

South Fort Myers High School

News from the Pack Leader

“A Powerful School of Teaching and Learning”

A Title 1 School
14020 Plantation Road
Fort Myers, FL 33912
239-561-0060
<http://sfm.leeschools.net/>

Dear South Fort Myers High School Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year at South Fort Myers High School! We are thrilled to have our Wolfpack back on campus and ready to embark on another year of growth, learning, and success. As we begin this new academic year, we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for each of you to achieve greatness, both inside and outside the classroom.

ADMINISTRATION

MR. ED MATHEWS
Principal

DR. MARTI IOVINE
Assistant Principal of Student Affairs
9th Grade Administrator

MS. ALLISON DEMMING
Assistant Principal of Student Affairs
10th Grade Administrator

MR. MIKE STEELE
11th & 12th Assistant Principal of
Administration

MRS. TAYLOR LOCKE
Assistant Principal of Curriculum –
12th Grade

FOCUSING ON STUDENT SUCCESS

At South Fort Myers High School, our commitment to student success is at the heart of everything we do. We believe that every student has the potential to excel, and we provide the support and resources needed to help you reach your full potential. This year, we encourage all students to take ownership of their learning by setting ambitious goals, staying organized, and seeking help when needed. Our teachers, counselors, and staff are here to guide you every step of the way.

GET INVOLVED: ACADEMICS AND BEYOND

Engagement is key to a successful high school experience. We encourage all students to get involved in the many opportunities available at South Fort Myers High School.

- **Academics:** We offer a wide range of courses to challenge and inspire you, from honors and Cambridge/AICE classes to dual enrollment opportunities. For those interested in hands-on learning and career preparation, our Career Academies provide specialized programs in fields like healthcare, engineering, construction and hospitality. These academies are designed to give you a head start in your future career path while still in high school.

...continued on page 2

VISION

To inspire students to be life-long learners through rigor and relevance.

MISSION

To prepare all students to successfully enter the world of work and/or further their education by challenging them with rigorous academic and technical studies.

WOLF TRACKS



“A Powerful School of Teaching and Learning”

You may also view the parent/community newsletter online:
<http://www.academypublishing.com/schools/southfortmyers/southfortmyers.php>

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024 • VOLUME 12 • ISSUE 4

For the Parents, Students, Staff and
Community of South Fort Myers High School



SOUTH FORT MYERS
WOLFPACK

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STUDENT NEWS:

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NEWSLETTER:

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parent/community newsletter online:
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Winter Roback A – F
Melissa Gorman G – O
Michelle Tracy P – Z
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or sexual orientation.

Wolf Tracks

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Published Four Times Per Year
South Fort Myers High School
14020 Plantation Road
Fort Myers, FL 33912

News from the Pack Leader

continued from cover...

- **Athletics:** We also offer a robust athletic program that encourages teamwork, perseverance, and school spirit. Whether you're an experienced athlete or looking to try something new, we have a place for you on one of our many sports teams. Come out, show your Wolfpack pride, and make lifelong memories!
- **Arts:** For those with a passion for creativity, our arts programs offer a variety of ways to express yourself, from visual arts, band, chorus, and dance. Participating in the arts not only enriches your high school experience but also fosters critical thinking, collaboration, and confidence.
- **After-School Activities:** Beyond academics, we have a wide range of clubs and organizations that cater to diverse interests. From the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and STEM Club to the Student Government Association and National Honor Society, there's something for everyone. Being involved in extracurricular activities helps build leadership skills, fosters friendships, and enhances your overall high school experience.

YOUR JOURNEY STARTS NOW

We know that this school year will be filled with new challenges, opportunities, and triumphs. Whether you are a returning student or new to our campus, we are excited to see the unique contributions you will bring to our school community. Remember, success is not just about grades or accolades; it's about growth, determination, and the courage to try something new.

We look forward to a year filled with learning, laughter, and achievement. Together, we can make the 2024-2025 school year the best one yet!

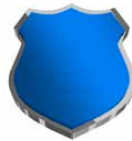
STAY CONNECTED

To keep up with all the latest news and events, be sure to follow us on our school's website and social media channels. Parents, we also invite you to stay engaged by attending school events and joining our Athletic, Music and Cheerleading Booster Club. Your support is invaluable to our success.

Have a powerful Wolfpack Day!

Go Wolfpack!

Ed Mathews
Principal
South Fort Myers High School



**Thank you, Sheriff
Carmine Marceno!**

We had a great first day of school
with a visit from
Sheriff Carmine Marceno.



**THANK
YOU!**



South Fort Myers Academy Updates

The college and career academies are off to a great start to the 24/25 school year. A group of our medical seniors have been invited to participate in monthly career mentoring sessions at Health Park Medical Center. These lucky students will travel once a month to the Health Park campus and can shadow, receive career counseling from, and work side by side with some of the area's best and brightest medical professionals. It's an exciting start!

Jacob Smith, junior, has completed his Masonry Level 1 certification and has accepted his challenge coin, making a commitment to maintain pride and workmanship in his Masonry Apprenticeship.



South Entrepreneurship Academy

Alfie Tounjian from Advantage Retirement Group partnered with the South Entrepreneurship Academy to play the Florida Stock Market Game. Mr. Tounjian helps students with the game throughout the semester and donates a steakhouse lunch to the top 20 students who do the best in the game!



B.A.R.R. at South Fort Myers High School

South Fort Myers High School is the only school in the district that partakes in the B.A.R.R. Curriculum. BARR (Building Assets, Reducing Risks) is a proven model that improves the education system, which focuses

on two pillars – relationships and data. It is designed to create strong schools and communities by empowering students, teachers, and faculty to nurture a culture of support and success for every student, both inside and outside the classroom.

At South Fort Myers High School, we believe that every student regardless of race, ethnicity, or economic status deserves a high-quality education where adults know them, recognize their strengths, and help them thrive both personally and academically.

In the upcoming issues, we will share with you ways the school is creating a powerful and positive learning environment through the use of I-Times within core classes.



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**ATTENTION
9th graders!**

The 2024 -2025 Take Stock in Children Scholarship application is open now through October 29th, 2024. This unique scholarship is only available to 9th graders and if awarded, upon completion of the program, can provide tuition to a Florida public college or university for 4 years! Your student will also be partnered with a mentor, attend events, workshops and more throughout their time in high school. To apply visit LeeSchoolFoundation.org/take-stock-in-children or email EmilyLincolnhol@leeschools.net



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FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Parents: 19 Meaningful Questions to Ask Your Child's Teacher (edited for brevity)

By Terry Heick

Below are some questions to better clarify what's going on in the classroom and then help you decide on the kind of non-superficial actions you can take at home to really support your child's learning. Many of the questions may seem a bit straightforward, but I don't know of any teacher who is offended by them. In fact, most of my colleagues would welcome the kind of additional capacity to which questions such as these could lead. Many of these questions are rarely the topic of parent-teacher interactions, but, well, that's the point.

Just don't ask them all at once. In fact, maybe you'll pick two and hope for the best.

19 QUESTIONS YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER WOULD (PROBABLY) LOVE TO ANSWER

1. What academic standards do they use and what do I need to know about them?
2. How will you respond if my child is struggling in class?
3. What are the most important and complex ideas (related to content) that my child needs to understand by the end of the year?
4. Do you focus on strengths or weaknesses?
5. How are creativity and innovative thinking used on a daily basis in the classroom?
6. How is critical thinking used in everyday life in the classroom?
7. How are assessments designed to promote learning rather than just measurement?
8. What can I do to support literacy in my home?
9. What kinds of questions do you suggest I ask my children on a daily basis about your class?
10. How exactly is classroom learning personalized? At school?
11. How is academic progress measured?
12. What are the most common instructional or literacy strategies you will use this year?
13. What learning models do you use (e.g., project-based learning, mobile learning, game-based learning, etc.) and what do you think are the main benefits of that approach?
14. What are the best school or district resources we should consider using as a family to support our child in the classroom?
15. Are there any technologies you would recommend that can help my child in self-directed learning?
16. What are the most common barriers you see to academic progress in your classroom?
17. How is education changing?
18. How do you see the role of the teacher in the learning process?
19. What am I not asking for but should be?



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FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Padres: 19 preguntas significativas para hacerle al maestro de su hijo (editado para mayor brevedad)

Por Terry Heick

A continuación se presentan algunas preguntas para aclarar mejor lo que está sucediendo en el aula y luego ayudarlo a decidir el tipo de acciones no superficiales que puede tomar en casa para apoyar realmente el aprendizaje de su hijo. Muchas de las preguntas pueden parecer un poco sencillas, pero no conozco a ningún profesor que se sienta ofendido por ellas. De hecho, la mayoría de mis colegas acogerían con beneplácito el tipo de capacidad adicional a la que podrían conducir preguntas como estas. Muchas de estas preguntas rara vez son el tema de las interacciones entre padres y maestros, pero, bueno, ese es el punto.

Eso sí, no les preguntes a todos a la vez. De hecho, tal vez elijas dos y esperes lo mejor.

19 PREGUNTAS QUE AL MAESTRO DE SU HIJO (PROBABLEMENTE) LE ENCANTARÍA RESPONDER

1. ¿Qué estándares académicos utilizan y qué necesito saber sobre ellos?
2. ¿Cómo responderá si mi hijo tiene dificultades en clase?
3. ¿Cuáles son las ideas más importantes y complejas (relacionadas con el contenido) que mi hijo necesita entender para fin de año?
4. ¿Te enfocas en las fortalezas o debilidades?
5. ¿Cómo se utilizan la creatividad y el pensamiento innovador a diario en el aula?
6. ¿Cómo se utiliza el pensamiento crítico en la vida cotidiana en el aula?
7. ¿Cómo se diseñan las evaluaciones para promover el aprendizaje en lugar de solo la medición?
8. ¿Qué puedo hacer para apoyar la alfabetización en mi hogar?
9. ¿Qué tipo de preguntas sugiere que les haga a mis hijos a diario sobre su clase?
10. ¿Cómo se personaliza exactamente el aprendizaje en el aula? ¿En la escuela?
11. ¿Cómo se mide el progreso académico?
12. ¿Cuáles son las estrategias de instrucción o alfabetización más comunes que utilizará este año?
13. ¿Qué modelos de aprendizaje utiliza (por ejemplo, aprendizaje basado en proyectos, aprendizaje móvil, aprendizaje basado en juegos, etc.) y cuáles cree que son los principales beneficios de ese enfoque?
14. ¿Cuáles son los mejores recursos de la escuela o del distrito que deberíamos considerar usar como familia para apoyar a nuestro hijo en el salón de clases?
15. ¿Hay alguna tecnología que recomendaría que pueda ayudar a mi hijo en el aprendizaje autodirigido?
16. ¿Cuáles son las barreras más comunes que ves para el progreso académico en tu salón de clases?
17. ¿Cómo está cambiando la educación?
18. ¿Cómo ves el papel del profesor en el proceso de aprendizaje?
19. ¿Qué es lo que no estoy pidiendo pero debería ser?

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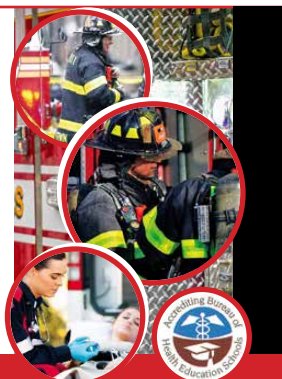


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JROTC

During the month of June, Cadets learned powerful leadership skills, and how to work in teams by interacting with other platoons. Cadets worked with other schools and were mixed into platoons. They had such a successful STEM camp, where they did all sorts of fun! At camp Cadets did rappelling, canoeing, and aviation simulators.

During our Powerful open house, Cadets had their first Staff Meeting. During the meeting Cadets discussed each other's jobs in Staff, upcoming events, and future plans for the Brigade. After the staff meeting concluded Cadets began to work the open house until it ended. They showed great leadership by promoting their teams and the program itself.

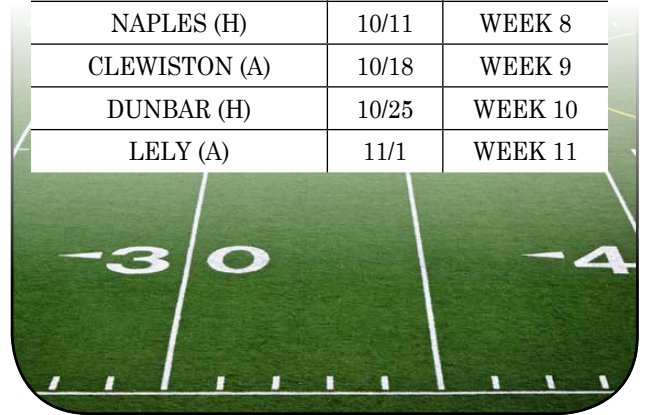
On September 9th through the 13th, our Wolfpack Brigade will start a fundraising campaign to raise money for equipment, activities, & events. And on the 28th the Wolfpack Brigade will go to their Beginning of Year Field Trip to Busch Gardens.

On another note, MSG Wendt's LET 1's have since been promoted to their first rank and have shown great skills of leadership and determination.



Wolfpack Football Schedule

IMMOKALEE (H)	8/16	KC
GATEWAY (H)	8/23	WEEK 1
RIVERDALE (A)	8/30	WEEK 2
BARRON COLLIER (A)	9/6	WEEK 3
FORT MYERS (H)	9/13	WEEK 4
BYE	9/20	WEEK 5
PORT CHARLOTTE (A)	9/27	WEEK 6
CYPRESS LAKE (A)	10/4	WEEK 7
NAPLES (H)	10/11	WEEK 8
CLEWISTON (A)	10/18	WEEK 9
DUNBAR (H)	10/25	WEEK 10
LELY (A)	11/1	WEEK 11



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Athletics

****JOIN OUR WOLFPACK ATHLETICS BOOSTER CLUB!****

We are inviting all parents to get involved by joining our Athletics Booster Club. This is a fantastic way to support our student-athletes and help raise funds for the athletic department. Your involvement can make a big difference in the success of our programs. If you're interested, please reach out to us at Wolfpackathleticboosterclub@gmail.com.

****STUDENT ATHLETIC PASS – A GREAT DEAL FOR STUDENTS!****

Students, don't miss out on a great opportunity! For just \$50, you can purchase a student athletic pass, which grants you entry to all home sporting events for the entire year. Head to the athletics website for the purchase link and make sure you're there to cheer on the Wolfpack all year long!

****WINTER SPORTS TRYOUTS STARTING SOON****

Winter sports, including boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, boys and girls wrestling, and girls weightlifting, will begin next month. If your child is interested in trying out for any of these sports, please note that all athletic paperwork must be completed and submitted online *before* tryouts. This includes:

- A physical completed on the official FHSAA form
- Completion of four courses on NFHSLearn.com
- Driving form
- Unsportsmanlike conduct form

All paperwork must be submitted through athleticclearance.com. If your child is currently participating in a fall sport, they do not need to repeat this process for winter sports. Let's get ready for an exciting winter season!

Important Senior Dates

Herff Jones Senior Cap & Gown Presentation	Tuesday, October 1st
FSW Instant Decision Day	Wednesday, October 2nd
ASVAB Military Entrance Exam	Thursday, October 17th
Senior Parent Night	Tuesday, October 29th

Most college applications are due by November 1st*

*Please make sure to follow exact dates with the schools you are applying to.

Florida Financial Aid Application Opens	Tuesday, October 1st
FAFSA Opens	Sunday, December 1st

IMPORTANT SENIOR NOTES

- If your senior is in need of a letter of recommendation from their counselor, they need to allow for a 10 day turn around
- Volunteer or Paid Work Hours for the Bright Futures Application is due by May 1st



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South Fort Myers High School

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- ▶ Family Involvement
- ▶ Academy Updates
- ▶ JROTC
- ▶ Athletics
- ▶ and more!

Out of Field Teachers in ESOL

Alissen Aguilar
Marcie Bonilla
Thomas Caldwell
Niayla Cohen
Timothy Cullen
Theresa Foreman
Haley Houchin
William Jackson
Charles Kozel
Lori Leclear
Marquis Russell
Zoe Skrivan
David Thomas

