ESE PARENT SURVEY DEADLINE:
MAY 31, 2021

Each year, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) conducts a survey designed to provide FDOE and the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), with information on how well Florida’s schools are partnering with parents and promoting parent involvement in their child’s education. The survey is open to all parents of children with an individual educational plan (IEP) receiving ESE services from preschool age through grade 12 and is not intended for parents of students receiving only gifted services through an educational plan (EP). The survey is available from February 1 through to May 31 of each year.

Visit esesurvey.com to complete!
A child's first year of school is a very important one. During kindergarten, children begin to learn to read and write. They learn to cooperate and creatively solve problems. These skills will build a strong foundation for academic success in the future. Any child shall be eligible for admission to kindergarten if he/she has attained the age of 5 years on or before September 1 of the school year.
**FSAA TESTING WINDOW EXTENSIONS:**

**NEW DATES BELOW**

In an effort to provide students, families, schools, and districts with additional flexibility, the FSAA testing windows are being extended as follows:

**FSAA Performance Task: March 1 – May 14, 2021**
- Grades 3–8 ELA & Mathematics
- Grades 4–8 Writing
- Grades 5 & 8 nScience
- End-of-Course Assessment (Civics)

**FSAA Performance Task: March 15 - May 28, 2021**
- Grades 9 & 10 ELA
- Grades 9 & 10 Writing
- End-of-Course Assessments (Algebra 1, Biology 1, Geometry & U.S. History)

**FSAA Datafolio (Collection Period 3): March 1 – April 26, 2021**
(AVS upload closes May 3)

This flexibility is in keeping with other testing windows that have already been extended this school year.

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**UDPATED: Florida Statewide Assessments Accommodations Guide**

The Florida Statewide Assessments Accommodations Guide was recently updated in July 2020. The purpose of this guide is to provide information and resources for the administration of statewide Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) and NGSSS assessments to students with allowable accommodations. Test administrators and school assessment coordinators should use the information in this guide as a supplement to the printed test administration manuals for each administration, but not as a replacement for the manuals, as not all administration and policy information is included in this document.

[Click here to read the 2020-2021 Florida Statewide Assessments Accommodations Guide.](#)
FLORIDA INCLUSION NETWORK

COMMUNICATION TIPS FOR FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

LOOKS LIKE... →

- Reminding people of your child's strengths.
- Listening to others with an open mind and offering your ideas.
- Taking a step-by-step approach to problems and offering your ideas for solutions. Express you understanding that things can change over time.
- Jotting down notes before, during, and after you meet with your child’s IEP team members. Use concrete and specific examples when you share concerns.
- Asking questions to understand both sides of an issue. Get a second opinion from other teachers or the school administrator.

SOUNDS LIKE... ↔

- "Please remember that the disability is just a part of who my child is. He/she has many strengths and unique characteristics."
- "I agree that my child needs to improve his/her reading comprehension. Can we adjust their schedule so that they will receive intensive instruction during the regularly scheduled reading block in an inclusive setting?"
- "I'm not sure this strategy will work with my child, so let's try it and talk about this again in ___ weeks. If this doesn’t work, I have another idea that we could try."
- "I'd like to share some concerns from our last conversation. I think there may be some misunderstanding about my child's communication support needs. They need to have a special switch in order to communicate their choices. They use this device at home to make choices about foods, activities, and clothing."
- "I'm not sure I understand why my child has been placed in a different reading program. Can you explain what you are basing this decision upon? I think I would also like to hear about the new reading program from the reading coach."
ZOOM ADDS NEW CLOSED CAPTIONING CAPABILITIES

Following these steps will activate the feature for all future meetings or webinars created within your Zoom account.
1. Log into the Zoom account.
2. Click Settings from the left side menu.
3. Click In Meeting (Advanced) or scroll down the page to that section of the settings.
4. Turn on Closed captioning.
5. Under that option check the box that says Enable live transcription service to show transcript on the side panel in-meeting.
6. Click Save.

Starting the Live Automatic Transcriptions During a Meeting or Webinar (Note: Only the host can turn auto transcriptions on or off.)
1. Start your Zoom meeting or webinar.
2. Click the Live Transcript button from the Zoom control bar at the bottom of the screen.
3. At the bottom of the pop-up window click Enable Auto-Transcription.

IDA ANNOUNCES NEW FREE DIGITAL LIBRARY!

The International Dyslexia Association (IDA) has launched the premier Dyslexia Digital Library at www.dyslexialibrary.org to serve the millions of people worldwide who have dyslexia, their families and teachers, and the global research community whose work informs the science of reading. “For more than 70 years, IDA has been the leader in providing publications and resources to this community,” says CEO Sonja Banks. “IDA’s new digital library makes this knowledge base more accessible than ever.”

The Dyslexia Digital Library houses an extensive collection of IDA’s most informative articles, fact sheets, infographics, and videos organized in a searchable, user-friendly site that also includes frequently asked questions and trending topics. Families can learn strategies to help them advocate for their child with dyslexia, reading teachers can find guidance on applying the principles of Structured Literacy in their classrooms, researchers can review the work of their peers—these are just a few examples of how to use the library.

Click here to visit IDA’s FREE Digital Library.
DID YOU KNOW?
"Research repeatedly correlates family engagement with student achievement, yet this strategy is rarely activated as an integral part of school reform efforts. A 10% increase in parental participation (a form of social capital) would increase academic achievement far more than a 10% increase in school spending."
—Project Appleseed

PARENT SERVICES

SAVE THE DATE:
SARASOTA COUNTY VIRTUAL ESE AGENCY FAIR - APRIL 15, 2021
Save the date for the annual Sarasota County ESE Agency Fair! The event will occur online this year. Connect and learn about the many agencies and organizations providing resources, support, and assistance for students with disabilities.

CIRCUS SCIENCE ONLINE EVENT
February 25, 2020 - 5:00pm
Join Circus Arts Conservatory Teaching Artists as we create our own wall maze! This fun activity can be done alone or, better yet, as an engineering team! The materials suggested for this activity include heavy paper (card stock, greeting cards, heavy paper bags) scissors, marble and small tape (painters tape works the best so it won’t take paint off your walls). Click here to register!

NOCHE VIRTUAL DE APRENDIZAJE FAMILIAR
February 24, 2021 - 6:00pm
Artworks Anywhere Family Night lets you learn and play together through the arts! Professional teaching artists will show you how to support literacy at home via ZOOM. Activities will celebrate Black History Month and the themes of identity and diversity. Pilse aqui para registrarse!

EMBRACING OUR DIFFERENCES READING DAY
March 2, 2021 - 6:30pm
The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading is once again partnering with Embracing Our Differences for Embracing Our Differences Reading Day. This event is for families with children grades PK-3, featuring popular poet, Cedric Hameed. Guests will explore their creativity with an interactive art project and all attendees will receive a free copy of the book. Click here to register.
STAY POSITIVE: Trust that with faith and an optimistic attitude all things are positive.
TAKE A DAILY THANK YOU WALK: You can’t be stressed and thankful at the same time.
EAT HEALTHIER FOODS that grow on trees and plants and less manufactured foods.
TALK TO YOURSELF: Talk to yourself with words of truth and encouragement.
NO ENERGY VAMPIRES ALLOWED: Gandhi said, “I will not let anyone walk through my mind with dirty feet.”
BE A POSITIVE TEAM MEMBER: Being positive doesn’t just make you better, it makes everyone around you better.
DON’T CHASE SUCCESS: Decide to make a difference and success with find you.
GET MORE SLEEP: You can’t replace sleep with a latte!
DON’T WASTE YOUR ENERGY: Don’t waste your energy on gossip, issues of the past, negative thoughts, and things you cannot control.
LOVE, SERVE & CARE: You don’t have to be great to serve but you have to serve to be great.
REMEMBER YOUR WHY: Remember why you do what you do.

- LOVE THE PROCESS: Remember that there is no such thing as an overnight success.
- HAVE TRUST: Trust that everything happens for a reason and expect good things to come out of challenging experiences.
- NO COMPLAINING RULE: If you’re complaining, you’re not leading.
- READ MORE: Read more books than you did in 2020.
- DON’T SEEK HAPPINESS: Instead live with love, passion and purpose and happiness will find you.
- FOCUS ON “GET TO”: Focus each day on what you get to do, not what you have to do. Life is a gift, not an obligation.
- GET BACK UP: Every “fail” is not meant to define you, but refine you.
- SMILE & LAUGH MORE: These are natural anti-depressants.
- BOOST YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM: Eat wild salmon, turmeric, and blueberries. Don’t forget to take you vitamin C, D, and zinc.
- ENJOY THE RIDE: You only have one ride through life, so make the most of it and enjoy it!

IMPROVING & ENHANCING EXECUTIVE FUNCTION

Gain a better understanding of executive functioning difficulties, as well as teaching strategies and tools that can be used in the classroom to improve executive functioning skills.

MARCH 9, 2021
5:00-7:00PM
Sarasota PD Section #8584
Manatee & Charlotte
Click Here to Register

21 TIPS FOR A POSITIVE 2021
READ THE FULL LIST AT JONGORDON.COM/21TIPS

FOLLOW US & DISCOVER MORE!

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instagram.com/fdlrssuncoast/