

DOLPHIN PRIDE

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2009-2010**

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Inside this issue:

Interview with the
Principal p. 2

Dress Code Update
p. 3

New Teachers p. 3

Fall Sports p. 4

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**SOUND THE ALARMS! IT MUST BE A 3 ALARM EMERGENCY
NO, IT'S THE 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL!**



Seniors are calm but burning to begin classes...

Mike Puto, pictured standing in the fire truck, escorts this year's new senior class as the truck drops off the students at the main entrance. This will quickly become a Leadership class tradition for our seniors as this is the second year they have organized this event. Underclassmen will just have to wait for their turn! Of course, Superman was also on hand to save the day, Binky Clarke (pictured right) removes his Clark Kent disguise to protect his fellow classmates from any first day mishaps. *Photos courtesy of Katrina Wiatt*

Welcome Back!

Hey Marathon Dolphins! Welcome back to a new school year. This year will bring new events, clubs, teachers, courses, and schedules. We even have a new Dolphin Pride staff!

In this issue, we have a monthly zodiac, back to school fashion piece, an interview with our principal, reminders on school rules and dress code, and of course updates on our

Dolphin sports and marching band. We hope to continue to provide you with interesting articles throughout the school year.

Freshmen- welcome to the pack. Sophomores- you're still underclassmen, juniors- you work hard, and seniors- good luck! Once again, welcome back and we hope you all have a great school year!

Michelle Saunders, Dolphin Pride Assistant Editor



By Jessica Smith

The pandemic that's been spreading rapidly through our nation for the past year has finally hit the Keys. Marathon High School has had several confirmed cases of H1N1 (swine flu) causing a brief and outraged panic in the student body. The outrage escalated when it was revealed that there were four confirmed cases of swine flu at MHS towards the end of last year. Students and parents alike were upset with the administration for

keeping the information from the public for months, and even then, revealing it only to teachers.

While H1N1 is no worse in symptom and duration than the common flu, it is considered a pandemic, and spreads incredibly fast. Many feel that keeping these cases from the public, and inadequate cleaning and quarantine when the first cases were confirmed, may have greatly contributed to the spread of the virus, but no one has confirmed exactly what measures were taken.

After students and parents were finally informed that swine flu had spread to MHS, mild panic ensued. Students began walking the halls armed with hand sanitizer, and a larger than average amount stayed home ill, or went to the nurse's office with flu

symptoms. Some of these cases were inevitably psychosomatic (only in the mind of the 'sick' person). However, many students were legitimately ill with the H1N1 virus. Our own principal was one of the first to come down with a confirmed case of swine flu. H1N1 has stricken not only the school, but the entire town. The panic has wound down, and most ill students have recovered. There are still a few out sick, and even fewer with swine flu. The town may have had a brief scare, but as always, things seem to have returned to normal.



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An Interview with the Principal

By Cindy Zaldivar

We're back at school. Let's ask our principal, Mr. Russell some questions about this coming school year:

What do you expect from the students this year? "I expect our students to succeed in school and to achieve their goals."

What do you think about the new programs? Before he answered the question he took out a huge binder where he has all the information about the new programs. This binder is similar to one all teachers have in order to keep track of all the new exciting programs. "I'm very excited about all the new programs such as, Florida Reading Initiative (FRI), Positive Behavior Support (PBS) AVID (a program to assist students for college) and Culinary Academy."



Mr. Russell and Cindy Zaldivar.

What do you have to say about the fact that students only have two lunch period this year? "I think it is fantastic. Now the reason I think that, is because last year we had three lunch periods and that took of our academic time. So now students have ten more minutes."

What do you want to say about our new teachers? "They are highly qualified. They will be great teachers for our students."

This year marching band doesn't have enough members, could you do something about it (since is big part of our school)? "That's a big challenge for our band teacher (Mr. Whitfield). That's why he's teaching kids at the elementary school, so he can get them excited about band."

Can we students talk to you not just as our principal but as a friend, too? ABSOLUTELY, everyone needs a friend that they can trust and someone that will hear them no matter what.

Will there be any change to the lunch menu this year? No, and the reason for this answer is because the school district gives students what is healthy to eat.

Finally, What advice would you give to students this year? "..... DREAM BIG and work hard to achieve your goals."

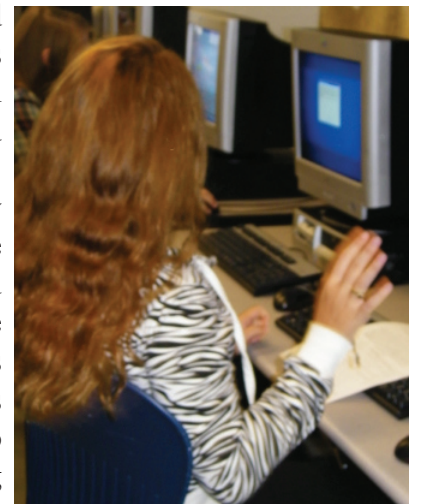
In conclusion, it looks like our principal will be there to help students, teachers and parents have a busy, productive school year.

Back to School Fashion: Got style?

By Vanessa Jean

Fashion is important, especially for high school students. The first day of school is always the most important day for students to show their style. From clothes to shoes, and everything in between; accessories matter too. Fashion can show who you are or who you want to be. It's a statement about the person you want to be, and how you present yourself. From magazines to televisions, fashion is all around us. Differences in styles can be seen in different brands; from Coogi to Roca Wear and American Eagle to Hollister. When it comes to rich or poor it doesn't matter, because style is available at any price. From Macy's and exclusive mallshopstoour own neighborhood stores such as, Anthony's, Bealls and even K-mart, students can pick from a variety of shops and prices.

After speaking with a few students, it seems that everyone agrees; it doesn't matter where you shop as long as you have a sense of who you are. With these ideas in mind, I asked a few students what they thought style meant to them. "Style to me is expressing yourself," says Lianet. "To me it defines who you are," concludes Sabrina.



Zebra stripes are always in style.

Photo courtesy of Vanessa Jean

Are you in dress code?

By Lianet Fleites

Do you agree with the new MHS dress code policy?

The new policy addresses the following:
Shorts, skirts, and skorts must be more than six inches above the knee.
Students must wear shoes.
No oversized or trench coats.
No clothing or accessories that disrupt the learning environment.
At least 3 inches of sleeves.

Although there should be dress code policies to keep students from showing too much or promoting things that shouldn't be seen on a school campus, the administration can't be too strict about it! So the question is: "Does the student body really follow these new rules"? Well to tell you the truth, many students don't and as a result they are in violation of the dress code according to the administration.

There are many reasons why the students are not following the dress code. First, students usually say that we are in the Keys and we are supposed to have a laid back environment. Second, why can't we wear sandals??? The opinion of the students is as follows:

"I don't understand why the school feels we distract others by showing our shoulders", said Sabrina Zaveri, a senior at Marathon High School who is not happy with the new code.

"I feel like students should be able to define themselves by the clothes they wear and this new dress code gets in the way", exclaimed Vanessa Jean.

In conclusion, this year most of the student body at MHS does not agree on having and applying the new dress code.

Two Lunches: Too Much Trouble?

By Christina Rios

"Ring!" You hear the bell and you run to your locker. Your fourth period class is on the third floor and you're in a rush to get to the cafeteria. You get in the door and the line is huge. You wait, and when you finally buy your lunch you realize that the only seats open are in the hot sun. Has this ever happened to you? This year it's been happening more and more because there are only two lunch periods: middle and high school lunch.

Many issues have come out of this. For example, it takes too long to wait in line for lunch. Students like to believe it's just because it's more economic to have just two lunches. "That's not the only reason", Mrs. McPherson says. "Students receive educational benefits, a time benefit, and the benefit of a safer lunch." She told me how there are more teachers during these two lunches, and the high school students get more time during their lunch. This is because teachers are all required to have a half an hour lunch period, and it was hard to incorporate that in a three lunch schedule. But the most important reason was to get rid of split classes, which was a big problem last year. So you decide: Is it a solution or just another problem?

Get ready, get set... Club!

By: Della Draper

Teens racing through the hallways to get to their clubs, who could have thought that kids would actually enjoy doing something in school? Well, with a choice of so many clubs who wouldn't be excited? Students have the choice to go to clubs such as: Interact, high school and middle school book club, chess club, middle and high school academic challenge, Z club, art club, health commitment, drama club, Nike, fishing and scuba club, Lifetime Wells for Ghana club and National Honor Society (NJHS/NHS) clubs. With more ideas being considered. Who wouldn't be happy with a little time off classes and fun activities to keep students occupied?



Dr. Bayerl and the NHS meet to discuss future events. Photo courtesy of Lianet Fleites

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

By Kaitlynn Landry

“What are your goals for this school year?” “I want to help my students to be better prepared, for what they might face in high school,” said Ms. Maresma. She then went into depth about how much she stresses team work



Ms. Maresma smiles enthusiastically for the camera. Photo courtesy of Christina Rios

and how important it is in order to improve the middle school community. Not only is Ms. Maresma a middle school history teacher, she is also the middle school team leader. When she took the job it was an unexpected, yet wonderful surprise. She plans to improve it by constantly meeting and working together with her team.

She hopes that her students can enjoy both coming to school, and the experiences that they will have at this time in their lives. Ms. Maresma quoted, “Take advantage of the opportunities that are offered to you here at Marathon Middle School.” She plans that this school year will be an enjoyable experience like no other.

Stars by Sabrina Z.



I'm Sabrina Z., the MHS astrologist and I'll be here guiding you through this school year and preparing you for what's in store. Look out Libras, it's your month and this is what you have coming your way...

Libras are idealistic, Diplomatic individuals that may have trouble staying on task this month. A little innocent flirtation in the halls would be a plus but watch out, chances are this month someone might be deceiving you, or working against you. Also nagging issues from the past may arise and demand attention. Be aware of mixed signals and fakeness in others. Withdraw from the hustle and bustle of daily life and meet your needs at this time. Lucky days- September 4th, 7th, 22nd and 29th.



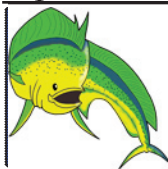
Tuesday, September 8th Students across the country watched the President Obama's speech at 12:00 pm. The speech was 15-20 minutes long and was shown in all classrooms. Pictured above students at MHS viewing the President's national speech. By Trishelle Talbert

New Teachers Walk the Halls of MHS

MHS is proud to welcome several new teachers this school year.

They have come to us from several different places across our nation and all have expressed their appreciation for the warm welcome they have received at MHS. Pictured below from left to right: Jan Behmer- is our new ESOL teacher. Kristin Butcher, our new guidance counselor and Andrea Rapach, ESE teacher take a moment out of their busy day to say hello. Helen Legare, is our middle school science teacher, Alexandra Federal has joined our Keys Center program and Nancy Atwater is a new addition to our Math Department. Welcome! The Dolphin Pride staff wishes you all success at MHS.





DOLPHIN SPORTS

Volleyball

Fall Sports by Jose Galicia

MHS Football

Our girls' volley ball team started their season on fire, winning the pre-season Key's classic which took place at Coral Shores. The first game was against Key West. Our Lady 'fins destroyed the conchs, the final score was 9-25; 25-22; 15-13. The next game, they played Coral Shores. The game was so intense it went to overtime. After a long and hard game, we ended up winning with the final two points. The Lady 'fins record is 5-2 (counting the pre-season classic) and will be hoping to make it 6-2 Friday, September 18 when they will face Miami Christian at home.



Photo courtesy of Diana Walker

MHS vs. Pompano Beach

The MHS football team's first game of the '09 season was played August 28th, and the Dolphins couldn't have started the season any better than with a home win. The Dolphins are looking good, especially after they beat Pompano Beach, 54-19. The game was very entertaining and we are hoping that they keep playing like this.

Archbishop McCarthy vs. MHS

September 5th, the dolphins traveled up to Southwest Ranches, Fl to play Archbishop McCarthy. Many of us were very excited especially after we saw how the dolphins played the week before when they destroyed Pompano Beach. Our dolphins came home disappointed, losing 41-15. "In the first half it was game of two good football teams, neither team could score, the defenses were playing great. Then in the second half, they came in and scored a quick touchdown. After that, the special teams began making many mistakes and that caused us the game" said senior kicker Matt DeFillips (pictured right). They will be hoping to get back to winning when they face Key's rivals Coral Shores at home.

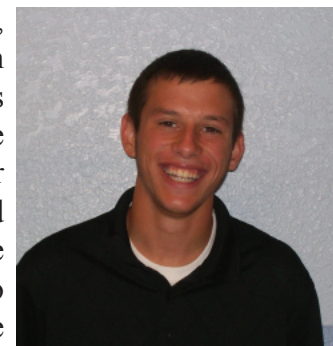


Photo courtesy of Jose Galicia

Marching Band News: A Change in Season

By MJ Perez

The marching season started off with a bang this year as a handful of new marchers join the ranks. With the successful graduation of seven seniors, the loss of three old numbers, and the addition of eight new marchers, the band membership is up to 16. With a prospective 37 member middle school band, all of whom should be joining us on the field within the next two years, the band is looking at an excellent year. The band's director, Stephen Whitfield states, "I am happy to say we have a full band of dedicated marchers, who are all working hard and setting the stage for the next season's band." With direction from Mr. Whitfield and the new field commander, senior William "Binky" Clarke, we can all expect an interesting band program this season.



Photo courtesy of MJ Perez

Cross Country

By Jose Galicia

"I'm expecting a good season with several runners going to state," responded Coach Lettau when he was asked what he was expecting this year. Last year, the cross country team had a fairly good season; he's hoping for a better one this year. He says he expects to see Virgilio Sanchez, Naiomi Valerdi, Riley Durkin, and Kelsey Wonderlin, the only runner from Marathon that went to state last year, to be heading to state this year. The cross country team will have their first meet Monday, Sept. 21st against Palmer Trinity, Westwood, and Key's rival, Coral Shores.



Students posing for the camera before their team photo session.

Photos courtesy of Dolphin Pride staff



Official Marathon High Athletics Photographer, Dr. Kathy Lancaster (pictured center below) is getting ready to photograph the cross country runners. Bottom right: The cross country team races across the field for Dr. Lancaster's photo shoot.



Photo Courtesy of Dr. Kathy Lancaster

