



**BOOKER MIDDLE  
SCHOOL**

OCTOBER 2021

## THE TORNADO WATCH



Parents and Guardians,

Happy Fall! Booker Middle School is eager and excited to give you an opportunity to help us continue charting our success by cultivating scholars. This year is going to be great as we continue to provide academic experiences that prepare our students to be College and Career Ready.

This attitude helps to propel in a direction that allows us to meet the challenges and accountability that we face as educators. We are committed to working hard to provide high quality educational opportunities for your student each day. At the beginning of the school year, our staff members took an oath that we would ensure that 100% of Booker Middle Students would receive an educational experience that would prepare them to be College and Career Ready and a Productive Citizen of our Community.

Parents, you are a special and unique part of that experience. We encourage you to communicate with the staff at Booker Middle School. This is a vital part to the success of your student throughout the school year. Parent involvement is an important aspect of every child's education and is the primary factor in a students' success in school. If you haven't done so. Join our Parent Involvement Team or our School Advisory Council (SAC). There are many ways in which you can participate in school. Volunteering to work in the classroom, chaperoning field trips and assisting with many activities.

I encourage you to continue working with us to create a school environment that makes us great! I appreciate all that you do to support your student(s). Don't forget to review the calendar for the month of November to see our upcoming events!

We look forward to the remainder of the year being exciting and productive!

Warmly,

*Dr. LaShawn Frost*

Dr. LaShawn Frost

Proud Principal of Booker Middle School

# HAPPENING IN NOVEMBER

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**School Board Meeting**  
Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>  
6:00pm

**Chorus Veterans Day Concert with SHS**  
Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday,  
November 11<sup>th</sup>

**Launch Your Learning**  
Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup> through Thursday,  
November 18<sup>th</sup>  
All Day

**School Board Meeting**  
Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>  
3:00pm

**Jr. Thespians Showcase**  
Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>  
7:00pm

**Thanksgiving Break**  
Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> through Friday,  
November 26<sup>th</sup>  
All Day

See the school calendar at  
<https://www.sarasotacountyschools.net/bookermiddle> for more events!

### Featured Sponsor



Red Wing Shoe Stores  
3106 53<sup>rd</sup> Ave E  
Bradenton, FL 34203  
(941)756-2932



### Parent and Community Involvement Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>

7pm, Booker Middle School

Or Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2321492656?pwd=dURMVTVHLL2Y4MGEySVVuelAyR09BZz09>

### VPA Family Volunteers Meeting

Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>

6:30pm, The Reserve (1322 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota)

**Huge shout out to our partners at The Najjar Realty Group for providing BMS students and staff with lunches within the 2020-2021 school year!**



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## STAY INFORMED!

Website:

[www.sarasotacountyschools.net/schools/bookermiddle](http://www.sarasotacountyschools.net/schools/bookermiddle)

Remind VPA:

Text @bookerm to 81010

VPA Website:

[www.BookerMiddleSchoolVPA.weebly.com](http://www.BookerMiddleSchoolVPA.weebly.com)

VPA Facebook:

@BookerMiddleSRQ

VPA Instagram:

@BookerMiddle

VPA Twitter:

@BookerMiddle

# VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

## Booker VPA Sings!



In October, VPA Chorus and Musical Theatre students gave their first live performance of the season, singing for a full audience! Their voices rang out beautifully from a stage filled with amazing performers. The concert, titled “My Favorite Things”, featured the mixed chorus (‘Intermezzo’) treble chorus (‘Prelude Singers’), as well as both Musical Theatre classes. A fun time was had by all!

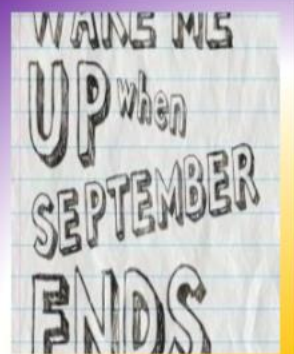
## Dragonfly Café Shares First “Café Night” of the Year

The Dragonfly Café shared their first “Cafe Night” of the school year. Poets from the Creative Writing program took the stage and shared their work with an enthusiastic audience. Technical Theatre students supported the production with lights, sound, and more!

What a beautiful night to celebrate the Visual & Performing Arts!



## VPA Projects



Check out Modern Bands latest project:  
 “Wake Me Up When September Ends” by Green Day  
 Performed by Booker Middle School Modern Band

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZfDirTxIm80>



Advanced Musical Theatre students work together, performing and critiquing their monologues.



# VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

## Booker Middle VPA Goes National!

Booker Middle School has been awarded as an Arts Exemplary School by the Arts Schools Network. VPA Director and Department Chair, Christine Hopkins, and VPA Curriculum Leader and Theatre Teacher, Carrie Mills, were honored to accept this award this month at the ASN national conference in Chicago.

Additionally, at the conference, Booker Middle School was announced as the conference host for the year 2025!

And finally, Mrs. Mills and Ms. Hopkins presented at the conference in Chicago about VPA's nationally recognized Festival of the Arts, held at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Center last May!



## New B5 Store Revealed

New community partners 1 Community 1 Team and DreamLarge made Booker Middle's PBIS dreams come true! Our new cafeteria mural, painted by artists from DreamLarge and our newly supplied B5 Store, with items donated by 1 Community 1 Team, are the perfect inspiration for our student to be great!



## NEWS

### Forever Part of Our History

Our very own, Mrs. Daniels, appeared on a CNN News Special on September 11, 2021. Mrs. Daniels was the host teacher to former President George W. Bush on September 11, 2001 at Emma E. Booker Elementary School. The documentary, Front Row to History-The 9/11 Classroom, captured the lives of six of her former students and Mrs. Daniels since that tragic day 9/11. Mrs. Daniels is still teaching 20 years later. Additionally, CNN arranged for Mrs. Daniels and her students to visit the 9/11 Memorial- Ground Zero, in New York.

### Unity Day 2021

Students wore orange and blue (Unity Day and anti-bullying colors) on Wednesday Oct 20<sup>th</sup>, which was recognized as a day to bring attention to how we treat others. Students decorated doors during their Advisory class to display a campus wide message that we are united in treating others with kindness, inclusion, and acceptance. Lastly, students were encouraged to complete a survey that asked them to share times they may have felt bullied or bullied others and what they learned from that experience. Some students indicated it affected their self-confidence. One observed, "I have been made fun of and know how damaging it can be so I avoid doing it as much as possible."

### Life Science with Dieter, McCarthy, and Peters

Are zombies alive or not alive? This is the question our seventh graders tackled in our Needs and Characteristics Mini-Unit. Students learned that all living things are made of cells, maintain homeostasis, grow and develop, contain DNA, evolve over time, reproduce, respond to stimuli, and require energy. We looked at items such as pumpkin seeds, fossils, eggs and shells, and even crickets to determine the criteria. Zombies, the students determined, are NOT alive because they don't have all 8 characteristics of life. Students then began the Classification Unit with a jellybean lab, learning about scientific naming and researching an animal's scientific classification (taxonomy). In the meantime, classes are participating in the Carefree Learner, germinating seeds in the classroom, and working in the school garden. More to come in the next newsletter!

### College and Career Spotlight

Booker Nation, we're excited focus on careers in Health Services as part of November's Career Cluster of the Month. Local supporters of Booker scholars within this career cluster include Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Gulfcoast South Area Health Education Center, and CAE Healthcare. Are you interested in a fulfilling career helping others stay healthy and happy? Select Health Services Career Cluster focus during your Naviance lessons, or email your College and Career Advisor, Nicholas Termine, for ways you can connect with professionals on video chats.





# JUST PICTURE IT!

## (PICTURES OF MORE EVENTS AT BMS)

2021-2022 Booker Middle Interact Club Induction Ceremony



Hispanic Heritage Night was a success! Thanks to all who came out to celebrate with us



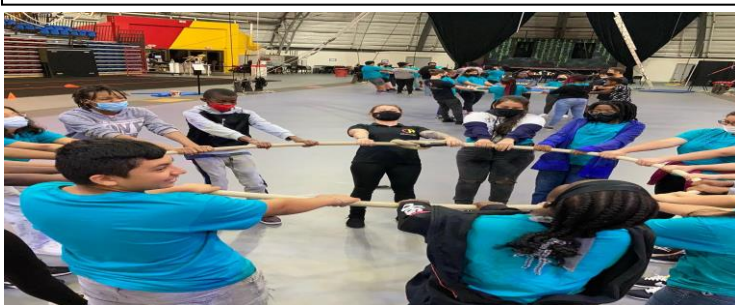
NJHS students take a field trip to the North Water Tower Park to survey the area for a landscape



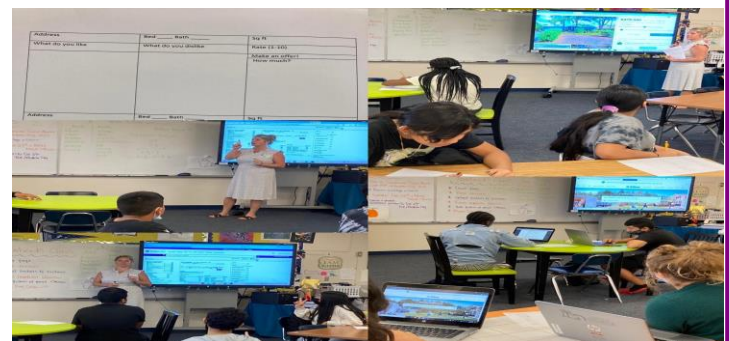
Volleyball 2021 🏐 Congrats girls on your hard work this season 💜



CFES scholars had an amazing time working on the essential skill "teamwork" today with the Circus Arts Conservatory



In CFES class, students had a great time exploring a career in real estate with Ashley Najjar



# GET INVOLVED

## Parents



### Parent University:

We know your child's education and development is important to you and that you would like to encourage them in any way you can. Our monthly Parent University will give you some tools and strategies to best support their Booker Middle School education. (see dates in the "Calendars" section)

### Parent Involvement:

Our parents are the lifeblood of our school's support network. Each month our parents and faculty meet to discuss the activities associated with our school's fundraising efforts. (see dates in the "Calendars" section)

### SAC (School Advisory Council):

A formal monthly meeting where parents and community members meet with our principal and other administrators to collaborate on school issues. (see dates in the "Calendars" section)

### Magnet, Club, and Program Fundraising:

Our students participate in several events and activities both on and away from our campus. Our fundraising programs are designed to help our parents get involved and support performances, activities, and field trips. Ask how you can get involved.

## Community Members



### Donate:

Donations come in many forms and we appreciate all of them. Email our arts coordinator (BookerMiddleVPA@gmail.com) for information on BMS Arts Giving. For information regarding donations to our other programs email Rebecca Coleman at ([Rebecca.Coleman@sarasotacountyschools.net](mailto:Rebecca.Coleman@sarasotacountyschools.net)).

### Volunteer:

BMS can always use a helping hand. If you would like to donate your time to our wonderful school, come to the front office of our school and sign up or contact Rebecca Coleman.

### Attend:

There are so many events for our students and it means the world to our students when the attendance and support goes beyond their friends and family. Attend an arts event, a sports event, or just come out to a Family Night with one of our business partners (see dates in the "Calendars" section).

**For more information on Booker Middle School Visual and Performing Arts events or admissions contact our VPA coordinator at [bookermiddlevpa@gmail.com](mailto:bookermiddlevpa@gmail.com)**



# CALENDARS



## 2021-2022 DISTRICT CALENDAR

1960 Landings Boulevard • Sarasota, Florida 34231 • (941) 927-9000



Scan for web version

JULY 2021						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

5th – 9th – 240 Staff Non-Work Days  
20th – 220 Staff Return

AUGUST 2021						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

3rd – 196 Staff Return  
10th – First Day for Students, 186 Staff

SEPTEMBER 2021						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5		7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

6th – Labor Day - Students, All Staff

OCTOBER 2021						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

12th – End of 1st Grading Period  
15th – Professional Day - Students, 186 Staff

NOVEMBER 2021						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24			27
28	29	30				

22nd – 26th – Thanksgiving Break -  
Students, 186, 196, 220 Staff  
25th – 26th – Thanksgiving Break - 240 Staff

DECEMBER 2021						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

22nd – End of 2nd Grading Period  
23rd – 31st – Winter Break -  
Students, 186, 196, 220 Staff  
24th – 31st – Winter Break - 240 Staff

JANUARY 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16		18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29

3rd – 7th – Winter Break - Students, All Staff  
10th – Professional Day - Students, 186 Staff  
17th – Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Students, All Staff

FEBRUARY 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20		22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

21st – Presidents Day - Students, All Staff

MARCH 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

11th – End of 3rd Grading Period  
14th – 18th – Spring Break - Students, All Staff  
21st – Professional Day - Students, 186 Staff

APRIL 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

15th – Mini-Break - Students, 186, 196, 220 Staff

MAY 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29		31				

27th – Last Day for Students, 186 Staff  
30th – Memorial Day - All Staff

JUNE 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

1st – Last Day for 196 Staff  
22nd – Last Day for 220 Staff



Thank  
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## Parental Notification Principal Attestation of Qualifications For Teachers and Paraprofessionals

Booker Middle School

Sarasota County School District

As required by P.L. 107-110, Section 1119(i) of Title I, Part A, I attest to the following for the school year 2019-2020:

- All teachers teaching in core academic subject areas and hired after the first day of 2001-2003 school year and teaching in a program and supported by Title I, Part A funds, are highly qualified.
- All instructional paraprofessionals, (except for translations and parental involvement activities) meet the requirements to be considered highly qualified.

Copies of this attestation are available online and at the school and district office and will be made available to the general public upon request.

Dr. LaShawn Frost

## Title I Booklet Distribution

### What is “Parent’s-Right-to-Know”

Federal law requires that the Sarasota County School District notify parents of all children in Title I schools of their rights to receive timely information on the professional qualifications of their child’s teacher. Parents may request information about the professional qualifications of the student’s classroom teacher including, at a minimum, the following:

- Whether the teacher has met the state qualifications and certification criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or certification criteria has been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certificate or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications

If you would like to receive a Title I booklet, please notify Rebecca Coleman (941)359-5824 or [Rebecca.Coleman@sarasotacountyschools.net](mailto:Rebecca.Coleman@sarasotacountyschools.net)