

A detailed illustration of a blue marlin leaping from the water. The fish is shown in profile, facing left, with its long, pointed snout and open mouth. Its body is dark blue with prominent white horizontal stripes along its side. The dorsal fin is large and dark blue, and the tail is also dark blue with a forked shape. The fish is emerging from a splash of blue water at the bottom right. The background is a light blue gradient.

# **Welcome Future Blue Marlins!!!**

**Respectful, Responsible, &  
Ready to Learn**

# Administration



**Mr. Gatlin, 6th Grade  
Assistant Principal**



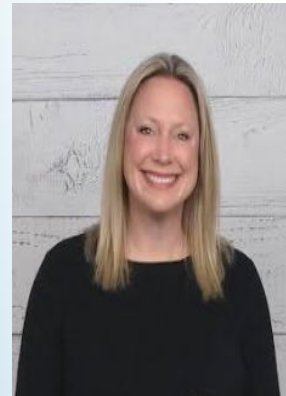
**Ms. Reyes, 7th Grade  
Assistant Principal**



**Mr. Thomas  
Principal**



**Mr. Ortolaza, 8th Grade  
Assistant Principal**



**Ms. Vaughan  
Dean of Student Services**



# School Counseling Team



**Ms. Nicolaas, 6th Grade**



**Ms. McWatt**



**Ms. Parraga, ESOL & DL 6-8  
Last Names A-L**



**Ms. Del Valle, ESOL & DL 6-8  
Last Names M-Z**



# Coordinators



**Ms. Crespo, ESE  
Coordinator**



**Ms. Gladwin, ESOL Coordinator**



**Mr. Fasone, Choice Coordinator & PBS Coach**



**Coach Q(uaranta), Athletic Director**





# The Blue Marlin Way

## " A Shared Commitment"

**Vision** - To be a world class IB & AVID Middle School

**Mission** -To prepare students for college by ensuring high school readiness through our four pillars:

Standards, High Expectations, Personalized & Engaged.

A Collaborative Effort in Progress.....

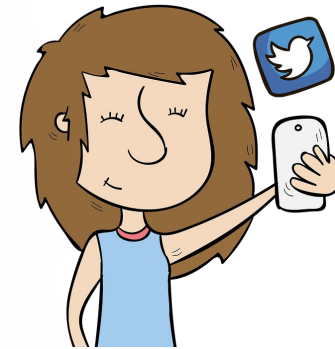
## Blue Marlins Are...

- Respectful
- Responsible
- Ready to Learn



# Where to Get Up-to-Date Information

- [www.palmbeachschools.org/ConnistonMiddle](http://www.palmbeachschools.org/ConnistonMiddle)
- Twitter: @ConnistonMiddle
- Parent Link Emails
- Parent Link Robocalls



**\*\*\*Please make sure your phone & emails are updated in SIS.**

**[Update My Contact Information - Conniston MS](#)**





# Blue Marlin Excellence



The ONLY AVID National School of Distinction  
in PB County

One of 4 IB Middle Schools in PB County

Platinum Positive Behavior School

CMS Band: Straight Superiors (highest ranking in  
school history)

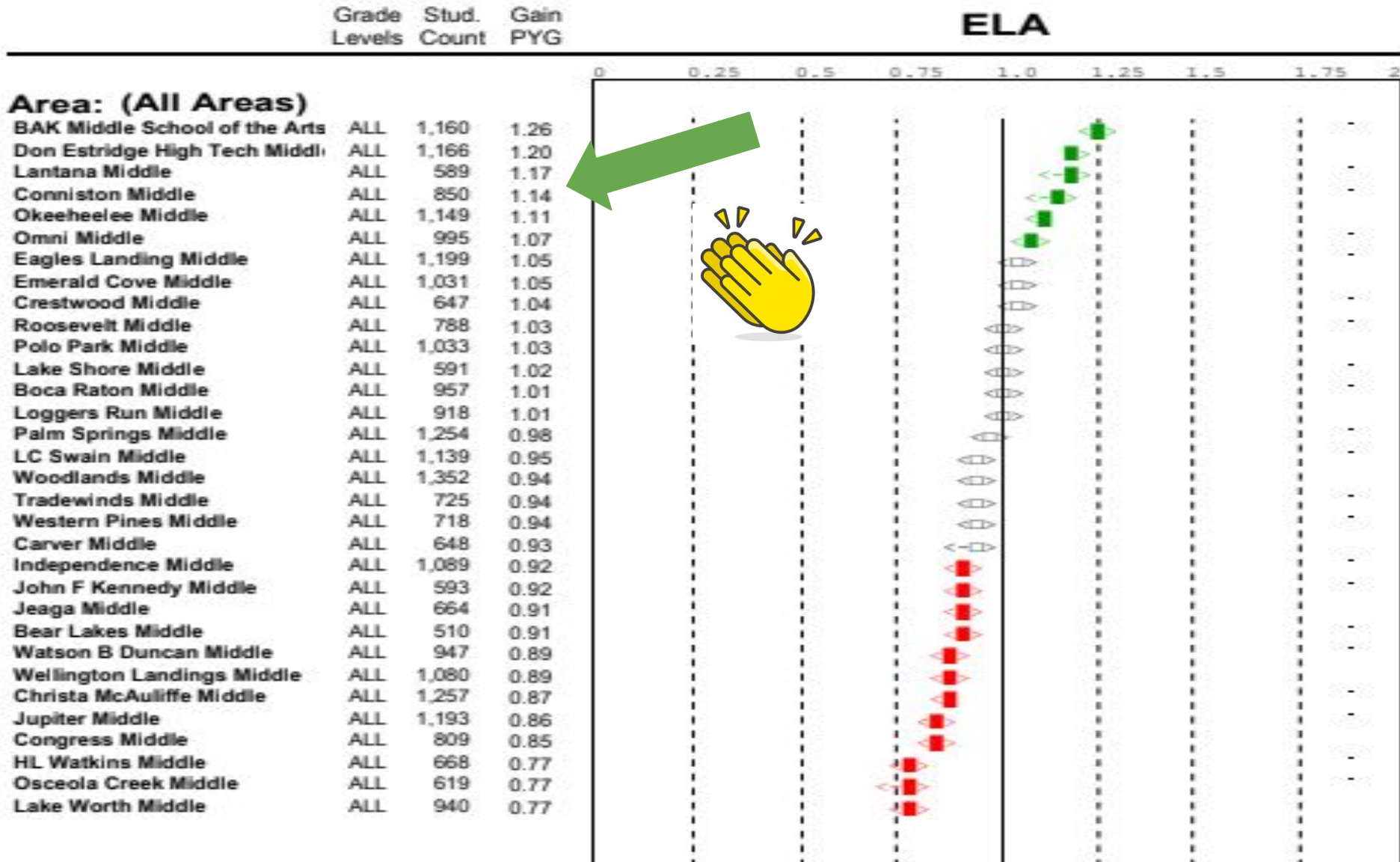
PB County Flag Football Champions

4th Most Growth in Reading in 2022

6th Most Growth in Math in 2022

# SY22 PB County Middle School ELA Results

## Conniston : #4 in Student Growth



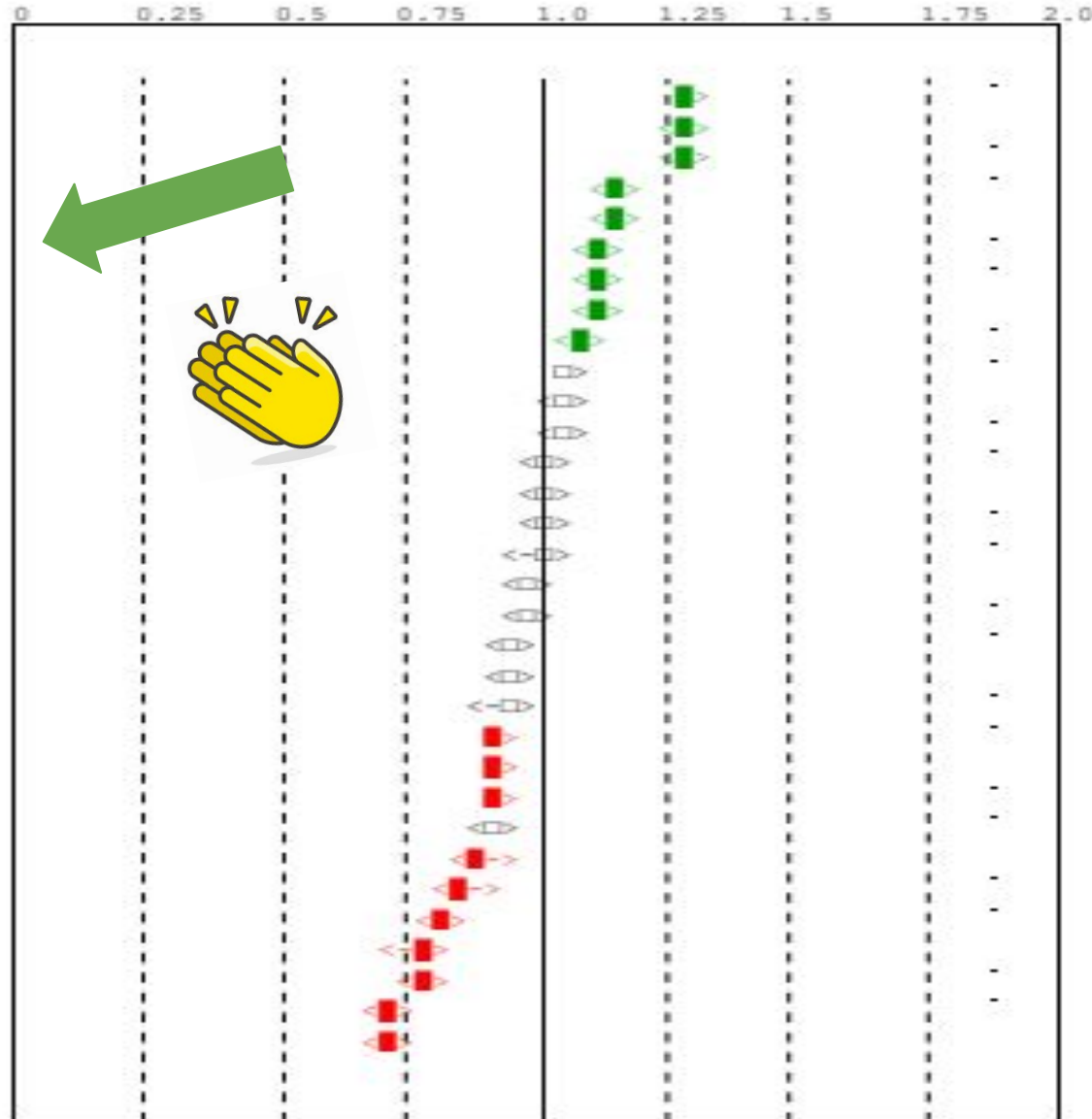


# SY22 PB County Middle School MATH Results

## Conniston: #6 in Student Growth

### Area: (All Areas)

School	ALL	Count	Score
Don Estridge High Tech Middl	ALL	1,151	1.30
Omni Middle	ALL	995	1.29
BAK Middle School of the Arts	ALL	1,152	1.29
Roosevelt Middle	ALL	788	1.17
Eagles Landing Middle	ALL	1,172	1.15
Conniston Middle	ALL	857	1.13
Loggers Run Middle	ALL	915	1.11
Okeeheelee Middle	ALL	1,175	1.11
LC Swain Middle	ALL	1,127	1.09
Emerald Cove Middle	ALL	1,017	1.06
Lantana Middle	ALL	573	1.05
Western Pines Middle	ALL	712	1.04
Tradewinds Middle	ALL	726	1.02
Wellington Landings Middle	ALL	1,077	1.01
Boca Raton Middle	ALL	964	1.01
John F Kennedy Middle	ALL	611	1.01
Crestwood Middle	ALL	635	0.98
Jupiter Middle	ALL	1,199	0.98
Palm Springs Middle	ALL	1,252	0.94
Osceola Creek Middle	ALL	619	0.94
Jeaga Middle	ALL	681	0.93
Polo Park Middle	ALL	1,037	0.93
Independence Middle	ALL	1,074	0.93
Christa McAuliffe Middle	ALL	1,257	0.93
Bear Lakes Middle	ALL	524	0.92
Lake Shore Middle	ALL	593	0.89
HL Watkins Middle	ALL	670	0.86
Lake Worth Middle	ALL	933	0.80
Carver Middle	ALL	642	0.77
Congress Middle	ALL	818	0.77
Watson B Duncan Middle	ALL	930	0.73
Woodlands Middle	ALL	1,361	0.71

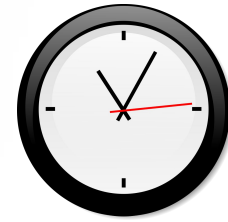


A detailed illustration of a blue marlin leaping out of the water. The fish is shown in profile, facing left, with its long, pointed snout and open mouth. Its body is dark blue with prominent white horizontal stripes along its side. The dorsal fin is large and dark blue, and the tail is also dark blue with a forked shape. The fish is surrounded by splashing water, depicted with white and light blue droplets and waves. The background is a gradient of light blue to white.

# **Blue Marlin Time**

**Respectful, Responsible, &  
Ready to Learn**

# Blue Marlin Time



- School District Calendar English:

**[SY24 School Calendar English](#)**

- School District Calendar Spanish:

**[SY24 School Calendar Spanish](#)**

- Campus opens & free breakfast is served at 7:30 a.m.
- Instruction begins at 8:00 a.m.



# Blue Marlin Time



- **7:30 a.m. - 7:50 a.m.: Enter the campus via front gate (walkers/car riders) or the bus loop entrance (bus riders).  
\*Parent/Family drivers please be patient.**
- **Students and staff should enter wearing their School I.D. Badge. This is Conniston Middle School, SDPBC, FLDOE policy.**
- **Hoods, hats, headphones must not be on heads, and headphones should not be in/on ears while on school campus.  
  
\*This is to support safety and learning.**



# Blue Marlin Time

- Conniston operates on a rotating schedule:

## CMS Sliding Bell Schedule

### Schedule

1st 8:00 - 8:50

2nd 8:54- 9:44

3rd 9:48 - 10:38

4th 10:42 - 1:02 (Marlins meet and lunch)

5th 1:06 - 1:56

6th 2:00 - 2:50

Times	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
8:00-8:50	1	2	3	4	5	6
8:54-9:44	2	3	4	5	6	1
9:48-10:38	3	4	5	6	1	2
10:42-1:02	4	5	6	1	2	3
1:06-1:56	5	6	1	2	3	4
2:00-2:50	6	1	2	3	4	5



## SY24 Conniston Sliding Schedule

- After School/Boys & Girls Club Dismissal: 2:47 p.m.
- Staggered Dismissal: 2:50-3:00 p.m.





# **School Policies & Provided Supplies**

**Respectful, Responsible, &  
Ready to Learn**

# School District Universal ID Badges



- **SDPBC will be requiring universal ID badges next school year.**
- **This is in an effort to do everything possible to keep our students & staff safe.**
- **Technology permitting, students will be scanned onto buses as well as into campus each morning.**
- **Students will need ID badges for the media center, the cafeteria, and certain school activities.**
- **This is a districtwide effort to increase safety across school campuses.**



# Mesh or Clear Backpacks



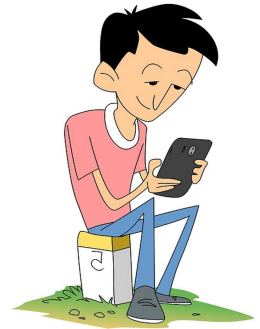
- **Students must use a clear or mesh backpack.**
- **Conniston Middle School will provide your student with his/her first mesh backpack.**
- **This is not in response to any incident that has occurred on campus.**
- **It is in an effort to do everything possible to keep our students & staff safe.**
- **It is recommended students carry a garbage bag in their backpacks to protect their items against rain.**





# NEW Classroom Supplies & Backpack Policy

- Teaching in the smartphone era has become incredibly challenging for educators.
- Teachers are competing with TikTok, YouTube, social media, video games, texting & air dropping while trying to meet rigorous standards and teach students complex concepts.
- Beginning in August, students will be required to place what they need for class on their desk and place their backpacks in an area designated by the classroom teacher.
- Students are not permitted to take cell phones into the restrooms.



# Dress Code/School Shirt Sizing Pre-Orders



- Dress code has been updated and now permits hoodies without zippers (no hoods on heads), joggers, and sweatpants.

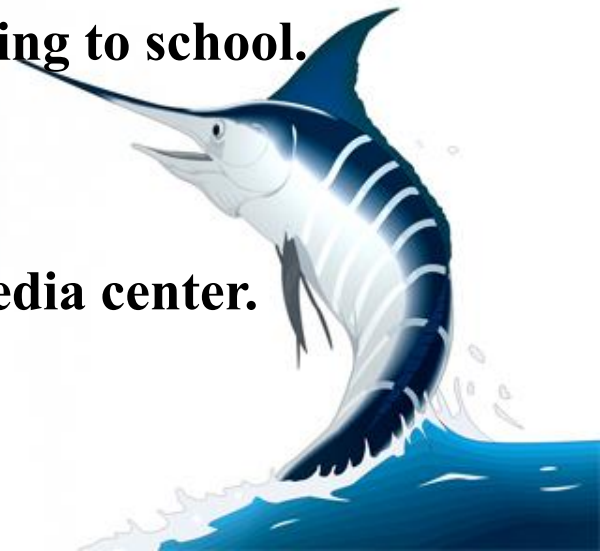
## **SY24 Dress Code**

- That said, the dress code will be enforced and parents should communicate and, if necessary, monitor students for dress code daily.
- Please look for messages after July 1 pertaining to school shirts.
- Parents may order/purchase in person this summer as well. Orders begin in mid-July.
- 



# Student Chromebooks




- **Chromebooks are the property of the school and SDPBC & will be distributed to students the week of August 10.**
- **Please charge your chromebook nightly.**
- **Do not lend or give your chromebook, charger (or cell phone!) to your classmates.**
- **Chargers are \$28. Charge nightly and do not bring to school.**
- **If you have any issues with your chromebook, please see Ms. Simpson or Mr. Maseda in the media center.**
- **Students are responsible for their chromebooks.**
















# School Supplies

- **Conniston Middle School will be providing your student with a free planner with calendar, etc.**
- **Please click on link below for our school supply list. Parents should expect a few additional items requested in August, but it is our hope this give parents good idea of what is needed for student success at Conniston Middle School.**

**[SY24 Conniston Supply List](#)**

 **CONNISTON MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
SUPPLIES LIST / LISTA de ÚTILES  

\*The following items should be brought to school by each student every day throughout the school year. You may choose to purchase packages and replenish your student's binder-pencil case as necessary.  
\*Los siguientes artículos se deben traer todos los días durante el año escolar. Usted puede elegir comprar paquetes para tener en casa y reponerlos en la carpeta/estuche de lápices cuando sea necesario.

- 1 Standard Backpack / Mochila Escolar 
- 1 Three-Inch 3-Ring Binder / Carpeta de 3 Pulgadas y 3 Argollas 
- 1 Set of 6 Tab Dividers / 6 Divisores de Cuaderno 
- (8) 1 Subject Spiral Notebook / Cuaderno Espiral de 1 Asignatura 
- 1 Three Hole Punch Pencil Pouch / Estuche de Lápices con 3 Argollas 
- 1 Three Hole Punch Ruler / Regla con 3 Agujeros 
- 2 Sharpened #2 Pencils / Lápices #2 
- 2 Magic Rub Erasers / Borradores Blancos 
- 2 Black Pens, 2 Blue Pens, 2 Red Pens / Lápices Azul, Negro, Rojo 
- College Ruled Notebook Paper / Papel para Cuaderno de Linea Delgada 
- Reinforcement Labels / Etiquetas de Refuerzo 
- 1 Glue Stick / Barra de Pegamento 
- Highlighters / Resaltadores 

Please Note: These are basic supplies required for all grades. Individual teachers may have specific supplies requests which will be sent home during the first week of school.  
Tenga en Cuenta: Estos son los útiles básicos requeridos para todos los grados. Cada maestro puede tener requisitos específicos que enviará durante la primera semana de clase.



A detailed illustration of a blue marlin leaping from the water. The fish is shown in profile, facing left, with its long, pointed snout and open mouth. Its body is silver with dark blue vertical stripes along its side. The dorsal fin is large and dark blue, and the tail is also dark blue. The fish is emerging from a splash of blue water at the bottom right. The background is a gradient of light blue to white.

# Blue Marlin Life

Respectful, Responsible, & Ready  
to Learn

# Blue Marlin Life



- **August 1 & 2: Blue Marlin Summer Splash**  
**For 6th graders only. (*Get to know your new school!*)**
- **August 10: 1st Day of School (Independence Day)**
  - Syllabus in every class
  - Agenda
  - **SY24 Dress Code**
  - **Backpacks: Mesh/Clear Provided by Conniston Middle School**
  - **Electronic Devices**
  - **Hallway Expectations including passes**
  - **We Are Here to Be Safe & Learn.**





# **Attendance/Tardy Policy**

**Respectful, Responsible, &  
Ready to Learn**

# Attendance/Tardy Policy



- On time & ready to learn
- If absent, a signed parent note may be turned into the main office to create an excused absence for the student.
- Parents may also email our data processor Ms. Callei

[debra.callei@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:debra.callei@palmbeachschools.org)

- Four minute minutes to get to your next class.  
Detours are not permitted.





A detailed illustration of a marlin leaping from the water. The fish is shown in profile, facing left, with its long, pointed snout and open mouth. Its body is dark blue with prominent white horizontal stripes. The dorsal fin is large and dark blue, and the tail is also dark blue with a forked shape. The fish is emerging from a splash of blue water at the bottom right. The background is a gradient of light blue to white.

# Health Screenings

**Respectful, Responsible, &  
Ready to Learn**

# 6th Grade Health Screenings



- **Health screenings to be conducted in school will be available in the fall for all 6th grade students. (*Vision, Hearing, BMI, and Scoliosis*)**
- **Prior to the screening, more detailed information will be sent home via flyers, Parent Link emails and robocalls.**
- **Students will need updated vaccinations and physicals for 7th grade.**





# **Opportunities for Parents & Family Members**

**Respectful, Responsible, &  
Ready to Learn**

# School Advisory Council (SAC)



- **SAC is an advisory council made up of parents, teachers, staff, students, and community members with the goal of improving student engagement, learning, growth and achievement.**
- **First Meeting: August 22 at 5:30 p.m.**
- **Regular Meetings: Third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.**



# School Advisory Council (SAC)

- **How to Get Involved: All community members are invited to participate. We look forward to seeing everyone.**
- **SAC Contact Information: Will be sent to parents after July 1.**



[SY24 Conniston School Advisory Council Information](#)



# Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

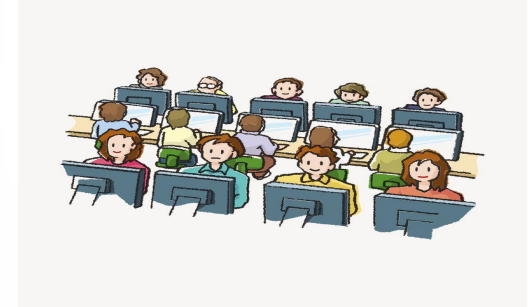


- **PTO gives parents and teachers the opportunity to work together to supplement and enrich the educational experience for teachers and students.**
- **First Meeting: August 22 @ immediately following the SAC Meeting.**
- **Regular Meetings: Third Tuesday of the month immediately following the SAC Meeting.**



# Blue Marlin Family Night

- **Monthly parent information and skills training for parents and family members.**
- **Food will be served.**
- **Monthly topics include, but will not be limited to:**
  - ➔ **Beginning of year support for students**
  - ➔ **Technology support & resources for parents/students**
  - ➔ **Social media and electronics safety**
  - ➔ **Vaping and its impact on students**
  - ➔ **State testing information & support**
- **First Meeting: September 19 following SAC & PTO**





## **Blue Marlin Nation**

**Respectful, Responsible, &  
Ready to Learn**



# Open House/Curriculum Night



- **Parents will be able to follow their student's schedule to visit all six classes, meet teachers, and learn about about the curriculum and classroom expectations.**

**September 7, 2023**

**6:00 P.M.**

**(Parking on the athletic fields)**



# Registration for New School Year

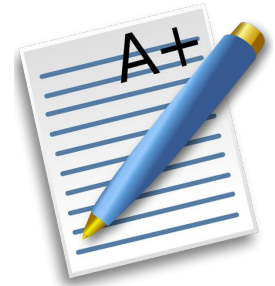


- **All incoming students should complete a NEW registration form in August to make sure all contact information is updated and current.**
- **Conniston will send the forms home with students in August and send reminders to parents and families.**





# Positive Behavior Initiatives and Rewards



- **Quarterly Honor Roll Celebrations (A's / B's; 3 / 4's)**
- **NJHS Membership**
- **Monthly Outstanding Attendance Recognition**
- **Monthly Character Awards**
- **Positive Behavior Rewards...**
  - **Twice Monthly Popsicle Invasion with Coupon**
  - **Quarterly Fun events such as:**
    - **Field Day**
    - **Carnival Day**
    - **After School Dances**
- **Clubs and Sports Teams Participation**



# Sports, Clubs & Activities

(teams, field trips, dances, and celebrations)



- **Full Participation Requirements:**

- No more than 5 tardies in one quarter
- No more than 2 level 1 disciplinary referrals
- No (ZERO) level 3 or 4 disciplinary referrals



# Sports Teams

- 10 district sports teams
- flag football
- cheerleading

1st Season - **GIRLS' SOFTBOL & BOYS' BASEBALL**  
(August - October)



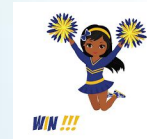
2nd Season - **GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL & BOYS' SOCCER**  
(October - December)



3rd Season - **BOYS'/GIRLS' BASKETBALL & GIRLS' SOCCER**  
(January - March)



4th Season - **BOYS' & GIRLS' TRACK & BOYS' VOLLEYBALL**  
(March - May)



\*Cheerleading (October - February)

\* Intramural Flag Football (boys and girls) (Oct-Nov or Feb-Mar)



# Clubs

- **Student Government**
- **National Junior Honor Society**
- **Recycling Club**
- **Art Club**
- **Morning News**
- **Anime Club**
- **Drama Club**
- **Math Club**
- **Garden Club**
- **Orchid Club**
- **Academic Games**



# Boys & Girls Club and After School Program

- **Boys & Girls Club:**
  - Monday-Friday
  - 3:00 - 5:30 p.m.
  - No transportation provided



- **After School Program:**
  - Monday-Thursday
  - 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
  - Bus provided.



**Tentative Start Date: August 15, 2023.**

# Boys & Girls Club FREE Summer Program



**CAMP-TASTIC  
SUMMER 2023 AT  
CONNISTON  
MIDDLE SCHOOL!**

Get ready for a **CAMP-TASTIC SUMMER** with sports, adventures, outdoor games, meals, **FIELD TRIPS & MORE!**

**Reserve your spot now for free!**

June 5th - July 21st  
Monday through Friday  
8:00 AM - 5:30 PM

**AT CONNISTON  
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED\***  
Parent/Guardian  
Scan here to begin



**\*PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO MEMBERS ATTENDING THE AFTERSCHOOL BOYS & GIRLS CLUB!**



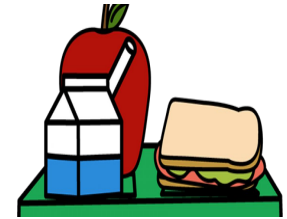
Questions? Contact  
Ms. Manny at  
mmejia@bgcpbc.org  
561-360-2654





# Cafeteria Service

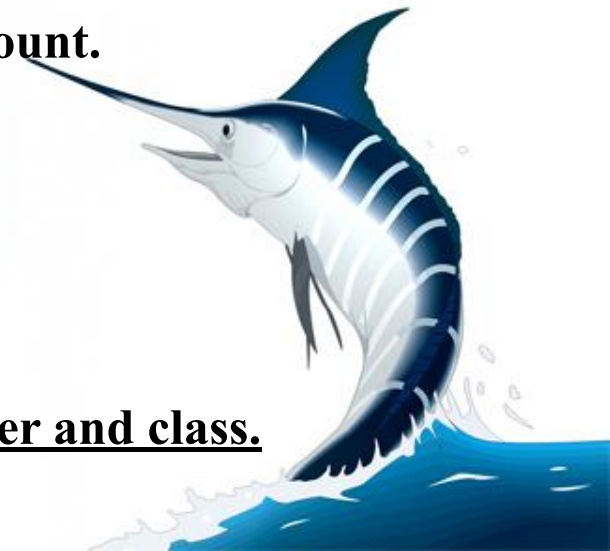
- **Breakfast-** 7:30–7:50 a.m.
- **Lunch-** During lunch block
- **Snacks and Dinner-** After school



- **Students who qualify for assistance will receive Free/Reduced Lunch.**
- **Snacks can be purchased during lunch.**
- **Use School Cash Online to upload funds to student account or students can bring money to cafeteria manager to put into their account.**
- **Free Breakfast to ALL students this school year.**

## **In the Cafeteria:**

- **Students may only sit at their teacher's assigned table.**
- **Students must return to the classroom with their teacher and class.**



# Textbooks & Devices

## TEXTBOOKS

- Students are provided with a consumable text/workbook for the core content classes (Language Arts, Math, Science, & Social Studies).
- If a replacement is needed, the student will need to purchase the book.
- Specific information will be provided by the classroom teacher at the opening of school.



## CHROMEBOOKS

- Each student is issued a device.
- Students are expected to bring their fully charged device to school daily.
- Loaner devices and chargers may be available in emergency situations.



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# **Blue Marlin Counseling & Support**

Respectful, Responsible, & Ready  
to Learn

# Blue Marlin School Counseling Team



- **Role of School Counselor-** We are here to support you academically (inquiring about how to be promoted), emotionally (if you are just having a bad day and need someone to talk to), and socially (if you need to resolve a conflict or need some advice on how to recognize a true friend). Helping students process their problems and plan goals and action is another way we support you. We also mediate conflict between students and as well as be an advocate for their success.
- **How to Schedule a Parent Conference-**To set up a parent/teacher conference (PTC), parents may reach out to the specific grade level counselor via phone, email or in person and request a conference. Conferences are held from 7:30 am to 8:00 am.



# School Counseling Team



**Ms. Nicolaas, 6th Grade**



**Ms. McWatt**



**Ms. Párraga, ESOL & DL 6-8  
Last Names A-L**



**Ms. Del Valle, ESOL & DL 6-8  
Last Names M-Z**



# Behavior Health Professional

Your School Behavior Health Professional:

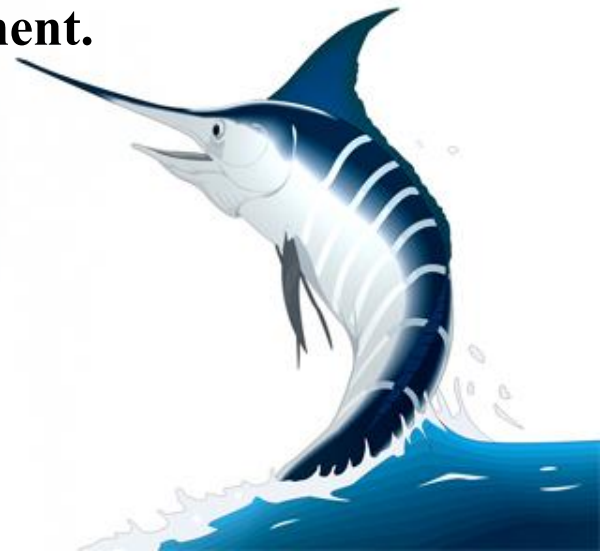
**Ms. Amber Christon**



- Works closely with our school counseling department.
- Promotes the personal, social/emotional, and academic development of all students.

**Caring First**

**211 Helpline**





**We Can't Wait to See You  
in August!!!**

**Respectful, Responsible, &  
Ready to Learn**