



## Principal's Post

Happy Labor Day Weekend! I hope you have had an opportunity to reconnect with your families and relax. It has been a busy August for us all. We welcome the coming of fall— cooler temperatures and hopefully, less rain!

We are excited for several upcoming events this month. Please mark your calendars for our elementary school Family Glow Dance and STEAM night, Friday September 14. We are excited for all that our PTO has planned for our elementary school students and families.

Our middle schoolers have their first dance this month as well. Mark your calendars for Friday, September 28 the Fall Back to School Dance. We will have a school-wide spirit week leading up to this dance. Be watching for more details to include dress up days, "guess the teacher trivia" and a MS pep rally to celebrate all of our fall athletes!

Thank you for attending our elementary school Curriculum Nights this past week. We are grateful for the support that you displayed in teaming up with us to make this year the best for your children. Remember, middle school parents, tonight is the middle school Back to School Night where you will follow your child's schedule and hear a brief presentation from each of their teachers. It is important that you know your child's homeroom teacher when you come as you will pick up their schedules in that room after a brief presentation in the cafeteria. Please join us at 6:30 in the cafeteria tonight!

Thank you for all you do to support our school. We are excited about all our PTO members and the activities that this wonderful organization has planned for your families this year. Be sure to volunteer and attend! When you are involved, you show your children that our school and what happens here is important to you. Often, our examples say more than words ever could. We love your children and cherish our time with them! Happy September!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Allison Olson

### IN THIS EDITION:

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### ***Vision:***

***At Patriot Oaks Academy, we are a community that fosters character development, independence and a lifelong love of learning.***

### ***Mission:***

***Committed to every student every day!***

***GO CHARGERS!***

## IMPORTANT DATES

September 3: Labor Day Holiday, no school  
September 4: Middle Grades Open House 6:30 in the Café  
September 11: Patriot Day  
September 14: Fall Picture Make Up Day  
Elementary Back To School Celebration  
September 28: Middle School Fall Dance



## GOOD CHARGERS

Congratulations to the following good Chargers for the week of August 20th: Corbin Acra, Savannah Albers, Xander Allen, Harper Arnold, Connor Balazic, Adam Barr, Gavin Barron, Olivia Campbell, Tyler Caruso, Gray Duggan, Ava Eakin, Ethan Erickson, Jacob Galison, Ryan Golding, Julia Hegeman, Emma Hand, Cameryn Highsmith, Lisa Karlsson, Lauren Leonard, Marcelo Lomanto, Will Lovatt, Elijah Miller, Tanner Morrison, Aubrey Moore, Ava Murphy, Elizabeth Palmer, Arjun Patel, Lauren Rewey, Ambree Sonognini, Winter Sutton, Haley Thomas, Savannah Trebony, and Christian Wiand,



Congratulations to the following good Chargers for the week of August 27th: Leilani Acosta, Leigha Amescua, Kathryn Bush, Emily Camacho, Zack Danna, Cameron Dolan, Cate Donahue, Liam Hannon, Shaye Hodge, Cameron Jackson, Aaron Kite, Mikayla LaPointe, Sanavi Modali, Davyn Moore, Lakshman Nair, Tommy Novelli, Lizzy Palmer, Justin Roddy, Karter Roland, Aditi Sarma, Rylan Sepulveda, Cole Sasso, Jack Simpson, Ellie Sly, Julia Titus, Lylah Trifari, Ryder Uzzel, Luisa Valinas, Braylon Welsh, Tamari Wheatley, Shawn Williams, and Owen Wolf.

## STUDENT DISMISSAL CHANGES



If you would like to change your child's dismissal, you must email your child's teacher before 2:15 (1:15 on Wednesdays). Middle School should email the 7<sup>th</sup> period teacher.



## GUIDELINES FOR DECORATING LOCKERS

For students wishing to decorate another student's locker for their birthday or other event:

- Decorating must take place between 8 and 8:20 am by students only (no parents) or after school 2:50-3:30 pm (parents are allowed if they sign in at the front office)
- Decorations must stay within the confines of the locker.
- Any items attached to the surface of the locker must be attached using painters tape only.



## INK INFO



Did you know that our school district has its own charitable arm called Investing in Kids (INK!)? INK! is a 501c3 non-profit organization that has been around for almost 25 years. It does not get any money from the school district and is entirely reliant on donations from the public. 89% of all donations go directly into its programs helping kids and teachers, so you won't be seeing them advertising. Please consider going to their website [www.ink-stjohns.org](http://www.ink-stjohns.org) to learn more and make a donation. Even the smallest donation is greatly appreciated!

INK! will be holding its main fundraiser on September 29<sup>th</sup> entitled Boot Scootin' BBQ. It is truly a one of a kind event and all proceeds go directly to helping INK! fulfill its mission to help students and teachers of our district. If you haven't heard of INK!, check out their website [www.ink-stjohns.org](http://www.ink-stjohns.org) for more information, how you can buy tickets to the BBQ, and how you can help.



## SOCCKER TRYOUTS AND COACH NEEDED

Soccer tryouts are coming up. Go to [SJMSAA.com](http://SJMSAA.com) to register. You must be registered in order to try out.

Girls tryouts are tentatively scheduled for 9/12-9/13. The location is TBD.  
Boys tryout dates and location are both TBD but should be in the next couple of weeks.

We are still in need of a coach in order to have the team. If someone you know is interested, have them go to the SJMSAA website for information on how to help with that.

# GUIDANCE NEWS

## School Counselor Corner



### Benefits of Arriving to School on Time

Though the early-morning buzzer of an alarm clock (or a smartphone alarm) can be one of the worst sounds in the world to a sleepy student, repeatedly muffling it via "snooze" button is never a good idea. Showing up on time to school each day benefits students' academic performance. Students who arrive at school early have an advantage over classmates who arrive after class has begun. Consistent unexcused tardiness can mean short-term penalties and lifelong consequences. Students are well-advised to learn not just the advantages of showing up early but also the pitfalls of showing up late.

#### Enjoy More Time to Prepare

Students arriving to school with time to spare have the luxury of settling in, preparing their class materials and focusing their minds on the lessons to come. They have all the time they need to literally and figuratively wake up. Showing up on time can ameliorate the often-jarring transitioning between sleepy rides on a bus or car to concentrating on the day's first lessons. Students showing up to class in the middle of a lesson miss out on this natural transition period and may lose even more of the lesson as they scurry to settle into an academic focus. This may ultimately contribute to the lower grades.

#### Never Miss Important Information

Arriving to school after classes have begun can cause students to miss more than just the introduction to a new lesson. While waiting for the "tardy bell" to ring, teachers often share important information: reminders of upcoming quizzes, class trips, new classroom rules, essay due dates and other school-related specifics. Students who show up late may miss out on these details and as a result, be unprepared for some future class event. While a teacher will likely reiterate crucial information throughout the day, latecomers may miss out on courtesy reminders about homework assignments and other projects. Students who show up on time everyday can rest assured they have all the necessary information.

#### Develop Positive Lifelong Habits

Arriving late to school on a consistent basis can have longer-term academic effects. If showing up late to school becomes a habit, students may develop the notion that tardiness is acceptable behavior. This belief can negatively impact their future work ethic and employment opportunities. Alternatively, showing up on time to school every day can help students develop the habit of being punctual with important commitments. This habit can serve students well through college and into their future careers.

<http://education.santlopei.com/advantages-being-time-vs-being-late-school-3477.html>

## CHILD FIND

### We Want to Find Some Very Special Children!

Do you have any concerns about your child's:

- Speaking
- Understanding
- Moving or Playing
- Seeing or Hearing
- Getting Along with Other Children
- Learning and Paying Attention
- Self-help Skills including:  
Feeding, Dressing or Toileting

### FDLRS/NEFEC CHILD FIND PROVIDES:

- Information about community programs for children with special needs
- Professional consultation for parents
- Screening in the areas of communication, motor development, vision, hearing, and preschool readiness skills
- Assistance in connecting children with special or unique needs to appropriate early intervention or exceptional student education services

If you have questions or concerns about a child  
birth - 5 years of age, contact:

**FDLRS/NEFEC CHILD FIND**  
(386) 329-3811 or Toll Free 1-800-227-6036  
Email: [ChildFind@nefec.org](mailto:ChildFind@nefec.org)  
Website: [www.nefec.org/fdlrs](http://www.nefec.org/fdlrs)



FLORIDA DIAGNOSTIC AND LEARNING RESOURCES SYSTEM (FDLRS)  
NORTH EAST FLORIDA EDUCATIONAL CONSORTIUM (NEFEC)

Serving Baker, Bradford, Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns and Union Counties and  
The Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind



## MEDIA CENTER NEWS



We're off to a great start in the Patriot Oaks Media Center! Middle school students may check out books in the library each morning between 8am and 8:20am. Middle school teachers can send students down in groups of two or three, during the school day, as needed. More information will be coming soon concerning Sunshine State (SSYRA) books. Many students have asked about the program and we are so glad they are excited to get their hands on these great books. You can read about SSYRA on the school webpage, under the Media Center tab. Don't forget, students must have turned in permission slips to check out. And, we strongly encourage them to have a gallon-size plastic bag to help protect the books from water damage, whether from our almost daily rainstorms, or from water bottles and condensation.

## CAFÉ NEWS



Find a direct link for  
Breakfast & Lunch menus on  
POA home page

<https://schools.mealviewer.com/school/PatriotOaksAcademy>

## AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

After School Enrichment Classes have begun. Information is available on our webpage under the Extended Day/ Enrichment Classes page. Click on the vendor links for online registration.

## ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Tech Attack Saturday Courses



#### When?

9/8, 9/15, 9/22, 9/29  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

#### Where?

Patriot Oaks Academy

#### What?

This is a 2-hour course in which students will have the opportunity to develop and/or improve their technology skills. Each Saturday cost \$40 per student and will be maxed at 20 participants. The focus for September is coding/programming. Activities include coding stories, creating games, using code to solve problems, and programming robots. Regardless of your child's knowledge or comfort level with programming they can be successful in the course.

#### How?

Please visit [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/708004DACA92BA7F58-september](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/708004DACA92BA7F58-september) to reserve your spots. You can sign up for one, two, three, or all four Saturdays. Registration packets and payment information will be emailed once you have reserved a spot.

#### Who?

Taught by POA Technology Resource Teacher

Joan Davis

904-826-9559

[Techattack18@gmail.com](mailto:Techattack18@gmail.com)

<https://techattack18.weebly.com>