


PIPER PRESS



WE ARE BENGALS
 COMMITTED TO RESPECT, INTEGRITY, SCHOLARSHIP, & EXCELLENCE
 #RISE  @piperprincipal



Principal's Message

Greetings Bengal Families,

Welcome to our most recent issue of the Piper Press. We have a lot of great information to share with all of our families.

The spring testing season is upon us and between our FSA, EOC, Cambridge and Advanced Placement testing, Piper will administer thousands of testing sessions to the Bengal Scholars. There are no Super Testing Days this year, which means we must test our students while ensuring there is no interruption to other classrooms throughout the school. And we are prepared! We have established four main testing areas that will not impact student classrooms throughout the buildings. Additionally, whenever possible, we are testing smaller groups of students, so as not to have to rely on teachers to proctor. The bottomline is that testing will be conducted in an optimal testing environment with limited to no impact on classroom teaching and learning. The Bengal Scholars deserve all aspects of an outstanding education.

Additionally, on page 8, you'll read about our Saturday Camps and Spring Break camps that are in addition to our BEST (Bengal Excellence in Student Tutoring) After School Tutoring Program. To assist our students in all aspects of their academic progress and to help them prepare for spring tutoring, we are holding five Saturday academic camps and three Spring Break camps. All of our camps are staffed by Bengal teachers who are graciously investing their after-hours time into the academic development of our students.

Finally, February was a BIG month at Piper High School as the Bengal community united in celebration of Black History Month. The festivities included Dashiki Day, HBCU Shirt & Gear Day, Fraternity & Sorority Gear Day, and, my favorite, Piper High School Black History T-Shirt Day. That's right! We designed our own Piper High School Black History Month shirt, and our staff wore it proudly. (See the photos on page 8.)

The fourth quarter is upon us and it will move very quickly. I am still delivering the morning announcements every day, as I have vowed to do so until I can bring my Bengal Scholars home to Piper. Please enjoy your Spring Break with your families.

Warmest regards,

Marie Hautigan

Principal



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Bengals Get Ready for Cambridge AICE Testing

Testing season is upon us, and our Cambridge scholars are getting ready. This year, we have 583 students taking 1,400 exams and have 70 students attempting to earn the coveted AICE Diploma in just two years. Our Cambridge students have worked tirelessly this year, and a huge congratulations is due to them already for getting through the toughest year of their academic lives. Presentations have already begun for AICE Global Perspectives and AICE Media Studies, and the first test is Monday, April 26, when 428 students will sit for the first part of the AICE General Paper test.

CAMBRIDGE TESTING CALENDAR

AICE English General Paper : 4/26 & 4/28 - 8 AM
AICE English Language: 4/29 & 5/7 - 8 AM
AICE Environmental Management: 6/1 & 6/3 - 12 PM
AICE Global Perspectives & Research: 5/6 - 12 PM
AICE International History: 5/5 & 5/7 - 12 PM
AICE Marine Science: 4/27 & 4/29 - 12 PM
AICE Media Studies: 5/21 - 8 AM
AICE Spanish Language: 5/3 & 5/7 - 12 PM
AICE Thinking Skills: 4/30 & 5/11 - 12 PM

SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT



Ricardo Bezi is a freshman in the Cambridge program. Ricardo was born in Venezuela and came to the United States in 2015 as a third grader. Even though English was not his first language, Ricardo put forth extra effort and demonstrated his intellectual prowess from an early age, taking Algebra 1 and 2 simultaneously in the seventh grade and then

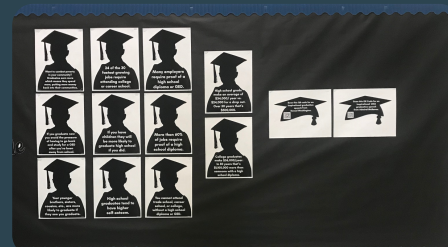
geometry and pre-calculus simultaneously in eighth grade. Ricardo is our only freshman to be completing AP Calculus AB, putting him at least two years ahead of the accelerated math curriculum.

In his spare time, Ricardo enjoys reading and playing basketball and volleyball. When he graduates from Piper, Ricardo plans to attend a top four-year university, and his aspiration is to become a math professor at Harvard or MIT. Currently, he has a 4.0 unweighted GPA (wow!) and is sixth in his class, proving that if you set your mind to it, nothing (not even a language barrier) can stop you from accomplishing your dreams.

SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT



Kiana Bailey is a senior at Piper. Kiana has been recognized for her phenomenal attitude, willingness to help, participation in SGA, and commitment to excellence and service. As an active student leader and member of the project (a student organization that focuses on strengthening the campus community and promoting a peaceful, compassionate school environment, she has been creating inspirational and motivational bulletin boards for students and staff around campus. After graduation, Kiana plans to attend a technical school for baking and pastry arts.



KIANA BAILEY HAS CREATED A SERIES OF INSPIRATIONAL BULLETIN BOARDS AROUND THE PIPER CAMPUS.

Athletics Announcements

Spring Athletes Gearing Up for a BIG Season

After successful Fall and Winter campaigns, it is time for our Spring Athletic programs to shine! This year, Piper is offering four Varsity athletic programs in the Spring: Baseball, Softball, Flag Football, and Track & Field. Softball and Track are led by first year coaches, Jennifer Simu and Johnny Auls. Both coaches are excited about the upcoming season and look to build on the success of the previous year.

Coach Crosno, returns to the diamond for his 2nd season as skipper for the Bengals. Veteran Coach, Jerry Jones, returns to the

sideline for his 12th season as Head Coach of the Lady Bengals. When asked about this season's expectations, Coach Jones said, "even though we have a young and inexperienced squad, you can expect big things from this group of young ladies this season and in years to come."

Any Bengals interested in participating in athletics this year must register and upload all required documents on www.athleticclearance.com. Any inquiries about athletics at Piper can be sent to Athletic Director, Chandler Sanzari at chandler.sanzari@browardschools.com.



SENIOR JADAE CUMMINS IS A VERY TALENTED MULTI-SPORT ATHLETE. WHEN JADAE IS NOT COMPETING ON THE HARDWOOD, SHE IS SHOWCASING HER SKILLS ON THE SOFTBALL DIAMOND. JADAE WAS RECENTLY SELECTED TO REPRESENT PIPER AT THE BCAA SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARDS BANQUET. JADAE BOASTS A 3.6 GPA AND IS RANKED 55TH OUT OF 504 IN HER CLASS. CURRENTLY, JADAE HAS BEEN ACCEPTED TO OVER 20 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND ASPIRES TO BE A MUSICAL ENGINEER.

Piper Palooza Recap

Our third annual Piper Palooza, the open house event for all incoming ninth graders, was different, but still exciting this year. While there was no club and athletics showcase in the Piper commons, and there was no music playing or crowd cheering on Bengal performers, not even a global pandemic could keep us from sharing all the wonderful things about Piper with our future families. We still came together as a community to share the Piper experience through a virtual session. Our future Bengals received the Piper welcome with as much pomp and circumstance as we could muster via our computer screens.

They learned about clubs and activities, were introduced to our career pathways and electives courses, met the Bengal Leadership Team, and found out about all the fun and excitement that are a part of Piper High School every day. We look forward to seeing their smiling faces next year walking through the halls of Piper High.

For anyone who missed it, there is a recording of the event on our website, www.browardschools.com/piper, along with a video showcasing the various activities and athletics we offer.

Curriculum Focus

Piper Music Program Steals the Show

Under the direction of Music Director, Mr. Kervens Jackson, the Piper music program hits a high note in every performance aspect: voice, movement, orchestra, jazz, and, of course, our nationally-recognized band program. The Piper Band of Pride performs and competes throughout the state as well as nationally, and often comes home with superior ratings from top judges around the county.

Bengal brilliance in music is unprecedented. Last year, twelve graduating Bengal band members earned over \$200,000 in music scholarships. Year after year, Mr. Jackson continues to train and develop some of the most talented musicians in Florida and in the country.

There are several factors impacting the success of the Bengal music program, especially the band program. The first is that Mr. Jackson works with and recruits from our middle schools to bring the best musical talent to Piper High School.



THE PIPER BAND OF PRIDE PLAYS AT EVERY HOME FOOTBALL GAME.

Simultaneously though, he opens the program to interested students with little to no experience and pairs them with accomplished student musicians. Many of these new students move on to become accomplished performers themselves. Music students also commit a great deal of their time working with the band and music program after school and on weekends. Mr. Jackson is constantly available to his music students, and he spends countless hours after school preparing them for their next performance or competition.

The arts are alive at Piper High School, and the Piper Music Program is at the heart of our arts expression.



THE PIPER BAND OF PRIDE IS RECOGNIZED FOR ITS EXCEPTIONAL TALENT AND PROFESSIONALISM.

Senior BRACE Updates

Seniors, how are you doing on the college application process? Accepted? Waiting to hear from schools? Haven't applied yet? It's not too late! Many schools have rolling admissions, meaning you can apply throughout the school year. Remember to monitor your status checker in your portal for each college to make sure nothing is missing from your application file, like test scores, application fee, or SSAR. If you've decided where you will be attending, email me and let me know.

If you're thinking about Broward College, BC is an excellent choice. It is reasonably priced and does not require test scores to attend. BC offers many majors. Did you know they have a program called 2 + 2? It's a great opportunity; attend BC for 2 years and get your associate degree. If you've kept your grades up, the wonderful State University System (Florida) will guarantee you get a spot in one of the 12 Florida universities in the system to continue your education and earn your bachelor's degree. Many Piper students are finding this to be a perfect alternative.

I strongly encourage you to apply and plan to attend the best school for which you qualify. Paying for school should not stop you from pursuing your dreams. Have you filled out your FAFSA? (I know we ask this question a lot; it's that important!) That is the gateway to any financial aid awards. If you still have not completed your FAFSA, contact me and I will guide you to resources to assist you in completing it. Note: Watch for emails from colleges if FAFSA is incomplete or more info is needed (verification). There are many scholarships you can apply for in addition to what the college offers you. Broward Education Foundation has a large list of opportunities for scholarships with many different focuses and requirements. Apply at: <https://browardededucation.org/apply/>.

Look for my updated scholarship lists, usually every 2 weeks, sent from Canvas for new and additional opportunities.

As always, I love to meet with students. Use this link to set up a TEAMS session for us to go over your post Piper plans.

Senior Updates

Seniors: You have almost made it to the end! You are down to the last quarter. It's imperative that you stay focused and motivated during this home stretch. Continue to excel in all of your courses and be sure to complete any credit recovery courses through Edmentum, FLVS, BVS, or other credit recovery program by May 1st.

BEST Tutoring is available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:15. We also have Saturday Camps (see schedule on pg. 6) to provide additional academic assistance as well as social and emotional support.

Don't give up! One more step over the mountain, and the world opens to you!
#RISE

IMPORTANT DATES:

- SENIOR EXAMS: MAY 25 – MAY 28
- SENIOR TRANSITIONAL WORKSHOPS: JUNE 1 – JUNE 4
- CITY OF SUNRISE SENIOR PARADE: JUNE 7, 12 NOON
- GRADUATION: TUESDAY JUNE 8, 8 AM - LOCKHART STADIUM

School Counseling Matters

The Piper High School Counseling Department has successfully met with all current and future students regarding course selection for next school year. Our Bengals were advised to select courses supporting future goals, academic rigor, leadership, and personal interest. During scheduling conversations, credit checks were conducted and students were advised of their current graduation status. Any student needing credit recovery per the state of Florida's mandatory requirements can do so via BEST Tutoring or our Saturday camps (see schedule below).

Piper Counseling recognizes this year's obstacles have been more significant than any past year, and we encourage our families to reach out for support during the fourth quarter. Our support options include parent/teacher conferences, academic advisement, family counseling support, social work services, BEST Tutoring, Saturday camps and social emotional support. Please reach out to your student's counselor for academic and social emotional support.

DAILY ATTENDANCE CONTINUES TO BE MANDATORY AND HELPFUL

Testing Update

April and May are BIG testing months at Piper High School. Students will be returning to campus to take the FSA Writing and Reading assessment, EOC exams in Algebra, Geometry, Biology, and American History, and a wide range of Cambridge and AP exams. Please ensure that you are aware of your child's testing schedule. If you have any questions, please contact:

- FSA and EOC Exams: Mr. Scott Kusant
 - scott.kusant@browardschools.com
- Cambridge AICE Exams: Dr. Jacqueline Schuck
 - jacqueline.schuck@browardschools.com
- AP Exams: Mr. Dwight Francis
 - dwight.francis@browardschools.com

*Some AP exams are digital and will be taken remotely by students.

FSA Writing Exam

- 9TH GRADE ELA WRITING TEST: APRIL 5-8
- 10TH GRADE ELA WRITING TEST: APRIL 12-16

SAT College Admissions Exam

- 11TH GRADERS LAST NAMES H-M: APRIL 13
- 11TH GRADERS LAST NAMES N-Z: APRIL 27

May Testing Dates to be Announced

Where Are They Now

#RISE Beyond Piper High



GREG MCKAY, C/O 2019

McKay plays wing for the Hosanna College Warbirds men's basketball team. In February, McKay was selected as the New South Athletic Conference Player of the Week. About the achievement, not usually given to freshmen players, McKay said, "It means a lot, not just to me, but to my family that hard work does pay off. I just want to be an inspiration to the players back home that anything is possible, once they put their mind to it and trust in God." McKay played for Piper's Varsity Basketball and Volleyball teams during his senior year.



VANESSA MONTES, C/O 2018

Montes is in her last year at Nova Southeastern University and is an intern math teacher at St. Mark Catholic School. She has enjoyed much about her college experience, especially the satisfaction of succeeding in difficult courses like linear algebra and ordinary differential equations. She has also taken on an executive board position in an academic club, completed a study abroad program in Ireland, was a guest speaker at an education conference in San Diego, and attended Christian Conferences in Georgia, Illinois, and Texas. She plans to continue on to graduate school in the fall with plans to also teach in the Broward school system.



LAMAR RIDDICK, C/O 2011

Upon graduating from Piper, where he was enrolled in honors and AP courses and participated in band, chorus, gospel choir, drama, volleyball, and dance, Riddick attended Bethune Cookman University on a full academic scholarship and partial band scholarship. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in music sound engineering and went on to be the program assistant at West Virginia University's School of Music. Riddick credits his time and mentors (current Band of Pride director Mr. Jackson) at Piper with teaching him that hard work and dedication can and will get you to the next level. In February 2020, Riddick won his first music award for Hip Hop Artist of the Year at the Eddy Awards (an independent Artist award show held in Jacksonville). "If it wasn't for the work ethic and resilience that I learned while attending Piper, I'm not sure that I even would have been considered."

Academic Camps Prepare Students for FSA, EOC, Cambridge & AP Testing

Since mid-February, Piper has been running a series of Saturday Academic Camps to assist students with preparation for spring testing and to provide additional support to help students raise their grades and earn their graduation credits. These camps are in addition to our highly-successful BEST Tutoring Program that provides tutoring and academic support from Bengal teachers after school every Tuesday and Thursday. Bengal Scholars received support during Spring Break with three academic camps planned on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of that week (March 24 – 26). Tutoring and assistance with assignments is provided for algebra, geometry, and advanced math; English, reading, and writing; biology; American History; and ACT and SAT test prep. Nearly 150 scholars attended our last Saturday Camp. To register for any of the Saturday Camps or BEST Tutoring, contact Guidance Co-Director, Mr. Francis, at dwight.francis@browardschools.com.

Camp Dates

SATURDAY, APRIL 10
SATURDAY, APRIL 24
SATURDAY, MAY 8

9 AM - 12 PM

Piper Celebrates Black History Month

