



3205 N. University Drive, Coral Springs, FL 33065

PANTHER POST

SEPTEMBER 2011

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year! We really have had an incredible opening to this school year. I feel blessed to be a part of a wonderful group of individuals whose main focus is educating our children. I am excited that our faculty, staff and students are energized as they prepare to challenge each other every day. During the first week of school, we were able to recognize last year's accomplishments in our grade-level assemblies. These assemblies provided us the opportunity to reward over 1000 students for their FCAT and AP performance. It is important to know that our monies for this program come from the Principal's Discretionary Account and we are pleased to be able to reward our students for their accomplishments.

We are also excited that our extra-curricular activities have begun. I encourage you to have your children become involved in an activity or service club. We want to maintain a culture that will develop well-rounded students who are able to work as a team and value community service.

Academically, we are continually seeking innovative methods to ensure your child's success. Within the next couple of weeks, our students will take their first Benchmark Assessment. These assessments are extremely important because they help school staff identify any gaps in learning that our students may have. The results from this will then allow us to create a daily Instructional Focus to begin closing these gaps. Ultimately, we expect this to lead our students to perform at an optimum level on any standardized test, including the FCAT. As many of you already know, our ultimate goal is to have all our students achieve mastery of the Sunshine State Standards.

As for our students, I am expecting 100% accountability when it comes to making every effort to perform at high standards in the classroom. This includes completing assignments, studying and maintaining good attendance. Should your child need any assistance, our teachers offer extra help on a regular basis, and our Panther Excel Program will begin later in the fall for students who need additional help or rigor to ensure mastery of the Sunshine State Standards.

Please also make plans to attend our Open House on Tuesday, September 13th from 5-7 PM. The format will remain the same as last year. Parents are invited to come at any time during the scheduled 5-7 PM time period to meet the teachers. For our new 6th grade parents, the Open House is a time to simply meet your child's teachers and to put "a face to the name"; it is not a time for extended conversation with the teachers. The teachers will have handouts regarding their classes and a sheet for parents to sign for a conference, if needed. Finally, please also consider staying for the PTSO meeting in the cafeteria immediately following the Open House!

I look forward to another incredible year!

Go Panthers!

Gary Springer

IMPORTANT DATES – SEPTEMBER

September 5	Holiday – No School
September 9	Blood Drive, Library Parking Lot
September 10	Jr. Class Carwash
September 12	Middle School Picture Day
September 13	Open House – 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
September 13	PTSO meeting – 7:00 p.m., Cafeteria
September 19	High School Picture Day
September 19	SAC meeting, 6:00 p.m., Cafeteria
September 22	Early Release Day
September 23	Interim Reports Issued

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

MS Attendance line	954-340-4128	MS Dean of Discipline	954-340-4118
HS Attendance line	954-340-4129	HS Dean of Discipline	954-340-4125
Guidance Office	954-340-4134	Nurse/Clinic	954-340-4107
ESE Department	954-340-4139	School Store	954-340-4123
Athletic Department	954-340-4106	Registrar	954-340-4108
Main phone line	954-340-4100	Student Activities Director	954-340-4120

OPEN HOUSE

Open House for both High School and Middle School is planned for **Tuesday, September 13th from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.** Parents may come at any time during these two hours as there is no formal presentation. **Please bring your child's schedule with you so you can locate his/her teachers.** The Guidance Team will be there to assist if needed. This is an opportunity for you to meet your child's teachers. It is not the time for individual conferences. Please make an appointment to discuss your child's progress. Be sure to have your parent volunteer form signed in order to receive volunteer hours for attending.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Parent volunteers are needed to assist with both middle and high school picture days. For more information or to sign up to volunteer, please contact Trudy Foley at 954-340-4142 or tfoley@coralspringscharter.org

BLOOD DRIVE

CSCS will be sponsoring our annual fall blood drive on September 9th at 7:30 AM in the library parking lot. All parents will receive two service hours for donating blood. Please see Mrs. Hocker or Mrs. Wildroutt with any questions or email at dhocker@coralspringscharter.org or cwildroutt@coralspringscharter.org. Help Save Lives and Raise Money for Scholarships!

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Parents, please Do Not drop off or pick up in the student parking lots or use Sample Road, University Drive or NW 90 Ave. as a pick up or drop off, or you will be subject to a traffic citation from the Coral Springs Police Department. Also, when dropping off or picking up at the loops, please pull your vehicle up all the way, and have your children get their belongings as quickly as possible, so the line is not held up. Thank you for your cooperation.

KINETIC LEARNING ACADEMY

Please join us on September 19th from 4pm-6pm for Kinetic Learning Academy's (KLA) Open House and our Grand Opening on September 20th. Kinetic Learning Academy will usher in a revolution in teaching and learning techniques. Using the Minds n Motion method that combines exercise, learning and high tech, multi-media supported curriculum, KLA will offer math and reading intensives, FCAT and SAT classes for grades 4-12. Individualized tutoring is also available. For more information, please visit www.kineticlearningacademy.com or call Mr. Higgins at 954-340-4106. Special discounts available for CSCS students.



YEARBOOK INFO

Surprise your senior with a tribute in the 2011-2012 high school yearbook! It's the only chance for your senior to have a memorable page dedicated just for them. Order forms can be picked up by the panther in the lobby.

Are you looking for new ways to get your business out in the open and noticed? Buying advertisement space in the 2011-2012 Coral Springs Charter High School Yearbook could do just the trick! Forms for more information can be found in the lobby by the panther.

Order your 2011-2012 high school yearbook today! The price will start at \$60 during the month of September, but will continue to rise as the year proceeds. If you buy the yearbook during the first two weeks of September ONLY you will get a free iTag, an adhesive name plate or icon. Don't miss out! Order forms are available in the lobby next to the panther. Email tmoore@coralspringschater.org for more information.

OFFICE DEPOT 5% BACK TO SCHOOLS

Remember to shop for your school supplies at Office Depot and provide them with our school ID number. CSCS will receive credits equal to 5% of the qualifying purchases for use for free supplies. **CSCS ID# 70021362**. If you forget to bring the number, please mention the name of our school and they will credit us.



PANTHER EXCEL PROGRAM

Coral Springs Charter will continue to provide students with the opportunity to enroll in the Panther Excel Program, formerly known as EDP (Extended Day Program). The program has been revamped this year and its basis is to focus on skill building in reading, math, writing (grades 8 and 10) and science (grade 8 only). The goal is to better prepare students in the Sunshine State Standards (SSS) and help them to feel confident when taking the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) this year. The program will run from September through December for the first session and January through April for the second session. Classes will be on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays only from 2:45-3:45pm directly after school. For more information on how to register and the cost of the program or any other questions, please call Mrs. Trudy Foley, Administrative Assistant, at 954-340-4142.

BAND NEWS

The band is off to a great start this year! Our marching band has been working very hard all summer, and their first performance is at our CSCS Panther football game on September 2 at Coral Glades HS. Their halftime show is "Arabian Adventures," featuring exciting music from composers Saint-Saens, Rimsky-Korsokov, and Khachaturian .

We are also proud to announce an increase of enrollment in band classes of over 30% from last year, due largely to our biggest beginning band we've had in five years.

Our first fundraiser is the Enjoy the City coupon books -- see Ms. Dinino or a band student to get this great book, which includes a free oil change. This is our September fundraiser.

If you would like to volunteer or donate to the band, please contact Mrs. Krzyk or Mrs. Santiago (ruthkrzyk@att.net, jls220527@aol.com), our band booster vice-president and president. We are in need of donations to help purchase instruments and to help fund our field trip to Universal Studios, where the marching band will be performing in the "Macy's Holiday Parade" for the second consecutive year. All donations can go towards your volunteer hour requirement for the school!

Our first band concert will be on October 26. More details coming soon.



GUIDANCE CORNER

HIGH SCHOOL PARENT UNIVERSITY-SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22ND, 8:30 AM – 12 NOON

The Guidance Department and our Coral Springs PTSO will be presenting and coordinating many parent/student programs for this school year. Mark your calendars to attend the Coral Springs Charter High School Parent University on Saturday, October 22nd. This event will have concurrent sessions on relevant high school issues such as graduation requirements (they are changing for different grade levels), college admissions, scholarships and financial aid, parenting your high school student, our Cambridge program for 9th graders, Bright Futures changes and much more. To reserve your attendance for Parent University you must pre-register. Call the guidance office (Mrs. Monti) at 954-341-4134 and RSVP for this once a year event. Information on the different sessions will be discussed when you RSVP your attendance. Parents will receive 5 service hours for attending all sessions.

SENIOR PARENT NIGHT-OCTOBER 11th

Immediately following the general PTSO meeting, all 12th grade parents are invited to attend Senior Parent Night. 12th grade parents will hear information that is pertinent for graduating seniors. Please plan to attend this event for you-parents of seniors. Additional service hours will be given for attending.

NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR-WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 2011

The Greater Fort Lauderdale National College Fair will be held on Wednesday, October 19th from 5-8:30 PM at the Broward County Convention Center. Hundreds of colleges and universities will be present to answer questions about their respective schools.

All students should register in three easy steps:

- 1-Register at www.gotomyncf.com prior to attending the fair. Students will be asked a few short questions about their graduation information, home addresses and interest in majors
- 2-After completing the online registration, students should print their barcode identification page and bring it with them to the fair.
- 3-At the fair, colleges will scan the students' barcodes to access their information, allowing for more time for conversation.

SAT/ACT REGISTRATION

Websites for Registration for the tests are:

www.act.org for the ACT

www.collegeboard.com for the SAT

All students should plan on taking both the SAT and ACT before high school graduation. These tests are important for college admissions and scholarships. A reminder that students on free or reduced lunch may obtain a fee waiver in guidance when registering for either the SAT or ACT.

PSAT

Coral Springs Charter School will be administering the PSAT to all 10th graders on Wednesday, October 12th, 2011. 9th or 11th graders who would like to take the PSAT can sign up with the Guidance Department beginning on September 21st through October 7th. Guidance will not be able to accept registrations after October 7th. There is no fee for 10th graders taking the PSAT. The PSAT fee for any 9th or 11th graders is \$13.00 (cash or checks made payable to Coral Springs Charter School). 11th Grade students who participate in the PSAT may qualify for the National Merit Scholarship program. Students are permitted to use a scientific, graphing or four-function calculator on the Mathematics section of the PSAT. While participating in the PSAT, your child will have a chance to register to receive college information. Your child must check "yes" on the Student Search Service in order to have college information sent. For more information on the PSAT you may log onto www.collegeboard.com and click on PSAT.

FCAT RE-TAKES

FCAT Re-takes will be held the week of October 10th. Re-takes are for those students who have not yet passed the Reading and/or Mathematics FCAT. Please make sure your student is present the first day of FCAT re-takes. If you have any questions, please contact the guidance department.

B.R.A.C.E. NEWS

Broward Advising for Continuing Education

Welcome back students and parents! I hope that everyone had a wonderful summer! For our new students and families, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Caroline Smolka. I am the BRACE advisor for Coral Springs Charter School. I am here to assist you and your children on their road to college. If you have any questions regarding scholarships, college admissions requirements, financial aid or the general college process please feel free to contact me via email at csmolka@coralspringscharter.org or by phone at 954-340-4114.

My office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Fridays from 7:15am-3:15pm. If you would like to set up an appointment, please contact me via email or by phone.

Senior Email List: Parents if wish to receive pertinent senior information, please contact me so I can add you to the senior email distribution list. **I can be reached at csmolka@coralspringscharter.org.**

SENIORS!!! The next SAT will be held on October 1st, 2011. Please log onto www.collegeboard.com to register. The last day to register is September 19th, 2011. The next ACT will be held on October 22nd, 2011. Please log onto to www.act.org to register. The last day to register is September 16th, 2011.

Please keep in mind the first university admissions deadlines are around the corner. To find out more about a universities admissions deadline, please log onto the individual schools web page.

The **PSAT** is scheduled for October 12th, 2011. All 10th grade students will be taking the PSAT at no cost. Any 9th or 11th grade student that would like to take the PSAT will be able to sign up with the Guidance Department at the end of September. There will be a nominal fee for all 9th and 11th graders.

PTSO NEWS

PARENT VOLUNTEER FORMS

Parent Volunteer Forms were in your first day packets. If you did not receive a form you may pick one up in the front office or at the school store. Don't forget you are required to do 20 hours per school year if you have one child in the school and 30 hours per school year for two or more children. Unfortunately we lost students due to their parents not fulfilling their obligation of completing parent volunteer hours. Please do not let this happen to your child. Your Parent Volunteer Forms will be due no later than May 11, 2012. If you don't have the time to volunteer, you may make a one-time donation of \$125.00 for 20 hours and \$200.00 for 30 hours. If you would rather purchase items at different times during the year, it is \$10.00 per hour.

A BIG THANK YOU to all of the parents and students who helped this past summer and the first week of school. I cannot tell you how invaluable your help has been with getting ready for the new school year. Congratulations to the parents who have completed their volunteer hours and again thank you for volunteering beyond your required hours.

Our first PTSO meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. You may receive up to 9 hours of volunteer time this evening. Here is the break down. 2 hours for attending Open House, 1 hour for attending PTSO meeting, 2 hours for joining PTSO, 2 hours for participating in the Fall Fundraiser by purchasing at least one item and 2 hours for purchasing tickets to the Fashion Luncheon Show. So don't forget to bring your checkbook. It can't get any easier than that to get volunteer hours.

VOLUNTEER OPORTUNITIES

***Volunteers are needed for the cafeteria every day from 12:15 – 1:45. Please contact Trudy Foley, PTSO Volunteer Coordinator, at tfoley@coralspringscharter.org

***Volunteers are needed for the copy room. Please contact Sandra O'Connor at sokrafty@bellsouth.net

***Picture Day – September 12 and September 19. Contact Trudy Foley at tfoley@coralspringscharter.org

***Help School Nurse contact Eve Willoughby at ewilloughby@coralspringscharter.org

***Join PTSO for \$10 and receive 2 parent volunteer hours. Contact Michele Billisi if you would like a form emailed to you. ptso@coralspringscharter.org

***Participate in the Fall Fundraiser from September 13 – 25. Even if you purchase one item you will receive 2 parent volunteer hours.

***Sponsorship for fashion show – Get a sponsor for the 6th Annual Fashion Show and receive 10 hours

*** Donations are needed for the fashion show such as gas gift cards, Publix gift cards, Restaurant gift cards, Walmart, Target, Macy's, JC Penny's, Kohls, Best Buy etc. Movie tickets, sporting event tickets, jewelry, small electronics, BBQ and supplies, beach supplies and dorm room supplies.

FASHION SHOW – NOVEMBER 6, 2011

Mark your calendar for Our 6th Annual Fashion Luncheon Show sponsored by Macy's and Aeropostale, November 6, 2011. All proceeds will benefit Technology. Tickets are \$40.00 each and the event will be held at the Marriott at Heron Bay in Coral Springs. Tickets will go on sale starting September 13 at the PTSO meeting. You will also be able to pick up tickets at the school store during the store hours. So come out and see your teachers, administrators and students walk the catwalk.

SCHOOL STORE

Monday-Friday 7:15 – 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Return Policy – All tags must be on pants, shorts and skirts. Shirts cannot be worn or washed.

NURSE'S NOTES

Welcome to all our new families and welcome back to our returning families. My name is Eve Willoughby and I am the school nurse here at Coral Springs Charter. My office hours are weekdays 9am to 2pm daily. The clinic is always open during school hours and if I am not here a volunteer or office staff is here to assist students. I will outline our clinic procedures in this newsletter and if you have any questions or concerns, you will find my contact information at the end.

You were asked to fill out an emergency contact form that asked for any medical issues regarding your student. If you indicated that your child has asthma, I will be contacting you regarding the severity and if your child is on medication. The medication in school procedure will also be covered in this article. If you indicated that your student has an allergy to food, bug bite or other, I will be contacting you regarding the severity of the allergy and treatment.

Broward County Schools requires sixth grade classes have screenings for vision, hearing, scoliosis and body mass index (BMI). We will be doing these throughout the year. A form

will be sent home. Please read this carefully and only return the form if you DO NOT want any or all of the screenings. You DO NOT need to return it if you do want the screenings. Volunteer hours are available to those parents who would like to assist with our screenings. In order to actually do the screenings a parent or guardian must be certified to administer the above. Classes are offered and the certification is good for 2 years. These classes are usually on Tuesdays and Thursdays and for taking the class you can receive as many as 5 volunteer hours. Then you can receive more hours by coming in to do the screenings when they are scheduled during the year. I have all the dates for classes here in the clinic but they do fill up quickly so if you are interested call me as soon as possible.

There was a Student Handbook that you were asked to read, sign the form and return to the school. In this handbook the policy for medication in school was outlined. The policy strictly forbids your student from carrying or keeping medication on themselves or in their lockers, pocketbooks etc. If your child carries an inhaler, EpiPen or needs medication in school, they must have a medical authorization form signed. These forms are available here at school and can be obtained through myself or the front office staff. Again I will be happy to answer any questions.

If your student is injured at school and comes to the clinic, I will evaluate their needs. If your student is leaving school different than how they came to school, be it a bruise, scrape etc., I will be calling to let you know. I call for any head injury.

There are certain contagious diseases that are cause for immediate dismissal and treatment. These include, but are not limited to, the most commonly seen conjunctivitis (pink eye) and ring worm. Once under treatment a student can return to school with a doctor's note. I am required to send a student home if there is even a suspicion of these illnesses. The other thing I would like to address is head lice. Broward County still requires that a student be sent home if a student is diagnosed with lice he/she may not return unless they are nit free(lice eggs). This means a doctor's note, a note from a clinic that treats lice or examination by me is required to return to class. Lice are VERY common in Florida due to the warm climate. I ask if you have a suspicion that your student has lice or they complain that their head is itchy, please have them checked or ask me to check and I will be happy to assist you.

I hope that your student has a wonderful year and again please feel to call me any time. If I don't answer, leave a voice message and I will return your call as soon as possible. My direct line is 954-340-4107 or ewilloughby@coralspringscharter.org