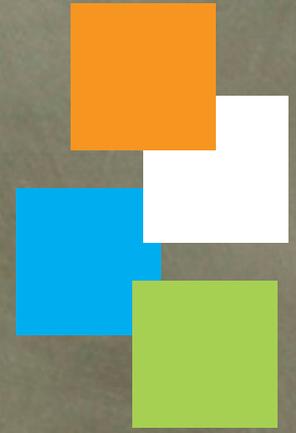


Choices

empowering and supporting students



Olympic Heights Community High School Offers Marines JROTC Program

Olympic Heights Community High School will be home to Palm Beach County's first Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) in the 2015-2016 school year, after a two-year effort by the Department of Choice and Career Options to bring the program to the School District.

The Marine Corps JROTC joins 10 JROTC programs in the district – six Army, two Air Force and two Navy – at District high schools. The Marine Corps JROTC program will be led by two instructors who are retired Marines. Students who become cadets are issued uniforms, participate in a leadership-driven curriculum and learn military history along with citizenship, leadership, personal growth and responsibility, public service and career exploration.

“We are excited and proud that this two-year effort has been awarded to us. It is another opportunity for our students to gain valuable leadership experience and career opportunities,” said Dr. Peter Licata, Director of Choice and Career Options. “The goal of JROTC programs is to build better citizens and to make students leaders in their community. Leadership skills are instilled so the students can be a success in whatever lies ahead for them.”

Interested in Participating? Seats are limited. To be considered for this program, students do not have to live within the boundary for Olympic Heights Community High School. Incoming Freshman and Sophomores interested in participating in the Marines JROTC program should complete a reassignment request (www.palmbeachschools.org/Forms/Documents/0249.pdf) and submit to Tara Kobel, Specialist-JROTC Programs. Applications may be emailed to tara.kobel@palmbeachschools.org, faxed to 561-434-8843, or delivered to the Department of Choice and Career Options. Be sure to write a short description explaining why you would like to participate in the Marines JROTC Program. Students participating in this program are not required to join the

military after high school, but the Armed Forces often offer incentives, such as accelerated promotion, to those with high school JROTC experience.

To learn more about the Marine Corps JROTC program, contact Tara Kobel, Choice Specialist-JROTC, at 561-432-6336 or email tara.kobel@palmbeachschools.org.

Seminole Ridge TV Wins at STN Nationals in California



Congratulations to Seminole Ridge High School's TV Production Academy students after an impressive showing at the Student Television Network National (STN) Convention

in San Diego. More than 2,700 students representing the top two hundred high school television and film programs in the country competed at the STN Convention.

Seminole Ridge High students competed in eight extremely challenging events and placed in two of them. Senior Nataly Berdecia and junior Ricky Moore won 2nd place in the Movie Trailer competition. They had just 6 hours to write, shoot and edit a movie trailer with the title “Plan B”. Juniors Michael Loizzo and Amber Pellicone were cast as their actors. You can watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/HLC1VCX4fOY>

Seminole Ridge High also received an Honorable Mention for their entry in the Crazy 8 Sitcom contest. Students had just 8 hours to create a 5 minute long pilot episode for a new sitcom called “At Your Service”. This video was created by Cara Engh, Nataly Berdecia, Amber Pellicone, Nick Seltzer, Michael Loizzo, Jezebel Perez and Connor Nugent. You can watch the video at <http://youtu.be/fDy9Zg8KPK4>

Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts Receives Exemplary School Designation

Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts in West Palm Beach, FL has been designated a 2015-2017 Exemplary School by Arts Schools Network, the nation's largest professional membership organization of specialized arts schools. Created to highlight a school's commitment to excellence, this designation is presented to an Arts Schools Network member school in recognition of its efforts to evaluate strategically its purpose, operations, and educational programs. This honor signifies that Dreyfoos School of the Arts has successfully completed a self-evaluation in the following areas: strengths, areas for improvement, consistency with school-wide or program purposes, aspirations, and future challenges.

Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts (DSOA) is a magnet high school for the arts with 1,371 students serving all of Palm Beach County. The school is located on the historic Central Schools campus in downtown West Palm Beach and accepts students from all public and private middle and high schools in the county, based on a competitive audition process. In concert with a strong academic program, DSOA provides an outstanding arts-centered education, for students with exceptional ability in communication arts, dance, digital media, music, theatre or visual arts. DSOA serves a diverse student population and strives to meet the individual creative and academic needs of these students.

Dedicated to excellence and leadership in arts education, Arts Schools Network, a non-profit professional organization founded in 1981, is a dynamic resource for arts schools leaders, innovative partners and members of arts education institutions. Its mission is to provide leaders in arts schools with quality resources support and networking opportunities. Visit the website at www.artsschoolsnetwork.org to learn more. *Media Contact: Kristy Callaway, Executive Director kristy@artsschoolsnetwork.org*

Department of Choice and Career Options Visit us online: www.palmbeachschools.org/choiceprograms

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| Dr. Peter B. Licata, Director..... | 969-5829 |
| Chris Tretter, Secretary to Director..... | 969-5829 |
| Sandra Wesson, Manager-Choice Programs..... | 357-7639 |
| David Atwell, Specialist..... | 357-5967 |
| Miguel Benavente, M.D., Specialist..... | 969-5827 |
| Cheryl Bottini, Program Planner- Home Education..... | 434-7458 |
| Vacant, Specialist..... | 357-5942 |
| Fanny Johnson, Supervisor Technical Operations..... | 434-8123 |
| Nicole Ketchem, Specialist- Special Programs..... | 357-1177 |
| Tara Kobel, Specialist Reassignment..... | 432-6336 |
| Jeraline Marsh, Ed.D., Specialist..... | 434-8880 |
| Michelle Martin, Tech Accounting Senior..... | 434-7371 |
| Lizzie Montgomery, Analyst..... | 434-8853 |
| Mireille Petit-Frere, Technician..... | 434-7327 |
| Jim Politis, Specialist..... | 629-8534 |
| Ben Ramos, Analyst Technical III..... | 434-8290 |
| Alicia Salvador, Analyst..... | 434-8180 |
| Robin Shanak, Secretary I..... | 434-8052 |
| Dr. Sylvia Tricarico, Specialist..... | 434-8631 |

Lake Worth High School CTE SHAPE Club Students Visit Home Safe



In an effort to increase awareness about non-profit organizations in our community, a SHAPE (Students Helping Achieve Philanthropic Excellence) Club Chapter was formed by Officer

Martin Shorkey at Lake Worth Community High School. SHAPE Club is made up mostly of CTE Academy students who are very civic-minded and interested in furthering their career education in all aspects.

Every year students select a topic and learn about the non-profit organizations related to their chosen topic. This year, students voted to research charities related to domestic violence.

Principal, Dr. George Lockhart, allowed students to be transported from Lake Worth Community High School to Home Safe for a field trip where they learned about preventing domestic violence and what assistance is in our community if a family is struggling with this issue. Criminal Justice Academy student, Jonathan Campos and Medical Academy student, Marisol Reyes Bustillo said they did not even know that Home Safe existed, but were now glad that it does because it gives victims of abuse a safe place to deal with trauma and get help to end the cycle of abuse.

Golden Grove Elementary School Rolls Out Their New Choice School of Technology Program



This is Golden Grove's first year as a technology Choice program and already they are rolling out exciting technology integration in their classrooms. Students use the iPads to work on their spelling and play-to-learn on literacy building apps.

Fourth grade students are using Edmodo as a forum for debating popular issues through a blog. The students at Golden Grove are excited and engaged in 21st century skill acquisition. According to Mr. Miller, Principal of Golden Grove, "it's all about engaging students with the technology to help them grow and learn".