

North Fort Myers High School

Center for Arts & Media • Home of the Red Knights

KnightLine



<http://nfm.leeschools.net>

Vision: To prepare every student for success

Mission: To guide students in a purposeful and challenging direction and to inspire mastery of skills for lifelong success

Motto: Where pride and tradition become success.

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ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 4th Quarter of the 2022-2023 school year!

Wow, the school year has gone by so fast! Here we are already in the 4th quarter, anticipating graduation and other end of the school year activities. Everyone has risen to the challenging school year and taken extraordinary measures toward success. I am so proud of all Red Knight staff, students and families for the progress made thus far. Please continue reading below for some highlights of those successes, but first I'd like to discuss a topic that is on the mind of many: **School Safety**.

It seems as though each week in the news there is another tragic school assailant incident happening. Anxious students, parents and staff often wonder what are schools doing to keep everyone safe. It's a valid question and –as the Assistant Principal for Operations—school safety is a part of what our safety teams and I plan for and work on each and every day. I say safety “teams” because there are actually several groups that work tirelessly to help with school safety. See below for a list of teams and some strategies employed here at NFMHS that help keep the campus safe. It is by no means an exhaustive list, but it at least highlights some areas that families and staff sometimes wonder about, and I hope it will give you a source of confidence that school safety is something that our NFMHS staff takes very seriously.



Principal
Debbie Diggs

Assistant Principals
Ronda Amaya
Kim Conn
Samantha Hutchinson

The School Board of Lee County, Florida

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District 4 - Debbie Jordan
District 5 - Armor Persons,
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Morgan

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Christopher S. Bernier, Ed.D
www.LeeSchools.net

School Board Attorney:
Kathy Dupuy-Bruno, Esq.

**North Fort Myers High School
KnightLine**

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ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE Continued. . .

Safety Initiatives at NFMHS:

- Drills - 2 to 3 drills per month: fire, assailant, tornado, bomb, bus evacuation
- Drill "after-action" Review Team
- Crisis Response Team
- Mental Health Team
- School Threat Assessment Team
- Annual Florida Safe Schools Assessment with on-site safety tours by LCSO and NFMFD
- Annual Emergency Operations Plan
- Annual Student Supervision Plan
- Monthly Department Head PLC includes a Safety Team
- New cameras installed: we have over 300 cameras covering everywhere on campus
- New magnetic swipe doors, doorbells & door windows to fortify main office, guidance office & student service entry points
- All gates & doors are either attended or locked
- All exterior gates serviced immediately after Hurricane Ian to ensure safe campus perimeter
- Fortify Florida anonymous tip posters in all classrooms
- 2 Full time SRO's on campus
- AM and PM security personnel
- District is piloting a weapons detector at high schools; we anticipate a trial at our school soon
- District safety inspections
- LCSO safety inspections
- LCSO uses our campus for assailant training simulations
- Response time for a false "swatting" incident last semester was within seconds for the SRO's on campus and under 2 minutes for three LCSO street patrols; even more arrived in less than 5 minutes. Officers with drawn weapons immediately cleared the false reported "swat" area with zero hesitation.

Check out the red knights on social media!

Follow Us...



@NFMHSAthletics
@NorthFtMyersHS



Like Us...
@NFMRedKnights
(official school FB page)



Follow Us...
@NorthRedKnights

While it is sad that this has become a topic of concern in our society, we must acknowledge the challenges presented by school safety issues. As a person with the inside track on school safety, I can assure you with confidence that we do our very best to address safety so that kids can be kids and focus on learning. If you are a parent or student who would like to keep informed of campus initiatives, please contact Dwayne Mack (DwayneBM@LeeSchools.net) about volunteering to become a member of our SAC (School Advisory Council) team.

A much more fun part of my job here at NFMHS is to support athletics and activities. Looking back, accomplishments have been incredible. After experiencing one of the worst tragedies in weather-related history, with Red Knight staff and students still in varied stages of recovering from the aftermath of Hurricane Ian, athletic and academic achievements prevail! We accomplished what we set out to do, including completing academic tasks and testing, completing seasons for all of our Fall and Winter athletics teams and holding more SGA student activities, Clubs, JROTC, Arts, Theater and Dance events than ever. Among all of the many accolades our students achieve I would most like to highlight our athletic teams' levels of academic success. The FSHAA ranks each team by GPA (grade averages) and publishes the top 50 highest academically ranking in the state for each sport. Check out the

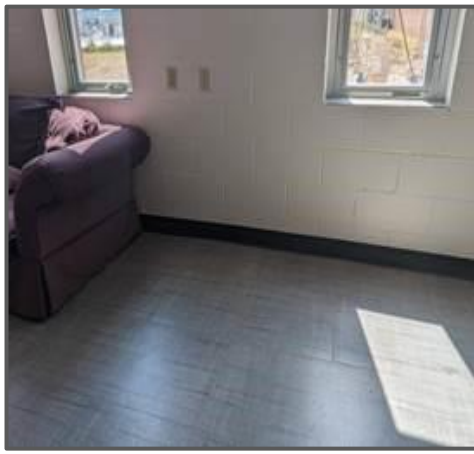


ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE continued. . .

amazing amount of Red Knight teams that made the rankings this year out of the thousands of teams in the state, and this includes just the Fall and Winter sports; the state has not yet calculated the Spring teams!

- Volleyball- #4
- Football- #6
- Boys Golf- #6
- Girls Wrestling #6
- Boys Wrestling- #11
- Girls Basketball- #13
- Girls Cross Country #25
- Boys Cross Country- #32
- Boys Bowling- #33
- Girls Golf- #35
- Girls Bowling- #45

It sure has been inspiring the way students and staff adapted to the challenges faced this school year. Another hurricane side-effect included damage to 18 classrooms. I am happy to report that they all have a new coat of paint on the damaged walls and new flooring. Very soon they will also get new window blinds and cabinets. In addition to that, we upgraded our weight room so the PE weights classes and teams have an amazing new workout space!



new floor tile



new carpet



upgraded weight room

Read on, and you will find lots of information pertaining to Seniors and Graduation in this issue. We are thankful for everyone's efforts and impressed by the results. We are also already planning and looking forward to 2023-24!

-Ms. Ronda Amaya

Assistant Principal for Operations



NORTH

AICE TRAVEL AND TOURISM NEWS



AICE Travel and Tourism has wrapped up this year's travel events. As part of the course objective, students have to research travel event ideas, plan the chosen event by creating a formal Business Plan, execute it and then evaluate it all while creating a portfolio to document the process. Trips this year included Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure, Disney's Magic Kingdom, St. Augustine, Xtreme Action Park in Ft. Lauderdale, Downtown Fort Myers River District – Art Walk, Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve, and Topgolf.

AICE Travel and Tourism is an elective credit that teaches students real world skills and educates them about one of Florida's top industries -- Tourism!





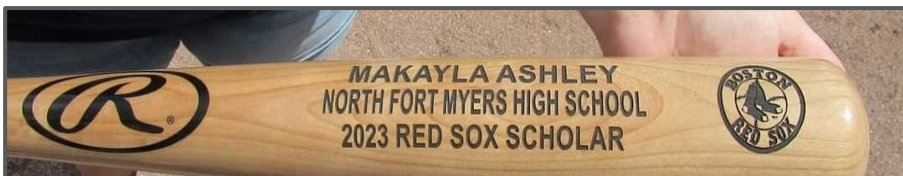
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Kristian Wydysch, Emily Vigil, and Megan Swanson attended the 66th annual State Assembly for the Florida YMCA Youth in Government from February 22nd-24th to act as attorneys, members of the executive cabinet of the Youth Governor, and even senators in the youth legislature. Megan Swanson was awarded the honor of "Most Outstanding District Court Attorney", and Kristian Wydysch and Emily Vigil were elected to serve as two of the 13 Statewide Presiding Officers for the following program year. Congratulations Red Knights!



RED SOX SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Red Knight Makayla Ashley! She is the recipient of the Lee County Red Sox Scholarship, an honor awarded by the Red Sox Foundation, the official team charity of the Boston Red Sox. Every year, the Red Sox Foundation awards scholarships to 15 academically talented Lee County public high school seniors who are making meaningful impact through service in their community. This prestigious scholarship Awards \$5,000 for students pursuing a two-year or four-year degree at any college or university.



CARSON SCHOLARS



Congratulations to Red Knight Kristian Wydysch, who has been honored as a 2023 Carson Scholar. The Carson Scholars Fund will provide each student with a \$1,000 College Scholarship.

The Carson Scholars Fund awards \$1,000 college scholarships to students in grades 4-11 who excel academically and are dedicated to serving their communities. Each school is able to nominate one student to apply. Carson Scholars must have a minimum GPA of 3.75 and display humanitarian qualities through community service.



ANNOUNCING!

STUDENT GOVERNMENT NEWS

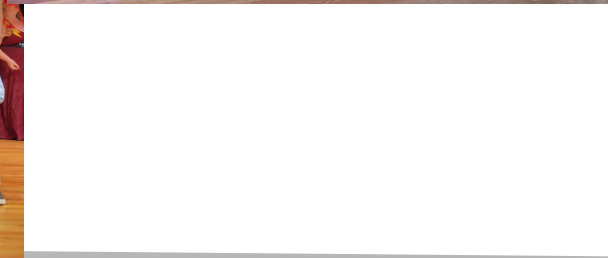
Student Government would like to highlight the events we conducted during Quarter 3. The Class of 2023 hosted *A Knight at Olympus* for their Mr. Red Knight event! Male seniors were invited to apply and compete in a series of events to win the title of Mr. Red Knight. The class would like to thank their judges who volunteered their time and energy into the event: Mr. Huston, Mr. Eaton, Mr. Andoscia, and Mr. Skocik. Congratulations to Tyler Connelly who was crowned Mr. Red Knight 2023!

Student Government also participated in the Florida Association of Student Councils' state conference, in which we presented projects to win awards. We won the "The Council of Merit" award and won first place with our state project book, in which we held a canned food and clothing donation drive. Thank you to all who supported our cause!

The Class of 2024 is hosting our annual prom event: *A Knight in Venice*! Held at the Alderman House, juniors and seniors are invited to come and enjoy the fun. It will be held on April 29th from 7-10pm, and tickets are currently being sold on GoFan for both classes. If a student is wanting to bring a guest, they will need to fill out a guest form and purchase a ticket via our athletic secretary. Guest forms and payment are due April 26th by 2pm. Additionally, parking is available but is limited to 80 spots. A Google Form posted on the Prom Google Classroom needs to be filled out, with the \$25 fee turned into Mr. Eaton in order to secure your spot. The form and payment are due April 14th. For more information, visit the Google Classroom, code vknkz64.

Student Government is holding elections for the 2023-2024 school year's class officers. It's not too late to participate! Applications are due on March 30th; applications are posted on your class Google Classroom. Please be sure to vote for your new class officers on April 6th. The voting form will be available on your designated class Google Classroom.

Lastly, Student Government will be holding our second annual Autism Walk on April 1st. From 9:30-11am, students, family, faculty, and friends are invited to our track on Moody Field for sensory stations, guest speakers, awareness activities, and fun for everyone. Admission is free!





MUSICAL NOTES – ORCHESTRA UPCOMING EVENTS

- ★ On the 31st of March, 21 North orchestra students will be participating in the All County Orchestra event hosted at Fort Myers High School. These students auditioned and were selected out of all of the students in the district. Please come out at 7PM at FMHS for a large scale district wide orchestra event!
- ★ On April 4th, North will host its first ever piano recital in the NFMHS auditorium at 6:30 PM. Come here the excellent piano students play works by the likes of Chopin, Scarlatti, Ravel, and more.
- ★ April 25 is North orchestra's final concert of the year featuring piano and full symphony. Full symphony is a large scale orchestra featuring strings, winds, brass, and percussion. Join us for the collaboration of the year with both band and orchestra on stage. This concert will feature a plethora of adventurous pieces with an underlying Ancient Greek theme. You won't want to miss this one! Join us at NFMHS auditorium 4/25 at 6:30 PM.

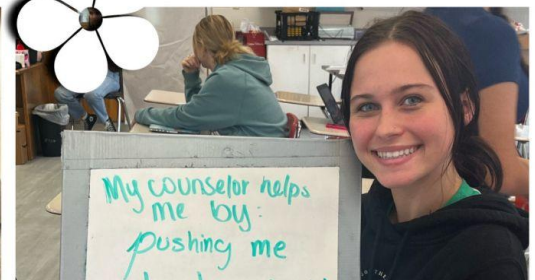
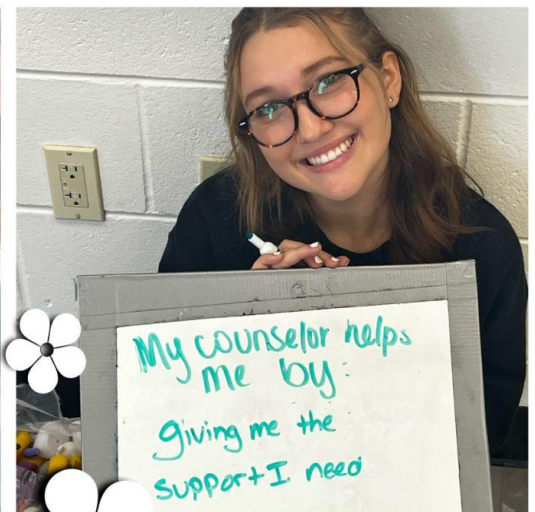
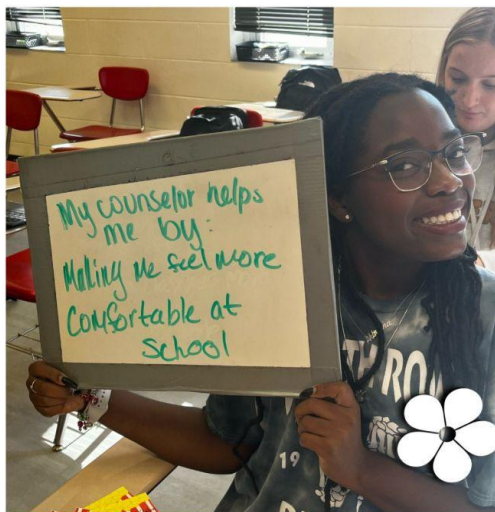
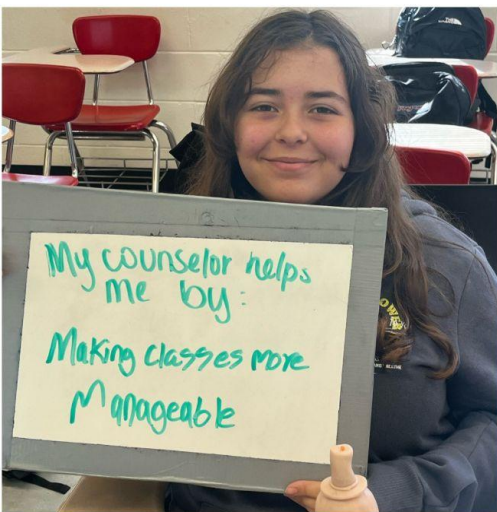
These students auditioned and got into the All County Orchestra – this is an advanced orchestra featuring players from the entire school district. North has the most participants in the orchestra this year!

Ethan Nguyen *	Megan Swanson	Aspen Culbertson	Rebecca Duncan
Kevin Malloy	Ava Barrero	Kameron Perry	Nicholas Sheehy *
Jasmine Hernandez	Angie Lopez	Hannah Quintero	Ian Molina
Niccolo Roman **	Xuan (Ella) Chen	Olivia Williams	Lauren Dennis
Sandro Morales	Justin Wang **	Michael Naehring *	Ella Culbertson
			Anaid Tapia

** = student is sitting first stand (scored one of the highest)*

*** = student is sitting first chair/principal (scored the highest, leader of the section, extremely competitive)*

Thank you to our NFMHS Counselors!



Please check our website for upcoming testing schedules: https://nfm.leeschools.net/our_students/testing

**North Fort Myers High School - Class of 2023
Final Semester Information**

DATE	EVENT	TIMES	LOCATION
Before February 15	Order Cap and Gown <i>Price will increase after January 15 February 15th is the final deadline to order</i>	<i>Late Price 1/16/23-2/15-23</i>	Orders can be placed at: Herffjones.com
April 21	*Grad Bash	12pm – 6 am	Universal Studios
April 26	Senior Awards Practice will be held 8am on 4/26	6:30 pm	Auditorium
April 29	*Prom	7:00-10:00 pm	Alderman House (2572 First St.)
May 12	Last Regular Instructional Day for Seniors	7:05 a.m. – 1:35 p.m.	NFMHS
May 15 - 17	Senior Final Exams (See Exam schedule on back)	7:05 a.m. – 1:35 p.m.	NFMHS
May 17	Cap / Gown Pick-up All Fees and Fines should be cleared to pick up	2:00 p.m.– 3:00 p.m.	Auditorium Lobby
May 18	Graduation Rehearsal Mandatory to participate in the graduation ceremony. Graduation Tickets (6) will be distributed during rehearsal.	8:00 a.m. – Noon	Grace Church (13 SE 21st Pl)
May 18	Baccalaureate	6:30 pm	First Christian Church (2061 McGregor Blvd.)
May 21	Graduation Ceremony	2:30	Hertz Arena (11000 Everblades Parkway)

Participation in these events is dependent upon school attendance.

**Excessive absences (10 days or more) will result in the loss of privileges until the requirement of an attendance contract has been met.*

AICE EXAM Dates
April 24 – June 8

FSW EXAM Dates
April 25- May 1

AP Exam Dates
May 1 – May 12

- ✓ Stay on top of grades for best GPA
- ✓ Review Academic History to ensure all graduation requirements have been met
- ✓ Register for Bright Futures and FAFSA
- ✓ Pay attention to scholarship eligibility criteria and deadlines; Information in the 2022 Google Classroom or see Mr. Pierre
- ✓ Resolve fees/fines and return textbooks & Chromebook prior to picking up cap and gown
- ✓ Order Cap and Gown now
- ✓ Ask questions
- ✓ Make good decisions to ensure that you walk
- ✓ Enjoy your senior year



Senior Final Exams

Each final exam constitutes 20% of the final grade (unless an EOC course)

Date	Final Exam Schedule
Friday, May 12 th	Regular Bell Schedule---Last Regular Instructional Day for Seniors
Monday, May 15 th	Regular Bell Schedule Seniors may choose to only attend classes with exams *Exams Given to Seniors Periods 1, 3, 5, 7
Tuesday, May 16 th	Regular Bell Schedule Seniors may choose to only attend classes with exams *Exams Given to Seniors Periods 2, 4, 6
Wednesday, May 17 th	Regular Bell Schedule *Makeup Exams Periods 1-7
Wednesday, May 17 th	Cap/Gown Pick-up 2:00pm- Auditorium
Thursday, May 18 th	Mandatory Graduation Practice at Grace Church
May 21	Graduation: Hertz Arena 2:30 pm

*Seniors enrolled in an EOC course will be given an academic assignment to be put into the Quarter 4 gradebook during this time frame, since they will take the EOC for that individual course.

SENIOR FINAL EXAM EXEMPTION CRITERIA 2022-23

The following exam exemption policy applies to SENIORS ONLY. If you have a SENIOR who meets the exemption criteria, the student receives an NG for the exam in FOCUS. This policy excludes Dual Enrollment, AP, IB, or AICE Exams.

Seniors who meet the following criteria are EXEMPT from final exams:

- Only Seniors can waive second semester exams.
- Student must have an A or B average in the class for the second semester and be eligible to earn credit.
- Student must have no external suspensions during semester 2.
- Advanced Placement, IB, AICE, and Dual Enrollment exams must be administered. No exemptions can be given for these courses.
- When an exam is waived, the two nine-week grades for second semester will be averaged to obtain a semester average for the course.
- Only those seniors who meet the criteria as stated above will be exempt from exams at the end of second semester.



CONGRATULATIONS to Ms. Ava Williams!

Ava has received an offer from the **School of the Art Institute of Chicago** and is currently making her commitment plans to attend!! SAIC is *internationally regarded as one of the best art schools and top fine arts colleges in the US.*

Most recently, Ava was named the 2023 ArtFest, ArtUnder20 Best of Show winner!

Congratulations VIVIAN GOMEZ for being selected as North's 2023 Chamber of Commerce for Teacher of the Year!!!!!!!



Kiara Bruce, Aspiring Authors Honorable Mention



Elyana Medina, Aspiring Authors Honorable Mention

North Fort Myers High School
Center for the Arts
Presents

Disney
DESCENDANTS
THE MUSICAL

April 28, 2023 6:30pm
All Seats \$5

Tickets available at
the door or on
Ticket Leap



NORTH RANKS IN ASPIRING AUTHORS WRITING CONTEST

The Aspiring Authors 2023 writing contest, sponsored by the Lee County Library System, showcased many outstanding entries of fiction, personal memoir, and poetry from students in Lee County Schools grades K-12. On Saturday, March 4, as part of the Southwest Florida Reading Festival, student writers were recognized. Entries can be accessed at www.readfest.org. Congratulations to the following authors!



9th Grade:

Victoria Clark ~ 2nd Place Poetry

10th Grade:

Anaid Tapia ~ 1st Place Poetry

Keelin Fitzgerald ~ 3rd Place Fiction

11th Grade:

Judith Martinez ~ 3rd Place Memoir

12th grade:

J. Longberry ~ 1st Place Fiction and 1st Place Memoir

Natalie Ball ~ 1st Place Poetry

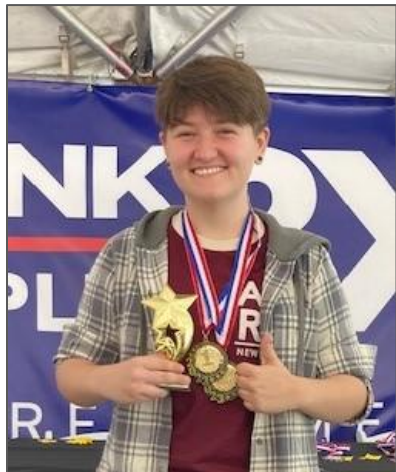
Britton Deleacaes ~ 2nd Place Poetry

Aubriana Enright ~ 3rd Place Fiction

Overall Winner: 11-12 grades: J. Longberry



Keelin Fitzgerald, 3rd Place Fiction 10th grade



J Longberry, Overall winner 12th grade



Olivia Stroka, Sophia Perez, Aliyah Morgan, Honorable Mentions



Natalie Ball, 1st Place Poetry & Britton Deleacaes, 2nd Place Poetry, 12th grade



Faith Henry, Honorable Mention Poetry, Aubriana Enright, 3rd Place Fiction, 12th Grade, Judith Martinez, 3rd Place Memoir, 11th Grade



Israel Luceno, Honorable Mention