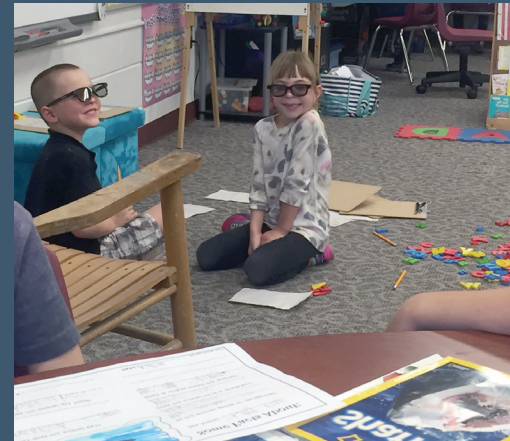




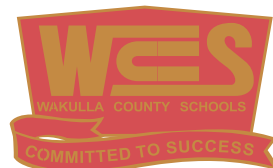
Wakulla County 2016-2017 Superintendent's Report





WAKULLA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

69 ARRAN ROAD
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CRAWFORDVILLE, FLORIDA 32326
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ROBERT PEARCE
SUPERINTENDENT

VERNA BROCK
DISTRICT I

MELISA TAYLOR
DISTRICT II

BECKY COOK
DISTRICT III

GREG THOMAS
DISTRICT IV

JO ANN DANIELS
DISTRICT V

Dear Citizens of Wakulla County:

I hope you enjoy this year's issue of the Superintendent's Report, which provides a portrait of the activities and achievements of our students, faculties and staffs during the 2016-2017 school year.

The 2016-2017 school year began with each school being visited by educational professionals from across the country who assessed that the Wakulla County School District earned another 5 years of accreditation. Accreditation is very important to school districts so that there is evidence of quality education from pre-kindergarten through grade 12 and that high school diplomas are accepted by the military, job sites, colleges and universities.

In addition, Wakulla County public schools earned a District grade of "A" from the Florida Department of Education, one of only 11 districts out of the state's 67 school districts to do so. Wakulla ranked #3 in Florida based on state assessments students took in grades 3 through 10 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. In addition, several grades were also assessed on Science and Social Studies. Wakulla's third grade scores showed increased reading proficiency and ranked 11th in the state. Wakulla High had the number one ranked scores for the Algebra 2 state exam. Other factors in the District "A" grade designation included Graduation Rate and Industry Certifications earned.

Wakulla High School earned a national Silver Medal rating from the U.S. News and World Report criteria, ranking in the top 12% in the country for all public high schools. Furthermore, 9 students graduated from WHS in 2017 having already earned their two year Associate of Arts degree from Tallahassee Community College under the high school dual enrollment program that is of no college tuition cost to parents. Students at Wakulla Middle, Riversprings Middle and Wakulla High also combined to earn 533 Industry Certifications in such Career and Technical programs as the Medical and Engineering Academies, Business Education, and the new Welding program.

Creativity abounded with eight elementary, middle, and high school Odyssey of the Mind problem-solving teams qualifying at Regionals to attend the State Odyssey of the Mind competition. Wakulla High Team A went on to be the first Wakulla team ever to qualify for World Finals at Michigan State and competed in May 2017, making friends from across the globe.

The Wakulla County School System continues to try and capture every student's interest by having competitive sports teams; the annual Celebration of the Arts with student music, art, dance, and drama on display; the annual Black History Month festivities; academic competitions; technical training; and more. Our belief is that if students have a reason to attend school, it gives us the chance to engage them in all areas of their education. Thank you for giving us the opportunity for another year to work with your children.

Sincerely,

Robert "Bobby" Pearce



ROBERT PEARCE
SUPERINTENDENT

VERNA BROCK
DISTRICT I

MELISA TAYLOR
DISTRICT II

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BECKY COOK
DISTRICT III

GREG THOMAS
DISTRICT IV

JO ANN DANIELS
DISTRICT V

Dear Citizens of Wakulla County:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve these past 17 years as a member of your School Board. I truly appreciate the trust you have placed in me to work for our children.

Our schools continue to perform extremely well academically, providing students with the knowledge and skills they need to become successful adults. At Wakulla High School our Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses continue to grow and provide employment ready skills to our students. Our high school students also outshine their peers statewide at being ready for the rigors of college. Overall, our district is consistently among the top districts in the state on test scores and school grades.

Your School Board is dedicated to providing outstanding academic programs for our students while also being a wise steward of taxpayer dollars. The greatest investment Wakulla County can make in its future is to provide a high quality education for its children today. We are truly fortunate to have so many fine people working to meet the educational needs and to assure the wellbeing of our children. With continued commitment from our students, parents, teachers and staff, and the support of our community, Wakulla County Schools will continue to be one of the top school districts in Florida.

On behalf of all of your School Board members, let me assure you we will not waver in our commitment to providing the highest quality education to the children of Wakulla County.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Greg Thomas".

Greg Thomas
Chairman

PURPOSE

A rigorous and appropriate education that results in success for all students

DIRECTION

Committed to Success for all students, teachers, staff, and our school system

CORE VALUES (governing our Way of Work)

We will always:

- Make decisions based on the best interest of the students.
- Behave in an ethical manner.
- Prepare students for productive citizenship.
- Be willing to try innovative research-based programs.
- Employ highly trained and dedicated individuals who can work effectively in their assigned positions.
- Treat each person with dignity and honor their right to be safe.
- Recognize the uniqueness and capability of each student.
- Set high expectations and embrace a challenging curriculum.
- Celebrate our cultural heritage and the diversity that enriches our lives.
- Embrace technology to engage students and enhance education.
- Work to involve our community and all stakeholders in the educational process.
- Teach and practice responsibility and service to others.
- Teach students to be accountable for their own actions.
- Focus on continuous improvement for student achievement and professional growth.

We will never:

- Compromise excellence.
- Give up on a student.
- Stop striving for excellence.

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR SCHOOLS!



The Wakulla County School District is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, which is an accreditation division of AdvancED.

DISTRICT STAFF

2016-2017

Robert Pearce
Superintendent

Randy Beach
Chief Finance Officer

Sunny Chancy
Chief Academic Officer

Karen Wells
Chief Human Capital Officer

Angela Walker
Principal on Special Assignment

Randy Bristol
Executive Director of Facilities & Maintenance

Tanya English
Executive Director of ESE & Student Services

Sue Anderson
Director of Special Programs & District Assessment

Timothy Stephens
Director of Technology Services

Jim Griner
Coordinator of Safety & Risk Management

Pat Jones
Coordinator of Transportation

Katherine Spivey
Coordinator of Curriculum

Dod Walker
Director of Adult, Athletic and Diversity
Recruitment Programs



CRAWFORDVILLE Elementary

"Submerged in Learning" was the theme for the 2016-2017 school year. Crawfordville Elementary welcomed back a dynamic group of skilled individuals and were fortunate to add new members to the already amazing staff. Five new teachers were added; Jessica McKenzie- Pichard, Jerdan Jackson, Brittany Langbauer, Susanne Slivensky and Leah White. Wanda Bonesteel, Sierra Davis, Amanda Sauls and Briceton Wilson joined the awesome team of paraprofessionals.

Crawfordville continued on its trek to involve parents in their child's education by providing numerous opportunities to attend activities during the day and evening that fostered parental involvement. Such events included our Annual Country Fair, BINGO for Books, Title I Annual Parent Night, Grand Luncheon, Grade Level Parent Nights, Awards Assemblies, Winter Holiday Program, "Bump Up" Night, and Science Night.

Belinda McElroy

Principal

In September our Cafeteria was filled with more than 200 dads, granddads, uncles, brothers, and other male role models in honor of Dad's Day. Dad's Day was our spinoff of Florida's initiative "Dads Take Your Child To School Day" designed to highlight the significant difference dads and other male role models can make by taking a more active role in their children's educational experience and providing an opportunity for dads to engage more fully in their child's education and strengthen the connections between dads and the school.

The Annual Chili Cook-Off was as "HOT" as ever with entertainment from Rockchoppy and more than 20 different types of chili. The Wakulla County Sheriff's Office, received the "Best Traditional Chili" award with their "10/8" chili, while the first grade team won "Best Non-Traditional Chili" award with their "White Chicken Chili". Brandi and Dusty Long took home the gold in the "Spicy but Pleasing" category with "Yankee Chili" while our office staff won awards for "Presentation" with "Spice Girls" and "People's Choice" went to the



third grade team's "Barnyard Chicken Chili". Proceeds from this event were used to provide two \$500.00 scholarships to Wakulla High School graduating seniors.

Throughout the year our students were involved in the learning process through a variety of special activities. Students participated in the Spelling Bee, Odyssey of the Mind, the Writing Bowl, Brain Brawl, Student Council, Jr. Garden Club, Fire Prevention Day, SAVE, Project Learning Tree (PLT), Cougar Cadets, Dr. Seuss Day, and Read Across America Day. Our second Annual Battle of the Books was also a huge success. Teams of parents, teachers, and students "battled" it out while recalling information from books read throughout the school year. During Red Ribbon Week, which is a nationally recognized week that focuses on healthy lifestyles, good choices, and saying no to drugs, students took part in daily activities with the most popular being the themed dress up days. During the month of September, Crawfordville and all other Wakulla County Schools joined together to raise money to support our senior citizens. Each week students donated change to participate in fun activities such as wearing a hat, wearing pajamas, indulging in a delicious snow cone, and enjoying popcorn and a movie. Teachers also supported the cause by paying to "dress down" each week. Donations topped \$1,000.00 and students learned the importance of giving back to the community and looking out for the elderly.

During the course of the school year teachers were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the school and teaching profession. Elena Myhre was our November 2016 Teacher of the Month and Sherry Parks was our March 2017 Teacher of the Month. In December, Elena Myhre was recognized again, she was selected by her peers as Teacher of the Year!



Kimberly Dutton
Principal

MEDART Elementary

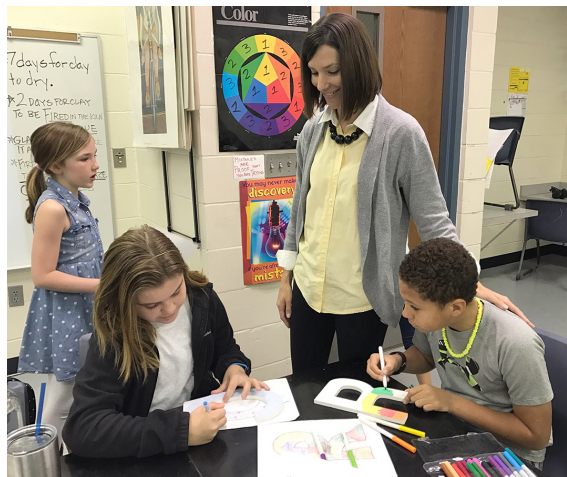
Medart Elementary School had another great year in 2016-17. Students were given many opportunities to learn to be leaders in our school and to use those skills both at home and in school. Mustang students chose to be in one or two school clubs that helped them to become competent in teamwork and leadership. There were 15 clubs that were service oriented, such as the Greeter Leader Club that officially greeted any special guests to our school, or our Recycle Club in which students learned the value of keeping our environment cleaner and safer by recycling. Our Teacher of the Year was Ms. Lauren Baker. She says, "I try to create a classroom environment where students feel safe, confident, and have a desire to participate in learning. Although planning and preparation are essential to learning, I believe I must be flexible enough to seize a teachable opportunity when it arises, whether through lecture, hands-on participation, laughter, or even in song." Our Mustang Teacher of the Month for February was Ms. Amy Anderson.

Medart Elementary School, coached by fifth grade teacher Kendall Watson, qualified for the State competition in the worldwide program "Odyssey of the Mind". They advanced to State with excellent scores from the Regional competition in Crestview, Florida on February 25, 2017. The team selected the category of Performance with writing, producing, and acting. Their original play was put on by students Peter Arbogast, Matthew Ayotte, Maverick Stubbs, Zhaniya Reed, Parker Lawhon, and Kane Tucker. They ranked in first

place for their division in that category. Our Odyssey of the Mind team also did a great job of representing our school and community at the State Competition in Orlando.

Medart Design Leaders Club partnered with the Wakulla Welcome Center in Panacea to paint 30 animals from our community environment that will be permanently displayed at the Welcome Center. This is a result of our Mustangs understanding that we are always seeking ways to give back to our community.

Mustang student Emma Dykes was featured on the front page of the Wakulla Neighbor newspaper for her idea about having a Friendship Bench installed on the playground. "I saw a few kids on the playground, and they didn't have any friends, so I wanted to find a way for them



to let people know 'I want a friend'", states Emma. When she read an article on the Friendship Bench phenomenon, she thought it would be a good idea for the school. Emma wrote a proposal and presented it to Principal Kim Dutton, who approved the idea. The bench is made of concrete and the decoration design was made by Emma Dykes, Abigail Lawhon, McKenzie Anderson, Ben McMillan and Riley Carraway. Now, if a student needs a friend on the playground, they just sit on the bench and others will come sit with them or invite them to play with them.

Our Veterans Day Program was enjoyed by our students as well as family members. Randy Anderson (former Medart Principal) sang the songs of the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and the Marines. He was accompanied by Jerry Evans (former School Board Member) on the piano and current Assistant Principal, Mike Crouch on the snare drum. Ms. Dutton read the names, branch of service and the service accomplishments of many of our local Veterans.

In December, our new music teacher, Jerdan Jackson, led our students in our Winter Musical entitled, "40 Winks 'til Christmas" and other musical selections of various Holiday Traditions. The audience showed their appreciation for the students and for Mr. Jackson's debut as our music teacher by giving them a great round of applause at the conclusion of the evening.

All 520 students, faculty, and staff of Medart Elementary School celebrated National Heart Health Day on February 3rd by forming a giant heart in front of the school. The picture was taken by Medart Elementary Alumnus Lincoln Porter using his drone. This was a first for Medart Elementary and all the students were very excited to see the drone flying above them. Students studied ways of healthy living and joined the "Wear Red" campaign to support heart health.



Simeon Nelson
Principal

RIVERSINK Elementary

Riversink Elementary School (RES) had another Otterrific year! Our students, parents, staff and teachers worked even harder this year and raised our Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) scores. We also celebrated the recognition of three of our teachers, by their peers, as Teachers of the Month or in one case, Teacher of the Year. One of our students was recognized for her outstanding speech and one of our 4th grade classes tied Art and Social Studies together in a wonderful project for all to enjoy.

District wide, the third graders raised the bar with their scores on the FSA by ranking 2nd in the region, 5th in the Panhandle, and 11th in the state overall. Our 3rd graders scored the highest in our district with 77% proficiency in English Language Arts (ELA)! Even though as a school RES missed scoring an "A" by 1 percentage point, we were again rated as a Highly Effective school by the State of Florida, and the Wakulla County School District scored an "A"!

Two of our teachers, Ms. Cassie Burnham and Mrs. Molly Jones were voted Teacher of the Month, during different months of the school year. Ms. Burnham is currently teaching fourth-grade, the KAGAN coach for RES, and a past Reading Coach for our district. She stated, "It is such an honor to be individually recognized when you work with such a talented group of teachers and administrators". Mrs. Jones is currently a third-grade teacher but has previously taught 2nd grade at RES. Mrs. Jones states, "I believe, as Plutarch stated, "A child's mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled". Her student's FSA scores are always high and she has not had a student score a level 1 in ELA or Math in two years. Mrs. Melissa Martin was voted Teacher of the Year, by her peers at RES. She is currently teaching 5th grade but came up from the 3rd grade. Mrs. Martin believes, "that every child can learn and achieve great success". Ninety-five percent of her students were proficient in math on the FSA and 84% of her students were proficient on the Science FCAT this year. Mr. Nelson says, "These teachers are fine examples of the staff at RES".



Riversink had the first-place winner of the 4-H Tropicana Speech Contest, Taylor Thorne. Taylor stirred profound emotions in everyone with her speech about the Holocaust. She not only won at our school, she went on to win the district and regional contests, too. Way to go, Taylor!

Ms. Brooks and Ms. Small combined forces this year on a project for Riversink Elementary for all to view and appreciate. The students took their creative art journey one step further while celebrating Black History Month in February. During this incredible month, students collaborated on the design of a grid portrait composition. The multiple grid portraits highlight the amazing Jackie Robinson and Nelson Mandela. This art project demonstrates the strong collaboration of how Visual Art and Social Studies can help students increase their knowledge while having fun at the same time.

Riversink looks forward to another fantastic year as we celebrate our 10-year Otterriversary next year!



Susan Brazier
Principal

SHADEVILLE Elementary

Always attentive to our school's vision, mission, and core belief that "every child is a unique individual and, therefore, has the right to learn at his or her own developmental level in a child-centered environment" the faculty and staff of Shadeville Elementary continue to be committed to success for all of our students. We share a common desire for excellence that guides our students to a high level of academic achievement, prepares them to live in a rapidly changing technological world, is mindful of our students' physical well-being, and develops responsible, healthy citizens who are able to enter our sometimes volatile society and create fulfilling futures.

Maintaining a strong focus on achieving the goals outlined in our school improvement plan, teaching the Florida Standards through the implementation of Wakulla County School's curriculum in a child-centered and creative environment, implementation of Kagan cooperative learning strategies to increase student learning and engagement, as well as hard work and continued dedication by all of our stakeholders all culminated in a tremendously successful 2016-2017 school year. Shadeville's students made their teachers and parents proud by achieving an "A" designation by the Florida Department of Education.

During the 2016-2017 school year, school faculty honored first grade teacher Ms. Lauralee Mitchell by choosing her to represent Shadeville as our Teacher of the Year. Ms. Mitchell also went on to be chosen as Wakulla County's Teacher of the Year. Two of Shadeville's stellar fifth grade teachers were chosen as "Teacher of the Month." Ms.

Kerry Adams was honored in September, and Ms. Suzie McCord was the recipient of the designation in January.

Read, read, and keep on reading! We believe that reading is the cornerstone of a high quality education, and throughout the year our teachers kept a close watch on each child's reading progress through Discovery Education Assessments and Renaissance Learning – STAR reports. Our students participated in the following activities designed to enhance their skills and love of reading: the grade level goal/million word T-shirt program, two Scholastic Book Fairs, a Title I sponsored Kay Brynes Storyteller event, "book buddies," accessing on-line books in the library, computer lab, and classrooms, and participating in lesson incorporating "Time for Kids" which was purchased for every student. The Accelerated Reader program continued school-wide, and each semester the "AR Store" was open for students to spend the points they had earned while reading. Our numerous "Million Word" readers were rewarded for their efforts at the end of the year by attending the wildly popular "Million Word



Fiesta" that was organized by Mrs. Suzie McCord and a host of our terrific parent volunteers.

Our students had many opportunities to shine during the school year through the annual 5th grade Brain Brawl and the 4th/5th grade Spelling Bee competitions. For the first time, Shadeville fielded a primary Odyssey of the Mind team consisting of 1st and 2nd grade students which was led by Ms. Amy Seidler. Students were able to share their many talents and accomplishments during the Holidays Around the World PTO Night, Kindergarten Circus, Orff Band performances, Athletic Field Day, Special Olympics, and Student Leadership Council sponsored events. The Shadeville faculty continued to emphasize science education during the 2016-2017 school year through hands-on lessons in the classrooms, field trips to Wakulla Springs and Marianna Caverns, web-based instruction using "United Streaming" and "Brain Pop", and the annual "Project Learning Tree" extravaganza. The PLT week's activities were coordinated by chairman, Ms. Michelle Hunter, and her team of science-loving teachers and staff members.

Once again we were blessed by the many parents, family, and community members who work with us each year. Perennial community favorite, the Fall Festival, was once again a huge success. Funds raised from the festival are used for a variety of instructional projects. Many thanks to the enthusiastic CVFD volunteer fire fighters and Wakulla Fire who took time out of their busy schedules to educate our primary students about fire safety during Fire Prevention Week. We would also like to say "thank you" to our volunteers who assist in classrooms, at the book fairs, PBS and Million Word celebrations, as well as our AR store volunteers who continuously share their time and talents at our school ensuring our students get the help and hugs they need to succeed. You just never know how or when you might positively influence the life of a child.

The educational journey of Shadeville's students, faculty, staff, and administration during the 2016-2017 school year was an exciting, and sometimes challenging, time all built on a commitment to excellence, an understanding of child development, and a belief that teamwork makes the Warriors dream work for everyone.



Michelle Yeomans
Principal

RIVERSPRINGS Middle

Riversprings Middle School started the year off welcoming parents not only at their annual Open House, but also hosting a Parent Night, which served as an educational forum for parents on such topics as AVID, online textbooks, and FOCUS. More than 800 parents and students attended, making the night a huge success.

Riversprings Middle School was one of two schools in the district and 16 schools in the state to earn an Asthma-Friendly School Award for the 2015-2016 school year. An Asthma-Friendly School provides asthma education and health services for students with asthma, as well as their family and friends. Riversprings Middle School was also chosen as the meeting site for AVID District Directors from across the United States. Students and teachers were observed by AVID District Directors from Arizona, North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida as part of a leadership training on November 3, 2016. It was the first time that the training has taken place in this part of Florida.

Anne Thurmond represented Riversprings as our Teacher of the Year. She has bachelor's degrees in Elementary Education and ESE grades kindergarten through 12, and a master's degree in Reading and Language Arts Education. She has been teaching for sixteen years. Currently she is teaching English Language Arts, math, science, history and Learning Strategies to sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students in ESE classes.

The RMS Academic Team, led by coaches Bill Taylor and Trey Thaxton, once again took first place in the county and won the county Brain Brawl for the ninth consecutive year. The Academic Team traveled to Dallas, Texas, in May, to compete in the NAQT Middle School National Championship.

The RMS Odyssey of the Mind Teams A and B both placed at the regional level, and went on to compete in the state tournament. Team A also won the Ranatra Fusca Creativity Award, presented to the team that demonstrates tremendous creativity and risk-taking. It is the highest



award given. The teams were coached by Laura Hume, Jessie Yarbrough, James Daniels, and Stan Ward.

Riversprings Middle School continued to reward students for reading excellence. This year, Mrs. Yeomans took almost 50 students to Skyzone to celebrate having read 15 or more books from the RMS Reads list. Gabriella Jacobs read more than 8 million words, the highest in the school.

The RMS Band received an "excellent" rating at District MPA. Nine students qualified for the Big Bend All-District Honor Band. The RMS Band, as well as the Jazz Band, were involved in multiple community performances including the Christmas Parade in Panacea, the Festival of the Arts Concert, and the Blue Crab Parade, as well as attending all home RMS football games.

Sixth grade student Maddalyn Gouker placed first in the district Tropicana Speech competition, and eighth grade student Cole Baggett placed first in the district Optimist Club Oratorical competition. The RMS Theatre Troupe performed their play titled, "The Boy Who Cried Werewolf." They also put on another successful Talent Show at the end of the school year. Eighth grade student Glen Smith won several art accolades, including the Wakulla Springs Wildlife Festival art competition, middle school division. Her art also represents the state of Florida on a national calendar promoting cybersafety. Seventh grader Conor Bassham won the International Peace Poster Contest for our school.

RMS athletes excelled both on and off the field. In addition to maintaining their reading, student athletes won County Championships in wrestling, baseball, and girls basketball.



Tolar Griffin
Principal

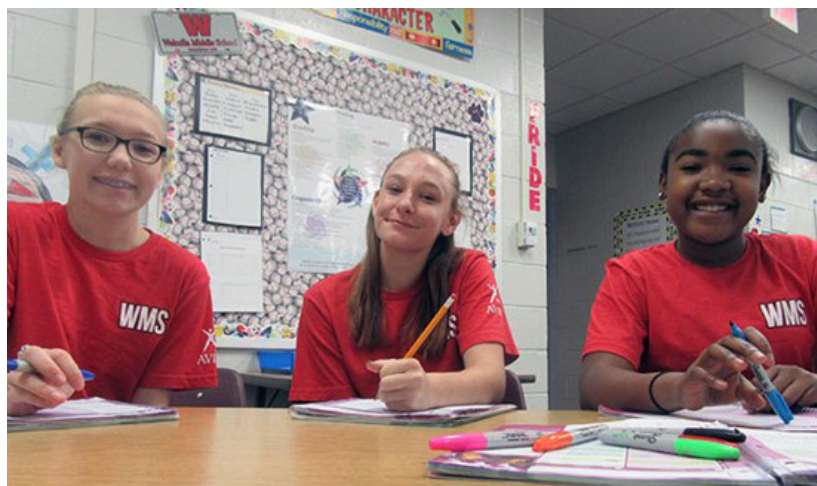
WAKULLA Middle

Wakulla Middle School had a tremendous year of growth and opportunity for our students. Through our partnerships with family and community, academic achievement improved, additional electives were offered and extra-curricular activities were made available. Our goal of serving the whole child was met and for that we are extremely proud. Leading these advancements was our administrative team of Tolar Griffin and Amy Bryan.

Wakulla Middle School had a banner year in the area of assessment based on the Florida Department of Education assessment results. Overall, we increased our school grade by two points. We were above the state average in 6th and 7th grade ELA and Math. Our Algebra I, Geometry and Civics scores also exceeded the state average. Solomon Ortiz states "Education is the key to success in life, and teachers make a lasting impact in the lives of their students." At Wakulla Middle, our teachers are making significant positive impacts on our students. This success reflects our commitment to the AVID program throughout our school, in all classes. AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination and is a program that helps middle level students gain the necessary skills to be successful in advanced placement courses and eventually college. We also implemented KAGAN school wide and provided training for multiple teachers.

Wildcat reading has always been a top priority at Wakulla Middle. This was Mrs. Thomas, our school librarian's, last year in the library due to retirement but that didn't hold her back from encouraging students to crack the books! We had over 150 million word readers and 20 students that read all 11 Sunshine State Readers. We congratulated Tyler Lowe for being the school's top reader with over 7 million words read. Tyler and all of our million word readers received a t-shirt and were members in the end of year water balloon battle.

Academic achievement continues to be celebrated on the Wakulla Middle School campus. The 2016-2017 end of year award ceremony was another celebratory event for our students and families. The 8th Grade Honor Court included Elizabeth Barwick, Dara Galloway, Marina Harvey,



Sadie Hobby, Molly Jones, Wesley Jordan, Gracie Lawhon, Melanie Oglesby, Jackson Osteen and Michael Wallace. Our highest grade point average went to Laureate Sadie Hobby and Oracle Gracie Lawhon. Through our continued partnership with the Wakulla Academic Booster Club, Head Start Scholarships were given to Wesley Jordan, Hayden Good, Justin Kilpatrick, Ansley Dull and Valerie Harden. In addition, Seed Pearl awards were given to Cameron Abbott and Ashley Parramore. The Principal Award of Excellence was given to Kaitlyn Damron and Sean Glenn. Our school also is home to the district level spelling bee winner, Logan Gregory.

Part of being a well rounded Wildcat is participating in after school activities. At Wakulla Middle, we continually look for ways to involve every student. This year Coach Jessica Deneen added the first middle school cross country track program to Wakulla County. Our football team took home the county championship but lost its first game in three years at the district level. Coach Sara Lovestrand led our volleyball team to a district championship. In addition, our girls' soccer team won the district championship. The WMS Odyssey of the Mind academic team made it to the state championships for the first time. Other clubs offered this year were chess club, newspaper, student council, yearbook, band, brain bowl, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, National Junior Honor Society and drama.

Recognizing staff is always a tradition that we honor at Wakulla Middle. This year Becky Thomas was honored as our Teacher of the Year. She is a remarkable teacher with over 37 years of classroom experience. Mrs. Thomas serves on several committees and has been our librarian for several years. Mrs. Thomas also celebrated her well-deserved retirement this year. We also recognized Melanie Rentz as our October Teacher of the Month and Laura Lawhon as our February Teacher of the Month. Other faculty honors included Employee of the Month for Mindy Silcox who is the Administrative Assistant to Mr. Griffin. Lastly, our campus received the honor of Most Improved Campus.



Michael Barwick
Principal

WAKULLA High

Thanks goes to our faculty, staff, and students for another outstanding school year at Wakulla High. Boasting over 1,400 students and 90 teachers, WHS is proud to be an A school because of their hard work and determination.

Wakulla High School students excelled in every subject tested on the 2017 state mandated assessments from the Florida Department of Education. In addition to scoring among the top-ten counties for most state-assessed areas, our students achieved the top award, number one in the state for our Algebra 2 scores. Combined 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students passed the Algebra 2 EOC exam at 89 percent versus the state average of 49 percent passing.

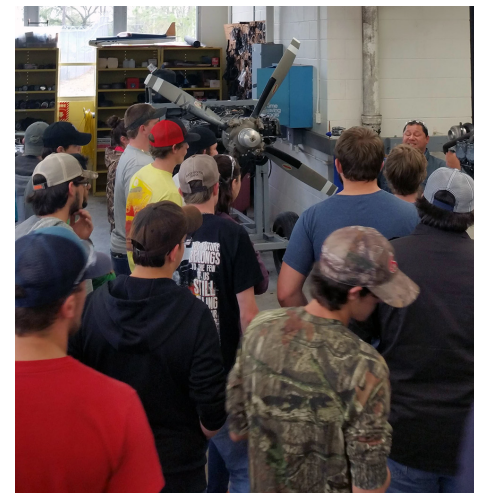
Wakulla High earned a Silver Medal rating in the 2017 rankings of all public high schools in 50 states, according to the U.S. News and World Report. The high school placed in the top 12 percent of public high schools in the country based on reading and math scores, minority and disadvantaged student success, AP enrollment, and graduation rate.

Our vocational programs are expanding and continue to excel with 533 WHS students earning industry certifications through Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses of study, the most in WHS history and 62 more than last year's 481. CTE Programs of Study offered by WHS, all with industry-accepted certifications, include the following: Medical Academy, Engineering Academy, Culinary Arts, Carpentry, TV Production, Automotive Maintenance, and Welding. Under the Business Education category, there are four programs: Digital Design, Business Management and Administration, Medical Administration Specialist, and Web Development. Lively Technical Center offers additional classes at no cost

while students are in high school, such as Aviation Maintenance Technology.

Wakulla High has dual-enrollment agreements with Tallahassee Community College, Lively Technical Center, and Florida State University. For the 2016-2017 school year, 131 Wakulla High Dual Enrollment students took over 300 college or technical school courses. Nine Wakulla High School seniors graduated with their AA (Associate of Arts) degrees through Florida's dual-enrollment program. Matthew Bowyer, Alexis Gardner, Shawna Gray, Emily Lawrence, Kaylee Meyers, Elijah Mullens, Kavita Samlal, Taylor Starling, and Dori Stringer completed the 60 hours of college credit needed for an AA degree.

Eight WHS 2017 graduating seniors earned full scholarships to Tallahassee Community College under the "Take Stock in Children" (TSIC) state program in partnership with the Florida Department of Education and the TCC Foundation. In addition, Wakulla educator Sue Hutchins was named the TSIC Mentor of the Year for Leon, Gadsden, and Wakulla Counties.



Senior Jason Patrick Paris was named a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist for demonstrating exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. Upcoming senior J. Daniel Sullivan III was honored as Wakulla School District's 2017 Sunshine State Scholar because of his outstanding academic record and his interest in math and science through the STEM program.

After advancing at the state finals, Wakulla High's Odyssey of the Mind Team A competed in the World Finals of the world's largest creative problem-solving competition at Michigan State University. Team A chose the technical category where they designed, built, and operated an original robot that demonstrated human characteristics when performing tasks. Team members are Nathan Cushard, Jake Greene, Zoie Hill, Ally Harden, Russell Fleming, Abigail Gray, and Jay Jacob. They are the first Wakulla team ever to attend World Finals and competed against 39 teams including those from Hong Kong, Singapore, Slovakia, Canada, India, Mexico, Poland and 19 different U.S. states; some states and countries had more than one team qualify for World Finals. WHS Team A placed 17th out of the 40 schools in their category.

The Wakulla High School Academic Team finished second at the State of Florida's Commissioner's Academic Challenge. Samuel Roddenberry, the team captain, was honored with a spot on Team Florida, a 6-member tournament all-star team, which comes with a \$1000 scholarship. This was Wakulla's second runner-up performance in the 32-year history of the tournament, and Roddenberry is the second Wakulla High School student to make Team Florida.

WHS students participated in many activities outside of the classroom. The WHS wrestling team and theatre department created its own first ever Haunted House with over 600 people attending. MADD hosted a Power of YouTH program to encourage our students to make good choices especially the night of prom. Homecoming celebrated Wakulla High's fifty-year anniversary. Our sports programs had 13 students receive college scholarships and the girls' weightlifting, softball, and golf teams all won districts. For the seventh time, the boys' wrestling team was district champs and, like girls' softball, regional runner-ups. Senior wrestler Jacob Marin placed first at state.

WHS competed in the Chorus Music Performance Assessment and our two choirs received ratings of superior in sight-reading. Armonia Bella received an excellent onstage and WHS Chorale received a superior onstage. Sally Green's pencil portrait of Mother Teresa won Best of Show in the 2016-17 Art Contest. Again, Wakulla High continues to excel because of our students and the commitment of teachers and staff.

WAKULLA ADULT & Community Ed



DOD WALKER

Director of Adult,
Athletic and Diversity
Recruitment Programs

During the course of the 2016-17 school year, the Adult Education Program continued to focus on three primary areas of Basic Education with GED Preparation, Adults with Disabilities and the Certified Nursing Assistant program. Wakulla Adult Education also continued the highly successful and popular Adult Night Welding Program. The spring semester had the largest class ever!

The Wakulla Adult Basic and GED Preparation programs served over 50 students last year. Mr. Don Franks taught math and science. Ms. Nancy Commander taught reading/language arts and social studies. This was the final year of Ms. Commander's teaching career as she has gone into retirement.

With the help of the Wakulla County School Board and the re-instatement of the Adults With Disabilities grant once again, the AWD program has out done itself. Our program has been very busy training "new employees" and we are now up to twelve students. Along the lines of training, the program directors Theresa Hernandez and Joanne Hernandez held training sessions on how to use a heat press, electric sanders, and basic computer skills. Students also went through a more extensive training regarding proper work place presentation for the Legacy Cafe, using the ServSafe guidelines. The Legacy Boutique items have been flying off the shelf! With a larger display at the Wakulla County Public Library and the increased online purchasing, the students have worked extremely hard this year. As a bonus the class was treated to lunch at the Seinyard. Towards the end of this year, we were approached by Debora Brown, and she asked if our students would like to participate in making cards to send to the participants of the Tallahassee Honor Flight. They jumped in to action and created close to fifty cards. The students were so inspired and began to write cards to our local military personnel. In total three different military units received cards this year. Wakulla County should be extremely proud of this program. The students

are gaining job skills, which several have turned into full time employment, while others continue to hone their skills.

The Wakulla Adult Education Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Program had a prosperous 2016-17 school year. The program graduated 8 students and included 130 hours of combined classroom and clinical instruction each semester. The clinical instruction takes place at Eden Springs, where students interact with, and assist in the care of residents. Many students currently work in Long Term Care and private duty settings.

The Adult Night Welding class remains very popular with 15 students participating in the spring semester of 2017. The class consists of men and women who wish to learn the basics of all types of welding or improve skill that they arrive with. This program is in partnership with Lively Technical Center and takes place on the campus of Wakulla High School in their modern welding facility.

Wakulla Adult Education is looking forward to a great 2017-18!



WAKULLA Preschool



LAURA KELLY
Principal

The Welcome Back Theme for the 2016 – 2017 school year at Wakulla Pre-K was "Rock'n with Success." Students enjoyed school-wide dress-up Fridays in September to support the Senior Citizens Center and again in October for Spirit Week. Students dressed each day focusing on a different theme. These themes included team sports day, 60's wear, character and rock star days. Sopchoppy Pre-K transitioned to its new home at Medart Elementary. Medart Pre-K students traveled north to the main campus at Wakulla Pre-K to participate in the annual Trunk or Treat. The Crawfordville Volunteer Firefighters and First Responder Emergency vehicles visited both campuses to promote fire safety and prevention during the month of October. Two very successful book fairs were held in September and April and also hosted Family Night events for each fair. The Grandparents Luncheon, which is sponsored by the Fall Book Fair allowed grandparents to eat lunch with their grandchildren and then visit the Book Fair.

Kristina Sanders was recognized as December, 2016 Teacher of the Month and Dana Carpenter represented Pre-K as the March, 2017 Employee of the Month. February's Family Fun Day proved to be a record breaking event by raising over \$16,000. Wakulla Pre-K is very fortunate to have great support from parent volunteers as well as the local business community who donated time, talent, goods, services or money to this annual event. Additional materials for the classroom and playground were purchased with profits from 2017 Family Fun Day. As 2016-2017 came to a close, it was indeed a year that was "Rock'n with Success."





COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

In 1991, the School Improvement and Accountability Act established School Advisory Councils in Florida comprised of parents, teachers, community members, school staff and students. The groups at each school work cooperatively to develop a School Improvement Plan every year for their schools. With increased standards and accountability for schools, students were assessed by the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA, including End of Course Exams). Students were also assessed by FCAT 2.0 Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) End of Course Exams. Along with survey information and other data, these test results pinpointed where a school needed to focus in order to help its students achieve for 2016-2017.

VOLUNTEERS LEND A HELPING HAND

Successful volunteer programs are critical to the vitality of the school system and the continued success of our students. Volunteers provide extra hands and loving hearts that assist and support our students, teachers, and staff throughout the district.

Volunteers are involved at every level of the educational process in Wakulla. Each year volunteers break new ground as they discover more ways to serve our students and build our community. During the 2016-2017 school year, over 1477 volunteers logged 17,996 hours in service to our schools. Also several of these volunteers serve as mentors to individual student. The time and effort of these dedicated volunteers served to sustain and enhance the academic achievement of all of our students.

Across the district, volunteers worked in classrooms and hallways helping individual or small groups of students with their studies. Some served by shelving books in media centers, assisting students in school clinics, speaking to classes, demonstrating career skills, mentoring students or helping with clerical tasks. Still other helped supervise field trips and participated in fund-raising events. The impact of these enthusiastic volunteers was immeasurable.

Our need for volunteers and mentors is ever present. If you are interested in volunteering or in becoming a mentor, please call a school, contact the district office or visit wakulla.schooldesk.net and click on Volunteer/Mentor at the top of the page to find ways that you can help.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SPONSORS

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

- TCC Peer Leadership Scholarship
- TCC Honors Program Scholarship (2)
- Tallahassee Southern Model United Nations Scholarship

COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

- Wakulla County Christian Coalition
- Maria Simmons-Johnson STEM Scholarship
- Alvin Hall Leadership and Achievement Scholarship
- The St. Marks Powder College Scholarship Award (2)
- Rotary Club of Wakulla Interact Scholarships
- William Versiga Rotary Distinguished Citizen Scholarship
- Rotary Service Scholarship (2)
- Education Enrichment Council Scholarship
- Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce Scholarship
- National Honor Society Scholarship
- Wakulla Recreation Booster Board Scholarship (3)
- Rufus Williams Memorial Scholarship
- Crawfordville Elementary Scholarship
- Riversprings Middle Scholarship
- Crawfordville Woman's Club Scholarship

WAKULLA ACADEMIC BOOSTERS SCHOLARSHIPS

- Henry Vause Vocational Scholarship (4)
- Guy H. Hudson Scholarship
- Grady F. McKenzie Scholarship
- G. F. McKenzie Vocational Scholarship
- McKenzie Star Scholarship
- Frank Snyder Memorial Scholarship
- Wakulla Men's Association Scholarship
- Wildwood Men's Golf Scholarship
- Keiser Memorial Scholarship
- Gilbert Memorial Scholarship
- Distler Golf Scholarship
- Anita Townsend Nursing Scholarship
- C. L. Townsend Vocational Scholarship
- Bonner Vocational Scholarship
- Brann Vocational Scholarship
- Paul DuBay Memorial
- Alexander/Pearce Memorial Scholarship
- Wakulla County Elected Officials Scholarship
- Veasman Star Scholarship
- Optimist Club Star Scholarship
- W. C. Dodson Scholarship
- Koelliker Memorial Scholarship
- Roger Stokley Memorial Scholarship
- Don White Memorial Scholarship

WCABA HEADSTART SCHOLARSHIPS - 10

- Walter C. Dodson
- B. K. Roberts
- Harry Morrison
- Mary L. Roberts
- Robert G. Carter
- Pat Nobles
- St. Marks Powder
- Wakulla Men's Association
- Coastal Optimist Club
- Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce
- Optimist Club Annual Scholarship
- Noah & Mildred Posey Optimist Annual Scholarship

WAB ANNUAL CONTRIBUTORS' SCHOLARSHIPS

- Elsie Schulte Annual Scholarship
- Pee Wee Vause Annual Scholarship
- Wakulla County Realtors Association Scholarship
- Wakulla Academic Boosters
- Wakulla Men's Association Annual Scholarship

COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS CONT.

- Keys To Exceptional Youth Success
- FASFEPA Scholarship
- Joshua Douin Theatre Scholarship
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Scholarship
- Wakulla High Visual Art Scholarship
- Wakulla High Music Scholarship
- Trustee Scholarship: Southeastern University

GENERAL INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE

Florida school law requires each parent of a child from six to sixteen years of age to be responsible for the child's school attendance. The law allows absences for illness and certain other special circumstances. During the 2016-2017 school year, average student attendance was 90.79 percent district wide.

Every effort is made by the schools to encourage student attendance. Incentives for attendance include special activities and awards. It is the responsibility of the parents to notify the school when their child will not be in attendance.

INSTRUCTIONAL AND NON-INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF COUNT FOR DISTRICT

	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Administrative	26	25	26	28	28	30
Certified Employees, Instructional	346	344	346	357	348	342
Paraprofessionals	96	90	90	96	90	90
Clerical/Secretarial	52	52	51	53	53	53
Service Workers	138	138	138	136	139	140
Other Professional	4	10	11	11	11	17
Total Full Time	662	659	662	681	669	693

NON DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The School Board of Wakulla County, Florida does not discriminate in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, marital status, disability, genetic information for applicants and employees, or any other reason prohibited by Federal and State law regarding non-discrimination. See 34 C.F.R. 100.6(d); 34 C.F.R. 106.9; 34 C.F.R. 110.25.

In addition, the School Board provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. See 34 C.F.R. 108.9.

Disabled individuals needing reasonable accommodations to participate in and enjoy the benefits of services, programs, and activities of the School Board are required in advance to notify the administrator at the school/center at which the event or service is offered to request reasonable accommodation.

The lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to any opportunity or event associated with Wakulla County Schools.

The designated Equity Coordinator, Title IX and Section 504 Compliance Coordinator as required by 34 C.F.R. 100.6(d) is Angie Walker, Executive Director of Human Resources, 69 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327; 850.926.0065; angela.walker@wcsb.us.

SCHOOL/PROGRAM ENROLLMENT FOR DISTRICT

	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Crawfordville Elementary	595	562	569	612	554	553
Riversink Elementary	446	456	475	460	462	482
Shadeville Elementary	674	607	583	580	559	576
Medart Elementary	546	510	498	502	479	517
Riversprings Middle School	548	558	566	499	497	507
Wakulla Middle School	585	600	603	568	605	588
Wakulla High School	1176	1229	1221	1300	1370	1412
District Drop-Out Prevention Prog.	53	32	62	45	36	48
District Pre-K Program	297	310	317	389	384	321
Total	4920	4864	4894	4910	4946	5004



SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

To facilitate inclusion of all students, Wakulla County School District rolled out two new programs in Exceptional Student Education. The Wings Program at Wakulla High paired students with disabilities with peer mentors, who received credit for providing assistance in general education classes. Training and materials were provided for the mentors through a partnership with Florida Inclusion Network, (FIN) and feedback from both groups of students was very positive. Another new program was focused on the development of transition skills for students with disabilities who deferred their high school diplomas. The Post Graduate program was on the Wakulla Institute campus, and students focused on developing work skills and independent living.

STUDENT SERVICES

Partnering with community agencies such as Capital City Youth Services (CCYS), Disc Village, Camelot and Apalachee Mental Health and Florida State University Multidisciplinary Center to provide mental health services for all students was a priority. Through collaboration, these services were available both inside and outside the school day. In addition, Wakulla County Health Department, and the Wakulla County Sheriff's Department provided support through educational programs on identifying risky behaviors and making positive choices. Training was provided to school counselors and deans of student services on a monthly basis on topics such as suicide prevention, identifying students in crisis, human trafficking, trauma informed care, social media and applications that could lead to risky behaviors.

HEALTH SERVICES

Through a partnership with Sodexo, the Wakulla County School District applied for the Healthier Schools United States Challenge, which encouraged healthy eating, wellness and physical activity. Wellness Coaches at each school lead the charge by sharing healthy recipes; organizing and participating in local and virtual runs; providing health fairs with guest speakers; encouraging school staff to participate in after school fitness classes and having playground "dance offs". The Wakulla County Health Department continued to provide support in clinics with health aides and nurses, and provided dental care, Zika prevention and flu shot clinics at the school sites.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

With a growing emphasis on the need for an educated workforce in all areas, the tie-in of academic skills needed on the job continued. Elementary students explored career awareness through school-based enterprises, guest speakers, career days, and field trips. Middle school students participated in career exploration and interest inventories through guidance and had more extensive career days. Career and Technical Education program completers in the 12th grade worked at jobs in the areas for which they were trained, earning high school and also college credits. Career and Technical Education programs included Accounting, Culinary Arts, Web Design, Carpentry, Digital Design, TV Production, health care through the Wakulla High School Medical Academy, the Engineering Academy, Automotive Technology and our Welding partnership with Lively Technical Center. Those programs helped students earn over 600 industry certifications grades 8 through 12 for 2016-2017. Exceptional Education students had a comprehensive career preparation curriculum with all special diploma students receiving on-the-job training.

DROP OUT PREVENTION

During the school year, the school district continued to operate prevention programs for students at risk of dropping out of school. The Early Head Start Program provided pregnant teens and teen parents with childcare to help them stay in school. The intervention program at Wakulla Institute gave students in grades 6-12 an alternative to suspension and/or expulsion and helped students with a Credit Recovery program to earn back failed classes. In addition, an alternative high school setting let students who fell behind their peers earn a regular diploma on time through the Performance-Based Exit Option Diploma program.

GUIDANCE/PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

A contract with Florida State University Multidisciplinary Center provided psychology interns and counseling services to all schools. Interns completing post-doctoral experiences assisted schools with intervention plans and evaluations for autism, learning disabilities and emotional/behavioral disorders under the supervision of two psychologists. School counselors and deans provided group and individual support in the areas of social skill development; conflict resolution; career education; making positive choices and referrals to other agencies for mental health counseling.

TITLE I

Title I is a federally funded program designed to provide supplemental services to improve the achievement at schools with a high percentage of students eligible for free and reduced lunches. Title I initiatives are closely aligned with School Improvement Plans. In 2016-2017 instructional equipment and materials were purchased to motivate students and provide opportunities for students to learn through the use of technology.

Title I recognized the importance of parental involvement and provided opportunities for parents to participate in school activities. This program also provided opportunities for teachers and paraprofessionals to participate in research-based staff development activities based on the needs of the students.

TESTING

Testing/evaluation is an important aspect of the students' academic program in the Wakulla County School System. It provides administrators, teachers, and parents an opportunity to assess how the students compare to other students in Florida and the nation. The results are used to revise curriculum to better meet the needs of the students.

FLORIDA STANDARDS ASSESSMENT TEST (FSA)

The Florida Standards in Mathematics and English Language Arts were approved by the Florida State Board of Education in February 2014 and were implemented in grades K-12 in the 2016-2017 school year. The Florida Standards Assessments include; grades 3-10 English Language Arts (Writing component in grades 4-10), grades 3 -8 Mathematics, and Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry end-of-course-exams (EOC).

	ELA		MATH		SCIENCE	
PERCENT SCORING PROFICIENT	WAKULLA	STATE	WAKULLA	STATE	WAKULLA	STATE
Grade 3	64	58	59	62		
Grade 4	57	56	62	64		
Grade 5	58	53	69	57	60	51
Grade 6	58	52	63	51		
Grade 7	60	52	61	53		
Grade 8	55	55	35	46	47	48
Grade 9	62	52				
Grade 10	56	50				

END-OF-COURSE-EXAMS (EOC)

All students enrolled in an Algebra 1, Algebra II, Geometry, and Biology, US History, and Civics are required to take an assessment in the spring of each year. Students must score a Level 3 or above to be considered proficient on an EOC.

2017 NGSSS EOC ASSESSMENT

PERCENT SCORING PROFICIENT	WAKULLA	STATE
Biology 1	79	64
U.S. History	76	67
Civics	76	69

2017 FLORIDA STANDARDS ASSESSMENT EOC

PERCENT SCORING PROFICIENT	WAKULLA	STATE
Algebra 1	78	62
Algebra 2	89	49
Geometry	74	54

AMERICAN COLLEGE TEST 2016-2017

The American College Test (ACT) is one major test used for college admission.

	WAKULLA	STATE
English	20.4	18.9
Math	20.6	19.5
Reading	22.3	21.1
Science	20.9	19.5
Composite	21.2	19.9

2016 GRADUATION RATE

Wakulla High School: 89.3%
State: 80.7%