

The Collegiate Current

Moving Our Community Closer

March–April 2021



From the Principal's Desk

Greetings Collegiate High School Parents and Students,

I hope everyone is well and making their way through these unprecedented times. Understand moving forward that we will be learning the meaning of flexibility and patience!

It is a privilege to serve the Collegiate High School and the surrounding community as the principal of CHS. It is an honor to be a part of a school with such a strong academic history. It is such a privilege to work with outstanding and dedicated faculty and staff, an awesome student body, and a very supportive network of parents and community members that have all contributed to the success of CHS.

The teachers, staff and administration at the Collegiate High School are committed to providing high quality education, along with relevant extra-curricular opportunities, that will meet the needs and interests of all the students. Each educator is student-centered and has been challenged to engage students and provide optimal learning environments. As your principal, I challenge each and every student to take full advantage of all that is offered here at CHS and Northwest Florida State College. As you continue to work through your years at CHS, I challenge you to set your goals and standards very high because I am confident you will make a positive impact in the world.

I know many of you are disappointed not knowing where we stand with performances this spring. Please know this - we are holding out hope, and I am enlisting your creative spirit to think through alternate possibilities, if needed. This may end and we can finish out the year as scheduled, or we may have to really be creative. Understand - you are so very important to us and I want you to gain as much from this spring semester as possible. Seniors, you are who I most worry about most. We will find a way to make this senior year as special as it needs to be. Keep an open mind, stay positive, and we will work together moving forward.

ONCE a Collegiate High School student, ALWAYS a member of the Collegiate High School family!

Sincerely,

Anthony Boyer
Principal



This Month's Events

March 23-26: *Sophomore Student-Led Conferences*

April 3: *Prom*

April 13-15: *Senior Capstone Presentations*

April 19-25: *Spring Break*

Looking Forward

April/May (TBA): *FSA Testing*

Reminders

Masks—Everyone is required to wear a mask in all campus buildings. Please remember to bring your own mask and wear it properly.

Signing in—In-person students must remember to sign in with their student IDs when they arrive on campus every day.

Prom—The Collegiate Prom will be celebrated on April 3rd from 7-11 p.m. All Collegiate students are invited, and only Collegiate students are allowed to attend. Masks are required. Tickets will be sold at the front office until March 31st. Tickets are \$20 for sophomores and juniors, and senior tickets are \$15. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Information about prom volunteer and donation needs can be found here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a45a9a828a1f58-chsenchanted>.

Senior Activities—The senior class is holding a parking lot raffle for all students, and tickets are being sold until March 26th. Ticket prices are \$2 for one ticket and \$5 for three tickets. The seniors are also selling small bags of candy for \$1.50 and lollipops for \$0.50. All proceeds benefit the senior class fund. Sales take place in front of the Pit, at the end of the main hallway.

The senior class council are also holding a contest for senior students to design their class t-shirt. The winner will receive a free t-shirt. Entries may be emailed to Mrs. Mizell at mizellm@nwfsc.edu and are due by March 26th.

Food and Clothing Drive—The National Honor Society is collecting unexpired food and clothing for the charity organization Haven House. All donated food and clothing should be placed in the boxes in the Collegiate front lobby by April 5th.

Art Shows—The 2021 Okaloosa County K-12 Art Show is open to all Collegiate students, so bring your art to Mrs. Franklin during the week of April 12-16.

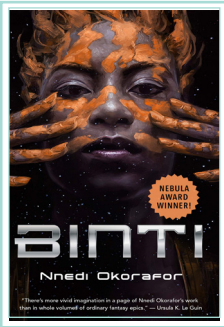
The Congressional Art Show, featuring art capturing our local Northwest-Florida area, is also underway. Art must be in the Pensacola office of Rep. Matt Gaetz for the Congressional Art Competition Show by Monday, April 6th, at 4:00 pm. The Congressional Art Competition show will



be on Saturday, April 18th. Location and time are TBD. Please contact Mrs. Franklin at franklia@nwfsc.edu for more information!

Yearbooks—Yearbooks can still be purchased for \$50 through the front office in-person by cash or check, or by a mailed check. Mailed checks must be made payable to Collegiate and mailed to the following address: Collegiate High School at NWFSC, 100 College Blvd., Niceville, FL 32578. Yearbooks usually arrive in early May and will be sold as long as supplies last.

Book of the Month



Mrs. Krafcik, our excellent English instructor, recommends *Binti* by Nnedi Okorafor for this month's choice book.

About her recommendation, Mrs. Krafcik explained, "The short novella, *Binti*, celebrates the tradition of the sci-fi sub-genre, Afro-Futurism. In this story, the young woman, Binti, becomes a relatable and determined protagonist that readers will certainly find themselves cheering on. This is the first book in a trilogy of stories."

Faculty & Staff Spotlight

Ms. Boretsky, who joined the Collegiate family as our history instructor in 2012, became our interim vice-principal in November 2020. She currently serves as an instructor as well as an administrator, and she has answered a few questions to help us all get to know her a little more about her.

Question: *What inspired you to become a history teacher?*

Answer: I went on a study abroad trip to France during college and was inspired to bring the sense of history I felt while I was there to students to inspire them the way I had been.



Question: *What's the best part of your new role as the interim vice-principal?*

Answer: The best part of my new role is the opportunity to get to know all the students better. Before moving into the new position, I only really got to know the sophomores, my Capstone group, and students in the extracurricular activities I have sponsored. It's been great to meet the students I wouldn't have met otherwise.

Question: *What is one thing you want every student at Collegiate to know?*

Answer: I want every student to know that my door is always open and that I'm here to help them whenever they need it.

Question: *What's one thing you like best about Collegiate?*

Answer: The thing I like best about Collegiate is its diversity of ideas and personalities. Everyone



has a unique outlook, and it's nice that the school is small enough that we get to see that for all the students.

Question: *If you could have dinner with one person, real or fictional, currently living or not, who would it be?*

Answer: I would like to have dinner with Frederick Douglass. He saw and experienced so much during his lifetime that I think it would be an amazing conversation about history, and I think he would have insight on the events of our time as well.

Student Spotlight

We invite all students, in-person and online, to submit their answers to the following question on the form at this link: <https://forms.gle/dhfXKK2DGrjpbmmQ8>. Student responses will be chosen for next month's Student Spotlight.

If you could put any one item from 2020 into a time capsule to be opened in 2120, what item would you choose?

Volunteer Opportunities

The following opportunities have been offered to Collegiate students and could be counted toward Bright Futures requirements. Spots may be limited.

GenU Academy in Niceville has opportunities for students to volunteer with young children, with COVID-19 guidelines in place. Schedules can be accommodated between 6:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Please call Tawanda K. Brown at 850-678-7133 for more information.

The Baker Area Recreational Association has opportunities for students to help setup for events and possibly clean up before and after events. If you are interested, please contact Ben Smith at 850-682-3133.

As a Matter of Fact

In honor of National Women's Month, see if you already knew this fact about a woman in the arts.

Phillis Wheatley was the first African woman in America to publish a book of poetry. The book was titled *Poems on Various subjects, Religious and Moral* and was published in 1773. Source: npg.si.edu

Questions?

If you have any questions about what's featured in this newsletter, or if we can otherwise help, please feel free to call us at 850-729-4949!