

# The Game Changers Guide

### **From the Principal's Desk**

Happy October! Fall is here and we will soon have a crisp feel in the air...I hope! As we jump right into this month, we are gearing up to close out Quarter 1 and to spring into Quarter 2. Parents, please ensure that you are watching your child's grades in Pinnacle and that they are engaging in every one of their classes, each and



every day. As we continue on our journey of E-Learning we are transitioning to a slight change for a few of our students. As you know, you had the opportunity to participate in a survey in September indicating if you want your child to continue their E-Learning at home or if you want them to continue their E-Learning in person.

Whichever choice suits best for your family, is perfect with us! Although we do have many of our very own teachers that are continuing their E-Teaching from home, this will not interrupt your child's course of study...this is the beautiful thing about E-Learning! We have a solid plan to keep our students socially distanced if they chose to return to campus and we are providing safe spaces with an adult for them to engage in their on-line learning with their classes. Hawks are ready and eager to grow this school year. We are Game Changes, after all!

I hope that you have picked up your child's iPad and that they are off to their new Verizon Learning experiences. If you have yet to do so, please reach out to our VILS Coach Mrs. Sasha Behm to schedule a time to sign out your device! You can email her through our website via our staff directory.

Have you subscribed to our Twitter page? See what we are up to @Mcnicolhawks. We really do love to brag about our students, staff and community...help us share the great things happening in #Hawkland. As always, I am an email or phone call away! I hope to see you soon...stay safe and positive!

Mrs. Gurreonero Your Very Proud Principal

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS OCTOBER

- 10/13: 6TH GRADE STUDENTS RETURN
- 10/14: HALF DAY FOR STUDENTS (7:45AM-12:15PM)
- 10/15: 7TH & 8TH GRADE STUDENTS RETURN
- 10/16: HALF DAY FOR STUDENTS (7:45AM-12:15PM)
- 10/19: NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS (TEACHER PLANNING)
- 10/20: FIRST DAY OF 2ND QUARTER
- 10/22: SAC/PTSA MEETING @ 6PM
- 10/22: FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT @ 6:30PM

#### NOVEMBER

- 11/11: NO SCHOOL (VETERANS DAY)
- 11/12: 1ST QUARTER REPORT CARDS
- <u>1</u>1/12: CLUB MEETINGS (3:15PM-4PM)
- <u>1</u>1/17: 2ND QUARTER INTERIMS ISSUED
- <u>1</u>1/19: PTSA/SAC MEETING @ 6PM
- <u>1</u>1/23-11/27: NO SCHOOL (THANKSGIVING BREAK)





### **Verizon Innovative Learning Schools iPads for 2020-2021 School Year are HERE!!!**

Our Verizon Innovative Learning Schools iPads are here and waiting for you, Game Changers!!! The iPads are already set up with all your school applications and 10 Gigs of data provided by Verizon for your learning pleasure! Our school pick up last week went great but we still missed SO many of our Hawks!! Hawks that still need to come and get their iPads for the school year can come to our front office to pick up devices this week from 9am-12pm!!!





### Happy October! Welcome to Florida Fall

Here are Our Monthly Observances in BCPS

- Hispanic Heritage- (Sept. 15th Oct. 15th)
- LGBT History Month (Oct. 1st -31st)
- Red Ribbon Week (Oct. 23rd-31st)
- Digital Citizen Week (Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup>)
   BPCS Monthly Character Trait:
   Responsibility







From the Desk of Mr. Bankston, Behavior Specialist

#### WELCOME TO POSITIVE BEHAVIOR CENTRAL

GREETINGS MIGHTY HAWKS. I am Mr. Bankston, your Behavior Specialist here at McNicol Middle Magnet and STEM School. We so are excited that you are part of our Hawks family. We hope that you are ready for another exciting year of teaching, learning and growing together.

As we all know it was necessary to begin our school year in this new E-learning environment. We hope the transition on campus has been a smooth one as we pivot back to on-campus instruction. Rest assured that your magnificent Administrators, Counselors, Teachers, and Support Staff have been working to make sure you have the tools and resources to be successful "Game Changers" in the new environment.

### ABOUT ME

As Behavior Specialist, my responsibilities entail supervision of schoolwide discipline for grades 7th and 8th. Additionally, I am also responsible for facilitating our school wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) and Social Emotional Learning (SEL). I work alongside our amazing team of administrators and counselors to provide the necessary support and services to promote and maintain a positive school environment conducive to effective teaching and learning. While the Promotion of a Positive school environment is the responsibility of us all, ensuring that our 4 B's are practiced daily and school wide in our Virtual environment as well as supporting the academic, behavioral and social emotional needs of our students will be my primary focus. Welcome to the Hawks Family and I Look forward to an exciting year.



It was easy to celebrate Fire Prevention Week from October 4-10 with our very own firefighter on the McNicol Middle School teaching team! Mr. Simon, who teaches 7th grade science, is also a part-time firefighter in North Key Largo. He says that he "wanted to further his professional career in a dynamic work environment, sharpen my skills, continue to acquire knowledge, educate the public, and continue to provide excellent service to the community." In the video that our students watched, he also explained what education and training is needed if they want to pursue a career as a firefighter. The focus on college and career readiness is a priority at McNicol. We are always looking for ways to integrate these discussions into our classrooms so our students continue to



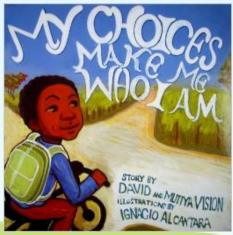


October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, an annual campaign to increase awareness of the disease. The pink ribbon represents fear of breast cancer, hope for the future, and the charitable goodness of people and businesses who publicly support the breast cancer movement. It is intended to evoke solidarity with women and men who currently have breast cancer. Awareness surrounding breast cancer is incredibly important as early detection, often through screening, can catch the disease when it is most treatable. According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), breast cancer is the most common cancer in American women, except for skin cancers.





Responsibility is the character trait for the month of October. Responsibility means meeting obligations by being reliable, accountable, and dependable to self and others. According to EmpoweringParents.com, the idea that a child is responsible for things is not inborn—it doesn't just happen by itself. It needs to be taught, coached, and learned. Here's a book suggestion for your child to read about responsibility from a child's point of view:



"My Choices Make Me Who I Am" by
David Vision and Mutiya Sahar Vision.
One line says, "It's MY responsibility to
care for, maintain and guide my feelings.
The trick is to catch them before they
catch YOU off guard. Life's journey is a
smoother ride when I don't lose control."
Each page is filled with words of wisdom
for our young scholars to live by.

## CONGRATSI

The speech and debate team just completed their first virtual tournament on September 23, 2020. Dominic Deleon (8th grade) received two 2nd place wins and Hammad Hazuri (7th grade) received 4th and 2nd place wins. They both competed in Impromptu Speech! We are so proud of these magnificent McNicol Hawks! Kudos to our amazing Speech and Debate Club Advisor Ms. McLeod!







### MCNICOL MIDDLE





The theme is Resourceful Cities. Connected theme is <u>Waste Reduction & Recycling.</u>

How can we as Global Scholars, reduce the impact of school waste on the growing problem of microplastics within our oceans and water supply?

### STUDENTS WILL BE COLLABORATING WITH CLASSES FROM:



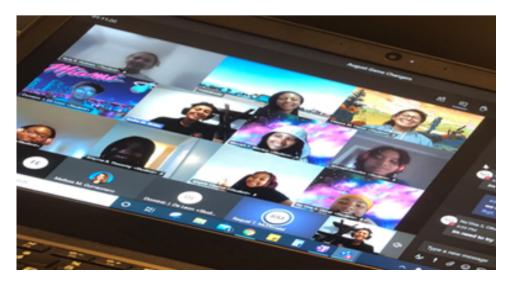
McNicol Middle students are changing the game with our **International Affairs and Business Magnet Program as they** collaborate with other students world-wide.



### Super Cool!!!



We welcomed September by celebrating our August Hawk Game Changers! Students who have been exemplifying our 4B's of Digital Citizenship (Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be safe, Be a Learner) were chosen by staff members. On Friday, September 25th, those select students were invited to our first Game Night in the afternoon. The chat was filled with an abundance of laughter as students attempted to solve various brain teasers. In the end, Elianna Flores was victorious and earned herself a



Walmart gift card. We'll be mixing things up in October when we get students to nominate a teacher for October's Game Changer. Keep following the 4B's and we'll probably see you at **Game Night in November!** 

### Family information

 Family Engagement Plan: Families, please click on the link below to access our Family Engagement plan on the McNicol Middle School website. It is located within our School Improvement Process (SIP) Plan.

http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/ospa/school face plan.asp?school n umber=

School-Parent Compact: McNicol Middle School presented the School-Parent Compact at the SAC/PTSA meeting on September 17, 2020. It is also posted on our website. Click on the following link: <a href="https://www.browardschools.com/cms/lib/FL01803656/Centricity/ModuleInstance/31063/school-parent%20compact.pdf">https://www.browardschools.com/cms/lib/FL01803656/Centricity/ModuleInstance/31063/school-parent%20compact.pdf</a>





## Your child's report card and schedule

The 1<sup>st</sup> quarter report card will be posted on November 12, 2020.

Directions to Access Your Student's Report Card Online

- Your child's report card is now available online. The easiest
  way to access the report card is to have your student sign in
  at <a href="mailto:sso.browardschools.com">sso.browardschools.com</a>, just as he or she does every
  day to go to virtual school.
- Once on the student's <u>LaunchPad</u>, look under My Applications for the Virtual Counselor tile. Click on Virtual Counselor to access YOUR child's report card.
- Again, to access your child's report card, sign into <u>sso.browardschools.com</u> using the student's credentials and click on the Virtual Counselor tile.

### How to Access School Data



 Parents, please see the link below for where to access our School report card. Please note that the school report card was published for the 2018-2019 school year. No school report card was issued for the 2019-2020 school year due to Covid-19.

https://edudata.fldoe.org/Repor tCards/Schools.html?school=048 1&district=06

Click on the following link to access assessment information:

https://www.browardschools.co m/testingcalendar



McNicol will have virtual activities that include:

- 1. Best spoken word performance that incorporates use of the 2020 theme Be Happy, Be Brave, Be Drug Free™ for a chance to win a \$25 Amazon gift card!
- 2. A Red Ribbon Week photo contest
- 3. #BeHappyBeBraveBeDrugFree Social Media Challenge
- 4. Join the #RedRibbonMaskChallenge by wearing a Red Ribbon-Themed Mask During Red Ribbon Week, October 23-31.



