

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2010-11 school year. We are off to a great start. I am so excited to be here as principal and am very proud to be associated with our fine high school. In my few weeks at the helm, I have enjoyed working with a dedicated staff and wonderful parents who are involved with our school. I look forward to being able to accomplish many things for our students with the help of everyone. The students are enthusiastic and eager to get things underway. We have great events planned for the school year and want to keep you apprised of what's happening as much as possible.

Special thanks to the members of the Senior Class for the wonderful opening to the school year. We expect that our seniors will "Show the World Conch Pride" in everything that they do. I would like to especially thank Michael Henriquez, senior class president, for his outstanding leadership this year with the Senior Opening Event.

We would like to remind parents that the campus is closed at this time and students are not permitted to leave the school grounds during the lunch periods. On September 13th, we will allow seniors who have established a grade point average of 2.0 and who have attended class regularly to leave school grounds. At the end of the first nine weeks, we will consider the juniors who have attended a grade point average of 3.0 along with a good attendance record for off campus lunch. Off campus lunch is not allowed for freshmen and sophomores. We have a very strong supervision team who are assisting with campus security. I would like to thank our teachers for their diligent efforts in this area. I know how important it is to parents to be assured of their students' whereabouts during the day.

In meeting with students this week, I have stressed regular school attendance as one of the most important factors in academic achievement. Please encourage your son or daughter to attend every day. Make appointments and vacation plans during school recesses and breaks. A sincere effort on everyone's part will greatly assist school personnel in supplying the education that the students need. We are making plans for an attendance incentive for students who show that they are working with us to make our attendance improve. I will share the details shortly.

Unfortunately, a serious accident occurred this week as students were heading home at the end of the day. Please caution your students who drive to school that the speed limit on residential streets is 30 mph maximum and in many places lower as marked. We live in a small town and it is paramount that we follow posted speed limits throughout. Please know that Key West law enforcement is investigating this incident and they are taking appropriate action. Consequences will be handled by the legal system – not by anyone else.

Don't forget to join us at the Tommy Roberts Memorial Stadium on Friday night for our pre-season game against Coral Reef High School at 7:30 PM. We want to see you there! Our cheerleaders will perform and the band will be in the stands inspiring a Conch victory.

We are looking forward to our annual Open House which will occur next Thursday, September 2nd at 6:00 PM. The schedule for Open House is listed in the side bar of this newsletter.

During the month of August, teachers and administrators review student test data to make plans for the academic year. This plan, known as the School Improvement Plan, is developed by the teachers and the School Advisory Council working together to enhance student achievement. We have had sessions during our preplanning meetings to work on the plan. We will discuss the plan with the school advisory council on Sept. 7th and seek their assistance with finalizing our objectives and strategies. That meeting will be at 6:00 PM in the Media Center. Please try to attend.

The DOE has opened a new website for parents of freshmen, listed here. Please peruse it at your convenience for some interesting information. <u>http://www.fldoe.org/BII/StudentPro/pdf/HSbrochure.pdf</u>

Yours in education,

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Dates to Remember	
Open House	9/2
College Color Day	9/3
No School	9/6
SAC Meeting	9/7
Media Center	
Early Release	9/9
ACT Test	9/11
Senior Pictures	9/13
(By Appointment)	
Senior Pictures	9/14
(By Appointment)	
Underclass Pictures	9/21

If you would like to receive this newsletter via email please send your Name, Email address, and grade level of your child to Leslie.Holmes@keysschools.co m.





Getting Involved

Students of all grade levels are encouraged to get involved in some type of organization on campus. Key West High School offers an array of athletics, clubs, and extracurricular activities to meet the needs of every student. Getting involved has many advantages such as the opportunity to learn about Key West High School and develop connections with administrators, teachers and staff. Getting involved

is also a pathway to making new friends.

It is proven that if teenagers are involved in extra-curricular activities they do better academically and socially than their peers who are not involved. Some of the benefits of being involved are a sense of belonging, team building, sportsmanship and pride in oneself. So find an interest and get involved. For more information on athletics contact Ralph Henriquez, Athletic Director, at 293-1549 ext. 54339 or Ralph.Henriquez@keysschools.com.

For more information on activities contact Leslie Holmes, Director of Student Activities, at 293-1549 ext. 54434 or leslie.holmes@keysschools.com.

The Road to Graduation

Congratulations to the class of 2011! A few reminders to start your year off right and remember to take the right path. Your counselor, Ms. Cooper is there for you, but you should also have made friends with another member of the guidance department. Who? Mrs. Calleja, she is your ticket to college. Please make sure that you are in contact with her as to deadlines for college applications and scholarships.

A few reminders

for you to get the year going:

<u>Senior Pictures</u> - if you did not take them over the summer your last chance is September 13th and 14th. See Mrs. Holmes in room 1 -132 to make an appointment.

<u>Graduation Announce-</u> <u>ments</u> - Herff-Jones will be on campus November 2nd to pass out the information packets on ordering items. Order dates are November 15-17 with a parent night on the 15th in the Media Center.

<u>College Night</u> - November 2nd

<u>Bright Futures</u> - If you plan on applying for Bright Futures you need, at minimum, to have the best composite score of 970 on the SAT (Reading and Math) or 20 ACT (excluding writing).

SAT Tests - October 9, November 6, December 4, January 22, & March 12.

ACT Tests - October 23, December 11, February



12, April 9.

<u>Yearbook</u> - Please make sure that you order a yearbook and if you are interested in purchasing a page see Mrs. Castaldo during 7th period in room 4-233.

<u>Stay In Touch</u> - If you would like to receive email updates on senior events please email Leslie Holmes.