

# THE CHARGER UPDATE

August 31 – September 4, 2020

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*Right-click to open hyperlinks*

### Welcome to the First Week of School !!

Greetings Chargers,

We loved seeing all of you during textbook distribution and we are so excited for Monday. At this point, you should have received communication from your teachers via email or phone. This correspondence was designed to introduce your teacher to you and to offer pertinent information for a successful "first day of school" in our virtual learning environment. Please reach out to your School Counselor or Administrator if you have not yet received Google Classroom information for each of the classes on your schedule.

Additionally, we wanted to make our Charger Families aware that we have been alerted to inappropriate social media sites that are operating under the guise of Suncoast High School, but have no official affiliation. We are working closely with School Police, Safe Schools, and the local police jurisdiction to investigate this situation. While there is no threat or direct concerns for the safety of our students and staff, we wanted to put all of our Chargers on **high alert** that the School District of Palm Beach has very strict policies regarding social media, bullying, and computer/technology misuse. Furthermore, students who violate any of these policies will be subject to disciplinary consequences. It is important to note that social media interactions off-campus that carry over to the school day and create a disturbance on campus, even in a virtual setting, is subject to disciplinary action. While this is a unique start to the school year, we know our Chargers are ready to tackle virtually anything! See you on campus soon and digitally Monday morning, August 31st at 7:30 am.

Please see the **Suncoast Bell Schedule** – Day 1 (Blocks 1, 3, 5, 7), Day 2 (Blocks 2, 4, 5, and 6):

Block Schedule	Start Time	End Time
Block 1 / 2	7:30 am	9:12 am
Block 3 / 4	9:19 am	11:01 am
Block 5 & WRSN	11:08 am	12: 11 pm
Lunch	12:11 pm	12:51 pm
Block 7 / 6	12:58 pm	2:40 pm

## SCHOOL BUSINESS

**Student Google Classroom Expectations:** Students are expected to: 1. Be on time to class. 2. Use computer cameras and microphones for visual and auditory class participation, 3. Have your classroom materials ready for class, 4. Show courtesy and be respectful to others at all times. 5. Submit all assignments on time, 6. Maintain academic honesty in all assignments and assessments.

**Textbook Distribution Make – Up Days:** If you were unable to come to Suncoast campus and pick up textbooks last week, we have two make-up days this week. Parents, please come to the main office on **Monday or Tuesday between 9:00 am – 3:30 pm** to pick up textbooks. Students remain in classes online.

**Student Attendance Policy:** Teachers will take attendance in SIS for all classes daily. Students who log in after attendance is taken will be marked as tardy.

**Distance Learning Resources:** Please see the list of resources that will help jumpstart the school year on the School District website: [https://www.palmbeachschools.org/students\\_parents/dl2/parent\\_onboarding\\_how-to-](https://www.palmbeachschools.org/students_parents/dl2/parent_onboarding_how-to-)



Navigating Google Classrooms:

<https://www.palmbeachschools.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=270616&pageId=11819775>

**Free & Reduced Lunch Applications:** The FY21 Free and Reduced online application process is now available for parents. To assist parents in locating the online application this year, a tile has been added to the student portal that will take parents directly to the free / reduced lunch application entitled, "Application For Meal Benefits" or parents can access the application through our School Food Service webpage at [www.palmbeachschools.org/sfs](http://www.palmbeachschools.org/sfs). Additionally, paper applications are available at Suncoast for parents who prefer to complete a hard copy. If there are any questions about the free and reduced application process, please email [MealBenefits@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:MealBenefits@palmbeachschools.org), call **888-383-2025** or **561-383-2025**.

**Parents Get Ready for Communication:** To receive any notifications from Suncoast concerning your child, **please check SIS for accuracy** in contact information, home address, email addresses, and phone numbers. We use emails and parent call-outs to keep you up-to-date on school happenings (don't opt out of any messages, it will cancel future notifications from the system). Please contact our Data Processor: [Kimberly.griffiths@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:Kimberly.griffiths@palmbeachschools.org) to make any changes to your contact information.

**Clubs and Student Activities:** Club Recruitment will take place in September virtually. More information will be forthcoming for sign-ups and schedules. If you are interested in starting a new club, please visit [https://suh.palmbeachschools.org/athletics\\_activities/clubs/club\\_information\\_for\\_teachers\\_and\\_officers](https://suh.palmbeachschools.org/athletics_activities/clubs/club_information_for_teachers_and_officers) for more information or email [kelli.erianne@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:kelli.erianne@palmbeachschools.org).

**Physical Education:** Students will be expected to be in **proper athletic attire** for dress code during virtual PE classes. When in-person classes begin, all students will have the opportunity to purchase their required PE uniforms. When that time comes you will have the option to pay and order uniforms through <https://palmbeach.schoolcashionline.com>, or you can pay by check. Please check with your PE teacher for more details.

## SCHOOL COUNSELOR CORNER

**Schedules:** If students see **errors** on their schedules, they should complete the Schedule Correction Google form: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSem2f\\_ytajloKFCedIG\\_S2IjacRrvlY\\_W6UycgASM0xW\\_VeOg/vie wform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSem2f_ytajloKFCedIG_S2IjacRrvlY_W6UycgASM0xW_VeOg/vie wform?usp=sf_link).

Acceptable reasons to request a schedule correction:

1. Student needs a class to meet a graduation or program requirement
2. An incorrect class is in the schedule
3. Student has previously earned credit in a class

Schedules will NOT be corrected because a student does not want a particular teacher, class, or class period.

Requests for schedule corrections will close on **Friday, September 11 at 4:00 pm**.

**Class of 2021 - Senior Meetings via Live Google Meet with Your Counselor:**

MSE & CS Seniors: **Wednesday, September 9**, from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm with Mr. Evans.

IIT, IIT/IBCP Seniors: **Thursday, September 10**, from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm with Ms. Del Ponte.

IBDP, CS/IB, IIT/IB, and MSE/IB Seniors: **Thursday, September 10**, from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm with Mrs. Chira.

All senior meetings will be recorded and posted for students who cannot log-in at their designated times.

Seniors, although you are excited to begin your college application process, we ask that you wait until after the senior meeting to request any transcripts or letters of recommendation from counselors.

**Updating your Student Email:** Chargers, we would like all students to add a formatted signature to their student emails that indicate your **first and last name, your grade level, and magnet program**. We also recommend using 'Class of \_\_\_\_' to avoid changing your grade level every year.

Please visit the link to follow three easy steps to setting up your signature: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rvvxNe\\_Y0u-UJo6DXEPr\\_37BEzWw99QTlj5hIFmaidM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rvvxNe_Y0u-UJo6DXEPr_37BEzWw99QTlj5hIFmaidM/edit?usp=sharing)

**School Counselor & Administrator Assignments:** Students are aligned to an Assistant Principal and School Counselor by their magnet program(s). Please note: All IBDP students, including dual-program students who have added IB, will work with Dr. Raiford and Ms. Chira. Please review the chart below:

Program	Grade	Assistant Principal	Counselor
MSE	9-12	Keevey	Evans
CS	9-12	Blumner	Evans
IIT and IBCP	9-12	McLawrence	Del Ponte
IB Track	9-10	Gordon	Gooch
IB Diploma Programme (Dual-program students – includes CS/IB, IIT/IB, and MSE/IB)	11-12	Raiford	Chira

**College Application Bootcamp:** The Suncoast Foundation and Score At The Top would like to offer an amazing opportunity for students to work with Judi Robinovitz, Certified Educational Planner, and the Score At The Top team of college admissions pros! Please visit the Suncoast Foundation website for more information on how to join these four sessions on essay writing, resume writing, and the college application process, <https://suncoastfoundation.org/college-admissions-boot-camp-2020/>.

All sessions are held on Saturday mornings from 9:30 am – 1:00 pm at Suncoast High School.

**Dates:** September 12, September 19, October 3, and October 10, 2020.

**Philanthropy Tank:** A non-profit organization based here in Palm Beach County that focuses on students in grades 8-12 looking to make an impactful, sustainable change in their communities through the development of service-driven programs. Students who wish to apply for an opportunity to receive mentorship and funding to launch their program concept must **submit their application by Friday, October 2, 2020**. Students selected as finalists will present their ideas at our event scheduled in March 2021.

Application Link: <https://webportalapp.com/sp/login/philanthropytank-pb-2020>

For more information, along with our recent virtual live event program, please visit our website at [www.philanthropytank.org](http://www.philanthropytank.org).

**Bright Futures Updates:** Changes were made to the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program during the 2020 Florida Legislative Session as a result of Senate Bill (SB) 72.

- **Florida Academic Scholars (FAS):** Beginning with the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the additional \$300 per term stipend for textbooks will be specified in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) rather than specified in Florida Statutes.
- **Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS):** Beginning with the fall 2021 term, FMS recipients enrolled in an associate degree program at a Florida College System institution may be eligible to receive an award equal to 100 percent of tuition and specific fees.

For more information about the Bright Futures scholarship, contact [osfa@fldoe.org](mailto:osfa@fldoe.org). Right - click the link for the Bright Futures Student Handbook: <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/PDF/BFHandbookChapter1.pdf>

## SPORTS EVENTS

**Athletic Updates:** While we are in Phase One in Palm Beach County, athletics and extra-curricular activities are on hold and as more information becomes available from the District, it will be shared with our school community. In the meantime, please visit [https://suh.palmbeachschools.org/athletics\\_activities/athletics](https://suh.palmbeachschools.org/athletics_activities/athletics) to complete your athletic eligibility packet and coaches contacts.

## CHARGER SHOUT-OUTS

We want to give a Charger Shout-Out to our textbook packaging team of administrators, teachers, and staff who barcoded, processed, bundled, and packaged textbooks or online access codes for 1600 Suncoast students, then greeted our parents and students with pleasant curbside service. *Now, that is dedication to education!!*

We would also like to thank all our faculty and staff involved with Freshman Orientation held on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Our newest Chargers were greeted with student testimonials via live virtual meetings and panelists representing all of our magnet programs. We also celebrated the life of Suncoast Chargers through videos. Welcome!!

## IN THE COMMUNITY

**Community Meal Program:** September 1 - all schools will participate in the *School Breakfast Program* (SBP) and the *National School Lunch Program* (NSLP). **All Palm Beach County students** will be sent, via email, a welcome back letter that will contain their personal barcode. Parents will have to present this letter or have the full student number when picking up meals. Students' numbers or barcodes will be captured into a Point of Sale at the pick-up line. This is similar to the way students came through the school cafeteria line in the past; however, **all meals will be distributed curb side.**

Students do not need to attend school at the food distribution location to pick up meals. **Meals will only be given to students with an assigned Palm Beach County student number.** Lunch prices will be charged to students' accounts according to their benefit status; for this reason, online prepayments are recommended. If additional meals are picked up at other sites for the same student, a la cart charges will appear in the student's account.

Serving times will be **11:00 am - 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, every Tuesday and Thursday.**

## STAY CONNECTED

**SUNCOAST HIGH SCHOOL WEBSITE:** [www.Suncoasthighschool.org](http://www.Suncoasthighschool.org)

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Suncoast-Community-High-School/1444659332463268?fref=ts>

**ON INSTAGRAM!** [https://instagram.com/suncoasthighfl/  
Suncoast Chargers Athletics](https://instagram.com/suncoasthighfl/Suncoast%20Chargers%20Athletics)

**ON TWITTER!** <https://twitter.com/SuncoastHighFL> Suncoast High School [@SuncoastHighFL](https://twitter.com/SuncoastHighFL)

