

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF VOLUSIA COUNTY
Community Information Services
Post Office Box 2118, DeLand, Florida 32721-2118
2024-25 School Calendar

Make-up days for inclement weather include November 25 and November 26.

August 6 (Tuesday)	Preplanning Begins – Teachers Report
August 12 (Monday).....	First Day of School for Students
September 2 (Monday)	Labor Day Holiday
September 20 (Friday)	Professional Development Day/Student Holiday
October 14 (Monday).....	Teacher Duty Day/Student Holiday
November 11 (Monday)	Veterans Day Holiday
November 25 (Monday)	Thanksgiving Holiday Begins
<i>***November 25 and 26 will be used as makeup days for inclement weather if needed***</i>	
December 2 (Monday)	Classes Resume
December 23 (Monday)	Winter Holiday Begins
January 6 (Monday).....	Teacher Duty Day/Student Holiday
January 7 (Tuesday)	Classes Resume
January 20 (Monday)	Martin Luther King's Birthday Holiday
February 17 (Monday)	President's Day Holiday
March 14 (Friday)	Teacher Duty Day/Student Holiday
March 17 (Monday).....	Spring Holiday Begins
March 24 (Monday).....	Classes Resume
May 26 (Monday).....	Memorial Day Holiday
May 28 (Wednesday).....	Last Day of School for Students
May 30 (Friday).....	Last Day of School for Teachers



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Volusia County School Board and Superintendent



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District 1

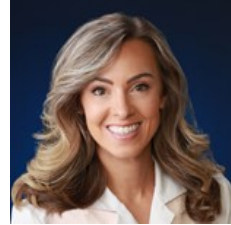
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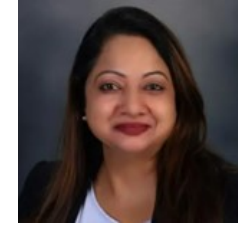
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DR. CARMEN BALGOBIN

Superintendent

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School Board Meetings

School Board meetings are open to the public and generally held the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 4:30 p.m. in the board room of the DeLand Administrative Complex, 200 N. Clara Ave., DeLand. School Board agendas are posted on the district's website at www.vcsedu.org/school-board seven days prior to a meeting. The School Board occasionally holds workshops, special sessions, etc. These meetings are noticed, and the minutes will be included under "Agendas and Meeting Information" on the district's website.

Time is allocated on each agenda for public input. If you wish to address the School Board, please complete a request form located in the back of the board room prior to the start of the meeting.

The Volusia County School Board broadcasts its meetings live on the internet. Visit Volusia County Schools district website or YouTube channel to watch the meeting live or on demand.

Strategic Plan 2020-2023

Developed with input from School Board members, VCS staff, employee unions, families, and community members, the strategic plan has five goal areas:

- **High-Quality Instruction** – Ensure every student receives high-quality, equitable, standards-based curriculum and instruction that is consistent throughout the district.
- **High-Quality Staff** – Ensure that systems are designed and implemented to recruit, retain, and develop high-quality staff.
- **Safe & Supportive Environment** – Ensure all students and staff are provided with a safe, healthy, and supportive environment focused on learning.
- **Resources & Operational Processes** – Ensure all resources and operational functions are efficient and aligned with the district vision and strategy.
- **Communication & Community Engagement** – Ensure consistent, clear communication both internally and externally.

Read the full Strategic Plan at: [Strategic Plan 2020-2023](#)

School Entry Requirements and Enrollment

Welcome to Volusia County Schools! Our goal is to build welcoming, safe, and supportive school communities for all students. The following documentation is required to register your student in a Volusia County public school:

Verification of Legal Name and Guardianship of Student

- Certified birth certificate or passport of student
- Parent/guardian driver's license/identification

Verification of Age

- Certified birth certificate or passport of student
- To enter voluntary prekindergarten (VPK), a child must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1
- To enter kindergarten, a child must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1
- To enter first grade, a child must be 6 years old on or before Sept. 1

Verification of Immunizations and Physical Exams

- Proof of physical examination by a U.S./Florida doctor within 12 months prior to the anticipated first day of school attendance
- Florida Certification of Immunization Form 680

Verification of Residency

Two different proofs of residence/address:

- Category 1: current utility bill, mortgage document, rental or lease agreement
- Category 2: official mail, such as government correspondence, Social Security Administration, recent paycheck/stub, public assistance documents

Verification of Academic History

- Last report card or most recent transcript
- Verification of Special Education Information (if applicable)
- Current Individual Education Plan (IEP) (if applicable)
- Current 504 Plan (if applicable)



School Immunization Requirements

All students entering Volusia County Schools must have current immunizations, unless the student has a medical or religious exemption. Contact your physician or Volusia County Health Department.

School entry physicals, screenings, and immunization requirements may be found on the Student Health Services website: www.vcsedu.org/directory/departments/student-services/student-health-services/school-entry-information. Forms to authorize the administration of medication can be found under **Department Resources**.



Florida Certification of Immunization Form DH 680

Form DH 680, Florida Certification of Immunization, sometimes referred to as the “blue card,” is the only document that schools are permitted to accept as proof of immunization. The child’s name, date of birth, parent/guardian’s name, all the vaccines and dates, and the appropriate section(s) on the reverse side of the form must be completed. If a child has not had all of the doses required to complete each immunization series, the Temporary Medical Exemption section (Part B) of the DH 680 should be completed.

Meningococcal Disease

Meningococcal disease is a serious illness caused by bacteria. It is a leading cause of bacterial meningitis in children 2-18 years of age in the United States. Person-to-person transmission occurs with close contact with respiratory secretions or saliva. A dose of MCV4 is recommended for children and adolescents 11-18 years of age. For additional information please refer to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/.

Volusia County Health Department Clinics

Main Line: 386-274-0500, www.volusiahealth.com/shots

Immunizations: 386-274-0509, option 1

Daytona Beach: 1845 Holsonback Drive and 421 S. Keech Street

New Smyrna Beach: 717 W. Canal St., 386-424-2065

Orange City: 775 Harley Strickland Blvd., 386-457-6300

Required and Recommended Vaccinations

PRE-K—5TH GRADE

Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine, unless the disease has been documented on DH Form 680

KINDERGARTEN—12TH GRADE

Completed diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis series (DTP, DT or DTaP), completed polio series (OPV or IPV), two doses of measles vaccine (preferably MMR), completed hepatitis B series

7TH GRADE

DTaP booster, 2nd measles vaccination (preferably MMR), completed hepatitis B series

Back to School Information

Daily School Start and End Times

Visit your school's website for exact bell schedules.

- Elementary school—approximately 7:50 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Middle school—approximately 9:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.
- High school—approximately 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Parent Portal

Stay in touch with your student's progress by accessing grades, test history, and attendance information. Find student device insurance and other information via the district's Parent Portal. Check with your student's school for instructions on how to log in. More detailed information regarding Parent Portal can be found on page 16.

Dress Code

The complete guidelines for the district's dress code can be found in Policy 217 posted on the district's website at www.vcsedu.org/school-board/school-board-policies.

Inclement Weather Updates

When bad weather arrives, check www.vcsedu.org/ and tune in to local media outlets for "alerts" to the public about school closures/openings and any emergencies affecting schools. You can also find updates on Volusia County Schools Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts (see back page for details). For more information, please visit www.vcsedu.org/community/storm-resource-center.

Student Transportation

School bus transportation is provided free to all students who live more than two miles from their assigned school, are a participant in a designated Exceptional Student Education Program with an active Individual Education Plan (IEP), or a 504 Plan that has been approved by the school principal or their designee. For more information, please visit our district website at www.vcsedu.org/directory/departments/operation-services/student-transportation.

School Meals

Breakfast and lunch are free to all students, regardless of household income. School Way Café serves healthy meals funded by the United States Department of Agriculture. No household applications are necessary. All VCS students qualify for free meals under the Community Eligibility Provision.



General Information

Beginning of the Year Forms

In our attempt to go green, the district has made a conscious effort to reduce the amount of paper sent home each year at the start of school. In line with this shift, we made the necessary and required district documents accessible via our website: www.vcsedu.org/parents/beginning-school-year-forms.

The **Code of Student Conduct** handbook outlines disciplinary procedures as well as other district policies and procedures. Please read and acknowledge this policy manual. A Parent Signature Form will be sent home with your child and/or can be downloaded on the district website.



Other downloadable forms:

- Media Release form (gives permission for news media outlets [newspaper, radio, TV, etc.] to interview and photograph your student)
- Opt-Out Form (prohibits the release of directory information [including name, address and telephone number] for honor roll, yearbooks, district and school publications, etc.)
- Parent Guide and School Calendar (electronic version of this document)
- Parent Acknowledgement and Consent of Required School Information (required annually and acknowledges you have read and understand the Student Code of Conduct and the Student Technology Use Policy)
- Bus Stop Release Form (for ESE, Pre-K, kindergarten, and first grade students indicating how your student will get home from the bus stop)

For additional resources on our Policies and Procedures, please visit the [BoardDocs website](http://www.vcsedu.org/BoardDocs) by clicking “School Board” on www.vcsedu.org.

Public Records

The Florida Public Records Law authorizes the public to inspect, photograph, and copy public records maintained by Volusia County Schools. Public records are records made or received in connection with the district's official business. However, there are many statutory exemptions from public records disclosure, and some records are statutorily designated as exempt, confidential, or both (student information, social security numbers, health care records, etc.). Exempt and/or confidential records are subject to redaction by the district prior to production. If you would like to make a public records request, please contact the public records custodian by phone at 386-734-

SchoolMessenger

SchoolMessenger is our school-to-home telephone messaging system which allows the district and school principals to send periodic and personalized messages to all parents and families with one recorded phone call. Parents are encouraged to list current phone numbers on the Emergency Information Card for each student. Only the numbers listed will be used. Messages can also be sent via email.

The one-way text messaging feature requires an effort to make sure cell phone numbers are collected and input properly so they can be uploaded to the automated calling system. Parents may periodically receive a text message and may opt-out if they do not wish to continue receiving messages in this format. There is always the ability to opt in or out at any time during the school year.



Emergency Information Card

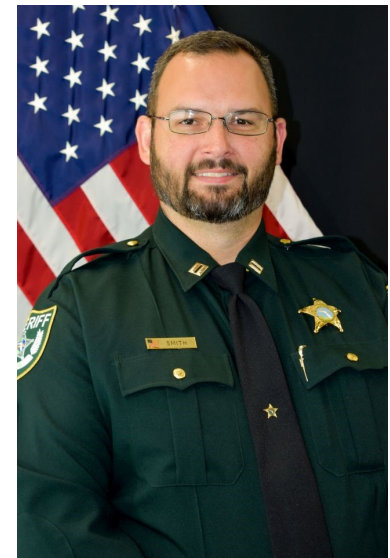
Be sure to keep your contact information up-to-date in case of emergencies. You will receive an emergency contact card at the beginning of the year. Make sure your information is correct, including phone numbers and email addresses, and return the card to your child's school.

Let's Work Together to Keep Our Students Safe

Every student has a right to learn in a safe, healthy, and supportive environment. In Volusia County, we make the safety and well-being of your student, our employees, and all visitors a top priority. As many of you are aware, state law requires an armed, trained, safe school officer on every school campus during the school day. In compliance with state statute, we have partnered with local law enforcement to ensure all of our school campuses have local police officers, sheriff's deputies, or school guardians assigned.

Volusia County Schools is also a part of a statewide initiative called FortifyFL. It's a reporting app that allows anyone to anonymously report a threat involving schools directly to law enforcement and school administrators. You can download the app on your phone or go to the FortifyFL website: www.getfortifyfl.com. Remember, IF YOU SEE OR HEAR SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.

We look forward to working together with you to keep our students and campuses safe. If you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding school safety and security in Volusia County, please contact Captain Todd Smith or the Security Operations Office at 386-734-7190, ext. 20638.



Captain Todd Smith

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten



Voluntary Prekindergarten/Early Learning Initiative is a program available to children who are four years old on or before September 1 of the current school year. This program teaches children the skills they need for a successful transition into kindergarten. This specialized program is offered at no cost to parents for three hours of VPK instruction. A full school day program is available for an additional cost to parents if they choose to attend.

Volusia County Schools VPK teachers have one primary goal when planning and preparing our students: kindergarten readiness. Kindergarten readiness is a journey and transition into formal academic instruction. Many skills and capabilities are needed for this transition to be successful. Kindergarten readiness does not mean already knowing kindergarten skills but rather having a foundation of knowledge and exposure that helps students better prepare for their kindergarten experience.

During this program, the students will be taught the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards: Physical Development, Approaches to Learning, Social and Emotional Development, Language and Literacy, Mathematical Thinking, Scientific Inquiry, Social Studies, Creative Expression Through the Arts.



Extended Day Enrichment Programs (EDEP)

Extended Day Enrichment Program (EDEP) provides structured academic enrichment for school-age children in grades K-8. Every child and youth should have a safe and supportive environment while engaging in activities that support academic achievement and promote social, emotional and physical development before and after the regular school day.

EDEP Programs are staffed with qualified afterschool personnel. For more information, please reach out to the EDEP district office at 386-734-7190, ext. 20353, the site lead/facilitator at your child's school, or visit the EDEP district website.

- EDEP afternoon program is for students in grades K - 5 and is offered at 40 elementary schools
- EDEP morning program is for students in grades k- 8 and is offered at 10 middle school & 13 elementary school sites

Elementary School—Where Learning Begins...

Volusia County Schools implements the standards adopted by the Florida Department of Education: Florida's Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) for English Language Arts and Mathematics, and Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) for science and social studies. These standards provide learning goals for students in every grade. Under the standards your child will be learning from kindergarten through fifth grade to read and respond to what they have read; build foundations in vocabulary and content for Physical, Earth, Space and Life sciences; be fluent in mathematics; and study the traditions, history and geography of Florida, the United States, and other countries. Please visit www.cpalms.org/public/search/Standard for more information regarding **B.E.S.T. Standards**.

Programs and Resources

Standards and Instructional Support: www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/.

Browse and Search Standards: www.cpalms.org/public/search/Standard.

VCS Parent Resources: www.vcsedu.org/parents-students.

- Bus Routes
- Emergency Guide for Parents
- ESE Information for Parents
- Parent Portal
- Parental Monitoring Resources
- School Meal Information
- Testing Calendar
- Tips to Help your Child Succeed In School
- Transportation
- What's My School?



Reading is the foundation to all life lessons.

Just Read, Families!

Just Read, Families! is a program that suggests even more resources to help student reading skills. Please visit www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/families/.

The Middle School Years

Meeting the Needs of our Middle School Students

Between the ages of 10 and 14, children can experience dramatic physical changes, and these years are often characterized by mood swings and feelings of insecurity. Middle school children's behavior can vary from mature to immature, and they may feel confused and perplexed by their rapidly changing bodies. Often during middle school years, our children's friends become more essential to them. While they continue to value the adults in their lives, they often seek approval from their peers.

In order to meet these dramatic changes, middle schools in Volusia County strive to address the social-emotional needs of our students as well as their academic needs as they transition from childhood to adolescence. In addition to rigorous academic programs and opportunities for students to receive academic intervention and academic acceleration, students receive embedded instruction and guidance regarding social-emotional learning that is vital as they navigate these challenging years. Parent involvement in their child's middle school years is essential, and we strongly encourage parents to utilize the various resources available at your school to support your child's transition and strengthen our home to school connection.



Middle School Teaming

For the 2023-24 school year, middle school will continue the concept of teaming. Students will share a team of teachers in their core subjects (ELA, math, science, and social studies). In addition to teaming, schools will remain with a six-period day. Other initiatives related to teaming include daily "Team Time" during first period block and Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS), where students will be recognized and rewarded for exhibiting positive behaviors.

Middle School Testing

Required state testing for middle school includes: Florida's Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.) testing for English language arts and mathematics (grades 6-8), NGSSS testing for science (grade 8) and end of course (EOC) testing for civics (grade 7) and applicable high school level courses (Algebra or Geometry).

Multiple high school level courses are available for students to accelerate their learning and earn high school credits. In addition, career exploration and a variety of career academies are available in our middle schools. We encourage parents to reach out to their assigned middle school to learn more about the academies and programs offered at their child's school.

Middle School Promotion Criteria

In order to be promoted to the next grade level within a middle school, a student must make acceptable progress in at least four of the six courses they are enrolled in during the school year. This must also include satisfactory completion of at least three of the four core courses: English, mathematics, science, and social studies. In order to be promoted to grade nine, middle school students must have successfully completed three courses in English, three courses in mathematics, three courses in science, and three courses in social studies (one of which must be civics).

Exploring Opportunities in High School

All public high school programs meet or exceed state requirements. Extensive offerings are available in language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, music, dance, theatre, art, world languages, career and technical education, and physical education. High schools also have specialized credit retrieval labs, which provide an opportunity for high school students to retrieve failed credits through a competency-based, online curriculum and remain on track for graduation. Specific courses, including elective offerings, vary between schools based on student demand, community needs, and staff availability.



The curriculum for high school students represents rigorous standards and high expectations. Each subject taught has its own curriculum map or requirements as outlined by state requirements. The curriculum map or requirements confirm the minimum knowledge of what students should know and be able to do by the time they graduate high school.

Special academic programs include **Advanced Placement (AP)** at all high schools, which offers students the opportunity to take college level courses while still in high school. Many colleges give credit and/or advanced college standing to students who attain an acceptable score of three or above (five-point scale) on an AP examination.

The **International Baccalaureate (IB)** diploma program is designed as an academically challenging and balanced program with final assessments that prepare students for success in college and life beyond. Students may choose to pursue the IB diploma or take individual certificates in IB courses. This program is offered at DeLand High School and Spruce Creek High School.

The **Cambridge International/AICE** program is based on a rigorous international curriculum with a global examination system that emphasizes the value of a broad and balanced study within college level academic courses. Students may master a range of skills critical for success at the university level and may pursue the AICE international diploma. This program is offered at Deltona High School, New Smyrna Beach High School, Pine Ridge High School, Seabreeze High School, and University High School.

The **Dual Enrollment** program provides students an option to simultaneously earn college credit toward an Associate of Arts/Science degree or vocational credit toward a certificate program while meeting the requirements for a high school diploma. Dual enrollment is available through Daytona State College, University of Florida, and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

The **AVID** program is designed to develop learning, study, and academic behavioral skills that are essential for success in rigorous coursework. It acts as a catalyst for schools to develop a culture of college readiness for all students across the campus. This program offers additional support in the classroom using AVID strategies.

High School Graduation Requirements and Options

Graduation Requirements

Graduation from a Volusia County high school is determined by the number of credits earned. In addition to taking the required coursework to graduate, a student must:

- Have earned a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale; and
- Have passed all the applicable testing requirements

Diploma Options

- 24-credit standard diploma
- 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL)
- 18-credit CTE diploma
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma curriculum

Diploma Designations

In addition to meeting the standard 24-credit diploma requirements, a student may earn one or more designations on their diploma:

- Scholar Designation
- Merit Designation
- Florida Seal of Biliteracy

eLearning Labs/Virtual Learning Labs

This program serves students who may benefit from a setting that is an alternative to the traditional school day. Students and their teacher (s) will be in a blended learning environment. This means that a bulk of the students' coursework is done in a virtual setting while the teacher provides support in setting daily, weekly, and monthly academic goals for successful completion of required courses. The teacher is trained in working one-on-one with students to support their individualized learning path. Goal setting helps set cooperative pacing and encourages students to master skills as they move on to more difficult materials until they complete the requirements for each course. These centers offer individualized, self-paced online learning for students wanting to earn credits at their maximum pace while moving toward graduation.

The eLearning program offers a unique opportunity to students at each of the 10 high schools. Students should inquire with their zoned school counselor for enrollment consideration.



What is Career & Technical Education?

Today's cutting edge, rigorous, and relevant career and technical education (CTE) prepares students for a wide range of high skill, high wage, high demand careers in specialized fields such as health care, finance, information technology, and the trades. Through CTE courses, students gain pathway-specific **TECHNICAL**, **ACADEMIC**, and cutting-edge **EMPLOYABILITY** skills for success in any workplace, in further education, and in career awareness and planning.

Volusia County Schools offers career and technical education programs and career academies at the high school level.

- CTE programs consist of three or more job preparatory courses that culminate in an opportunity to earn industry certifications or digital tools certificates in a career area of interest.
- Career academies are small learning communities that combine rigorous **TECHNICAL** CTE coursework and college-prep **ACADEMIC** coursework with a career focus.

Real-World Experiences

Developing a productive and adaptable workforce that is competitive in the global economy is key to American excellence and prosperity. An important way CTE programs achieve this goal is by ensuring that education and business work together to equip students with the skills vital to success in the workplace. Through business partnerships, students participate in career cluster targeted work-based learning experiences that enable them to apply the knowledge gained in CTE programs through the following opportunities:

- Internships
- Job Shadowing
- On-the-Job Training (OJT)
- Pre-Apprenticeships
- Mentoring
- Field Studies
- School-Based Enterprises

Students participating in **Career Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs)** interact with business professionals to practice critical **EMPLOYABILITY** skills through local, state and national competitions and events.

CTE is good for students, good for businesses, and good for communities.

94%

The average high school graduation rate for students concentrating in a CTE program.

CTE associate degrees can pay \$10,000 more per year than associate

Digital Tools & Industry Certifications

Digital Tools Certificates (Grades 6-8)

Digital Tools exams are offered to our middle school students to support the development of digital skills in areas such as word processing, coding, presentations and digital citizenship.

Industry Certifications (Grades 9-12)

Students who earn an industry certification have demonstrated evidence of mastery in a **TECHNICAL** skill. Research indicates that students who attain industry certifications will earn more over the course of their career than those that are lacking these recognized industry certifications. Industry certifications count toward acceleration as a component of school grade.

Articulated College Credit

The State Board of Education has approved over 140 certifications that will earn students college credit.

Online Credit

Students who earn a nationally recognized industry certification in the Information Technology cluster satisfy the online course graduation requirement.

Visit our new **CTE menu of options** online at vcsedu.org/academics/career-and-technical-education or visit your school's website for a list of CTE programs and career academy offerings.

Help Stop Bullying

Bullying is a widespread and serious problem that can happen anywhere. \It is not a phase children have to go through, it is not "just messing around," and it is not something to grow out of. Bullying can cause serious and lasting harm.

Although definitions of bullying vary, most agree that bullying involves: **1) imbalance of power** — people who bully use their power to control or harm others, and the people being bullied may have a hard time defending themselves; **2) intent to cause harm** — bullying is not an accident; the person bullying has a goal to cause harm; and **3) repetition** — incidents of bullying often happen to the same person over and over by the same person or group. Bullying can take many forms. Examples include: **verbal** — name calling, teasing; **social** — spreading rumors, excluding people intentionally or breaking up friendships; **physical** — hitting, punching, shoving; or **cyberbullying** — using the internet, mobile phones or other digital technologies to harm others. To report a possible incident of bullying, immediately talk to your school's administration.

Your Rights as a Parent

There are times when you may need to be an advocate for your child at school. You may need to speak up when you see that your child's needs are not being met. Getting to know your child's school and teacher is the first step in being a good advocate. According to the Florida

Department of Education, you have the right to:

- Examine your child's school records and look at test results and teacher comments. If you see things you don't understand, ask the teacher or school principal for an explanation.
- Be a part of developing an individual educational plan to meet your child's needs if your child is in a special education program.
- Request parent-teacher conferences during the school year. Write down your questions and concerns before the meeting. Remember you are in a position to share important information as well as ask questions.
- Ask for a review of the decision if your child is suspended from school.



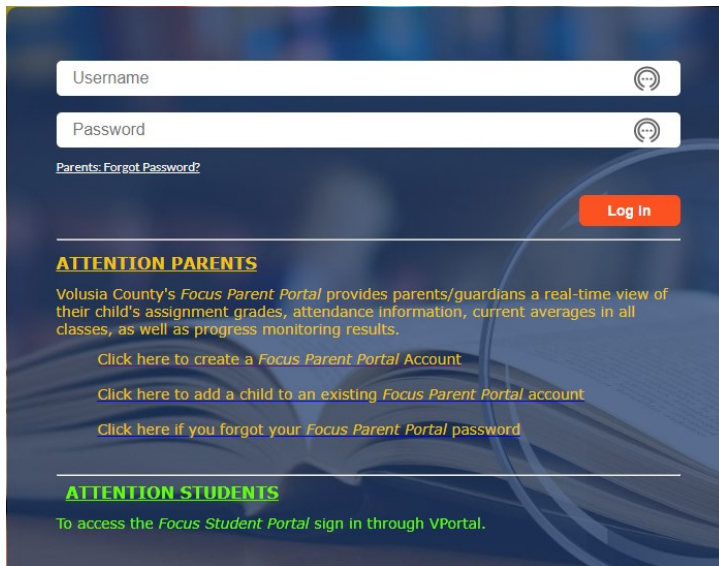
Volusia County Schools' chain of support

If you have an issue with your child at school, first talk with your child's teacher. If the teacher is unable to help you resolve the issue, seek assistance from others. The chain of support is as follows:

Your Child's Teacher....
School Principal....
Assistant Superintendent...
Deputy Superintendent...
Superintendent...
School Board.

FOCUS Parent Portal

Volusia County Schools is committed to delivering high-quality instruction to all of its students. The Parent Portal is a great way for parents/guardians to stay connected to their student's grades, attendance, assessments, and important announcements. Parent Portal accounts are available for all students enrolled with Volusia County Schools and are easy to set up. We are committed to holding student information secure — so all accounts must be verified with a PIN. This PIN is provided by the student's enrolled school and is required to establish a Parent Portal account. If you need your student's PIN, you can contact your enrolled school or call 386-734-7190 ext. 25000 for the Help Desk. Follow the instructions on this page to set up and/or access Volusia County Schools' Parent Portal.

The screenshot shows the Focus Parent Portal login interface. At the top, there are two input fields: 'Username' and 'Password', each with a circular icon to its right. Below the password field is a link that says 'Parents: Forgot Password?'. To the right of these fields is a red 'Log In' button. Below the login fields, there is a section titled 'ATTENTION PARENTS' in yellow. Under this title, a paragraph states: 'Volusia County's Focus Parent Portal provides parents/guardians a real-time view of their child's assignment grades, attendance information, current averages in all classes, as well as progress monitoring results.' Below this paragraph are three links: 'Click here to create a Focus Parent Portal Account', 'Click here to add a child to an existing Focus Parent Portal account', and 'Click here if you forgot your Focus Parent Portal password'. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'ATTENTION STUDENTS' in green, with a link that says 'To access the Focus Student Portal sign in through VPortal.'

Creating Your Account

Please see the [Parent Portal webpage](#) on the VCS website. There you will find detailed guidance on how to create your Parent Portal account, including step-by-step instructions on the following topics:

- Logging in to your account
- What to do if you see a custody alert
- Setting up notifications
- What to do if you forget your password

Accessing Your Account

Once you have created your Parent Portal account, you can access it directly [here](#) or from the [Parent Portal webpage](#). You can also download the VCS Focus App on your mobile device.

ClassLink (VPortal) for Students

Volusia students can access all digital resources and district applications from anywhere using a single username and password. This allows students to access the same resources at home that they use in the classroom, including Microsoft 365. Access ClassLink from the [VPortal](#) on the “Portals” menu on the district website at www.vcsedu.org.

Multicultural Education

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) is a program that serves to meet the language and academic needs of a diverse English Language Learner (ELL) population that speak over 60 languages. ESOL instruction integrates strategies for teaching English as a Second Language in accordance with the curriculum standards requirements to provide comparable and comprehensible instruction. This instruction helps ELLs to develop communicative and academic skills necessary for meeting national, state, and district educational standards. For more information click [here](#).

Dual Language Program

The Volusia County Schools Dual Language Immersion Program offers students in select schools the opportunity to become bilingual and biliterate in English and Spanish, while maintaining high academic standards.

The program begins in VPK or kindergarten and requires a VPK-grade five or Kindergarten-grade five commitment. Students experience half of their academic instruction in English and the other half in Spanish. All literacy and content instruction in both languages is aligned with state standards.

Translation/Interpretation

The ESOL Department provides translation and interpretation services for limited English proficient families. An interpreter can be provided for teacher conferences, ESOL/ESE meetings, etc. This service is to help parents become more involved in their children's education.

Parent Leadership Council

The Parent Leadership Council (PLC) is established with parents from different schools in the district. During these PLC meetings, parents, teachers, school staff, and community groups are provided training opportunities and information. The goal of our PLC is to empower parents to become active participants in their child's education and enhance the district-to-school communication.



Florida Seal of Biliteracy

Students have the opportunity to earn the **Florida Seal of Biliteracy**. This graduation distinction is earned with four years of a high school world language with a 3.0 unweighted average or the required score on an approved assessment. Eligible students must also earn the required ELA score. The Seal of Biliteracy is intended to identify students with 21st century global and linguistic competency for prospective employers and college admissions. It is also intended to honor the multiple cultures and languages in a community. Typically, more

than 300 graduates earn this distinction every year. Please click [here](#) to learn more.

World Languages

A 21st century education includes the study of world languages and cultures. Every opportunity for language acquisition offers our students unique advantages for personal growth and future professional success. The study of a second (or third, or fourth) language enhances the student's ability to master critical learning skills necessary for academic success.

Successful Parent-Teacher Conferences

One of the best ways to find out how your child is doing in school is through a parent-teacher conference. The following tips will ensure a successful result for your child.

Before the Conference Tips for Parents:

- Teachers are contracted to be in school during school hours and for a short period of time before and after school. You will need to arrange to come to school during that time for the conference. Teachers must have 24 hours notice before a parent-teacher conference is scheduled.
- If you anticipate language differences, ask for an interpreter. The conference can be scheduled for a time when the interpreter can be present.
- Find out how your child feels about school (ask what he or she likes best or least and why).
- Prepare questions or concerns you wish to discuss.
- Everyone's time is valuable. Please be sure to be on time.

During the Conference Tips for Parents:

- Parent-teacher conference may bring up all kinds of feelings. REMEMBER: the conference is an opportunity to work with the teacher as a team.
- Since conference time is limited, stay focused on the topic.
- Share observations from home about your child's strengths and weaknesses.
- Share relevant medical information concerning your child's general health, allergies, vision problems, etc.
- Share any relevant changes in the family situation.
- Listen carefully and ask the teacher to explain any terms or concepts you don't understand.
- Ask for more information or examples/samples of student work or behaviors that are relevant to the topic of the conference.
- If the teacher points out areas where your child needs to improve, ask for a plan to help your child make the improvements and ask how you can help.
- Be sure to sign and ask for a copy of the Record of Conference Form.
- If necessary, make an appointment for a follow-up phone conversation or conference.
- If you feel uncomfortable with the manner in which the conference is progressing, politely stop the conference and request the presence of an administrator.

After the Conference Tips for Parents:

- Follow through on suggestions made during the conference.
- Continue the open lines of communication throughout the year.

Choice Programs

Educational choice is the practice of allowing all families to make meaningful decisions about how and where their children will receive a primary and secondary education from a variety of schools and programs. In Volusia County, options may include, but not be limited to, controlled open enrollment, charter schools, advanced programs, dual enrollment, home school, virtual school and career academies.

Choice for Capacity

Each Volusia County school is considered a school of choice and will be designated with one of the following classifications: substantial capacity, limited capacity, or waitlisted. Available school capacity is the primary determining factor for approvals of choice applications. The classification of each school is based on projected student enrollments.

Charter Schools

A list of Volusia County charter schools can be found at <https://www.vcsedu.org/directory/departments/teaching-leading-and-learning/charter-schools>. Contact individual charter schools for information on their application process.

Teenage Parent Program is provided for male and female, pregnant and parenting students and their children. The district-facilitated program provides services for eligible students who wish to remain in school with aspirations for graduation. Eligible students take an online parenting course and receive free childcare at any licensed daycare of their choice.

Career Academies

Academies provide unique learning opportunities through extensive business partnerships, integrated instruction, hands-on learning, field studies, service learning, career shadowing, Career & Technical Student Organizations, and internships. Teachers, in conjunction with business partners, provide the real-world skills necessary for students to be successful in today's work environment. Many academies offer post-secondary dual enrollment and industry certification options. There are 27 academies offered in Volusia's 10 high schools.

*School bus transportation is not provided for enrollment of choice programs.

Career Clusters

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| • Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources | • Education & Training | • Information Technology |
| • Architecture & Construction | • Engineering & Technology | • Law, Public Safety & Security |
| • Arts, A/V Technology & Communication | • Education | • Manufacturing |
| • Business, Management & Administration | • Finance | • Marketing, Sales & Service |
| | • Health Science | • Transportation, Distribution and Logistics |
| | • Hospitality & Tourism | |
| | • Human Services | |

Online Learning Options

Volusia Online Learning Full-Time Instruction

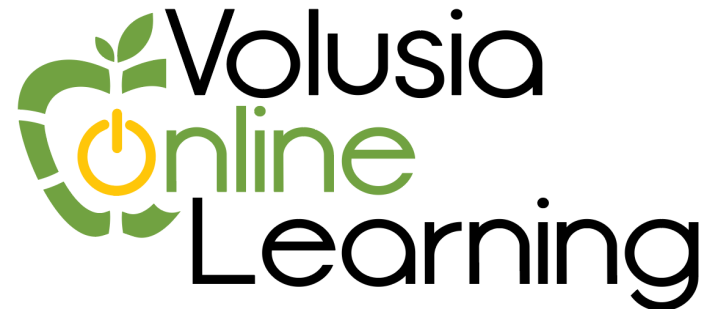
Volusia Online Learning is a K-12 virtual school for Volusia County students where instruction is provided in an online environment. Students who choose to be a full-time online student take all their classes online rather than the traditional brick and mortar school.

Although students and teachers are separated by time and space, they work together to achieve high levels of learning. The virtual environment allows students to work on a flexible schedule at the best time and place for them.

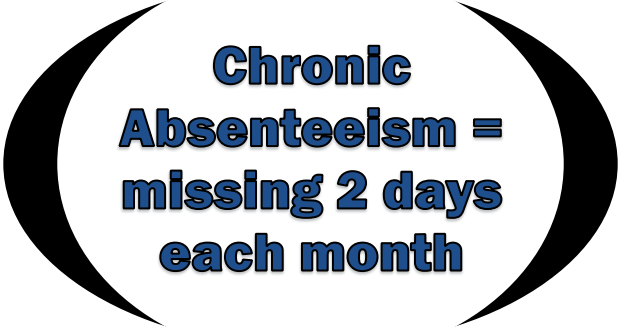
Volusia Online Learning brings together the best technologies, the best curriculum and most importantly, the best of Volusia County teachers, who provide a rigorous online experience for their students. All Volusia Online Learning courses are aligned to Florida's standards and use online resources, virtual lessons, teacher discussions, and a variety of tools to help follow the course's curriculum. Families apply for full-time virtual instruction during enrollment periods.

Volusia Online Learning Part-Time Instruction

Volusia Online Learning Part-Time is offered to students in grades 6-12. Virtual courses are included in the student's daily course schedule either during or beyond the school day. Families may apply for part-time enrollment throughout the school year at www.volusiaonlinelearning.com. Volusia Online Learning Part-time instruction also provides a convenient and viable solution to parents of students registered for Home Education. Home Education students are eligible to utilize Volusia Online Learning for part or all of their academic needs. Please note that part-time offerings have limited capacity and enrollment is approved on a first-come, first-served basis.



Everybody Every Day—Attendance Matters!

- Volusia County Schools' focus is on reducing **chronic absenteeism**, which is defined as missing 10 percent of school days for any reason, whether excused or unexcused absences, including out-of-school suspensions.
 - Research shows that chronic absenteeism is a primary cause of low academic achievement and a powerful predictor that students will eventually drop out of school.
 - Poor attendance in the first month of school can predict chronic absence for the entire year.
 - Absenteeism in...
 - ...preschool and kindergarten can influence whether a child will be held back in third grade.
 - ...kindergarten can affect whether a child develops the grit and perseverance needed to succeed in school.
 - ...middle and high school can predict dropout rates.
 - Absenteeism influences not just chances for graduating but also for completing college.
 - Students who are exhibiting a pattern of non-attendance must be referred to the Child Study Team for assistance with the remediation of the problem. A meeting with the parent must be scheduled to identify potential remedies.
- 
- Chronic Absenteeism = missing 2 days each month**
- **Early intervention** in school attendance is the most effective way of producing good attendance habits that will lead to improved student learning and achievement.
 - Refer to the district's [Student Attendance Policy 206](#) for attendance procedures.



The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.)

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.) is a progress monitoring assessment that is administered three times per year, which measures student success with the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards. It includes assessments in English Language Arts (VPK through grade 10) and Mathematics (VPK through grade eight). Progress monitoring provides real-time data that will inform students, teachers, and parents about individual student growth.

Students in Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, U.S. History, and Civics will take the state End-of-Course (EOC) assessment that will constitute 30% of the final course grade. Students in grades five and eight will continue to take the statewide Science Assessment in the spring.

Achievement Levels

Achievement levels describe the success a student has achieved on the B.E.S.T. Standards which are tested on the F.A.S.T. Achievement levels range from 1 to 5, with Level 1 being the lowest and Level 5 being the highest.

Testing Tips

- Show your child you are supportive
- Discuss materials sent home with your child
- Ensure your child gets a good night's sleep
- Make sure your child eats a good breakfast
- Have your child at school on time



Academic Proficiency and Promotion Requirements

Report cards are provided at regular intervals to keep parents fully informed of their child's academic proficiency. If your child has not demonstrated mastery/proficiency (grade C or better) in a reading, language arts, mathematics, or science course, he/she is not meeting minimum state and district expectations. Promotion is based on how well students are performing according to the B.E.S.T. Standards. The Volusia County School Board has established criteria for student progression, which includes state and district requirements. The Student Progression Plan can be accessed on the district's website at www.vcsedu.org/directory/departments/student-services/school-counseling/student-progression-plan.

Student Services

The Student Services department provides a wide array of assistance programs, specialized services, and comprehensive services to students, staff, and parents. The Student Services department includes school counseling services, school social services, school psychological services, positive behavior support, and health services. Visit [www.vcsedu.org/directory/departments/student-services for more information](http://www.vcsedu.org/directory/departments/student-services-for-more-information).

School Counselors incorporate prevention and intervention with continuous academic, college & career, and social & emotional development activities that will prepare students for meaningful participation in a diverse, changing world. They also provide resources to students, staff, families, and other stakeholders to establish a safe school climate necessary for academic, social, and emotional growth.

School Social Workers serve as a vital link between the home, school, and community in order to help students increase academic and social/emotional success. School Social Workers are professionally trained in social work and counseling. Their skills and expertise enable them to deal with the multiple needs of students. They work with students both individually and in group settings, make home visits, collaborate with school staff and community agencies, monitor school attendance, conduct social and developmental assessments, and provide information and referral services in order to help meet the needs of students and families.

School Psychological Services provides ongoing consultative services with teachers, parents, and students regarding school-related issues, providing healthy and effective alternatives to address learning and behavioral difficulties. School psychologists assist teachers and problem-solving teams in developing classroom intervention strategies for students whose learning skills and abilities or social/emotional adjustment interferes with their educational progress. In addition, school psychologists are professionals with specialized training in both psychology and education who assess the intellectual, academic, behavioral, and emotional strengths and weaknesses of students. Parents may contact the coordinator of school psychological services by calling 386-734-7190, ext. 20757.

School-wide Positive Behavior Intervention & Support (PBIS) teams, as part of the Volusia County Behavioral Initiative (VCBI), work to improve school climate by inspiring a safe and civil learning environment for all students and adults. Members of the Student Services department, working collaboratively with school-based PBIS teams, assist with reviewing current practices, identifying school climate strengths and areas of concern, and problem-solving to develop a customized plan for maintaining a positive and proactive behavioral approach designed to teach social and personal competencies.

School Health Services are provided to students in grades Pre-K through 12. These services are considered to be both preventative as well as treatment directed. School nurses and clinic assistants address the needs of students who enter the clinic with an assortment of health issues. Services provided are intended to supplement, rather than replace, parental responsibility. School nurses and clinic assistants encourage parents to monitor their child's health and the use of physicians, dentists, and community health agency services. It is expected that children who receive services through the school health program will have fewer visits to physicians and emergency rooms, fewer days lost from school due to illness, and will receive daily monitoring for chronic health conditions.

Parent-Teacher Support Groups

PTAs (Parent Teacher Associations) and PTSAs (Parent Teacher Student Associations) make up the largest volunteer child advocacy organization in the United States. A not-for-profit association of parents, educators, students, and community members, the PTA encourages parental and public involvement in public schools. PTAs provide members with parent education, leadership training, and a powerful voice of advocacy on behalf of all children. PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) is an independent group which also supports children and educational issues.

Volunteers in Public Schools

Studies have shown that children whose parents are involved at school have a greater self-esteem, a more positive attitude toward school, improved performance, and better behavior. School volunteer programs benefit all participants. Parent volunteers have a greater understanding of the educational process while receiving direct satisfaction of helping children succeed. School staff receive a helping hand, while the community reaps the reward of millions of dollars of work provided free.

Volunteer opportunities are everywhere, from helping in classrooms/special areas, chaperoning on field trips, tutoring/mentoring, to holding leadership positions in parent organizations/advisory councils. Chaperoning on overnight trips and/or serving as a band adjunct requires fingerprinting. To volunteer, fill out an online volunteer application and have your government issued ID with photograph scanned into our Raptor Visitor Management System. Once approved, your application will be valid for one school year, through June 30. For more information, contact your school's volunteer coordinator or the Volunteer/Partnership Programs Department at 386-734-7190 ext. 38379.

School Advisory Council (SAC)

Each school annually elects a School Advisory Council (SAC) to share responsibility for supporting the school's continuous improvement. This advisory group is made up of the principal, teachers, support staff, parents, business partners, and students (high school only).

The SAC role is:

- Prioritizing the needs of the school
- Developing strategies for improving the areas of need
- Developing a plan for measuring the results of the School Improvement Plan (SIP)
- Assisting in the preparation and evaluation of the SIP
- Assisting in the preparation of the school's annual budget
- Deciding how to spend the SAC funds to meet the SIP goals

Contact a school administrator if you are interested in serving on your school's advisory council.



Exceptional Student Education (ESE)

When students struggle academically or behaviorally or have other barriers to learning, strategies and interventions are put in place to address student needs. When it appears that a student's needs cannot be met with general education interventions, a student may be referred for evaluation for possible Exceptional Student Education (ESE) consideration.

Both students with disabilities and students identified as gifted receive services and supports through the district's Exceptional Student Education (ESE) department. Students with disabilities have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) developed to meet their unique educational needs. Students who meet gifted eligibility criteria have an Educational Plan (EP).

For most students with IEPs, efforts are made to serve students in their neighborhood zone school when possible. Certain programs may require students to attend a different school which offers the program. This is typically true for students in low incidence programs, including the district's gifted program.

For students with IEPs, the district is committed to ensuring that students are served in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) to meet their educational needs, as this is a foundational principle of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). For example, a student with a mild learning disability may be able to have their IEP addressed in a general education classroom as opposed to a more restrictive setting. As a result, student progress is reviewed regularly to ensure that LRE for each student is being addressed.

School districts are also required to meet the needs of preschool children (ages 3-5) who have been identified with a disability. The identification of children with disabilities and the development of a service plan is done through the district's Child Find office. If you suspect your child has a developmental delay or disability and would like a screening, contact the Child Find office at 386-734-7190, ext. 52841.

Parents/guardians of K-12 students suspecting that their child may have a disability are encouraged to contact the chair of the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), formerly known as the Problem Solving Team (PST), at their child's school. This team of educational professionals will help identify interventions and supports for a student to be successful (i.e., in general education or ESE if eligible). Parents/guardians of students who are already identified as a student with a disability or giftedness may contact your child's ESE teacher(s) for assistance. Frequently asked questions for parents/guardians regarding ESE services can be found [here](#).

The Volusia County ESE Advisory Committee

The Volusia County ESE Advisory Committee is comprised of families and professionals dedicated to collaborative interaction among schools, service agencies, and the public. The committee meets virtually on a regular basis to gain information on issues that pertain to students served in Exceptional Student Education (ESE) in Volusia County.

Per recommendations from members, two groups, formerly known as the ESE Task Force and ESE Advisory, consolidated into the Volusia County ESE Advisory Committee, which is an outcome-focused group that supports the district's mission and strategic plan advocating for students with disabilities. The Volusia County ESE Advisory Committee supports collaboration with parents and community members. Our goal is to identify areas for improvement and make meaningful recommendations to promote the success of all students. For more information visit: www.vcsedu.org/directory/departments/teaching-leading-and-learning/exceptional-student-education/ease-advisory-committee.

Title I - Parent & Family Engagement

School Parent & Family Engagement (PFEP)

Since family support is so critical to student success, Volusia County Schools encourage all families to attend a Title I orientation meeting, offered at the student's school, to learn about the program and the role of parents in the success of their child's education. Parents are encouraged to become engaged in the education of their children at home and school. With input from families, every school that receives Title I funds must develop an annual Parent & Family Engagement Plan (PFEP). This plan outlines how the school will help families support their children's academic success, increase family engagement in school-related activities, and foster communication between the home and school. Research reveals that high student achievement, positive attitudes, and better behavior are closely related to positive family engagement in education.



School – Parent – Student Compact

Each Title I School, in conjunction with parents, develops a School – Parent – Student Compact. A compact outlines how parents, school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. Through the compact, schools and families form a partnership to help children achieve the state's highest standards.

What Parents Can Do to Help Children Thrive at School

As a parent or caregiver, you have a key role in your child's education—you can help bridge your child's transition from home to school, and give him or her the best chance at success in learning and in life. Here are some ways teachers suggest parents can help support their child's success in school:

- Set high expectations for your child.
- Make sure your child is in school every day and on time. Attendance matters!
- Monitor Parent Portal.
- Work collaboratively with your child's teachers and talk to them about goals and expectations for your child.
- Talk to your child each day about what he or she is doing in school and discuss what he or she learned.
- Encourage your child to complete assignments, and see that she or he finishes them.
- Help with time management.
- Encourage independent problem solving.
- Monitor activities such as too much time on social media, TV, video games, text messaging, and phone talk time.
- Attend parent-teacher conferences.
- Participate in family engagement and volunteer opportunities.

For a complete list of resources to support your child's success, please access the Parent Checklist [here](#).

For a list of the benefits of Parent/Family Engagement please visit the FLDOE webpage [here](#).

▶ August 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16 17 18 19

First Day of School
for Students
1st Grading Period
Begins

Early Release

20 21 22 23 24 25 26

Early Release

27 28 29 30 31

Early Release

AdventHealth Offers e-Care Program to Assist Families

AdventHealth eCare provides virtual access to doctors and nurse practitioners for minor ailments. You see a doctor on your time—when and where it is convenient for you.

For more information, please click the logo below.



AdventHealth is the
Official Healthcare
Champion of Volusia
County Schools.

► September 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Attendance Awareness Month
Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15 - Oct. 15)
National Suicide Prevention Month

3	4 Labor Day Holiday	5	6 Early Release	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Early Release 1st Midterm Period Ends	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Early Release	21	22 Professional Development Day/ Student Holiday	23
24	25	26	27 Early Release	28	29	30

Where's the Bus



Where's the Bus is an app that allows parents to view their child's school bus on their smartphone, tablet, or computer. With it, parents will know when the bus will arrive at their child's bus stop.

To set up an account, visit:

wheresthebus.com

and select Volusia County Schools.

October 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2 3 4
Early Release 5 6 7

8 9 10 11 12 13 14
National School Lunch Week Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day 1st Grading Period Ends

15 16 17 18 19 20 21
Bus Safety Week Teacher Duty Day/ Student Holiday 2nd Grading Period Begins Early Release Grades on Parent Portal/Report Card Distribution

22 23 24 25
Red Ribbon Week Early Release 26 27 28

29 30 31
Bullying Prevention Month
National Principals Month
Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15-Oct. 15)

School Way Café

Our Mission: We are committed to nurturing the hearts and minds of our students by serving healthy meals and providing exceptional customer service.

We are a nonprofit, self-supporting department funded by the USDA and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

We serve fresh fruits, vegetables, and whole grains daily. All juice is 100% juice.

Follow us!



Our menus are based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans!

▶ November 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1 Early Release	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Early Release	9	10 Veterans Day	11
12	13	14	15 Early Release 2nd Midterm Period Ends	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	----- Thanksgiving Holiday -----					
	November 20 and 21 will be used as makeup days for inclement weather if needed					
26	27 Classes Resume	28	29 Early Release	30	Native American Heritage Month Florida Family Engagement in Education Month	

FortifyFL

Volusia County Schools is committed to the safety and security of all students, staff, and visitors. We encourage everyone to say something if they see or hear a specific threat or suspicious activity.

Information can be reported through FortifyFL, which is a tool that instantly relays information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. It's anonymous and easy to use through the FortifyFL app or www.getfortifyfl.com.

The app is available for download on Apple and Android mobile devices and is critical to ensuring all Florida schools are safe environments.



December 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2
3	4	5	6 Early Release	7 High School Showcase	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Early Release 2nd Grading Period Ends	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	----- Winter Holiday -----					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	----- Winter Holiday -----					
31						

High School Showcase

The Annual High School Showcase is scheduled for December 7, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Volusia County Fairgrounds. The showcase offers students and their families an opportunity to explore all high schools and their academic programs, as well as other opportunities that are available at the high school level.

Requirements and procedures for enrolling at schools other than the zoned school are available as well. Families can also contact individual schools to learn about specific program offerings and requirements.

Selecting the opportunities that are right for the student is an important key to high school success.

► January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day	2 Teacher Duty Day/ Student Holiday	3 Classes Resume 3rd Grading Period Begins	4	5	6
7	8 Grades on Parent Portal/Report Cards Distribution	9	10 Early Release	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Holi- day	16	17 Early Release	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Early Release	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Early Release	National Mentoring Month		

Parent Resources



For additional parent resources visit the Florida Department of Education website: www.fldoe.org

Click on:

Schools > Family & Community Involvement
> Family & Community Engagement > Family & School Partnership Act



February 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

African American History Month
CTE Month

4 5 6 7 8 9 10

National School
Counseling Week

Midterm Period
Ends

11 12 13 14 15 16 17

Early Release

National PTA
Founder's Day
National FFA Week

18 19 20 21 22 23 24

President's Day
Holiday

Early Release

25 26 27 28 29

Early Release

Student Health Insurance

Florida Healthy Kids Insurance is Florida's free or low cost health insurance program for children ages 5-18. Services include doctor visits, check-ups and shots, hospital, surgery and emergency services, vision, hearing screening, and prescriptions.

FL♥rida KidCare

Eligibility is based on income and family size.

www.healthykids.org/

Call Volusia County Schools Health Services (386) 734-7190 at ext. 20525 or 20447 with questions.

▶ March 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Music in Our Schools Month
Youth Art Month
Theater in Our Schools Month
Athletic Training Month

					1	2
3	4 National School Breakfast Week	5	6 Early Release	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Early Release	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Early Release	21 3rd Grading Period Ends	22 Teacher Duty Day/ Student Holiday	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	----- Spring Break -----					
31						

Volusia Partners

Businesses and civic organizations are encouraged to become involved in our schools.

Partnership activities can include: sponsorship opportunities for events, awards, incentives, financial contributions, in-kind donations or services, employee release time to volunteer and/or mentor, sponsorship of programs or extracurricular clubs, adoption of a classroom or school, job-shadowing opportunities, participation on School Advisory Councils. In turn, partner schools work hard to recognize their business partners.

For more information, contact the business partner coordinator at the school of your choice or call Volunteer/ Partnership Programs at 386-734-7190 ext. 20221.

▶ April 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 Classes Resume 4th Grading Period Begins	2	3 Early Release- Paraprofessional Appreciation Day	4 Grades on Parent Portal/Report Card Distribution	5	6
7	8	9	10 Early Release	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Early Release	18	19	20
21 Public School Volunteer Week	22	23	24 Early Release	25	26	27
28	29	30	School Volunteer Appreciation Month School Library & Media Month Autism Awareness Month			

KidGuard® Student Accident Insurance

To help with the medical expenses resulting from accidental injuries, we offer a low-cost optional student accident insurance.

This plan is supplemental to your own primary health and /or accident policies by covering deductibles, co-payments, etc.

It is not intended to be a primary source of medical coverage.

If you wish to participate, you may enroll online:

schoolinsuranceofflorida.com

For questions, contact School Insurance of Florida at 800-432-6915.

► May 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Mental Health Awareness Month Military Appreciation Month Physical Fitness & Sports Month			1 Early Release 4th Midterm Period Ends	2	3 School Lunch Hero Day	4
5	6 Teacher Appreciation Week	7 National Teacher Appreciation Day	8 Early Release	9	10	11
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15 Early Release	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Early Release	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day Holiday	28	29	30	31 Early Release Last Day of School for Students 4th Grading Period Ends	

Strategies to Deal with Bullying

- **Tell them to stop.**
- **Walk away.** Do not let bullies get to you. Walk away and ignore them.
- **Protect yourself.** Sometimes you cannot walk away. If you are being physically hurt, protect yourself.
- **Tell an adult you trust.** Talking to someone can help you figure out the best ways to deal with the problem. In some cases, adults need to get involved for the bullying to stop.
- **Find a safe place.** Go somewhere you feel safe and secure like a favorite teacher's classroom or the office.
- **Stick together.** Stay with a group or individuals who you trust.
- **Find opportunities to make new friends.** Explore your interests and join school activities such as sports or art. Volunteer or participate in community service.

June 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

National Safety Month

1

2

3

4

5 Elementary
Grades on Parent
Portal/Report Card
Distribution

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

Father's Day

17

18

19

Juneteenth

20

21

22

23

24

25

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28

29

30

Middle/High
Grades on Parent
Portal/Report Card
Distribution—TBA

Summer BreakSpot

Kids and teens can still get free nutritionally-balanced meals in the summer while schools are closed.

Summer BreakSpot is available all summer long for kids and teens 18 and under.

There are many meal sites to grab a free meal with no application necessary, such as parks, libraries, and churches.

Students enrolled in summer programs housed in schools have access to free breakfast and lunch.

To find a site, dial 2-1-1 or text FOODFL to 304304. You can also search for sites by zip code:

www.summerbreakspot.org/find-location/.



► July 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricane survival is contingent upon being prepared for the worst. A good hurricane preparedness plan starts off with a hurricane checklist to ensure that you and your family have enough food, water, and other necessities to last you through a storm-event. With that in mind, the National Hurricane Center has brought to you this hurricane checklist from the [American Red Cross](#).

In addition to marking off the items on this hurricane checklist, you should be sure that you are in a safe and secure shelter. Check www.volusia.org/services/public-protection/emergency-management/pin/ for a list of open shelters during a storm.

2023-2024 School List - ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Beachside

1265 N. Grandview Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32118
Telephone: (386) 258-4669

Blue Lake

282 North Blue Lake Avenue
DeLand, FL 32724
Telephone: (386) 822-4070

Champion

921 Tournament Drive
Daytona Beach, FL 32124
Telephone: (386) 258-4664

Chisholm

557 Ronnoc Lane
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
Telephone: (386) 424-2540

Citrus Grove

729 Hazen Road
DeLand, FL 32720
Telephone: (386) 626-0053

Coronado Beach

3550 Michigan Avenue
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
Telephone: (386) 424-2525

Cypress Creek

6100 S. Williamson Boulevard
Port Orange, FL 32128
Telephone: (386) 322-6101

DeBary

88 West Highbanks Road
DeBary, FL 32713
Telephone: (386) 575-4230

Deltona Lakes

2135 Providence Boulevard
Deltona, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 575-4115

Discovery

975 Abigail Drive
Deltona, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 575-4133

Edgewater Public

801 S. Old County Road
Edgewater, FL 32132
Telephone: (386) 424-2573

Enterprise

211 Main Street
Enterprise, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 575-4135

Forest Lake

1600 Doyle Road
Deltona, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 575-4166

Freedom

1395 S. Blue Lake Avenue
DeLand, FL 32724
Telephone: (386) 943-4375

Friendship

2746 Fulford Street
Deltona, FL 32738
Telephone: (386) 575-4130

Horizon

4751 Hidden Lake Drive
Port Orange, FL 32129
Telephone: (386) 322-6150

Indian River

650 Roberts Road
Edgewater, FL 32141
Telephone: (386) 424-2650

Longstreet

2745 S. Peninsula Drive
Daytona Beach, FL 32118
Telephone: (386) 322-6172

Manatee Cove

734 West Ohio Avenue
Orange City, FL 32763
Telephone: (386) 968-0004

George Marks

1000 N. Garfield Avenue
DeLand, FL 32724
Telephone: (386) 822-6986

McInnis

5175 US Highway 17
DeLeon Springs, FL 32130
Telephone: (386) 943-6384

Orange City

555 E. University Avenue
Orange City, FL 32763
Telephone: (386) 575-4215

Ormond Beach

100 Corbin Avenue
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
Telephone: (386) 258-4666

Osteen

500 Doyle Road
Osteen, FL 32764
Telephone: (386) 575-4255

Palm Terrace

1825 Dunn Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
Telephone: (386) 258-4670

Pathways

2100 Airport Road
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
Telephone: (386) 258-4671

Pierson

657 North Center Street
Pierson, FL 32180
Telephone: (386) 740-0850

Pine Trail

300 Airport Road
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
Telephone: (386) 258-4672

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Port Orange

402 Dunlawton Avenue
Port Orange, FL 32127
Telephone: (386) 322-6271

Pride

1100 Learning Lane
Deltona, FL 32738
Telephone: (386) 968-0010

Read-Pattillo

400 Sixth Street
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
Telephone: (386) 424-2600

South Daytona

600 Elizabeth Place
South Daytona, FL 32119
Telephone: (386) 322-6180

Spirit

1500 Meadowlark Drive
Deltona, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 575-4080

Spruce Creek

642 Taylor Road
Port Orange, FL 32127
Telephone: (386) 322-6200

Starke, Edith I.

730 South Parsons Avenue
DeLand, FL 32720
Telephone: (386) 943-9651

Sugar Mill

1101 Charles Street
Port Orange, FL 32129
Telephone: (386) 322-6171

Sunrise

3155 Phonetia Drive
Deltona, FL 32738
Telephone: (386) 575-4103

Sweetwater

5800 Victoria Gardens Blvd.
Port Orange, FL 32127
Telephone: (386) 322-6230

Timbercrest

2401 Eustace Avenue
Deltona, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 575-4221

Tomoka

100 Osceola Avenue
Ormond Beach, FL 32176
Telephone: (386) 258-4676

Turie T. Small

800 South Street
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
Telephone: (386) 258-4675

Volusia Pines

500 Kicklighter Road
Lake Helen, FL 32744
Telephone: (386) 575-4125

Westside

1210 Jimmy Ann Drive
Daytona Beach, FL 32117
Telephone: (386) 258-4678

Woodward Avenue

1201 South Woodward Avenue
DeLand, FL 32720
Telephone: (386) 740-7910

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS

Dept. of Juvenile Justice

Educational Programs

3875 Tiger Bay Road
Daytona Beach, FL 32124
Telephone: (386) 947-5990

Highbanks Learning Center

336 E. Highbanks Road
DeBary, FL 32713
Telephone: (386) 968-0039

Legacy Scholars Academy

51 Children's Way
Enterprise, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 668-4774

Riverview Learning Center

801 North Wild Olive Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32118
Telephone: (386) 258-4673

COMBINATION SCHOOLS

Holly Hill School (K-8)

1500 Center Avenue
Holly Hill, FL 32117
Telephone: (386) 258-4662

Taylor Middle-High (6-12)

100 East Washington Avenue
Pierson, FL 32180
Telephone: (386) 740-9800

Volusia Online Learning (K-12)

1290 Herbert Street
Port Orange, FL 32129
Telephone: (386) 506-0014

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Campbell

625 South Keech Street
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
Telephone: (386) 258-4661

Creekside

6801 Airport Road
Port Orange, FL 32128
Telephone: (386) 322-6155

DeLand

1400 South Aquarius Avenue
DeLand, FL 32724
Telephone: (386) 822-5678

Deltona

250 Enterprise Road
Deltona, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 575-4150

Galaxy

2400 Eustace Avenue
Deltona, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 575-4144

Heritage

1001 Parnell Court
Deltona, FL 32738
Telephone: (386) 575-4113

David C. Hinson, Sr.

1860 N. Clyde Morris Boulevard
Daytona Beach, FL 32117
Telephone: (386) 258-4682

New Smyrna Beach

1200 South Myrtle Avenue
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
Telephone: (386) 424-2550

Ormond Beach

151 Domicilio Avenue
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
Telephone: (386) 258-4667

River Springs

900 W. Ohio Avenue
Orange City, FL 32763
Telephone: (386) 968-0011

Silver Sands

1300 Herbert Street
Port Orange, FL 32129
Telephone: (386) 322-6175

Southwestern

605 W. New Hampshire Avenue
DeLand, FL 32720
Telephone: (386) 822-6815

HIGH SCHOOLS

Atlantic

1250 Reed Canal Road
Port Orange, FL 32129
Telephone: (386) 322-6100

DeLand High

800 North Hill Avenue
DeLand, FL 32724
Telephone: (386) 822-6909

Deltona High

100 Wolf Pack Run
Deltona, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 575-4153

Mainland

1255 W. International Speedway Blvd.
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
Telephone: (386) 258-4665

New Smyrna Beach

1015 Tenth Street
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
Telephone: (386) 424-2555

Pine Ridge

926 Howland Boulevard
Deltona, FL 32738
Telephone: (386) 575-4195

Seabreeze

2700 N. Oleander Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32118
Telephone: (386) 258-4674

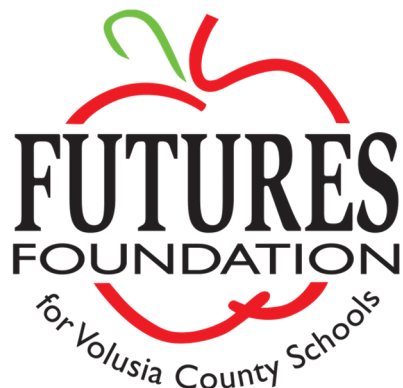
Spruce Creek

801 Taylor Road
Port Orange, FL 32127
Telephone: (386) 322-6272

University High

1000 W. Rhode Island Avenue
Orange City, FL 32763
Telephone: (386) 968-0013

FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools



Established in 1985, FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) direct support organization which assists in providing programs for students, teachers, and staff within Volusia County Schools. FUTURES Foundation's mission is to engage business and civic leaders to promote and achieve educational excellence for Volusia County Schools. Its vision is that all Volusia County public school students are equipped and prepared for college or career success. FUTURES Foundation provides a variety of recognition, leadership development, and scholarship programs impacting students, teachers, and staff.

For the 2022-23 school year, FUTURES Foundation funded more than \$120,000 in School District Education Foundation State Matching grants to provide both enrichment and remedial activities for students in 14 schools. These state funded matching grant programs focused on literacy and low performing students and had a direct impact on student test scores and classroom performance. Over the years, FUTURES Foundation has funded almost \$2.1 million in creative, innovative teacher classroom mini-grants for specialized projects created and designed by Volusia County teachers. The foundation's Teacher Mini-Grant Program uses an online grant system at www.FindItFundItFloridacom/Volusia for teachers to apply for and promote their project's funding needs. Check out this website in October for this school year's creative

ideas which need funding.

Through its Take Stock in Children Program, FUTURES Foundation provides college tuition scholarships and mentors for selected financially eligible high school students. Take Stock in Children scholars receive a college tuition scholarship upon completion of the program's requirements which include achieving a cumulative 2.5 GPA upon graduation; remaining drug, alcohol, crime and gang free; and meeting with a mentor weekly for 30 minutes on campus or virtually during their high school years.

Other FUTURES Foundation programs include Tomorrow's Leaders, a leadership development program for high school juniors; Turn Around Recognition Program for middle and high school students; First Year Teacher Awards; Principal of the Year Awards; Superintendent's Outstanding Achievement Awards; and the Teacher of the Year Program.

Please visit www.FuturesVolusia.org to learn more about the investment FUTURES Foundation provides within Volusia County public schools and how you may become involved. VCS employees may support FUTURES Foundation through payroll deduction which is easily accessed via the e-portal's payroll tab. Another way to show your support is through the purchase of the "Support Education" specialty license tag which provides \$20 from each purchase or renewal to FUTURES Foundation for vehicles registered in Volusia County. Purchasing your tag is as easy as visiting www.LicenseToLearnFL.com.





2023-2024 Parent Guide & School Calendar

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The School Board of Volusia County does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, marital status, pregnancy, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or age in its educational programs, services or activities, or in its hiring or employment practices. The district also provides equal access to its facilities to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups, as required by the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding discrimination or harassment may be sent to:

For Employment Concerns:

Anne Marie Wrenn, PHR, SHRM-CP
Equity & Compliance Officer
Professional Standards/ HR
200 North Clara Avenue
DeLand, Florida 32721
(386) 734-7190, ext. 20313
amwrenn@volusia.k12.fl.us

For Student/Section 504 Concerns

Erin Harrigan, Esq.
ADA Compliance Officer
Office of General Counsel
200 North Clara Avenue
DeLand, Florida 32721
(386) 734-7190, ext. 71362
eaharrig@volusia.k12.fl.us

For an electronic or Spanish version of this ***School Calendar & Parent Guide*** and more extensive information, please visit vcsedu.org. You may also call 386-734-7190, ext. 20000