



The Corral

October 5, 2023

R. Dan Nolan Middle School

Your Source for All The News That is Nolan

Greetings Nolan Community,

I am very excited for this year, and it has been a great start to this school year. Back in August we welcomed over 730 students for the 2023-2024 school year. The first quarter had some schedule changes to balance our classes, place students in their appropriate electives and to meet the requirements of the class size amendment. Your child may have had one of these changes, but hopefully they have adjusted well to their new classes.

Nolan's students and staff continues to excel and succeed at the highest levels across the board in our state assessments. I am extremely proud of the hard work and effort that everyone put in last year to do their best in their FSA state assessments. Once again Nolan earned an "A" school grade from the state of Florida as we had some of our highest scores in our school's history.

Nolan is continuing to lead the way in Manatee County in academic programs. This year we are excited to offer new academic pre-Advanced Placement classes in both English and Social Studies. These course not only help prepare students for the rigors of upper-level high school courses, like AP or Dual Enrollment but allows them to earn additional high school credits. Nolan now offers more high school credit options than any other middle school in Manatee County.



Mr. Scott Cooper, Principal

For students to be successful in middle school, it is vital for our parents to work with the school. Communication and teamwork make this possible. Please don't hesitate to reach out to the school if you have questions or concerns about your child's progress.

Focus is still our student data system and parents can see students' grades, attendance, etc. using the Parent Portal. Please make sure you use the Focus App to make access easier to view and can be found in the App store under MySDMC Focus. If you do not have access to the portal, please contact Kristen Tambe at extension 28000 for assistance setting up your account. The easiest way to communicate with teachers is through the email feature in Focus. Please use this as your primary way of emailing teachers.

Thank you to all for supporting Nolan's Fundraiser this year. If you haven't had a chance to participate, there is still plenty of time to support your Colts. More information can be found on our website manateeschools.net/Nolan. Your support is very helpful to our entire school community and their programs. Thank you for sending your children to R. Dan Nolan Middle School, we appreciate you trusting us to provide your children with the best middle school experience.

Scott Cooper
Principal

Upcoming Testing

October 5

October 10 & 11:

October 17 & 18:

October 24:

District Writing Assessment 6th, 7th & 8th Grade (Bell Schedule Change)

Algebra 1 & Geometry during class

CIVICS during class

PSAT 8th Grade PRE AP ENGLISH students ONLY





Spotlight On...

Nolan's New Additions!

This year we welcome new staff members to our Nolan family:

- ♦ Jana Carbo, One-to-One Aide
- ♦ William Coston, IND Teacher
- ♦ Dominique Hipolito, ASD Teacher
- ♦ Maha Elhilaly, One-to-One Aide
- ♦ Ingrid Gonzalez, ELL Aide
- ♦ Elizabeth Hefner, One-to-One Aide
- ♦ Charlotte James, Classroom Aide
- ♦ Dagmar Kovachik, One-to-One Aide
- ♦ Aidali Lopez, One-to-One Aide
- ♦ Payton Liebe, Orchestra Teacher
- ♦ Keona Roberts, Senior Secretary/Bookkeeper
- ♦ Jacob Sponsel, Assistant Principal
- ♦ Paul Simonaitis, Technology Manager
- ♦ Byron Vorseggern, Science Teacher
- ♦ Dustin Whinery, Mathematics Teacher
- ♦ Jade Willitt, Chorus Teacher

Report of Out-of-Field Teachers

October 9, 2023

Dear Parents,

The Florida State Department of Education requires that schools report to parents for the October FTE reporting any teachers who are out-of-field. Below are the Nolan Middle School teachers who are out of field for the 2023-2024 school year:

Teacher

Dominique Hipolito

Area Out of Field

MS ELA, Math, Social Studies,
Reading, ESOL



From the OFFICE

- ✓ If your child has an appointment and may be leaving school early, please send them to school with a note on the day of the appointment..
- ✓ No student will be permitted to be picked up and signed out between 3:30 PM and 4:10 PM. Make arrangements accordingly.
- ✓ No deliveries to the office of any kind. This includes lunches, homework, cell phones, and other items that may have been forgotten at home.
- ✓ If you sign your student out and they would like to return, they must return with proper documentation such as a doctor/dental note.



Technology Reminders

A reminder to all students and parents that bringing your own device to Nolan Middle School is a privilege. We ask that all students keep electronics to include cell phones, tablets, laptops, ear buds, head phones and other technology components in their back pack at all times.

Ear buds and headphones are not to be worn in the hallways. Also any technology use in the classroom must be approved by the teacher. If students have technology in their backpacks they are responsible for taking care of their backpacks and technology.

Devices must be securely placed in the backpack. Students carrying phones in their pockets can have them taken away by staff and parents will need to come to the school to retrieve the phone. If a student needs to use their cell phone for any reason, they must ask a teacher or staff member. Students are responsible for their devices. Students should not be texting or calling parents for any reason during school hours as this can result in a school consequence.

BOOK CHARACTER PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST

NO CARVING ALLOWED!

**THE PUMPKIN SHOULD BE BASED ON A CHARACTER OR
SCENE FROM A BOOK THAT YOU ENJOY!**

BRING COMPLETED PUMPKINS TO THE MEDIA CENTER.



**WINNERS WILL RECEIVE 2 FAST
PASSES TO THE NOLAN HAUNTED
HOUSE.**

DUE MONDAY OCT. 23

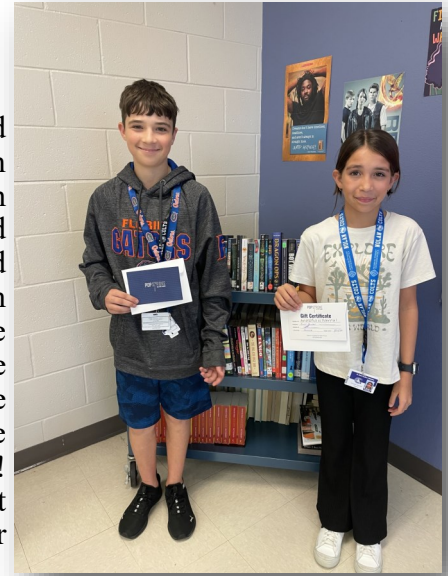
Reading and Literacy are Important at Nolan!

Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Nolan's Literacy Committee is hosting a pumpkin-decorating contest inspired by books. Students are encouraged to enter and some of the ELA teachers are also offering other incentives for students who participate. See the prior flyer for more information.

Fall in Love With Reading

Nolan's reading teachers and our school Media Specialist are working hard to foster a love of reading this year. They've created a reading room with cozy seating such as bean bag chairs and rugs for students who are in an intensive reading course. Students are reading novels together as a class and working on the Power Up Lexia computer program to improve their word study, grammar, and comprehension skills. Earlier this year students from each grade level were selected and recognized for their hard work. These students received a \$50 gift card to Popstroke. We would love to recognize more students in these courses throughout the year for the gains they are making and to encourage more reading! Gift card donations would be greatly appreciated! We'd also love family and community involvement! Email bowera@manateeschools.net if you'd be interested in being a guest reader or coming to speak to students about how reading is helpful in your career!



Spreading Kindness and Building Leadership

6th grade students in Mrs. Bower's Language Arts classes created original quotes about inclusion, courtesy, and compassion to submit to the annual Embracing Our Differences Contest. This year's theme is "Embracing Kindness" and the nonprofit organization based in Sarasota, Florida, offers a \$1,000 cash award for the winning quote. Students are also able to submit artwork and art selected for the exhibit will be transformed into billboard size and put on display at multiple locations in Southwest Florida. Two \$2,000 cash prizes will be distributed based on Student Best in Show and for the People's Choice Award. Mrs. Bower and one of Nolan's art teachers, Mr. Smith have students working on pieces to submit and have been blown away with students' creativity. Students will submit those by October 5th.

Here are just a few of the quotes students here on campus have created:

"Don't look at what people have, look at how they treat others." -Kinsey Weiskopf

"Standing together is one thing, but standing as one means so much more" -Taytum Roenicke

"Sometimes life pours out hate, but your sunshine makes a rainbow." -Caylee Kassab

"Be grateful, not hateful!" -Gage Yates

"Bad attitude is like a football. You throw it away." -Logan Varga

"Peace is like popcorn. When it's a kernel it's hard and untasteful like arguments. When embraced with others, it pops." -Preston Young

"Don't base yourself on something that you see in the mirror." -Emery Stewart

"Only love and sharing love to others can reduce hate around all of us. Having hate makes hate spread." - Zackery Reyes

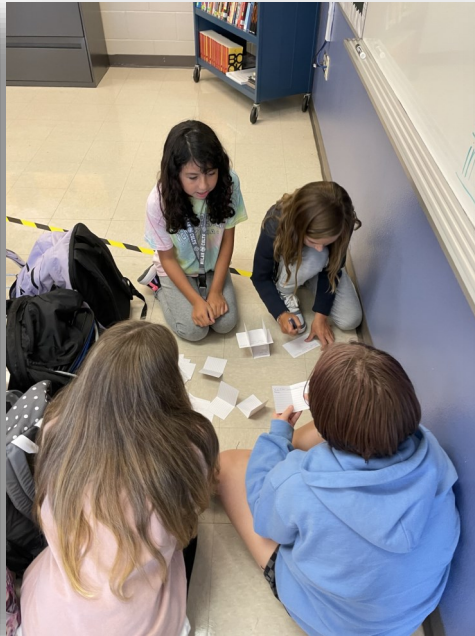
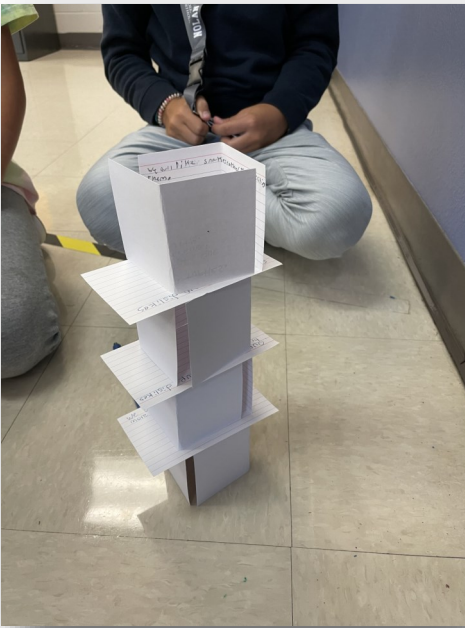
"When you see a person in need, you have a big decision to make." -Scarlet Gelsomie

"Protect others, not break them." -Amaya Massa

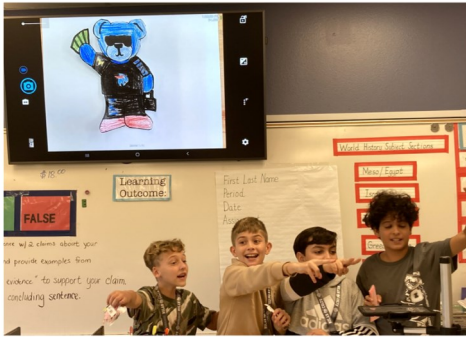
Reading and Literacy are Important at Nolan! *(continued)*

STEM and Collaboration in the Classroom

It's important for students to learn how to work together and to problem solve, so students across grade levels have opportunities to practice these skills here at Nolan! Here are some photos of students in Mrs. Bower's class getting to know one another. Students were tasked with creating a tower using only index cards, but in order to use each card, they had to write down something that they all have in common. They couldn't use any other supplies! In the other pictures, you'll see students working on communication as they try to keep a balloon from hitting the ground.



Teddy Bear Factory

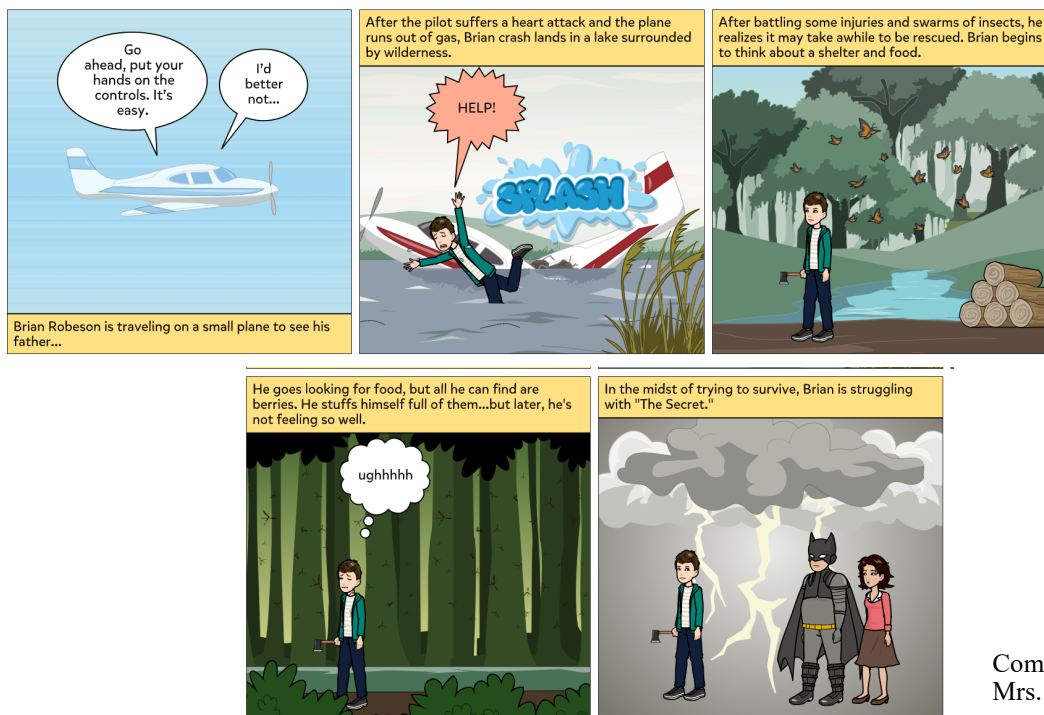


Students in Mrs. Dolan's World History class took part in a simulation to demonstrate the differences between command and free market economies. On day one during the command economy, students worked in groups and were given materials and instructions to create copies of a prototype paper teddy bear. They were paid a set wage if their bears met quantity and quality standards. On day two, the students participated in a free market economy by working individually or with partners to form their own companies. This time, they purchased materials to create their bears. Students named their teddy bear factories, created original paper teddy bears, and priced their bears, taking risks that an entrepreneur would take in a free market. On the third day, students auctioned off their original bears. Students learned

firsthand about supply and demand, and other principles having to do with pricing and creating quality teddy bears that consumers would want to buy. When asked what she learned from this experience, Yelinda Lopez said, "I learned that when the price is higher, then people don't buy, but when they lower the price, they all want to buy it."

Fun Reading Activity

Omgoodness, my 6th grade readers had so much fun creating comics of a chapter in Hatchet today! We read the chapter, then we talked about the main events that occurred. Students then had to summarize and create their own comic, using the setting, plot events, character traits, etc. to create each scene.



Comics created by
Mrs. Pope's 6th graders.

MATH TUTORING



Ms. Alvarez - Room 603 **6th Grade Math**

Tuesday lunch **11:14 - 11:44**

Mr. Molchany - Room 611 **6th Grade Math**

Wednesday **8:45 - 9:15**

Ms. Yancey - Room 707 **6th Grade Math and 7th Grade Math**

Monday **8:45 - 9:15**

Ms. Harris - Room 507 **7th Grade Math**

Wednesday **8:45 - 9:15**

Ms. Alvey - Room 501 **7th Grade Math** Thursday **8:45 - 9:15**

Algebra 1 Honors Wednesday **8:45 - 9:15**

Mr. Whinery - Room 207 **Pre-Algebra**

Tuesday **8:45 - 9:15**

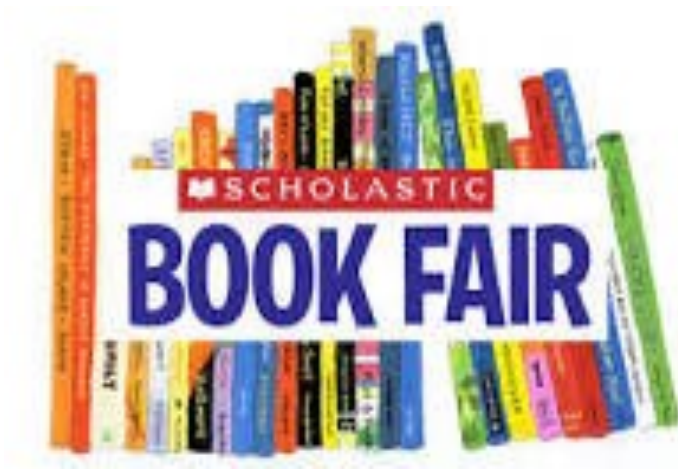
Mrs. Rubal - Room 204 **Algebra 1 Honors** Thursday **8:45 - 9:15**

Geometry Honors Wednesday **8:45 - 9:15**

****Please note – days/times are subject to change –check with your teacher to ensure availability****

Come to the Book Fair November 3-10, 2023

Dear Families,



As you may know, the state of Florida has enacted safeguards in Rule 6A-7.0713 regarding library materials, reading lists, and media content for use at school and in the classroom. The vetting process of reading materials and other media resources is intended to ensure that they are free of prohibited content and appropriate for age groups for which the materials are used. The Upcoming Scholastic Book Fair, and the individual purchases made by students and families, do not fall within the definition as stated within Rule 6A-7.0713. Thank you for guiding your child in the selection of materials if you choose to allow them to purchase any items from book fair.

Soccer Tryouts & Informational Meeting



Boys and Girls interested in trying out for this year's Nolan Soccer should attend an Information Meeting on Wednesday, October 11th @8:45am in Mrs. Ortiz's room 205 8th grade hallway. You can enter via the classroom door on the car-rider line side of building.

You **MUST** have a completed Consent and Release Liability Form See Mrs. Ortiz in the 8th Grade Hallway Room 205 for the form.

TRYOUTS:

Girls - Monday 10/23rd @4:15-5:30

Boys - Tuesday 10/24th @4:15-5:30

Nolan Future Business Leaders of America's (FBLA) First Meeting & Plans for the Future



Nolan Future Business Leaders of America held their first meeting this week. Student officers introduced themselves, shared ideas for Community Service events, discussed upcoming competitive events and had some fun playing a game that included Elevator Speeches on strange topics!

FBLA students will be meeting at Coquina Beach for their first Beach cleanup on October 7th and attended the CTSO Leadership Rally Saturday, September 30th. FBLA Students are also collecting canned, non perishable items to donate to the Manatee County Food Bank.

Student officers will be attending the FBLA Fall Leadership Conference on 11/3-11/5 where they will have an opportunity to work with State Officers and attend General Session meetings, in order to be the best leaders they can be!

Stay tuned for many upcoming activities! If you need any information, please contact the FBLA Advisor, Ms. Heidenthal (Heidenthals@manateeschools.net)



Nolan Middle School Students and Advisors Attend the Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) Rally

Nolan student leaders showed up and had a fantastic time hearing Patrick Grady speak on how to continue to work hard and do great things! He had them up and out of their seats, laughing, cheering and shouting, and getting them super excited about coming back to school to continue leading their chapters to success!

As part of the Rally, we were asked to collect non-perishable food to be donated to the Food Pantry. Mrs. Heidenthal held a competition in her classes and Nolan **WON** the food drive, donating the most food!

It was a wonderful morning filled with fellowship among students and advisors.



HOSA and Pre-Medical News

The HOSA and Pre-Medical programs have been very busy since August working on 2 fundraisers - Discount Cards and Kropf Fundraising for Jams, Jellies, Sauces, and Salsas! We began with HOSA at Back to School Night providing samples to students and their parents.



Following the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremonies, Mrs. Gilbert and Ms. Rahn's classes chose to participate in #FlagsAcrossTheCountry with their students on September 12, 2023. The students wore red, white, and blue while waving flags along Lorraine Road, listened to patriotic music, held various handmade patriotic signs and received many honks, waves, and even sirens! We are teaching our students to remind Americans of the unity, love of country, and pride felt on 9/12, the day after the world changed forever. In addition, our students were being educated about flag etiquette. It was exciting to see this

generation being taught, "We will Never Forget!" Many thanks to our veterans on staff here at Nolan as well as veterans throughout our community, state, and country! A special thanks to their families for their personal sacrifices! Let us stay - the United States of America!

A Big Thank You to Our Business Sponsors!



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Important Dates Mark Your Calendar

October 12th (Thursday)	End of First Quarter
October 13th (Friday)	Record Day (No School for Students)
November 1st (Wednesday)	Early Release @ 2:40
November 10th (Friday)	Veteran's Day (No School)
November 20th-24th	Thanksgiving BREAK (No School)
December 13th-21st	MS/HS Exams (tentative)
December 21st	End of 2nd quarter and End of 1st semester
December 22nd-December 31st	Winter Break
January 5th (Friday)	Record Day (No School for Students)
January 8th (Monday)	District Inservice (No School for Students)
January 9th (Tuesday)	Students Return
January 15th (Monday)	ML King Birthday (No School)

Check out our website for upcoming dates and information regarding any date changes.

Home of the Colts



We're on the web at
[https://
www.manateeschools.net/
nolan](https://www.manateeschools.net/nolan)

R. Dan Nolan Middle School
6615 Greenbrook Blvd.
Bradenton, FL 34202
Phone: (941) 751-8200
Fax: (941) 751-8210