



# MAGNOLIA MUSTANG

DECEMBER 2019



# Magnolia Mustang

December 2018

From the Desk Of Latonia Green, Principal

**This year in review!**

**Reflection:** It is hard to believe that we have already completed the first half of the school year!! With the holiday season upon us, this is a great time for reassessing and reflecting on the things that matter most. As the leader for Magnolia School, I am truly grateful for the strong and talented team that I have the privilege of working with on a daily basis. The commitment and dedication that they bring to their role continues to exceed my expectations. I am also grateful for the wonderful families that we serve, and appreciate the trust that you place in us to educate your student. As a result of our partnership, we are seeing great strides in the achievement of our students, in the areas of academics, social/emotional, and independent functioning. Though it is important to celebrate the small victories, we recognize that we still have quite a ways to go. Therefore our team will take this time, during the winter break to rest, rejuvenate, and recommit to the work that has to be done on behalf of our students.

**Updates:** The construction projects continues moving full speed ahead, as the walls and the roof of the building are all up. The portables, located in the back of our school, as well as our greenhouse, will be removed during spring break in March 2020. Teachers will begin to purge unwanted items, and will begin packing up items that are not frequently used in preparation for the upcoming move in the summer of 2020.

**Magnolia School** will be closed from Monday, December 23- Friday, January 3; with teachers returning on January 6th and students returning on January 7th. As an important reminder to families, please remember to provide opportunities for students to practice skills that they have acquired over the break. Repetition is key to maintaining skills, so please continue to work with your student(s).

**Transition/Exits:** Several students enrolled in the Bridges program will embark on the next phase of their post-secondary journey. As their biggest cheerleaders, we wish them all the best and only expect great things to come their way. Many of them have already been connected with community agencies that will further assist their facilitation into independence, and for that we are extremely excited.

From the Magnolia family to yours, we are wishing you joy, peace and happiness during this season. I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!!

Your principal,  
Latonia Green





**THANK YOU FOR TEACH IN!**

**Embassy Suites—Jamaican Court      Wonderworks**

**Chance2Dance      Young Rembrandts**

**Lil Bit of Life      Orange County Storyteller      Magnolia PTA**

**Orange County Fire Department      Orange County Sheriffs Department**

**Embassy Suites—International Drive      SeaWorld**

## Magnolia Mission Statement

To lead students in the highest level of independence regarding their education, employment and community involvement while ensuring the highest quality of life.

### Magnolia Priorities

Enhancing student achievement  
Building strong and cohesive teams  
Technology Integration  
Positive Culture and Climate  
Developing Instructional Experts

**MAGNOLIA THRIFT  
STORE  
OPEN  
ON  
WEDNESDAY**



**PTA /SAC MEETING  
FIRST FRIDAY OF THE  
MONTH  
TEACHER LAB  
930 AM**

### BRIDGES BOUTIQUE"

**CRAZY PENS  
PERSONALIZED PENCILS  
FRESH HERBS AND HERB PACKETS  
WOODEN and GLASS MAGNETS  
WILDFLOWER SEED BOMBS  
BATH SALTS AND LOTIONS  
SEASONAL AND GENERAL OCCASIONS**



## THANK YOU TO METRO WEST CHURCH



An Appreciation of Gratitude from our Principal, Ms. Latonia Green to Metro West Church of the Nazarene on Sunday, November 17, 2019

Our school principal, Ms. Latonia Green gave a special vote of thanks on behalf of our students to the pastor, members and friends of Metro West Church of the Nazarene in Ocoee, FL on Sunday, November 17, 2019. For more than seven years, Metro West Church members have been one of our outstanding partners in education who have been providing 'weekend snacks' for our students. Students who may be food deprived benefit from these weekend snacks that help provide extra food when they are away from school. In the spirit and season of thankfulness, Ms. Green graciously took this opportunity to share her appreciation to the entire church parishioners for their enduring love and support of students at Magnolia School.

## MAGNOLIA'S SUPERHEROS



At Magnolia School we always have safety and prevention on our minds. Our team of 17 behavior techs, 3 behavior specialists, and a behavior analyst work hard each day to ensure the safety of our students and staff. The best way to ensure safety is to practice preventative strategies.

Try some of these strategies at home: providing choices—making checklists to stay on task - using prompts such as “first \_\_, then \_\_” - chunking tasks (breaking them into smaller tasks) - provide breaks— ignore junk behavior

Reach out to one of our awesome behavior specialists or the behavior analyst to learn more about these strategies and how to implement them.

# STAFF AWARDS...



Magnolia salutes  
RED RIBBON WEEK!



# AUTUMN DANCE



**WISHING YOU ALL THE BEST...BRIDGES EXIT STUDENTS**



**JEAN KARLOS VEGA**



**STANLEY SIMMONS**



**SIERRA PAGE**



**SARA TOLMAN**



**CRISTIAN PADIN**



**JARED NETT**



**ALISCA FLEURIMA**



## Bridges Students going to ESE Post High Transition



**KELLY WILLIAMS**



**Alexis Crofton**



**AMBROSE SIMON**



**KEVIN RODRIGUEZ**

## DRESS FOR SUCCESS

On Wednesday, December 11, 2019, several students from Ms. Kaufman-Long's and Ms. Wilkins' classes along with their teachers and staff came to school dressed for success. This was the brain-child event of Ms. Randi Kaufman-Long. Students have been studying lessons on preparing for interviews, and the proper attire to wear in order to get that coveted job they are interviewing for. Therefore, today was the day to demonstrate what they have learned.

Several of our male students were professionally dressed in long-sleeved shirt and tie with dress slacks. One was donned in his dress pants, long sleeved shirt, tie and jacket. The females wore appropriate dresses and/or suits with matching shoes.

Altogether, our young men and women definitely demonstrated that not only do they understand how to dress for success, but also how to present themselves to get the job they seek



## Student Services by Randi Kauffman-Long'

Since the beginning of the school year, Student Services has been busy fulfilling requests for both teachers and staff here at Magnolia as well as for staff at our off-campus location, Hope Community Center (HCC) . We have fulfilled over 60 student services requests, from laminating, copying, delivering, and shredding to die-cutting letters, washing comforters for staff, and assembling folders for some teachers. For HCC, along with our daily cleaning duties, we have sorted breads and other foods, brought back documents to shred, laminated, laundered linens, and helping to wash and clean their 4 vans. We hope to expand to data entry and other on-site jobs at HCC. We hope everyone has a wonderful winter break and holiday!



## David Creath's Class

Mr. Creath's class is on the move. They have been visiting various OCPS Transition sites in order to get some perspective as to what comes next after being in the Bridges Program. OCPS Transition sites are the next step in our student's journey towards employment. At the Transition sites the students work hand-in-hand with the staff at the facility. The student's day starts with a short class and then they work up to 5 hours learning job skills. Many of these Transition sites not only offer valuable on-the-job training but also hire our students!

So far the students have visited two different Transition Sites: Second Harvest & Agristarts. Second Harvest is a charity that helps provide food to those that need it in the Central Florida area. The students went on the grand tour-finding out how they package and prepare food to help those in need. Agristarts is a plant nursery in Apopka that sends out over 300,000 plants a week throughout the world. The students there plant, clean and package the plants. Agristarts actually has the best track record of any of our Transition Sites in hiring our students to permanent positions.

The class will continue these trips in the new year. They will be going to Wonderworks on 1/15 and Health Central Hospital on 1/29. In February they will be going to Health Central Park on 2/19 and Burlington on 2/26. The wide variety of locations gives each student a different perspective as to what's available for the next step of their Transition Journey





### **BRIDGES SUCCESS STORY!**

Jason McGowan, graduate from Magnolia Bridges, now a bus boy at Magic Grill at the Amway Center. Way to go Jason!

**Save the Date!**

**January 29, 2020**

**Student Recognition Ceremony**

**9:30-10:30 a.m.**

**Magnolia School Cafeteria**

**See you there!**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- 1/6/2020 Teacher Workday/Student Holiday**
- 1/7/2020 Begin Third Marking Period Begin Second Semester**
- 1/20/2020 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (Schools and District Offices Closed)**
- 2/17/2020 Presidents' Day Holiday**
- 3/12/2020 End of Third Marking Period**
- 3/13/2020 Teacher Workday/Student Holiday**
- 3/16/2020 Spring Break- 3/20/2020**
- 3/23/2020 Begin Fourth Marking Period**
- 5/25/2020 Memorial Day Holiday**
- 5/25/2020 (Schools and District Offices Closed)**
- 5/27/2020 End of Fourth Marking Period/Last Day of School**

# THANK YOU TO EMBASSY SUITES



Every year, Embassy Suites at Jamaican Court graciously honors our Teacher of the Year, Paraprofessional of the Year, and our Support Member of the Year with 2 nights, complementary stays at the wonderful Embassy Suites home. We are ever so thankful for their kindness and generosity in recognizing our wonderful school and staff members in such a warm and hospitable way. Pictured above are Lea Neill, Director of Human Resources, Debra Gordon, Valdetta Byrd, Ermine Hagley, Ms. Latonia Green, and Hanana Ayab, Human Resources Coordinator, receiving their certificates.



## COOPERATION DOOR CONTEST

The Character trait for both November and December is Responsibility. An important aspect of schooling is helping students become responsible adults. It is essential for students to learn the importance of being dependable in their responsibilities at home and in school.

In October, Magnolia held a Character trait door-decorating contest, depicting Cooperation. Four doors were selected for first place. We congratulate all of the contestants and are thankful for their participation!

BY SHELLY SEABROOK,  
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

## CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES.....

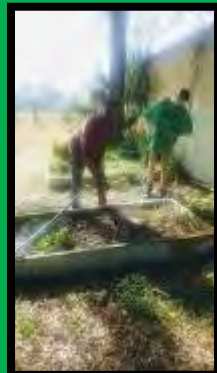


Room 311 has been quite busy these past 9 weeks. The new students to our class have been adjusting nicely. We are busy with Hotel Magnolia Kitchen sorting items on shelves and putting in categories. In addition, the students are learning how to sort silverware and fold linens. After that is completed - the students go outback to the garden to water all the plants for Mr. Creath's class.

Also this year, our class is in charge of stocking items in kitchen and preparing snack bags to go home with the students - they are delivered on Fridays.

Last but not least, this year the pens are being made again for the Holiday Season and getting quite busy now with orders. Overall, its been a successful 9 weeks!

**CASTELLANOS**



From the desk of Cynthia Hughes, MSW

It is this time of year again when our minds are captivated by the holidays' expectations of giving gifts, toys, parties, celebratory religious activities, etc. Remember the greatest gift we can give is to be with family, friends, caretakers, and significant others to say "I Love You." For those families who are exiting Magnolia, remember, you can call me for help and guidance even after your young adults are no longer physically here. Secondly, for those who are returning in January and will be exiting in May 2020, make an appointment with me in January to begin the final steps completing your experience at Magnolia. Thirdly, I want to thank the Magnolia parents for supporting your students in attending school daily. Preparing your child to come to school every day can be a challenge. However, parents, you are working through the difficulties every day so your son or daughter can have another opportunity learn and share. I thank you for your participation to help Magnolia receive an "A" in attendance. Have a Joyful, Save, and Blessed Holiday!

# SPOOKY STROLL AND ROLL



**Grand total raised was \$1,451.00 !!!**

**Team Pumpkin ( Ms. Wendy Lee) raised \$538.00**

**Team Boo (Dr. Thomson) raised \$913.00**

**The class with the highest amount raised (\$500.00) won the PIZZA Party sponsored by PTA . That class was Ms. Randi Kaufman-Long!!!**

# SANTA PAYS A VISIT



Thank you to Civitan , Magnolia's longest continuous Partner in Education, for your yearly support in making this time of year extra special for each and everyone of our students.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL**

**Kudos to Student Services by Randy Whitley , Magnolia I.T.**

That team has been nothing but awesome in providing services for the School Tech. For the past couple of years they have prepared my old printer toner for Recycling Pickup (retrieving it from me, boxing, labeling, and transporting to front office pickup point) without issue or complaint. They are doing a service for me now in helping me organize my tech equipment. They've provided other services for me in the past as well. I boast of the team to other schools from time to time.

**Keep up the Good work!**



## SPECIAL OLYMPICS by Coach Law



Congratulations to the Magnolia Mustangs Bowling Team! Joshan Allen, Connor Butler, Cody Ledbetter, and Blake Radboldt received the Bronze Medal during the State Bowling Competition for Special Olympics.



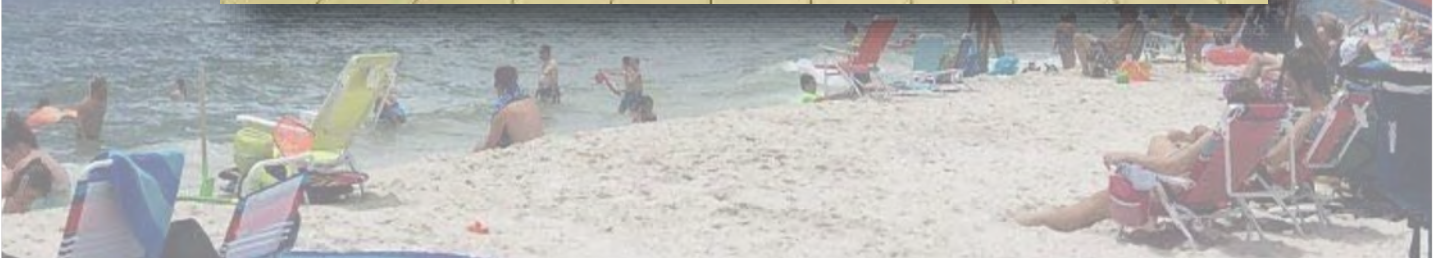
Congratulations to both our Master and Senior Teams, both winning 2nd Place in Orange County 5 vs 5 Basketball. Our next competition will be the Regionals and we are hoping for 1st Place.

## We Work Hard, So We Play Hard.....GAME DAY!




## Ms. Janet Carattini's class

Ms. Carattini's students Casey Ribeiro, Joshua Jimenez, Alexis Crofton, Morgan Adams, Tyler Bremner, and Tommy Van (along with paraprofessional Elizabeth Scott) have all done an exceptional job at their CBVE (Community Based Vocational Education) site at Burlington on Colonial Drive. They work four days a week performing various vocational tasks. They place sensors in watches, unwrap, sort, and hang up jewelry, sort men, women, toddler, and youth shoes and place them on racks, sort and put hoppers on hangers according to sizes, as well as pull up the zippers on jackets that are hanging on racks. They also set up The Thrift Store through donations that have been provided and perform vocational skills such as customer service, bagging, sorting, pricing, cleaning, organizing, selling, and cleaning merchandise. The Thrift Store opens on Wednesdays and provides services to students, staff, and transportation employees. We welcome any items or clothing you may want to donate.





**PAPA JOHN'S**  
 4310 W. Colonial Drive  
 Orlando, FL 32818



**CHURCH OF NAZARENE**  
 3702 N. Apopka Vineland Rd  
 Orlando, FL 32818



**EMBASSY SUITES  
 ORLANDO**  
 2330 International  
 Court  
 Orlando, FL  
 32809




**EMBASSY SUITES  
 ORLANDO**  
 2975 International  
 Drive  
 Orlando, FL  
 32809




**Second Harvest  
 FOOD BANK  
 OF CENTRAL FLORIDA**  
 111 Mary St, Orlando, FL 32809



**Bravo**  
 2701 N. Hiwassee Rd., Orlando, FL 32818



**LAKE NONA PARK**  
 3401  
 S Hiwassee  
 Road  
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 32835



**BROOKDALE**  
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 Suite 11, 32810



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