September 17, 2010

#### Dear Parents,

Despite our best efforts, parents have been calling me that egg-throwing occurred in their neighborhood over the past week. We have cautioned the students on a daily basis regarding their responsibilities to our community and the necessity to show the community that we are a positive force rather than a negative one. I know how much the community gives to the high school and I am very thankful for the help that we get both financially and through other means of support. Next year I think that we should set up a parent task force to discuss our options and make plans to curtail this activity, particularly in areas where there is mischief going on. To those of you who heeded my message and kept your children at home on the evenings this past week – I say thank you from myself and all the community.

More information is coming to us each day regarding our status as a Correct II school in the eyes of the Department of Education. Our directive this week was for teachers to use a common board configuration in their classrooms for the presentation of information to students. The idea behind a common board configuration is that students will immediately know when they enter the room where the bell work is located, what the Essential Question is, what the objective of the day will be, what the class activity for the day will be and what their homework is. This information is critical to students' learning and the Department of Education wants to ensure that students have optimum conditions for learning in each classroom.

We have begun a school wide reading strategy which we believe will help all levels of students in the school. It is called "Annotated Reading." It is a process that you probably used when you were in college or when you were reading something that required concentration. The process is simple actually. First the student, numbers the paragraphs in the selection. Then, the student circles all the names and the dates in the reading. They also underline key ideas — words, phrases or sentences. Once this is done, they sit in small groups, discuss each paragraph and decide what the main idea is and important details are. Once they have decided on this information, they write a summary of what they have read using their own words to describe the points presented. This is a typical activity which college student use every day when they study to prepare for a class or a test. The value of this activity is that the students are engaged in the text because they are marking it as they read. The other value is that they write a summary of what they have read — both of these skills are critical for success in both high school and college.

It's a pleasure to initiate practices with the hard working teachers at Key West High School who want to improve their classroom instruction to support the learning of our students.

Yours in education, Terri Axford

Meet and Greet the New Principals - Terri Axford and Mike Henriquez will be at Centennial Bank (2514 N. Roosevelt Blvd) Monday, September 29th from 5:30-7:00.

#### **Important Dates**

9/16- 9/23	Nominations for Home- coming Court
9/21	Underclass Pictures
9/22	Progress Reports
9/29	Voting for Homecoming Court
10/7-	Keys Kids -
10/9	Dear Edwina
10/11	Professional Day

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.com



# Picture Day!

# September 21st

### **Testing Information**

ACT: Registration for the October 23rd test is Friday, September 17th. Cost \$48.

SAT: Late registration for the October 9th SAT is September 24th. Cost is \$71. The "On-Time" registration deadline for the November 6th test is October 8th.

# Congratulations

Congratulations to the Ninth Grade Center (Team Members: Melanie Stefanowicz, Anne Murphy, David Erhard, Amy Jones, Jessy Hulme, Shelley Barre, Miguel Menendez, Dave Perkins, and Lisa Clearman) at Key West High School for receiving the Florida Association for Staff Development 2010 Award for Outstanding Staff Development Practices for their implementation of the *Secondary School Redesign Initiative*. Melanie Stefanowicz and Lisa Clearman are invited to represent the group at the FASD Fall Leadership Conference and awards luncheon to be recognized for this outstanding achievement in implementation of job-embedded high-quality professional development practices. Carol Milton, the Chair of the FASD Awards Committee, commented, "It is evident that you are working hard to improve professional development in your school, and you are to be commended for your diligent work. Thank you for supporting, practicing, and sharing your exemplary professional development practices."

## Sports News

- ⇒ Football KWHS will host St. Cloud on Friday, September 17th. Kick-Off is at 7:30pm.
- $\Rightarrow$  Volleyball Home on Monday (9/20) versus Westland JV at 4:00 Varsity at 5:30.
- $\Rightarrow$  Golf Traveling to Miami Shores on the 20th for the Deering Bay Invitational. On 9/22 the team will be traveling to Marathon to take on Marathon High and Ransom.
- ⇒ Swimming traveling to take on Westminster on September 22nd.

### Conchs of the Week

Student: Austin Rodriguez

Teacher: Mrs. Palay

Weekly Character Trait: Teamwork

### **College Applications**

Ap FS

Application deadline for FSU is October 15th. If you are a senior and ap-

plying to FSU, you should be working on your essay and application now. It is recommended that the application be completed and sent at least a week prior to the deadline.

UF application deadline November 1st.



#### Senior Ad Information

Senior Ads are available to purchase, a deposit of \$50 is required to reserve a page. Initial deposit for senior ads will be accepted through October 22nd or until space runs out. If you have questions please contact Ms. Castaldo at 293-1549 ext. 54334. Posted deadlines for submission of requested materials will be strictly enforced. A page layout form must be completed before November 1st along with submitted pictures.