

Help for transitioning  
from 8th grade to  
high school to the real  
world of work!

# Transitions

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

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## COVER STORY:

- Want to work while attending high school?
- Like to earn a paycheck while learning a skill?
- Interested in your high school courses leading to a career?

If you answered “yes,” then read on!

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## Cooperative Education

### A “Win - Win” For School and Community

by Debbie Marsh, DCT Instructor @ CHS

Approximately 280 students at the four Charlotte County high schools receive academic/technical credit through Cooperative Education Programs. Each school and its surrounding community is unique in their offerings and all have a strong community sponsorship. The programs consist of Diversified Career Technology (DCT)/On The Job Training (OJT); Agriculture Science; Teacher Assisting; Veterinary Assisting; Executive High School Internships; and the Fire School Academy. The DCT/OJT program requires that the

student be gainfully employed in the economic market. In recent years, the economy has had a downturn, but the local supporters of Cooperative Education have continued to back the CCPS programs. Each school has a strong program and a tenured instructor. The five other cooperative programs require the student to do in depth job shadowing either during or after normal school hours and earn credits toward graduation. Although not paid, the other cooperative programs expose students to the knowledge, work skills,

environment, and training necessary to achieve success. As an incoming freshman, students select a career cluster with their elective and each year continue in that cluster or change according to desired outcomes. Cooperative programs may begin as early as ninth grade with career elective courses. Most off campus programs are completed during the student’s junior and senior years when transportation is available. For information specific to the school you will be attending, check with your high school Career Counselor.

## Career and Technical Education—CTE

by Carolyn Gorton, Interim Director of Career and Technical Learning

“**Transitions**” is a CTE newsletter designed for 8th grade students and parents to share.

January’s issue of *Transitions* brought you valuable information on what is new in the “green industry” along with your CTE information site, [FACTS.org](http://FACTS.org). I hope you had time to read and

discuss all these career and technical opportunities with your family and check out all the resources on the [FACTS.org](http://FACTS.org) site. This edition features important information for your soon-to-be 9th grader! Each high school has a column that outlines news for incoming students.

We have also provided information on careers in the rapidly-

growing health industry. Finally, check out the opportunities for working while in high school. Each school offers internships/on-the-job training experiences in local businesses that can prepare your child for the real world of work.

If you need any further information on CTE, contact me at 941-255-0808, ext. 3117.

by Dawn Bedford,  
Counselor at LBHS

## LBHS Information for 2010-11



Welcome the Manta Ray Class of 2014! Lemon Bay High School is looking forward to your arrival on campus this coming August. Before you arrive on campus, Lemon Bay will be providing many opportunities for the eighth grade LA Ainger families to become comfortable and familiar with the Lemon Bay Way.

The first opportunity for Ainger 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to experience campus life will be on March 19 when they will travel to Lemon Bay to take part in several fun activities. The day will feature a theatre production of the *Wizard of Oz*, performed by Lemon Bay theatre students. Ainger students will also be involved in a Lemon Bay Pep Rally which will

feature cheerleaders, the band, the NJROTC, and Lemon Bay traditions. This will be a great way for students to learn about the orange and blue.

For our Ainger 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents, Lemon Bay will be holding an 8<sup>th</sup> grade registration information night on March 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lemon Bay Cafeteria. This will be an informative meeting to explain the registration process. Required classes as well as elective opportunities will be discussed.

Registration for 8<sup>th</sup> grade LA Ainger students will culminate on April 8, when Lemon Bay hosts its traditional Manta Ray registration night from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This event,

which has occurred for more than 20 years, gives parents and students the chance to meet one-on-one with a teacher to discuss courses for the freshmen year. Administrators, guidance counselors and deans will all be on hand to answer any questions. **Please note: The April 8 registration night is by appointment only.** Beginning on March 24, parents will be able to call LBHS at 474-7702 x3101 for an appointment.

We understand the transition to high school is a major event in your child's life. The Lemon Bay family works very hard to make this a smooth transition and a positive experience for both you and your child. We look forward to seeing you at **THE BAY!**



## CHS Information for 2010-11

By Claudia Snider  
and  
Denise Jordan

Spring is registration for 8<sup>th</sup> graders planning to attend Charlotte High and become the **Tarpon Class of 2014**. This process involves investigating career options, selecting a major area of interest (MAI), creating an ePEP four-year plan, and, most importantly, selecting courses for the upcoming freshman year at CHS. The registration process is as follows:

### Parents

Monday, Feb. 22 CHS at PCMS  
SAC meeting, 6:00 PM

Thursday, Mar. 18 CHS at PGMS  
SAC meeting, 5:30 PM

Tuesday, April 13 Parent Night for  
ALL, 7:00 PM

CHS Principal Barney Duffy, 9<sup>th</sup> grade Academy Assistant Principal Andy Tenney, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade counselor Claudia Snider will be available at these events to answer questions.

### Students

Monday, March 22 PGMS  
Pre-registration in Career classes

Tuesday, March 23 PGMS  
Pre-registration in Career classes

Wed., March 24 PCMS  
Pre-registration in Science classes

Tuesday, April 13 PGMS  
Fine/Performing Arts Showcase at  
CHS 1:00 PM

Thursday, April 15 PCMS  
Registration during Science classes

Tuesday, April 20 PGMS  
Registration in Career classes

Wed., April 21 PGMS  
Registration in Career classes

During these times, 9<sup>th</sup> grade Academy counselor Claudia Snider and Career Specialist Denise Jordan will be available to meet with students and answer their questions.

### **Thursday, Aug. 5**

#### **CHS Freshman First Day Orientation**

At the orientation day, students will be paired with Tarpon Leadership Academy upper-class students who will be their "Tarpon Buddies" this school year. Freshmen will get a copy of their schedules, tour the school, and attend a clubs/activities fair after an orientation meeting with the administrative team. For information contact: Claudia Snider, 9<sup>th</sup> grade counselor, Andy Tenney, 9<sup>th</sup> grade Assistant Principal, or DeeLynn Bennett, Asst. Principal/Curriculum at (941)575-5450 or visit our on-line Student Success Planning Guide at

<http://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net/>

**Registration Information.**

# PCHS Information for 2010-11



*by Karen  
LaPorte and  
Scott Nicklas*

You are about to enter Port Charlotte High School, an academic powerhouse of learning! Everything about our institution focuses on you! We plan to get to know you and your family as early as possible, which means **now**. We hope that you read our articles and newsletters, attend our functions designed for you, and that you visit our website at: <http://www.portcharlottehigh.net> to become knowledgeable on how to be the best performing student you can be as you enter Port Charlotte High, a “back-to-back” A school!

We have designed a Freshman Academy called **Pirate Quest for Excellence** which provides an intense support system for you through team-building, mentoring, lessons in rigor, relevance, and most importantly the concept of PRIDE which runs throughout all we do. PRIDE stands for Preparation, Respect, Integrity, Determination, and Excellence. We remind our students of these important Pirate values daily through our classroom posters, student agendas, PRIDE recognition tickets, PRIDE events, PRIDE T-shirts, and our morning announcements. All of our incoming

freshmen students are invited to the following fun and informative transition events:

**April 12, 2010 (Monday) – PCHS Curriculum Night for Students and Families** PCHS curriculum information walk-through for parents and students. **6:30 – 8:00 pm**

**August TBA, 2010 – Rising 9<sup>th</sup> Luncheon, Tour, & Teaming.** Free lunch at PCHS Champs Café for incoming freshmen, tour of facility, and team building activities.

**August TBA, 2010 – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Pep Rally and “Open House” for All 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Students & Families.**

All of our freshmen are encouraged to get involved in high school through an academic, service, or a just-for-fun club such as Pirate Crew which boasts over 300 club members. When you purchase a Pirate Crew t-shirt all the student sporting events are free. Another way to get involved is to participate in sport teams and clubs. Half of our freshmen are selected to participate in our Pirate Peers Mentoring Program where upper classmen support them in a network of character building activities and academic-based meetings.

To learn about your classes, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade counselor, Mr. Scott Nicklas (941-255-7485, ext. 3111) will be bringing students to our feeder middle schools for panel discussions entitled “A Day in the Life of a Pirate” in February. On March 23 for Murdock Middle (MMS), and March 24 for Port Charlotte Middle (PCM), Mr. Nicklas will be distributing registration packets to rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Hopefully, you will attend the April 12 evening Curriculum Walk-through Night at PCHS. Then on April 13 for MMS and April 14 for PCM, Mr. Nicklas will be registering rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders for their high school schedule.

We understand that high school is a huge step in the growth and development of your child and want to support you in every way possible. Thus, more information may be obtained by attending your middle school SAC meeting, and/or contacting your middle school counselor. In addition, if there is anything we can do to assist you at the high school by answering questions, listening to your concerns, or getting to know the needs of your child, please feel free to call me:

**Ms. Karen LaPorte, PCHS Assistant Principal, and principal for 9<sup>th</sup> Grade House at 941-255-7485, ext. 3106.**

**Charlotte County offers many opportunities beyond the traditional high school.\*  
Check out the following:**

- The Academy @ Charlotte Technical Center, 255-7545
- Edison Collegiate High School, 637-5673
- Charlotte Technical Center Dual Enrollment, 255-7500
- Charlotte Virtual Instruction Program (CVIP), 255-0808, ext. 3010

**\*All of these schools have specific guidelines for enrollment. Phone for further information.**

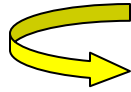
## Murdock Middle School

### YOU GO GIRL!



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*STUDENT SUCCESS!*



“Girls Going Places” is an upcoming conference for five 8th grade students from Murdock Middle school. Their CTE instructor, Tim Conte, saw a wonderful opportunity for five of his top students, Kristina Bilokopytova, Renee Johnson, Noelle Anderson, Abby NcVety, and Tanya Sharma to attend this Florida Gulf Coast University conference in May. The girls will be learning about financial independence for women and entrepreneurship. The conference also promises to open their minds to a wide variety of career options for both women and men.

These students currently attend classes in the Career Lab at Murdock which features hands-on activities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). This lab integrates technology with core academics in reading, math, and language and prepares students for future careers in the real world of work.

[yourcharlotteschools.net](http://yourcharlotteschools.net)

## Careers in Health Services



by Carolyn Gorton

*“Can you fill the prescriptions...  
Or study the brain...  
Care for the patients and sooth the pain...  
Restore good health and confidence too...  
Health Services may have a job for you.”\**

When you were born, your parents couldn't just look at you and determine what you would be when you grew up. But over the years, they probably noticed certain characteristics that might fit into one of many career fields. Were you always the child who wanted to help others? Did you enjoy responding to accidents? Were you interested in “why” certain medications were prescribed? Did you comfort people who were hurting? Were your best friends at school disabled in some way? Did people always tell you that you brightened their smile?

Many of these actions could give a hint that a career in Health Services

would interest you. An entry-level health job can lead you into a career ladder where you start with a short-term, lower wage job, but then can continue adding courses throughout your lifetime to move you up the ladder to more money and responsibility.

You might begin your career while in high school by taking a semester Nursing Assistant program at the Technical Center. This program can lead to a job while in high school and then entrance into a Practical Nursing program at the Technical Center or a Registered Nursing degree in college.

Other careers in health include:

**Dental Hygienist**—Learn to clean teeth; take X-rays; and apply sealants  
**Radiologic Technician**—X-ray portions of the human body; maintain equipment  
**Speech Pathologist**—Help people

with speech and hearing disorders  
**Medical Laboratory Technologist**—Examine blood and tissues through microscopes  
**Emergency Medical Technician**—Assess injuries; give emergency care; transport injured or sick persons  
**Physical Therapist**—Provide rehabilitation for patients suffering from disease or injury  
**Pharmacist**—Make and dispense medicines following prescriptions given by a doctor  
**Physician**—Diagnose illnesses and give treatment to people suffering from injury or disease

There are many other careers in medicine and health with the amount of training ranging from a short high school semester to more than eight years of college! Think about it carefully.....Is a Health Services career right for you?