

A detailed illustration of a blue marlin leaping from the water. The fish is shown in profile, facing left, with its long, pointed snout and open mouth. Its body is dark blue with prominent white horizontal stripes along its side. The dorsal fin is large and dark blue, and the tail is also dark blue with a forked shape. The fish is emerging from a splash of blue water at the bottom right. The background is a gradient of light blue to white.

Welcome Future Blue Marlins!!!

**Respectful, Responsible, &
Ready to Learn**

Our Agenda

- **Welcome**
- **Transition to 6th Grade**
- **School Policies & Supplies**
- **Blue Marlin Life**
- **6th Grade Health Screenings**
- **Family Involvement Opportunities**





School Administrators



**Mr. Thomas
Principal**



**Mr. Gatlin, 6th Grade
Assistant Principal**



**Ms. Reyes, 7th Grade
Assistant Principal**



**Mr. Ortolaza, 8th Grade
Assistant Principal**



**Mr. Widerman, 6th - 8th A - E
Assistant Principal**



**Ms. Vaughan
Dean of Student Services**





School Counselors



Ms. Nicolaas, 6th Grade



Ms. McWatt, 7th Grade



Ms. Parraga, ESOL



Ms. Del Valle, 8th Grade



Program Coordinators



Ms. Crespo, ESE Coordinator



Ms. Medero, After School Director



Ms. Zephyr, ESOL Coordinator



Judith Vincent, AVID Coordinator



Andrew Lopez, Band Director



Coach Q(uaranta), Athletic Director



Brianna McKinzie, SGA & PBIS

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Transition to 6th Grade

**Respectful, Responsible, &
Ready to Learn**



The Blue Marlin Way

" A Shared Commitment "

Vision - To be a world class IB & AVID Middle School

Mission -To prepare students for college by ensuring high school readiness through our four pillars:

Standards, High Expectations, Personalized & Engaged.

A Collaborative Effort in Progress.....

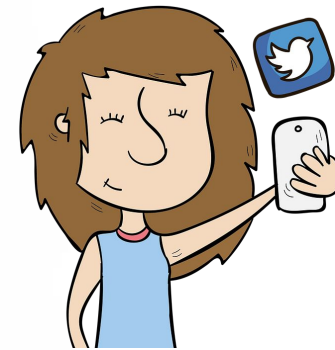
Blue Marlins Are...

- **Respectful**
- **Responsible**
- **Ready to Learn**



Where to Get Up-to-Date Information

- www.palmbeachschools.org/ConnistonMiddle
- Twitter: @ConnistonMiddle
- Bilingual Parent Link Emails
- Bilingual Parent Link Robocalls
- (NEW! in SY25) Bilingual Parent Newsletter Sent Via Email

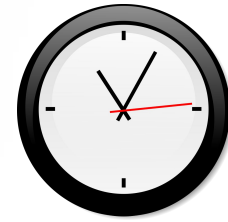


*****Please make sure your phone & emails are updated in SIS.**

[Update My Contact Information - Conniston MS](#)



Blue Marlin Time



- School District Calendar English:

[**SY25 School Calendar English**](#)

- School District Calendar Spanish:

[**SY25 School Calendar Spanish**](#)

- Campus opens & free breakfast is served at 7:30 a.m.
- Instruction begins at 8:00 a.m.



Blue Marlin Time



- **7:30 a.m. - 7:50 a.m.: Enter the campus via front gate (walkers/car riders) or the bus loop entrance (bus riders).**

***Parent/Family drivers please be patient.**

- **Students and staff should enter wearing their School I.D. Badge. This is Conniston Middle School, SDPBC, FLDOE policy.**
- **Hoods, hats, headphones must not be on heads, and headphones should not be in/on ears while on school campus.**

***This is to support safety and learning.**



Blue Marlin Time

- Conniston operates on a rotating schedule:

CMS Sliding Bell Schedule

Schedule

1st 8:00 - 8:50

2nd 8:54- 9:44

3rd 9:48 - 10:38

4th 10:42 - 1:02 (Marlins meet and lunch)

5th 1:06 - 1:56

6th 2:00 - 2:50

Times	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
8:00-8:50	1	2	3	4	5	6
8:54-9:44	2	3	4	5	6	1
9:48-10:38	3	4	5	6	1	2
10:42-1:02	4	5	6	1	2	3
1:06-1:56	5	6	1	2	3	4
2:00-2:50	6	1	2	3	4	5



SY25 Conniston Sliding Schedule

- After School/Boys & Girls Club Dismissal: 2:47 p.m.
- Staggered Dismissal: 2:50-3:00 p.m.



A detailed illustration of a marlin leaping from the water. The fish is shown in profile, facing left, with its long, pointed snout extended. Its body is dark blue with prominent white horizontal stripes along its side. The dorsal fin is large and dark blue, and the tail is also dark blue with a forked shape. The fish is emerging from a splash of blue water at the bottom right. The background is a light blue gradient.

School Policies & Provided Supplies

**Respectful, Responsible, &
Ready to Learn**

School District Universal ID Badges



- **Conniston MS, SDPBC & the FL Department of Education require universal ID badges.**
- **This is in an effort to do everything possible to keep our students & staff safe.**
- **Technology permitting, students will be scanned onto buses as well as into campus each morning.**
- **Students will need ID badges for the media center, the cafeteria, and certain school activities.**
- **This is a districtwide effort to increase safety across school campuses.**



Mesh or Clear Backpacks

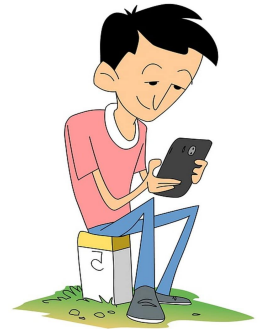


- Students must use a clear or mesh backpack.
- While Conniston MS provided backpacks last school year for its students, we no longer have the funding to do so. As a result, families must provide a clear or mesh backpack for their students this school year. Conniston will be selling mesh backpacks for \$15. Families may also purchase their own mesh or clear backpack elsewhere should they choose.
- Clear/mesh backpacks are not in response to any incident that has occurred on campus.
- They are an effort to do everything possible to keep our students & staff safe.



NEW Classroom Supplies & Backpack Policy

- Teaching in the smartphone era has become incredibly challenging for educators.
- Teachers are competing with TikTok, YouTube, social media, video games, texting & air dropping while trying to meet rigorous standards and teach students complex concepts.
- At Conniston, students are required to place what they need for class on their desks and place their backpacks in an area designated by the classroom teacher.
- Students are not permitted to take cell phones into the restrooms or lunches.



Dress Code/School Shirt Sizing

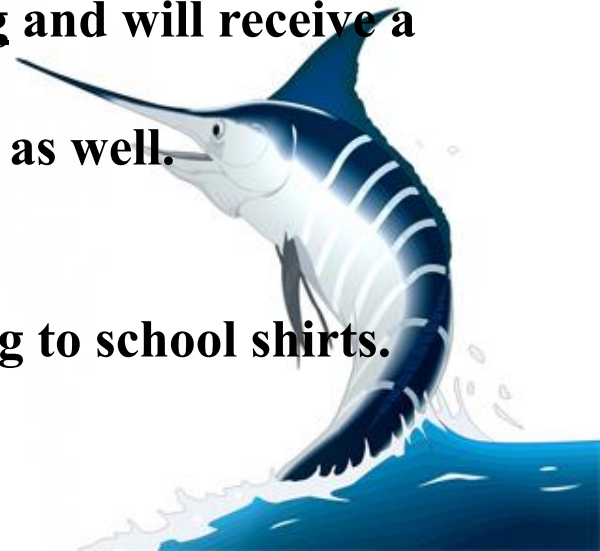
Pre-Orders



- Dress code was updated in 2023 and now permits hoodies without zippers (no hoods on heads), joggers, and sweatpants.

[SY25 Dress Code](#)

- That said, the dress code will be enforced and parents should communicate and, if necessary, monitor students for dress code daily.
- Parents will be able to size school shirts this evening and will receive a flyer to pre-order shirts through school cash online. Parents may order/purchase in person this summer as well. Orders begin July 1.
- Please look for messages soon after July 1 pertaining to school shirts.



Textbooks & Devices

TEXTBOOKS

- Students are provided with a consumable text/workbook for the core content classes (Language Arts, Math, Science, & Social Studies).
- If a replacement is needed, the student will need to purchase the book.
- Specific information will be provided by the classroom teacher at the opening of school.



CHROMEBOOKS

- Each student is issued a device.
- Students are expected to bring their fully charged device to school daily.
- Loaner devices and chargers may be available in emergency situations.



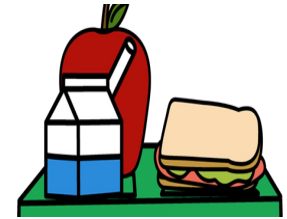
Student Chromebooks

- **Chromebooks are the property of the school and SDPBC & will be distributed to students the week of August 12.**
- **Please charge chromebook nightly and leave charger at home.**
- **Do not lend or give your chromebook, charger (or cell phone!) to your classmates.**
- **Chargers are \$28. Charge nightly and do not bring to school.**
- **If you have any issues with your chromebook, please see Ms. Simpson or Mr. Maseda in the media center.**
- **Students are responsible for their chromebooks.**



Cafeteria Service

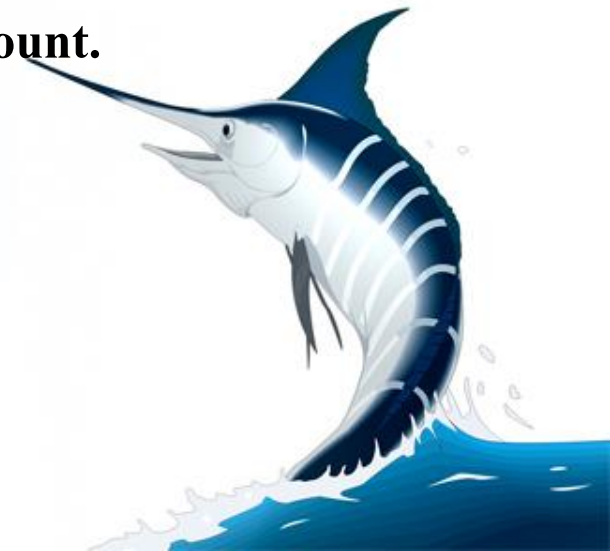
- **Breakfast-** 7:30–7:50 a.m.
- **Lunch-** During lunch block
- **Snacks and Dinner-** After school



- **Students who qualify for assistance will receive Free/Reduced Lunch.**
- **Snacks can be purchased during lunch.**
- **Use School Cash Online to upload funds to student account or students can bring money to cafeteria manager to put into their account.**
- **Free Breakfast to ALL students this school year.**

In the Cafeteria:



- **Students may only sit at their teacher's assigned table.**
- **Students must return with their teacher and class.**
















School Supplies

- A recommended 6th grade school supply list is in your packet and posted onto our website.

SY25 Conniston Supply List

 **CONNISTON MIDDLE SCHOOL**
SUPPLIES LIST / LISTA de ÚTILES 

*The following items should be brought to school by each student every day throughout the school year. You may choose to purchase packages and replenish your student's binder-pencil case as necessary.
*Los siguientes artículos se deben traer todos los días durante el año escolar. Usted puede elegir comprar paquetes para tener en casa y reponerlos en la carpeta/estuche de lápices cuando sea necesario.

- 1 Standard Backpack / Mochila Escolar 
- 1 Three-Inch 3-Ring Binder / Carpeta de 3 Pulgadas y 3 Argollas 
- 1 Set of 6 Tab Dividers / 6 Divisores de Cuaderno 
- (8) 1 Subject Spiral Notebook / Cuaderno Espiral de 1 Asignatura 
- 1 Three Hole Punch Pencil Pouch / Estuche de Lápices con 3 Argollas 
- 1 Three Hole Punch Ruler / Regla con 3 Agujeros 
- 2 Sharpened #2 Pencils / Lápices #2 
- 2 Magic Rub Erasers / Borradores Blancos 
- 2 Black Pens, 2 Blue Pens, 2 Red Pens / Lápices Azul, Negro, Rojo 
- College Ruled Notebook Paper / Papel para Cuaderno de Línea Delgada 
- Reinforcement Labels / Etiquetas de Refuerzo 
- 1 Glue Stick / Barra de Pegamento 
- Highlighters / Resaltadores 

Please Note: These are basic supplies required for all grades. Individual teachers may have specific supplies requests which will be sent home during the first week of school.
Tenga en Cuenta: Estos son los útiles básicos requeridos para todos los grados. Cada maestro puede tener requisitos específicos que enviará durante la primera semana de clase.



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Blue Marlin Life

Respectful, Responsible, & Ready
to Learn



Blue Marlin Excellence



- **The ONLY AVID National Demonstration School in PBCounty**
- **One of only 4 IB Middle Schools in PB County**
- **Positive Behavior School - Highest Ranking in PB County**
- **“Seven Year” Parker Corridor Band Program w/Forest Hill HS**
- **PB County 2022, 2023 Flag Football Champions**
- **2023-2024 Playoffs in girls volleyball, boys soccer, & boys basketball.**
- **Top 2 in Reading & Math Growth in 2024**
- **Large menu of clubs, activities**
- **New to CMS in 2024: Latinos in Action Leadership Program**



Blue Marlin Life



- **July 31: Blue Marlin Summer Splash**
For 6th graders only. (*Get to know your new school!*)
- **August 12: 1st Day of School (Independence Day)**
 - Syllabus in every class
 - **SY25 Dress Code**
 - **Backpacks: Mesh/Clear**
 - **Electronic Devices not in sight while in class, restroom & lunch**
 - **Hallway Expectations including passes**
 - **We Are Here to Be Safe & Learn**



Attendance/Tardy Policy



- On time & ready to learn
- If absent, a signed parent note may be turned into the main office to create an excused absence for the student.
- Parents may also email our data processor Ms. Callei

debra.callei@palmbeachschools.org

- Four minute minutes to get to your next class.
Detours are not permitted.





6th Grade Health Screenings

**Respectful, Responsible, &
Ready to Learn**

6th Grade Health Screenings



- **Health screenings to be conducted in school will be available in the fall for all 6th grade students. (*Vision, Hearing, BMI, and Scoliosis*)**
- **Prior to the screening, more detailed information will be sent home via flyers, Parent Link emails and robocalls.**
- **Students will need updated vaccinations and physicals for 7th grade.**





Opportunities for Parents & Family Members

**Respectful, Responsible, &
Ready to Learn**

School Advisory Council (SAC)



- **SAC is an advisory council made up of parents, teachers, staff, students, and community members with the goal of improving student engagement, learning, growth and achievement.**
- **How to Get Involved: All community members are invited to participate. We look forward to seeing everyone.**
- **First Meeting: August 27 at 5:30 p.m.**
- **Regular Meetings: Third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.**



[SY24 Conniston School Advisory Council Information](#)

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)



- **PTO gives parents and teachers the opportunity to work together to supplement and enrich the educational experience for teachers and students.**
- **First Meeting: August 27 @ immediately following the SAC Meeting.**
- **Regular Meetings: Third Tuesday of the month immediately following the SAC Meeting.**



Open House/Curriculum Night



- **Parents will be able to follow their student's schedule to visit all six classes, meet teachers, and learn about about the curriculum and classroom expectations.**

September 12, 2024

6:00 P.M.

(Parking on the athletic fields)



Title I Annual Parent Meeting



- Parents will learn how Conniston Middle School utilize federally-funded Title I monies toward student academic growth and learning.

September 12, 2024

5:00 P.M.

(Parking on the athletic fields)



Registration for New School Year



- **All incoming students should complete a NEW registration form in August to make sure all contact information is updated and current.**
- **Conniston will send the forms home with students in August and send reminders to parents and families.**



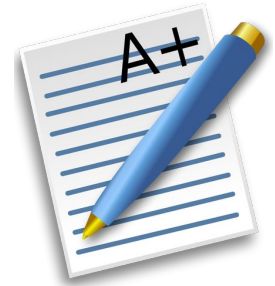


Blue Marlin Nation

**Respectful, Responsible, &
Ready to Learn**



Positive Behavior Initiatives and Rewards



- **Quarterly Family/Student Honor Roll Celebrations (A's / B's; 3 / 4's)**
- **NJHS Membership**
- **Monthly Outstanding Attendance Recognition**
- **Monthly Character Awards**
- **Positive Behavior Rewards...**
 - **Twice Monthly Popsicle Invasion with Coupon**
 - **Quarterly Fun events such as:**
 - **Field Day**
 - **Carnival Day**
 - **After School Dances**
- **Clubs and Sports Teams Participation**



Sports, Clubs & Activities

(teams, field trips, dances, and celebrations)



- **Participation Requirements:**

- **No more than 5 tardies in one quarter**
- **No more than 2 level 1 disciplinary referrals**
- **No (ZERO) level 3 or 4 disciplinary referrals**



Sports Teams

- 10 district sports teams
- flag football
- cheerleading

1st Season - GIRLS' SOFTBALL & BOYS' BASEBALL
(August - October)



2nd Season - GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL & BOYS' SOCCER
(October - December)



3rd Season - BOYS'/GIRLS' BASKETBALL & GIRLS' SOCCER
(January - March)



4th Season - BOYS' & GIRLS' TRACK & BOYS' VOLLEYBALL
(March - May)



*Cheerleading **(October - February)**

* Intramural Flag Football (boys and girls) **(Oct-Nov or Feb-Mar)**



Clubs

- Student Government
- National Junior Honor Society
- Recycling Club
- Art Club
- Battle of the Books
- Morning News
- Anime Club
- Drama Club
- Math Club
- Garden Club
- Orchid Club
- Academic Games



Boys & Girls Club and After School Program

- **Boys & Girls Club:**
 - Monday-Friday
 - 3:00 - 5:30 p.m.
 - No transportation provided



- **After School Program:**
 - Monday-Thursday
 - 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
 - Bus provided.



Afterschool Registration

Tentative Start Date: August 21, 2024.

June Math Academy

FREE Summer Program



SUMMER MATH ACADEMY

For students entering Grade 6 or 7

DATE:

JUNE 10 TO JUNE 27, 2024 (12 DAYS)

- MONDAY THRU THURSDAY EACH WEEK
- TIME: 7:30 AM TO 12:30 PM

Purpose:

The primary purpose is to provide additional support in developing foundational skills that would improve academic success in Grade 6-7 Mathematics or Accelerated Grade 6-7 Mathematics

Deadline: May 31, 2024 Cap at 40 Students

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScvkbZGGsNoC5u9Bhlw5L5pT7JfmzViAuEHZTEmQ_yzsMtyEw/viewform?usp=pp_url

Get Ahead in Math

Create New
Friends

Get to Know
Key Staff

Get Familiar with
the Campus

Math in the
Morning and

Boys & Girls Club
after 12:00 noon

**CONNISTON MIDDLE
SCHOOL**

3630 Parker Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33405
Q&A 561-802-5479
POC: D. Gatlin , D. Houchins
QR Code Register



Boys & Girls Club FREE Summer Program

**SPOTS ARE LIMITED.
RESERVE YOURS TODAY!**

FREE SUMER CAMP REGISTRATION!



**SUMMER CAMP
HOURS
8 WEEKS**

**JUNE 3- JULY 26
MONDAY- FRIDAY
7:30 AM- 6:00 PM**

**AT CONNISTON
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**FREE
FIELD TRIPS
BREAKFAST
LUNCH
ART
ADVENTURES
SPORTS
AND MORE!**



REGISTRATION:



**Register Here:
BGPBC.org**

Email:

**Registration@BGPBC.org
or call 561-360-2654**



Blue Marlin Summer Splash

Orientation program for our 6th grade students.



- Experience a day in the life of a 6th grader.
- Meet Blue Marlin staff and support team members.
- Participate in team building activities.
- Participate in positive behavior activities.
- Learn and review school policies.
- Develop organizational strategies and acquire skills to promote academic independence.

July 31, 2024





Pre-Register Today!!!:

SY25 Blue Marlin Summer Splash
Registration



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Blue Marlin Counseling & Support

Respectful, Responsible, & Ready
to Learn

Blue Marlin School Counseling Team



- **Role of School Counselor-** We are here to support you academically (inquiring about how to be promoted), emotionally (if you are just having a bad day and need someone to talk to), and socially (if you need to resolve a conflict or need some advice on how to recognize a true friend). Helping students process their problems and plan goals and action is another way we support you. We also mediate conflict between students and as well as be an advocate for their success.
- **How to Schedule a Parent Conference-**To set up a parent/teacher conference (PTC), parents may reach out to the specific grade level counselor via phone, email or in person and request a conference. Conferences are held from 7:30 am to 8:00 am.



School Counseling Team



Ms. Nicolaas, 6th Grade



Ms. McWatt, 7th Grade



**Ms. Párraga, Bilingual School Counselor
ESOL Department**



Ms. Del Valle, 8th Grade



Behavior Health Professional

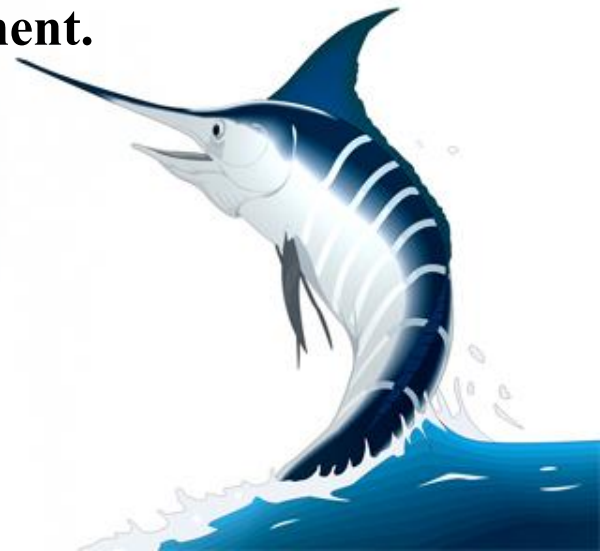
Ms. Amber Christon



- Works closely with our school counseling department.
- Promotes the personal, social/emotional, and academic development of all students.

Caring First

211 Helpline





Are you ready for 6th Grade?



- Submit elective course request (at elementary school)**
- Attend Incoming 6th Grade Orientation May 7**
- Attend Boys & Girls Summer Camp**
- Purchase school shirts after July 1**
- Attend Blue Marlin Summer Splash July 31**
- Student Registration Updates in August.**





Independence Day!!

August 12, 2024



**We Can't Wait to See You
in August!!!**

**Respectful, Responsible, &
Ready to Learn**