

# The Parent Link

2nd Quarter  
February 05, 2019

Cocoa High School • 2000 Tiger Trail • Cocoa, FL 32926 •

<http://cocoa.hs.brevard.k12.fl.us>

Twitter @CocoaHighSchool



Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we begin this spring semester we will continue to focus on new growth and achievements. Our students completed a successful first semester, and the staff worked diligently with them on a daily basis to bring out their best. Although we still have challenges to address and goals to accomplish, there is something about a fresh start that rejuvenates all of us, inviting us to refine the path that will help us meet those goals. Let us resolve to be more involved in the academic success of our students as we work together to open up avenues of opportunity for their future.

Our first semester was indeed one of many successes throughout our academic and extracurricular programs. Our career and technical education (CTE) programs have worked hard on industry certifications. Our PBIS initiative (culture shift) and AVID program reset are going well. The Title I department, along with the Tiger Family Organization, held several successful evening events, and there are many more in the works for the new semester. Our JROTC program donated time and energy for community causes in the fall, including packing food for the less fortunate with local agencies.

Our Arts programs are flourishing as well, we had our first acapella ensemble sang at Solo & Ensemble in September, and they received an Excellent rating. Casey Wynn received a Superior for her solo performance and will represent CHS at State Solo & Ensemble in March. Our chorus performed at Disney's Candlelight at Epcot in Orlando in December. Bradley Comerford-Cox and Patrick Miller were selected and performed at FMEA in an All-State Choir. Due in part to their recent excellence our chorus was selected to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City this coming October.

Our athletic programs had strong finishes in all sports. Our girls' golf team and many of our Tiger swimmers advanced to state, as did our football program, under the direction of new head coach Ryan Schneider. Currently, we have watched our boys' soccer team enjoy one of their strongest seasons, and our basketball teams are excelling.

Perhaps no achievement is as thrilling as when our academic all-stars represent us well. Our dual-enrolled students are busy managing an academic life on two campuses, and our Early Admissions students—one of the largest groups we've seen—will be graduating from both Eastern Florida State College and Cocoa High School in May. We have just honored our middle school straight-A and A/B honor roll students and our high school students with a 3.0-4.0 grade point average with an assembly led by motivational speaker Dr. Jesse Jackson III.



**Administration - 632-5300**

Mr. Rachad T. Wilson - Principal  
Ms. Catherine Stewart - Asst. Principal  
Mr. John Johnson - Asst. Principal  
Mrs. Kim Stockton - Asst. Principal  
Dr. Thomas Johnson - Asst. Principal  
Mr. Ivor Mitchell - Asst. Principal

**Athletics - 632-5300 ext. 22045**

Mark Carstens - Athletic Director

**Bookkeeper - 632-5300 ext. 22009**

Vacant - Bookkeeper

**Cafeteria - 632-5300 ext. 22017**

Trish Darmofal - Cafeteria Manager

**Clinic - 632-5300 ext. 22018**

**Guidance - 632-5300 ext. 22010**

**Effie Monaco - Guidance Chair, Class of 2019**

**Steve Loufek - Class of 2021/Accelerated Programs**

**Sonya Curtis - Class of 2020**

**Rasheda McKenzie - Class of 2022**

**Vickie Woods - Classes of 2023 & 2024**

**Paul Grant - Middle School ESE Counselor**

**Juwana Dixon - High School ESE Counselor**

**Ashley Marrah - ESE Resource**

**Pamela Albright - Guidance Services Professional**

**Trish Roberts - Guidance Clerk**

**Noelle Morrison - At-Risk Coordinator; Partner in Education Coordinator**

**Title I Coordinator/Parent Involvement -**

632-5300 ext. 22027 **Dr. Steve E. Primus**

**OMEGA - 632-5300 ext. 22080**

Marilyn Borges - Director

**School Secretary - 632-5300 ext. 22007**

Patty McCormick

**SRO - 632-5300 ext. 22114**

Officer James Salley

In an effort to increase the performance of our students who need support in any class, as well as makeup work or test prep, our Academic Support Program offers after-school tutoring on Mondays and Thursdays, from 3:45 to 4:45, in the Compass Lab (Room 14-141). Faculty members in all areas are prepared to work one on one with your student.

Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!

Sincerely,  
Rachad T. Wilson  
Principal

**Class of 2019**

Wow, this school year is really flying by! It is a very busy time for seniors and parents preparing for the end-of-the-year events, especially graduation on May 24th! With that in mind, please don't let your student fall prey to "senioritis." Please check focus regularly for grades and attendance. It is important that seniors stay on track in these coming months. Brevard County's 26-credit graduation requirement leaves no room for error, and every class counts. As a reminder, all credit retrieval courses must be completed by May 1st in order for your student to be eligible for graduation.

If your senior is planning on attending college, applications need to be completed. Along with college admissions, students should be working on scholarships. Please go to the Cocoa High School web page under Guidance to find a list of available scholarships. Scholarships are added often, so please continue to check back. Your student should also be in contact with the financial aid department at their chosen school.

All seniors, regardless of what their plans are after graduation, should seriously consider registering for the next ACT or SAT test. As seniors, their test scores may improve and open up other possibilities for scholarships and colleges. Students on free or reduced lunch are eligible to receive two fee waivers for each test. Please have your student see me if he or she is in need of a fee waiver. Parents, the test scores needed for Bright Futures are as follows: Academic is 29 ACT/1290 SAT, utures initial application during their English class.

Medallion is 26 ACT/1170 SAT, Gold Seal is 17 in English, 19 in Math, 19 in Reading/440 SAT. For more information go to: <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org>. I will be working with students on completing the Bright Futures initial application during their English class.

Please check with your student to ensure that the application has been completed.

If not, please visit [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/bf](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/bf) to complete the application f you have not yet completed the FAFSA (Free Application foas soon as possible to secure funding for your student's post-secondary education.

To complete the application, please visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). You will need your student's social security number and last year's tax returns for reference while completing the online application. Please don't hesitate to call or email with questions or concerns.

Effie Monaco  
Class of 2019  
632-5300, ext. 22165  
[monaco.effie@brevardschools.org](mailto:monaco.effie@brevardschools.org)

**Class of 2021**

We're very proud of the hard work our students are doing in the classroom. All 10th grade students will take the English Language Arts Florida State Assessment (ELA FSA) this spring. This is one of two tests that our students are required to pass in order to earn their diploma. The other required test is the Algebra 1 End of Course exam. Any student who does not pass the English Language Arts or Algebra 1 assessments this year will automatically be placed in Intensive Language Arts or Intensive Math classes next year and they will be given the opportunity to retake the tests.

If your student is planning to attend college, he or she should be building a resume by participating in clubs and sports and by volunteering in the community. Florida Bright Futures scholarships require up to 100 hours of community service. Make sure your student is not only active in the classroom but outside the classroom as well.

Any student who failed a course first semester or in 9th grade can work to "fix" their transcript by retaking the course in one of our credit retrieval programs. We offer several options, and it's important to get started as soon as possible. Please call me and I will give you the details and help you make a plan for your student.

Steve Loufek  
Class of 2021  
632-5300 ext. 22022  
[loufek.steve@brevardschools.org](mailto:loufek.steve@brevardschools.org)

**Class of 2022**

As the fall semester comes to a close, it is important to continue to work hard during the spring semester. Keep in mind attendance is very important, students with more than 9 unexcused absences will fail the semester due to absences. The only absences that will be excused are doctor's notes or court notices. Credit retrieved will be available before school for any student that has revived an F in a core class. d If students would like to sign up please see me in the counselor corner in the cafeteria. I am available in the cafeteria every Monday uring all lunches.

Rasheda McKenzie  
Class of 2022  
632-5300 ext. 22021  
[mckenzie.rasheda@brevardschools.org](mailto:mckenzie.rasheda@brevardschools.org)

**Accelerated Programs (TigerPrep/iTigers/Collegiate High**

Dual Enrollment: Did you know that Cocoa High has over 120 students taking college classes for free while they are in high school? Eastern Florida State College and Brevard County Schools offer dual enrollment opportunities for our students starting in 10th grade. Any student with a cumulative grade point average greater than 3.0 and who earns college-ready scores in reading and writing is eligible to take courses toward nearly any degree that EFSC offers. There are some certificate programs at EFSC that are available for students with a 2.5 gpa that would be perfect for rising seniors who want to get a head start at EFSC. Contact me to discuss your student's options.

Collegiate High at Cocoa High: The class of 2019 will have over twenty Cocoa. Collegiate High students who will graduate with their Associate of Arts degree in May. This is ten percent of our senior class! The Collegiate High program is a rigorous dual enrollment program for students who want to earn their Associate of Arts degree while in high school, free of charge. Students start the program after their 9th or 10th grade year. To be eligible, students must have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and should be in honors or AP-level core classes. There is a mandatory Collegiate High information night for all parents and students interested in the program on January 31st at 6 pm in our auditorium.

Steve Loufek  
Acclerated Programs  
632-5300 ext. 22022  
[loufek.steve@brevardschools.org](mailto:loufek.steve@brevardschools.org)

**Classes of 2023 & 2024**

We have gotten through the first semester. Parents and students can check Focus to see their student's grades in class. Students need to be conscious of where they stand academically as the new se3mester begins. Students, make an immense effort to come to school and class prepared, turn in all assignments, prepare, and study for quizzes and test. If you are absent from school, it's the student's responsibility to communicate with teachers to make up the assignments missed. If you need help, please be mindful of the after school Academic Support Program which meets on Mondays and Thursdays at 3:45 pm – 4:45 pm that provides tutoring in all core subjects.

Parent if your student has more than nine unexcused absences this semester your student may fail due to absences. Students will receive Failure Due to Excessive Absence (FA) notice on December 10, 2018. If you have doctor notes make sure they are turned into Mrs. Keys or student's counselor.

Parents feel free to contact your child's counselor regarding any concerns you have. Students can see counselors during their lunch time in the cafeteria.

Vickie Woods, Middle School Counselor  
632-3500 ext. 22020  
[woods.vickie@brevardschools.org](mailto:woods.vickie@brevardschools.org)  
Paul Grant, ESE Middle School Counselor  
632-5300 ext. 22124  
[grant.paul@brevardschools.org](mailto:grant.paul@brevardschools.org)

**2018-2019 School Improvement Plan (SIP)**

The 2018-2019 School Improvement Plan (SIP) is available to be viewed online. Please see below for the link on our website. The link will take you directly to the SIP Report! Additionally, a copy of the report can be found in the parent resource binder located in the front office. Link to SIP:

<https://www.brevardschools.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=9727&-dataid=40875&FileName=2018-19%20COCOA%20HIGH%20School%20Improvement%20Plan%20.pdf>



Cocoa High School  
Tiger Battalion



The first semester of the Tiger Battalion was another amazing start to this school year. Our new LET 1's have grown to know and experience the mission of JROTC: to motivate young people to be better citizens. On September 15, our annual Beach Clean Up with KBB (Keep Brevard Beautiful) was the first volunteer event we had for this year. It was another successful cleanup with more than 300 hours of community service from cadets and parents. Cadets cleaned up about one mile, North and South of the Cocoa Beach pier, which helped contribute to keeping our community beautiful. Cadets also got to experience a field trip to Patrick Air Force Base on September 21. They were able to see what life was like living on a military base. Various events such as K-9 and other demonstrations highlighted types of career field in the Air Force.



The JROTC Color Guard and the Sabre Team practiced since September on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cadets who participated in these groups are involved in special ceremonial events such as presentation of the colors at football games and at different venues for different occasions. The Tiger Battalion's Color Guard has done an amazing job for Cocoa High School and the community. Practice will continue after Drill Team season ends. The Raider Team season recently ended but they had an amazing journey together at the three Raider Meets for this year. They took home many trophies, placing in the "best overall" category at every meet. Members worked extremely hard to be physically and mentally fit to surpass all the challenges as a team. Replacing Raider season will be practice for the Drill Team. Cadets involved will participate in Drill Meets that test the ability for cadets to lead squads and platoons based on drill regulations. It is a great opportunity to be involved in another challenging but exciting team.



JROTC began the "Feed the Need" program in November that donated 1,602 food items as a battalion for those in need. A part "Feed the Need" was the financial planning portion that helped cadets budget a Thanksgiving meal for five families of four at Cocoa High School with a donation of \$225. December consisted of Promotion Board for LET 1's and the annual student-organized event, the Military Ball. JROTC continues to have a leadership program that assists cadets to be better citizens and team members with Tiger Pride.

Freddy Moreno, SFC (Ret) U.S. Army  
David Mercer, SFC (Ret) U.S. Army  
Army Instructors  
Cocoa High School  
(321) 632-5300 ext 22144



**Academic Support Program**

The Academic Support Program, which offers after-school tutoring, is held on Mondays and Thursdays from 3:45 to 4:45 in Room 14-141. Students can attend regularly or visit on a drop-in basis as needed. Ten teachers from many subject areas, as well as dual-enrolled peer tutors, are available for one-on-one assistance with assignments. Students can use the program in any of the following ways:

- makeup tests or missing work
- extra help or practice with math
- study for an upcoming test
- assistance with writing or research
- help with admissions or scholarship essays
- PERT, SAT, ACT, or FSA practice
- computer access for homework

Students receive a Tiger PRIDE ticket and a confirmation slip every time they attend. The Academic Support Program has already resumed for the second semester--no sign-up is necessary. Contact Mrs. Noelle Morrison at 632-5300 x22168.

**Out of Field**

Teresa Skinner, new Reading Teacher is out of field in Reading and ESOL. She is currently working on certification in both areas.

**Parent Resources**

The Student-Staff-Parent Compact, the Parent and Family Engagement Plan, and the Parent and Family Engagement Plan Summary can be found on the Cocoa High website under Parents. A parent resource binder is located in the front office with information on local events and hard copies of all Title I documents. Copies of any materials can be made upon request, and translations will be made available of all documents upon request.

**2017 SPAR**

The 2017 Cocoa High School Public Accountability Report (SPAR) is available to be viewed online. Please see below for the link on our website. Additionally, a copy of the report can be found in the parent resource binder located in the front office.

Link to 2017 SPAR: [http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclbpar/year1617/nclb1617.cfm?dist\\_schl=5\\_1121](http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclbpar/year1617/nclb1617.cfm?dist_schl=5_1121)

**Right-to-know**

Each parent of a student at Cocoa High School has the right to request information about the professional qualifications of the student's teacher(s) and any paraprofessionals who serve the student. This information is available at the front office in the parent resource binder.

**Title 1 Information**

Parent University: Join us for a panel discussion highlighting the hot topics in parenting covering social media, gaming, positive communication, substance abuse and anxiety. For additional information and registration, please visit:

[www.tinyurl.com/Parentu2019](http://www.tinyurl.com/Parentu2019)

February 7, 2019  
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Dr. Steve E. Primus  
Title 1 Coordinator, Cocoa High School  
(321) 632-5300 ext 22027



Cocoa High School  
 2000 Tiger Trail  
 Cocoa, FL 32926

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 Cocoa, FL 32926

To the parent or guardian of:

To keep up with everything going on at Cocoa High, please check out the calendar on our website at <https://www.brevardschools.org/Page/34#calendar19/20190205/month>

- February 12 - Music Concert, Auditorium, 6 pm
- February 13 - Interims Posted to Edline
- February 15 - Teacher PD/Student Holiday
- February 18 - /Teacher/Student Holiday
- February 26 - Parent/Teacher Conference Night, 5:30 pm
- FSA Make-ups 2/25-3/14 Retained 10th, 11th, and 12th student
- SAT 3/6 (All 11th grade students)
- FSA Writing 4/2-4/12 (7th-10th grade)
- FSA Reading, Math, Science, EOC's 5/1-5/29 ( 7th-12th grade)

**Important Dates**

