

VOLUSIA
COUNTY SCHOOLS

Parent Guide and School Calendar

2026-2027

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School Board Meetings

School Board meetings are open to the public and held in the boardroom of the DeLand Administrative Complex, 200 N. Clara Ave., DeLand. School Board dates are posted on the district's website at www.vcsedu.org/school-board .

The agendas are posted seven days prior to a meeting under "Upcoming School Board Meeting" on the district website. The School Board occasionally holds workshops, special sessions, etc. These meetings are noticed, and the approved 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 with staff on the landing area or in 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 the Volusia County School Board YouTube channel to watch the meeting live or on demand.

Strategic Plan 2024-2027

GOAL

ALL students will engage in high levels of learning EVERY day.

GUARDRAILS

1. Recruit, support, develop and retain high-quality staff.
2. Provide conditions that enhance student learning.
3. Improve operational efficiency and maximize resources to support student learning.
4. Ensure high-quality community engagement with all stakeholders.

Read the full Strategic Plan at: Strategic Plan 2024-2027

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 kindergarten, a child must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1

Verification of Shot Record and Physical Exams

- A Florida Physical form (DH3040)signed by a licensed Florida medical authority and completed within one year of registration date.
- All immunization records must be recorded in FL SHOTS or submit an Opt- Out Form to the FL Department of Health.

Verification of Residency

- Two different proofs of residence/address:
- Mortgage deed, current lease agreement, vehicle registration or utility bill dated within the past 30 days such as a power, water, or gas bill.
- A driver's license is also acceptable only if it lists the address being used for enrollment as the primary residence.



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 DH680

Florida Shots is used by school registrars to obtain immunization information electronically; however at times it does not include the latest information. Form DH 680, Florida Certification of Immunization, sometimes referred to as the "blue card," is no longer in use as proof of immunizations. All vaccinations should be documented/retrieved in FL SHOTS unless the parent/guardian has submitted a Florida SHOTS Notification and Opt-Out Form (Opt-OutForm.pdf) to the Florida Department of Health.

Parents/guardians may use FL SHOTS to request a transfer of records (from out of state/country records) or copies of the DH680 or DH681.

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 St.
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, pertussisseries (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 required.(Meningococcal and HPV vaccine recommended)

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 & Parent Square

Stay in touch with your student's progress by accessing the student's schedule, attendance, discipline, grades, test history, announcements, online forms and school and district communications via the district's Parent Portal and Parent Square accounts. See page 18 for details regarding portal setup and access.

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. Parents and guardians will receive phone calls, texts, and/or emails about important updates. You can also find updates on Volusia County Schools Facebook, X, 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. Parents of students entering 6th or 9th grade must contact the school to request transportation services. 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. Visit the School Way Cafe webpage for more information.

Free Breakfast & Lunch



School Meals

Volusia County Schools will continue to operate the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program for the 2026-2027 school year.

All school sites in the district qualify to operate CEP. This program eliminates the collection of family income applications for free and reduced-price meals and ensures all students receive a nutritious breakfast and lunch each day at no charge.

Students attending Richard Milburn Academy West and Richard Milburn Academy East will also continue to receive meals for free.

Directly Certified (DC) families enrolled in state assistance programs will still receive their eligibility letter for after-school care and VPK benefits.

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING NEW?
School Way Café is hiring NOW!
POSITIONS START AT $16/HOUR
Café Assistants
Traveling Assistants
Interns (Managers-In-Training)
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.
school way café
bit.ly/swcjob

General Information

Beginning of the Year Forms

To streamline processes making better use of time, reducing paper shuffling, adding convenience and as a result providing a better experience for our parents we have made our Online Enrollment and Back to School forms available online via your Focus Parent Portal. Visit https://www.vcsedu.org/parents-students/back-to-school-resource-center to learn more about required and optional forms. Visit https://www.vcsedu.org/portals for assistance in obtaining or accessing your Focus Parent Portal. It is important to complete these forms as soon as possible and before the 1st day of school.

Mandatory Annual Forms

- School Information Consent
- Bus Stop Release Form
- Contact Update Form
- Parent Consent for Health Services Form
- Student Device Parent Acknowledgement
- Student Housing Questionnaire
- Student Information and Media Release Opt-out Form

We welcome parents and students to familiarize themselves with our guidelines to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment. For additional resources on our Policies and Procedures, please visit our Board Docs website.



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 386-734-7190 ext. 20119 or by email at publicrec ordsrequest@ volusia.k12.fl.us.

ParentSquare Communication

Download the ParentSquare app today! ParentSquare is the official communication platform for District and School related news, announcements and communication with teachers. Focus Email communications will be used for official business regarding Student Records. ParentSquare enables the teachers, schools, and district to contact parents and students via the app, email, text or phone. For the best experience please download and use the app. Please make sure your contact information is correct in your Focus Parent Portal by submitting the online Contact Update form so you don't miss out on any information for the school year. The Focus Parent Portal is still your go to for your student's schedule, attendance, grades, discipline and assessment scores as well as purchase school items and more. Learn more at https://www.vcsedu.org/parentsquare.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Be sure to keep your contact information up to date in case of emergencies. The 'Contact Update Form' is accessible year round on your Parent Portal allowing you to ensure that the information for your student is correct, including phone numbers and email addresses.

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 Christy Sturrup or the Security Operations Office at 386-734-7190, ext. 20638.



Captain Christy Sturrup

See Something, Say Something



The state has also requested we specifically make you aware of the following statutes:

790.162 Threat to throw, project, place, or discharge any destructive device, felony; penalty.—It is unlawful for any person to threaten to throw, project, place, or discharge any destructive device with intent to do bodily harm to any person or with intent to do damage to any property of any person, and any person convicted thereof commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

790.163 False report concerning planting a bomb, an explosive, or a weapon of mass destruction, or concerning the use of firearms in a violent manner; penalty.—

- (1) It is unlawful for any person to make a false report, with intent to deceive, mislead, or otherwise misinform any person, concerning the placing or planting of any bomb, dynamite, other deadly explosive, or weapon of mass destruction as defined in s. 790.166, or concerning the use of firearms in a violent manner against a person or persons. A person who violates this subsection commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (2) Not with standing any other law, adjudication of guilt or imposition of sentence for a violation of this section may not be suspended, deferred, or withheld. However, the state attorney may move the sentencing court to reduce or suspend the sentence of any person who is convicted of a violation of this section and who provides substantial assistance in the identification, arrest, or conviction of any of his or her accomplices, accessories, coconspirators, or principals.
- (3) Proof that a person accused of violating this section knowingly made a false report is prima facie evidence of the accused person's intent to deceive, mislead, or otherwise misinform any person.
- (4) In addition to any other penalty provided by law with respect to any person who is convicted of a violation of this section that resulted in the mobilization or action of any law enforcement officer or any state or local agency, a person convicted of a violation of this section may be required by the court to pay restitution for all of the costs and damages arising from the criminal conduct.

836.10 Written or electronic threats to kill, do bodily injury, or conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism; punishment; exemption from liability.—

- (1) As used in this section, the term "electronic record" means any record created, modified, archived, received, or distributed electronically which contains any combination of text, graphics, video, audio, or pictorial represented in digital form, but does not include a telephone call.
- (2) It is unlawful for any person to send, post, or transmit, or procure the sending, posting, or transmission of, a writing or other record, including an electronic record, in any manner in which it may be viewed by another person, when in such writing or record the person makes a threat to:
- (a) Kill or to do bodily harm to another person; or
- (b) Conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism.
- A person who violates this subsection commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (3) This section does not impose liability on a provider of an interactive computer service, communications services as defined in s. 202.11, a commercial mobile service, or an information service, including, but not limited to, an Internet service provider or a hosting service provider, if it provides the transmission, storage, or caching of electronic communications or messages of others or provides another related telecommunications service, commercial mobile radio service, or information service for use by another person who violates this section. This exemption from liability is consistent with and in addition to any liability exemption provided under 47 U.S.C. s. 230.

837.05 False reports to law enforcement authorities.—

- (1)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) or subsection (2), a person who knowingly gives false information to a law enforcement officer concerning the alleged commission of any crime, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (b) A person who commits a violation of paragraph (a) commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the person has previously been convicted of a violation of paragraph (a) and subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. applies:
- 1. The information the person gave to the law enforcement officer was communicated orally and the officer's account of that information is corroborated by:
- a. An audio recording or audio recording in a video of that information;
- b. A written or recorded statement made by the person who gave that information; or
- c. Another person who was present when that person gave that information to the officer and heard that information.
- 2. The information the person gave to the law enforcement officer was communicated in writing.
- (2) A person who knowingly gives false information to a law enforcement officer concerning the alleged commission of a capital felony, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

This video is specifically developed for parents related to Fortify Florida, its use, and the potential consequences of misuse.
www.k12.vcsedu.org/FortifyFL-why-it-matters

Voluntary Prekindergarten



Voluntary Prekindergarten/Early Learning Initiative is a program available to children who are 4 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 (EDEP) Programs

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.

VOLUSIA EDEP
EXTENDED DAY
ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

EDEP Programs are staffed with qualified after-school personnel. For more information, please reach out to the EDEP district office at 386-734-7190, ext. 20625, 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 41 elementary schools
- EDEP morning program is for students in grades K - 8 and is offered at 10 middle school & 12 elementary school sites

Elementary School
Where Learning Begins...

Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics and the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) for Science and Social Studies. These standards establish clear learning expectations for students at every grade level. From kindergarten through fifth grade, students develop strong reading, writing, communication, and mathematical skills while building knowledge in physical, earth, space, and life sciences. Students also learn about the history, geography, government, and traditions of Florida, the United States, and the world. Together, these standards ensure that students build the knowledge and skills needed for success in school and beyond. Please visit www.cpalms.org/public/search/Standard for more information regarding B.E.S.T. Standards.

Testing assessment calendar can be found at the following link: Volusia County Schools Assessments web page

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
- ESE Information for Parents
- Parent Portal
- School Records
- School Meal Information
- Transportation
- What's My School?

Magnet & Dual Language Programs

Our VCS Magnet programs offer a specialized curriculum. These programs may include a particular theme or focus, such as STEM, Technology, Agriculture, Performing Arts, or Dual Language.

Elementary Magnet Programs/Dual Language



Strong foundations. Bright futures.

Just Read, Florida!

Just Read, Florida! 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 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), FSASS testing for science (grade 8) and end of course (EOC) testing for civics (grade 7) and applicable high school level courses (Algebra or Geometry). The testing assessment calendar can be found a the following link: Volusia County Schools Assessments web page

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

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 seven 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).

Middle School Cambridge Lower Secondary Program

The Cambridge Lower Secondary program fosters essential skills in research, analysis, evaluation, reflection, collaboration, and communication while strengthening connections across subject areas. This program is available at: Campbell Middle School, Creekside Middle School, Galaxy Middle School, Ormond Beach Middle School, River Springs Middle School, and T. Dewitt Taylor Middle-High School.

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. Specific courses, including elective offerings, vary between schools based on student demand, community needs, and staff availability. Course specific assessment calendar can be found on the Volusia County Schools Assessments web page.



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 T. Dewitt Taylor Middle-High School, Atlantic High School, Deltona High School, Mainland 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.

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
- Refer to the FLDOE Graduation Requirements at: www.fldoe.org/schools/k-12-public-schools/sss/graduation-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
- Industry Scholar Designation
- Florida Seal of Biliteracy
- Florida Seal of Fine Arts

Graduation Academy 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.

Student Progression Plan

The purpose of the Student Progression Plan is to present to school staff, parents and interested community members a guide to student progression which reflects state statute, school district policies and administrative procedures. The Student Progression Plan is a contract delineating what a student must know and be able to do to be promoted and what the district will do to help the student meet the requirements for promotion.

- 2026 - 2028 Student Progression Plan

Fine Arts and Electives

Performing Arts Courses Offered:

- *Pre-K – 5th Grade Offerings: Music, Special Area – offered at all elementary schools*
  Various after-school music ensembles and clubs
- *Middle School Offerings: Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Dance, Theatre, Guitar, Piano Keyboard*
- *High School Offerings: Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Dance, Theatre, Guitar, Piano Keyboard, AP Music Theory, Music Honors Courses, IB Music Courses*

ENCOURAGING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH THE ARTS

Volusia County Schools offers comprehensive Performing Arts programs in music, dance, and theatre for students from Pre-K through 12th grade. Every elementary student receives weekly instruction in music, providing a strong foundation in creativity, performance, and artistic literacy. At the secondary level, students have access to a wide variety of elective courses including band, chorus, orchestra, guitar, piano, music technology, dance, theatre, and ap music theory. Our middle and high schools offer beginning through advanced ensembles and performance-based courses designed to meet the needs of students at every experience level.

High school students may also enroll in Honors, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate Performing Arts courses, preparing them for collegiate study and professional opportunities. Volusia County Schools proudly supports nationally recognized performing arts programs that consistently earn Superior ratings at district and state assessments, receive state and national awards, and perform at prestigious local, state, and national events. Throughout the year, thousands of students participate in countywide honor ensembles, showcases, festivals, adjudicated performances, community concerts, musicals, theatrical productions, dance performances, and special collaborative events. Volusia County Schools is proud to provide students with exceptional performing arts experiences that foster artistic excellence, creativity, collaboration, leadership, and lifelong appreciation for the arts.

Visual Art Courses Offered:

- *Pre-K – 5th Grade: Visual Art, Special Area, Art Club*
- *Middle School: 2D Art, 3D Art, 2D Studio Art, 3D Studio Art 1, Digital Art Imaging 1, Art Club*
- *High School: 2D Art, 3D Art, Drawing, Honors Portfolio, Pottery/Ceramics, Digital Art Imaging, Photography, Arts Honors Courses, AP Arts Courses, IB Arts Courses, AICE Arts Courses*

Fine Arts and Electives Continued



Volusia County offers Visual Art Courses in all Schools from Pre-K through 12th grade. Every student in Volusia County Schools takes at least 6 years of Visual Art. We offer two-dimensional and three-dimensional Visual Art as electives in our Middle and High Schools. Our Volusia County High Schools offer Level I and Level II two-dimensional and three-dimensional art courses which include drawing, painting, print making, mixed media and pottery/ceramics. All of Volusia County High Schools offer Honors Portfolio and Advanced Placement courses in Two-dimensional, Drawing and Three-Dimensional Visual art. Other advanced programs include International Baccalaureate Art and Cambridge AICE Art. Our Advanced Placement Art pass rates are among the highest in Florida.

Volusia County Schools Art students and teachers participate in over 20 County-Wide and State-Wide Adjudicated exhibitions throughout the year as well as more than 35 school-based Art Events. Our art students have some of the highest state and national art award rates in Florida.

Athletics Courses and After-School Options:

Volusia County schools offer physical education for grades K-12. Every student in Volusia County Schools takes at least 9 years of physical education. Physical education is done on a rotation in elementary school. In middle school, students take a full year of physical education each year. In high school, students must take a physical education ½ credit and personal fitness ½ credit. There are many options for high school physical education. Visit your school's guidance office to ask which physical education classes your school offers or go to the school website and search the curriculum guide.

Volusia County Schools offer driver education classes. The entry level class is taken through Volusia Online Learning. The "behind the wheel" course is offered three times a year at various high schools. You can register for any option as the class is offered after school, on Saturdays, and as a summer school option.

Volusia County Middle Schools currently have two interscholastic sports offerings, cross country in the fall and basketball in the spring. Volusia County High Schools currently offer up to 16 different sports at two levels: JV and Varsity. Consult your high school athletic office or the school webpage for athletics offerings.

Career & Technical Education

Preparing for College, Careers & Life

Career and Technical Education (CTE) empowers students to discover their passions, develop real-world skills, and prepare for success after high school. Through hands-on learning, industry partnerships, and rigorous coursework, students explore high-demand career fields including healthcare, finance, information technology, aerospace, engineering, manufacturing, and the skilled trades. Whether students choose college, technical training, military service, or direct entry into the workforce, CTE provides a strong foundation for future success.

Through their CTE experience, students develop:

- **Technical skills aligned to high-demand careers**
- **Academic knowledge that supports college and career readiness**
- **Professional skills - including communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and problem solving - that employers value across every industry**

Skills Build Futures

99% Volusia CTE high school graduation rate for concentrators

CTE Opportunities by Grade Level

Middle School: Students explore career interests while building foundational technical and digital skills. Many courses offer opportunities to earn Digital Tools certificates or industry certifications.

High School: Students complete a sequence of three or more career-focused courses and can earn industry certifications aligned with high-demand careers.

Career Academies: Small learning communities that integrate academics, technical training, and real-world experiences such as internships, work-based learning, and industry partnerships.

**Career academies are CHOICE programs that require an application for admission.*

Real-World Experiences

Workforce Readiness Experiences

Preparing a skilled workforce is key to U.S. competitiveness. CTE supports this by aligning education with industry needs and providing students hands-on experience through strong business partnerships. These valuable opportunities include:

- **Industry Tours**
- **Job Shadowing**
- **Internships**
- **On-the-Job Training (OJT)**
- **Preapprenticeships**
- **Clinicals**
- **Industry Projects**
- **School-Based Enterprises**

Career & Technical Student Organizations (CTSO)

CTE students can join CTSOs to develop leadership, teamwork, and hands- on skills. Competitions and events connect them with industry professionals and build employability skills.

Digital Tools & Industry Certifications

Digital Tools Certificates (Grades 6 - 8)

Digital Tools exams are offered to middle school students to develop essential digital literacy and technology skills that prepare them for high school, college, and future careers.

Industry Certifications (Grades 8 - 12)

Students can earn industry certifications that validate mastery of in-demand technical skills. These credentials support college and career acceleration, increase lifetime earning potential, and can lead directly to employment opportunities.

Articulated College Credit

Florida offers more than 100 industry certifications with statewide articulation agreements, enabling students to earn college credit for demonstrated technical skills and accelerate completion of an associate degree.

For a list of programs and career academies, visit Career & Technical Education @vcsedu.org or your school's website.

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.

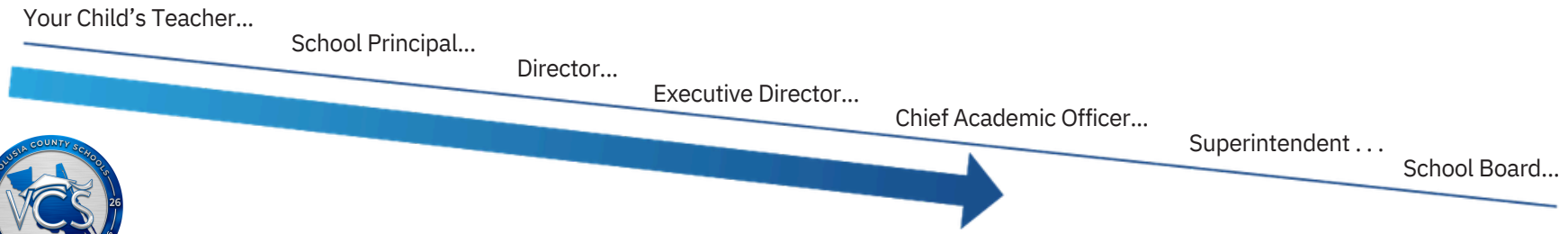
Your Rights as Parent

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 School's 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:



FOCUS Parent Portal

Volusia County Schools is committed to delivering high-quality instruction to all of its students. Stay in touch with your student's progress by accessing their schedule, attendance, discipline, grades, test history, announcements, online forms and messages via the district's Parent Portal. Accounts are available for all students enrolled with Volusia County Schools and are easy to set up. To ensure safe access to student information, all portal account access must be verified by PIN. The 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 by contacting the Technical Help Desk at call 386-734-7190 ext. 25000. Follow the instructions below to set up and/or access the account.



Creating Your Account

Please see https://www.vcsedu.org/portals where 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 at https://volusia.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/ . You may also download the Volusia Focus App on your mobile device.

ClassLink 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 district's website at www.vcsedu.org. VPortal can also be accessed through the ClassLink app for iOS and Android.

Stay Connected and Informed





Multilingual Learners 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 speaks 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 English Language Learners (ELLs) develop the communicative and academic skills necessary for meeting national, state, and district educational standards. Visit the Multilingual Learners - Volusia County Schools page for more information.

Dual Language Program

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

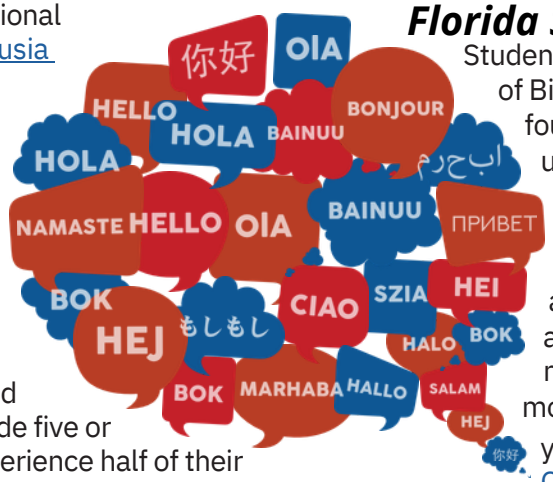
The program begins in VPK or kindergarten and requires a commitment from VPK through grade five or kindergarten through grade five. Students experience half of their academic instruction in English and the other half in Spanish. All literacy and content instructions in both languages are aligned with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

Translation/Interpretation

Translation and interpretation services are available for limited English proficient families. An interpreter can be provided for teacher conferences, ESOL and ESE meetings, and other school-family communication. This service helps parents be more involved in childrens' educational progress.

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 with training opportunities and information. The goal of 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 visit the Florida Seal of Biliteracy - Volusia County Schools page on the district webpage for more information.

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:

- A 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 www.vcsedu.org/directory/departments/student-services/charter-schools. Contact individual charter schools for information on their application process.

Teenage Parent Program

A public charter school specifically designed for pregnant and parenting teens and young adults, along with their children, offers a unique educational environment. Transportation services are available for both the student and their baby. In this setting, students apply classroom lessons by interacting with children in the childcare environment, passing on valuable skills to their own children. The school accepts vouchers from the Early Learning Coalition and Daytona State College. It provides a blend of hybrid online learning and regular in-person instruction with certified teachers offering assistance and supervision throughout the day.

Career Academies

Career Academies offer students unique, career-focused learning experiences that connect classroom instruction with real-world applications. Through strong business partnerships, students participate in hands-on projects, field studies, service learning, job shadowing, internships, and Career & Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs). Teachers collaborate with industry partners to help students build the skills needed for success in today's workforce. Many academies also offer opportunities to earn industry certifications and college credit through dual enrollment. Volusia County Schools offers 46 career academies across all 10 high schools.

Please Note - School bus transportation is not provided for enrollment of choice programs.

Career Clusters

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

Volusia Virtual Solutions

VOLUSIA VIRTUAL SOLUTIONS

Volusia Virtual Solutions offers Volusia County families three online learning options to meet the needs of all learners:

· Volusia Online Learning (VOL), our full-time school ·
VFlex for part-time classes
· VFlex+ for Home Education students

Volusia Online Learning

VOL is a full-time, comprehensive VCS school that serves students in grades K-12. Families who choose VOL want a virtual alternative to the traditional school setting that leads to a high school diploma. Typically, parents and students want additional flexibility while maintaining the pace, structure, and service of a brick-and-mortar school. Although students and teachers are separated by time and space, they work together to achieve high levels of learning.

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 while using online resources, virtual lessons, teacher discussions, and a variety of tools to help follow the courses' curriculum. Interested families can apply for Volusia Online Learning during the annual open enrollment period by visiting our website at www.volusiaonlinelearning.com or email VOL@volusia.k12.fl.us.

VFlex

VFlex is Volusia County Schools' part-time virtual option and is equivalent to FLVS Flex. VFlex uses the same curriculum and platform as FLVS, but with VCS teachers. VFlex offers courses to supplement secondary students' current brick-and-mortar schedule. Thousands of Flex courses are taken each year by VCS students. We have recently expanded our course offerings to meet the needs of students.

This flexible alternative satisfies a wide range of educational needs, accommodating ever yone.

VCS students can apply for VFlex courses throughout the school year at www.volusiaonlinelearning.com or through their school counselor.

Please note that part-time offerings have limited capacity and enrollment is approved on a first-come, first-served basis.

VFlex+

VFlex+ is a program designed for Home Education students who want the full-time experience without the full-time requirements. VFlex+ students can take up to six courses and receive academic counseling and support to help them maintain a pathway to a high school diploma, should they ever return as a full-time student.

Home Education students can apply for VFlex+ enrollment by completing the required Home Education paperwork and requesting partial enrollment with Volusia Virtual Solutions. To access more information, please visit our website at www.volusiaonlinelearning.com or email VFlexPlus@volusia.k12.fl.us.

Please note that VFlex+ students are registered as Home Education students and do not qualify for a VCS high school diploma. Students interested in earning a high school diploma through virtual education should go to volusiaonlinelearning.com for information about becoming a full-time student with VOL.

VCS All Day, Every Day! Attendance Matters!

OurGoal:

Reduce chronic absenteeism and empower parents and community members in Volusia County to champion regular school attendance for student success.

Why It Matters:

- Empowering Futures: Regular attendance fuels academic achievement and prepares students for future success.
- Building Confidence: Students thrive when they feel supported and engaged every day in their learning journey.

Initiative Components:

- Parent Empowerment: Providing workshops and resources that equip parents with knowledge and tools to support their child's attendance.
- Inspiration Through Awareness: Campaigns that inspire families with stories of success and the transformative power of consistent school attendance.
- Community Unity: Partnering with local organizations to foster a supportive environment that encourages and celebrates attendance milestones.

Key Talking Points:

- Every Day Matters: Each day our schools build essential skills and knowledge critical for lifelong achievement.
- Family First: Parents are the first teachers and role models in nurturing a love for learning and dedication to attendance.
- Together, We Succeed: By working together as a community, we create a foundation where every child can thrive and will succeed.

Impact:

- Pathways to Success: Early intervention and support pave the way for brighter academic and career futures.
- Strength in Unity: Strengthening community ties to uplift and empower every student to reach their full potential.

CHRONIC ABSENCES

18 OR MORE DAYS

- Excused and unexcused absences represent lost time in theclassroom and lost opportunities to learn.
- Missing just one day every two weeks can add up to 18 days in a year. Absences add up before you even know it.

WARNING

10 TO 17 DAYS

- Studentswho areabsent an average of 15 days a year miss a year's worth of school before their senior year.
- When students miss a day of school it actually puts them two days behind their classmates.

GOOD ATTENDANCE

9 OR FEWER ABSENCES

- Students with good attendance generallyachieve highergrades andenjoyschool more.
- Children benefit and make the most of their educational opportunities if they attend regularly and on time.

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

Volusia County Schools Assessments Calendar

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 supports the whole student by connecting learning, behavior, health, and well-being. Our team includes school counseling services, school social work services, school psychological services, school-wide behavior initiatives, mental wellness support, and school health services, all working together to help every student thrive.
Visit www.vcsedu.org/directory/departments/student-services for more information.

School Counseling

School Counselors provide comprehensive lessons and guidance to students which includes academic support through planning and goal setting, career and college assistance, and individual and group counseling sessions to address emotional and behavioral opportunities. School counselors advocate for students' needs and connect families with external resources and services when necessary. They also collaborate with teachers, parents, and administrators to create a supportive learning environment, develop intervention strategies, and implement programs that promote students' well-being and resilience.

School Social Services

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.

Mental Wellness Team

Volusia County Schools has incorporated an internal District Mental Health Team that works in collaboration with school staff and families to provide preventative services, intervention to address mental health concerns, and crisis support. The clinicians conduct mental health evaluations as well as provide small group and individual counseling sessions utilizing evidenced-based interventions. The District Mental Health Team assists parents and caregivers by providing resources and assisting families in obtaining mental health services through our partnership with multiple community agencies. The team serves as a vital role in training all Volusia County Schools staff in Youth Mental Health First Aid and provides additional professional learning opportunities related to mental health. Please visit our Mental Wellness Page to find out more.

School Psychological Services

Our school psychologists are specially trained professionals dedicated to helping your child succeed in school and beyond. We work directly with students, families, and teachers to address challenges and build on strengths in learning, behavior, and development. In Volusia County Schools, our psychologists partner with families, teachers, administrators, and other professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections between home, school, and the community.

Behavior Support Services

Behavior Support Services team, 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 Students 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

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. 20668.

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 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.

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/ese-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.

For a list of the benefits of Parent/ Family Engagement please visit the FLDOE webpage.

August 2026

National Wellness Month
National Truancy Prevention Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Preplanning Begins	5	6	7	8
9	10 First Day of School for Students	11	12 Early Release	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Early Release	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Early Release	27	28	29
30	31					

Be sure to download the Focus Parent Portal app or visit your Parent Portal via the web so that you can see your student's schedule, attendance, grades, discipline and assessment scores as well as purchase school items and more.
Be sure to download the ParentSquare Communications app to keep abreast of the latest District and School news and stay in contact with your student's teachers.

September 2026

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Early Release	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day Holiday	8	9 Early Release	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Early Release	17	18	19
20	21 Professional Development Day / Student Holiday	22	23 Early Release	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Early Release			

Where's the Bus

Where's the Bus is an app that allows parents to know the location of 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 2026

Bullying Prevention Month
National Principals Month
Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15-Oct. 15)
National School Lunch Week (Oct. 13-17)

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

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. Visit us at the School Way Cafe web page for more information.

Follow Us!

Our menus are based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans!

Florida Family Engagement in Education Month
Native American Heritage Month

November 2026

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

---------Thanksgiving Holiday---------

FORTIFYFL
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

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 2026

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

January 2027

High School Showcase 01/13/2027 5:30 - 7:30 PM
National Mentoring Month
School Board Appreciation Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Year's Winter Holiday	2
3	4 Teacher Duty Day / Student Holiday	5 Classes Resume	6 Early Release	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 High School Showcase Early Release	14	15	16
17	18 Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday Holiday	19	20 Early Release	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Early Release	28	29	30
31						

Parent Resources

For additional parent resources visit the Florida Department of Education website and Family & School Partnership Act page

February 2027

Black History Month
Magnet Schools Month
CTE Month
Love the Bus Month

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

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. Eligibility is based on income and family size. Please visit the following site for more information: www.healthykids.org/

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

March 2027

Women's History Month
Music in our Schools Month
Youth Art Month
National Nutrition Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Early Release	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Early Release	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	---------Spring Holiday---------					
21	22 Teacher Duty Day / Student Holiday	23 Classes Resume	24 Early Release	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Early Release			

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 2027

School Volunteer Appreciation Month
School Library & Media Month
Autism Awareness Month

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

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 2027

Mental Health Awareness Month
Military Appreciation Month
AAPI Heritage Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Early Release	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Early Release	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Early Release	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Early Release Last Day of School for Students	27	28 Last Day of School for Teachers	29
30	31 Memorial Day					

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 2027

National Safety Month

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
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

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. Students enrolled in summer programs housed in schools have access to free breakfast and lunch. There are many meal sites within Volusia County Schools to grab a free meal with no application necessary. You can search for sites by zip code: www.summerbreakspot.org/find-location/.

July 2027

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 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 for a list of open the shelters during a storm.

2026-2027 School List - ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

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

Blue Lake
282 N. 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 MichiganAvenue
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 W. Highbanks Road
DeBary, FL 32713
Telephone: (386) 575-4230

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

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

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

Edith I. Starke
730 S. Parsons Avenue
DeLand, FL 32720
Telephone: (386) 943-9651

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

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

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

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

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

Manatee Cove
734 W. Ohio Avenue
Orange City, FL 32763
Telephone: (386) 968-0004

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 N. Center Street
Pierson, FL 32180
Telephone: (386) 740-0850

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

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

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

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

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

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

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
999 Old Tomoka Road
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
Telephone: (386) 258-4676

Turie T. Small
839 Loomis Avenue.
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
1201 S. Woodward Avenue
DeLand, FL 32720
Telephone: (386) 740-7910

COMBINATION SCHOOLS

T. Dewitt Taylor Middle-High
(6-12)
100 E. WashingtonAvenue
Pierson, FL 32180
Telephone: (386) 740-9800

VolusiaOnline Learning (K-12)
336 E. Highbanks Road
DeBary, FL 32713
Telephone: (386) 506-0014

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS

Dept.of Juvenile Justice
Educational Programs
3875 Tiger Bay Road
Daytona Beach, FL 32124
Telephone: (386) 947-5990

Highbanks Learning Center
250 Enterprise Road
Deltona, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 968-0039

Riverview Learning Center
630 15th St
Holly Hill, FL 32117
Telephone: (386) 258-4673

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Campbell
625 S. 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

David C. Hinson, Sr.
1860 N. Clyde MorrisBoulevard
Daytona Beach, FL 32117
Telephone: (386) 258-4682

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

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

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

Mainland
1255W. 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
1000 W. Rhode Island Avenue
Orange City, FL 32763
Telephone: (386) 968-0013

FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools

In 1985 FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools (FUTURES) was established as the education foundation for Volusia County Schools. Our mission for 40 years has been simple: to engage business, civic and district leaders to promote and achieve educational excellence for the Volusia County School District. FUTURES provides a variety of leadership development, scholarships and recognition programs impacting students, teachers, and staff.

How does FUTURES make a difference?

Each year FUTURES invests in programs and resources that directly impact students and classrooms across the district:

- During the 2025-26 school year, $371,975 in grants helped fund programs offering both extra enrichment and remedial activities for students.
- Since its start, FUTURES has disbursed more than $2.5 million into 5,000 Teacher Classroom Grants funding creative, hands-on projects designed by teachers to enhance learning.

Through its Take Stock in Children Program (TSIC), FUTURES provides college tuition scholarships, a volunteer mentor and college readiness support for selected, financially eligible students. TSIC scholars receive a college tuition scholarship upon high school graduation and completion of the program's requirements. The application will open in December 2026 for qualified eighth grade students.

Please visit www.futuresvolusia.org for more information and to apply.

Additional Programs for Students and Staff

FUTURES also proudly sponsors:

- Tomorrow's Leaders - a leadership development program for high school juniors (applications open in August)
- Turn Around Recognition Program – celebrating middle and high school students who have made positive life changes
- Award programs – Teacher of the Year, First Year Teacher, Principal of the Year, and Support Staff of the Year

The Teacher Resource Store provides teachers with free classroom supplies, made possible through local donations and school supply drives — directly benefiting your child's classroom.

Here is how you can be part of FUTURES' efforts!

- Visit www.futuresvolusia.org to learn more about our programs and upcoming events.
- VCS employees can support FUTURES through payroll giving via the e-portal's payroll tab.
- Purchase a "Support Education" specialty license plate. $20 from each purchase or renewal of this plate stays right here in Volusia County to support FUTURES programs. Order yours at www.LicenseToLearnFL.com.



2026-2027 Parent Guide & School Calendar

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www.Facebook.com/VolusiaCountySchools

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www.x.com/VolusiaSchools

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www.Instagram.com/VolusiaSchools

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel
www.YouTube.com/VolusiaSchools

Follow us on LinkedIn
www.linkedin.com/company/volusia-county-school-district

Notice of Nondiscrimination

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:

ForEmployment/TitleIXConcerns:
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

ForStudent/Section504/ADA Concerns:
Andrew Langenbach, Attorney
ADA Compliance Officer
Office of General Counsel
200 North Clara Avenue
DeLand, Florida 32721
(386) 734-7190, ext. 20260
ADACompliance@volusia.k12.fl.us

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