



The Cyclone



March 2, 2020
Editor: Parker Cook



Important dates to mark on your calendar:

March 6: RISE testing for freshmen and Yearbook applications due to Mrs. Pharr

March 10: No SPCC classes

March 20: No high school classes

March 25: SAT testing for juniors

Freshmen will be taking the RISE Test on March 6, from 9:30-12:00 in the salons. You will need to bring both your computer and your charger.



On Friday, March 20, there will be no high school classes, and school buses will not be available for transportation to school. However, all SPCC classes will continue as usual. If you have college classes on March 20, you are responsible for finding transportation to attend your college classes on that date.

Counselor's Corner:

March 6th - 9th graders take the RISE test

March 6th - Class of 2020 Meeting in Salon from 1:30-2:30

March 6th - Juniors will have an opportunity to look at and order class rings - Jostens Rep will be in Junior Seminar. Also Juniors will do pre-administration with Mr. Pharr for the SAT

March 10th - 10th graders visit Wingate University & SPCC's Tyson Family Center for Technology

March 12th - Class of 2021 (and some December 2020) Room 1416 5:00-6:00 pm - Parents and students are invited to meet with the counselors in a group setting. These meetings are designed to talk about plans for after high school. We will share resources to help your students begin preparing for this next chapter in their lives. Please sign up for this meeting (or an individual meeting) at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094DAEAE22A20-onemore1>

March 25th - 11th graders take the SAT

March 27th - 11th graders will listen to a panel of UCEC Alumni talk about life after high school in Junior Seminar



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Shout out to Students of the Month for February!

Jase Daniel - Jase is a hard worker who always has his assignments completed. He participates frequently in class, discusses his work with the class and helps his fellow students. Keep up the good work! (Mr. Fish, Math)

Daisy Santiago - Daisy has a pleasant attitude and works very hard on each assignment. She is a quiet leader in class--she leads by type of work and effort that she puts into every assignment. I appreciate your pleasant demeanor and the hard work that you put into each assignment! (Mr. Adams, English)

Jennifer Arteaga-Cortes - Jennifer is a wonderful addition to my World History class. She always gives 100% and this shows in her work, her attitude, and her grades. With a work ethic like hers, she is assured success in her endeavors. (Mrs. Pharr, History)

Jenna Johnson - Jenna is always prompt and has an outstanding work ethic in my class. Keep up the good work! (Mr. Waters, Science)

Daisy Santiago - Daisy approaches every assignment with integrity and conscientiousness. Those are admirable character traits which every student should emulate. (Mr. Roncone, P.E.)

Abby Brame - Abby is doing an outstanding job in Biology. In addition to being an excellent and conscientious student, she is kind, polite, and respectful. I am so glad to have the opportunity to teach her. (Mrs. Powell, Science)

Brooklyn Martin - Brooklyn always gives 110% in AFM. She is always prepared no matter what else she has going on. Thanks and Great job Brooklyn! (Mrs. Meissner, Math)



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Makenna Tracy - Makenna is doing an awesome job analyzing *The Great Gatsby*. She provides excellent insight and comments to the class discussions. Keep up the great work!! (Mrs. Williams, English)

Lena Bentley Morton - Lena is friendly to others and does a great job on her history work. Way to go! (Mrs. Cook, History)

Gabby Johnson - Gabby is a brilliant student who is always prepared to conquer some PreCalculus problems. (Mrs. Roncone, Math)

Nick Martinez - Nick is doing a great job in chemistry. He works well with others, often explaining material to them. I appreciate his hard work this semester! (Mrs. Adams, Science)

Hailie Davidson - Hailie always provides such quality work. She has a great attitude and is always helpful to others. (Mrs. Hollis, Career Management)

Brooklyn Martin - Brooklyn is a great student. She is focused, mature, and makes no excuses. She is multi-talented and maintains a positive attitude regardless of circumstances. I envision much success in her future. (Mrs. Lashley, English)

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Beowulf Boasts

In Anglo-Saxon England, heroes frequently boasted about themselves, and true to form, Beowulf, the eponymous character in the epic Anglo-Saxon poem Beowulf, has no problem touting his greatness. After reading Beowulf, students in Ms. Lashley's English IV class composed and presented their own boasts to express excessive pride in themselves or others. Although some students were uncomfortable with the level of hubris necessary to complete the task, they stepped out of their comfort zone to create fun and creative poems that contain audacity and unabashed boasting. The following boast was written by Madina Nazarova.

A name heard by many,
A paragon, who everyone envies due to her successes.
A person, who is hated without even meeting her haters.
A young lady who never gives up, despite where the winds of life may take her.
Madina Nazarova, daughter to the queen Luiza.
Born in the beautiful lands of Krasnodar in Russia.
With an amazing heritage that gushes freely through her blood.
Turkey, her homeland a palace-like country,
Made up of Turkish delight and gorgeous, glamorous colors surrounding it.
Having moved from overseas, from a very young age,
She grasped the English language and made it her third.
A skill, many find difficult came very easy to her, she was a trilingual.
In her back pocket she carried proficient communication skills, she was very gregarious.
Madina did not have trouble with persuading people and obtruding them with what she believed
was right.
A trait many wished they had, her eyebrows, very thick and dark, were endemic of her culture.
Madina did not aspire to solely be eye candy, she wanted to be soul food.
She was an older, iconic example to two younger siblings.
A pianist, who could give life to burning forests when she played her melodies.
A hardworking student who puts academics first amongst all other things.
A studious, strong standing member of the National Honors Society.
Being the altruistic girl that she is, she aspires to someday heal the lives of many.
Her golden hands, are ready to serve lives, everyday that she steps foot on the floor.
Madina, will become a Physician Assistant in no time at all, considering her lust for success and
passion for not giving up.



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At the beginning of each semester, students in Ms. Lashley's English classes select from a list of quotes from classic writings and write an essay based on the quote. The following essay was written by Tyshona Littlejohn. Her essay stems from the following quote: "She was becoming herself and daily casting aside that fictitious self which we assume like a garment with which to appear before the world." from *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin

Stepping Into Your Own

Everyone, at some point in their life, must embark on a journey to self-discovery. Gaining insight on one's character is a difficult process especially when the media and society holds such a high level of influence on the way we perceive ourselves. In a world where universal acceptance is strongly encouraged, one would think stepping into their own would be less complicated. Instead, we look to well-known influencers and celebrities to suggest who we should be and how we should contribute to those around us. This journey to self-discovery does not spare anyone, and for some it is more of a challenge than expected.

For as long as I can remember, I was always the individual that stood out in group photographs. Being in an environment where I was the only person that physically did not look like the other children eventually began to create a sense of doubt. My personal struggle began with my appearance as I questioned my hair and the way I dressed. Everyone around me had straight golden blonde or brunette hair while mine was thick and coily. I, along with the handful of other children that were of a similar complexion, decided to conform to the mold and straighten our hair. Choosing how to wear my hair felt like the one thing I was able to control, and it made me look more like my classmates and friends. As I got older, these doubts started to affect more than my appearance. My self-doubt influenced the way in which I spoke and ultimately carried myself around certain people. The more code-switched and altered who I was for others, the more I lost sight of who I was.

It wasn't until a college visit to my father's alma mater, Florida A&M University, that I truly gained appreciation for who I was and the person I was becoming. Walking the streets of the hill-filled campus, under the beaming Florida sun brought a sense of pride and belonging that is difficult to explain. It felt as if every persona I have ever displayed for the world to see was set aside, and for that weekend I was truly myself. Various aspects of my character were highlighted depending on the environment. All of these characteristics



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or traits are aspects of who I am, but I never felt comfortable being my authentic self. However, this welcoming atmosphere granted me permission to let my hair down and enjoy every moment of the homecoming celebration. My appearance was celebrated as I was surrounded by others who also chose to sport their kinky, curly hair in a number of versatile styles. Everywhere I looked, I saw someone that not only had an appearance similar to that of myself but was bold enough to be themselves regardless of who was around. It was in that moment that the following words from *The Awakening* became clear: "She was becoming herself and daily casting aside that fictitious self which we assume like a garment with which to appear before the world."

Since that visit to Florida A&M University, I started to see and appreciate the beauty that comes with being your authentic self. Each day I am able to put aside those fictitious personas that I once wore so easily. It is hard to believe how easy it is to wear those faces as if they were a coat that you wear in the winter. Today, I make a conscious effort to observe those individuals who are aware of and confident in themselves by knowing what all they bring to the table.