



# The Game Changers Guide

## From the Principal's Desk

This school year has certainly offered some new opportunities for our students, staff and community! Whether you are learning to navigate your child's Canvas courses, trouble shooting TEAMS links, or dialing in to our technical center for log on assistance; we have all definitely learned the need to embrace this virtual reality! I cannot begin to tell you how proud I am of our students. As I watch my own child struggle with the frustration of Wi-Fi speed, laptop issues and navigating courses I know that the struggle is real! It is real for our students, staff and parents alike, but the important part of this experience is that we continue to work as a team!



I have charged our team with becoming Game Changers this school year and I can guarantee you that they have accepted the challenge. Teachers have been dedicated to extended trainings and professional development opportunities all in the best interest of our students. But I need your help parents! Please ensure that your child has embraced our 4 B'S of E-Learning and that they are held accountable for their learning. We can do this together and we have some ideas to help! I encourage you to join us each and every Wednesday from 1 A.M.-1 P.M. in our Virtual Parent University courses! You don't have to stay the whole time; just log in, introduce yourself to our counseling team and come prepared with any questions that we can help answer! We have tools you can use such as: online engagement strategies, community resource information, mindfulness in parenting, communication tips to talk with your child, and so much more! The link can be found on the main page of our website and we are eager to engage!

As you know McNicol Middle School is a Verizon Innovation School. This means that all of our students will be assigned a brand new iPad which comes with data for online learning. We will be rolling out these devices at the end of this month so stay tuned for important information regarding these plans. We are excited to take this e-learning experience to the next level.

Remember meals are served every Tuesday and Thursday at our school! Ensure that you have completed your free and reduced lunch forms and visit us during the hours of 11-1 or 3-5 on either or both dates to pick up boxed meals.

I wish you a successful month and I cannot wait to see our kiddies shine in their virtual classrooms!

Your Extremely Proud Principal,  
Melissa Gurreonero

Be The  
Game  
Changer.



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### SEPTEMBER

- 9/7-25: DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP COURSE
- 9/15,22,29: HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH VIRTUAL FIELD TRIPS
- 9/16,23,30: HAWK PARENT UNIVERSITY, 11AM-1PM
- 9/17: VIRTUAL CLUBS MEETING 3:00-4:00 PM
- 9/17: SAC MEETING 6:00 PM
- 9/14-25: PBIS LESSONS
- 9/28: SCHOOL CLOSED

#### OCTOBER

- 10/6,13: HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH VIRTUAL FIELD TRIPS
- 10/7,14,21,28: HAWK PARENT UNIVERSITY, 11AM-1PM
- 10/15: VIRTUAL CLUBS MEETING 3:00-4:00 PM
- 10/16: EARLY RELEASE DAY
- 10/19: EMPLOYEE PLANNING (NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS)
- 10/22: SAC MEETING 6:00 PM

Hispanic  
Heritage Month  
September 15-October 15



SEPTEMBER IS  
SUICIDE PREVENTION  
MONTH





## Your Administration is Here for You

**We are Game Changers!**

**We are Digital Citizens!**

Digital citizenship refers to the responsible use of technology by anyone who uses computers, the Internet, and digital devices to engage with society on any level.



Mrs. Ryser

6th Grade Assistant Principal



Ms. Benka-Coker

7th Grade Assistant Principal



Mr. Decembert

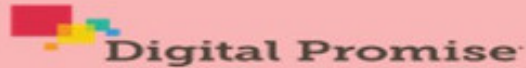
8th Grade Assistant Principal





## McNicol Magnet Middle and STEM School Soaring with the Mighty Hawks Newsletter: September 2020

*"We are changing the world with technology." Bill Gates*



### Catalyst for Change

Woo Hoo! We are so happy to announce that McNicol Magnet Middle and STEM School is officially a Verizon Innovative Learning School (VILS) effective the 2020-2021 school year. As one of five Broward County Public Schools selected to participate in a partnership with Verizon Innovative Learning and Digital Promise, this initiative has the potential to be a catalyst for change in education here at McNicol. We will help close the equity gap to ensure that our students soar.

Digital Promise collaborates with Verizon to provide EVERY student and teacher with a device, and up to a four-year data plan! We cannot emphasize enough how having a device will impact the equity gap, affording access to technology to our students. We are honored to have been selected to be a VILS school for next two years with the possibility to extend making it four years! More information on device distribution is to come. Please follow us on Twitter [@McNicolHawks](https://twitter.com/McNicolHawks). For more information about Verizon Innovative Learning Schools and Digital Promise please visit <https://verizon.digitalpromise.org/>

### Monthly Motivation:

*"You can be a catalyst for change but change can never really entirely happens just because of one guy."*

*--Robert Griffin III*

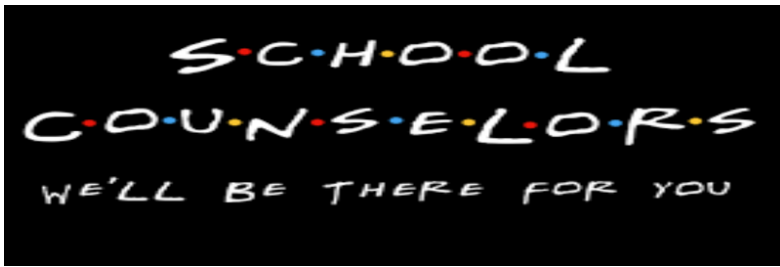


### What Device Will Students and Staff Receive?

An iPad 7 will be issued to each teacher and student, to be used both at school and at home. A case and a backpack will accompany each device. Verizon will also provide a data plan.



**"Once a Hawk, Always a Hawk!"**



The School Counseling Department's focus for every student is academic, personal/social, and college/career readiness through process and service. We want to help our students to make wise decisions, choices, and adjustments in the light of his/her potentialities and limitations and develop a realistic awareness of the world around him/her.

The service of providing information and assistance to students, teachers, parents, and administration is to facilitate the above process. As your School Counseling Director, it is my honor to oversee these processes and services.

Please join the School Counseling Team for support every Wednesday for Hawk Parent University via Microsoft Teams 11:00am-1:00pm.

More information to join Hawk Parent University is on our school website.

Your School Counseling Director,

Chandra Lee

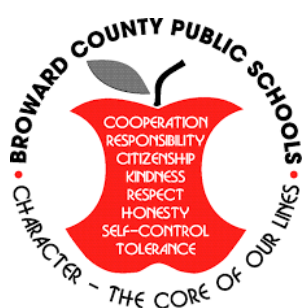


**For Iphone or Ipad**

1. View the website in Safari Web browser
2. On the bottom of the screen select the box with an arrow pointing up
3. Scroll down to "Add to Home Screen"
4. Hit "Add". You're ready to go!

**For an Android Device**

1. View the website in a Web browser
2. In the top right corner select the 3 dots
3. Select "Add to Home Screen"
4. Hit "Add". You're ready to go!



Cooperation is the character trait of the month of September. Cooperation is a willingness and ability to work with others to accomplish a common goal.

Learning how to cooperate will help with success in school, in relationship with friends and in life over all. It is essential to remember that cooperation is a basic life skill that assists us in working together so that collaboration and creativity will ultimately bring about success.

Here are some ideas to do as a family:

- Have your child share with you about times they worked with someone else to make or do something. Emphasize that working together requires compromise and listening to others' ideas.
- Share with your child about something you did that required cooperation. Explain how you worked together with others.
- Schedule household chores at a time when all members of the family can work together to finish them.
- "Catch" your child cooperating and offer your encouragement by verbally showing your appreciation.
- Watch a movie or TV program together and discuss how the characters cooperated with each other.
- Remember that the best teaching tool is to always model the behavior you want your child to learn.

September's monthly character trait is



COOPERATION



SEPTEMBER IS  
SUICIDE PREVENTION  
MONTH



September is Suicide Prevention Month. Now more than ever, we all need to work together to prevent more heartache and loss. 2020 has been especially hard on our students and children, but together, we will overcome today's challenges.

If you, your child, or someone you know or love, is depressed, despairing or hurting emotionally, help them get the help they need now.

Youth Suicide IS preventable. We all have a role to play in preventing it. Listen to what kids are saying, be aware of erratic behavior, uncharacteristic mood shifts, and make sure they know the resources available to them before they attempt or commit suicide. Let them know they can get help.

Call the BCPS Mental Health Hotline at:  
754-321-HELP (4357)

Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline  
at: 1-800-273-TALK

SEPTEMBER IS  
SUICIDE PREVENTION  
MONTH



**YOUTH SUICIDE IS PREVENTABLE**

**ASK.** Talk about suicide in a compassionate way.

**KEEP THEM SAFE.** Remove access to lethal options.

**LISTEN.** Be present and don't judge.

**STAY CONNECTED.** Create a support network.

**FOLLOW-UP.** Ongoing contact with professionals is key.

Broward County Public Schools can help students at risk of suicide.  
If you or a friend are depressed or despairing, please get help.

BCPS Mental Health Hotline at 754-321-HELP

First Call for Help: 2-1-1

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)



The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may contact the Director of the Equal Educational Opportunity/ADA Compliance Department & District Equity Coordinator/Title IX Coordinator at 754-321-2150 or TeleType Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158. Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendment Act of 2008 (ADA-AA), may contact the Equal Educational Opportunity/ADA Compliance Department at 754-321-2150 or TeleType Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158.  
[www.browardschools.com](http://www.browardschools.com)

# Hispanic Heritage Month

September 15-October 15



During National Hispanic Heritage Month we recognize the contributions made and the important presence of Hispanic and Latino Americans to the United States and celebrate their heritage and culture. The term Hispanic or Latino, refers to Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race.

During Hispanic Heritage Month we will journey across a variety of different countries every Tuesday from 3:00pm to 4:00pm via Microsoft Teams (you can find the link in Canvas). Students will travel to Central America, South America and the Caribbean! Join Ms. Nieves as she guides you to a tour like no other...



## HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH





Mrs. Sasha Behm

2020-2021 Teacher of the Year



Mrs. Patdrica Bailey

2020-2021 Employee of the Year

I do this job not for the money or for recognition, but for the students. I love them and I love them before I even meet them; that is why I do this job. They are the future.

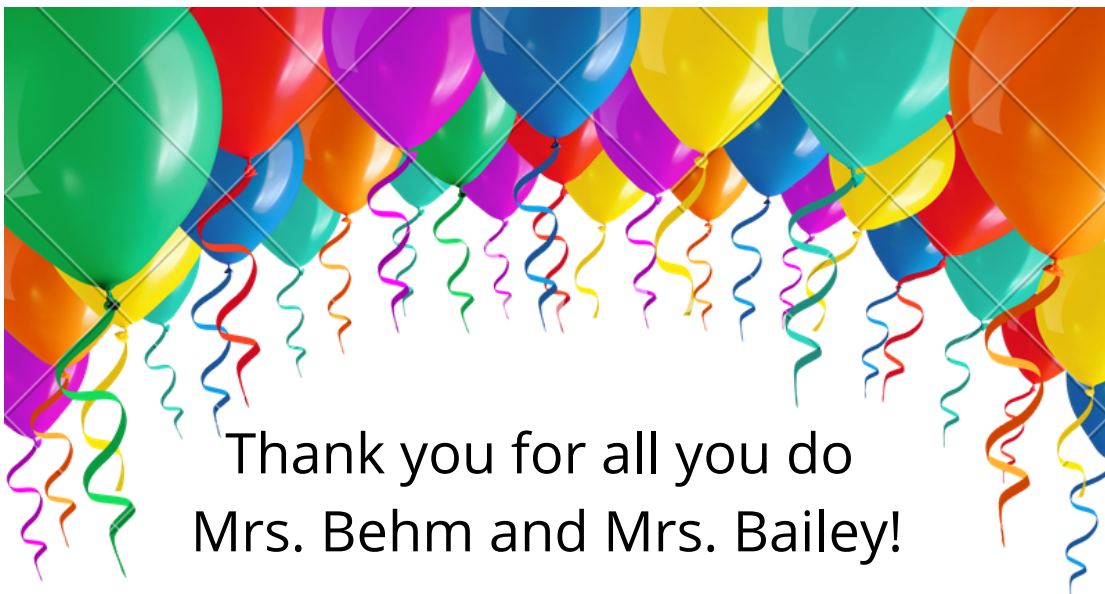
To be acknowledged and recognized by my fellow peers and to be nominated with people I admire and respect is truly humbling. To have been selected is an absolute honor. I am forever grateful and proudly represent the Mighty Hawks!

-Sasha Behm

It is my pleasure to represent McNicol as Employee of the Year and to be a member of an amazing family with so much talent and awesome staff.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

-Mrs. Patdrica Bailey



Thank you for all you do  
Mrs. Behm and Mrs. Bailey!



## We Are Game Changers!

We are McNicol : Game Changers in "The Game of Life".  
We're boarding our "Battleship", leaving behind any and all strife.

Our school is truly the best; similar to "Candy Land",  
There are many paths to take, all helping you learn as much as you can.

Education is no "Trivial Pursuit",  
It's the seeds we plant today that'll (one day) bear the most beautiful fruit.

So, if you should get distracted, concentrate as if you're playing "Jenga",  
Remember, YOU are the numero "Uno" Game Changer.

The effort you put into your education should be similar to "Chess",  
Be strategic, learn from your mistakes, and always try your best.

Your teachers are here for you when a lesson gives you "Trouble",  
Your administrators are very important pieces of the "Puzzle".

Years ago, 'E-learning' may have been "Taboo",  
But the game has changed, and "Bingo!", that Game Changer is YOU!



| B  | I  | N  | G  | O  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| 13 | 29 | 38 | 51 | ●  |
| 4  | 20 | 32 | ●  | 65 |
| 7  | 19 | ●  | 55 | 70 |
| 10 | ●  | 34 | 46 | 72 |