 21st - 23rd
right after school from 4:15 - 5:30 pm.**

If you have any questions, please reach out to Coach Strauss. Go Mariners!



Volleyball Schedule

10/30... MMS @ LAA
11/7... MMS @ PGM
11/14... MMS @ PCM
11/21... LAA @ MMS
12/3... PCM @ MMS
12/5... PGM @ MMS
12/7... Playoffs @ LBHS
at 9:00 am



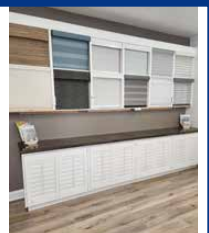
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Anti-Bullying Policy

Charlotte County Public Schools does not tolerate bullying, which includes cyberbullying. Throughout the school year, our schools do a variety of classroom, large group, and small group lessons on bullying and bully prevention.

Though we teach all of our students that bullying is wrong, it still occasionally occurs. And, while we would like cases of bullying to be reported to the administration, they are not always reported.

Parents - if you have a bully (or cyberbullying) concern please let us know. If your child is a target and is being bullied or if you believe your child bullies others, please let us know. Open and consistent communications with the school will not only help your child but will help many others and the school. Unfortunately, some bully situations take a number of interventions before it subsides. Please continue to communicate with the school and provide any additional information that will help the school put an end to the situation.

It is important to note that investigation of cyberbullying can occur regardless of whether the bullying was conducted using public or private property (cell phone, computers, etc). Please reference Florida Statute 1006.47

Report bullying by filling out the Bully Report form which can be found on the district website at: <https://www.yourcharlotteschools.net/Page/11977>

You can also find a "Bully Button" on our website to report bullying.

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QUICKLY SEND TO AUTHORITIES
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- Local Law Enforcement**
Your local police department or sheriff office receive copies of your tips automatically.
- State-Level Officials**
State-level officials also have access to your tips to make sure proper steps are taken.

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information 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.

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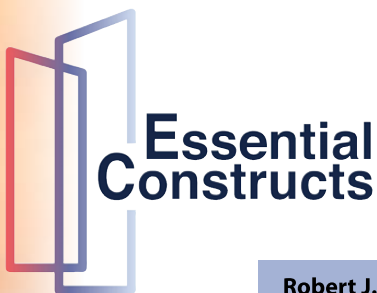
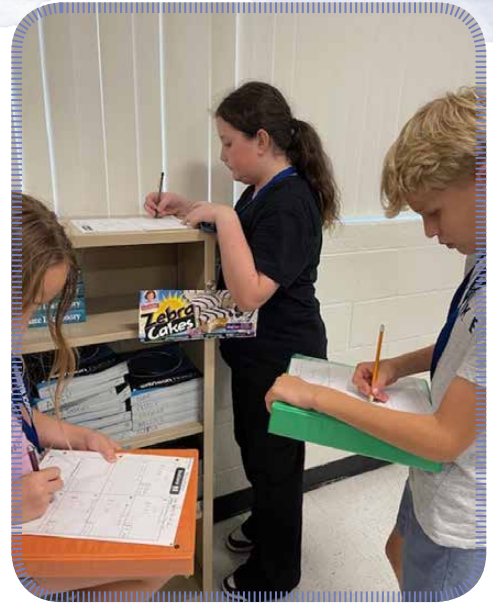
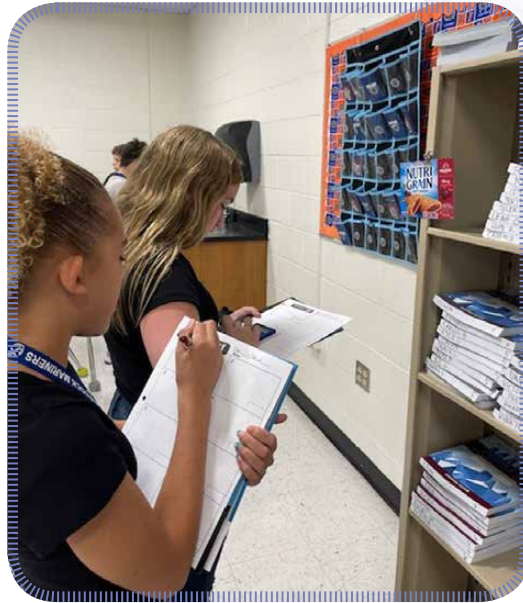
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Unit Rates

Mrs. Herring's sixth grade students participated in a group activity to practice unit rates. Students were able to choose eight items displayed in the classroom. For each package, their task was to calculate the unit rate. For example, if a box of Pop-Tarts is \$3.25 and contains 8 pastries, they divide \$3.25 by 8 to find the unit price or rate. They also had to round their decimals to the nearest hundredth.



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Murdock Middle School

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and more!

