

# The Wednesday Wire

KEEPING PARENTS PLUGGED IN TO THE HERNANDO SCHOOL DISTRICT



**FEBRUARY 28, 2024** 



#### >) Air Rifle National Winner

CENTRAL'S DESTINY TOTINO NABS NATIONAL TITLE

Congratulations to Central NJROTC Cadet Destiny Totino! The Central High sophomore finished as the top shooter in the *NATION* during regular competition and third place overall at the annual Navy Air Rifle National Championships held Feb. 14-18 in at Anniston, Ala. Destiny currently ranks 19th in the world in 3 position shooting (kneeling, standing, prone), according to the Civilian Marksmanship Program rankings! Way to go, Destiny!





## February's Veteran of the Month honored

BOBCAT TERRI WASHINGTON'S AIR FORCE SERVICE RECOGNIZED



The School Board recognized Terri Washington, Dean at Explorer K8, as the Veteran of the Month for February. "Terri Washington is a beloved Bobcat," Principal Lisa Braithwaite said. "As a dean, she exemplifies positivity at every interaction with students, parents, and staff. She counsels each student to be reliable in the classroom and life. She inspires all of us to treat each other with dignity and respect. Ms. Washington is determined to give every student an opportunity to succeed and empowers every Bobcat to the best they can be.

Terry is our rock and her pride sustains and motivates us." Take a moment to watch Ms. Washington's humble message here. Thank you, Terri for being part of the Hernando County School District!



### Citizens Academy 2024 is underway

ACADEMY IS FULL WITH 35 PARTICIPANTS

The second Citizens Academy kicked off in January with a full class of community leaders and residents who are getting a behind-the-scenes look at a variety of services and programs available to students in Hernando. February's session, "Exceptional Student Education - Facts vs. Myths," focused on ESE supports, including resources, processes and the many programs offered! The academy continues monthly through May.







### Millage & Half Cent Sales Tax dollars at work

LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE FOR OUR SCHOOLS!





Above: Music returns to JD Floyd Elementary. On left, Suncoast Elementary's new emergency generator..

Wonderful things are happening at our schools thanks to Hernando County voters! Thanks to half-cent sales tax dollars, HCSD Facilities has been busy this year with a number of projects to repair and restore school buildings and other facilities. To name a few: Fox Chapel Middle is enjoying new ceiling and LED lights; Eastside Elementary has a new roof and HVAC; and Suncoast Elementary has a new emergency generator! Did you know that there is a Citizens Advisory Committee that reviews all sales tax projects? Join the Half-Cent Citizens Advisory Committee or see more photos of school projects at <a href="https://bit.ly/4bMQLwa">https://bit.ly/4bMQLwa</a>.

Investment of millage funds is also having a positive impact on our schools! Millage dollars have been used to purchase all new instruments, band uniforms, concert attire; \$140,000 for athletic safety equipment, \$750,000 to upgrade school and stadium sound systems \$470,000 distributed for school needs. And we're just getting started! To learn more about millage or to join our Millage Oversight Committee, visit <a href="https://bit.ly/4bVGVYX">https://bit.ly/4bVGVYX</a>

#### **Important Dates**

- March 14 End of 3rd grading period
- March 15 Professional Day for teachers; NO school for students
- March 22-29 Spring Break



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