

Seaside Neighborhood School Student Handbook

2025 -2026



SCHOOL MISSION

We seek to sustain an educational community where an emphasis on academic excellence is complemented by our concern for each learner’s personal growth and intellectual, aesthetic, and psychological development. The curriculum is developmentally responsive – actively engaging students in learning skills in context, integrative – directing students to connect learning to daily lives, and exploratory – enabling students to discover their abilities, interests, learning styles, and ways that they can make contributions to society.

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School Governance

The Seaside School, Inc. Board of Directors strives to create safe, high quality educational environments where students can gain the skills and knowledge necessary to achieve family and personal goals at each of the school locations. To ensure the safety of our students during the 2025-2026 school year, information provided in all school handbooks may change as needed to comply with all health and safety measures required to prevent the spread of and ensure fairness and equity for our students.

School Board

Seaside Neighborhood School is governed by the Seaside School, Inc board. Board meetings are open to the public. The Seaside School, Inc. board meetings are held at the Seaside or Seacoast campus. All board meeting dates and times will be posted on the Seaside School website: www.seasideschools.net.

The dates and times of board meetings are posted on the school's website, www.seasideschools.net, and are physically posted at both campuses.

Individuals who desire to address the Seaside School Board must submit a written letter stating their concerns at least one week prior to the date of the upcoming meeting to the chairperson.

School Choice Statement from the Board of Directors

You have elected to attend The Seaside School, Inc. which is not your zoned school in Walton County. Seaside Neighborhood School and Seacoast Collegiate High School are proud of our tradition of academic excellence and community involvement. **As a school of choice you are expected to adhere to certain grade, attendance, discipline, and civility standards as outlined in the Student Performance Contract. If a student/family fails to comply with any one of the above standards, enrollment in The Seaside School, Inc. may be revoked, and the student will return to their zoned district school.**

School Operations

School Transportation

Walton County School Bus

Students may ride Walton County School District (WCSD) buses to and from school using their school issued bus pass. Student bus passes will be handed out during the first week of school. Our district “transportation hub” is South Walton High School. More information on bus routes can be found on <https://www.walton.k12.fl.us/>.

In addition to being able to take the WCSD school bus to/from home and school, families may also choose to drop off/pick up their students at the Seacoast campus (109 Greenway Trail). Drop off and pick up times will be determined at the start of the school year. Students will then ride the WCSD bus to the Seaside Campus. Traditionally the WCSD afternoon bus also makes a stop at the Boys and Girls Club (427 Greenway Trail).

While riding the WCSD bus, students will follow rules based on the Walton County Code of Conduct. Because of the safety issues involved with school buses, no student misbehavior or violation of school bus rules will be tolerated. When a student is suspended from the school bus, it is the parent or guardian’s responsibility to provide transportation to and from school.

The WCSD bus will pick up and drop off on 30A at the corner of Quincy Circle West. Students will be supervised as they walk back and forth to the bus stop on 30A by school personnel.

Other Transportation Policies

Morning Drop Off

All parents dropping off their students will need to enter Seaside from Quincy Circle West. You will follow Smolian Circle around to the north side of the lyceum. Students will exit vehicles at that point. Once you have dropped off your student, you will continue traveling on Smolian and merge back onto Quincy Circle East. Do not drive through the Seaside neighborhoods on the private roads.

Once students have been dropped off on campus, they may not leave without the permission of a staff member.

Afternoon Pick Up

Students will either be walkers/bikers or bus riders in the afternoon. **There is no facilitated afternoon car pickup line at the Seaside Neighborhood School.**

When walkers/bikers are dismissed from the Seaside Neighborhood School, they will either exit into the Seaside’s Central Square or at the northwest corner of the Lyceum Lawn towards Forest Street. Upon dismissal, students are expected to leave Seaside and report home. **If students remain in town after school, their parents/guardians are responsible for their safety and conduct.**

Per our agreement with the Seaside Community Development Company, Seaside Neighborhood students may not be picked up in the town of Seaside. Students and their families will need to plan on picking their students up in the Van Ness Public Parking lot supervised by school staff.

School Hours

Students should arrive at school no later than 7:50 a.m. to ensure they are in their seats and ready to begin the day by 8:00 a.m. Students not seated by 8:00 a.m. will be marked tardy. If your child arrives late, a parent or guardian is required to sign them in at the front office. Please note: On the third tardy within a nine-week period, your child will be assigned detention. Each additional tardy during that same nine-week period will also result in a detention.

Students are to be picked up from the Van Ness Butler Parking Lot by 3:00 p.m. each day, unless they are participating in a school sponsored activity or serving detention.

Adult supervision is not available before 7:45 a.m. or after 3:00 p.m.

Students will not be permitted inside the building before 7:55 a.m without supervision.

Seaside Neighborhood School Schedule

1st Block	8:00 - 8:50
2nd Block	8:54 - 9:44
3rd Block	9:48 - 10:38
4th Block	10:42 - 11:32
Lunch	11:32- 11:57
5th Block	12:01 - 12:51
6th Block	12:55 - 1:45
7th Block	1:49 - 2:40

**The school day will begin promptly at 8:00 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.*

Student Life

Off-Campus and Extracurricular Activities

Part of our successful educational program is our commitment to the community members. We are a neighborhood school and we aim to be good neighbors. To that end we emphasize extracurricular and off-campus activities. **In order to participate in any off-campus or extracurricular activities, this includes sports and dances, students must attend at least a half day of school on the day of the activity.**

Leaving School Grounds

Students may not leave school grounds without a teacher chaperone, parent approval, or without checking out from the main office. Our community often serves as an extended campus during the school day. Students are held accountable for their behavior while out in the community.

Field Trips

To participate in school field trips, at a minimum, students are required to have a signed and completed permission form, medical release form, and emergency card. Students may lose the privilege to go off campus and/or on field trips due to their behavior as determined by school leadership.

Athletic Program Requirements

Requirements for participation in school athletics will be in coordination through the Athletic Director. Students will need all paperwork completed and turned in to the school prior to participation.

Academic Policies

Required Coursework and Grading

All students are required to take the following courses all :

- Math (4 years)
- Language Arts (4 years)
- Social Studies (4 years)
- Science (4 years)
- Spanish (4 years)
- Physical Education (at least a semester each year 7th and 8th grade/ 5th and 6th grade yearlong)

*Students who score a level 1 or 2 in reading or math are recommended to take an intensive reading and/or math class.

Students are required to take seven classes during regular school hours .

Classes that have a state End of Course exam (Algebra I Honors and Civics), the EOC exam will count as 30% of the final grade. The final grade will be calculated using the following formula. 1st semester (35%) + 2nd semester (35%) + End of course exam (30%) = Final Grade

All students participate in the Florida standardized assessment program. In addition students will be assessed via nine week assessments, semester assessments, and end of course exams. Please check the school calendar or TeacherEase.

GPA and Forgiveness Policy

High school level courses taken below grade 9 may be used to satisfy high school graduation and Bright Futures award requirements as well as meet middle school subject area course requirements. Middle school students who have taken high school courses may receive grade forgiveness if they have earned a grade of C, D or F or the numerical equivalent of C, D or F. In such a case, the replacement of the grade with a grade of C or higher, or the numerical equivalent of a grade of C or higher, earned subsequently in the same or comparable course. For a grade of A or B the course and grade cannot be forgiven and will appear on the student's high school transcript and will be used in the calculation of high school grade point average and for Bright Futures.

Accessing Student Grades

Each student and parent has a **TeacherEase account**. The parent/guardian login will be the email you provide to the school on the enrollment paperwork. Your student's login will be his/her school email address. **You may check your child's grades on assignments online at <https://www.teacherease.com/>.**

Although **graded assignments** will be posted in TeacherEase and Google Classroom, the **student is responsible for writing assignments in their planner**, as teachers also make use of additional websites such as Google Classroom to assign work. The student's planner should be **the first resource** for assignments and homework. **Assignments and due dates may be adjusted depending on the schedule and rate of learning for each class.**

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

Seaside has **zero tolerance** for plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty. A student found to have participated in such activity will receive a zero on the assignment/assessment and parents/guardians will be contacted for a conference.

Required Assessments

All students are required to take the following assessments at Seaside Neighborhood School:

Assessment/Grading (nine weeks, semester, and end of course)

Students in grades 6-8 are subject to quarterly comprehensive examinations.

- Quarter 1 and Quarter 3 examinations are called Nine Weeks Exams and are worth 20% of the quarter grade in each course. A project may be substituted for the Quarter 1 and Quarter 3 exam.
- Quarter 2 and Quarter 4 examinations mark the end of Semester 1 and Semester 2 and are called Semester Exams. These exams are comprehensive for their respective semesters and are worth 20% of the semester grade. Any subject with a state-mandated assessment will not administer a separate Semester 2 exam.

EOC courses such as Algebra 1 and Civics have **mandatory** End of Course Examinations that must account for 30% of the Final Year Grade for the course. EOC Exams are scored on a scale of 1-5, where scores of 3, 4, and 5 are passing. Scores are converted as follows by the district:

5 → 100 A 4 → 89 B 3 → 79 C 2 → 69 D 1 → 59 F

Grading Policy

- A = 100-90
- B = 89-80
- C = 79-70
- D = 69-60
- F = 59-0

Assignment Submission Policy

Late Work Policy

To support accountability and time management, students are expected to adhere to all classroom due dates.

- **Assignments turned in 1 day late will be accepted for up to 70% credit.**
- **Assignments submitted more than 1 day late will receive a zero.**

Our teachers are here to support student success. We understand that circumstances such as absences, illness or other valid reasons beyond a student's control may impact their ability to meet deadlines. In these cases, students must communicate directly with their teachers as soon as possible to create an action plan for completing and submitting assignments for credit.

Timely communication and proactive planning are keys to success!

Make Up Work Policy

In the event of an absence, students have one day for each day they were absent to make up the work. For example, if a student is out sick for two days and brings in a note, then they have two days to make up the work.

Work that was due on the day of an absence is due the day the student returns to school.

When your student is absent, please first check TeacherEase and their Google Classroom for make-up work before calling and requesting work from teachers. We appreciate our conscientious parents who call asking for make-up assignments when their student is absent. However, **make-up work will not be given to students until they return to school.** Upon returning to school, students are responsible to meet with their teachers to receive assignments.

Online Courses

Students are only given the option to complete online courses if they meet the following criteria

- 1) Is a graduation requirement that our school does not offer
- 2) Credit recovery
- 3) Spanish 4 (to obtain the Florida Seal of Biliteracy)

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parents are encouraged to confer with teachers on a regular basis. Teachers may request parent conferences in cases where recurring student problems/concerns are developing.

Each classroom teacher is assigned the initial and primary authority and responsibility to assess classroom performance for each student enrolled in his/her class.

Any review, requested modification, or appeal of teacher evaluations and assessments by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be conducted pursuant to the following:

1. A parent or guardian shall arrange a conference with the individual teacher whose assessment or evaluation is in question at a proper place and time for the parent(s)/guardian(s) to discuss the teacher's findings.
2. When a parent/guardian of the student is not satisfied with the outcome of the conference, the parent/guardian may appeal to the Principal for a second review of the teacher's assessment and evaluation of the student. The Principal shall, upon request, arrange for a conference at a proper time and place with the following parties: the Principal, the teacher, and the parent(s)/guardian(s). The findings of the Principal following such conferences shall be final.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) who wish to schedule a conference with a teacher, should email the teacher directly or call the school at (850) 231-0396. Conferences are to be scheduled at least one day in advance. Impromptu meetings before or after school are not allowed.

School Policies

School Uniforms

At Seaside Neighborhood School, students are expected to dress in a way that promotes health, safety, and a positive learning environment. School uniforms help foster a sense of community, pride, and focus on learning.

Purchasing Uniforms

Official Seaside Neighborhood School uniforms can be purchased through:

- Lands' End (School Code: 900103532)
- French Toast (School Code: QS44AKG)
- Best Life Outfitters: [Seaside Collection](#)

Gently Used Uniform Sale: Held at the school during the summer. Shirts: \$1, Sweatshirts/Jackets: \$5. Dates will be emailed to families.

Basic Uniform Requirements

Students in grades 5–8 must wear the school uniform daily unless otherwise notified by school administration.

Uniform Tops (Girls and Boys):

- Solid Royal Blue, Carolina Blue, or Navy Blue crew neck or collared t-shirt with the Seaside Neighborhood School logo on the left chest.
- Tops must fully cover the midriff and back at all times.

Uniform Bottoms (Girls and Boys):

- Lightweight khaki-colored (light tan) pants, shorts, or skorts.
- Shorts/skorts must be no shorter than mid-thigh (fingertip rule). A 5" inseam or longer should work for most.
- If shorts/skorts do not meet the length requirement, **long khaki pants must be worn.**

Uniform Options

In addition to the basic uniform, students may wear:

- Collared shirts with school logo (Royal, Carolina, or Navy Blue)
- Crew neck or hooded sweatshirts with school logo
- Seaside athletic team sweatshirts (via athletic director website)
- Pullover/zip-up fleece or rain jackets with school logo (Navy Blue)
- Navy Blue cardigan sweater with school logo
- For water activities: Royal, Carolina, or Navy Blue rash guard (long or short sleeves)
- Proud Student race shirts

Outdoor Items

Students may wear sunglasses, hats/visors, and other sun-protective wear outdoors.

Shoes

Required: Athletic shoes with laces and multi-leveled gripping soles.

Prohibited: Sandals, flip flops, boots, skateboarding shoes, loafers.

Outer Garments

All coats, jackets, and sweatshirts must display the Seaside Neighborhood School logo.

Special Dress Days

- **Spirit Days (Wednesdays):** Students may wear any Seaside House shirt with uniform bottoms.
- **Game Days:** Student athletes may wear their official jersey and uniform bottoms.
- **Free Dress Days:** Students may wear non-uniform clothing following school dress code guidelines. If attire is deemed distracting or unsafe, students will be required to change.

Dress Code Guidelines for Spirit and Free Dress Days

Students may NOT wear:

- Torn, frayed, sheer, or lace clothing
- Cut-off shorts/pants, athletic shorts, leggings, running shorts, or short shorts
- Shirts with spaghetti straps, tank tops, crop tops or visible undergarments
- Clothing with inappropriate slogans, imagery, or messages promoting drugs, alcohol, weapons, violence, or discrimination
- Hats, visors, sunglasses, or headbands indoors
- Jewelry or accessories that could be used as weapons

Uniform Assistance

No student will be penalized for uniform non-compliance due to financial hardship. Parents should contact the principal for assistance.

Uniform Exceptions

- Students enrolling mid-year will have a one-day grace period.
- Clothing variations for specific school-sponsored activities must be approved by administration.
- The Executive Director, in consultation with the principal, may grant waivers for medical, disability, or sincerely held religious reasons.

Reminders:

- Label all uniform items with the student's name.
- Students must wear clothing that fits appropriately—not too tight or baggy.

Dress Code Enforcement

Students are expected to arrive at school each day in compliance with the Seaside Neighborhood School uniform policy.

Shoes: Students not wearing the required athletic shoes will be excluded from physical education (PE) and any off-campus activities on that day.

Parent Notification: Parents or guardians will receive an email informing them of the dress code violation and the corrective actions taken.

Students who are out of dress code will follow this progressive discipline process:

1st Offense: Verbal warning to the student and parent contact

2nd Offense: Parent contact

3rd Offense: Detention and parent contact

4th Offense: Parents are called to bring a change of clothes

5th Offense: Parents are called to bring a change of clothes and a referral is issued

Chronic Dress Code Violations:

- Students who accumulate five (5) dress code infractions, tracked through parent email notifications, will be required to attend a conference with school administration.
- The conference will review the uniform policy and address ongoing concerns.
- Continued non-compliance after the conference may lead to loss of privileges, including participation in special events, until the student consistently follows the uniform guidelines.

Gum Chewing Policy

In order to maintain a clean and respectful environment, Seaside Neighborhood School **does not permit students to chew gum** on campus or during any school-sponsored activities, whether held on or off campus.

Additionally, gum chewing is not allowed on school-sponsored transportation, including buses used for field trips, athletic events, and other school-related travel. The consequences for gum chewing are outlined in the Seaside Discipline Matrix

Student Behavior

Seaside Neighborhood School is a public school in the Walton County School District and follows the Walton County School District Code of Conduct. A copy will be issued to each student during the first week of school. Parents and students are required to sign the compliance agreement and return it to the main office of the Seaside Neighborhood School each school year. Additionally, Seaside School, Inc. students and their parents/guardians will sign a Student Performance Contract at the beginning of each year outlining the expectations of our tradition of academic excellence and community involvement. **Failure to comply with any one of the standards, may impact your enrollment in The Seaside School, Inc.**

Discipline Matrix

Seaside School, Inc. follows a discipline matrix to address student behavior in a clear, consistent, and developmentally appropriate manner.

The matrix can be found on the school website. [Link](#)

Bullying and Harassment

The Seaside School, Inc. follows the bullying and harassment policy of the WCSD. Please refer to the WCSD Code of Conduct. Link: <https://www.walton.k12.fl.us/code-of-conduct>

Detention Policy

Detention is issued as a result of inappropriate behavior. An email will be sent and a detention form will be sent home for parent/guardian signature.

Detention will be held before/after school.

- Students must serve the full detention.
- If a student misses their assigned detention without notifying the administration, they will serve two detentions. One to make up for the original detention they missed and a second for missing the first without

notification.

- Students will receive a form when detention is assigned. It is the student's responsibility to have the form signed and returned the following day to the teacher/administrator who assigned the detention.
- Students must serve detention on the assigned date. Exceptions for illness or doctor's appointment.
- The student must serve his/her detention even if they have athletic practice or games on the days of detention.
- Students are not permitted to talk, read, or complete homework during detention.

Lunch

Students bring their lunches daily and eat outside weather permitting. Students should bring a healthy lunch with a cold pack, and beverage. There are no microwaves or vending machines available to students. Students are not permitted to leave campus to purchase lunch.

Generally, special lunch days are Friday. Friday is pizza day, \$2.00 per slice.

Students are to order and pay for their lunches over the weekend or on Mondays before 8:30am. Lunch information can be found in "Shark Bites" which is sent out each week. Please send the correct amount of money for the orders. **If a family orders lunch, pays, and then is absent no refund or credit will be given.**

Free and Reduced Lunch Program

A free and reduced lunch application must be completed and accepted before students can qualify for a lunch program. Students who have qualified for Free and Reduced lunch through the Walton County School District are encouraged to contact Ms. Kim Mixson at mixonk@seasideschools.net for information on our lunch program.

Student Health and Safety

Emergency Illness

In case of emergency or illness, students will report to the office and the school administration will phone the parent/guardian. Students who are ill will wait for parents in the office reception area.

Medication

If your child needs medication administered on a regular basis due to a medical condition, please see school administration in the main office for proper documentation (Request to Administer Medication) to be filled out by parent or guardian. A parent or guardian must bring the medication to the school and hand it to the proper school personnel. Students are not permitted to transport medication to or from school.

Medication Authorization: Medication authorizations shall be received on a standardized authorization form (this form can be obtained from the school administration office). By WCSD Policy, only medications provided by the parents, with accompanying documentation, shall be administered to a student. Any change in the original medication authorization requires a new written authorization and a corresponding change in the prescription label. If a parent calls indicating that a student did not take a dose at home and the school has authorization to administer that medication at that dosage, then the medication can be administered with proper documentation.

A parent or guardian must bring the medication to school in its original container where it will be received, counted, and verified by school administration.

The pharmacist can divide the medication into two containers--one for home and one for school. The original container should be labeled with the student's name, name of the medication, directions for dosage, frequency to be administered, the physician's name, and the date the prescription was filled. Medications in plastic bags or other non-original containers are not acceptable. A parent or guardian must bring the medication to school in its original container where it will be received, counted, and verified by school administration.

Students are not permitted to have nonprescription or prescription medication in their possession on the bus, at school, or on any school sponsored activity.

Parents should:

1. Provide the school with a written authorization that includes the following information:
Student's name, Name and purpose of the medication, Reason for administering during the school day, Dosage, Hours to be given, Method by which it is to be given, Name of the physician, Date of the prescription, Expected duration of administration of the medication, Possible toxic effects and side effects.
2. Provide the medication in a container labeled as required.
3. Administer the first dose of any new medication at home.
4. Parents are responsible for transporting medication to the school. Unused medication must be picked up by parents within one week of the expiration date. After one week, the school administration shall destroy the medication. Medication given on a daily basis throughout the year will be destroyed if it is not picked up after the last day of school.

Textbook Policy

Lost or Damaged Textbooks: Pursuant to Florida Statute 1006.28(3)(b), The school principal shall collect from each student or student's parent the purchase price of any instructional material the student has lost, destroyed, or unnecessarily damaged. The failure to collect such sum upon reasonable effort by the school principal may result in the suspension of the student from participation in extracurricular activities or satisfaction of the debt by the student through community service activities at the school site as determined by the school principal, pursuant to policies adopted by district school board rule.

Technology And Cell Phone Policies

Seaside Neighborhood School follows the Walton County School District Student Code of Conduct, which can be reviewed here: <https://www.walton.k12.fl.us/code-of-conduct>. As stated in the Code of Conduct:

"The school administration reserves the right to search seized electronic devices if there is reasonable suspicion that the student was using the device in violation of school policy or law."

To ensure a safe and focused learning environment, the following policies are in place regarding student technology:

- **Cell phones, smartwatches, and similar personal devices** may not be used during class time unless explicitly approved by the teacher for academic purposes. This includes texting, calls, recording, or using apps during instructional time.
- **Smartwatches and wearable technology** used to send/receive messages, access apps, or serve as a distraction will be treated as cell phones and are subject to the same restrictions.
- If a student needs to contact a parent or guardian, they must do so through the front office.
- Emergency communications will be made by or through the school administrative office.
- Parents should contact the school office directly in case of an emergency.
- Each classroom provides access to computers or digital devices for academic use.
- **Streaming of videos, games, or other non-academic content is not permitted at any time on**

school devices or networks.

Parents and students are required to review and sign the school's technology compliance agreement at the start of each school year. These guidelines are in place to support student safety, minimize distractions, and promote responsible use of technology.

BARK and Go Guardian are used to monitor student accounts for security and protection.

Phone Policy

Students are not to have their phone out at any time during the school day. Phones should stay in a student's backpack until after school.

The Seaside Neighborhood School has a, **“See it, take it.” policy**. If a staff member sees a student's phone during the school day, they will take it and give it to the administration. **Phones that are collected will be kept in a safe place until the student's parent/guardian is able to pick up the phone.**

Attendance Policy – Seaside School, Inc.

General Expectations

All students are required to attend school every day. Unexcused absences and tardies can lead to numerous detrimental consequences, including lower assignment grades, reduced classroom grades, failure to pass classes, or recommendations for removal based on the student’s performance contract.

Whether an absence or tardy is excused is determined solely by the school principal or their designee. Submission of falsified excuse documents may result in legal consequences.

Students may not be excused during school hours for private lessons or non-school activities unless specifically approved by the Superintendent or their designee in accordance with Florida law (F.S. 1003.21(2)(b)(2)).

Physician Excused Absences - A Physician's Excused Absence is a school absence due to a medical condition verified by a licensed healthcare provider’s written note specifying the dates and necessity of the absence.	Excused Absences - Please send us an email (middle school lancem@seasideschools.net or high school wilcoxm@seasideschools.net) or call(850-231-0396) to let us know that your child is absent and the reason.	Unexcused Absences Absences without communication from a parent are considered unexcused.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nurse Practitioner ● Dentist/Orthodontist ● Licensed Clinical Psychologist/Therapist ● Physician (MD Or DO) ● Emergency Room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Short-term illness or injury ● Death in the immediate family ● Religious holidays (with principal approval) ● Court or legal obligations ● Natural disasters (with principal approval) ● School-sponsored activities (with principal approval) ● Financial or other serious family hardship (with principal approval) ● Participation in national/ world-class competitions ● Communicable diseases (e.g., scabies, pink eye) – up to 5 excused days with proof of treatment and nurse clearance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Missing the bus or oversleeping ● Shopping or leisure activities ● Repeated illness(more than 10 days in total) without a doctor's verification ● Failure to provide an excuse(excuses must be provided within 3 days of the absence) ● Vacation/travel longer than 3 days without prior approval - Please submit an extended absence form if your child will be out for more than 3 days using this link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1P4HvZMI5uBUIWCwG4w1ZaguwV-2sScM3/view?usp=sharing

**After a student has been absent 10 days total (excused or unexcused) a physician's note will be required within 3 days of the student’s return, or the absence will be unexcused.

Compulsory Attendance

Students aged 6–18 must attend school unless a formal withdrawal is filed (ages 16–18) and signed by the student, parent, and school. Missing school requires a written excuse submitted within 3 school days. If a doctor’s note is required, it must also be submitted within 3 school days after return.

Truancy

The school will contact parents for any unknown or unexcused absences.

- After 5 unexcused absences in 30 days or 10 in 90 days, written notice is sent to the parent/guardian.

- Students showing patterns of non-attendance (excused or not) will be referred to the MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Support) team.

Possible MTSS Interventions:

- Teacher-family communication
- Environmental/class changes
- Mentoring or counseling
- Tutoring
- Attendance contracts
- Referral for family support services

If there's no improvement, the case may be referred to the District Attendance Officer, who may:

- File a truancy petition in court
- Notify the DMV to suspend the student's driver's license

Habitual Truancy

After 15 unexcused absences in 90 days, the student is considered habitually truant, and legal and DMV action will be taken.

Volunteers (Student, Parent, Community)

The Seaside School, Inc. requests that families of students complete twenty (20) volunteer hours each school year. All parents or extended family members of Seaside students wishing to volunteer must complete the Volunteer/Mentor Application and be cleared through Walton County School District before permission to volunteer is granted. This mandate includes clearance for volunteers in school events such as assistance with special school projects, coaching, fundraising activities, etc. Fingerprinting is required when chaperoning students on overnight field trips and mentoring. Volunteer forms may be picked up in the school administration office. Please use the Family Volunteer Self-Reporting Form to document your volunteer hours. Link to share your volunteer hours: <https://forms.gle/kNL2SEUEQzE6To1n7>