

GULF HIGH GAZETTE

5355 SCHOOL ROAD

NEW PORT RICHEY, FL 34652

727-774-3300

School Literacy Improvement Plan Presented



On September 9, 2002, Dr. Cathy Wildey, our School Literacy Specialist, presented a plan for literacy improvement to the faculty. The main objective of the School Literacy Improvement Plan is to link resources to improve school achievement.

The first action step included in the plan is to collect the baseline data

needed to pinpoint areas of greatest need. The group will focus on student, faculty, and community needs assessments, then prepare a school literacy profile of faculty, parents, community, and students.

Once the data has been collected and needs determined, the team will provide training to faculty on data-driven strategies for classroom instruction and assessment. Key faculty will provide classroom modeling and coaching in instructional strategies. Faculty members have the opportunity to join action-research study groups to survey current literacy resources and data. These groups will meet on a regular basis and present findings at faculty meetings.

Parents and community members will be offered literacy activities designed by the Literacy Team. The used book and magazine drive and the One Book One Pasco program are the first of these projects.

The primary focus of the Literacy Improvement Plan is improved student achievement. More class time will be allocated to reading, and teachers will establish classroom libraries of high-interest, content related materials to accomplish this goal.

With students, faculty, parents and community members working together, the School Literacy Improvement Plan is sure to result in improvement school-wide.

GULF HIGH FACTS

- Current Enrollment: 1503
- New Students: 300
- Incoming Freshmen: 454
- Number of Teachers: 83
- Total Staff: 150
- Clubs: 45
- Sports: 28



Tutoring Programs Available

Various Tutoring Programs are available to students at Gulf High at no cost to parents.

Opportunity Hall is an after school program to help all students wishing to receive extra help in academic classes. In addition, students can have access to computers and the internet for research and completion of projects and papers. Opportunity Hall runs from 2:30—4:30 on Monday and Wednesday afternoons in Room 242. An activity bus is provided if students need transportation.

Another new program is being developed for students who require additional help with academic coursework. This program is sponsored by **Pasco/Hernando Community**

College. Both students and teachers will serve as tutors to students needing additional help with study skills, test taking skills, remediation or academic coursework. The program will operate during the same schedule as Opportunity Hall in order to provide transportation to those students who need it. Teacher Ann Donlon and Dr. Judy Gallagher will provide more information about this program in a separate mailing once details are finalized.

In addition to the after school tutoring programs, the school is currently providing **intensive reading and math classes** for every student who has not passed the FCAT test. Students have been assigned a

period each day to meet with a teacher and use the computer lab to take simulated tests. Internet FCAT Explorer practice is also available at home or at the public library. Students received information about their password in the CCC Lab for this program.

Please know that we are very concerned about every student passing the test and completing this very important graduation requirement as early in high school as possible. We hope parents will encourage their students to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities for improvement.

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Institute of Business Technology News



Students in the IBT have been encouraged to focus on academic achievement, career shadowing and mentoring experiences, and joining school clubs. This focus will provide opportunities for students to participate in school projects, community projects, and leadership development as well as academics.

The business department has a chapter of FBLA (Future Business Leaders of

America) which will kick off with a District 11 Fall Rally on November 4, at River Ridge High School and a Florida and National Leadership Conference in Jacksonville on November 21 - 24. The distributive education department has a chapter of CECF-BPA (Cooperative Education Clubs of Florida – Business Professionals of America) which will kick off with a float in the GHS homecom-

ing parade in October and a Leadership Conference in Daytona Beach in November.

IBT faculty members are planning a panel presentation by inviting community business people to participate in a panel forum sharing experiences from their careers. This presentation will be for the Great American Teach-In on November 20.

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Institute of Health and Human Services

The Institute of Health and Human Services Learning Community this year has chosen as its theme “Linking Life’s Learning to Success.” The goal will be to involve all 563 IHHS stu-

dents in activities that will provide them with opportunities to explore service careers, as well as to allow them to make well-informed, healthy life choices. Upcoming activi-

ties and events include a Wellness Fair, a basketball game, two blood drives and several guest speakers from the community.

Institute for Communication and the Arts



The Institute of Communication and the Arts Learning Community students will be going on a field trip to the Holocaust Museum in St. Petersburg on October 16, periods 2-6. The cost is \$12.00

for admission and transportation. Students will bring a brown bag lunch, wear ID badges and dress appropriately, according to the student dress code.

ICA students will also be producing the play “I Never Saw Another Butterfly,” which is about children who were interred in a concentration camp during

World War II. The play will open November 13 & 14 for students, and November 15 for adults in the evening. More details about the play will be announced in early November.

Institute for Technical Sciences News



The ITS-based staff at Gulf High School is joined by the remainder of the school family in honoring the memory of Mr. Tom Dale, ITS science member. Mr. Dale had been supervising

the Institute's first major project, an open PC based computer lab built from machines and equipment donated by local businesses, at the time of his death on September 4, 2002.

Along with student, Kevin Lindenmayer, Mr. Dale repaired and reprogrammed several discarded computers. These machines, as well as printing facilities, are now available for student and staff use. The

open lab is housed in room 204.

ITS intends to continue to develop its computer lab project, just as Mr. Dale would have wished. The goal is to eventually train capable students to assist other students and staff members with computer-related projects that utilize the PC format, in addition to performing simple maintenance and repair services.

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Spanish Club Goes to Spain

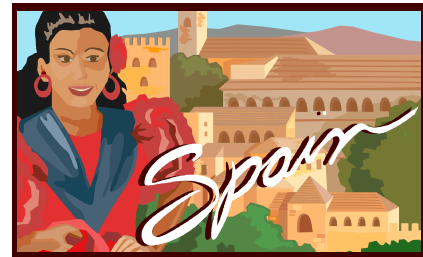
In May 2003, Senora Rodriguez plans to lead a group of students from Gulf High School on a ten day tour to Spain. The tour is operated by NETC, an educational travel organization specializing in creating an interactive experience where students "learn through exploration and participation." The tour begins in Madrid, the capital of Spain. From there, students will travel

through Granada, Seville, Cordoba, and Barcelona.

Experiencing a different culture and country first hand broadens a student's outlook, while engaging them intellectually, physically and emotionally in the learning process.

The tour is open to all Spanish students. Senora Rodriguez is available to discuss the tour in further

detail and review the enrollment process with any interested students and parents. If you would like more information about the program, please contact Senora Rodriguez at 727-774-3300, extension 3419.



Resources Available in the Media Center

The Media Center is a busy place each day, as many students use the center for recreational reading, research, homework and study. Classes have been visiting the media center to do research on many topics, including careers, Spain, dinosaurs, mythology, and various senior project topics.

The media center houses more than 20,000 books, a large periodical collection, and access to online resources such as Pasco County's Electronic Library. To access the Electronic Library from home, go to Gulf High's web site (www.gulphigh.org) and visit the Media/Technology page. There you will find a

link to the Electronic Library. Students are given the User ID and password in the media center.

Our Media Specialists are Jeanne St. John and Susan McNulty. Our Technology Specialist is David Wolf, and our Media Assistant is Sue Teeple. We hope you'll visit the Media Center soon!

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Important Dates

- Oct. 7-10: FCAT Retakes
- Oct. 11: End of Quarter 1
- Oct. 14, 18: Teacher Training Days; No School for Students
- Nov. 8: District Training Day; No School for Students
- Nov. 28, 29: Thanksgiving Holidays
- Dec. 23-Jan. 3: Winter Break

Directory

Principal	Thomas E. Imerson
Assistant Principals	Thomas Brochu Dr. Judy Gallagher Pat Haynes Alfred Palma
Principal's Secretary	Lucy DeCubullis
Administrative Assistants	Lois Coburn Bill Schweiger
Guidance Counselors	Trish Catterson (A-H) Julia Collins Mary Jones (I-Q) April Kelley (R-Z)
Guidance Secretary	Marianne Romano
Career Specialist	Kathy Trapp

