



3201 S. 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34981  
Telephone 772-595-1148 or 772-595-1194

Spring, 2023

Dear Parent,

Forest Grove is home to the ONLY middle school Marine Oceanographic Prep Academy (MOA-Prep), a magnet program that provides students the opportunity to dive deep into the various fields of science, with a focus on marine, biological, and environmental sciences. This program emphasizes students studying about the Florida environment and enhances science content within the standard curriculum. Along with the inschool opportunities for exploration, students will take various field trips around the region to deepen their understanding of our local aquaculture and environment.

During 2007, the high school MOA program was established and is housed at the world-renowned research facility, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute campus of Florida Atlantic University in north Saint Lucie County. In 2008, we opened our first year of the MOA-Prep program here at Forest Grove. In the 2017-2018 school year, Forest Grove's MOA-Prep program participated in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest. Out of over 3,000 entries nationwide, Forest Grove was 1 of 255 state finalists and the ONLY middle school designated as a finalist in Florida.

We sincerely hope you consider this unique opportunity for your child. **District transportation/busing is provided for all in need.** Furthermore, those selected for the MOA-Prep program are scheduled into all advanced English, Math, Social Studies and Science courses as well as a MOA (Science) Elective course. Because this is a small learning community, admission is limited to very highly qualified students who will be sixth graders in the 2023/2024 school year. We welcome you to visit our school website and checkout our YouTube video about the program at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SAsZWucSMBs> or



The application is enclosed. I encourage you to complete the application (**last 4 pages**) and return it to Forest Grove Middle School. It can be mailed to the address above, addressed to Mrs. Keonisha Bobo – Principal. We hope to welcome your family to the “**Bulldog Nation!**”

Sincerely,

*Keonisha Bobo*

Mrs. Keonisha Bobo - Principal



# Forest Grove Middle School

## MOA-Prep Design

Each of the three grade levels will have two or three cohorts of MOA-Prep students. Students will take advanced Florida-required courses in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies along with a special lab class for MOA. The teams that house the MOA students will have interdisciplinary topics supporting the MOA curriculum and the periodic field studies.

### Sample Student Schedules

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Language Arts 1 Adv.	Language Arts 2 Adv.	Language Arts 3 Adv.
Math 2 Adv. (7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math)	Algebra I Honors	Geometry Honors
Comprehensive Science 1 Adv.	Comprehensive Science 2 Adv.	Comprehensive Science 3 Adv.
World History Adv.	Civics Adv.	US History & Career Planning Adv.
MOA Lab Studies	MOA Lab Studies	MOA Lab Studies
Elective(s)	Elective(s)	Elective(s)

### Academic Success Expectation

Students in MOA-Prep must maintain a minimum semester GPA of 2.5 in 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and a 3.0 for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. If the GPA falls below this minimum, an Academic Success Plan will be implemented. Cooperation from the parents/guardians will be expected. If academic improvement is not made, the student’s status as a MOA-Prep student will be further reviewed and could result in dismissal from the program.





# Forest Grove Middle School

## Narrative for Curriculum Review

**MOA-Prep** is designed to reach students with interest in a variety of sciences, not just Marine Science. Students will be exposed to geology, astronomy, biology, chemistry, physics, *and engineering* incorporated into oceanography, marine and life sciences. This allows students to enjoy and participate in a variety of scientific fields and investigations including an introduction to UAS/UUS (Drones) used in marine science research.

With many fields of science and engineering covered in our **MOA-Prep** program, **MOA-Prep** students will be able to transition with a wealth of knowledge which they then can apply to any upper-level program at any of our St. Lucie County high schools *including* the Marine and Oceanographic Academy at West Prep!

**6th Grade** – Introduction to Chemistry, properties of water, Florida’s watershed and the Indian River Lagoon, the interactions of humans and water systems, sources of water pollution, Kilroy Academy, Scientific Method and Engineering, weather/climate, ocean floor features and plate tectonics, tides, current events, and issues in ocean science; Introduction to aquaponics and “baby” tilapia tank room-care and function; Raising Ghost Shrimp.

**7th Grade** – The flow of energy and the energy pyramid, elemental cycles, Primary Production and Limiting factors, study of microorganisms, Chemistry-chemical equations and balancing with Ocean acidification, weather/climate, kinematics (with geometry), responsible full care of tilapia tank room and laboratories.

**8th Grade** – Ocean Literacy (7 Principles), Chemical bonding, sea water chemistry, waves and energy, ocean circulation, weather/climate, raising native plants along with University of Florida’s Nine Principles of Florida-Friendly Landscape - Gardening, Classification of Marine organisms /structure and function, introduction to fishing stocks and overfishing, current events and issues in ocean science and the surrounding Treasure Coast waterways. Participation in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow research contest and care of the aquaponic greenhouse.



## MOA-PREP Activities

### All students will:

- Understand the use of scientific processes to study the patterns of natural events and solve problems
- Develop the use of critical thinking and inquiry skills
- Plan and carry out scientific investigations of various types
- Become proficient in the use of stereo and compound microscopes
- Understand the appreciation of the role of science and its impact on our daily life

### 8th grade students will:

1. -Participate in A Day in the Life of the Indian River Lagoon collecting physical, chemical, meteorological, and biological data for ORCA's research which includes use of field equipment
2. -Grow native plants and fruit/vegetables in our greenhouse/nursery
3. -Be responsible for the function and care of the entire greenhouse aquaponics system
4. -Learn studying techniques in preparation for dual enrollment in High School
5. -Learn to use UAS/UUS (Air & Underwater Drone) towards aqua research
6. -Participate in the St. Lucie County Indian River waterway cleanup and restoration project

### 7th grade students will:

1. -Learn skills to work in the aquaculture tank room (testing water quality, manipulating air lifts and water pumps)
2. -Be responsible for the function and care of the entire aquaculture system
3. -Develop leadership skills, research skills, and studying techniques
4. -Use field equipment and collect data

### 6th Grade students will:

1. -Learn to use laboratory equipment (triple beam balances, microscopes, graduated cylinders, etc.)
2. -Develop research skills and data collection techniques
3. -Track weather systems and use a weather station
4. -Be Introduced to tank room activities (cleaning tanks, monitoring pH); Care of baba Tilapia

### All classes will participate and go on field trips including but not limited to:

ORCA-A Day in the Life, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, beach (clean-up), Smithsonian Science Station, Oxbow Eco-Center, Indian River State College, Manatee Observation Education Center, and others.

**Disclaimer:** This project list is neither exhaustive nor is it precise, but it is the tentative plan for the MOA Prep Program for the 2022-2023 school year.



# You CAN Apply for More than One Program

Have you already accepted a seat at another school or program?

Would you like to change your mind and apply for an additional program?



## Applying to more than one school or program: Clarifications

- Students may apply for as many programs for which they are eligible.**
- All students whose applications are accepted into a school or specific program have the right to accept the offer or turn it down.
- Once a student confirms the acceptance and declares intent to join a school or program, a seat is reserved for that student and all PREVIOUSLY reserved seats are cancelled.
- Although no students may hold more than one seat at a time, the mere act of applying for a seat does not affect previous acceptances. It is ONLY when the student CONFIRMS an acceptance that any PREVIOUS school acceptances are cancelled.**
- The Office of Student Assignment will keep a list of all students who have confirmed intent of entering programs and will maintain only the most recently accepted seat for any student.



## Application Packet for MOA-Prep

**There are 4 parts to the MOA-Prep Application. The first page is the student/parent information section, followed by 3 survey recommendation pages. One recommendation needs to be completed by the student's current 5<sup>th</sup> grade math teacher. The second needs to be completed by the student's 5<sup>th</sup> grade English teacher or Administration, and the third can be completed by the current science teacher or another caring adult on the campus.**

Complete the application and deliver or mail the documents to:

Keonisha Bobo, Principal  
Forest Grove Middle School  
3201 S. 25<sup>th</sup> St.  
Fort Pierce, FL 34981



Student Application for  
The St. Lucie County Middle School  
Marine and Oceanographic Academy (MOA) Prep

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student 56#: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number(s): Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Middle or Elementary School: \_\_\_\_\_

The signatures below indicate that this student is seriously interested and a qualified candidate for admission to the MOA Prep program. Notification of admission will be mailed to the student and parent at the address listed above.

Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you believe that a problem may be found with your attendance, discipline, or grades, you may offer an explanation here (add pages if needed.)

**Do Not Write Below This Line (for administrative use only)**

2021-2022 FSA Scores: Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Math \_\_\_\_\_

Avg. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Unit Assessment Scores: Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Math \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline Issues (Y/N): \_\_\_\_\_ Attendance Issues (Y/N): \_\_\_\_\_



**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher Recommendation for:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Please describe the student named using the following scale:**

	0=never	1=seldom	2=sometimes	3=usually	4=often	5=always
Completes class work on time	0	1	2	3	4	5
Completes homework on time	0	1	2	3	4	5
Contributes to class discussions	0	1	2	3	4	5
Provides best effort	0	1	2	3	4	5
Works well in a team situation	0	1	2	3	4	5
Can work independently	0	1	2	3	4	5
Follows directions	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is respectful of others	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is respectful of property	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is cooperative	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is trustworthy	0	1	2	3	4	5
Demonstrates seriousness of purpose	0	1	2	3	4	5
Demonstrates exceptional maturity	0	1	2	3	4	5

Please describe any special skills or circumstances which you feel could provide insight in evaluating this student's eligibility for admission. (Attach an additional page if necessary.)

Please Print Name of **Math - Teacher** completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of **Math - Teacher** completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_

School name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN TO STUDENT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE**



5<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Recommendation for: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the student named using the following scale:

	0=never	1=seldom	2=sometimes	3=usually	4=often	5=always
Completes class work on time	0	1	2	3	4	5
Completes homework on time	0	1	2	3	4	5
Contributes to class discussions	0	1	2	3	4	5
Provides best effort	0	1	2	3	4	5
Works well in a team situation	0	1	2	3	4	5
Can work independently	0	1	2	3	4	5
Follows directions	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is respectful of others	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is respectful of property	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is cooperative	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is trustworthy	0	1	2	3	4	5
Demonstrates seriousness of purpose	0	1	2	3	4	5
Demonstrates exceptional maturity	0	1	2	3	4	5

Please describe any special skills or circumstances which you feel could provide insight in evaluating this student's eligibility for admission. (Attach an additional page if necessary.)

Please Print Name of **Teacher** completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of **Teacher** completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of course taught by teacher (If Applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

School name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN TO STUDENT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE**





5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science or General Recommendation for: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the student named using the following scale:

	0=never	1=seldom	2=sometimes	3=usually	4=often	5=always
Completes class work on time	0	1	2	3	4	5
Completes homework on time	0	1	2	3	4	5
Contributes to class discussions	0	1	2	3	4	5
Provides best effort	0	1	2	3	4	5
Works well in a team situation	0	1	2	3	4	5
Can work independently	0	1	2	3	4	5
Follows directions	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is respectful of others	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is respectful of property	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is cooperative	0	1	2	3	4	5
Is trustworthy	0	1	2	3	4	5
Demonstrates seriousness of purpose	0	1	2	3	4	5
Demonstrates exceptional maturity	0	1	2	3	4	5

Please describe any special skills or circumstances which you feel could provide insight in evaluating this student's eligibility for admission. (Attach an additional page if necessary.)

Please Print Name of **Individual** completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of **Individual** completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of course taught by teacher (If Applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

School name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN TO STUDENT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE**