



Falcon Cove Middle School

College Night

Fall 2020



Let's Breathe

- This is scary and overwhelming no matter what experience you have had with this process
- Two most important things: being properly placed and good study skills
- Need to treat Cypress Bay like a marathon, not a race...you will all cross the finish line
- It will be okay...the “dream” school is exactly where you land
- I am convinced that what it says on your sweatshirt does not define you, its what you accomplish while wearing that sweatshirt that tells your story
- This presentation will be on my website



19- 20 Acceptances

Arizona State University	Harvey Mudd	Syracuse University	University of Missouri
Barry University	Indiana University	Texas A&M	University of North Carolina
Baylor	Michigan State University	Tulane	Chapel Hill
Bentley University	New College	University of Alabama	University of North Florida
Berklee School of Music	Northeastern	University of Arizona	University of Pennsylvania
Brandeis University	Northwestern	University of California Berkeley	University of Pittsburgh
Clemson	NYU	University of California Santa Cruz	University of Rochester
Colorado State	Nova Southeastern University	University of Central Florida	University of South Carolina
Dartmouth	Ohio State University	University of Colorado	University of South Florida
Duke University	Penn State	University of Florida	University of Tennessee
Embry Riddle	Pepperdine University	University of Georgia	University of Texas
Emory/Oxford	Purdue University	University of Maryland	University of Virginia
Florida Atlantic University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Miami	University of Wisconsin
Florida Gulf Coast University	SCAD	University of Michigan	Vanderbilt
Florida International University			Villanova
Florida State University			Yale
Fordham University			
Georgia Tech			

The Process

In Your Control:

- Grades
- Test Scores
- Rigor
- Extracurriculars, Leadership, Community Service
- Essays
- Fit

Out of Your Control:

- Diversity
- Students from underrepresented areas
- Legacy
- Athletes
- Male/Female ratios
- Class composition
- Desired majors

The Message!

- Florida Schools – 12 great options, try not to focus on the Big Three
- Dream School, Safety School and Some Good Fits
- “Holistic” has now changed to “Fit”
- Pursue the school you really want
- Applications need to show a theme...tellyour story!



**What are Colleges
Looking at:**

5 Things:

- Academic Core GPA
- Rigor of Curriculum
- SAT/ ACT
- Extra curriculars, Leadership Community Service
- The Application!

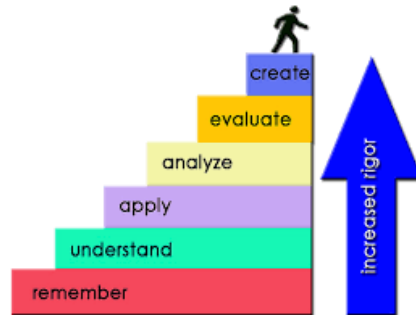
GPA Scale

- Weighted -- Every subject with weight including 1 point for Honors, 2 points for AICE and AP classes (colleges will give .5 for Honors and 1.0 for AP/AICE...Florida schools)
- Academic core-- All the core subjects: math, science, English, history and foreign language with weight
- Unweighted -- Everything stripped down...an A is a 4.0, B is a 3.0, etc.
- The colleges will focus on the academic core GPA
- 1st quarter (40%) + 2nd quarter (40%) + midterm (20%) = semester grade; Both semester grades will go on transcript
- Senior year grades matter!

Rigor of Curriculum



- Take the highest level of classes you can be successful in
- Stay in your lane – strengths/weaknesses
- Senior Schedule Matters
- Once applications are out, **MUST** stay in classes
- Cannot earn less than a C in dual enrollment!!!



Testing

- Like to see test prep Summer after Sophomore year and testing multiple times Junior year
- For this year, scores are still required for Florida colleges and optional for most out of state schools.
- Optional means optional!
- Multiple times to test throughout the year for the superscore
 - SEND ALL SCORES SUPERSCORE!!!!!!

Extra Curriculars, Leadership, Community Service

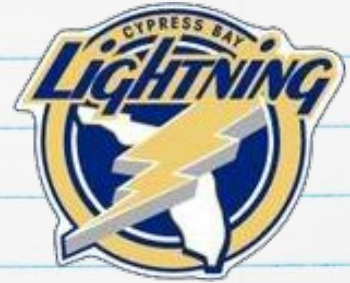
- Academic Integrity –do things outside of school that match your interests in school
- Don't need to join 10 clubs....build your brand!
- Not everyone can be a President or Captain – chair a committee
- Community Service – any non profit organization or club
- Hours:
 - 40 to graduate
 - 75/100 Bright Futures
 - 250 chord at graduation

The Application— Authenticity Matters!

- Academic Performance/Grades (blips -let them know)
- Number/Rigor of Academic Courses (don't make changes to senior year schedule)
- Test Scores (SAT, ACT, SAT Subject Tests)
- Extracurriculars/Sports/Leadership/Volunteer Hours (provide context for achievements...colleges don't understand random names)
- Essay— This will serve as your interview
- Resume- Letters of Recommendation (when applicable) from a core teacher 11th or 12th grade
- Transcript

Early Decision/Early Action

- **ED applicants (Much better odds!)**
 - Apply early (usually in November) to first -choice college; receive an admission decision from the college in advance of the usual notification date (usually by Dec.)
 - Apply to only one college early decision; apply to other colleges under regular admission plans
- **EA applicants**
 - Apply early; receive an admission decision early in the admission cycle (usually in Jan. or Feb.)
 - Apply to other colleges under regular admission plans
- **Single-Choice or Restrictive Early Action**
 - Apply early/Non -binding; receive an admission decision in December or January
 - Can apply to only one college Restrictive Early Action or Single Choice
 - A decision can be an acceptance, denial, or deferral to regular decision deadline



Transcripts

TRANSCRIPTS



- Complete record of high school courses and grades...including grade replacement
- BC class grades on our transcript
- Admissions based on high school courses (even if taken in Middle School)
- Transcripts are either uploaded into applications, sent electronically or through the U.S. mail

SSAR and SPARK

- Most of the Florida schools are using this replacing the application...it is a complete record of all high school classes and grades from Middle and High School
- Any college classes taken at outside institutions will go on the SSAR and SPARK, as well



Review/Submit Your Record

Review the data you have entered to ensure it is accurate. If it looks okay, mark it as complete by completing the section at the bottom.

IMPORTANT

You are submitting your complete high school academic record, including coursework "In Progress." Once your academic record has been submitted, you will be asked to verify the completeness and accuracy of your secondary school record with your online signature. It is very important that you carefully review your academic record for any omissions/errors.

School Attended

[Edit Schools](#)

School Name/Address	Years Attended	Class Rank	Class Size	Self-Reported GPA	Courses Entered
Cypress Bay High School 18600 Vista Park Blvd Weston, FL 33332	2014 - 2018	78	1169	5.1058	68

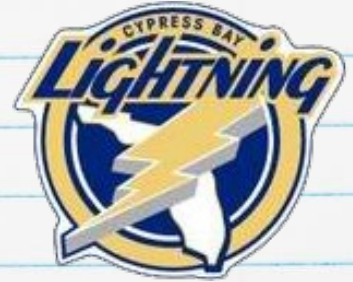
View entered coursework by:

Year Subject Area

Coursework Entered

[Edit Coursework](#)

Middle School - CYPRESS BAY HIGH SCHOOL - Weston, FL							
Subject Area	Course	Actual Title	Type	Grade	Length	Term/Semester	
Mathematics	ALGEBRA 1	ALGEBRA I HON (GEM-7)	Honors	A	Semester	First	
Mathematics	ALGEBRA 1	ALGEBRA I HON (GEM-7)	Honors	A	Semester	Second	
Mathematics	GEOMETRY	GEOMETRY HON (GEM-8)	Honors	B	Semester	First	

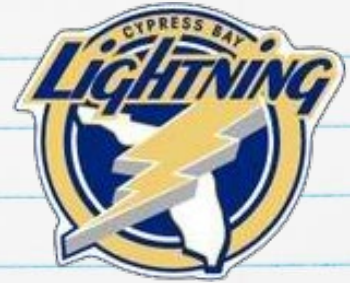


Application Fees

Application Fees

- Approximately \$30 for Florida public universities
- Application Fee for Private Schools range from \$75-\$100
- Free/reduced-price lunch can get app fee waivers on College Board website





SAT/ACT COLLEGE SCORES

SAT

- Free online test prep with Khan Academy ... 20minutes a night (secret sauce)
- Analysis in Science and Social Studies
- Optional essay (most schools not requiring it but should check ahead of time)
- Interpret and support with evidence well known pieces (Gettysburg Address, Declaration of Independence..)
- No penalty for wrong answers
- More common vocabulary

SAT Subject Tests

Subject Tests are Only For Selective Schools

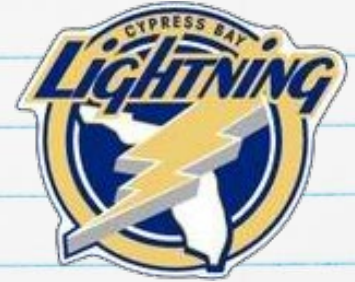
- 21 tests in five general subject areas: English, history, languages, mathematics and science
- Tests are 1hour long and offered through College Board; can take 3 at one time
- Highest score is 800. Can take it multiple times, choose whether or not to submit
- Some universities will specify which tests to take; others will not
- Best time to take them is immediately after completing that class



SAT vs. ACT















- Length: 3 hours 35 min (SAT), 3 hours 50 minutes (ACT)
 - Both include optional writing/essay
- Sections: Both have 4
- Scores: 1,600 for SAT (800 math/800 evidence based reading), 36 for ACT
- Wrong Answers: No penalty for both
- Math: both cover Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, and Algebra 2
- Science: No Science section on SAT but it is incorporated into other sections



SUS Updates

FLORIDA
SUS
 2020-2021
 COUNSELOR GUIDE

	NAME OF INSTITUTION	APPLICATION TYPE	MIDDLE 50% OF ADMITTED FTIC 2020 (S=SUMMER) (F=FALL)			APPLICATION DETAILS		
			GPA	SAT	ACT	APPLICATION WAIVERS ACCEPTED	Self-Reported GPA	Self-Reported Platform
	FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online Application	S: 3.27 F: 3.67	S: 1060 F: 1100	S: 20.2 F: 22.3	SAT/ACT, NACAC	Yes	SSAR
	FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	S: 3.18 - 3.76 F: 3.62 - 4.24	S: 1030 - 1160 F: 1110 - 1260	S: 20 - 25 F: 23 - 29	SAT/ACT Fee Waiver, NACAC Fee Waiver, Email from School Counselor, Written Request from Student, Documentation Demonstrating Participation in Free/Reduced Lunch	Yes	SSAR
	FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online, Common Application	S: 3.4 - 4.07 F: 3.51 - 4.26	S: 1020 - 1180 F: 1080 - 1230	S: 20 - 23 F: 21 - 26	SAT/ACT Fee Waiver, NACAC Fee Waiver, Email from School Counselor, Written Request from Student, Documentation Demonstrating Participation in Free/Reduced Lunch	Yes	SSAR
	FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online	S: 3.6 - 4.2 F: 4.0 - 4.6	S: 1100 - 1190 F: 1240 - 1360	S: 22 - 25 F: 26 - 31	SAT/ACT Fee Waiver, NACAC Fee Waiver, Email from School Counselor, Written Request from Student, Documentation Demonstrating Participation in Free/Reduced Lunch	No	
	FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	F: 3.9 - 4.6	F: 1280 - 1400	F: 28 - 32	SAT/ACT Fee Waiver, NACAC Fee Waiver, Documentation Demonstrating Participation in Free/Reduced Lunch	Yes	SSAR
	FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY	Institutional Online Application, Common Application, Coalition Application	S: 3.8 - 4.3 F: 4.1 - 4.5	S: 1190 - 1310 F: 1290 - 1410	S: 26 - 30 F: 29 - 32	SAT/ACT Fee Waiver, NACAC Fee Waiver	Yes	SSAR
	NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	F: 3.73 - 4.33	F: 1150 - 1340	F: 24 - 30	Application fee waived for all students	Yes	SSAR
	UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	S: 3.77 - 4.29 F: 3.96 - 4.46	S: 1170 - 1280 F: 1250 - 1370	S: 23 - 28 F: 26 - 30	SAT/ACT Fee Waiver, NACAC Fee Waiver, Documentation Demonstrating Participation in Free/Reduced Lunch	Yes	SPARK
	UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA	Common Application, Coalition Application	S: 4.4 - 4.6 F: 4.4 - 4.6	S: 1260 - 1400 F: 1340 - 1480	S: 28 - 32 F: 30 - 33	SAT/ACT Fee Waiver, NACAC Fee Waiver, Email from School Counselor, Written Request from Student, Documentation Demonstrating Participation in Free/Reduced Lunch	Yes	SSAR
	UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	S: 3.3 - 3.8 F: 4.0 - 4.5	S: 1070 - 1190 F: 1200 - 1320	S: 21 - 24 F: 25 - 28	SAT/ACT Fee Waiver, NACAC Fee Waiver, Documentation Demonstrating Participation in Free/Reduced Lunch	Yes	SSAR
	UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA	Institutional Online Application, Common Application, Coalition Application	S: 3.7 - 4.0 F: 4.1 - 4.4	S: 1160 - 1190 F: 1270 - 1340	S: 24 - 25 F: 28 - 30	SAT/ACT Fee Waiver, NACAC Fee Waiver, Email from School Counselor, Written Request from Student, Documentation Demonstrating Participation in Free/Reduced Lunch	No	
	UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA	Institutional Online Application, Common Application	S: 3.75 F: 3.9	S: 1140 F: 1173	S: 23 F: 25	SAT/ACT Fee Waiver, NACAC Fee Waiver, Email from School Counselor, Written Request from Student, Documentation Demonstrating Participation in Free/Reduced Lunch	No	

What's New at the Florida Schools?

- UCF...brand new downtown campus with 7,000 students
- FGCU: requiring an essay and offering Early Action
- All schools superscore SAT and ACT
- Honors Program now part of the UF and FSU application
- Florida Poly and New School are the only two Florida schools that require a Letter of Recommendation
- Only Florida school solely dedicated to STEM
- No distinction between AP, AICE and Dual Enrollment

Application Deadlines



UF deadline–November 1st. Decision date is Friday, Feb.26th



FSU– 1 deadline Dec. 9th. Decision Feb. 18th CARE Program (for students who are among the first in their family to attend college and may face unique challenges in college because of educational or economic circumstances)



UCF–Top 10 Knights Program (1010 on SAT, 21 on ACT, and in top 10% of their class, they will be guaranteed an admission to UCF)



UCF, FGCU, FAU, USF, UNF, FIU, FAU Rolling admissions (Nov. 1st)

UM–Early Action and Early Decision –Nov. 1st Regular Decision–Jan. 1st

MUST commit to a school by May 1st



On the Coalition Application this year. Will not be reviewing the locker section!

Received 49,000+ applications— for a freshman class of 6,500.

- Mid 50% ranges for this year (summer):
 - GPA : 4.3-4.6 academic core
 - SAT: 1340-1470
 - ACT: 28-32
- Last year, 215 accepted (123 regular admits, 92 PACE/IA/Santa Fe Engineering)
- They count academic units –very important! Rigorous courses –dual enrollment, AICE and AP!!! Senior schedule– Calculus (opens more doors than any other classes...must be properly placed)
- Test scores due by December 15th and FAFSA due by December
- Make sure you check emails/status (SSAR issues!)
- Students can be cut at one of three levels (admissions, committee, Director)

UF Admit Options- 6

- **Direct Admit**
 - Summer B
 - Fall semester
 - All majors available
 - Housing on campus is offered
 - Honors Program available – Must apply by March 1
- **PACE Program (Pathway to Campus Enrollment)**
- **Innovation Academy**

UF Admit Options- 6

- **UF Online**

- Denied freshman may apply for spring of the following year; otherwise students may apply for summer, fall or spring enrollment
- Entirely all 4 years online
- Students may later choose to apply to transfer to on campus classes as an upper division transfer student
- 16 majors
- 25% less cost
- Students may purchase an optional fee package that provides access to on-campus services

- **Santa Fe Partnership Programs**

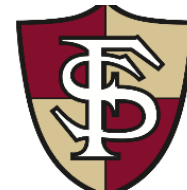
- Partnership with the College of Design, Construction and Planning, and the College of Engineering
- May be able to continue on UF's campus after approximately 2 semesters
- Guaranteed admit after minimum of two semesters completed

- **Transfer**

- 60 Credits or AA from Broward College, FIU, FAU...
- Still need to apply and be accepted



FLORIDA STATE



Can Apply through Coalition Application, Common Application, and FSU Application

Over 61,000 applications last year. 8.3% increase from previous year. Fewer admits than prior years.
Freshmen class of 6,200

They looked at what was in the GPA and this is what they saw...

- 68% of the applicants had all A's and B's in the appropriate rigor (AP and AICE classes)
- Most students had at least a B average (unweighted) in their Junior year
- Any students who got below a C were heavily scrutinized and mostly denied
- 59% had advanced math (calculus or higher)
- 41% had 4 years of a language or more
- Anyone who had a dual enrollment GPA below 2.8 did not have favorable results.

Student profile:

- **Fall:** GPA: 4.1-4.5, SAT: 1290-1410, ACT: 29-32
- **Summer:** 3.8-4.3, SAT: 1190-1310, ACT: 27-29
- **Seminole Pathways:** 3.5-3.9; SAT 1170-1240, ACT 24-27

CARE program—summer bridge (first generation/fin. need)...Essay is important. Apply by Nov. 1
FSU will send out invitations to apply to the Honors Program to those students receiving the University
Freshman Scholarship the week after freshman decisions are released. Acceptances to the Honors program
are made available in February.



University of Central Florida



Rolling admission process allows students the opportunity to present additional academic credentials (e.g., first semester senior grades and/or higher test scores) to strengthen their competitiveness in the overall applicant pool. Each time additional academic credentials are updated, the student's application will be presented to Committee for review.

- Student profile class of 2021:
 - GPA : 3.964.46 (fall); 3.774.29 (fall)
 - SAT: 12501370 (fall); 11701280 (summer)
 - ACT: 2630 (fall); 23-28 (summer)
- SPARK
- Most admitted students had all A's and B's academic core
- Less holistic – more numbers driven – senior schedule!!
- Senior Year Grades Matter
- Common App and Own Institutional App...one essay...must submit everything at one time
- NO MORE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

FGCU, FAU, FIU



Rolling admission

FGCU: Early Action and Essay

Student profile class of 2020:

- GPA : average GPA academic core 3.6+
- SAT: average reading/math score – Must meet minimum subscores
- ACT average composite- Must meet minimum subscores

Less holistic – more numbers driven – senior schedule!!



Associate of Arts (AA)***

- Transfer to a 4-year university
- BC Honors Institute
- Best way to transfer due to articulation agreement – (does not “look” better to transfer from another 4-year)

Associate of Science (AS)

- Enter workforce after 2 years of study
 - Crime Scene
 - Diagnostic Medical Sonography
 - Aviation Operations
- www.broward.edu/programs/

Trade/Tech Schools



Sheridan Technical Center – Hollywood



Atlantic Technical Center – Coconut Creek



McFatter Technical Center – Davie

- Accepts Bright Futures
- Regionally Accredited

✓ *Business Technology*

✓ *Health Science*

✓ *Building Trades*

✓ *Information Technology*

✓ *Communications*

✓ *Public Service*

✓ *Cosmetology*

✓ *Transportation*

✓ *Culinary Arts*

✓ *Early Childhood*

Military Options

- Send many students to the military academies:
 - West Point
 - U.S. Naval Academy





COLLEGE MAJOR

How do I know where to Apply?

What if I don't know what to Major in?

- It's okay! Two of the most popular majors in the country right now are Undecided and General Studies
- There are over 4,000 Universities in the United States...we will find one!
- Virtual Tours and College Websites
- College Visits – An invaluable opportunity to meet the person reading your application
- College Fairs and College Tours
- Visit the schools when you are in the area

College Visits – Cypress Bay

- Shows demonstrated interest
- Available for all students...virtually this year!
- A great way to ask your specific questions and hear about programs that interest you
- An opportunity to meet the person reading your application
- Sign up on Cypress Bay Website>>College Advising



Don't be discouraged...

- Other options to get into schools
- The numbers are a range and not necessarily the standard
- Open yourself up the possibilities of other schools
- Test multiple times and switch tests if necessary
- One blip will not always be a deterrent for a school
- Stay positive and be relentless!



\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

4 Pots of \$\$\$ to Go Fishing In

- State Funding – Bright Futures –October 1st
- Federal Funding – FAFSA– October 1st
- Institutional Scholarships/Grants
- Private Scholarships – Scholarship Bulletin/Naviance/Websites





Bright Futures



- Apply starting October 1st of senior year
- Transcript checked twice per year
 - To qualify at first check – tests, grades, courses and hours must be in by Jan 31
- Test score requirements increased!!!
- Florida prepaid kicks in first, then BF
- June tests count towards BF
- Must maintain college GPA to retain award
- \$\$\$ is there for you for up to 2 years

Bright Futures (3 Ways to Qualify)

1) Florida Academic Scholar

- 100% tuition and specified fees
- \$300 for books
- Summer enrollment
- 3.5 weighted GPA on core classes
- 1330 R&M SAT
- 29 ACT
- 100 Comm. Svc. Hours

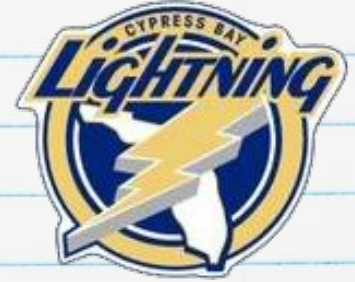
2) Florida Medallion Scholar

- 75% tuition and specified fees
- Summer enrollment
- 3.0 weighted GPA on core classes
- 1210 R&M SAT
- 25 ACT
- 75 Comm. Svc. Hours

Other Scholarships

- Naviance- District List & National Search
- Payday at the Bay Scholarship bulletins (every 2 weeks)
- Merit Scholarships (Apply EARLY)
- fastweb.com
- scholarshipexperts.com
- schoolsoup.com
- meritaid.com
- zinch.com
- cappex.com
- [scholarship -monkey.com](http://scholarship-monkey.com)
- scholarships4students.com





FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid FAFSA

- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid–Application available October 1st of senior year
 - Due by December 15 for UF
 - Due by December 1 for FSU
- EFC (expected family contribution) = Financial Need
- Net Price Calculator – on all college websites
- www.fafsa.gov
- Pell grants, other grants, work study and loans
- Use 2018 Tax Return
- Based on household income (single mom or mom and step father...)

COLLEGE FINANCING 101:

Fill out your FAFSA! Your path to student financial aid starts here.

Financial Aid CSS Profile

- Private schools require the CSS
- Must submit in addition to FAFSA
- Administered by College Board
- Most detailed financial analysis – tries to determine if middle class afford expensive private colleges





**OTHER IMPORTANT
INFORMATION**

Students with Disabilities

- Colleges will *probably* follow special accommodations as long as paperwork is on file if your child has documented learning disabilities
- Meet with the Office of Disabilities ahead of time to understand what accommodations are available
- Not part of the admission process
- Some schools that are great with accommodations:
 - Lynn University
 - FGCU
 - Beacon College

General Admission Facts/Helpful Hints

- Universities compare students to peers at same HS
- Scores on AP tests ARE NOT considered for admissions
- Apply for term you want to attend
- Set up separate “college” email account (Check Your EMAILS!!!!)
- Don’t mess up Senior year! That can come back to haunt you!
- Get recommendation letters NOW!
- May 1st is National Acceptance Date



More tips....

- Parents should never be communicating with the colleges
- If interviews are available, try and get one
- For selective schools, make sure you don't need Subject Tests
- Make sure you keep track of all passwords and usernames/give a copy to parents
- Set up auditions for music and dance well in advance
- Listen when you are given advice
- Don't rush the process...careless mistakes

1

TAKE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF CLASSES YOU CAN BE SUCCESSFUL IN.

2

WE OFFER A HUGE MENU OF CLASSES AND IT IS CRITICAL TO TAKE WHAT MOST INTERESTS YOU - HAPPINESS USUALLY EQUATES TO SUCCESS.

3

BALANCE AND BEING PROPERLY PLACED ARE THE KEY TO SUCCESS.

4

MUST CREATE TIME AND SPACE IN YOUR SCHEDULE TO DO THINGS THAT MAKE YOU STAND OUT...THE MORE CREATIVE, THE BETTER!

5

SPEND LESS TIME BUILDING YOUR RESUME AND MORE TIME BUILDING YOUR BRAND... WHO DO YOU WANT TO BE BY THE TIME YOU APPLY TO COLLEGES?

5

GOLDEN RULES

For
College and
Career
Readiness!



Me....

- I spent the past 15 years visiting and building rapport with colleges...please utilize me for information and access
- I can't help you if I don't see you
- Individual Grade Check List!!!
- Make sure you are getting my emails

My Contact Information

- Shari.bush@browardschools.com
- Twitter: @CypressBayBrace
- Website:
http://cypressbayhighschool.com/?page_id=49
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/CypressBayBrace



Questions?

You can email me at:

shari.bush@browardschools.com