



# Weekly NEWSLETTER

Conchs Issue #21

Principal Mrs. Rebecca Palomino

January 26, 2024

**Key West High School Mission Statement**  
*To empower all students to maximize their potential and prepare them with the skills and experiences necessary to be college or career ready and to develop those character traits that will enable them to be productive members of society.*



Introducing the new KWHs Athletics Mobile App!! The best way to keep up with all things Conch Athletics!! Go CONCHS!

## **UPCOMING EVENTS JAN/FEB 2024**

- January 31st— Early Release-dismissal at 11:30am
- February 5th— Incoming Freshmen (currently 8th graders) orientation at KWHs auditorium
- February 7th— KWHs Showcase in the courtyard for incoming Freshmen (currently 8th graders) from 5:30-6:30
- February 9th— Winter Pep Rally in the gym at 2:00-2:30
- February 9th— **Senior Panoramic picture in the gym for Seniors Only at 8:30am. Seniors wear RED!**
- February 19th— No School— President's Day
- February 29th— Early Release—dismissal at 11:30am

## **KWHs SOCIAL MEDIA:**

Instagram— kwhs\_news

Facebook-Key West High School Athletics & Student Activities

Twitter- @kwhsnews

Website— [www.keysschools.com/kwhs](http://www.keysschools.com/kwhs)

Students must show their KWHs ID when entering the campus and when a staff member asks to see it. Thank you for your support and effort in keeping our school safe!



Calling all volunteers! Poinciana PBIS Festival is in need of high school volunteers to help with our festival Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. We need students to take tickets at rides, monitor bounce houses, work games, face paint, do sno cones,

hand out food and drinks. There are many options of where we can use you. The event is from 5:00-8:00. It would be great to have the bulk of volunteers 4:30-8:30 in either 2 or 4 hour shifts

but we will take you for as long as you can come. A few volunteers could be used from 2:30-4:30 as well. Please contact

Lynly Hill at [Lynly.hill@keysschools.com](mailto:Lynly.hill@keysschools.com) or school number 305-293-1630 ext 52307 or cell phone 305-797-3951. Sponsors of club or coaches can organize you or you can come as an individual as well.



**Deadline is January 31st!!**



### SAT Test Dates and Registration Deadlines



<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Online Score Release</u>	<u>Format</u>
March 9, 2024	February 23, 2024	March 22—29, 2024	Digital
May 4, 2024	April 19, 2024	May 17—24, 2024	Digital
June 1, 2024	May 17, 2024	June 14—21, 2024	Digital



### ACT Test Dates and Registration Deadlines



<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Photo Upload Deadline</u>
February 10, 2024	January 5, 2024	January 19, 2024	February 2, 2024
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024	March 22, 2024	April 5, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024	May 17, 2024	May 31, 2024
July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024	June 21, 2024	July 5, 2024

# *Show your Conch Pride!*



## **What are Conch Pride Accounts?**

They are free checking accounts with Conch debit cards help raise money up to \$1,000 per month for Key West High School. Keys FCU donates:

\$5 to [KWHS for each account opened.](#)

- \$2 to KWHS for each box of checks ordered.
- 1% of each account holder's debit card transactions, up to \$15 per month to KWHS during specific promotional periods like Back to School, Spring Break and Christmas season.

**Conch Pride accounts include free adult and teen online & mobile financial education programs that teach them how to save and manage their checking account and credit history and more.**

## **Who can get a Conch Pride Checking Account?**

Conch Pride Checking Accounts and Debit Cards are perfect for KWHS students- 14 years and older, parents, teachers, staff, alumni, and fans-that live or work in the Florida Keys.

## **Where can you open a Conch Pride account?**

In Keys Federal Credit Union at 3022 N. Roosevelt Blvd. in Key Plaza, 514 Southard St., and 5300 Overseas Hwy. in Stock Island.

## **How can KWHS raise more money?**

Create awareness of, and encourage students, staff, parents, and fans to open a Conch Pride checking account by:

- Announce/socialize account at staff meetings, school assemblies, pep rallies, sporting events, parent encounters and in classrooms
- Send flyer out in weekly newsletter and Peach jar email service
- Hang posters and banners in school/visible areas

Partner with Keys FCU to promote account openings at school events like open house, [orientation](#), [college](#) fairs, graduation, sports events, meet the teacher

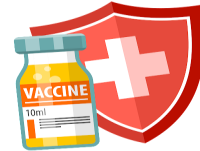
- Identify promotional/sponsorship opportunities on school materials/areas
- Circulate donation photos and information

## **Who creates and provides the Conch Pride marketing materials?**

Keys FCU will create and provide all Conch Pride marketing materials. KWHS must distribute, hang, communicate, and publish them.

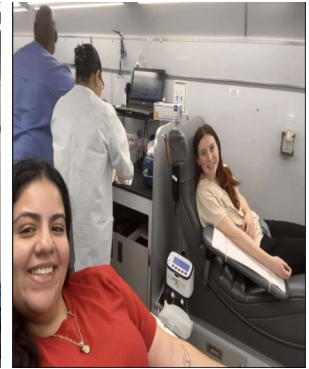
## Attention Seniors:

All senior vaccine records have been reviewed for the class of 2024. A significant number of our seniors are missing the meningitis vaccine which is mandatory for most colleges. The Florida Department of Health-Monroe will be offering a vaccine clinic on March 7th. Please have your senior return the permission slip they were given in 3<sup>rd</sup> period and return it to the KWHS clinic by February 29<sup>th</sup>. You must complete it in entirety including the insurance information. \*There will be no out of pocket costs regardless of insurance status. You also can contact your pediatrician or medical provider about getting these vaccines at their office. The QR code below will take you to the information sheets on the vaccines. Anticipated VIS forms for review are: Hepatitis A, HPV, and MCV4 (most likely menactra).



Our HOSA club hosted the second successful blood drive of this school year last week, with a total of 28 units collected.

Thank you to all who allowed their students to recruit, volunteer to work, and donate!



Our last blood drive this year will be April 4th. All are encouraged to donate, and/or invite family and friends to come donate to make it the biggest one yet!



Mrs. Tara Jackson's Principle of Biomed students get to be doctors, nurses and medical assistants and practice taking medical histories, taking vital signs, and drawing blood!





### Team 16773

( Hannah , Kaylee Matas )  
Atila Cabezuelo

Congratulations to **Neslo Hannah Atila** and **Kaylee Matas Cabezuelo** for being the FIRST in KWHs history to not only compete in Moot Court but to ADVANCE to Semi-Final round! SO very proud of them!

**Moot Court is the simulation of arguments in front of an appellate court.** These are the courts, like the **Supreme Court**, that decide what the law is. Students who compete in moot court must read and understand numerous legal cases, and write their own legal briefs, with no outside assistance, and submit

them. Afterwards, they defend their briefs in front of a panel of real judges who will question them about their arguments.

Our high school team moot court started this year and is in two competitions; one is a federal nationwide tournament, and the other is a state tournament organized by the Florida Bar. **The results were just announced for the nationwide tournament, and the Key West High School Team of Neslo Atila and Kaylee Matas Cabezuelo were selected as one of the twenty-one teams in the nation to advance to the semi-finals!** The nationwide tournament uses a real Supreme Court case every year, and this year the issue is the ability of state governments to regulate speech on social media. **They will now be advancing and facing other teams in the semi-final rounds, competing for the chance to have oral arguments in front of federal judges in Washington D.C.**



**KWHs Curriculum Night Showcase**  
happening on February 7th from 5:30pm-6:30pm in the courtyard of Key West High School!!

It's our huge community event showcasing what KWHs has to offer!!

We will showcase our academics, electives, athletics, and special performances by our performing groups!!



**KWHS Competition  
Cheerleaders are heading  
to STATES!! They placed  
6th out of 16 teams at  
Regionals!  
Congratulations!**



***Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!***

**January 22-26, 2024**

**District: Monroe / School: KWHS**

**Monday,  
January 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- Mystery book of the day on announcements, students turn in guesses in the media center.
- Bookmark contest
- Candy for all late books/textbooks/chromebooks
- Classes coming through for "book tasting" by genre: Shoemaker/Erhard
- SSR in classes, get caught reading pictures
- Literacy App of the Day

**Tuesday,  
January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

- Mystery book of the day on announcements, students turn in guesses in the media center.
- Bookmark contest
- Candy for all late books/textbooks/chromebooks
- Classes coming through for "book tasting" by genre: Lineville
- SSR in classes, get caught reading pictures
- Literacy App of the Day

**Wednesday,  
January 24<sup>th</sup>**

- Mystery book of the day on announcements, students turn in guesses in the media center.
- Bookmark contest
- Candy for all late books/textbooks/chromebooks
- Classes coming through for "book tasting" by genre: Erhard/Marshall
- SSR in classes, get caught reading pictures
- Literacy App of the Day

**Thursday,  
January 25<sup>th</sup>**

- Mystery book of the day on announcements, students turn in guesses in the media center.
- Bookmark contest
- Candy for all late books/textbooks/chromebooks
- Classes coming through for "book tasting" by genre: Newton
- SSR in classes, get caught reading pictures
- Literacy App of the Day

**Friday,  
January 26<sup>th</sup>**

- Mystery book of the day on announcements, students turn in guesses in the media center.
- Bookmark contest
- Candy for all late books/textbooks/chromebooks
- Classes coming through for "book tasting" by genre: Pitcher
- SSR in classes, get caught reading pictures
- Literacy App of the Day
- Book Selfie contest



**2023 AP<sup>®</sup> CSA  
Female Diversity Award**



Congratulations to our students and Mr. Ebenson Michelin!

Congratulations! Key West High School, has earned the College Board's AP<sup>®</sup> Computer Science Female Diversity Award for expanding young women's access to AP Computer Science A (CSA). This award acknowledges 1,127 schools for their work toward improving gender representation during the 2022-23 school year. Yours is one of only 225 schools to be recognized for achieving this important result in AP CSA.

This honor recognizes the outstanding work your school is doing to engage more female students in computer science. An official award certificate to celebrate this achievement will arrive at your school soon. In the meantime, you can download two versions of the award badge to feature on your school's website or in other school communications.

Research shows that female students who take AP computer science are more likely to major in computer science in college compared with matched peers. Through your leadership in diversifying computer science education, you're preparing your female students for the in-demand jobs of the future and giving them the opportunity to help solve some of society's most challenging problems. Visit our website for additional strategies for recruiting female students into computer science courses.



# Athletics



KWHs JV & V Basketball played iMater Academy on Monday, Marathon on Wednesday, MAST Academy on Thursday and Palmer Trinity on Friday!!



KWHs Girls Basketball played Marathon on Wednesday and will play Archbishop Carroll on Saturday! Go Girls!!



KWHs Girls Weightlifting had their districts on Wednesday!! Girl Power!!



KWHs Wrestling have Colby Singleton Tournament on Friday and Saturday!! Good Luck, Conchs!!



KWHs Boys Soccer played South Miami for their District Quarterfinals on Wednesday and will play their District Semifinals against MAST Academy on Friday!! GOOD LUCK!!



KWHs Girls Soccer played their District Semifinals against MAST Academy on Thursday!! Way to go, Girls!!

## Activities

**STAY INVOLVED!!!**

## SENIORS

- Senior Class of 2024 shirts can be purchased at Ramona's

President— Daniella Barroso  
Vice President— Monaya Carey  
Secretary— Siena Wardlow  
Treasurer— Scarlet Niles  
Historian— Yani Nodal

Class Sponsor: Mrs. Carnetra Carey

## Student Council

Please join Student Council to get involved in the planning of our pep rallies, Homecoming, student government activities, Teacher Appreciation and so much more!!!

President— Monaya Carey  
Vice President— Daniella Barroso  
Secretary— Siena Wardlow  
Treasurer— Brooke Biskupich  
Historian— Yani Nodal

Student Council sponsor: Ayesha Osborne

**#CONCHSTRONG!!**

## JUNIORS

Class of 2025 Executive Board would like you to join us at our next meeting! Every Junior is welcome to join!

President— Deanna Mercier  
Vice President— Skye Sterling  
Secretary— Haylee Brogli  
Treasurer— Jada Franco  
Historian— Peyton Zubieta

Class sponsor: Mrs. Kristen Condella

## SOPHOMORES

Class of 2026 Executive Board would like you to join us at our next meeting! Every Sophomore is welcome to join!

President— Jake Ferguson  
Vice President— Whitney Nervilus  
Secretary— Ava Rivera  
Treasurer— Chloe Blackwell  
Historian— Audrey Smith

Class Sponsor: Mrs. Paula Mercer

## FRESHMEN

Class of 2027 Executive Board would like you to join us at our next meeting! Every Freshmen is welcome to join!

President— Jordan Greene  
Vice President— Victoria Gray  
Secretary— Lily Smith  
Treasurer— Josephine Clapp  
Historian— Pilar Rivera

Class sponsor: Ms. Melissa Hargis



# FBC-LEO 2024 Essay Contest



## Essay Contest on Social Media Use in Florida

In the age of digital connectivity, social media undoubtedly influences the lives of Floridians. With nearly 5 billion social media users worldwide, there are many ways in which platforms like Instagram, Facebook, TikTok and others impact various aspects of daily life, including social interactions, cultural trends, political awareness, and community engagement.

### Prompt

In 750 words or less, discuss the positive and negative consequences of social media use in Florida and discuss how it shapes individuals' perspectives and experiences within the unique and diverse makeup of the Sunshine State.

### Prize

\$1,500 scholarship to the Florida college or technical career institution of your choice and a resolution from the **Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials** (FBC-LEO).

### Entry Requirements and Instructions:

You must be an eleventh- or twelfth grader in an FBC-LEO member municipality and graduate during the 2023-2024 or 2024-2025 school year.

- The essay must be typed or legibly printed (no cursive).
- The use of ChatGPT software or similar programs is strictly prohibited.
- The essay must not exceed 750 words.
- Submit your entry by **February 16, 2024 by 5 p.m. ET** at [bit.ly/FBC-LEO\\_EssayContest2024](https://bit.ly/FBC-LEO_EssayContest2024)

For a list of FBC-LEO member cities, towns and villages, see page 2.

### FBC-LEO Online

For more information about the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, visit [fbcleo.org](https://fbcleo.org).

### Questions?

Contact Caressa Andrews Moye at [candrewsmoye@flcities.com](mailto:candrewsmoye@flcities.com) or 850.701.3621.

## Member Municipalities:

### City

City of Alachua  
City of Apopka  
City of Bartow  
City of Belle Glade  
City of Bowling Green  
City of Chattahoochee  
City of Clermont  
City of Cocoa  
City of Cooper City  
City of Coral Springs  
City of Dade City  
City of Dania Beach  
City of Daytona Beach  
City of DeLand  
City of Eustis  
City of Fort Lauderdale  
City of Fort Meade  
City of Fort Myers  
City of Fort Pierce  
City of Gainesville  
City of Green Cove Springs  
City of Gretna  
City of Haines City  
City of Hawthorne  
City of Hollywood  
City of Key West  
City of Lake City  
City of Lake Wales  
City of Lauderdale Lakes  
City of Lauderhill  
City of Live Oak  
City of Madison  
City of Melbourne  
City of Miami Gardens  
City of Midway  
City of Miramar  
City of Monticello  
City of Newberry  
City of North Lauderdale

City of North Miami Beach  
City of Ocala  
City of Opa-locka  
City of Orlando  
City of Pahokee  
City of Palatka  
City of Palm Bay  
City of Palmetto  
City of Panama City  
City of Pensacola  
City of Pinellas Park  
City of Plant City  
City of Pompano Beach  
City of Quincy  
City of Riviera Beach  
City of Rockledge  
City of Sarasota  
City of South Bay  
City of St. Petersburg  
City of Starke  
City of Stuart  
City of Tallahassee  
City of Tamarac  
City of West Palm Beach  
City of West Park  
City of Westlake  
City of Wildwood  
City of Winter Haven

### Town

Town of Cinco Bayou  
Town of Dundee  
Town of Greenville  
Town of Haverhill  
Town of Lake Hamilton  
Town of Oakland  
Town of Welaka

### Village

I Village of Indiantown

## About the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials

The Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (FBC-LEO) was established in 1985 as a nonprofit, public policy, research and educational institute.

The FBC-LEO creates a positive environment for disseminating, communicating and exchanging ideas and information among members to achieve more efficient and responsible local government administration within Florida's communities.

For more information about the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, visit [fbcleo.org](http://fbcleo.org).



## **Tennessee Williams Writing Competition for Students**

### **Short Story Contest 2024**

- \$200 First Place and publication on the Society's website.
- \$100 Second Place and publication on the Society's website.

**Submission Fee: FREE**

#### **Submission Guidelines:**

- In commemorating Tennessee Williams' 113th Birthday, the 2024 Celebration includes a short story contest that is open to all students in grades 6-12.
- Submitted short stories must be between 500 – 2,000 words.
- Submissions are limited to one short story per person.
- There is no specific theme for the 2024 Short Story Competition; however, students are encouraged to draw inspiration for their stories from people in their daily lives.
- Authors may choose to write a story referencing Williams, his family, one of his characters, or one of the actors/actresses who played a role in his plays or films.
- Submissions must include a title page with the following information: the student's first and last name, if they are submitting a poem or a short story, the title of their submission, and their school's name.

**Deadline: March 12, 2022, 11:59 p.m. EST.**

- Submissions should be uploaded on the website at [www.twfest.org](http://www.twfest.org). Click on the Literary Contests tab on the main menu, scroll down to the Student Poetry and Short Story Contests, click the submit button, and submit your entry.
- Winners will be announced on March 26, 2024, following the Birthday Party at the Tennessee Williams Museum.

#### **Additional Details:**

- You will retain ownership of your submitted short story.
- By submitting it to the Key West Art & Historical Society for publication or for inclusion in the contest, should it rank among winners or receive an honorable mention, you give the Society permission to publish it online on this website and in publications promoting the KWAHS's mission or this annual contest.
- The KWAHS would not be able to sell your individual short story on its own or have any further rights over it beyond these purposes.
- You could publish it anywhere else or sell it to any publication as desired.







## Tennessee Williams Writing Competition for Students

### Poetry Contest 2024

- \$200 First Place and publication on the Society's website.
- \$100 Second Place and publication on the Society's website.

**Submission Fee: FREE**

#### **Submission Guidelines:**

- In commemorating Tennessee Williams' 113th Birthday, the 2024 Celebration includes a poetry contest that is open to all students in grades 6-12.
- Submitted poems must be 30 lines or less and not written before 2023.
- Submissions are limited to one poem per person.
- There is no specific theme for the 2024 Poetry Competition; however, students are encouraged to draw inspiration for their stories from people in their daily lives.
- Poets may choose to write a story referencing Williams, his family, one of his characters, or one of the actors/actresses who played a role in his plays or films. Submissions must include a title page with the following information: the student's first and last name, if they are submitting a poem or short story, the title of their submission, and their school's name.

**Deadline: March 11, 2022, 11:59 p.m. EST.**

- Submissions should be uploaded on the website at [www.twfest.org](http://www.twfest.org). Click on the Literary Contests tab on the main menu, scroll down to the Student Poetry and Short Story Contests, click the submit button, and submit your entry.
- Winners will be announced on March 26, 2024, following the Birthday Party at the Tennessee Williams Museum.

#### **Additional Details:**

- You will retain ownership of your submitted short story.
- By submitting it to the Key West Art & Historical Society for publication or for inclusion in the contest, should it rank among winners or receive an honorable mention, you give the Society permission to publish it online on this website and in publications promoting the KWAHS's mission or this annual contest.
- The KWAHS would not be able to sell your individual poem on its own or have any further rights over it beyond these purposes.
- You could publish it anywhere else or sell it to any publication as desired.