COUGAR NEWS

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF CARDINAL MOONEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

AUGUST 7, 2026 | 2026-2027 | EDITION 02

Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School, a college preparatory institution rooted in Catholic faith, prepares students to serve and lead by nurturing spiritual growth, cultivating the talents of all students, and challenging them to pursue academic excellence.



HERE'S TO A FRESH START!

Start the new year by putting the best version of yourself out there.

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NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

MONDAY AUGUST 10	TUESDAY AUGUST 11	WEDNESDAY AUGUST 12	THURSDAY AUGUST 13	FRIDAY AUGUST 14
• Freshmen Orientation 7:50 AM - 2:30 PM • Freshmen Parent Coffee at 8 AM	• Senior Orientation 7:50 - 9:30 AM • Junior Orientation 10 AM - 12 PM • Soph. Orientation 12:30 - 2:30 PM	• First Day of Classes 7:50 AM Start Time	• Pre-season Volleyball Game vs. Lemon Bay 6 PM First Serve	• House Kickoff Celebration 7:50 AM - 12:30 PM Lunch Provided • Pre-season Football Game vs. St Thomas Aquinas 7 PM Kickoff

FEATURE STORY

PARENT C.A.R.E. COMMITTEE: COUGARS ARE REASON ENOUGH

Parent C.A.R.E Committee promotes and fosters quality Catholic education and activities by supporting the faculty, staff, students, and families of Cardinal Mooney High School. It is a parent driven committee offering an opportunity to volunteer and get involved at CMHS!

Read more about the C.A.R.E Committee here!



Whatever you do, do from the heart, as for the Lord and not for others...

COLOSSIANS 3:23

STAY CONNECTED

@cmhs.sarasota

Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School

cmhs-sarasota.org

ORIENTATION SCHEDULES

FRESHMEN STUDENT ORIENTATION

Monday, August 10th | 7:50 AM - 2 PM

- Freshmen will be provided with everything they need to have a successful start to the school year.
- Students will learn about the Mooney House System, meet their teachers, and receive their iPads and class schedules.
- Dress in school uniform! School pictures will be taken.
- Pizza lunch provided.

12th GRADE STUDENT ORIENTATION

Tuesday, August 11th | 7:50 AM - 9:30 AM

- Seniors will receive their ID badges, Yondr pouches, and class schedules.
- Parking passes will be available for purchase.
- Dress in school uniform!
- Bring your fully-charged school iPad!
- Please check your CMHS student email for a communication from Ms. Cassidy regarding Senior Sunrise!

11th GRADE STUDENT ORIENTATION

Tuesday, August 11th | 10 AM - 12 PM

- Juniors will receive their ID badges, Yondr pouches, and class schedules.
- Parking passes will be available for purchase.
- Dress in school uniform! School pictures will be taken.
- Bring your fully-charged school iPad!

10th GRADE STUDENT ORIENTATION

Tuesday, August 11th | 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

- Sophomores will receive their ID badges, Yondr pouches, and class schedules.
- Parking passes will be available for purchase.
- Dress in school uniform! School pictures will be taken.
- Bring your fully-charged school iPad!

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH | 7:50 AM START TIME

- There will be no late start on the first day of school!
- Students should come to school in full dress code with their fully charged iPad, Yondr pouch, and ID Badge visible (Freshmen will not have received their ID badges yet).
- Students should plan to purchase lunch in the cafeteria or may pack and bring a lunch from home.
- New Parents: If dropping off your student for school, please arrive with ample time - the dropoff car line can be hectic the first couple days of school!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

STUDENT MEDICATIONS

Except as authorized by CMHS, students are not permitted to carry any medications with them. If a student needs to take a medication, a Request For Medication form needs to be completed and returned to the Admin Office with the medication.



SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

Summer assignments are required for certain courses at CMHS. Click here to check the listing and make sure you have completed everything you need to. Most summer assignments are due the first day of classes, August 12th!



COURSE SUPPLY LISTS

Earlier this week, CMHS distributed this year's Course Supply List so families have the opportunity to purchase their student's supplies as early as possible. Click here to view that publication if you missed it!



C.A.R.E COMMITTEE: COUGARS ARE REASON ENOUGH

WHAT DO WE DO?

Cardinal Mooney's parent C.A.R.E Committee promotes and fosters quality Catholic education and activities by supporting the faculty, staff, students, and families of Cardinal Mooney High School. It is a parent driven committee offering an opportunity to volunteer and get involved at CMHS!

Some of our upcoming events are:

- August 10th: **Freshmen Parent Coffee & Connections** @ CMHS - 8:00am - 9:00am
- September 10th: **All Grades Parent Coffee & Connections** @ Foxtail Coffee / UTC - 8:00am
- September 14th: **C.A.R.E Committee Meeting** @ TBD - 8:00am

Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram at Cardinal Mooney CARE Committee for updates and future events. To learn more about C.A.R.E or for volunteer opportunities please contact Laura Cheesman here.



STUDENT LIFE

@CMHS.STUDENTLIFE

HOUSE KICKOFF CELEBRATION | FRIDAY, AUGUST 14TH

- Start time: 7:50 AM Dismissal: 12:30 PM
- On Friday, August 14th, we will officially kick off our second year of the House System with an all-day itinerary of fun activities!
- There will not be classes on this day, and students should leave their backpacks and iPads at home. Students may leave their Yondr pouch at home.
- Required Dress:
  - 9th Graders: White t-shirt with school-appropriate bottoms/footwear.
  - 10th - 12th Graders: New House t-shirt with school-appropriate bottoms/footwear.
- Lunch will be provided - burgers, hot dogs, snacks, and drinks
- This is a required day of school; attendance will be taken in first period.



CLUB RUSH | SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, August 26th - After-School in the CMHS Courtyard

- All students - new and returning - are invited to come out to the CMHS Courtyard immediately after 7th Period to visit with all of our student organizations and clubs!
- Learn about the many offerings we have, sign-up to receive communication from your favorites, and start to GET INVOLVED!
- Most CMHS student organizations and clubs will be present
- Rain location: Selby Center
- Club Leaders: Check for a communication from Mr. Krause about signing up your club for a table at Club Rush!



SCHOOL LUNCH

- Students have the option to pack their lunch and bring it from home, or they can purchase lunch in our school cafeteria. There are a limited number of microwaves available in the cafeteria for student use, but a line can form at them for students needing to heat their lunch.
- If purchasing lunch, students should be ready to pay with cash or a physical debit/credit card. Students will NOT have access to their phones to pay with Apple Pay!

Next Week's Menu:

- Wednesday 8/12: Popcorn Chicken, Stromboli
- Thursday 8/13: Chicken Sandwich, Empanadas

In addition to the items on each day's menu, bagels, yogurt parfaits, noodle soup, and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are available for purchase, in addition to various snacks, candies, and beverages.

Pricing: $5-6 entrees, $3 candy, $2 chips and beverages

THE STUDENT LIFE TEAM



MS. CAROL CASSIDY
Asst. Principal for Student Life



MR. RYAN KRAUSE
Dir. of Student Life & House System

CMHS CAMPUS MINISTRY

@CMHS.CAMPUSMINISTRY



please join us

Fridays

STARTING AUGUST 14TH
In the Chapel • 7:45 am

No experience necessary - come & learn this beautiful & powerful prayer!

Questions? Please e-mail
Erica Marten - Director of Campus Ministry
emarten@cmhs-sarasota.org



WELCOME BACK!



MRS. ERICA MARTEN
Dir. of Campus Ministry

Hello from Campus Ministry!

I pray that you all have had a restful and re-energizing summer. We can't wait to see the students back on campus next week. I truly believe it's going to be an extraordinary year. God is up to something special and I can't wait to see how He works in and through all of us! Next week, at all of the student orientations, we will be revealing our theme for the year and introducing a new catechetical program, in addition to multiple new faith-based clubs and initiatives. And last, but not least, I'm excited to share and invite students to dive deeper into their faith journey through a life-changing summer camp experience called Covecrest. This past July, we brought our first Cardinal Mooney group up to the mountains of Georgia to experience a "high-faith, high-adventure" retreat week. It was such a transformative experience for both students and chaperones that we will be starting to plan for next summer, this fall. Please stay-tuned for more information.

Lastly, I wanted to share a few changes that happened over the summer. We sadly had to say "goodbye" to our Assistant Chaplain, Father Christian Chami. He was reassigned as the Administrator at St. Raphael's in Lehigh Acres. I know he was very sad to leave Mooney and truly loved being here with the students. Please keep him in your prayers. Please also pray for our Head Chaplain, Father Alex Pince, who is still with us, but "down a priest." J The other exciting news that our new bishop, Bishop Emilio Biosca Aguero, was ordained last month and has hit the ground running. We had our Diocesan Teacher's Meeting this week where we were blessed to have Bishop Emilio celebrate Mass with us, and then sit down with Father Belmonte for a fun interview so that we could learn more about him. He is definitely a gift to our diocese.

Please be assured of my prayers for all of you. It's an honor and privilege to serve the Mooney community and it's wonderful families. God bless!

Learn more about the Bishop here.

More information about Covecrest here.

Download the Hallow app here.

FROM THE DEANS OF STUDENTS OFFICE

Dear Cardinal Mooney Families,

As we begin the school year, we would like to take a moment to remind everyone of several important expectations and policies that help ensure a successful and productive school year for our students.



MRS. JULIE MULLIGAN
Dean of Students
Last Names A-L

Student Handbook
We strongly encourage all parents and students to review the current Student Handbook, which is available here. The handbook contains important information regarding school expectations, procedures, and policies. Please pay particular attention to any policy updates for the current school year.



MR. WILL SCHENERLEIN
Dean of Students
Last Names M-Z

Dress Code & ID Badges (pg. 25-27)
Please review the CMHS dress code with your student and ensure that they arrive at school each day dressed appropriately and in accordance with our school policies. Particular attention should be given to proper footwear, outerwear, and ID Badges, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Teacher Supply Lists
Teacher supply lists have been provided to families. If you have not already done so, please review the lists and make sure your student has the required materials for each of their classes. Being prepared each day is an important part of academic success. View the lists here.

Attendance Policy (pg. 22-24)
We want to emphasize the importance of regular and timely attendance. Parents and students should carefully review the attendance policy in the handbook, including the number of absences permitted and the consequences of excessive absences. Attendance will have a direct impact on a student's academic standing and grades. Missing instructional time can make it difficult for students to keep up with coursework and excessive absences will result in academic consequences as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Our goal is to work together with our families to create an environment where students can be successful academically, socially, and emotionally. Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Sincerely,
Deans of Students Office