

Good evening Shark Nation!

This week on **Wednesday, January 17th** and **Thursday, January 18th**, our **9th and 10th graders will take PM2**, the second of the three progress monitoring/FAST assessments. This important test will help us determine what standards we need to focus on prior to PM3 (graduation requirement). Please note that the results of this PM2 test will drive our instruction for the remainder of the school year. We will differentiate where possible assigning students that are NOT performing above grade level extra assignments to ensure they are prepared for the graduation requirement assessment in late April/May. **Students that do NOT perform up to standard may have their schedule changed, receive additional technology extra practice, and/or be required to attend MANDATORY tutoring leading up to PM3 later this year.** All 9th graders will test on **Wed. 1/17** and all **10th graders** will test on **Thursday, 1/18**. Please be on time with a FULLY charged device ready to test so that you do not have to be pulled from classes later on to make up this important test. There will be an altered bell schedule(attached) for those two days.

The **PTSA's** fundraising auction will take place February 5 - 12 online at **www.auction4sharks.com**. This is the largest fundraiser to support River's students and teachers. Save the dates to go online to bid on VIP graduation tickets, reserved parking spots, Amazon gift card raffles and more!

We work hard to ensure you are informed but we can always do better. With your feedback celebrating what we do right and suggestions for improvement we can make Spanish River even better. The **School District of Palm Beach County** wants to hear from YOU! This year's **School Effectiveness Survey (SEQ)** measures the perception each stakeholder has in our schools. This information is vital to our school leaders to advance the mission of the school district - educate, affirm, and inspire each student in an equity-embedded school system. Academic excellence and growth, parental involvement, school climate, and many other topics are covered by the SEQ. The link to complete the SEQ is <http://l.sdpbc.net/zzhjx>. The window to complete the SEQ will remain open until February 9. We have attached a copy of the flier with QR code to assist you in locating and completing the SEQ.

As many of you are aware the School District has purchased metal detectors for all high school campuses. The metal detectors are expected to arrive sometime this Spring. We will begin to prepare for these increased safety measures this week. We will prepare for implementation in stages

- The first stage begins Tuesday, January 16. We ask that you do NOT drop off students prior to 6:45 AM. The campus will be closed until that time and any students dropped off prior to 6:45 am will need to wait outside of campus until supervision opens the gates at 6:45 am.
- The second stage will begin on Monday, January 22. In addition to the campus being closed until 6:45 am, students will also need to have their badge on their person as they enter campus as they will be badged in at the entrance. Students that arrive prior to 6:45 am will need to wait outside the gates until our scanners are ready to scan IDs upon entrance.
- The date the third stage begins is currently TBD and will depend on when the scanners arrive.

Any student without an ID should get one this week. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we seek to continue to maintain a safe and secure environment.

Literacy Week is approaching! We would like to invite everyone out to Family Literacy Night on Monday, January 22 to support literacy week. We hope that you will bring the whole family and there will be something for everyone!! We will be having library check outs, a book fair for all ages, student performances and readings, information from Boca Library, and so much more. Please join us with the whole family anytime from 4 to 6 pm on January 22nd. We cannot wait to see you there.

SENIORS! Herff Jones will be on campus during lunches on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 in the gym lobby to take cap and gown orders. If you have not already ordered, this is the date to do so! You **MUST** have a cap and gown from Herff Jones in order to participate in the graduation on May 13, 2024 at the Fairgrounds!

After-School Drivers Education course will be offered starting January 24th. If your child is interested in signing up please have them see the school announcements regarding dates and times. If you have any further questions please contact dionne.newman@palmbeachschools.org.

On Friday, our DECA Chapter traveled to Keiser University to compete in this year's **DECA District Competition**. We are proud to announce that **163 students qualified** for the State Competition. The students competed with a problem solving styled role-play or a planned presentation. We had 26 1st Place, 21 2nd place, and 14 3rd place winners.

Our 1st Place Winners:

- Business Finance Series: Lorenzo Alessi
- Business Law & Ethics Team Decision Making: Samantha Anders & Alec Beylus
- Business Services Marketing: Bhavya Kadian
- Buying and Merchandising Team Decision Making: Sasha Cooper & Leah Hoffman
- Financial Consulting Event: Joselyn Smeal
- Hospitality & Tourism Professional Selling: Sophia Samuelson
- Hospitality Services Team Decision Making: Ava Balsam & Jake Breslaw
- Hotel & Lodging Management: Alexandra Katz
- Innovation Plan: Annaka Banasiak & Ellie Blum
- Integrated Marketing Campaign - Event: Kyle Weinstock & Ryan Weinstock
- Integrated Marketing Campaign - Product: Madolyn Murphy
- Marketing Management Team Decision Making: Leo Bettinger & Justin Feinberg
- Professional Selling: Corynne Pereira
- Quick Service Restaurant Management: Zain Jafri
- Sports & Entertainment Marketing Team Decision Making: Jesse Cohen & Shea Huberman
- Start-Up Business Plan: Savannah Fieldly & Alexandra Hill
- Travel & Tourism Team Decision Making: Jacob Glover & Andie Huberman

We still have a large amount of DECA books that are being judged, giving us the opportunity to qualify even more members for DECA States. We also want to thank all of our DECA advisors for the hard work they put in to help organize this event for the students!!

Our defending state champion **Softball team** will begin tryouts on January 22. Please make sure that you have your athletic packet complete on Aktivite prior to tryouts. Any questions see Coach Ranfone in room 8-120.

Baseball tryouts will be held January 22, 23 and 24. **Freshmen and sophomores** will start at 4pm each day, while **juniors and seniors** will start at 6:30pm. Tryouts will be held on campus at the baseball field. If you have any questions, please reach out to head coach Jose Zabala at jzcurro@gmail.com.

A general reminder to all **prospective spring sport athletes**: please make sure your Aktivite packets are complete. They can be accessed and completed at aktivite.com. Please reach out to AD Suarez or Asst. AD Youell with any questions.

Speaking of our student-athletes, **we are so PROUD of an additional two Fall Sports' Athletes that were recognized for their accomplishments:**

Boys Golf – Reed Greyserman – Sun Sentinel All-County Boys Golf First Team

Girls Golf – Jayden Loyacona – Palm Beach Post All-County Girls Golf Team

Reminder in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., there is NO SCHOOL tomorrow.

Quick Glance this week at River - SPORTS (Note - DH = doubleheader, TH = tripleheader)

Monday, January 15th - School Closed/Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday, January 16th - Girls Varsity Basketball hosts Pinecrest (5:30 pm-HOME), Boys Varsity Basketball hosts Grandview (7:30 pm-HOME)

Wednesday, January 17th - Weightlifting hosts Atlantic (4 pm, weight room); Girls Varsity Soccer hosts Somerset Pines-Pompano (6pm, Shark Pit)

Thursday, January 18th - Boys Basketball TH hosts Olympic Heights (Freshmen 4:30 pm, JV 6:00 pm, Varsity 7:30 pm-HOME); Girls Varsity Basketball visits Olympic Heights (6:00 pm); Boys Varsity Soccer visits Park Vista (7:30 pm)

Friday, January 19th - Boys Varsity Soccer visits Olympic Heights (7:30pm); Boys Basketball DH hosts Boca High (JV 6:00 pm, Varsity 7:30 pm, John Jones Court); JV Wrestling at Palm Beach Central Tournament; School Duel against Benjamin School (BeaconTV)

Saturday, January 20th - JV Wrestling at Palm Beach Central Tournament; Varsity Wrestling at Raich Memorial Duals (at Cardinal Newman School)

Quick Glance this week at River - College Visits and Other School-Wide Events

Monday, January 15th - *School Closed/Martin Luther King Jr. Day*

Tuesday, January 16th - SAC Meeting (6:00 pm, Biotech Lab-7-105)

Wednesday, January 17th - *Nothing Scheduled*

Thursday, January 18th - Spanish and French Honor Societies Induction Ceremonies (6:00 pm, cafeteria)

Friday, January 19th - *Nothing Scheduled*

Saturday, January 20th - *Nothing Scheduled*

Let's make it a great week, Sharks!

Your proud principal,

Mrs. Castellano