

THE QUEST EXPLORER



The Quest Center

Michelle Laurent, Principal
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Hollywood, Florida 33024

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

A Day of Love and Service

On Monday, February 14, 2022, Broward County Public Schools, and communities across Broward County will host **A Day of Service and Love** in observance of the commemoration of the 17 lives lost and those injured as a result of the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) High School on February 14, 2018.

A Day of Service and Love provides an opportunity for students, employees, and volunteers to come together to support each other through a variety of community service activities at our schools and across the county.

This year, we will be reconnecting with nature by beautifying our school. Our students will feel humbled at being important contributors to our community as they are surrounded by positive acts by others. Developing strong social-emotional skills in our youth is as important as the academic education they receive. We remind ourselves that as adults, we must exemplify what we want to see in our children.

This year's commemoration will focus on the theme 'Reconnect'. As we continue to recover from the MSD tragedy, the COVID-19 Pandemic, and other traumatic events, it is important that we make time to develop positive and rewarding relationships with our peers, community, nature, and ourselves.

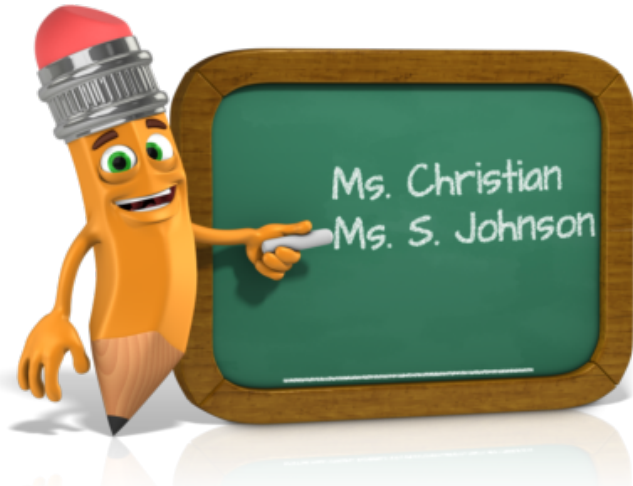
IMPORTANT DATES:

- January 10th * Early Release
- January 11th * No School
- January 17th * No School * MLK Day
- January 25th * SAC Meeting
- February 8th * SAC Meeting
- February 14th * Early Release Day
- February 21st * No School * Presidents Day



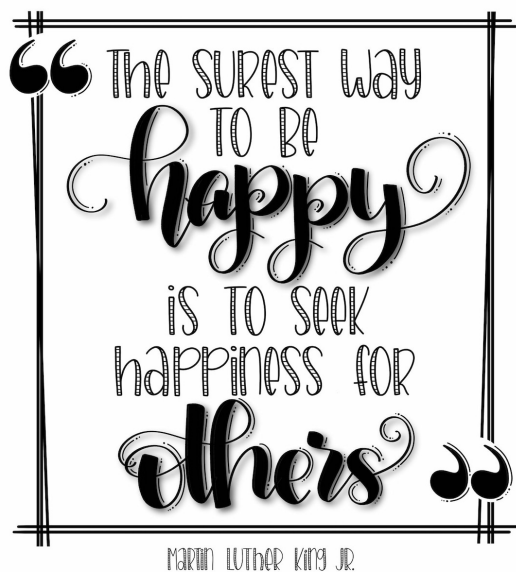
THE ELEMENTARY TEAM

THE SECONDARY TEAM



Welcome to 2022!! The Elementary Team will continue to work on English/Language Arts Standards on Access Points with our students. In the area of math, they will learn continue to build flexibility using whole numbers, fractions, and decimals to understand the nature of number and number systems with assistance a. In the area of Science, our students are learning to engage in simple hands-on experiments, and in social studies, will we learn about Presidents, and African Americans who made a positive impact to the word.

The Secondary Department has been learning through play, reinforcing their math and social skills through board and interactive games using the Promethean board/computer. This is a creative way to make learning fun for our students.





THE INCLUSION TEAM

The Incredible Inclusion team continues to work collaboratively to ensure our students receive high-quality instruction in the area of reading, math, social studies, and science. The teacher and Educational Support Professionals are hard at work preparing each student for the upcoming Florida Standards Alternate Assessment Test. We are also having a blast on our weekly Community Based Instruction outings working on social skills. Our students are having a blast learning and growing.



THE TRANSITION TEAM



The Transition Team would like to wish everyone a Happy and Safe New Year. This quarter the Transition Team is going to focus on Adult Living Arrangements, Decision Making and Problem-Solving Skills, and Self Determination and Self Advocacy.

Our Transition classroom students are continuing to learn job skills by working off-campus in the community. Students receive hands-on, real-world, job experience from job sites around the community.

Our students also receive daily living, domestic, and vocational skills in the Transition Lab and classroom setting. The transition classes are designed to help students prepare for the transition from school to adult life and reach positive post-school outcomes. We look forward to a wonderful and exiting quarter



SUPPORT STAFF NEWS

THE AUTISM CORNER

Leigh Townley, Autism Coach



We had an AWESOME 2nd Quarter here at The Quest Center!

As we move into the 3rd Quarter, we continue to use strategies in our classrooms that help our students with Autism engage in fun, purposeful activities. We use hands-on objects and visuals to support instruction while ingratiating sensory and social components that will allow students to build capacity and engage in meaningful content.

Parents – be aware that our Florida Standards Alternate Assessment (FSAA) testing period is coming up in March and April 2022. For more information, please visit <https://fsaa.fsassessments.org/families.html>

FYI

Jewish Adoption and Family Care Options (JAFCO) - <https://www.jafco.org/>

UM.NSU.CARD - <https://www.card.miami.edu/>



SUPPORT FACILITATION SPOTLIGHT

Patricia Kujack, Resource Teacher

Hello Quest Families,

The resource room has been running smoothly. With the FSAA approaching, students have received intensive reading and math instruction. In addition, they have the opportunity to practice their IEP goals. I am happy to see how our students blossom when given the opportunity and the resources they need.

"Special Education doesn't mean that a student is incapable of learning. It means that they need different supports to succeed." Pramod Kunar Sida



BEHAVIOR BITES

De Anna Nieves, Behavior Specialist

To understand and respond effectively to problematic behavior, you have to think about what came before it, as well as what comes after it. There are three important aspects to any given behavior:

- **Antecedents:** Preceding factors that make a behavior more or less likely to occur. Another, more familiar term for this is **triggers**. Learning and anticipating antecedents is an extremely helpful tool in preventing misbehavior.
- **Behaviors:** The specific actions you are trying to encourage or discourage
- **Consequences:** The results that naturally or logically follow a behavior. Consequences — positive or negative — affect the likelihood of a behavior recurring. And the more immediate the consequence, the more powerful it is. *Excerpt from <https://childmind.org>



KIA MOORE, ESE SPECIALIST

The Explorer Excel Station is an Extended Learning Opportunity that provides remediation of skills and preparation for the Florida Standards Alternate Assessment (FSAA). Students are provided intensive

instruction in a small group setting for Math, Science, and English Language Arts (ELA). Our teachers utilize specialized curriculum materials, and technology to keep our students engaged. The Explorer Excel Station is held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 8:15 am. If you would like to join the learning fun...Please contact Ms. Kia Moore.



THE CURRICULUM CORNER

Serena Bravo, Curriculum Specialist

Adaptations in the classroom can help students with special needs achieve success. These adaptations can include strategies, scheduling changes, individualized instruction, and delivery methods. Below are some examples:

- Have students select which activity they would like to complete first
- Provide graphic organizers or key information
- Provide shorter, more frequent tasks or assignments
- Use magazine cut-outs as materials for activities
- Use large print
- Highlight key points together
- Use different types of paper (i.e. raised line paper)
- Color-code information
- Put less information on a page
- Use high-contrast color

Excerpt from "Adapting Curriculum for Students with Special Needs Series" from the National Association of Special Education Teachers

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)

The School Advisory Council is a group composed of the school principal, teachers, parents, community members, business partners, and other staff members. The committee reviews overall school operations and monitors student achievement. Each year the SAC team generates several school-wide objectives for the following year. These objectives are the cornerstone of our school improvement plan. The school improvement plan outlines our objectives along with the actions being implemented throughout the school aimed at assisting us in attaining our goals.. These meetings are open to the public and we welcome and invite all to participate. If you are interested in participating in our SAC meetings, please contact De Anna Nieves, SAC Chair deanna.nieves@browardschools.com to join.

NOTIFICATION OF PARENTS RIGHT TO KNOW OUT OF FIELD NOTICE

October 6, 2021

Dear Parents,

Our professional teachers are continuously upgrading their teaching skills and developing increased levels of content expertise. We particularly recognize (1) teachers at The Quest Center who are expanding their knowledge beyond their current certification by pursuing college coursework or training sessions to become certified/endorsed in another subject(s). While doing this, they are teaching those subjects to students and have been School Board approved to teach out-of-field. To remain in this assignment next school year, these teachers will complete required training within 12 months of the appointment or if teaching the primary English/Reading class to identified limited English proficient students per the Multicultural Education Training Advocacy (META) timeline.

These teachers are:

| Name | Current Certification | Out-of-Field For |
|-------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Octavia Christian | Exceptional Student Education K-12 | Elementary Education |
| Kelandre Gordon | Exceptional Student Education K-12 Autism Spectrum | Elementary Education |
| Sherena Johnson | ESOL Endorsement Pre K -Primary Age 3 Gr 3 | Elementary Education |
| Nitsu Louis | Business Education 6-12 | Exceptional Student Education K-12 |