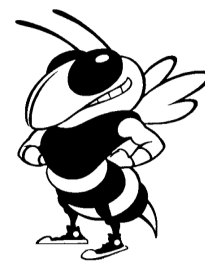


Hive Highlights



Volume 1, Issue 6

March, 2009

Bartow High School, Home of Champions

Message From the Superintendent...

The economic status of our state and district budget continues to look bleak.

Since I last communicated with you the financial news has gone from bad to worse. School districts were told previously that no more budget cuts would be needed in the current school year. However, within the last few weeks, this information changed and we are now anticipating another 2% reduction by the end of this fiscal year, June 30th. That equates to over \$12 million for our district.

In addition, we have recently

been informed that the estimated reduction for the 2009-2010 school year has increased from 10% as previously communicated, to between 15 – 18%. This reduction means a cut in excess of \$90 million to our operating budget. Add this latest projected cut to all previous cuts beginning in 2007 and the total is over \$165 million reduced from our budget.

These are unprecedented times and consequently, we are being forced to take unprecedented action as it relates to delivering instruction to our students. Consequently, we are in the process of identifying POTENTIAL budget

cuts that could occur if additional funding sources to support education are not made available by the state. Thank you to those of you who have sent your ideas and suggestions on how we may realize savings. Your responses, along with input from the community, are being carefully considered throughout this process. You can still send suggestions and questions to Budgetquestionsandsuggestions@polk-fl.net. With the legislative session beginning in March, final plans as to how we will achieve these cuts should be completed in mid-April.

What's The Jive?

- **BESTT**— Tuesday, 3rd
- **Funding Community Forum**— Thursday, 5th (See Pg. 2)
- **FCAT Testing** —10th-13th
- **SSS & NRT**—16th-20th, 23rd
- **SAC**—Tuesday, 24th@7:30 A.M.
- **End Of 9 Weeks**—Wednesday, 25th
- **Prom**—Saturday, 28th
- **First Day of Spring Break**— Monday, 30th

Applying for College? You Need FAFSA!

Sometimes the hardest thing about college is paying for it, but getting help is easy and free. Not only is submitting your FAFSA free, but it may be easier to complete than you realize. FAFSA programs are the largest source of student aid in the United States. FAFSA puts you in consideration for state financial aid programs. In order to apply for FAFSA, you can go to: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/index.htm> or you can call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-900-433-3243.

When you go to the web site, click on the first column titled: "Before Beginning a FAFSA", then select the second bullet for the FAFSA Online Worksheet. This worksheet has information that will need to be filled out by both students and parents/

guardians. There are just a few documents you will need in order to completely fill out the FAFSA application/worksheet. You will need:

- Social Security card
- Driver's licensure and/or your alien registration card, if you are not a US Citizen.
- You and your parent's income tax records.
- Records related to other untaxed income such as, welfare, social security income, veteran benefits, military, or clergy allowances.
- Current mortgage information.

- Business or farm records
- Records relating to any unusual family financial circumstances such as, unusually high child care cost, death, divorce and loss of employment.

Title IV Institution Codes for each school you are applying to (you can get this code from the school or you can get the code online at the FAFSA school search program)

Once you have your information packet together along with your FAFSA worksheet. Make a copy and keep them together.

Congratulations Jackie Prevatt— Finalist, SREOY

When Jackie Prevatt was chosen as the school employee of the year for BHS, she had no idea the events that would unfold. Ms. Prevatt was told that she would be honored at a banquet. Some of her co-workers got together, took her to brunch and gave her a complete makeover. Ms. Prevatt says “I felt like I was on cloud 9”, they also bought her a dress, sweater, necklace, shoes, and earrings. Teacher, Ann McCarty, who was selected as the BHS Teacher of the year, was her savior. She encouraged her every step of the way. She says she could not have done it without her. In order to be a finalist you have to write

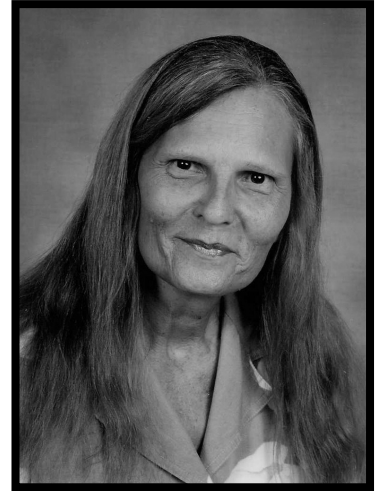
an essay telling about yourself and why you should be a finalist, which, she admits, she did not do. She was not expecting to receive the award.

At the banquet, held Thursday, Feb. 12th, She was the first one called when they announced the finalists, she felt like she was going to faint, she says “there are no words to describe how I felt”. After she received the award she discovered that Mr. Pritchard and Mrs. McCarty wrote why they felt she deserved it on her paper, which is how she ended up getting the award. She was also informed that it has been many years since someone

from Bartow had made it to finals.

Jackie Prevatt is the schools’ lab manager and she also is quite the help desk for teachers and staff.

She feels her goal is to make their work experience a little less stressful. All of us at Bartow High would like to congratulate Ms. Prevatt on receiving such recognition at the district level!



Jacket Athletics

The Jackets did it again! The Bartow High School Yellow Jacket Boys Basketball team defeated the Kathleen Red Devils for the fourth time in a row, but this time it was much more than a normal



game; it was for the Regional Semifinals. With a 71-54 win over the

Red Devils, fans were being turned away as the gym was packed to capacity. The game was intense and thrilling. I’m sure that anyone who

made it out to the game didn’t regret it. Much effort was put into each practice and it paid off for this season! Congratulations to Coach McGriff and the Varsity Boys Basketball Team on their first Regional Final birth since 1995.

GO JACKETS!

Education Funding Cuts! How You Can Help!

Since last year, we have been hearing about education funding cuts all over the news. Now you have a chance to speak out in front of decision makers in Tallahassee. The Polk County Council PTA invites you to a legislative update followed by a question and answer session. All parents, teachers, school administrators, SAC members, PTA members, and all interested community members are encouraged to at-

tend. The event will take place on Thursday, March 5th from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. in the Bartow High School Auditorium. Dr. Gail McKinzie, PCSB Superintendent, as well as Mark Grey, Assistant Superintendent and Frank O’Reilly, Chair, Polk County School Board will be present at the event. The Polk County Council PTA will also be having a rally at the Capitol in Tallahassee on March 18th. They are offering FREE transpor-

tation for anyone interested in attending the rally. Everyone is invited. This is your chance to directly speak to legislators and hear what is planned. Send a message to “Invest in Children...Invest in Public Education.” For more information on this topic, go to www.floridaPTA.org.

College & Career

LOOK! Available Scholarships:

| | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Bailey Foundation | \$5,000 | www.bailey-family.org | 3/15/09 |
| Bartow Regional Medical Center | \$1,000 | 3.0 GPA, must plan to seek a degree or certification in a health care field | 3/16/09 |
| Delta Kappa Gamma Society – Educator Incentive Award – | \$500 | Student who will be entering the field of education – hardcopy application form | Received by 3/25/09 |
| EWGA Polk County Chapter | | Female Athletic Scholarship, include essay about activities and goals | 3/31/09 |
| Floral Lakes Social Club | \$1,000 | Hardcopy application, essay on why you need scholarship | 3/31/09 |
| Johnson Scholarship Foundation - hardcopy | | For students with disabilities who will attend one of 11 state universities | 5/15/09 |
| PCC Foundation | varies | Attend PCC, apply online, instructions outside guidance, see scholarships on website | Open thru 3/13/09 |
| PCC Public Service Scholarship for Juniors | Tuition to PCC | Serve as an ambassador to PCC during senior year, attend meetings | 3/6/09 |
| Polk Retired Educators | | Essay on why you want to be a teacher | Postmarked 3/30/09 |
| Theodore and Vivian Johnson Scholarship Program – hardcopy available | \$1,000 - \$10,000 | Open to children of regular full-time or permanent part-time UPS employees | Postmarked by 4/15/09 |
| Josh Giles Scholarship | \$500 | Hardcopy application, rec letter, essay on why you would like to be considered for award | 4/30/09 |
| Upsilon Xi Chapter Omega Psi Phi Fraternity - hardcopy | \$1,000 | Minority Male, demonstrating academic and community excellence | 4/30/09 |

Is Your Student Not Making the Grades You Hoped for?

Is your student up studying all night but still not making the grades you hoped for? Well, Bartow High

School now has a new tutor available to the students. Tim Helms is a BHS graduate and also tutors at PCC. He has been approved for Polk County schools. Tim tutors

in almost all subjects, which include but are not limited to, math, science, economics, and history. He

also is able to help students with computer issues, showing how the Microsoft® Office® apps and other programs function. Especially with FCAT coming

up, this is a great opportunity for students to meet and achieve higher goals in school and beyond.

Tim is available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Bartow High School Media Center for several weeks.

“He tutors in almost all subjects....”

A+

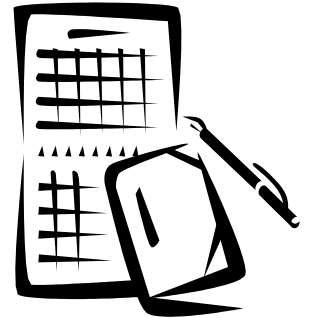
Produced by:



Start Planning for Next Year

Although we are just beginning the second semester of school, The Polk County School Board has already released the 2009-2010 traditional school calendar for Polk County Schools. It has been posted at www.polk-fl.net. Teachers will be reporting back to school on August 17th,

2009 to begin preparing for students, who will return for their first day of school on August 24th. To see what holidays will be observed, and start marking your own calendars, go to www.polk-fl.net, click on the *parents* link, find “quick links” – school calendars.



School Contact Information

Contact

Main Office(863) 534-7400

School Fax(863) 534-0077

Address

1270 S. Broadway Ave.

Bartow, FL 33830

Administrators

Ron Pritchard Principal

Dr. Edwin Vetter..... Principal

Col. Mike Butler Principal

Dan Durham..... A.P. of Discipline

Emilean Clemons..... A.P. of Curriculum

Earnest Peavey..... Administrative Asst.

Freddie Douglas A.P. of Facilities

Marcia Davis.....Admin. Asst. of Discipline

Richard MurvinESE Dean of Discipline

FCAT Schedule for 2009

March 10 FCAT Reading for all 9th and 10th graders and 11th and 12th grade retakes. Juniors and seniors who are not testing will be encouraged to use this day to visit local area colleges, universities, or technical schools, participate in job shadowing opportunities, or participate in community service projects to add to their community service hours. Pre-excused absence forms will be available through English classes next week. Juniors and seniors who elect to come to school will report to the cafeteria for a supervised study hall until testing is completed.

March 11 FCAT Mathematics for all 9th and 10th graders and 11th and 12th grade retakes. Juniors and seniors who are not testing will be encouraged to use this day to visit local area colleges, universities, or technical schools, participate in job shadowing opportunities, or participate in community service projects to add to their community service hours. Pre-excused absence forms will be available through English classes next week. Juniors and seniors who elect to come to school will report to the cafeteria for a supervised study hall until testing is completed.

March 16 FCAT Science for all 11th graders. Ninth, tenth, and twelfth graders will attend their regularly scheduled classes.

March 10 and March 11

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 7:00 | Warning Bell-Students will report directly to their testing areas |
| 7:05 | Pledge |
| | National Anthem |
| | Announcements |
| 7:15 | Prepare for testing (Seating charts, cell phones, etc.) |
| 7:45-11:52 | Testing |
| 11:52-12:22 | Lunch—NOTE ONE LUNCH PERIOD ONLY |
| 12:28-2:08 | 6 th or 7 th period |

March 16

All students will report to their 1st period class. After announcements juniors will report to their testing locations.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1 st period | 7:05-8:45 am |
| 3 rd period | 8:51-10:59 am |
| 1 st lunch (10, 11, 12) | 11:05-11:35 am |
| 5 th period (9 th) | 11:05-11:46 am |
| 5 th period (10, 11, 12) | 11:41 am-12:22 pm |
| 2 nd lunch (9 th) | 11:52 am-12:22 pm |
| 7 th period | 12:28 pm-2:08 pm |

Ninth, tenth, and twelfth graders will remain in third period until 10:59. (This extra time is needed to complete testing.)