



**BOOKER MIDDLE
SCHOOL**

SEPTEMBER 2021

THE TORNADO WATCH



Character under Pressure

Perseverance actually means “to bear up under pressure.” I like this quote from Eleanor Roosevelt, which actually applies to all people: “A woman is like a tea bag. You never know how strong she is until she gets into hot water.” Successful people persevere under pressure and use it for their own benefit. People who have vision are stronger than the pressure life brings.

I have discovered that sometimes you don’t get the scent from the rose until you crush it. In order to draw the fragrance of success, often times we are subject to stress. We forget too easily that character is formed by pressure. When we face pressures in our learning environment, often times it is designed to take us from Good to Great.

As you look at what lies before you, think about the possibilities that we have each and every day to impact the lives of our scholars. However, our possibilities can be full of obstacles. When we think about providing a Five Star Experience to our stakeholders, we must be determined not to see things as being too difficult first. As a learning community, we must walk in confidence so that we are ready to face opposition and overcome it. We must be determined to stay in the fight! There is no stopping a person who understands that pressure is good for him because pressure is one of the keys to perseverance. My hope is that we all understand that character is formed by pressure and is vital to obtaining victory. As we continue to pour into the lives of our scholars, we will see the victories that we know we can achieve.

Dr. LaShawn Frost

Dr. LaShawn Frost, Principal

HAPPENING IN OCTOBER

UPCOMING EVENTS

School-Based Covid-19 Vaccination Clinic

Saturday, October 2nd
9:30am-1:30pm

Tennis and Volleyball Matches

Monday, October 4th
5:30pm—Tennis
6:15pm—Volleyball

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 5th
6:00pm

Florida Inclusion Network “Myths and Facts about Inclusion”

Wednesday, October 6th
All Day

Tennis and Volleyball Matches

Wednesday, October 6th
5:30pm—Tennis
6:15pm—Volleyball

Dragonfly Café Night

Thursday, October 7th
6:30pm-8:00pm

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

Featured Sponsor



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Email: BookerMiddleVPA@gmail.com to find out how you could get your business in front of our newsletter readers!

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

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Text @bookerm to 81010

VPA Website:

www.BookerMiddleSchoolVPA.weebly.com

VPA Facebook:

@BookerMiddleSRQ

VPA Instagram:

@BookerMiddle

VPA Twitter:

@BookerMiddle

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Orchestra at EducateSRQ



The VPA Orchestra program was featured in the EducateSRQ Newsletter “Keeping the Love of Learning Alive through EducateSRQ Teacher Grants.” In a project, which was called “With All Strings Attached: Teaching Remote Learners Music through Orchestra,” Education Foundation of Sarasota County funded the purchase of strings for orchestra instruments (violin, viola, cello) to serve students who were studying music through Orchestra remotely during the 2020-2021 school year. The EducateSRQ Teacher Grant committee read through 239 proposals. The VPA Orchestra program proposal was one of the projects accepted.

Technical Theatre Engineering Design Challenge

VPA Technical Theatre students were assigned an Engineering Design Challenge in which they used principals of suspension, load, design, and aesthetics to create a functional, practical, and visually appealing bridge. These principals will be utilized throughout the year as students design and create sets, lighting, costumes, and more for all BMS performances happening this year!



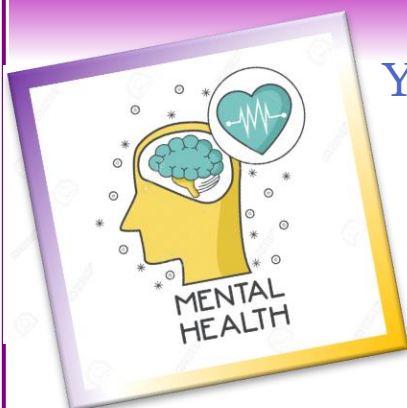
VPA Lunch Period Takeover!



Last month, VPA classes went into lunch periods of every grade level to show students what VPA is all about. All 12 of the VPA programs presented to the students to share what classes they could take during their regular school day. Programs include:

2D/3D Art	Creative Writing	Modern Band
Digital Design	Dance	Musical Theatre
Band	Digital Design	Orchestra
Chorus	Drama	Technical Theatre

NEWS



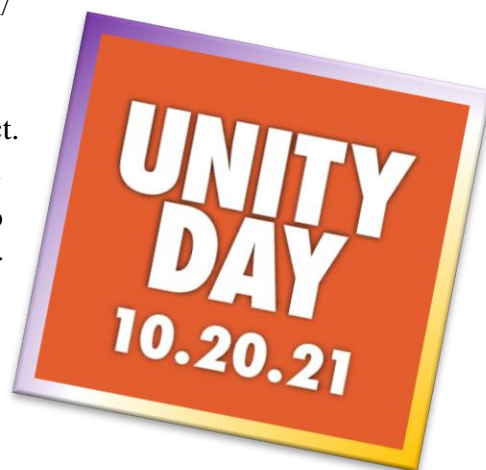
Youth Mental Health Education

In September students at Booker and throughout the district began lessons in Suite 360 in MYSCS to fulfill the state's requirement for 5 hours of mental health training. The on-line lessons are on mental health, self-awareness and resiliency with an emphasis on prevention and when to ask for help. Topics include substance abuse; human trafficking; self-harm, etc. Questions? Contact Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Thomas (Mi-Z) or visit <https://bmsguidancedepartment.weebly.com/>

Unity Day is October 20th

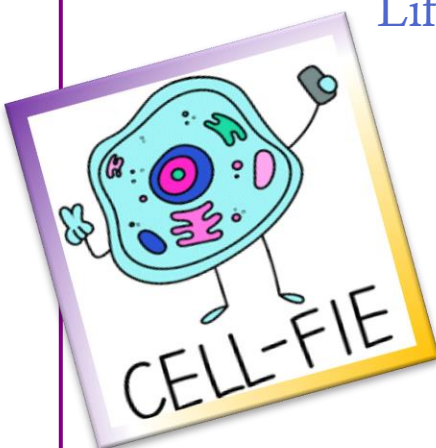
October is Bullying Prevention Month and Unity Day is Wednesday, Oct. 20. On that day in October, Booker Middle School students wear orange for unity and blue, which is the color for anti-bullying awareness. It is to show that we are united against bullies. This year National Junior Honor Society students will be working with School Counselors on projects during October to encourage inclusion, share kindness and promote acceptance.

Just BE KIND.



Life Science with Dieter, McCarthy, and Peters

Seventh grade life science students are currently learning about cells. We've learned about how cells were discovered, the invention of the microscope, the different types of cells that exist, as well as what is found inside of cells. Students have had opportunities to use the digital microscopes to analyze different types of cells. Currently, students are working on cell projects. Cyclone students are working on a project titled "Zombie Apocalypse" in which they are creating a compound to house surviving humans which in turn will be compared to the structure and function of a plant cell. Cambridge and general life science students are working on an "Organelle Trail" project in which they are making old-fashioned wanted posters about an organelle of their choosing.



College and Career Spotlight

Booker Nation, we are excited to welcome Naviance back into our College, Career and Life Readiness Curriculum! Sarasota County Schools successfully utilized Naviance and its multimedia software to allow students to explore their interests and pursue pathways to post-secondary education goals in previous school years. All Booker scholars use Naviance on Wednesday during their advisory period. Show your school spirit by wearing your College or Career themed shirts to school!



JUST PICTURE IT!

(PICTURES OF MORE EVENTS AT BMS)

Dr. Frost was honored as a Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient at the USF vs. Florida A & M University football game in September!



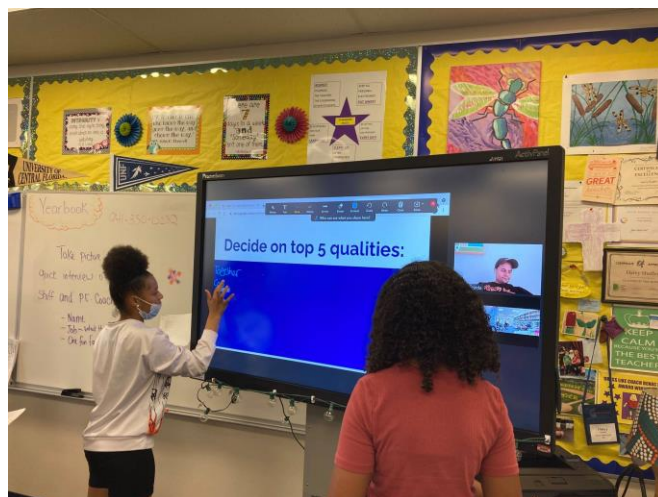
College and Career Readiness Wednesdays are off to a great start this year!



Students proudly represent our College for Every Student program on CCR Wednesdays!



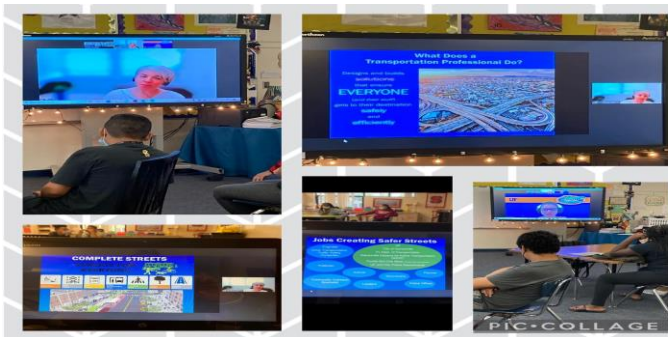
CFES Brilliant Pathways—BMS students developed their Essential Skills with a focus on teamwork!



Booker Middle School Tennis played against both Sarasota Middle and Pine View last month!



Julie Ondine from USF presented to CFES scholars about Transportation Engineering!



JUST PICTURE IT!

(PICTURES OF MORE EVENTS AT BMS)

Go Gold Day!

In support of Pediatric Cancer, students and staff wore anything gold/yellow to share their support in this wonderful cause! Students and staff also raised \$1,954.18 in donations to give to the John's Hopkins All Children's Foundation & Benjamin Gilkey Fund.



Tornado Spotlight

Welcome to our weekly
Tornado Spotlight!

Today we are spotlighting Mr. Caleb Upton, a brand new math teacher at Booker Middle School.

Mr. Upton worked hard the first week to support student's critical thinking skills through questioning. He's working with students to build vocabulary through real-world problem-solving. He also highlighted a career on college and career day and directly correlated it to construction, engineering, and mathematics. We are excited for a new year ahead with Mr. Upton!

Thank you Mr. Upton for helping our scholars succeed!



*Thank
you!*



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).

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

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
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30		

6th – Labor Day - Students, All Staff

OCTOBER 2021						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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12th – End of 1st Grading Period
15th – Professional Day - Students, 186 Staff

NOVEMBER 2021						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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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
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23	24	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
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27	28					

21st – Presidents Day - Students, All Staff

MARCH 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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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
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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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
You

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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