



**ROYALS**  
HOLLINS HIGH SCHOOL

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St. Petersburg, FL 33709

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OCTOBER 2020

NEWSLETTER

Managing Editor: Kylie Vetter



**HOLLINS**

Happenings

## Principal's Message



**"The only constant in life is change" – Heraclitus**

From the way we deliver instruction, eat lunch, walk the hallways and communicate to changing the way we reference our name and rebranding with a new nickname—2020-21 has been a year of change for the Royals of Hollins High School. With resiliency and resolve we move forward with a mission of being the best public high school in the state of Florida.

**ADAPT** – Become adjusted to new conditions

**IMPROVISE** – Produce or make something from whatever is available

**OVERCOME** – Succeed in dealing with a difficulty

Those words, our motto, have been the rallying cry of our teachers, staff, and students for the 2020-21 school year. Everything about this school year has required a different approach, different thinking, and ingenuity, as tried and true methods must be reimagined.

Our staff is committed to doing whatever is necessary to have a successful school year and to provide an exquisite education to our students by providing them the support and assistance they need by any means necessary. Our team of teachers and support staff have worked tirelessly to learn a new educational delivery platform in Canvas as they re-create lessons and develop new instructional materials for face to face and virtual learners. It has been challenging and difficult at times—but our staff has shown incredible resiliency and resolve, have worked together, and have made the best of the inherited circumstance. In doing so, we have kept the health, wellness, safety, and security of our students and staff at the forefront of everything we do: wearing face coverings in and out of class, social distancing, sanitizing our hands and the objects and surfaces we touch to reduce the spread of disease and keep our school safe and open.

As in life, we must continue to move forward to adapt to our circumstances and to find a way to be successful. We are committed to providing a comprehensive education to our students and prepare them for all standardized tests needed to graduate, equipping them to move on to post-secondary education, technical school, or be work ready. We are growing leaders committed to improving their communities and the life of their family, friends, and neighbors. By creating leaders, we are preparing our students for challenges known and not yet imagined. We are instilling values of hard work, effort, creativity and ingenuity so that our student leaders will be able to strive and thrive in an ever changing and complex world.

Our task is made easier, knowing that we have the support, encouragement, and appreciation of our families and community. We know that no one goes it alone and any and all success we achieve will be by working together—building together—and striving together. Together we will accomplish all our goals. Together we will rise.

Robert C. Florio

# A.E.A. Spotlight

By Kylie Vetter

The AEA Program is a combination of an arts program and a technology program, providing a creative outlet for students in which they can earn certifications for a career in the entertainment industry. The Academy of Entertainment arts offers tech utilized classes such as 3D Animation, Motion design, Digital music production, Special Effects, Film and more advanced motion design and art classes, including AICE photography. Each of the individual classes have their own studios and space with professional production equipment used for a variety of projects.

In Game Design, the upper level students are working on multiple games as part of a collaborative project with the Anarchy Animation Studio. The Anarchy Animation classes are beginning to explore motion design as it relates to business and advertising with introduction of motion tweening.

Meanwhile, in Revolution Music Studio, level 1 students have learned to create simple beats while level 2 students are learning ways to make more sophisticated tracks. Upper level music production students have already completed their first demo of music they are creating for The Show, which will take place in May.

Additionally, in the New Rebellion Film Studio, students are practicing the real-world skill of precision editing and redrafting. This includes development of 30-second commercials, current event-driven allegorical films, and the world of horror.

The Academy offers another production class in which students can develop a passion or idea into a brand, and then make a business or organization around that brand. Brand U is all about teaching students to encode and decode messages in order to market their brand to a target audience. This year, with our new Brand U teacher, Mr. Trevor Anderson, Brand U students are learning and practicing techniques for producing original content to market and advertise on different sources of media such as blogs, podcasts, and videos.

Despite adjustment challenges in the 2020-2021 school year, AEA students are already adapting well as Dr. Stefanic, states, "AEA teachers are excited about the early progress and the many small wins we have seen over the first several weeks of school." All of the academy teachers have a plan in place for their students and will continue to strive to keep an innovative and creative environment for an exciting year of production.



# CAMBRIDGE *Spotlight*

Greetings from the Cambridge Program,

Hollins High School is proud to be in its 9th successful year of the program with students engaging in international curriculum, earning college credits, and working towards the Cambridge International Diploma. The Advance International Certificate of Education (AICE), offers students one of the most demanding and rigorous college preparatory programs in the world. After completing at least one course in each of three of the academic areas, students have the flexibility to choose a course of study that best meets their abilities and interests.

Students earning the AICE Diploma, by passing 7 exams, currently qualify for the maximum Florida Academic Scholars tuition scholarship, and students completing the curriculum (without earning the diploma) can earn the Florida Medallion Scholars tuition award. Students have the option of taking AICE courses to earn college credits without applying for the AICE Diploma.

Students accepted into the Cambridge Program at Hollins High School have the opportunity to take courses in the other District Application Programs, the Academy of Entertainment Arts, exclusive to Hollins HS, and the Culinary Arts Academy.

This past Spring, 37 out of the 37 seniors who worked toward the AICE Diploma earned it.

Here's what a former and two current Cambridge students had to say...

*"Honestly I wasn't the best student in class I always slept but because I was a good test taker and could show I understood the material, my teachers overlooked the sleeping for the most part. Getting so many college credits in high school really gave me a leg up. I'm able to take fewer classes in the fall when it's so much going on with campus life and not worry about being behind and catch up in Spring when it's not as much to do. Being in AVID helped me understand how much college really cost and how to balance my schedule when I got to campus. I wasn't sure if I wanted to go to FAMU at first but the college tours really helped me solidify my decision and I couldn't be more proud of where I attend. While I couldn't stand AICE Global Perspectives, it really does help with public speaking and working as a team and gave me research skills that makes writing papers a breeze not to mention many students in college don't know proper PowerPoint which is something Mrs. Benjamin made sure we perfected." - Class Clown 2019 Ericka Stewart*

*I am a senior at Hollins High School. I have been in the Cambridge program for 3 years. As a Cambridge student, AICE classes are challenging and sometimes it leaves me with an overwhelmed feeling. I often think that I cannot handle AICE classes and feel like I'm about to give up. Thankfully, to my counselor, teachers and friends who always stay there to support me, I was able to overcome those challenges. After taking many AICE classes, I think they are not that tough as long as you always try your best, you will likely succeed in those classes. Also, those AICE classes can help you to prepare for college courses and life. You will likely face many more challenges later on in your life, so these classes would be a good choice for you to challenge yourself and get out of your comfort zone. From my experience, hard classes actually helped me to improve and grow more as a person. For students who are thinking about taking AICE classes, my advice would be "Yes, you should take it. If you don't try, you never know you can do it" - Nguyen Le*

*I am not enrolled in the Cambridge program, however, I have taken several AICE classes in the past, and I am currently taking three AICE classes right now, so I can get my AICE Diploma by the end of my senior year. Here are my thoughts and what I have experienced about Cambridge and the AICE classes.*

*For starters, I believe Cambridge is a great program and opportunity for high school students who are willing to get college credits while they are in high school. By taking AICE classes and passing the AICE exams, I can be awarded up to 45 hours of college credits at all public colleges and universities in Florida, which can save me a lot of money if I am planning on attending college. Additionally, earning the AICE Diploma will allow me to qualify for the Florida Academic Scholars scholarship with the completion of community service hours. But there are some moments when I feel overwhelmed and stressed due to the amount of work I have to finish. Nevertheless, I think that if I work hard and put in my best effort, it will be worth it in the end since these AICE classes are designed to help me prepare for college and get a sense of the difficulties of taking college classes. AICE provides me with numerous useful skills and knowledge required to be successful in college, workplace, and life. For instance, AICE Global helps to strengthen my skills and become a scholarly researcher by improving my critical analysis/thinking skills, reflection on issues of global significance, communication, and collaborative skills. These skills are the key to open the door of success in life. Bottomline, enrolling in Cambridge will benefit you in the long-term, remember to always ask for help if you get stuck. "You never know what you can do until you try." William Cobbett. - Duyen Lam*

Nicole Holcombe, Assistant Principal of Programs

# CULINARY Spotlight

The Culinary Academy has a lot to celebrate this year. A brand new walk in cooler/freezer was installed. Previously, the program only had two reach in coolers which eliminated most of their catering opportunities and limited the number of projects they could work on because they simply didn't have the storage space. Less catering opportunities means less funding for the program.

Now, with the addition of the new walk-in which provides a ton more space, the program will have the opportunity to cater functions on and off campus as well as do more fundraising.

Plans for the installation of the new walk-in have been in the works since last year. A huge hole was cut in to the exterior wall of the kitchen in May to start the process, but the hole remained boarded up until the freezer finally arrived on September 16th. Most of the installation was completed in about a week's time, but there are a few finishing touches that still need to be done but should happen soon.

The new walk-in was no small purchase. The Career and Technical Education Department funded the whopping \$100,000 project.

Once the project is fully complete, Chef Rabich would like to restore their herb garden.

If you would like to help support the Culinary Arts program, you can purchase popcorn—yes popcorn!—They will be selling until October 26th. Email Chef T for information at [bishopta@pcsb.org](mailto:bishopta@pcsb.org).



# AVID Spotlight

By Camila Hall

Some of us may be finishing our high school career already while others are just getting started, but either way, no one is born prepared to make decisions that will heavily affect their future.

Hollins High School's AVID program has essentially been the much-needed guide to keep high school students on track, striving for personal development and career success. Unfortunately, with the emergence of the Corona Virus, it has interrupted plans, schedules, and many other aspects of the school program. However, the teachers of AVID are putting in their best efforts to make the upcoming school year as beneficial as the rest.

We spoke with Ms. August, one of the AVID teachers, and some students that shared their experience with the program.

There has been lots of concern over how effective online learning is compared to face-to-face learning and the inquiry that students won't get an equal experience. In the response to the concern, Ms. August stated: "Most academic activities/ assignments are being altered so that they are easily accessible on CANVAS for both face- to -face

students and PCSonline students."

The AVID curriculum and activities have also been modified to fit the new health and safety requirements. Although many things won't be the same this year, she still assured these modifications aren't going to get in the way of giving students the AVID experience they deserve.

According to the 2019 AVID Senior data collection, 94% of AVID Florida seniors completed college entrance requirements. Briana Washington and Jomarya Brown, two senior AVID students at HHS said that before AVID, they didn't take their grades as seriously as they do now. AVID has helped them understand concepts much better and has even motivated them to join extracurriculars and sports. Their organization has not only gotten better in school, but for their personal life as well with high encouragement of balance and involvement.

With our 4-year college readiness program, starting freshman year, the road to success may seem tedious for many students, but with the help of AVID, it is possible if you put in the effort and dedication. Be on the lookout for updates on upcoming AVID events throughout the school year



# LET'S GO!

A listing of *home* games so you can come show your **ROYALS** support

## Varsity Soccer Schedule

### Preseason

Nov. 2	Pinellas Park (girls)	8
Nov. 3	Pinellas Park (boys)	8
Nov. 4	Northside Christian	8
Nov. 6	Northside Christian (boys)	8

### Regular Season

Nov. 11	Lakewood	6-8
Nov. 18	Northeast	6-8
Dec. 29	Clearwater	6-8
Jan. 19	Palmetto (girls)	6
Jan. 21	Canterbury	5-7
Jan. 28	Boca Ciega	6-8

## Lady Rebels Basketball

Nov. 17	Osceola	JV/V	6:15/7:30
Dec. 1	St. Pete	JV/V	6:15/7:30
Dec. 9	Lakewood	JV/V	
Jan. 8	Manatee	JV/V	
Jan. 14	Palmetto	JV/V	
Jan. 20	Dunedin	V	7:00
Jan. 22	Northeast (quad w/boys)	JV/V	3:00/6:00
Jan. 25	Clearwater	V	7:00

## JV Soccer

Nov. 19th	Pinellas Park	6:30
Dec. 3	Northeast	6:30
De. 10	Tarpon	6:30

## Boys' Basketball

Dec. 2	Dunedin	JV/V	6:15 / 7:45
Dec. 10	Anclote	JV/V	6:15 / 7:45
Dec. 11	Palm Harbor	JV/V	6:16 / 7:45
Jan. 5	Lakewood	JV/V	6:15 / 7:45
Jan. 12	Gibbs	JV/V	6:15 / 7:45
Jan. 21	Boca Ciega	JV/V	6:15 / 7:45
Jan. 22	Northeast	JV/V	6:15 / 7:45
Jan. 27	St. Pete	JV/V	6:15 / 7:45
Feb. 5	Osceola	JV/V	6:15 / 7:45

## Did you know...

You can watch PCS Athletic Contests from your home or mobile device!

For unlimited access to live and on demand content from the NFHS Network, visit [NFHSnetwork.com](http://NFHSnetwork.com)

Search for our school and subscribe.

There is a monthly pass for \$10.99 which can be cancelled at any time.

There is also a \$69.99 yearly pass that is billed for 12 months at \$5.83 monthly.

# THIS

## SENIORS

Graduation Fees have to be paid in TWO payments

**1. Go to [www.balfourfl.com](http://www.balfourfl.com)**

- Select 'Cap and Gown' option from the menu
- Select Hollins High School, St. Petersburg FL
- Select the cap and gown package of your choice.

There are 4 options at different prices. All meet graduation requirements so pick what works best for you.

**ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY FEBRUARY 10th**

**2. Pay \$40 cash or check** (made payable to DHHS) to Ms. Rockne in room 111 for the graduation ceremony. This covers venue fees, security, programs, decorations.

At this point, we don't know when or where graduation will take place, but we WILL celebrate our graduates!

The PATHe program will be hosting a virtual workshop for seniors and their families on **October 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00 pm!** This workshop will focus primarily on:

- Different post-secondary opportunities
- Application tips and deadlines
- Financial aid information
- How Covid-19 implicates the above

Interested participants can RSVP by going to following [link](#).

### Apply once to be eligible for over 100 scholarships!

Go to <https://pinellaseducation.awardspring.com/>

You will need to complete one online scholarship application. To start an application, go to the Scholarships tab, click on "register". You will create a user name (your email) and a password to start the application. The first step includes completion of a demographic page and then click on the scholarship category for the remainder of the application. You will be able to save the application and come back later to complete it. Once you have finished your application, a list of

*To earn free college credit while in high school, please see your counselor before Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> to enroll in 2<sup>nd</sup> semester courses. Dual Enrollment opportunities are available to anyone with a GPA of a 2.0 and higher.*

## SENIORS

The federal financial aid application

### FAFSA is open.

If you plan to attend college, university, or technical school you MUST fill this out.

Go to [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)

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Are you a *writer* looking to get published? Do you have *art or photography* you'd love to see in print? *Revelations*, Hollins' literary magazine, is accepting submissions. **DEADLINE to submit is Dec. 16th.** Email your poems, stories, photos, and art to [zemaartist@pcsb.org](mailto:zemaartist@pcsb.org) for consideration. Please put "Revelations submission" in the subject.

Follow the link to join your PTSA:  
<https://dixiehollinsptsa.new.memberhub.store/store>  
Meetings are being held virtually on the second Thursday of each month. Please join us.  
Zoom meeting:  
<https://zoom.us/j/4555848501#success>  
Password: 0bCXmK

The Culinary team is selling  
**POPCORN**  
until October 26th  
Email [bishopta@pcsb.org](mailto:bishopta@pcsb.org) for info  
The funds raised help them buy the food they need to learn, practice, and compete throughout the year.

## SMILE: School Portraits

**On campus learners**  
Picture Day is Nov 3rd  
**ONLINE LEARNERS**  
**Saturday, Nov. 14th**  
In the gym  
A-G 9:00—10:45  
H—N 10:45—12:30  
O-Z 1:00 3:30

Order your yearbook.  
Go to: [balfour.com](http://balfour.com)

## How do you get yourself in the yearbook?

1. Follow the yearbook's Instagram account **@hollinshslegendyearbook** They will announce when they are looking for photos and hosting surveys that will appear in the book.
2. Download the **ImageShare** app on your phone.
3. Submit your photo through the app using **project # 117783**. Be sure to give your full name and a caption!

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# THIS

## **Running Club**

Every Thursday 2:20—3:30  
Never run before but want to start?  
OR running and working out and want to keep it up?  
Running Club is perfect for you!  
Sign up and get paperwork from Coach Derenzo in  
room 222 or email her at [derenzoj@pcsb.org](mailto:derenzoj@pcsb.org)

## **Join FBLA**

Meetings on the  
2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month  
See Mr. Cortez in room 301  
Or email him at [cortesa@pcsb.org](mailto:cortesa@pcsb.org)

Tryouts for **girls basketball** are the week  
of Oct. 26. They will meet in the gym  
from 2:15 pm-4:30 pm. All athletic  
paperwork **MUST** be completed and  
submitted to Coach Jones by  
Thursday, Oct. 22. Be sure to also  
purchase the required school  
insurance. You CANNOT tryout without  
these documents. Email  
[joneske@pcsb.org](mailto:joneske@pcsb.org) if you have any  
questions.

**Fishing Club** meets every other  
Friday beginning October 16th  
in room 213 at lunch.  
Email [cline-gravess@pcsb.org](mailto:cline-gravess@pcsb.org)

## **Play golf?**

Come support our athletic programs at  
the

## **2020 Golf Tournament & Fundraiser**

Saturday, October 24th  
1:30 PM

Bardmoor Golf Club  
8001 Cumberland Dr  
Largo, Florida 33771

**\$95.00 per player**  
**Includes 18 holes of  
Championship Golf**

Have questions?

Email [altr@pcsb.org](mailto:altr@pcsb.org) for more info  
Or to receive a registration form.

*Mu Alpha Theta Mathematics Honor Society meets on Tuesdays at lunch in room 124 and on Teams.  
If you want to join, email Mr. Romano at [romanor@pcsb.org](mailto:romanor@pcsb.org). Make sure to give him your full name  
and your r2.d2 so that he can add you to the Teams meeting.*

# THAT