



Hawks Newsletter

September 2021

From the Principals Desk



Calendar of Events

- 9/20: Basketball interest meeting w/students (2:55 p.m.)**
- 9/20: Interims reports issued on Virtual Counselor**
- 9/21: Peace Day Activities**
- 9/20-9/30: Naviance with School Counselors**
- 9/22-9/23: 6th grade Health Screenings**
- 9/22: Donuts with Dads (7:30-8:15 a.m.)**
- 9/22: Soccer game vs. Gulfstream Academy (Boys ONLY)**
- 9/23: SAC meeting @ 6:00 p.m.**
- 9/29: Covid-19 Community Vaccinations (7:00 a.m.-4:30 pm.)**
- 10/14: Fire Drill/Code Red Drill**
- 10/19: Early release day @12:15 p.m.**
- 10/20: NO SCHOOL: Teacher Planning Day**
- 10/21: Covid-19 Community Vaccination Day #2**
- 10/21: 2nd QTR begins**
- 10/21: SAC Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.**

We are one month into our very successful return to 100% face-to-face instruction. Having to navigate these uncharted COVID-19 waters has been a challenge, but so far so good. In our continued effort to provide a safe environment, it is essential that you immediately inform the school if your child tests positive for the COVID-19 virus. This step is important for effective contact tracing, to limit the spread of the virus.

In addition to wearing the mask, students should comply with our HBO policy here at McNicol. Hands, Body, Objects, keep them to yourself. This policy was first implemented to minimize physical altercations, but it now plays a dual role to help to stop the spread. CDC Guidelines still require that we maintain social distancing.

On another note, thank you for your support with the various events over the first four-weeks. The students' orientation, open house and food distribution were all well attended. Almost 300 families benefited from the food distribution, which was a collaboration between McNicol Middle, Farm Share and Do You Have the Time Foundation. We look forward to continuing this effort to support our families that may be in need.

One of the many advantages of being a student at McNicol is receiving an iPad with 30 GB of data monthly. As soon as your child returns the forms that have been sent home for your completion, he/she will receive their iPad and charger. These are to be returned at the end of the school year.

We would like to revitalize our partnership with our parents via active participation in our PTSA, School Advisory Council (SAC), and School Advisory Forum (SAF). All three committees meet monthly for less than an hour. If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, please contact me at 754-323-3407.

- Your proud principal, Ms. Benka-Coker



SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Rachel Montrose, School Counselor - 8th Grade

Chandra W. Lee, School Counseling Director - 7th Grade

Julia Gannon, School Counselor - 6th Grade

We Are Here For YOU

Direct student service

- **Instruction** - We teach the school counseling curriculum on Social and Emotional Learning.
- **Appraisal and Advisement** - We assess student abilities, interests and achievement to help them make decisions about their future.
- **Counseling** - We provide professional assistance and support to students in times of transition, heightened stress, critical change or other situations impeding student success.

Indirect student service

- **Consultation** - We share strategies supporting student achievement with parents, teachers, other educators and community organizations.
- **Collaboration** - We work with other educators, parents and the community to support student achievement
- **Referrals** - We provide support for students and families with school or community resources for additional assistance and information.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

6th-Grade Health Screenings -
September 22 - 23, 2021

6th - 8th Grade Naviance
(College and Career Readiness)
September 20 - 30, 2021





CRISIS HELP – TEXT 211

- Are you in an emotionally abusive or physically dangerous relationship?
- Do you just need help finding a therapist or support group?
- Are you struggling with bullying, sexual assault, alcohol abuse or suicidal thoughts?

SEPTEMBER IS
**NATIONAL SUICIDE
PREVENTION
MONTH**

If you or someone you know are in an emergency or need assistance locating mental health resources call **800-273-TALK.**

#SayILoveYou





Proud to be a Title I School



School Advisory Council – SAC
Parent, Teacher, Student Association – PTSA
School Advisory Forum – SAF
A Title 1 Parent and School Community Event

This month we need parent input on our 2020-21 School Improvement Plan and Title 1 Addendum

September 23, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

SAC PTSA SAF

Your Voice Matters!

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)

THURSDAY, SEPT. 23 @ 6:00PM IN THE MEDIA CENTER

THE SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC) IS A GOVERNING BODY MADE UP OF PARENTS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, TEACHERS, STAFF MEMBERS, AND STUDENTS. THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL IS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN. THROUGH MONTHLY SAC MEETINGS, THE SAC MEMBERS MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SIP) AND DISCUSS OTHER IMPORTANT TOPICS RELEVANT TO SCHOOL BUDGET, SCHOOL NEEDS, AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.



Join School Board Member Ann Murray for **Dads Take Your Child to School Day** Wednesday, September 22, 2021

ATTENTION DISTRICT 1 FATHERS AND FATHER FIGURES

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) is proud to celebrate "Dads Take Your Child to School Day" on **Wednesday, September 22, 2021**.

Presented by the Florida Department of Education, this initiative highlights the crucial role fathers and father figures play in their child's educational experience. Research has proved the significant impact fathers and male role models have on a child's core learning habits and future success.

On **Wednesday, September 22, 2021**, District 1 schools will welcome fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, foster fathers, and other male role models as they bring their children to school.

Please join School Board Member Ann Murray to celebrate District 1's terrific dads and father figures. Contact your student's school for more information or visit their website.

#BCPSDadsMatter





Always Remember

THE 4 BS



- Use a respectful tone of voice
- Respect the ideas, beliefs and opinions of others
- Never make excuses for your behavior



- Set goals
- Plan your time wisely
- Prepare nightly for the next day



- Know and follow the school's safety policies
- Practice healthy habits
- If you see something, say something



- Pay attention in class and take notes
- Get all assignments done in a timely manner
- Ask for help when needed

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

MATH IS PICKING UP THE SPEED!



This month Math will be taking the iReady Math Diagnostic from 9/13 to 9/15.

We cannot wait to collect more information about our students in order to make instructional decisions.



This month we will also be receiving trainings in our PLCs that will enhance the teacher's instruction to better meet the needs of our students.

ELA DEPARTMENT

READING DEPARTMENT

LANGUAGE ARTS FOCUS

6th-What are the ways you can make yourself heard?

7th-What can blur the lines between what's real and what's not?

8th-Does technology improve or control our lives?

Each grade level has an essential question to guide their learning for each unit.



We are excited...

to roll out a reading program that accelerate students to read at grade level.

Bridge the gap to mastery with blended learning.

READ 180 gives everyone in the classroom the unique tools they need to thrive anytime, anywhere.

Students and teachers can customize the learning experience using flexible rotation model that combines traditional and online instruction.





CURRICULUM & ASSESSMENT

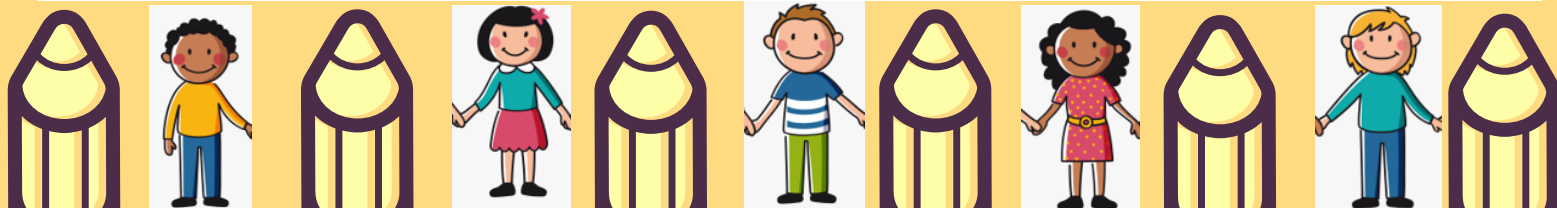
Learning Strategies- There are two learning strategies classes at McNicol taught by Ms. Lewis and Ms. Mullings. This class is designed for ESE students that need extra support and new strategies to utilize in their classes. The class focuses on reading and math to close the gap for the students. In addition to closing the gap, students also have one on one support for missing assignments to catch up.

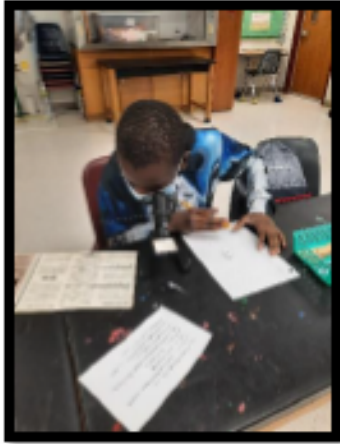
SVE- We have two SVE classes that provide intensive support to a smaller class of students. These students are not on regular standards, but what we call access points! Ms. Leitner and Ms. Bernadette do an incredible job giving those students the instruction and support they need.

Slime Fridays!



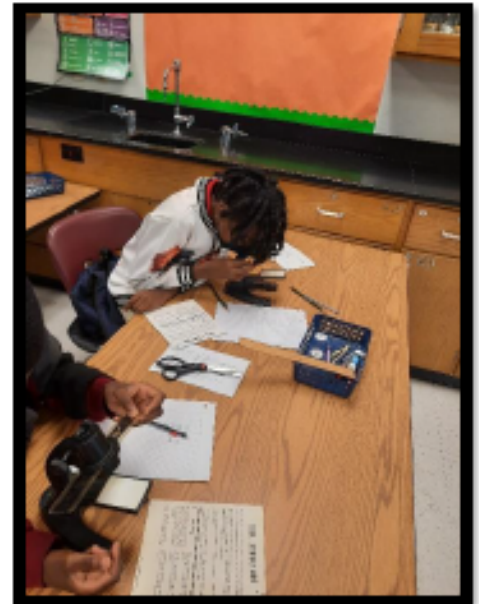
Ms. Leitner and her SVE class participate in a fun activity called Slime Fridays! The students create their own slime and decorate it with their peers! Come hang out with Ms. Leitner and her class on Fridays to check it out!





CELLS ARE AWESOME UNDER A MICROSCOPE!

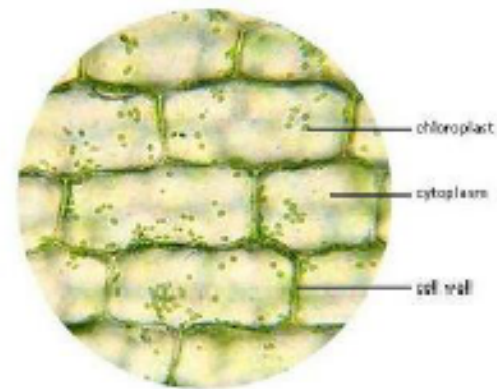
7th Grade Science
Ms. Ruddy's Class



Seventh grade life science students are analyzing different types of cells, and they are using scientific instruments as well as some fun similes to do it! They are using their creativity to describe each type of cell and to compare them with one another.

As one student peered into the microscope, they described a sample of onion skin cells as “looking like a brick wall.” Another student said, “the neuron (brain cell) looks like a tree branch.”

They will soon be learning about the different organelles that make up the cells and carry out all their important life functions.



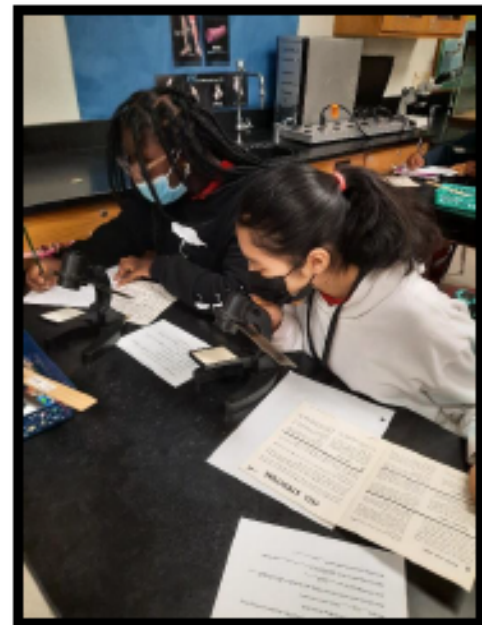
What Can Compare & Contrast Do for Students?

Strengthen Students' Memories

Develop Higher-Order Thinking Skills

Increase Student Comprehension

Enhance Students' Writing in the Content Areas





2021-2022 Boys & Girls Soccer Schedule



An “ * ” denotes boys play first

Date	Opponent	Time	Location
*Wednesday 9/8	Attucks Middle	4:15pm	Attucks Middle
*Friday 9/10	Olsen Middle	4:00pm	Hollywood Hills High
*Tuesday 9/14	Beachside Montessori	4:00pm	Boggs Field
*Friday 9/17	Avant Garde	3:30pm	Dowdy Field
Tuesday 9/21	Hollywood Academy	3:30pm	Driftwood Community Center

GO HAWKS!



HAWK SPORTS

MCNICOL MIDDLE SCHOOL
INVITES YOU TO THE

MIGHTY HAWKS

**CHEER
TRYOUTS**

APPLICATIONS DUE BY SEPTEMBER 3, 2021

TRYOUTS - SEPTEMBER 14 - 16, 2021, 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM
ROOM 1026

**ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE TRANSPORTATION ACCESSIBLE
IMMEDIATELY AFTER TRYOUTS*

GET READY TO BRING
THE

HEAT



**BASKETBALL SEASON
STARTS IN OCTOBER!**

HAWK CLUBS

BIBLE STORIES | GAMES | SNACKS | MUSIC | LESSONS | FUN

**UNLOCK
YOUR
FAITH!**

**FIRST
PRIORITY CLUB**

THURSDAYS, 2:30 TO 3:30 PM

ROOM 102 G

**MUST HAVE TRANSPORTATION IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING THE END OF THE MEETING**

Are you interested on
becoming a future
teacher and/or leader?



JOIN OUR CLUB

FFEA

BUILDING THE FUTURE: ONE MIND AT A TIME

Florida Future Educators of America provides a forum for students to become aware of career opportunities in education and nurtures their interest in teaching as a career.

Look out for 1st meetings date in
October!

Stop by MS. Perdomo's room 135b
for more info!

MCNICOL MAGNET MINUTE

A GLIMPSE INTO OUR GREATNESS



2021-2022

PEACE
POSTER
CONTEST

MRS. KLEINMAN & MRS. FERRERIA

WISHES4PEACE: IMAGINE PEACE WISH TREE PROJECT

Goal: To think about and reflect on peace.

PINWHEELS4PEACE

Goal: Create a visual public statement about peace.

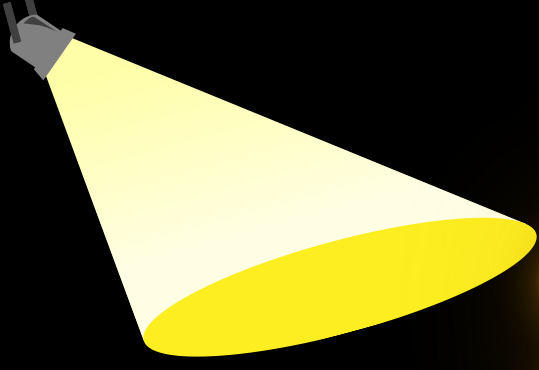
CHALK4PEACE

Goal: Create a pro-peace presentation to express messages of peace.

Other Suggested Activities

- A Minute of Silence for a Moment of Peace.....14
- Silent Peace Walk.....15-16
- Human Peace Sign.....17
- TicTacToe4PEACE.....18-19
- Activism4PEACE.....20
- KindnessCards4PEACE.....21-22
- Peace Poem.....23-24
- Peace Pledge.....25-26
- Peace Day Word Search.....27

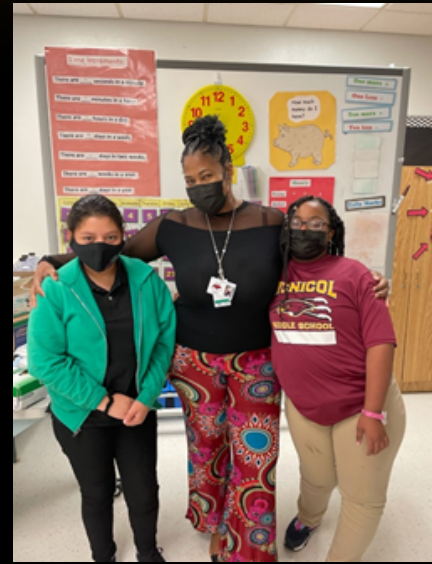




TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Ms. Bernadette is in the spotlight this month! She has taken over the second SVE classroom and is doing a fantastic job!

Ms. Bernadette is caring, always in a positive mood, and a team player. We are so lucky to have her on our team working with our brilliant students.



Ms. Hope, is the newest addition to our McNicol Hawk family.

She is a proud educator and excited to be a part of HAWK land. Ms. Hope received her M.Ed from Jones International University in Curriculum Instruction and Assessment and is certified to teach K-6 in academics. She has a true passion for working with children and helping them develop.



On a personal note, Ms. Hope is the mother of two amazing children who are 30 and 23 years old. She loves to read, sing, walk and spend time with her family.

ATTENTION: MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Human Rights Video PSA Contest



**CREATE A HUMAN RIGHTS PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT
(PSA) TO INCREASE AWARENESS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS**

"All Humans Have Rights"

CONTEST IS OPEN TO ALL BROWARD COUNTY
PUBLIC MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND CONTEST RULES:
www.humanrightsflorida.com/psa-contest/

**Winning submissions
receive up to \$1,000!**

**ALL ENTRIES ARE DUE BY MIDNIGHT ON
OCTOBER 29, 2021.**

COOPERATION

Dear Parent:

Cooperation is the character trait of the month of September. This newsletter offers you activities and ideas, which will assist you with helping your child to understand the importance of cooperation. 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.

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.
- Initiate a family project or activity that all family members can have a role.
- Select a hobby that interests the family and invite all family members to work together.
- Watch a movie or TV program together and discuss how the characters cooperated with each other.
- Volunteer as a family to do a community service project together.
- Remember that the best teaching tool is to always model the behavior you want your child to learn.



Character Education: Middle

September



Diversity, Prevention & Intervention
Lauderdale Manors Early Learning &
Resource Center
1400 NW 14th Court
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311
(754) 321-1655
Fax: (754) 321-1691

www.browardprevention.org

Email:

Kimberly.Young@browardschools.com

Character Check

- What do you have to do so that you listen carefully to others?
- Can you name a time that you compromised during conflict?
- How can you encourage your child to do the very best?
- Ask yourself; is my child able to get along with others? How can I help him/her approve?
- Observe or ask the teacher whether your child participates well in-group activities.



Broward County Public Schools Celebrates

H I S P A N I C

H E R I T A G E M O N T H

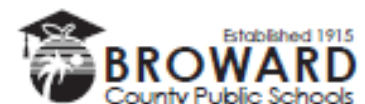
September 15th- October 15th



Florida Statute 1003.42 requires that the history and contributions of Hispanic Americans be included in K-12 instruction.

Resources/Activities

- **Hispanic Heritage Resolution**
browardschools.com/cms/lib/FL01803656/Centricity/Domain/13475/Hispanic%20Heritage%20Month%20Resolution.pdf
- **Elementary Resources:** bit.ly/2F5eOvs
- **Secondary Resources:** bit.ly/31YzvCf



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Donna P. Korn • Sarah Leonardi • Ann Murray • Nora Rupert • Dr. Vickie L. Cartwright, Interim Superintendent of Schools

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Covid-19 Stay Home Orders

Parents are required to report the reason that their child is not physically present in school. When a student is not physically present in school due to "stay home" orders (quarantine) related to COVID-19, the student will be counted in attendance when they are in quarantine or are asymptomatic and have access to assignments, curriculum, and instructional personnel.

Parents must communicate the "stay home" order using the same methods for reporting an absence. The District offers three options for communication at all of our public schools.

- 1. Online Absence Reporting Form (got to McNicol website, hover over Contact, select Report An Absence); or**
- 2. Attendance Hotline (754-323-3402) to leave a voice message; or**
- 3. A written note delivered to the Attendance Manager per McNicol's protocol.**