



MHS HURRICANE BATTALION



“Enter to learn, Leave to lead”

Upcoming Events

- September 3rd—Cane Classic
- September 12th—1st Drill Practice
- September 15th—SMA Raider Meet
- September 21st—Leave for county Campout
- September 22nd—Return from County Campout
- October 6th—Mariner Raider Meet
- October 20th—County Raider Meet

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Welcome to “The” Hurricane Battalion

The school year has just begun. We would like to welcome all new cadets to our family. We have events coming up, so be prepared. All of our company leadership just went through our Battalion Leadership Course (BLC) and are ready to take charge of their companies. We are looking forward to a successful year for our battalion.

Football Games

- Alpha Company—August 17th
- Bravo Company—August 31st
- Charlie Company—September 21st
- Delta Company—September 27th
- Echo Company—October 12th

Hurricane Battalion Instructors



SAI LTC Mugford
Drill and Color Guard
LET 3 & 4



AI CSM Zoch
Raider Team
LET 1



AI SGM Staff
Rifle Team
LET 2

Hurricane Battalion Top Three



Battalion
Commander
C/LTC Occhiena



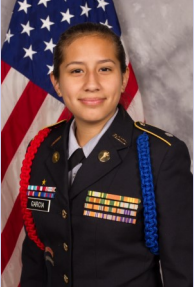
Battalion
Executive Officer
C/MAJ Upshaw



Command
Sergeant Major
C/CSM Vidaurres

Company Leadership

Alpha



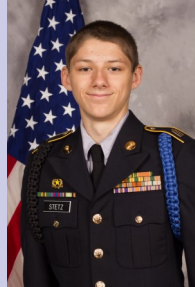
Company
Commander
Garcia

Bravo



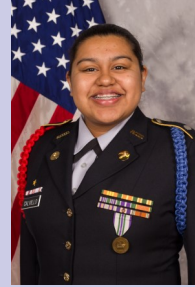
Company
Commander
Faison

Charlie



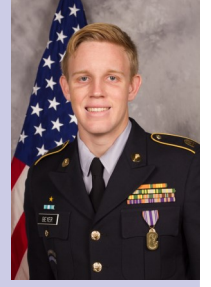
Company
Commander
Stetz

Delta



Company
Commander
Calvillo

Echo



Company
Commander
Beyer



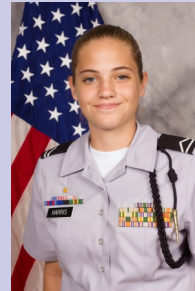
Executive
Officer
Sanders



Executive
Officer
Camargo



Executive
Officer
Sarria



Executive
Officer
Harris



Executive
Officer
Garcia



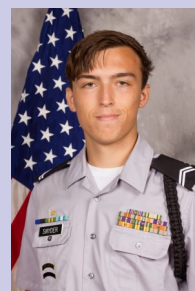
First Sergeant
Chajon - Paz



First Sergeant
Polin



First Sergeant
Santiago



First Sergeant
Snyder



First Sergeant
Domingez

Colonel's Corner

A new School Year (SY) has begun. I want to welcome all our new cadets to the JROTC family and all the returning cadets. We are looking at another highly productive year with many activities scheduled for this SY. We certainly started off on the right foot as we were fortunate to have had our Battalion Leadership Course (BLC) prior to the beginning of the SY with over 40 senior cadets in attendance. Great start for our new Command Group.

The first quarter is always the most difficult one as students adjust to being in a new environment and getting into the swing of going back to school. Let's hope that mother nature does not interrupt our SY. Not much good news comes out of a natural disaster nonetheless there was a silver lining as many of our JROTC cadets helped out here at Manatee High School (MHS) during Hurricane Irma. As you know MHS is a designated shelter for the community.

As everyone eases into the new school year we are looking for parent volunteers to assist during Raider Challenges, Drill Meets, and Campouts. A lot of new parents stopped by during the Freshmen Orientation and now have an appreciation of the opportunities we provide for their children. We look forward to your involvement.

Just to remind everyone, we past our formal annual inspection with a 97.5% and were deemed "Honor Unit with Distinction" for the 24th year in a row.

Written By:



**LTC (R) Philip Mugford
Senior Army Instructor**

The new Chain of Command is hard at work and I'm sure they will do an outstanding job in this SY. The new Battalion Commander (C/LTC Occhiena) already has his vision statement posted and has taken charge. C/MAJ Jeremy Upshaw, Battalion XO is riding herd on the Staff and providing guidance to the staff. Lastly C/CSM Vidaurres is preparing the Company 1SGs by insuring classes for our 7th period leadership course is presented in a professional manner. HOOAH!!

I would also like to recognize a few outstanding cadets who finished last year with outstanding results. Cadet Vasquez now at the Naval Academy, Cadet Paz full ride at Stetson, and Cadet Tumanda receiving a full ride at Emery Riddle. Finally, welcome to the "Hurricane Battalion". HOOAH!!

A Word From The Battalion Commander

Dear incoming Parents & Cadets,

I am Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Eduardo Occhiena, and I am the Commander of the Hurricane Battalion for this school year. I am both excited and honored to lead this battalion, and I am eager to meet the new Cadets joining our Unit this year. The Hurricane Battalion has been a large part of Manatee High School for over 25 Years, dating back to 1993. Over the years our Unit has come to be known as “THE” Hurricane Battalion, because of our prominent tradition of Leadership Excellence. JROTC is meant to motivate you as a Young Person into a Better Citizen. JROTC will provide you all the tools you need to succeed as a Leader, Scholar, and an Athlete. Our Instructors and Cadet Leadership will welcome you like family and mentor you to succeed in whatever your goals may be. A good summarization of JROTC would be a famous quote from our renowned Instructor Command Sergeant Major Zoch. “JROTC is like a Life Skills & Management Course on steroids.” Once again welcome to our program and welcome to Manatee High School.

“Enter to Learn, Leave to Lead”

Written By:



C/LTC Eduardo Occhiena
Battalion Commander

DRILL AND COLOR GUARD

DRILL TEAM

The Drill Team is a disciplined unit that works very hard throughout the year. Everyone learns some drill and ceremony in their classes, but the Drill team cadets learn more and builds off what they have learned, they then put their leadership skills to the test in their companies to help other cadets learn more drill and ceremony. Extensive training is key for our team to perform every movement flawlessly. We have competitions between January and April, we will begin practices on 12 September. We are a family, we work hard and have fun together. Drill teams will help develop teamwork, character, and discipline. This team will make you come out of your shell and be a part of something bigger than yourself. You will work hard, and it all pays off in the end. We have 5 events for varsity male and female, and a Junior varsity competition with 3 events male and female. I encourage all cadets to come out and see what drill is like. This will be a great year! HOOAH!!

COLOR GUARD

Color Guard is the most prestigious team in JROTC. It is a part of Battalion Drill, to be on Color Guard you must be on drill. The Color Guard is responsible for presenting our nations colors at our home football games, JROTC ceremonies, parades, and other community events. Our Color Guard takes great pride in what they do. We have two varsity teams, one male and one female. We also have two junior varsity teams, one male one female. The team works hard all year long. You should come and try it out, the best of the best make the team. HOOAH!!



**Male Armed Platoon
@Sarasota Military Academy
Drill Comp.**



**Color Guard for a home
football game**

Written By:



**C/MAJ Jeremy Upshaw
Drill Commander
Color Guard Commander**

Being A First Sergeant

Starting this school year as a Let 4, I have been chosen to be Echo Company's First Sergeant. I am looking forward to having cadets engaged and keeping them motivated. I have been working alongside with the Command Sergeant Major, Ops Sergeant Major, and all the incoming First Sergeants with the quarter 1 training plans. I am confident that this school year will be one of our best years in the JROTC program. I am hoping to be able to lead and be an important role in these cadet's paths to be the future of JROTC. I am delighted to be working with these cadet's and can't wait for a successful year in the Hurricane Battalion.

Written By:



C/SFC Marianylles Santiago
Delta Company 1SG