

## Principal's Message



Eagle Families,

November is Family Engagement Month, a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the vital role families play in our middle school community! This month, we honor our School Advisory Council (SAC) and Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) for their dedication to fostering strong connections between home and school. To mark the occasion, we encourage families to engage in fun and meaningful activities at home, such as reading together, creating a family gratitude jar, or having regular family discussions about school experiences. Let's strengthen our partnerships and create lasting memories!



### **Did you know?**

This week we recognized our Character Counts Award Winners for Responsibility. Congratulations to Judah Arnette, Valerie Dyal, Antwon Floyd, Lucia Huerbsch, Patrel Jones, Marina Kuhnke, Karenton Lyons, Gwen Pelchat, Marlowe Rutland, Kiran Sancho, Curtis Stanley, Mia Terrazas, Zhayvien Wright.

### **GRADVENTURE FOR 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE!**

Greenlight tours has granted an extension for students to register for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Gradventure trip. It has been extended through next Friday, 11/8. Link found [HERE](#).

### **Hurricane Make up Days!**

Following the Superintendent's email earlier this week, all schools will be in session on November 11th to help make up for lost instructional time across the district. We will also be honoring Veterans Day in our schools. Early Release Wednesdays will be adjusted to full instructional days beginning November 13. We will return to Early Release Wednesdays on February 12, 2025. Thank you for your understanding!

### **Clubs**

Clubs are up and running but it is not too late to join! Get a permission slip from the sponsor of the club you wish to join. Check out our website to see a list of clubs. Clubs run Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from 2:00 – 3:00pm.

### **Fast Food / Drink:**

Please note that Sebastian Middle School does not allow fast food, other special lunches, or outside coffees/drinks to be delivered to students and eaten in the cafeteria. All students have access to free lunch in the cafeteria. Please do not send cupcakes or other special items to be shared.

### **Morning Drop off**

**The time for student drop-off is between 7:10 – 7:30am. Students are not marked tardy until 7.33am.** We have a lot of cars arriving early starting at 6.45am and it is becoming difficult for teacher to get on campus and be ready to greet our students. **Students should not be released from your car until 7:10am.** We love how eager everyone is to be here at our school in the morning; thank you for helping us get off to a smooth start each day!

## **PTO Corner**

### **Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities:**

#### **Elementary Game Concessions Volunteers**

- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0548ABA72BA2F49-51181403-elementary>

#### **11/12 - SMS Spirit Night at Outback Steakhouse**

#### **11/13- PTO Meeting on Zoom - Join Zoom Meeting at 6pm**

<https://leonards.zoom.us/j/82880796895?pwd=atkMEkok1WMeQuHzqTXfl3lSAIKK3V.1>

Meeting ID: 828 8079 6895

Passcode: 389321

**12/29 - Jaguars vs. Titans - Join us for the Jacksonville Jaguars / Sebastian Middle School outing when the Jaguars take on the Titans, December 29th and take advantage of special group pricing! We can't wait to see everyone! \$5 from every ticket purchased through this offer will go to support Sebastian Middle School!**

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Sebastianmiddleschooljagsouting>

**Membership: We are thrilled to emphasize that there are absolutely no fees to be involved in the PTO. Every family is automatically a member, and we welcome your active participation in shaping our school community.**

**Birthday Shout Outs: Celebrate your child's special day by sending a birthday shout out to be displayed on our electronic sign in front of the school! Please submit all birthday sign orders by the Wednesday prior to the requested week via this link:**

• <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/sebastian-middle-school-ptostore/items?cart>

**Funding Initiatives: We raise funds through a variety of avenues, including contributions from our fantastic Business Partners. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Business Partner, please reach out to us. Additionally, we collect donations for specific events or school needs, host engaging events, sell spirit wear, and manage concessions at home sports events. [ptosebastian@gmail.com](mailto:ptosebastian@gmail.com)**

**Online Store: Explore our online store where you can purchase spirited spirit wear, make donations, or even sign up as a Business Partner.**

• <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/sebastian-middle-school-ptostore/items?cart>

**Volunteer Opportunities and Ideas: We warmly welcome volunteers and innovative ideas. Our team thrives on collective effort, where everyone's contribution adds up to create something truly impactful. [ptosebastian@gmail.com](mailto:ptosebastian@gmail.com)**

**Inclusivity: Our PTO is open to everyone, and we encourage you to join us regardless of your work schedule. We pride ourselves on being a "NO DRAMA" PTO, fostering a welcoming and supportive environment for all.**

**Get in touch with us: Email: [PTOSebastian@gmail.com](mailto:PTOSebastian@gmail.com)**

**Facebook: Sebastian Middle School PTO**

**Instagram: @SMSPTO**



**FORTIFYFL**  
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The advertisement features a smartphone displaying the FortifyFL app interface. The app screen shows a header with the FortifyFL logo, a brief description of the app's purpose, and a grid of icons for reporting various types of suspicious activities. The background of the advertisement is light blue and white, with the Florida Department of Education logo and name at the bottom.



*K.T. Gabaldon*  
Principal

**SEBASTIAN**  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

STEM  
Cognia  
CERTIFIED

The logo for K.T. Gabaldon, Principal of Sebastian Middle School, is centered. It features the name 'K.T. Gabaldon' in a cursive font above 'Principal' in a smaller sans-serif font. Below this, 'SEBASTIAN' and 'MIDDLE SCHOOL' are written in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. To the left of the text is a circular logo with 'STEM' at the top, 'Cognia' in the center, and 'CERTIFIED' at the bottom. The entire logo is surrounded by several interlocking gears in red and blue.