

The Bulletin



A Parrish Community High School Student Publication

February 2021

Schedules keep changing

By **Melanie Drobysh**
The Bulletin Reporter

Changes in learning modalities were a big part of the first semester at Parrish Community High School.

At the beginning of the year, student and parents had three options for attending school, in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic: full time, hybrid, and online modes. At the end of each quarter, changes could be made.

After the first quarter, many students came back full time from either hybrid or online modalities. By the start of the third quarter, there were about 200 students still e-Learning.

There are now 880 students on campus as opposed to the 700 that were in the first semester, with the hybrid option no longer being offered.

Assistant Principal Melissa Gagnon said most hybrid students returned to full time.

The first big changes took place before the second quarter. Gagnon explained that after the first nine weeks, a survey was sent to parents asking if they would like a learning modality change.

From that survey, 266 schedules had to be changed. This massive change in modalities also caused a shift in teaching assignments and class numbers.

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Loving Literacy



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Marissa Souders writes a quote supporting a humanity theme as part of American Literacy Week activities January 25-29.

Dual Enrollment, Advanced Placement courses offer higher learning opportunities

By **Grace Crestani**
The Bulletin Reporter

The Dual Enrollment (DE) and Advanced Placement (AP) programs are accelerated learning paths for high achieving students. These programs offer rigorous classes as



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Savannah Weeks and Chesney Mullins work in AP Seminar class.

opposed to the normal high school schedule.

Students who opt to take these courses, are better preparing themselves for college. Each learning path gives insight into the collegiate experience and offers college credit, depending on the course.

Participating in these academic programs increases the

likelihood of college admittance and completion.

The AP program at PCHS is offered to students of all grade levels. There are 38 AP subjects, ranging from the arts to history and social sciences.

To be eligible for an AP course, students must have at least a 3.0 GPA and have earned a 3 on their Florida Standards Assessment. Students who are enrolled are expected to fulfil their

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Remembering
Mikeal



BULLETIN STAFF

The sun sets on another day of learning, as students wait on their rides following a club meeting.

The Bulletin

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Advanced Continued
year-long commitment.

However, if students receive a D or F after the first quarter, they can be removed from the course.

Rylee Little, a first-year student at PCHS, is enrolled in AP Human Geography.

“To be honest it’s really hard. But it is teaching me how to multi-task and manage my time,” Little said.

In addition to the standard Avanced Placement program, PCHS offers the AP Capstone Diploma program.

This program is based on AP Seminar and AP Research. These year-long courses focus on de-veloping the critical thinking, research, collaboration, time-man-agement, and presentation skills needed for college-level work.

Students who earn scores of 3 or more on Seminar and Research exams and additional AP exams of their choice, receive the AP capstone diploma.

This diploma stands out on college applications and in admit-tance offices.

The Dual Enrollment program offers college credit classes on or off campus.

Students who choose to com-plete their courses online must enroll with USFSM or SCF.

This goes for on campus courses as well.

However, if they wish to complete the course at PCHS, they must enroll with USFSM.

Like the AP programs, these courses prepare students for col-lege life and give them the oppor-tunity to earn college credit.

Heather Dietz is a DE instructor at PCHS; she explained the many benefits of these courses.

“The biggest impact is that students can leave high school and already have completed one,two, three or, in some cases, four semesters of college before they ever leave high school, and they have not paid any money to do so,” Dietz said.

Unlike AP courses, students must be a sophomore or older to apply, have a 3.0 GPA or higher, and must also have prerequisite courses, such as 10 or more high school credits.

Erin Osborne is a sophomore at PCHS, enrolled in the DE pro-gram, who she said she feels it is better preparing her for college.

“It gives me an idea of the work-load I’m gonna have when I go,” she said.

Not only is Osborne enrolled in DE, but she also is taking three AP classes.

“Personally, I feel DE classes are slightly easier but both courses are good for different reasons,” Osborne said.

Issues (non)	Sources 1-5	Sources 6-10	Outline	IRR DRAFT
The Impostors	To what extent do movies accurately portray mental health?			
THE SOCCER PENGUINS	To what extent does the way people spend their time affect their personal participation in the United States?			
Milk Masters	How are people, animals, and the environment impacted by the dairy industry in the United States?			
THE ARISTOCATS	How has missing children, as a result of sex trafficking affected the United States?			
THE GREMS	To what extent does a child's upbringing in the U.S. affect their adulthood?			
THE BLACK PANTHERS	To what extent has the BLM movement affected American society?			

AP Seminar students take part in research and group projects that include collaborative efforts and critical thinking.

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BULLS



on the Road

By Hannah Newman

The Bulletin Reporter

Parrish Community High school has introduced a new group of students, which makes the school almost complete, now that there is a junior class.

This means that some students are starting to drive.

With students already driving or getting their learner's permit, there is now a driver's education program to help them progress and start getting on the road.

Mr. William Ivey teaches the course; he said that driving is a rite of passage in life. Not only mentioning the positives in driving, he points out the nega-

tive aspects, which can be tragic.

"Every time you get behind the wheel of a car, you're a potential victim or a potential murderer, that's just the reality of it," Ivey said.

With the arrival of this new class, many students have different reasons to start taking the course.

Freshman Ella Betrand said that what motivated her to drive was her mom, because taking a drivers-ed course helps with insurance.

"Well I'm looking forward to driving around to Starbucks and Dunkin'," Betrand said.

Some students, including Junior Nariah Sparkman, simply, "wanted to learn how to drive."



Hannah Newman/BULLETIN

Landon Nicol prepares to take one of his first drives during the PCHS driver's education class. Students must be 15 to take the course.



Kaitlyn Hoyer/BULLETIN

From left: Charles Alexander, Adrian Strunk, Meyanna Burtram and Broderick Deal practice in band class, while following mask-wearing guidelines.

Schedules Continued

Diana Ansbro, one of PCHS's guidance counselors, explained the process of overhauling the master schedule, after Winter Break, to accommodate the new modality changes.

"We had to then go level another 75 student so that we could still try to maintain lower numbers in classes," Ansbro said.

Schedule changes also has affected student life, some for the better.

For Sophomore Ben Sorg, whose schedule changed when leveling occurred, said it meant positive outcomes for him.

"The schedule change made my grades better... it was a good change," Sorg said.

Nurse reflects on busy year

By Brice Carlton

The Bulletin Reporter

Mrs. Andrea Stratton is one of the nurses at PCHS this year, working her hardest to keep everyone safe and healthy through the Covid-19 pandemic.

Her responsibilities are the safety and health of everyone at school.

She has been working as a nurse for 40 years and has been a school nurse for 15 years.

Stratton enjoys being a nurse because she gets to work with people.



Brice Carlton/BULLETIN

Fighting a pandemic, Nurse Andrea Stratton is diligent in keeping school safe.

She works on making sure teachers know what to do with Early Responder and First Aid in situations during a field trip or in the classroom.

Stratton also does a lot of training for administering meds and making sure teachers have what they need in the classroom.

Because of the pandemic, Stratton spends, "A lot of time talking to families about isolation and the need to quarantine."

Stratton makes sure everyone knows how important handwashing is and that masks should be worn properly.

Stratton also has started with Stop The Bleed and other tourniquet kits, "in response to things that have happened other than Covid, across the country," she said.

After the Bell

Checkmate!

New club brings back classic game



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From left: Julie McPherson, Bryce Shortridge, Michael Harrington, Thomas Garcia and below, Jonas Stover play at the new Chess Club.

By Brice Carlton

The Bulletin Reporter

Chess Clubs are hard to find in other places, but PCHS has one where kids can come and play every week.

The club is sponsored by English teacher, Mrs. Lisa Fehling who said the club was the brainchild of the two presidents, Bradley Pickwood and Alex Joiner.

Joiner encouraged Pickwood to start the club, which is one of the first chess clubs in the county.

The reason Joiner said he wanted to start this club was, "because of the community. Most other clubs are very serious, but our club it is more chilled out. There aren't too many rules."

Students meet every Thursday from 2:30 to 3:30 and have the chance to play against one another and learn new moves in the game of chess.

Fehling's favorite part about



being in this club is seeing how much joy the students get out of playing chess.

Pickwood said he likes "the ability to get everyone united on something that's been lost for a long time. I like reinvigorating an old tradition because chess clubs used to be very common in schools," Pickwood said.

Pickwood added he wants to bring back this game for more students to get to learn and have fun playing.

The club has been steadily growing since the beginning, peaking at 18 students attending a meeting so far. This club is open to new members and is a good way to learn and get better at the game of chess.

Yoga offers peaceful time for body, mind



BULLETIN STAFF

Kayla McCarthy is a science teacher and yoga instructor, who leads the therapeutic exercise class, after school weekly.

Bulletin Staff

When it comes to after school clubs, PCHS has a myriad of opportunities for various interests; this includes yoga.

Offering both students and staff the opportunity to stretch, move and relax, Kayla McCarthy, science teacher and yoga instructor, began offering the weekly classes to promote physical and mental health.

"By linking movement and breath, we can unite the body and mind, thereby elevating our own state of consciousness to find peace, happiness and unity in our surroundings," McCarthy said. "For me, it is all about training the mind to slow down, let go of constant stream of thoughts, and just "be."

McCarthy said the importance of finding harmony in such a way provides for a positive shift in perspective. "Things just start to feel better-you have more energy, more happiness, more purpose, and more love for yourself and others," McCarthy said.

Although Yoga is well known for its poses and promoting flexibility, McCarthy said there is a second, often overlooked goal of training the mind, to include minimizing stress.





FFA Students Shine at COUNTY FAIR

Bulletin Staff

Parrish Community high students earned a slew of awards at this year's Manatee County Fair, which took place January 14-24 in Palmetto.

From numerous animals to plants, the 42 Future Farmers of America students' weeks of work and training paid off.

FFA Advisor and Agriscience teacher, Susan R. Grainger, who grew up raising animals and competing herself in middle and high school, said although it was exhausting, it was well worth the effort to see students achieve and grow as they have.

"It requires a lot of time, energy, passion, and time management," Grainger said, adding that though the fair is a culminating event, they compete in many events, participate in community service, and raise projects throughout the year.

PCHS Junior, Janna Groover certainly echoes those sentiments of feeling rewarded for hard work.

At this year's Manatee County Fair, she showed steers and heifers. For her steer, she won Reserve Champion Steer and first place county calf. For her heifer, she was named Reserve Champion AOB Heifer and also placed third in senior showmanship.

Groover gave insight into what it's like to raise these animals. "Basically it's a long process of just feeding them the right way, walking them, doing hair care, all that sort of stuff." She emphasized that it's a very long process, but she says, "It's worth it in the end."

Tenth grader, James Keen also spoke of the long and enduring process of preparation for the fair that ended in winning Reserve Grand Champion Commercial Heifer as well as getting 1st Place Heifer Showmanship.

He explained it was a year-long routing of dedication that earned him the awards. "All throughout the year, I go to



Top: Jace Gutshall
From left, clockwise: James Keen, Hallie Prater, Janna Groover, Emma Ferreira and Gutshall again pose with their winning animals after months of training.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

these different shows, and it's a whole year-long process, and I go all over the state to compete," Keen explained.

Marissa Souders, a sophomore, won 1st place for show and was called back for semi-finals and showmanship in the Steer exhibition. Souders explained the learning curve was great in determining feeding quantity and doing hours of training with her steer.

"It was just incorporating different distractions and things that would help him be calmer at show," Souders said.

Arts Abound



The PCHS Blue Belles dance team won big at their first competition in January, and the PCHS Drama Club performed Scenes from *The Crucible* for English classes in November.

Courtesy Photos

Sports

Swim, soccer, cross country hit milestones

By Kaylani Pusatari
The Bulletin Reporter

With Parrish Community High School having been open for two years now, athletes have had many opportunities to succeed, and they have done just that.

Some of the sports have gone above and beyond with their athletes, reaching district and even regional competition.

One of the most successful sports at PCHS has been the swimming team.

Last year, it started with just one member, but this year, it has evolved into a six-member team.

Coach Jennifer Carr is not only the coach leading this team, but she is also new to the school.

“This was a huge growing season; we went from only one swimmer last year to six,” Carr said. “Every swimmer made it to regionals and swam personal records for their events.”

Carr is proud of the team and hopes that next year they can double the

roster, having six guys and six girls, so that way they “can swim in relays and get more points from individual events at the meets.”

The team has grown and bonded together during their season, and hopes their new traditions carry on.

“The team started a tradition of having dinner, usually a ‘pasta load’ together the night before a big meet,” Carr said.

“We hope to continue this tradition next season. Each swimmer has pushed themselves by swimming in new events, new strokes, and further distances than they had before.”

Overall, the team has grown and progressed majorly throughout the season and hopes to keep achieving their goals in the future. Some of the cross-country runners even made it to regionals.

The soccer and cross-country teams have also had some great accomplishments.

Soccer and cross-country coach Nicole Paternostro has plenty to boast about.

“Some of our biggest accomplishments were our grades as a team, competing in districts,

and qualifying runners to regionals,” she said. Paternostro is extremely proud of the team and believes they can only grow from here.

“Future goals are to continue to build the program and have a JV and Varsity team,” she said. “I would like the program to continue to have a positive impact on the student athletes and for all runners to continue to meet their PRs.”

Both soccer and cross country have been very successful and hope only to improve and grow as a team and as individuals.

“Every runner has improved their mile times and their 5k race times. Some of the runners were new to running and continued to compete in races and ran farther than they ever had,” Paternostro said.



Erin Lisch/PCHS PHOTOS



Erin Lisch/PCHS PHOTOS



Erin Lisch/PCHS PHOTOS



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From left, clockwise: Soccer player, Javier Villa, 10th; swimmers Emmie Backman, 9th, and Kaitlyn Reber, 11th; Soccer players Isabella Silverio, 9th, at top and Kendall Hect, 9th; regional qualifying runners, Sidney and Cohen Buice, Jennifer Swenson and Gabriella Lamprecht, 10th. The girls soccer team celebrates another win.



Sports

Celebrating Standouts

By Madyson Greeman

The Bulletin Reporter

Swim: Jennifer Carr, who is the swim coach of the 2020-21 season, said that a standout on the team this year was Kaitlyn Reber, who is a junior at PCHS. This is Reber's second year on the team and she was always willing to step up to plate and help guide some of the younger swimmers, as well as helping Carr herself, since it was her first time coaching a high school swim team. Not only is she a standout and an amazing swimmer, Reber is also the team captain.

Cheer: Jenna Davies, head coach for the cheer team, said Freshman Madyson Greeman is a standout. The coach said Greeman is dependable and "role model cheerleader," always willing to lead others and able to adapt quickly when in tough situations. Davies also said that Greeman is constantly smiling. "She checks her baggage at the door and does an amazing job representing the school and showing spirit," Davies said.

Girls Golf: Someone that stood out to Erin Lisch, who is the girls golf coach, was Marissa Krone. Krone is a freshman at PCHS who is very dedicated to playing golf. "Her swing is one that a lot of people would pay big money to replicate," Lisch said. Not only is she a great golfer, Lisch said, but Krone also is a person of character, always willing to help her teammates. "Marissa is always cracking jokes, stays positive and overall makes the game fun for everyone around her," Lisch said. "While she's only a freshman, if Marissa continues on the path she's on right now, there's no doubt colleges will be lining up wanting her on their team."

Boys Golf: Coach Brett Andrzejewski said a standout athlete on the boy's golf team this year was Ethan Patterson, who is a freshman. He has been "our number one golfer for most of the year," the coach said, adding how neat it was to have this freshman come in and set the tone for the new team and watch him "pick up the play of everyone else around him."

Girls Soccer: Nicole Paternostro said she loves all her girls but there was one in particular that stood out to her. Emily Evans is a standout athlete because she is "consistent, reliable, performs at a top level, excels academically, and helps out with the overall better of the team." Paternostro added that Evans is a very versatile player who is always willing to fill in for a spot if need be and is still able to perform at a high level.

Boys Soccer: When asked who a standout athlete on the boys' soccer team this year was, Ricardo Gordillo was quick to

respond with the name Liam Scanlan. Scanlan happened to be one of the captains who was "a flat-out leader on the soccer team." Scanlan would never quit no matter what he was doing and "always has the right idea and always does the right thing."

Girls Cross Country: Paternostro chose sophomore Jenny Swenson as a standout because she is "very self-motivated." Paternostro said Swenson puts in time and effort to help better herself and would do things on the weekend to help improve her skill set even without being asked. The coach added that Swenson is a very good communicator and "is a very good leader in that sense," while being a very fun person to be around.

Boys Cross Country: Twin brothers Sidney and Cohen Buice are both standouts, said Coach Ryan Kardok. They are standouts, he said, not only as great runners but also for excelling academically. They have 4.0 GPAs and made it to regionals. "They represent the school very well and are great ambassadors whether it's inside or outside the classroom," Kardok said.

Boys Basketball: There have been a couple guys that have really stood out, according to Kardok, who also coaches boys basketball. "Joey Decker has been one of them. He's shown some great leadership qualities and has really transformed his leadership through out the season." Carter Young as well as Tristen Woods are also two guys that have stood out, Kardok said. All three have worked towards improving their leadership skills. "They have all three been great," he said.



Above: Peyton Clay
Left: Kaylani Pusateri
Below, left: PCHS
Cheerleading Team
Below, right:
Basketball player
Dialo Townsend

Erin Lisch/PCHS PHOTOS



Basketball teams build character, bonds

By Rania Moore

The Bulletin Reporter

During these challenging times, the Bulls athletic teams still manage to stay strong and have faith in their season. The PCHS basketball programs is no exception.

Coach Caris Alan has been coaching basketball five years and is a first-time coach at Parrish Community High.

"This season is a fresh start, I'm hopeful and excited to grow with my team and watch my players succeed," Alan said. "My philosophy of coaching is not to give up and always develop your character. I'm teaching my players to always build a solid foundation."

When asked what she tells her players when they lose, she said, "Focus on the next game."

Sarah Raistrick, a 10th grade basketball player described her positive experience on the team so far. "The season has been an improvement for a lot of people on the team, including me," Raistrick said, noting the relationships are strong. "We communicate and we learn from our mistakes. Our first game is when we felt most like a team."

Jaeden Halas, a 10th grade varsity basketball player, also noted the wins, not just during games, this season.

"The teamwork this season has been strong because upper-classmen know how to work with the fresh players, and they



know how to be leaders," Halas said. "This also is a high point for the season because it increases the chemistry of our team and allows us to



Erin Lisch/PCHS PHOTOS

Above: Bulls basketball player Kevin Everhart goes for the layup, and below, Lady Bull Kaiyle Lacy dribbles down the court.

work better so we can improve ourselves for each other."

Halas, who has been playing basketball four years, talked about what is going through your mind when you're benched. When you're sitting on the bench or you get pulled out the game, all you're thinking about is how to improve yourself, so you can get back in the game with a fresh mindset and do better for your team and yourself," Halas said.

He added that after losing a game, you can't spend too much time beating yourself up. "Watch a film about basketball, try to fix your mistakes, and play harder next time," the PCHS sophomore said.

Raistrick, too, noted the importance of persevering and working on growth and progress. "Be proud of the small accomplishments you make and they will lead you to something greater," Raistrick said.

Cross Country Sophomores qualify for regionals

Bulletin Staff

Coach Nicole Paternostro leads the PCHS Cross Country team, the second year program with no seniors, yet yielding four runners qualifying for regionals.

"It was amazing that a second-year cross country program was able to do as good as we did and advancing on having gains each meeting," Paternostro said.

The runners that made PCHS history are Sophomores Jennifer Swenson, Gabby Lamprecht, Cohen and Sidney Buice.

"It feels pretty good to start a winning tradition at a new

school," Lamprecht said.

Swenson commented that while happy with making it to regionals, she's focused on growth, "to try to get to get better and go to states next year and put PCHS on the map."

Sidney Buice added that part of the team's success was the relationships.

"The team was close, and we helped build confidence before the meetings started," he said.



REMEMBERING Mikeal

Bulletin Staff

Gaylee Steele misses her son's smile every day. It was her favorite, the grieving mother said. Steele is not shy about sharing the love and pride she had and will forever hold for her son, who was killed in a traffic accident on October 25.

Steele described Mikeal as athletic, fun, competitive, loyal, hard-working and proud. She said some of her favorite memories include going to obstacle course races with her son.

With a gleam in her eye, Steele recounted that when he was only 8, Mikeal excitedly snuck into a 5-mile race halfway through.

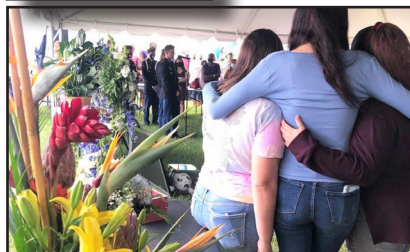
It then became a yearly tradition for the two of them to attend the races.

In the very next days following the tragic accident, Steele was taken aback as the community began fundraisers, campaigns, programs, memorials and other events and commemorations.

It was an outpouring of love.

"The best way to describe it is overwhelming love and to see how many lives he touched," Steele said.

"I'm so blessed to live in a town like Parrish, and the kids at Parrish Community are so lucky to grow up here. It is the best area to grow up in."



A memorial service, restaurant fundraisers, stickers and armbands honored PCHS student Mikeal Steele.

School, community grieves over tragic loss of beloved teen

Bulletin Staff

He was only 17. PCHS Junior Mikeal Steele was killed on October 25 in an accident while driving home from work on his motorcycle; the other driver was arrested and charged with DUI Manslaughter.

Those are some of the tragic details, but what fills halls of schools and hearts of the community are memories of a beloved teen gone too soon.

A memorial service was held the weekend following the young athlete's death; Parrish Charter School was packed with family, friends, classmates, teammates and educators.

Before speeches began, dozens of bikers revved their engines at the location, in honor of the fallen young motorcycle enthusiast.

PCHS soccer players wore their uniforms, dedicating a ball to their beloved

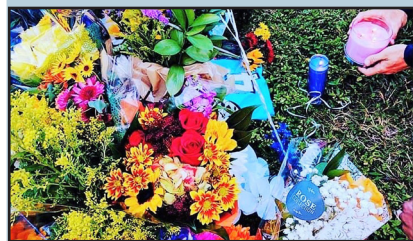
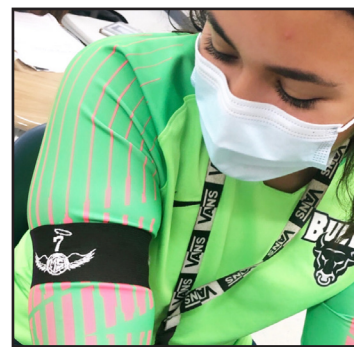
teammate. Football players joined them in sharing special memories and signing their teammate's pictures.

The following week, soccer players at PCHS wore bands with Mikeal's number and wings; it was a way to honor their friend even as they played.

Beyond the school, community members came together. Restaurants in the Parrish/Bradenton/Palmetto area raised money for the Steele family with, "Nights For Steele." Restaurants included: Shake Station, Popi's Place, Chili's and Ferraro's.

Contributing reporters:
Juliana Cucci,
Mariah Ennis
and Ms. Olga Peña

Photos contributed and by Bulletin Staff



Community seeks to change DUI laws, add traffic signal

Bulletin Staff

The loss of Mikeal Steele was devastating to the Parrish community, but if there is any good to come out of this situation, it would be the steps being taken to better the community.

The intersection outside

of Shake Station has always been a dangerous road, but after the death of Mikeal, people have been working to make a change.

Andy Ameres started the petition to install a traffic signal needed at the intersection of US Hwy 301 & 42nd Avenue.

In a matter of days,

nearly 2,000 signatures were collected.

Another petition was started by Matthew Gangemi to increase the penalties of DUI charges.

This petition was aimed at Governor Ron DeSantis. Nearly 2,500 people had signed this petition as of January.

Fashion Forward

By Layla Peterson

The Bulletin Reporter

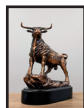
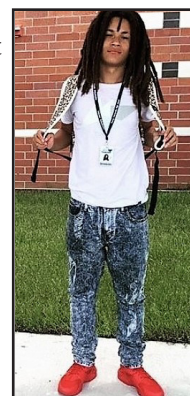
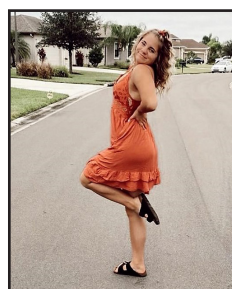
- Ethan Shortridge, 11th grader, has a dress to impress kind of style. A fashion icon of his is Emma Roberts, an American actress and singer. He has no fear of judgement from his peers either. "Nope...I don't even care," Shortridge said.
- Sacci Perteete is a PCHS 10th grader that has an elegant state of mind. "I told you I'm a model, natural, it's natural, it's in the blood," Perteete said, sticking to that attitude when asked why he dresses the way he does. "Yeah, just to look good."
- Freshman Adrianna Peterson rocks the casual fits and lazy fits. She says, "I wear whatever makes me feel comfortable with my body."



- McKenna Yahraus, 10th grader, has a quirky style and personality that work seamlessly with each other. Her saying is "Dress your best, you never know what's going to happen or who you'll meet."

- Sophomore Neena Hassler dresses for her, not others. "I just wear what makes me happy" Hassler said. She

is inspired by other ethnic and cultural influences. "I usually take inspiration from different subcultures," she added.



Bull of the Month tradition honors staff

By Kaitlyn Hoyer

The Bulletin Reporter

The Bull of the Month award is a tradition that allows faculty members to be recognized for going above and beyond for students and others at PCHS.

It is awarded to a staff member who is recognized for their efforts, and they pass it on to another employee that they think should be recognized.

Starting last year, Assistant Principal, Paul Champagne was the first recipient of the Bull of the Month.

The award was given to him at the faculty meeting, which has become the place where the award is transferred to others.

"I can say that forever now, I was the first Bull of the Month award winner at



Dietz

Parrish Community," Champagne said.

Heather Dietz was one of the teachers that was awarded the Bull of the Month. She received the award because of her extra effort during Spirit Week. "It's nice to be recognized but at the same time, I look at it as just doing my job," the math teacher and SGA sponsor said.

Dietz explained that she passed on the Bull of the Month to Kristy Clay, who collected attendance for her during FTE week. "I was looking for a way to say thank you," Dietz said.

Clay explained how she was shocked, but honored when she received the award, which she passed to Karen Hinkle. "She is a team player; she has a very positive atti-

tude, willing always to help wherever she's needed," Clay said.

Tony Cummins also was recognized for his efforts towards the school and students. "It was awesome to be recognized amongst the faculty," Cummins said. "My students are my absolute priority."

Sara Dodson, an 11th grader in Mr. Cummins' law class said he was a worthy recipient. "He allows us to express ourselves in our work," Dodson said.

Cummins also expressed how it felt to pass on the bull to an "incredible colleague and friend," Nicole Paternostro.

Coach Paternostro was the third recipient of the Bull of the Month. She explained how surprised she was when she received the award and

that she was honored.

Courtney Metzger also was a recipient of the bull. "I was very honored; a lot of times I just do things because it's the right thing to do," Metzger said. Metzger, who passed on the bull to English and journalism teacher, Olga Peña, received the award from the guidance staff for helping them with overwhelming tasks.

One of Metzger's students, Yaziel Perez said the award was well earned. "She's on top of her stuff; I have never seen her miss an assignment to put into Schoology."

There has been a wide array of recognition amongst the PCHS faculty so far, with many left yet to honor.



Metzger

Opinion

Beware: Social Media has pros but plenty of cons



By Addison Wilson
The Bulletin Reporter

Social Media is an amazing tool to use until it stops being useful and starts using you.

It's true you can connect with friends and family and share information about yourself. You can also make accounts for business, companies, organizations, and personal uses; but with all the remarkable things that social media can do, there is a dark side.

Social Media companies want to make money and the only way to do that, other than charging you, is to use ads.

Not only the more ads we see the more they make money, but also the more we change the way we think politically or emotionally is an invest-

ment. As much as we love to say that we are not obsessed with social media, the reality is we are. I've heard it said there are only two industries that call their customers "users": illegal drugs and software.

We use it when we are out with family and friends, when we are at home, when we wake up or go to bed, and we should admit that we spend hours on it.

My friend once told me how she was about to take a shower and went on Tik-Tok for a bit... by the time she looked up, it had been two and a half hours.

Now that does not mean that we should delete Instagram, Tik-tok, Facebook, Twitter, and all the others; it just means that we need to limit the time we use and stop getting pulled in.

We can use timers, for example, or turn off notification so that don't keep getting pulled in.

Nevertheless, we've been brought up in a society where social media is so important. We get used to waking up and reposting and posting online for the whole world to see. People repost

stories about a cause or problem in the world for others to see but never go out there and do something about it.

Social media has also affected the way we get our news about the world. Nearly 38 percent of the U.S. adults often get news from social media, website/ apps, according to the Pew Research Center.

So now the things that we post and repost are things that others could take as facts, which can mislead and disinform the public about real issues.

What is most scary, however, is the connection with social media and teen depression.

A recent CDC study found that teen suicide jumped 56 percent from 2007 to 2017. The iPhone was launched and distributed in 2007 ... around the time teens could post and see posts anywhere and everywhere.

For young people, the technology can be a distraction, but if you ask any student in the hallways, they'll say it's a great way to communicate and connect with friends.

There are many positive and negative outcomes to social media, but the best way to deal with them all is to be aware of the dangers it has and try to control them.

PCHS students weigh in on youth in politics

By Hannah Mayhew
The Bulletin Reporter

Should high school students be involved in politics? The students at PCHS have a wide variety of opinions on the matter.

After asking around 130 students, the majority believe youth should get involved. Sixty one percent students voted yes, while 39 percent voted no.

Sophomore Langley Carter, is very passionate about youth political involvement. "I think it's really important for young minds to know what will be

going on in their future because once they turn 18, those decisions are their's to make," Carter said.

Langley said she believes everyone's opinion matters, of legal age or not.

Freshmen Calin Heath and Izzy Silverio believe students will be able to make a more informed decision when they're older if they pay attention now.

"If we learn about politics now, we will most likely be able to make a knowledgeable decision later on," Silverio said. Heath added that, "We need more young people aware of politics because we are the future."

While the majority of students who took the poll think young people should get involved, there are still some students who disagree.

Sophomore Gillian Rasch opposes the idea of youth political involvement. "I don't think it's important because we can't vote yet," Rasch said. "People who are old enough to vote should have a louder voice, and opinion on the situation."

PCHS students obviously have different views on the topic, but they agree they can respect each other, no matter their differing thoughts.

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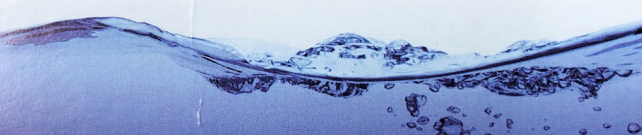
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