



# What's New at Chi Chi's

March 2017



## Academy Teacher Josh Meurer is honored as High Impact Teacher in State of Florida

“On behalf of the State of Florida, please join me in congratulating the highest impact teacher in both the Chi Chi Rodriguez Academy and Curlew Creek Elementary School, Josh Meurer. A recent analysis of student performance on statewide standardized assessments found that Mr. Meurer had an impact on student learning that is among the most positive in the entire state.”

~ Commissioner Pam Stewart, Florida Department of Education



To us, Mr. Meurer is a great math and science teacher but even more than that he's an encouraging role model. Witnessing one interaction with him and a student, you immediately see why students look up to him. His knowledge of teaching and his ability to reach our students is inspirational to all around him. He makes education fun and achievable, starting with Homework Heroes. If students turn in 20 homework assignments in a row (every single assignment for an entire month and can show your work) you become a Homework Hero. This distinction comes with a photo wearing a fun hat along with a trophy placed on Mr. Meurer's classroom wall. It is such a coveted award that classroom wall space is in short supply. From the Board of Directors and the entire Chi Chi team we congratulate Josh on such an amazing accomplishment!



Top: Mr. Meurer with 7th graders Cristian, Ashanti and Tiasia; Middle: Mr. Meurer during math class; Bottom: 6th grader Vincent shows off his 3rd consecutive Homework Hero accomplishment.

***During the December Math and Science Midterms, the Academy's 6th, 7th and 8th grade students outperformed the Pinellas County School average! This average includes all traditional and alternative education programs.***

### Upcoming Events

Chi Chi Pro Am  
Wednesday, March 8th  
Innisbrook - South Course

Valspar Championship  
Thursday-Friday, March 9th-12th  
Innisbrook

Chi Chi Charity Classic  
Sunday & Monday, November 12th & 13th  
Chi Chi Golf Club



***Mission: To assist at risk children by improving their self-esteem, character, work ethic, social adjustment, and academic performance using the golf course as a living classroom.***

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[WWW.CHICHI.ORG](http://WWW.CHICHI.ORG)

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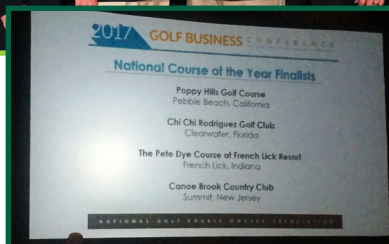
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### Academy Executive Committee

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## Chi Chi's Golf Club named one of four finalists by National Golf Course Owners Association (NGCOA) as Course of the Year



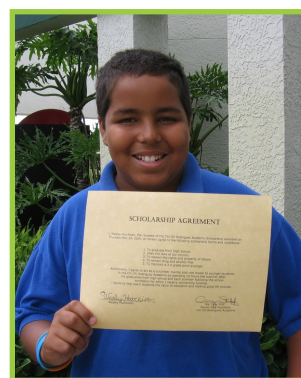
Top: NGCOA CEO Jay Karen, Chi Chi's Superintendent Eric Dixon, Chi Chi's COO James Poulter and NGCOA Board President Rock Lucas; Bottom: All four finalists listed at the NGCOA Golf Business Conference Dinner.

The National Course of the Year Award honors a member demonstrating four criteria: exceptional quality of the course, exceptional quality of ownership and management, outstanding contribution to its community and significant contribution to the game. The Course of the Year Award winners come from the NGCOA's core membership, which make an outstanding contribution to the sport in their markets and are model operations to their peers. This year's finalists included: The Pete Dye Course at French Lick Resort (Indiana) who won, Canoe Brook Country Club (New Jersey), Chi Chi Rodriguez Golf Club (Florida) and Poppy Hills Golf Course (California). It is a proud moment for our team to be recognized nationally in such prestigious company as these courses.

VIDEO: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pu6oX6eaduc&t=4s>

## Chi Chi Academy Alumni Journey to Success: Wesley Hutchison

Wesley came from Leila G. Davis Elementary where he struggled with the larger class sizes and lack of individual attention. Once he came to the Academy, Wesley's personality really began to shine. In 2009, he was unanimously chosen as the 5th grade scholarship recipient for higher learning due to his hard work and dedication to his studies. Following five years with the Academy, Wesley attended Newpoint Charter School, where he graduated in 2016 with a 3.69 GPA. He now attends classes at St. Petersburg College, where he plans to get his Associates Degree before transferring to a University with a goal of becoming an Accountant, just like his Aunt. You can often see Wesley at the Chi Chi campus fulfilling his volunteer hours, all part of the higher learning education scholarship he received from the Foundation. The scholarship provides \$500 per semester up to \$4,000 to help pay for his school.



Top Left: Wesley showing off his Scholarship Certificate in 2009; Top Right: 8th grade graduation in 2012; Bottom: Now a Freshman at St. Petersburg College, Wesley is volunteering at the Academy in 2017.

### Did You Know...?

Any IRA owner who has attained the age of 70 1/2 may donate up to \$100,000 to any one charity or group of charities. The amount given to charity can be used to fulfill the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). Ask your financial advisor the best way to make donations to your favorite charities.

*("IRA Charitable Contributions" by ProVise management Group, LLC and www.irs.gov)*