

# THE CHARGER UPDATE

October 19 - 23, 2020

*Right-click to open hyperlinks*

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I hope you are enjoying the school year. Nearly one month has passed since we reopened our campus to students. Our teachers have been working harder than ever, engaging two groups of students in synchronous teaching and learning. Our staff has done an extraordinary job of keeping our campuses as safe and as clean as possible.

I would like to invite you to an informative and important virtual event. The Department of Choice and Career Options will host *"Innovate Your World,"* the 24th annual [Showcase of Schools](#) in a virtual setting this year, as students and parents gather details about sought-after Choice and Career programs across the District. Unlike the typical one-night event in past years, this year's online platform will be available starting on Tuesday, October 20, and will run throughout the Choice application window. The event kicks off at **4:00 pm** with a [Facebook Live](#) information session with Choice and Career Department leaders. The Showcase of Schools follows immediately at **5:00 pm**.

The goal of Choice and Career Options is to engage students by offering programs that meet their unique interests and prepare them for post-graduate success. Many programs also offer students the opportunity to earn industry certifications. **The Choice application window will open on November 2, 2020.** It is vital that both parents and students remain fully aware of the latest updates to important information:

- **Making Your Choice 2.0** is the School District of Palm Beach County's consistency plan for each semester to ascertain the students who intend to switch from Virtual → Brick and Mortar or Brick and Mortar → Virtual. On **Wednesday, November 4, 2020, the desired learning platform selected by the parent/student will be implemented.** No further changes for the First Semester unless a waiver request for extenuating circumstances is submitted to and approved by school administration.
- **Teacher/Schedule Changes for Students:** School leaders are working diligently to minimize disruption by avoiding teacher changes. At times, schedule changes due to a change in teacher assignments or students' choice in the desired learning platform may be necessary.
- **Student Attendance Policy:** All students are expected to attend school regularly and to be on time for classes in order to benefit from the instructional programs and to develop habits of punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility. Each student is required to attend classes one hundred and eighty (180) days each school year. To be in compliance with these attendance requirements, students must not accumulate fifteen (15) unexcused absences in a period of ninety (90) calendar days. [Policy 5.09](#) Absenteeism, excused or unexcused, regardless of the reason, negatively affects the continuity of the learning process. As a student's absenteeism increases, there is a greater responsibility for the school to deter future absenteeism, and there is a greater responsibility for the student to demonstrate that such absenteeism has not negatively affected performance mastery. Refer to the [Student and Family Handbook](#) and [Modified Distance Learning Student Attendance](#).
- **Assessments/Tests:** The SDPBC provides student assessments/tests that align with the Florida Standards. The purpose of these quizzes and tests is to allow your child's teachers to make informed decisions related to student learning and overall class instruction, as well as to measure whether the student learned the content taught and if the resources used to teach the standards were effective.
- Students will be required to take assessments, after instructional units and lessons are taught and assigned by their classroom teachers during online classroom instruction. Some assessments may be scheduled outside of the digital classrooms; however, each assessment is monitored by classroom teachers and scored within the Performance Matters platform. It is important that you do not help your child with answering questions on these assessments, but that you provide support and encouragement to ensure the information is received accurately and reflects what your child knows and what your child needs to learn.



Parent Guide to At-Home Test Administration ([Video](#))  
[English](#) [Spanish](#) [Haitian Creole](#) [Portuguese](#)

Parent Guide to District Assessments ([Video](#))  
[English](#) [Spanish](#) [Haitian Creole](#) [Portuguese](#)

## FY21 Policies and Procedures

Suncoast High School: [FY21 Policies and Procedures Manual](#).

## SCHOOL BUSINESS

See the Picture Day News at the end of the Charger Update!

October 26 - 30

Festive Fall Spirit Week

Monday, October 26 - Make YOUR Mask YOURS!
Tuesday, October 27 - Fun Flannel Day
Wednesday, October 28 - "On Wednesdays We Wear PINK"
Thursday, October 29 - Kick it with CAMO!
Friday, October 30 - It's ALL ABOUT THE GREEN AND GOLD Suncoast Spirit Day

\*Look for more information on your Class IG accounts or your Google Classrooms.

Thursday, October 29

6:00 pm

### IB Diploma Programme Junior/Senior Virtual Parent Meeting

Junior and Senior parents of IB Diploma, CS/IB, IIT/IB, and MSE/IB students **must attend** this informative meeting regarding the IB Diploma course requirements including ToK, CAS, and EE responsibilities. (If any of these acronyms don't make sense to you, you need to be at the meeting and taking notes). We want parents to have the information necessary to help keep IB students on track as they progress through the programme. We need our parents to stay informed! We will send you a code to join the virtual meeting as the date approaches. Please send us your burning questions about the IB Diploma Programme by **Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> to Ms. Edgar, IB DP Coordinator at [maria.edgar@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:maria.edgar@palmbeachschools.org) so we can incorporate the responses into the pre-recorded presentation**. Please plan to attend!! Remember, all deadlines for IB internal and external assessments must be met, to remain in good standing, as part of the IB Diploma magnet program contract.

## TESTING? TESTING! ONE, TWO...

### AP Exam Code Requests – Deadline Extended

Chargers, please check your student emails for information about submitting your request for *Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Codes*. You need an AP Exam Code for 1) an AP course you are currently taking on FLVS, 2) for an exam you want to retake or 3) for an AP exam in a course outside of Suncoast or FLVS, or through self-study. **Students who wish to retake an AP exam or take an exam for a course they are not currently taking at Suncoast or through FLVS must pay the \$95 exam fee via School Cash Online**. The deadline to request AP Exam Codes (and pay the fee, if necessary) is **Monday, October 19, 2020**.

### Sophomore PSAT/NMSQT - Survey Deadline Extended

The deadline to submit the *PSAT/NMSQT* survey is **EXTENDED to 12 noon on Monday, October 19, 2020**. Please submit the survey, by the deadline, to secure your testing spot on *Thursday, October 29, 2020 or Tuesday, January 26, 2021*.

### Freshman 8/9 PSAT - Survey Deadline Extended

The deadline to submit the *8/9 PSAT* survey has been **EXTENDED to 12 noon on Monday, October 19, 2020**. Please submit the survey, by the deadline, to secure your testing spot on *Tuesday, October 27, 2020*.

**COMING SOON - FALL FSA & EOC Retake Information!!**

## TUTORIAL ROCKS !

### The Suncoast Writing Lab is Open!

Great news! This resource is open to **ALL** students, Monday through Thursday from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm. Appointments will be fully virtual through supervised Google Meets, at this time. We are here to assist in written work across subject areas, and all ability levels, from helping to brainstorm and get started, to final looks and revisions. Students can select from two daily sessions to sign up, 3:00 pm – 3:45 pm or 3:45 pm – 4:30 pm. Please go to the Google Form for an appointment: [Suncoast Writing Lab Appointment](#). Please note that **appointments MUST be made in advance** in order for staff to match you with an available tutor.

### The Suncoast Tutorial Schedule is on our website:

<https://suh.palmbeachschools.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=1950398&pageId=11093787>

### Need CAS Help?

Join the CAS for 2022 Candidates Google Classroom (Code: **tb33zuq**) and make an appointment with a peer CAS Coach. You will be glad that you did!

### All Things IB is Back!

IB Candidates, every Wednesday from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm, Dr. Busse, Ms. Armbruster, and Ms. Edgar will be available to assist with IB essays, Internal Assessments, CAS, ToK, and Extended Essays. The Google Meet code is <https://meet.google.com/fkh-uhmk-txz> or use nickname **atib**.

### Mu Alpha Theta Offers Free Lunch-time Math Tutoring

Tutoring is conducted virtually **Monday thru Thursday** every week, go to the link: [MAO Lunch Tutoring Sign-Up in order to be paired with a tutor](#). Once tutors are paired with students, the tutor will contact the student via phone/text to arrange a virtual meeting. The number of available tutors is limited, so students should sign up as soon as possible! **All Math subjects are offered for your tutoring needs!**

## SCHOOL COUNSELOR CORNER

### Wednesday, October 21

#### Virtual College and Career Night

Take virtual tours of [12 Florida universities](#) and join the district's Virtual College and Career Night on Wednesday, October 21! Go to [Virtual College Tour](#).

### The FAFSA Form is Open!

Seniors & Parents - Completing the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) is an important step in preparing for college. **We strongly recommend all families complete the FAFSA**. Colleges use data from the FAFSA for scholarship & grant money, work-study opportunities, and low-interest student loans. All seniors who are U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and eligible noncitizens, can complete the FAFSA. Parents' citizenship status does not affect a student's ability to submit a FAFSA (parents can use nine zeros when they are asked for their Social Security Number).

In lieu of an in-person FAFSA Workshop, we have provided this YouTube video that gives families a complete walkthrough of the FAFSA Form: [FAFSA form Instructional Video](#). Go to [FAFSA form](#) and fill it out today, also visit your school counselor's Google classroom to find helpful videos that can walk you through the form.

### SAT, ACT & College Applications Fee Waivers are available

Contact your school counselor if you are eligible for fee waivers.

### Scholarship Opportunities – It's a Live Link!

Students and Parents, check this site often for updates: [Apply for Scholarships](#)

### Virtual College Fairs

Three upcoming Virtual College Fairs! Sign Up at <https://virtualcollegefairs.org/>.

Dates: **Sunday, October 18: 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

**Sunday, November 8: 2:00 pm – 10:00 pm**

You can select the school sessions you want to attend. Most sessions will be hosted by Florida school admissions officers. Search for colleges by major, state, public vs private, or school size.

# VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

## Adopt-A-Class

This is an amazing program that we encourage everyone to take advantage of to donate funds to assist a class, sports team or student club! Last year, \$10,000 was donated by Suncoast families that went directly to their specified cause. View the Adopt-A-Class form at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1P5HOk6vjluCyeQ3mqd4EbncAHMrOiGOv/view?usp=sharing>

**PTSA Spirit Store** - Our Spirit Store is going online! Class shirts, Suncoast spirit items, including hoodies, t-shirts, mugs, caps, and visors are all available for purchase. Visit:

<https://suncoastptsa.new.memberhub.store/store>

and purchase items by credit card, or go to [www.suncoastptsa.com](http://www.suncoastptsa.com) to print out an order form and mail in a check to the school (payable to Suncoast High School PTSA). Our coordinator will be in contact with you on how to arrange the pick-up of your merchandise. Contact [spiritstore@suncoastptsa.com](mailto:spiritstore@suncoastptsa.com) for more information.

## SPORTS EVENTS

Date	Day	Sport	Start Time	Level	Location	Opponent/Title
10/20/2020	Tuesday	Golf, Girls	3:30 PM	Varsity	Away	TBA - Seminole Ridge
10/20/2020	Tuesday	Cross Country, Girls	4:00 PM	Varsity	Away	Jupiter - Jupiter Meet
10/20/2020	Tuesday	Cross Country, Boys	4:00 PM	Varsity	Away	Jupiter - Jupiter Meet

## Annual Athletic Department Holiday Fundraiser

Please check out the **holiday flyer** for the annual athletic department fundraiser:

[https://suh.palmbeachschools.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_1950314/File/SUNCOAST%20Holiday%20FR%20Flyer.pdf](https://suh.palmbeachschools.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1950314/File/SUNCOAST%20Holiday%20FR%20Flyer.pdf). New this year!! We are offering a choice of colors (red or white) for poinsettias. Thank you for your support! More information about delivery dates and times forthcoming...

## Winter Sports Eligibility Packet Collection

**Athletic Eligibility Packet Requirements:** Completed and cleared prior to being able to practice or condition - No same day clearance. The following items must be attached to the completed eligibility packet for clearance. Please note that no packet or form can be scanned or emailed, original copies only:

- o [Athletic Eligibility Packet](#), [COVID Waiver](#), and Certificates:
  - Concussion <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/concussion-in-sports-2>
  - Sudden Cardiac Arrest <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/sudden-cardiac-arrest>
  - Heat Illness <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/heat-illness-prevention-2>
- o Receipt with proof of paid Athletic Insurance

**We will begin collection of winter athletic eligibility packets on the following dates and times:**

Date	Time	Location
October 19 – 23	12:15-12:45 pm (Lunch)	Courtyard
October 21 – 22	2:30 - 4:00 pm	Main Office
October 26 – 30	12:15 -12:45 pm (Lunch)	Courtyard
October 28 - 29	2:30 - 4:00 pm	Main Office

## FUNDRAISERS

### Coupon Books On Sale!

Coach Hannah, our girls volleyball coach and Coach McCann, our girls golf coach, and one of our cross country coaches are selling coupon books as a fundraiser for their respective teams. They cost \$25 and the hundreds of amazing coupons are good through December, 2021. You can preview the book here:

[https://issuu.com/savearound/docs/palm\\_beach\\_fl](https://issuu.com/savearound/docs/palm_beach_fl). Thank you for your support! Email them if you are interested: [Karole.hannah@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:Karole.hannah@palmbeachschools.org) and [molly.mccann@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:molly.mccann@palmbeachschools.org)

## CHARGER SHOUT-OUTS

*Congratulations to Suncoast High School for their 2021 rankings by Niche:*

**No. 1 – Best Magnet High Schools in Florida**

**No. 3 – Best Public High Schools in Florida**

**No. 4 – Best College Prep High Schools in Florida**

**No. 38 – Best Magnet High Schools in America**

### **September Chargers of the Month: Knowledgeable** *(statements from their nominators)*

**Lola Aronovitz** Lola is in my AP US Government and Politics class, and not only is she incredibly smart and knowledgeable of our current politics, but she actually has attended some events which took place before we came back. She has been willing to share more than anyone while we've been online. She's been my best student by far.

#### **Bradley Link**

Bradley has developed and uses conceptual understanding across disciplines, to, pardon the unintentional pun, link the items into a cohesive base of knowledge. He is unafraid to engage with issues and ideas that have the basis of the Civil Rights movement of the mid 20th century, linking the local and global significance to today with ease and explaining his views and those connections in a way to make those around him better and more understanding of the topic at hand.

### **September Super Charger of the Month - Ms. Traci Lowe**

Tracy has her journalism kids working hard on the newspaper. She also is keeping the debate program and club going, despite the challenges of social distancing.

## IN THE COMMUNITY

### **Rosemary Square**

Check out the local happenings at Rosemary Square in West Palm Beach: [Rosemary Square Events](#)

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL NURSE

If a student exhibits symptoms of illness while at school, he/she will be escorted to the health room by a school staff member and assessed by the school nurse.

If you need to drop off paperwork, medication and/or medical supplies, please contact me to make an appointment. Also, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to working with you and your student to keep them healthy, safe and actively engaged in the learning process!

Nurse Colleen, Health Room Direct Line: 561-882-3484 or Email: [colong@hcdpbc.org](mailto:colong@hcdpbc.org)

Fax: 561-268-5142

## FOR YOUR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS

Contact Mrs. Andrea Smith, Professional School Behavioral Health Counselor at [andrea.g.smith@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:andrea.g.smith@palmbeachschools.org) or for stress management tips and other resources join her Google Classroom at <https://classroom.google.com/c/MTQzNjU0MTYxMjgz?cjc=nk2obhc>.

Our School Psychologist is Ms. Gabriela Dahlin. She assists students to succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. She collaborates with educators, parents, and other professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections between home, school, and the community. She can be reached by email: [Gabriela.dahlin@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:Gabriela.dahlin@palmbeachschools.org)



## PICTURE DAY NEWS

### Pictures for Everyone!

**\*\*Thursday, November 5 is Picture Day on the Suncoast Campus.\*\***

These pictures will be used in the yearbook! Therefore, all seniors who have not taken their formal pictures, and **all underclassmen**, brick and mortar students, virtual students, and students who have not purchased picture packages will take pictures.

### **IF YOU ARE A FRESHMAN, SOPHOMORE OR JUNIOR WHO WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE PICTURES**

, please pay for them in advance at [leonards.com/photoprepay](http://leonards.com/photoprepay) using the Access Code: C503542. When the prompt asks for "Teacher," please enter the name of your 5th period teacher. You DO NOT have to bring a receipt with you when you take your picture.

**BRICK AND MORTAR FRESHMEN, SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS**, you will take pictures in the gym following an alpha schedule throughout the day (posted later). PLEASE BRING YOUR STUDENT ID CARDS.

**VIRTUAL FRESHMEN, SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS**, you have the opportunity to take pictures on campus that day as well. These pictures are available for purchase and will be included in the yearbook. Students and/or their parents will drive through the main entrance on Jake Lane, around the car loop, and when they are in front of the gym area, they will be directed inside the gym via the door in the car loop, take their picture, and then return to their car to exit the campus. PLEASE BRING YOUR STUDENT ID CARDS, even if it's an old one. If you do not have an ID, please know your student ID number.

**Virtual underclassmen should report to campus using the alpha schedule below:**

\*3:00 - 5:30 pm, Alternate Virtual Underclassman Time.

Alpha Last Name	Time
A - Be	8:30 - 9:00 am
Bi - C	9:00 - 9:30 am
D - E	9:30 - 10:00 am
F - G	10:00 - 10:30 am
H - J	10:30 - 11:00 am
K - L	11:00 - 11:30 am
M	11:30 - 12:00 pm
N - P	12:00 - 12:30 pm
Q - Sc	12:30 - 1:00 pm
Se - Sz	1:00 - 1:30 pm
T - Z	1:30 - 2:00 pm

\*If you cannot attend during your scheduled time slot, you may also take pictures during this timeframe.

### SENIORS

Seniors who have not taken their senior pictures yet can take their formal yearbook pose pictures this day. You will need to schedule your appointment at [leonards.com](http://leonards.com) and select YEARBOOK POSE ONLY. At your appointed time, you will arrive on campus, park in the student parking lot, and enter the gym hallway via the door in the car loop. Senior pictures will be taken in the **DANCE ROOM** located in the gym. Seniors can take their pictures wearing a tuxedo or a drape. If you are using the tuxedo option, please wear a white t-shirt. If you are using the drape option, please wear or bring a tank top with you. BRING YOUR STUDENT ID CARDS, even if it is an old card.

### Make-up Picture Day - Wednesday, December 16

Students who are unable to take pictures on November 5<sup>th</sup> may do so on the makeup date.

## 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

ON TWITTER! <https://twitter.com/SuncoastHighFL> Suncoast High School @SuncoastHighFL

## RESOURCE PAGE

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

**Making Your Choice 2.0** is the School District of Palm Beach County's consistency plan for each semester to ascertain the students who intend to switch from Virtual to Brick and Mortar or Brick and Mortar to Virtual. The dates listed below are important for you and your family to review:

### First Semester Action and Timeline:

Monday, October 5, 2020 - First Semester final selection date **window opens** for Parent/Student decisions about their desired learning platform. The window opens for switching from Virtual to Brick and Mortar or Brick and Mortar to Virtual. Parents will need to go back to the Make Your Choice tile in the student portal to change the desired learning platform and register for bus transportation if needed.

Wednesday, October 14, 2020 - First Semester final selection date **window closes** for Parent/Student decisions about their desired learning platform.

Wednesday, November 4, 2020 - Parent/Student desired learning platform is implemented and selected choice begins. **No further changes for First Semester.**

### Second Semester Action and Timeline:

Monday, January 4, 2021 - Second Semester final selection date **window opens** for Parent/Student decisions about their desired learning platform. The window opens for switching from Virtual to Brick and Mortar or Brick and Mortar to Virtual for the rest of the school year. Parents will need to go back to the Make Your Choice tile in the student portal to change the desired learning platform and register for bus transportation if needed.

Monday, January 11, 2021 - Second Semester final selection date **window closes** for Parent/Student decisions about their desired learning platform.

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 - Parent/Student desired learning platform is implemented and selected choice begins for the remainder of the year. **No further changes for the Second Semester.**

### **Chromebook Guidelines**

Having a Chromebook is a privilege at Suncoast High School. We expect students to take good care of them so the cost is not assigned to your obligation account. Here are some tips that will help keep the Chromebooks in good operating condition:

#### **Protecting your Chromebook**

- Do not tamper with school tags that are present on the Chromebooks.
- Do not hold the Chromebook by the screen and close the Chromebook before walking with it.
- Keep it separate from textbooks and other heavy objects that could potentially damage the screen.
- Keep food and drink away from your Chromebook.

#### **Cleaning your Chromebook**

- Do not use any chemicals or other liquids to clean your Chromebook and use a soft cloth.

#### **Powering up your Chromebook**

- Chromebooks need to be charged fully when you arrive at school each day.

#### **Protecting your Account**

- Anytime you leave your Chromebook on your desk, close the lid so that no one can access your documents. **Be responsible for the Chromebook.**

