

What's Your
WHY?

APOLLO MIDDLE SCHOOL

6800 Arthur St.

Hollywood, FL 33024

Ph. 754-323-2900 • Fax 754-323-2974

2019 – 2020 Rocket Newsletter

Principal's Message



Rocket Families,

As you and your families are gearing up for the approaching holidays, we too are preparing for a very busy new year at AMS. To ensure that our students are provided the enrichment and interventions they need to be successful, during the month of December teachers will assess students in all core content areas. Using the Florida Standards as our framework, our teachers will determine how to provide targeted instruction, remediation and enrichment for the upcoming standardized testing season.

This year our Language Arts and Reading classes will conduct a Writing Café and Reading Clinic. Our Math and Science teachers will offer tutoring before and after school. Also, please be on the lookout for our yearly Saturday Academy dates and times. More information with the dates and times for these interventions and extended learning opportunities will be sent home via back pack and announced on our school website and sent through Parent Link phone calls and texts messages. Parents, it is important that students attend school regularly and enjoy in a healthy breakfast provided daily by our cafeteria, free of charge. Also, to make sure you are "in the know", please feel free to contact our front office to set an appointment for a parent-teacher conference and ask to review our School-Parent Compact.

This month students and families are invited to our biggest Title I Night of the Year, the Science Fair and Showcase on Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 6pm in the Kiva. On Wednesday, December 18th students will also be able to get into the groove at the Winter Dance. Tickets for the dance are on sale from December 16th to the December 18th for \$5. Additionally, students will get to pop off and pep up at our annual winter Pep Rally themed "Winter Wonderland" that will take place on Friday, December 20th during 3rd and 4th period. More upcoming events that are taking place at Apollo Middle School are noted below.

If you are interested in providing input regarding the performance evaluations of Apollo Middle School instructional and/or administrative evaluations you may contact our office at 754-323-2900 by April 10, 2020. If you have any further questions regarding how to provide input, please contact Employee Evaluations at 754-321-5067.

Once again, thank you for your continued support of our safety policy, as all students and visitors must present an ID or badge while on our campus. As always, we thank you for the privilege of educating your child.



Shawn Aycock, Principal

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Important Dates

December – January

- 12/3.....Winter Showcase (Beginning Band & Percussion)
- 12/4.....SAC Meeting
- 12/10.....Winter Showcase (Chorus & Concert Chorale)
- 12/17.....Winter Showcase (Concert & Symphonic Bands)
- Title I Family Engagement Night**
Science Fair & Showcase
Thursday, December 12, 2019
@6pm in the Kiva
- 12/18.....Winter Dance
- 12/20....."Winter Wonderland" Pep Rally
- 12/23-1/3.....Winter Break
- 1/6.....Teacher Planning (No School)

Important Information

Important Telephone Numbers



Main Office	754-323-2900
ESE	754-323-2923
Registrar	754-323-2904
Media Center	754-323-2925
Title I	754-323-2939
Magnet Office	754-323-2921
Guidance	754-323-2931
6th Admin	754-323-2907
7th Admin	754-323-2908
8th Admin	754-323-2909

Ms. Shawn Aycock, Principal
 Dr. Justin Jackson, 6th grd. Assistant Principal
 Ms. Traci Aveni, 7th grd. Assistant Principal
 Mr. Damon Martin, 8th grd. Assistant Principal
 Ms. Bonnie Bernstein, Magnet Coordinator
 Ms. Maria Desmond, Guidance Director
 Ms. A. Whitworth-Barner, Curriculum Specialist
 Ms. Angelic Seely, Literacy Coach
 Mr. Winston Symonette, Behavior Specialist

What's Your
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APOLLO MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC
PROGRAM PRESENTS:

2019 Winter Concert Series

*Enjoy a series of concerts with festive music performed by
Apollo Middle School Bands & Choirs. All Concerts are free
admission and start at 6PM*

DECEMBER 3RD - BEGINNING BAND & PERCUSSION
DECEMBER 10TH - CHORUS & CONCERT CHORALE
DECEMBER 17TH - CONCERT & SYMPHONIC BANDS

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Shawn Aycock, principal of Apollo Middle School earns administrator award for debate

By [David Volz](#) - November 11, 2019 37 0



Special recognition goes to our Stem-tastic principal, Ms. Shawn Aycock for always supporting our students and their endeavors as they thrive. Apollo offers a long list of innovative electives, such as debate, to help students develop the skills they need to succeed in the 21st Century. Ms. Aycock was named Debate Principal of the Year and was featured in the Hollywood Gazette. Way to go Ms. Aycock!

2019 Science Fair Winners!

The Beading Sun - Michelle Nguyen

Yeast VS Ultraviolet Light - Mazharul Haque

Could WIFI be the Thing Killing Your Plants? - Andres Pena

Bye, Bye Salt - Jacobi Dawkins

A pHactor of Life: The Effect of Temperature on the Acidity of Water - Nandita Arjune

Building Bridges - Lorenzo Munoz

Time to Tilt It - Jose Miele

Breezy Energy - Isaac Gavanovich

Trash Power - Brant Meloun

Space Fruit - Jackson Thrasher



Rocket Newsletter 2019

A Little Extra...Going A Long Way



Kudos to Mr. McCall and his chaperone Ms. Cedeno for taking our Symphonic Band and Express the Arts to perform in the Literacy Connection Inc.'s Fundraising Event, "It Takes A Village" event. It was an African themed event that the band and ETA kicked off with some stellar performances. Below is the link to the full photo gallery. Also a huge thank you to Ms. Cedeno for being a chaperone for the band as well!

<https://photomovement.passgallery.com/-literacyconnectioninc/sneakpeek>



AMS speech and debate team are off to a great start this year. With the guidance of Mr. Pigan and support from our Stem-tastic Principal Ms. Aycock, we have seen continuous success and growth in our students. Using momentum from October's Debate Tournament, 7th grader *Julian Francu* finished 1st place overall for all Broward County Middle Schools in Humorous Interpretation and 7th Grader *Jackson Thrasher* finished in 4th place overall.

Mr. Pigan would also like to give a special shout out to Ms. Suarez for her support as chaperone for our great debaters.



Mr. Knight and his Dungeons and Dragons Club are officially "sponsored". Skullsplitter Dice, an online store, sent the club a care package, complete with dice, enamel pins and stickers free of charge. Mr. Knight and his students wanted to express their gratitude for the company's sponsorship and urges all of the Apollo family to continue to expand our community and business partners.

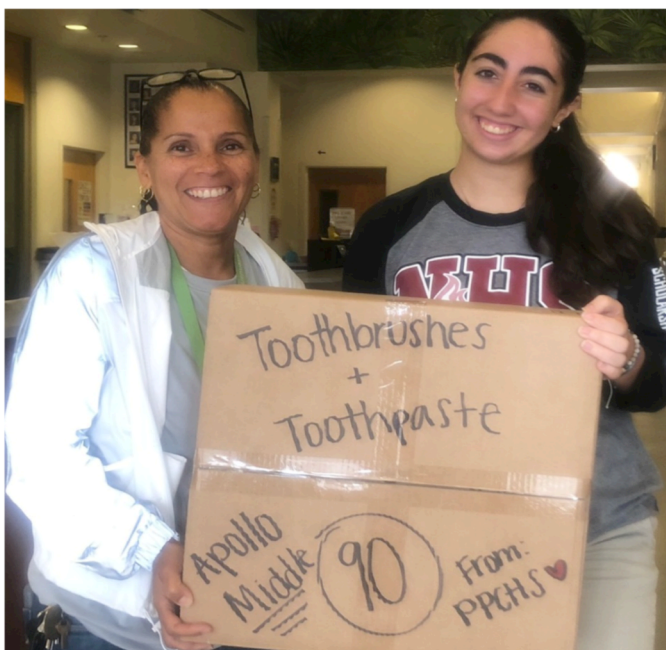


Rocket Newsletter 2019

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY



On December 10, 2019 Ms. McCauley and our AMS Peace Club commemorated Human Rights Day. The club created bulletin board to educate our students on the tenants of Human Rights, such as "Freedom from slavery!" Thank you once again Peace Club for helping Apollo acknowledge this great cause.



Shout out to Pembroke Pines Charter School who partnered with Ms. McCauley to donate toiletries such as toothpaste and toothbrushes. Special shout out to our Community Liaison, Ms. Lopez for answering the call to collect our donations. Thanks ladies for making a difference in our school and helping our students every-day.



HOLIDAY DANCE

Wednesday
DECEMBER 18, 2019

\$5

4pm-6pm

!!Door Prizes!!



To celebrate the holiday season and gear up for the upcoming test preparation season, Apollo students can enjoy the Holiday Dance on Wednesday December 18th from 4pm to 6pm in the Gym. All tickets are \$5 and will be on sale starting Friday, December 13th until the day of the dance. On Friday, December 20th, the AMS Spirit Club will put on a Winter Wonderland Pep Rally for all students.

* Any student who has one infraction between December 3rd and December 17th will not be allowed to participate in the Winter Dance. Any student that has two infractions between those dates will not be allowed to participate in the Dance or the Pep Rally. Any student that has three or more infraction between December 3rd and December 20th will not be allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activities when we get back from break until February 7th.

Winter Pep-Rally

will be Friday, Dec. 20th.

It's a **SNOW DAY!**

Wear as much **WHITE** as you can!

Make sure you follow School Board rules OR NO Pep-Rally!

The grade that comes the **MOST snowed out** will get a Dress Down Day on Friday, January 10th!

Let's Go Rockets!

By extracurricular activities, we mean any club, sport, field-trip, dance, or any other event in or outside of school that is not education-related.



Title I Family Engagement Night
Thursday, December 12, 2019
@6pm
Science Fair & Showcase

Join us as we celebrate student projects, visit science work stations with hands-on



Students accompanied by a parent can earn door prizes & extra credit!

experiments and demonstrations.
This is a Stem-tastic night that



Refreshments provided by:



WHERE:
Apollo Middle School
6800 Arthur St.
Hollywood, FL 33024
Ph. 754-323-2900

Apollo
Website: www.broward.k12.fl.us/apollo
Follow us on Twitter: @apollo_rockets
www.facebook.com/browardschools



Title I News

The Title I department presents information to stakeholders regarding the 2019-2020 School Improvement Plan (SIP). Monthly events are held to provide an opportunity for stakeholders to provide any input to the SIP and Title I Plan & Addendum. Apollo adheres to all Title I compliance requirements by ensure parents and families have access to District/ LEA Report Card and Parent Engagement Plan. These items can be found at www.browardschools.com. Additional school-level compliance items such as our Parent-School

Compact and Parent & Family Engagement Plan are complete and accessible on our school website at <https://www.browardschools.com/apollo> a hard copy of these items are in the Title I office. In addition to these items, are hard copies of student FSA and EOC scores for Reading/ Language Arts, Math/ Algebra/ Geometry, Science/Biology, and Social Studies/ Civics. Please contact our front office and registrar for questions regarding the 2018-2019 exam score documents.

This December our Stem-tastic Science Fair & Showcase with parent information sessions for all of our guests to see how our science classes and electives utilize standards driven project-based learning.

Apollo Middle School is proud to be a Title I school. We aim to provide all of our students with a high-quality education that will prepare them to thrive in the 21st Century and beyond! For more information on Title I funding, activities, and compliance documents, please contact Title I Liaison Ms. Whitworth-Barner, Title I Liaison or Linda Howard, for more information or if translation is needed, or go to the district website at,

<http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/titleone/Home.html>.

2019 Title I Family Nights & Parent Academy Events

APOLLO ROCKETS

Title/ Topic	Day & Date	Time/ Location
Hispanic Heritage Family Night	Tuesday September 24	6p.m. – 7:30p.m. Kiva
Parent Academy: Technology Pinnacle/ Online Books & Resources Technology in the Classroom The Truth About Social Media	Tuesday October 22	6p.m. – 7:30p.m. Kiva
Literacy Night & Book Fair	Tuesday November 5	6p.m. – 7:30p.m. Kiva
Broward County Magnet Showcase & Math Night	Wednesday November 13	6p.m. – 7:30p.m. Kiva
Science Night & PBL Showcase	Thursday December 12	6p.m. – 7:30p.m. Kiva
Parent Academy: Crunch Time Speak Up in SAC	Tuesday January 14	6p.m. – 7:30p.m.
Black History Celebration & Rocket Fair	Tuesday February 25	6p.m. – 7:30p.m. Kiva
ELA Night	Wednesday April 14	6p.m. – 7:30p.m. Kiva
Parent Academy: Know What Counts? Naviance & Career Path & Goals	Tuesday April 21	6p.m. – 7:30p.m. Kiva

*Dates & times subject to change to ensure flexible times are provided to parents and families.

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6800 Arthur St.
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Get Involved

School Advisory Committee News

Apollo's SAC committee convenes the first Wednesday of every month. All members and stakeholders are provided an opportunity to give input on academic and organizational decisions that impact student achievement and school safety and climate. The committee is also responsible for voting on specified school spending and budgetary decisions. On December 4, our member discussed the upcoming crunch time extended learning opportunities.

During this meeting, members suggested ways to streamline parent engagement and incentives for specific subgroups at Apollo. This year, Apollo has created several parent engagement nights that are geared toward informing parents on how to monitor students' screen time, locate pertinent information in Pinnacle and Virtual Counselor, understand graduation requirements, assist with volunteering and much more! Also, we are happy to announce that a new "buzzer" system has been installed in our front and administrative offices. This is one of the many improvements Apollo is undergoing to ensure our students and staff are safe and secure.

This month our SAC provided input on several aspects of the School Improvement Plan and Title I Addendum, Parent-School Compact, and LEA, which are all accessible via the Broward County OSPA (Office of School Performance and Accountability). As always, a hardcopy of last year's SIP is located in the front office, and available for your review. Apollo Middle's Parental Involvement Plan is also located in the same binder with the School Improvement Plan in the front office. A copy is also posted on our website.

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure, which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, marital status, race, religion, or sexual orientation. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Executive Director, Benefits and EEO Compliance at (754) 321-2150 or Teletype Machine TTY (754) 321-2158. Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA) may call Equal Educational Opportunities (EEO) at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine TTY (754) 321-2158.

School Advisory Council
at
Apollo Middle School

WHEN
1st Wednesday of each month at 6 P.M.

WHERE
Media Center
At Apollo Middle School

Website:
www.browardschools1.com/apollo

SAC
SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

INFORMATIONAL SESSION ON:
AUGUST 28, 2019

MEETING DATES:
SEPTEMBER 11, 2019
OCTOBER 2, 2019
NOVEMBER 6, 2019
DECEMBER 4, 2019
JANUARY 8, 2020
FEBRUARY 5, 2020
MARCH 4, 2020
APRIL 1, 2020
MAY 6, 2020

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APOLLO MIDDLE SCHOOL

THIS IS OUR WHY



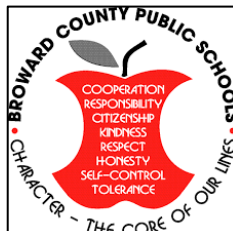
Every year, Apollo Middle School focuses on making good character

a part of every students' education.

It is our belief that character education results in reduced office referrals, increased skills for conflict resolution, lessened risky behavior, overall improved school climate and civility, and improved attendance and test scores. December's character trait is *Kindness*

This month, I'd like to recognize a teacher who is nominated almost every month for her kindness, generosity, innovative elective, and concern for students and teachers.

Our Adult Character of the Month
Mrs. Lori Bruno



Mr. McCall would like to give a shout out to 8th grader Rachel Bolivar. He writes, "Rachel is one of my Flute players and she just recently auditioned into the Broward County Middle School All-County Honor Band that will perform in February."



Great work Rachel!

What's Your WHY?

In Memoriam

Of our friend and colleague
Judith Miller

On Monday, November 25th our dear friend and colleague, Ms. Judith Miller passed away. Ms. Elmore, another teacher and dear friend sent this message to pay respect to Ms. Miller: See my friend here on the right, Judy, in the photo from October 9th? She passed away today and met Jesus face to face. □

Judy was a vital part of our school life at Apollo. She was meticulous at her job of inputting grades and overseeing scheduling input. She will be greatly missed by more than just me. She was an exceptional worker, respected and beloved by all who knew her.

I began at Apollo 17 years ago and she came only six months or so after me. She was from Baltimore and her family later moved to PA so we had things in common like flying home for our Christmas breaks to see our families. We were both single and loved talking about our nieces and nephews.

She always had a caring quick smile and enjoyed giggling at my blatant honesty and silliness. She cared so it was easy to share with her. It was easy to be friends with her!

She loved Disney and enjoyed going as often as possible. She also loved visiting the beach, especially on her bicycle. She even rode her bicycle to school on a regular basis at one time. She was a young 53.

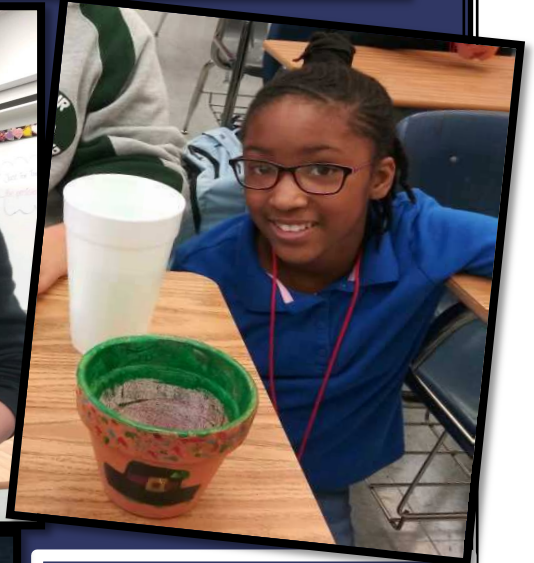
Life lessons learned from my friend Judy:

- Work hard (as unto the Lord) and do your very best
- Have a caring, gentle, listening spirit with which you can easily make friends ~ show yourself friendly
- Stay close to your family while making & needing friends too
- Be generous with yourself, your time, your wealth even if you don't think you have much
- Live in the moment and enjoy simple pleasures like being outside
- Exercise unconditional love by owning a pet (in Judy's case and in my case)
- Tell people how much they mean to you... we're not promised tomorrow.





s in 2019

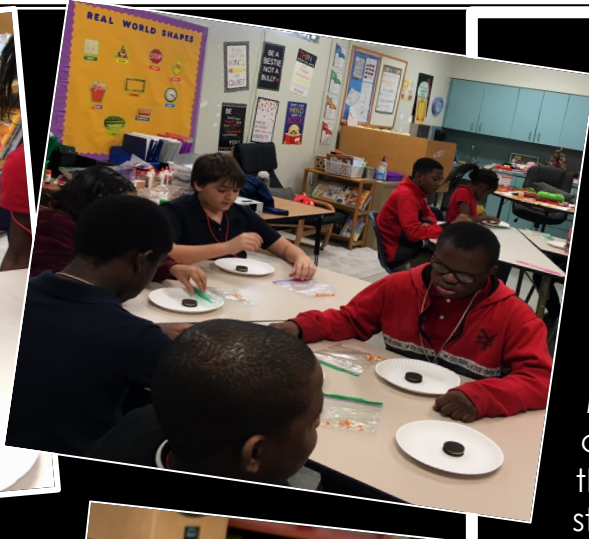


Above and on the left are students from Ms. Bruno's Nutrition class (which is a hit amongst the students and staff) as they created plant pots as gifts for loved ones. At the top is Ms. Pigan with our Stem-tastic debate team. Go Rockets!

What's Your
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s in 2019



This year, our teachers have creatively found ways to engage our students. From making puppets in Ms. Suarez's drama class to making Oreo's turkeys in Ms. McCauley's SVE class to celebrate the holidays, our students are having fun while learning different skills and concepts.

On the SEL note, Ms. McCauley and Mr. Small gave life to our new Apollo Motto, to start with "Hello, *It's a Good Day to Have a Great Day.*"

They took the time to mount the word to a wall over the cafeteria door in the front hallway. The goal is to post the message throughout the school to remind students of what the Apollo Pledge and Motto stand for. It is our vision and mission to improve the lives of our school community. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday break. Joy and Peace to all, from the Apollo family.

hello

IT'S A GOOD DAY
TO HAVE A GREAT DAY.