

Crystal Lake Middle School Cougars

August / September 2025

Principal Valerie Harris

Breaking Boundaries, Unlocking Potential, Pursuing Excellence

Welcome Back, Cougar Family!

Our boots are on the ground, and WE ARE READY for an extraordinary year of learning, growth, and achievement! Together, we will continue to break boundaries, unlock potential, and pursue excellence in every scholar, every day.

Last year, Crystal Lake Middle School achieved OUTSTANDING academic growth. We increased 53 points in one year achieving a C and only one point away from a B grade:

- ELA proficiency has increased by 10 percentage points in two years.
- Math proficiency grew from 23% to 45% in just two years.
- Science Proficiency climbed from 27% to 34%.
- Civics proficiency rose from 44% to 50%.
- Biology proficiency increased from 76% to 93% proficiency.
- Geometry proficiency has increased from 74% to 88% proficiency.

We are BEYOND proud of our scholars, teachers, and families who made these gains possible. This year, we already have our boots on the ground and have our eyes set on the A for every child who enters our doors! WE ARE Breaking Boundaries, Unlocking Potential, Pursuing Excellence

Welcome to Our New Assistant Principal – Ms. Allen!

A hearty Cougar welcome to Ms. Allen, our newest Assistant Principal! She brings a wealth of talent, experience, and passion — but most importantly, she brings her unquenchable heart for every child's success. A proud Crystal Lake Middle School alumna, Ms. Allen once walked our halls as a scholar, and now returns as our Sixth Grade Assistant Principal to shape the hearts and minds of the next generation. Welcome home, Ms. Allen!



Summer Spotlight – Civil Air Patrol Cadets

It was a busy and exciting summer for our Civil Air Patrol cadets:

- Flights and Encampments in Florida and Alabama
- A Medical Training Week in Texas where Cadet Lt. Col. Casey Clarkson taught first aid and served as the 'volunteered victim' for an emergency airlift. We are so proud of our scholars and their phenomenal leader, Captain Cohen. You inspire us all!



Meet the Crystal Lake Middle School Administration

Pictured:

- Principal Harris valerie.harris@browardschools.com
- Ms. Allen Sixth Grade Assistant Principal tawanna.allen@browardschools.com
- Dr. McGauley Seventh Grade Assistant Principal shedric.mcgauleyjr@browardschools.com
- Mr Daniel Eighth Grade Assistant Principal rdaniel@browardschools.com

We want to connect with YOU. No question is too big or too small. Please contact us – TOGETHER, we create excellence for every child who enters our doors!



Important Reminders

School Hours: 9:30 AM – 4:10 PM

Breakfast: Free, served 8:45 – 9:15 AM

Bus Routes: Check your child's FOCUS account

Lunch Price: \$3.35 (Complete your Free & Reduced Lunch Application today!)

BCPS Food & Nutrition Services is here to assist you.

Register to Ride: Register for BCPS Bus Transportation; Remember to complete application. ** Register to Ride**: <https://tfsweb.browardschools.com/ride>

Eligible students can use this link to submit or update their bus transportation request online.

Get Involved!

From clubs and sports to academic competitions and service projects, there's something for every Cougar. Visit our website and follow us on social media for updates, events, and announcements. Your involvement builds a strong school community — and together, we will make 2025–2026 our best year yet!

School Hours:

Classes begin promptly at 9:30 AM and school dismisses at 4:10 PM. Supervision is provided 8:45am-4:40pm. Scholars are not permitted to loiter on campus or on surrounding sidewalks. When scholars arrive, they are required to report to school. When scholars are dismissed, they are required to exit campus.

Welcome Center/School Office

Our Welcome Center hours are 8:30am-4:40pm. Please display your identification upon arrival. Visitors will first check in with one of our security team members. When ringing the doorbell at the Welcome Center, please display your identification to the camera and speak into the microphone "Your name and reason for visiting." A Crystal Lake Middle School Team Member will assist you. Your identification will again be checked once you enter the Welcome Center. Please be advised that anyone entering a school campus is subject to search. Safety is always our top priority!

Bus Schedules:

Updated bus routes are posted in your child's FOCUS account. Please check FOCUS for transportation assignment.

Classroom Supplies:

Scholars should bring all required supplies, including notebooks, pens, pencils, and any specific items listed by their teachers each day.

Breakfast and Lunch:

Breakfast (8:45am-9:15am) and lunch are served daily. Please ensure you complete the Free and Reduced Lunch Application today. Lunch is free for the first 30 days of school only. Thereafter, it is \$3.35 for middle school scholars. Apply Online: <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Home/PickDistrict> to access the Meal Benefits Application.

Safety Information

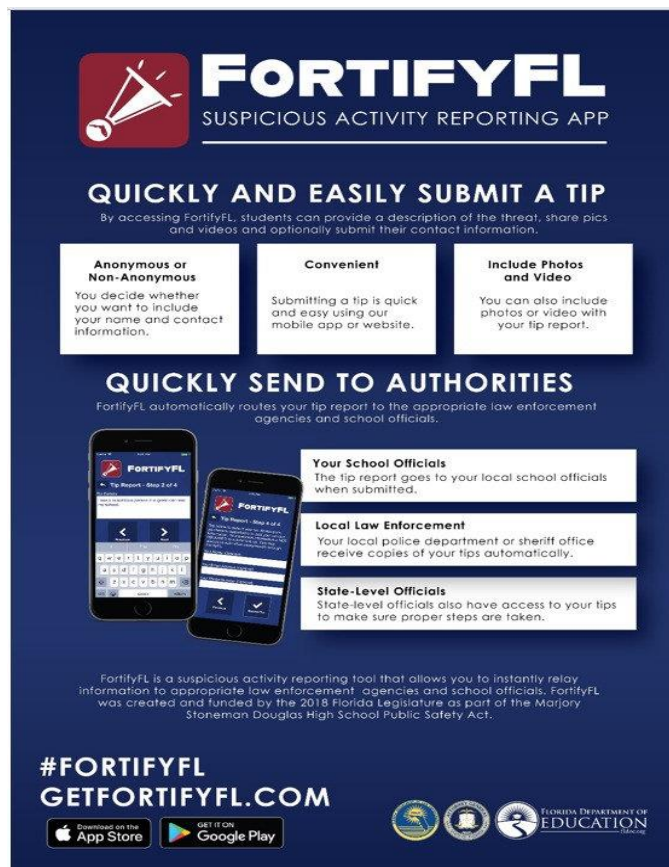
The safety of our scholars and staff is our top priority.

- All visitors must sign in at the main office and wear a visitor's badge while on campus.
- Scholars are not permitted to be signed out beginning at 3:40pm.
- We can only sign out a scholar to the person listed on the Emergency Contact Card/Registration.

- The person signing out a scholar must have a valid driver's license or state identification
- School begins at 9:30am. If a scholar arrives 10am or later, the parent is required to accompany the child to the Welcome Center to sign in.
- Scholars are not permitted to open exterior doors for anyone.
- In case of emergencies, follow all directions from staff and adhere to school safety protocols.
- Practice Drills will be conducted regularly to ensure everyone knows what to do in the event of an actual emergency.
- Crystal Lake Middle School follows the Broward County Public Schools 'See Something, Say Something' procedures:
- Report any suspicious activity, behavior, or items immediately to a staff member or administrator.
- Use the FortifyFL app, available on all student devices and online, to submit confidential safety tips.
- In an emergency, call 911 and notify school administration.

Alyssa's Alert: "See Something, Say Something" protocols, a student can:

- 1- Report a concern in three main ways:
 - 2- Use the FortifyFL App – A free, anonymous app that allows students to quickly submit tips or concerns about safety directly to law enforcement and school officials.
 - 3- Tell a Trusted Adult on Campus – Such as a teacher, counselor, security specialist, assistant principal, or principal.
 - 4- Call or Text the BCPS SaferWatch/Alyssa's Alert System or School Resource Officer – This goes directly to security teams and law enforcement for immediate action.
- TOGETHER, we can keep our campus safe and secure.



FORTIFYFL
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

QUICKLY AND EASILY SUBMIT A TIP
By accessing FortifyFL, students can provide a description of the threat, share pics and videos and optionally submit their contact information.

Anonymous or Non-Anonymous You decide whether you want to include your name and contact information.	Convenient Submitting a tip is quick and easy using our mobile app or website.	Include Photos and Video You can also include photos or video with your tip report.
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QUICKLY SEND TO AUTHORITIES
FortifyFL automatically routes your tip report to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

Your School Officials
The tip report goes to your local school officials when submitted.

Local Law Enforcement
Your local police department or sheriff office receive copies of your tips automatically.

State-Level Officials
State-level officials also have access to your tips to make sure proper steps are taken.

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

#FORTIFYFL
GETFORTIFYFL.COM

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



SAFERWATCH
Alyssa's Alert

Report Crime and Suspicious Activity
Receive Emergency Alerts
Anonymously Submit a Tip

BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mobile Duress Alert App

DOWNLOAD THE SAFERWATCH APP NOW
GET IT ON Google play
Download on the App Store

School Policies

Uniform Dress Code: Scholars must be in dress code daily with student ID visible.

PTSA Membership: Parents, join our Parent Teacher Student Association today! Volunteer opportunities. available — your involvement matters.



CRYSTAL LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

UNIFIED DRESS CODE

CLMS HAS A MANDATORY DRESS CODE POLICY FOR ALL STUDENTS ATTENDING OUR SCHOOL. WE BELIEVE THIS DRESS CODE POLICY PROMOTES SAFETY, IMPROVES STUDENT BEHAVIOR, AND ENHANCES THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT.

SOLID COLORS: HUNTER GREEN, BLACK, WHITE, NAVY BLUE, AND YELLOW
GOLD TOPS AND BOTTOMS

CLOSED-TOED AND CLOSED-HEEL SHOES AT ALL TIMES; NO JEANS, NO WHITE BOTTOMS, SNEAKERS/ TENNIS SHOES; CROCS IN SPORTS MODE; NO SLIDES; NO HOODIES;

SCHOOL APPROVED SWEATERS ONLY; NO STRETCH OR FORM FITTING PANTS

P.E. UNIFORM MUST BE WORN ONLY DURING P.E.

SCHOOL ISSUED I.D. MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES; \$5 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL I.D. AFTER 5TH REPLACEMENT

UNIFORM STORE: ELLA'S UNIFORMS | 5371 W. ATLANTIC BLVD. MARGATE, FL | PHONE #: (954) 970-7886 | SHOP ONLINE: WWW.ELLASUNIFORMS.COM

MS. VALERIE HARRIS, PRINCIPAL
CRYSTAL LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL
3551 N.E. 3RD AVE. POMPAHO BEACH, FL, 33064
PHONE NUMBER (754) 322-3100
WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.BROWARDSCHOOLS.COM/CRYSTALLAKE](https://www.browardschools.com/crystallake)



WELCOME ABOARD

Volunteering makes you feel good!

GREAT REASONS TO GET INVOLVED:

STUDENTS' SUCCESS	PERSONAL REWARD	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	MAKE A DIFFERENCE	PARTICIPATE INNOVATING
Students tend to be more successful when parents get involved	Participate in meaningful activities that will benefit others and yourself	Participate in programs, events and fundraising activities to develop and improve the community	Bring resources that motivates all the school's members	Make your voice heard and share new ideas to raise up youth leaders

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY
Contact us: crystallakeptsa@gmail.com

PTSA Crystal Lake Volunteers

IT'S EASY

BCPS Volunteer! It's flexible! You choose: Activity and Schedule

Crystal Lake PTSA

Thank You

Upcoming Events & Key Dates (Save the Date)

AUGUST

Aug 11: First Quarter Begins (42 Days)

Aug 18–22: MAP Testing (Reading Classes)

Aug 18 – Sept 5: i-Ready Reading & Math Diagnostic #1

Aug 25: School Picture Day

Aug 28: SAC / SAF / PTSA – 6:00 PM (Crystal Lake Middle School Media Center)

SEPTEMBER

Sept 1: Schools Closed

Sept 2–19: FAST PM #1 Reading & Math

Sept 18: North Area Advisory – Monarch HS – 6:15 PM

Sept 23: Schools Closed

Sept 26: Interim Reports

OCTOBER

Oct 13: Employee Planning – No School

Oct 14: Second Quarter Begins (42 Days)

Oct 16: North Area Advisory – Monarch HS – 6:15 PM

Oct 20: Schools Closed

Oct 23: SAC / SAF / PTSA – 6:00 PM (Crystal Lake Middle School Media Center)

NOVEMBER

Nov 11: Report Cards

Nov 13: Curriculum Night – 6:00 PM (Crystal Lake Middle School)

Nov 14: Honor Roll Assembly, 10:00am (Crystal Lake Middle School)

Nov 20: North Area Advisory – Monarch HS – 6:15 PM

Nov 21: Interim Reports

Nov 24–28: Schools Closed

DECEMBER

Dec 2–19: FAST PM #2 Reading & Math

Dec 4: Magnet Showcase

Dec 9–20: NWEA MAP Growth Assessment (Reading classes)

Dec 8–19: Midterms (All High School level classes)

Dec 11: SAC / SAF / PTSA – 6:00 PM / Winter Wonderland / Book Fair / Java Fun (CLMS Media Center)

Dec 18: North Area Advisory – Monarch HS – 6:15 PM

Dec 19: Early Release Day – 2:10 PM (No Afterschool Programs)

Dec 22 – Jan 2: Schools Closed

JANUARY

Jan 5: Employee Planning – No School

Jan 6: Quarter 3 Begins (46 Days)

Jan 12 – Mar 12: ACCESS Testing (ELL students)

Jan 12–30: i-Ready Diagnostic #2 (Reading & Math)
Jan 15: North Area Advisory – Monarch HS – 6:15 PM
Jan 22: SAC / SAF / PTSA – 6:00 PM (Crystal Lake Middle School Media Center)
Jan 30: Report Cards

FEBRUARY

Feb 6: Honor Roll Assembly, 10:00am (Crystal Lake Middle School)
Feb 10: Interim Reports
Feb 13: Early Release Day – 2:10 PM (No Afterschool Programs)
Feb 19: North Area Advisory – Monarch HS – 6:15 PM
Feb 23 – Apr 10: Florida Alternate Assessment Performance Test

MARCH

Mar 2–12: Quarter 3 Exams (High School Courses)
Mar 2–27: Middle of the Year Science Assessment Part 2
Mar 23: Quarter 4 Begins (50 Days)
Mar 5: SAC / SAF / PTSA – 6:00 PM (Crystal Lake Middle School Media Center)
Mar 12: Early Release Day – 2:10 PM (No Afterschool Programs)
Mar 13: Employee Planning – No School
Mar 16–20: Spring Break – Schools Closed

APRIL

Apr 3: Schools Closed
Apr 6: Employee Planning – No School
Apr 7: Report Cards
Apr 10: Honor Roll Assembly, 10:00am (Crystal Lake Middle School)
Apr 16: North Area Advisory – Monarch HS – 6:15 PM
Apr 28: Interim Reports

MAY

May 7: SAC / SAF / PTSA – 6:00 PM (Crystal Lake Middle School Media Center)
May 21: North Area Advisory – Monarch HS – 6:15 PM
May 22: Early Release Day – 2:10 PM (No Afterschool Programs)
May 25: Schools Closed
May 29 – Jun 3: Final Exams (High School Courses)

JUNE

Jun 3: Early Release Day – 2:10 PM (No Afterschool Programs) – Last Day for Students
Jun 4: Employee Planning – No School

Stay Connected:

Website: <https://browardschools.com/crystallake>

Follow us on social media for news, celebrations, and reminders.

WE ARE CRYSTAL LAKE!

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