

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOLS



2023-2024

The Successful Student



A parent guide prepared by the Okeechobee County School District to help you assist your child in achieving excellence!

Consulte con el Consejero escolar de su hijo/a en la búsqueda de recursos en esta guía.

2023-2024 Okeechobee County School Board Instructional Calendar



September 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
												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	

August 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

July 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

December 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

November 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

October 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

March 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

February 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

January 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

June 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

May 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

April 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

Date	Day	Event
July 31	Mon	New Teachers Report
August 2	Wed	Returning Teachers Report
August 8	Tues	Open House
August 10	Thu	Students' First Day
September 4	Mon	Holiday—Labor Day
September 15	Fri	Early Release Day for Students
October 13	Fri	End 1st Nine Weeks (46 Days)
October 16	Mon	Teacher Plan Day (No Students)
November 17	Fri	Early Release Day for Students
November 20	Mon	Fall Break Day (1st Make-up Day)*
November 21	Tues	Fall Break Day (2nd Make-up Day)*
November 22	Wed	Fall Break Day
November 23	Thu	Holiday—Thanksgiving
November 24	Fri	Fall Break Day
December 22	Fri	Early Release Day for Students
December 22	Fri	Last Day of School prior to Holidays
December 22	Fri	End 2nd Nine Weeks (44 Days)
December 22	Fri	End 1st Semester (90 Days)
December 25	Mon	Holiday—Christmas
December 26-29	Tues-Fri	Winter Break
January 1	Mon	Holiday—New Years Day
January 2-5	Tues-Fri	Winter Break
January 8	Mon	Teacher Plan Day (No Students)
January 9	Tues	Students' First Day Back After Holidays
January 15	Mon	Holiday—Martin Luther King Day
February 16	Fri	Early Release Day for Students
February 19	Mon	President's Day—No Teachers/No Students
March 8	Fri	End 3rd Nine Weeks (42 Days)
March 11-15	Mon-Fri	Spring Break—No Teachers/No Students
March 18	Mon	Teacher Plan Day (No Students)
March 29	Fri	Good Friday—No Teachers/No Students
April 19	Fri	Early Release Day for Students
May 24	Fri	Early Release Day for Students
May 24	Fri	End 4th Nine Weeks (48 Days)
May 24	Fri	End 2nd Semester (90 Days)
May 24	Fri	Students' Last Day (180 Days)
May 27	Mon	Holiday—Memorial Day
May 28	Tues	All 196/198 Day Teachers—Last Day
May 29	Tues	Graduation
June 18	Tues	Report Cards sent home—Elementary
June 21	Fri	Report Cards sent home—Middle/High

*In the event that school is closed due to a hurricane or other emergency, these are the first two days that will be used as "Make-up Days"

- End 9-Week Period
- No Teacher/No Students
- Holiday
- New Teachers Report
- Student Day
- Teacher Plan Days/No Students
- Early Release Days
- Progress Reports
- Report Cards
- Hurricane Day



OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

700 S.W. Second Avenue
Okeechobee, FL 34974

(863) 462-5000
Fax: (863) 462-5151



Board Chairperson:
Melisa Jahner
Board Vice Chairperson:
Malissa Morgan
Board Members:
Christine B. Bishop
Jill Holcomb
Amanda Riedel

Our Pathway to an "A" begins by Putting Students First. The collaboration between the home, family, school and community are keys to a successful student. The guide, The Successful Student, is a collection of articles, resources, rules, dates, rights and standards. There are so many moving parts to an education and navigating through the school years can be difficult without information. This collection was assembled by the district to address the questions most often asked by parents. In this world of information within our fingertips, I can narrow down the four most important documents in any school district.

If you want to find out what is important to the School Board look at its [Strategic Plan](#). If you want to see what action steps your student's school has in place to address academic standards and school culture, look at the [School Improvement Plan](#). If you want information on promotion and grade level requirements, look at the [Student Progression Plan](#). Lastly, and most importantly, because it has links to all these crucial documents, examine this guide from beginning to end. Every page has useful information to navigate Okeechobee County Schools.

This guide demonstrates the desire for your student to succeed. By working together, sharing information, being transparent about processes and procedures, outlining standards for each grade level, and introducing the BEST standards and FAST assessments, we are being fully transparent on what is being taught by our teachers and learned by our students. You will also find a plethora of supplementary materials we use to close academic achievement gaps. You will notice procedures for MTSS. You will see a whole host of agency partners ready and willing to assist with any situation. And, most importantly, you will be shown the requirements for graduation which is our ultimate goal. After that, career opportunities, enrollment in college or enlistment awaits.

If this guide does not address your questions, please reach out to the contact numbers contained herein. It is our hope that every student can achieve tomorrow's possibilities.

Sincerely,

Ken Kenworthy
Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent Ken Kenworthy



click here: <http://okee.k12.fl.us/>

Help Desk:
General questions, comments, or concerns can be emailed to: okee.helpdesk@okee.k12.fl.us. The email will be routed to the appropriate school or department.

2023-2024 PROGRESS REPORT & REPORT CARD SCHEDULE

First Nine Weeks

Wednesday	September	13	Send Progress Reports Home
Friday	October	13	Last day of Nine-Week Grading Period
Thursday	October	23	Report Card Day (All Schools)

Second Nine-Weeks

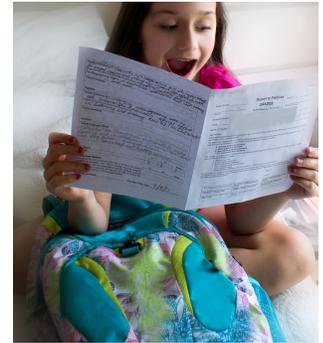
Wednesday	November	15	Send Progress Reports Home
Friday	December	22	Last Day of Nine-Week Grading Period
Thursday	January	16	Report Card Day (All Schools)

Third Nine-Weeks

Wednesday	February	14	Send Progress Reports Home
Friday	March	8	Last Day of Nine-Week Grading Period
Thursday	March	25	Report Card Day (All Schools)

Fourth Nine-Weeks

Wednesday	April	17	Send Progress Reports Home
Friday	May	24	Last Day of Nine-Week Grading Period
Tuesday	June	18	Report Cards Mailed/Available for Pick-Up at School Elementary
Friday	June	21	Report Cards (Middle Schools, OFC & OHS)



PARENT PREPARATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR

The following items will help keep you up to date on school activities and ready to respond to the big and little crises your child may have.

- A **current school calendar** showing holidays, early release days, teacher workdays, and school grading periods (see inside cover of this guide);
- Phone numbers for your child's school and the District Office (see back cover of this guide);
- The Okeechobee County School's **Code of Student Conduct** which describes what behavior is unacceptable in school and how students are disciplined if they commit a violation;
- School **Attendance** guidelines;
- **Student Progression Plan**;
- Skyward Family and Student Access, more information on page 29;
- Information on the **Florida KidCare** Insurance Plan;
- Student Agenda: contain information on the dress code, school rules and an excellent source for parents to communicate daily with teachers.
- The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) printed on pages 3 and 4 of this guide.

This information is distributed and discussed at the start of each school year. Additional copies are available at each school site or may be obtained at <http://www.okee.k12.fl.us/>

CHAIN OF WHO TO CALL

Who do I contact when I have a concern regarding my child or children?

- * First, start with the classroom teacher (call or email). if you are not satisfied;
- * Second, contact an administrator (the Assistant Principal). if you are not satisfied;
- * Third, contact the Principal. if you are not satisfied;
- * Last, contact Student Services, from there your call will be routed to the appropriate department.

Note: it is always better to start at the school site with communication; it will speed up getting to a solution!

SUCCESSFUL PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE

A good way to find out how your child is doing in school is through a parent-teacher conference. The teacher may request a conference or you may request a meeting. Listed are some tips for having a successful parent-teacher conference:

- Make a list of questions and concerns you have and write them down.
- Keep track of your child's schoolwork to help you with your questions.
- Listen to what the teacher has to say and ask questions if you do not understand what the teacher is trying to tell you.
- Schedule a follow-up appointment if necessary.
- Try to work with the teacher to help your child; teamwork is the best approach.

Here are some questions to keep in mind:

- Is my child performing at grade level?
- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies?
- How much time should my child be spending on homework?
- Are my child's assignments being completed correctly and on time?
- Do you have a folder of my child's work? Will you review it with me?
- Does my child get along with the other students?
- Does the school have special programs to meet my child's needs?
- What can I do at home to support what is happening in the classroom?
- What is the best way to keep in touch with you?

STUDENT RECORDS

PRIVACY RIGHTS OF STUDENTS AND PARENTS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g (FERPA), and corollary state law, Section 1002.22, Fla. Statute affords parents and students who have attained 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

The right of privacy with respect to the student's education records.

Personally identifiable records or reports of a student, and any personal information contained in those reports, are confidential. The Okeechobee County School Board will not release the education records of a student without the written consent of the eligible student or the student's parent(s) or guardian(s), except to the extent FERPA and state law authorized disclosure without consent.

The right to inspect and review the student's education record within 30 days of the day the District receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.

Parents or eligible students may ask Okeechobee County School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading.

If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's educational records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health person or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

The Okeechobee County School District will forward educational and disciplinary records to other schools that have requested records and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll (34 CFR §§ 99.7 and 99.34(a)(1)(ii)).

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20202-5920.

Florida Statute, 1002.22, provides that an educational institution may, without authorization from parents, guardians, or eligible students, release "Directory Information". Directory information includes the following:

Student's name, address, telephone listing if not an unlisted number, date and place of birth, a major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, most recent educational institution attended by student, photographs in the school year book and similar information.

U.S. Code 20 U.S.C.S. 7908 requires local educational agencies (LEAs) to provide military recruiters with the name, address, and telephone listing of secondary student.

If any parent, guardian, or student above the age of 18 years objects to the release of such information, he/she shall make known the objections, in writing, to the Superintendent by September 15th of the school year. The School Board shall release directory information after 30 days public notice has been given.

PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA) NOTICE

Pursuant to the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) (20 USC §1232h; 34 CFR Part 98), parents, guardians, or eligible students (over the age of 18 or emancipated) have certain rights pertaining to surveys, the collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These rights are as follows:

1. The right to give prior written consent before students are required to submit to surveys concerning protected information (regarding political affiliation or beliefs; mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family, sex behavior or attitudes; illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior; critical appraisal of others with whom survey respondents have close family relationships; legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers; religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility) if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education.
2. The right to opt a student out of participation in any other protected information survey, regardless of funding.
3. The right to opt a student out of any non-emergency invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of school attendance administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student. The right to opt out does not apply to hearing, vision, scoliosis or body mass index screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law, except on grounds of religious beliefs or physician certifications pursuant to F.S. 1003.22(5).
4. The right to opt a student out of activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others, and
5. The right to inspect, upon request and prior to administration or use (a) protected information surveys of students, (b) instruments used to collect personal information from students for any marketing, sales, or distribution purposes, and (c) instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

The District will ensure that student privacy is protected in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes.

The District will directly notify parents of their PPRA rights at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. The District will also directly notify (including, but not limited to, mail, e-mail, in-person, or by acknowledgement form) parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted above and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. The District will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys and will be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys and to review any pertinent surveys.

Those who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202. If you wish to discuss and try to resolve any PPRA concerns before contacting the Family Policy Compliance Office, you may contact the School Board of Okeechobee County, Director of Student Services (863) 462-5000 ext. 1060.

The Okeechobee Education Records Manual is set forth in District Manual 2.60, Student Education Records. The manual is available for inspection at the District Administration office located at 700 S.W. 2 Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida, during regular office hours Monday–Friday. A copy of the policy may be obtained free of charge, upon request.

Parental Rights in Education

The 2022 Florida Legislature passed House Bill 1557, Parental Rights in Education and the 2023 Florida Legislature updated this law through House Bill 1069. The bill outlines new responsibilities and considerations to include the following:

- A student's parent should be notified if there is a change in the student's services or monitoring related to the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being and the school's ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for the student.
 - Provides that school districts may not adopt procedures or student support forms that prohibit school district personnel from notifying a parent about his or her student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being, or a change in related services or monitoring, or that encourage or have the effect of encouraging a student to withhold from a parent such information.
 - Establishes that classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties on sexual orientation or gender identity may not occur in pre-kindergarten through grade 8. In grades 9-12, such instruction must not occur in a manner that is not age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards.
 - Requires each school district, at the beginning of the school year, to notify parents of each health care service offered at their student's school and the option to withhold consent or decline any specific service.
 - Requires each school district to adopt procedures for a parent to notify the principal, or his or her designee, regarding specific concerns at his or her student's school about practices and procedures under s. 1001.42(8)(c), F.S., and the process for resolving those concerns within seven calendar days after notification by the parent.
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OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD NOTIFICATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER COLLECTION AND USAGE

In compliance with Florida Statute 119.071(5), this document serves to notify you of the purpose for the collection of your child's social security number. The Okeechobee County School Board will collect and use your child's social security number only if specifically authorized by law to do so or when it is imperative for the performance of its duties and responsibilities as prescribed by law.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the Okeechobee County School Board Office at (863) 462-5000.

A Student's Social Security Number may be required for:

- State of Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
- Local scholarship applications (Take Stock in Children, etc.)
- Verification of Income Eligibility for Federal Free and Reduced Lunches
- Medicaid Reimbursement
- General Educational Development (GED) Application
- Social Security Income Verification and Assistance
- Developmental Services
- Data tracking for the Florida Education and Training Placement Program
- Managing Student Records in the Automated Student Database
- Matching of records between the Florida Department of Education and the Kindergarten screening data for Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Provider Readiness Rate
- Reporting Excessive Absences to the Department of Motor Vehicles
- Documents and Reports for the Department of Juvenile Justice and law enforcement agencies as required
- The Florida Department of Health as required
- Forwarding records requests to other school districts where the student seeks to enroll or to request records of past attendance
- Dual Enrollment in college courses
- Other purposes specifically required or authorized by local, state or federal law

CONSIDER PERFECT ATTENDANCE; 180 DAYS OF SCHOOL EACH YEAR!

School attendance is the responsibility of the parent and student. Since there is a strong relationship between attendance and academic performance, it is important that parents take an active role in working with the school to ensure their child's attendance on a daily basis. State law requires that all students between the ages of six and eighteen attend school regularly. Failure to comply with this law could result in the arrest of the parent or legal guardian responsible for the child.

Absences are classified as excused or unexcused. School Board policy lists the reasons for which an absence may be excused.

Excused Absences:

- Illness or injury of the student
- Illness or injury to the student's immediate family necessitating the student's absence
- Death to a member of the student's family necessitating the student's absence
- Recognized religious holidays of the specific faith of a student
- Doctor and dental appointments of the student
- Pre-arranged absences of educational value and with the principal's approval
- Subpoena or forced absence by any law enforcement agency
- Major disaster that would justify absence in the judgment of the administration
- Head lice, a maximum of two days per incident

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to provide written or oral notification indicating the reason for the absences within three (3) days of the student's return to school.

Unexcused Absences:

- Any absence which is not justified by the parent or guardian or for which the reason is unknown
- Not attending class while on a school campus (skipping)
- In grades K-8, an accumulation of five unexcused tardies/early checkouts will convert to an unexcused absence. These absences are considered when calculating absences towards truancy. In addition, these absences are considered when awarding perfect attendance.
- Final determination on whether an absence is excused or unexcused is the responsibility of the principal

Absences of Students Grade 9 -12

- Minors between 14 and 18 years of age who accumulate 15 unexcused absences in any 90-calendar-day period, will not be issued a learner's permit or will have their driver's license suspended.

READY TO START SCHOOL?

Please contact the administration office of the school you are zoned for based on your permanent home address. If you are uncertain of the school you are zoned for, you may contact the Director of Student Services, at (863) 462-5000 ext. 1060, to get that information. To enroll your child in school you must complete a registration packet provided by the school. The packet includes questions regarding your demographic information, requires proof of address and a copy of previous schooling information. In addition, before admitting a child to kindergarten, the principal shall require evidence that the child has attained the age at which he or she should be admitted in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph Florida Statute 1003.21 (1)(a)2. The district school superintendent may require evidence of the age of any child whom he or she believes to be within the limits of compulsory attendance as provided for by law. If the first prescribed evidence is not available, the next evidence obtainable as listed in (4) (a-g) will be required. The school district has a policy to provide for appropriate screening of its students for scoliosis at the proper age.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Each child entering a Florida public or private school must present or have on file at the school, a Florida Certification of Immunization (Department of Health Form 680, copies are not accepted). Immunizations must be valid and up-to-date for age and grade level as required by the State of Florida. The following is a summary of these requirements.

Public/Non-Public Schools Kindergarten through 12th Grade:

- Four or five doses of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTaP) vaccine
- Two or three doses of hepatitis B (Hep B) vaccine
- Three, four, or five doses of IPV (with at least one dose of polio vaccine administered after the 4th birthday)
- Two doses of measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine
- Two doses of Varicella* for grades 2-11, one dose of Varicella for grade 12 only (for 2019-20 school year)
- Two doses of Varicella for K-12 for 2020-2021 school year and thereafter
- *Varicella vaccine is not required if there is a history of varicella documented by the healthcare provider.

Seventh Grade Requirement:

In addition to compliance with all other required immunizations, children entering, attending, or transferring to the seventh, eighth, or ninth grade in Florida schools must complete the following:

- One dose of tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap) vaccine

The original Florida Certification of Immunization (DH 680, copies are not accepted) must be used to document immunization requirements for admittance through grade 12.

This form must be completed with the child's name, date of birth, parents/guardians name, the name of the physician or clinic, physician or clinic address and the signature of physician or the authorized designee. Handwritten physician signatures will not be accepted as this form must be electronically certified. This form must show that the child is up-to-date with the required immunizations. Handwritten dates for required immunizations will not be accepted. Any student transferring from another Florida school may be given a 30-day temporary exemption until the certification of immunization can be obtained from the previous school. If the record cannot be obtained from the previous school within this time frame, it is the parent's responsibility to provide such a copy. Any student from out-of-state must present an up-to-date Form 680 at time of enrollment. If you have any questions, please call the Florida Department of Health in Okeechobee County at (863) 462-5792.

School Physical Exam:

Each child who is entitled to admittance to pre-kindergarten or kindergarten, or is entitled to any other initial entrance into a public or non-public school in the state of Florida, must present a certification of a school entry physical examination performed within one year (12 months) prior to enrollment in school. Any student transferring from another school in the United States may be given a 30-day temporary exemption until the certification of a school entry physical examination can be obtained from the previous school. If the record cannot be obtained from the previous school within this time frame, it is the parent's responsibility to provide such a copy. Any student from out-of-state must present an up-to-date Form 680 at time of enrollment.

If you have any questions, please call the [Florida Department of Health in Okeechobee County](http://www.floridahealth.gov) at (863) 462-5792.

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM?

The School Health Services Program is designed to appraise, protect, and promote the health of our students as well as provide preventive and emergency school-based health services in accordance with the 2022-2024 School Health Services Plan for Okeechobee County.

At the beginning of each school year, a Withhold/Decline Health Services Form is sent home with all students.

Okeechobee County Schools does not provide any health care services and or screenings without prior communication to the school authorizing the approval and/or opt out.

Skylerts will notify parents/guardians when Suicide Prevention and Human Trafficking videos will be shown.

Parents/Guardians can contact the school or Director of Mental Health and Behavioral Support at 462-5000 x 1099 with questions or concerns.

OKEECHOBEE SCHOOLS' SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM INCLUDES:

School Health Services:

- Basic First Aid Services
- Physician ordered medication administration (Physician Authorization Form required)
- Over the counter medication administration (OTC-Over the Counter Form required)
- Suicide Prevention and Human Trafficking in grades K-12 to remain in compliance Rule 6A-1.094124, F.A.C. These videos are posted at <http://www.okee.k12.fl.us/2022-2023-mental-health-wellness-videos>.

What is the School District Doing to Ensure Your Child is Safe at School?

Employee Training

- Active Threat Training
- Child Abuse Mandatory Reporting
- Bullying and Harassment Modules
- Stop the Bleed Modules
- Youth Mental Health First Aid
- Threat and Safety Assessment and Intervention

School Hardening

- Single Point of Entry
- Security Cameras at entry point
- Locked Classroom Doors
- Access control at entrances

Supervision

- School Resource Officers (SRO) at every school
- Guardian Program: staff and teachers
- Alternative School: more restrictive environment
- Security Tours with First Responders
- Schools are used for LEO and SRO training
- Daily security checks by SROs

Threat Management

- Threat Management Protocol
- School-based threat management teams
- District-based threat management teams
- District crisis counselors and school psychologists
- Individualized safety plans for students
- Interventions to meet student needs

Substance Abuse

- First Time Offender Education Program
- Partnership with D.A.T.A. program
- Random Drug Testing: high school activities
- Canine sweeps with LEO and SRO

Prevention Curriculum

- Second Step: K-5
- Child Trafficking education
- See Something, Say Something
- Positive Behavioral Supports
- Monthly Mental Health and Wellness Videos
- Martha's House curriculum

Online Safety and Reporting Tools

- FortifyFL: anonymous reporting app.
- On-line Safety Instruction
- Crime Stoppers Hotline
- Online monitoring of threats
- Crime Watch at each school site
- Blocking of unapproved sites from network

Recognizing the Need for Help

- Early warning system for those in need of support
- Guidance counselors at all sites
- District-level Board Certified Behavior Analyst
- District-level Behavioral Interventionists
- Registered Behavioral Technicians at sites
- Access to FL School Safety Portal
- Behavior Intervention Plans
- District-level crisis counselors

Services for Students and Families

- Family engagement activities
- Licensed mental health counseling available
- Employment of a district social worker

Okeechobee County School District
NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE

The Okeechobee County school board has adopted Board Policy 6.43, Unlawful Discrimination Prohibited. No person shall, on the basis of race (including anti-Semitism), color, religion, gender, pregnancy, age, national or ethnic origin, genetic information, political beliefs, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, if otherwise qualified, social and family background or on the basis of the use of a language other than English by Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity, or in any employment conditions or practices conducted by this School District, except as provided by law.

The Okeechobee County school board shall comply with all federal and state laws which include the Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), Title IX, Section 504, Florida Education Equity Act, Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act of 2008 (GINA), and the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act.

Any employee, student, applicant for admissions, or applicant for employment who believes he/she has been discriminated against or has been harassed by another employee, student, or third party is encouraged to use the Equity Plan Grievance Procedure for filing complaints. Complaints may be filed with the principal or immediate supervisor, District Equity Coordinator/Director of Human Resources or the Superintendent.

Director of Human Resources
Title II, Title IX and the Florida Education Equity Act Complaints and
ADA/Section 504 Complaints
700 SW 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, FL 34974
(863) 462-5000 Ext. 1067

Prohibición de discriminació

Ninguna persona será discriminada en base a su raza (incluyendo el antisemitismo), color, religión, sexo, embarazo, edad, origen de su nacionalidad, información genética, creencias políticas, estado civil, orientación sexual, identidad de género, discapacidad, ni por sus antecedentes sociales y familiares, o en base al uso de otro lenguaje, además del idioma Inglés, o por ser estudiantes identificados como LEP (aprendices del idioma Inglés), no se les debe de excluir de participar o negáseles beneficios, o ser sujetos a discriminación en ningún programa o actividad educativa, o en ningún empleo o prácticas realizadas por este Distrito Escolar, salvo lo dispuesto por la ley. (Junta Directiva 6.43). Todos los programas de Educación Profesional y Técnica tienen la inscripción abierta y todos los estudiantes son elegibles para solicitar estos cursos.

La Junta Escolar deberá de cumplir con todos los derechos federales y del estado incluyendo el Decreto de 1990 sobre Americanos Discapacitados (siglas en Inglés-ADA), Title IX, Section 504, Florida Education Equity Act, Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act of 2008 (GINA), and the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act.

Cualquier empleado, estudiante, aspirante del ingreso o aspirante del empleo que alegue haber sido discriminado u acosado por cualquier grupo (otro empleado, estudiante o persona), podrá llevar su queja directamente al/la director/a, supervisor, Coordinator de Justicia del Distrito, o Superintendente del Distrito.

El Coordinador de Justicia del Distrito/
Directora de Recursos Humanos
Quejas de Title II, Title IX, ADA/Section 504,
Florida Education Equity Act
700 SW 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, FL 34974
(863) 462-5000 Ext. 1067

RULES FOR SCHOOL BUS RIDERS/CLICK HERE FOR ROUTE INFORMATION:

(The Code of Student Conduct applies in the bus as well as in the classroom.)



TIPS FOR WALKING AND BIKING SAFELY:



PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL OFFENDERS AND PREDATORS:

At the bus stop: Students and parents are responsible for safety and proper student behavior.

- Students must stand at least 10 feet back from the roadway while waiting.
- Students must respect other people's property.
- Students must not push, shove, or engage in horseplay.
- Students must arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes prior to the scheduled pickup time.
- Students must wait for and get off the bus only at approved stop locations.
- Parents should supervise children at the stop.

During loading and unloading: Always stay away from the 10 foot "danger zone" around the bus, except when you are directed by the driver.

- NEVER pick up an object that you drop under or near the bus. Ask the driver for help.
- Always make sure the driver can see you, never walk behind the bus.
- Make sure clothing and backpacks have no loose drawstrings or long straps that could catch in the handrail or bus door.
- When you see the bus coming, stand at the stop and wait for the bus to come to a complete stop.
- Always wait for the driver to signal that it is safe to cross the road and/or load into the bus.
- When crossing a traffic lane, always look left, right, then left again; cross only if approaching traffic has stopped.
- Only board your assigned bus, unless other arrangements are approved by your school.
- Never approach a moving bus.

During the bus ride: Always follow the driver's directions.

- Never distract the driver unless there is immediate danger to you or others.
- Remain seated with your seat belt fastened, keep the aisles clear, always keep your arms, legs, and head inside the bus.
- Eating, drinking, and chewing gum are prohibited unless an exception has been approved for a trip approved by the Superintendent or designee.
- Never bring unauthorized items into the bus.
- Always wear your seat belt when one is available.
- Always show respect for your fellow students and bus driver.
- Keep conversation at a reasonable level and remain quiet at railroad crossings.

Walking: Walk with an adult or responsible older child at all times.

- Children under 10 years old should cross the street only with an adult or when directed by a bus driver.
- Walk on the sidewalk if there is one.
- Walk facing the traffic, as far from the road/traffic as possible, if no sidewalk is available.
- Use traffic signals and marked crosswalks if available.
- Stop at the curb or edge of the road and look left, right and left for traffic before crossing the street.
- Walk; don't run.
- Give drivers time to see you before crossing the street.
- Keep looking for cars while you are crossing.
- Wear white clothing or reflectors when walking in the dark or in low light.

Biking: (Riders must follow Florida Traffic Laws.) Always wear a helmet that is properly fitted.

- Whenever possible, ride with an adult or responsible older student.
- Always obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Ride on the right side of the road or trail in a single file (one bicycle behind another).
- Ride in the same direction as other vehicles. Go straight across railroad tracks.
- Always use proper hand signals when turning and stopping.
- Yield to pedestrians and alert them with a bicycle bell or your voice when passing.

Talk to your children about following these tips:

- Stay away from an unfamiliar person who is trying to trick you or force you to go with him or her.
- Let your parents and other trusted adults know about any suspicious person or situations.
- Learn to describe people and vehicles.
- Know where to run and how to forcibly resist capture.
- Scream to be seen and to scare a stranger away.
- Stay with a buddy, a group, or parents at the bus stop.
- Report anyone hanging around or passing by regularly.
- Walk or bike along a route that your parents have determined is safe.
- Lock the door and never tell callers you are home alone.

RIGHT TO KNOW Qualifications of Teachers

The Okeechobee County School Board is committed to providing information to you regarding your child's teacher and paraprofessional qualifications in a timely manner upon request.

At any time, you may ask:

- If the teacher meets state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching
- If the teacher has received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration
- Whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional, and if so, his/her qualifications The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), signed into law in December 2015, contains additional parent right to know requests, including:
 - Information on policies regarding student participation in assessments
 - Information on required assessments including: Subject matter tested, Purpose of the test, Source of the requirement (if applicable), Amount of time it takes students to complete the test, Time and format of distributing results.

All of the above information can be requested through your school principal.

BUS PASS PROCEDURE (SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 8.21)

All requests for use of an ongoing alternate bus stop location must be given in writing to the school annually. The alternate bus stop must be in the same attendance zone and the alternate stop will replace the home stop. Students will not be transported to different stops on different days of the week. For example, a parent may arrange for a student to be bused to the nearest existing bus stop to their work location or a sitter's home (assuming it is within the attendance zone of the school). The student will not be bused to that alternate stop on some days and directly to home on other days. If circumstances change (for example, due to a job change), a new request may be submitted. However, serial requests will not be considered.

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- ♦ SECONDARY PHONE ## (w/Area Code)
- ♦ DRIVER'S LICENSE (w/State)

PLEASE NOTE

If your check is dishonored by the bank, a service fee will be assessed in accordance to state law and federal guidelines. In providing a check as payment, you authorize electronic representation if your check should return unpaid. Also, you authorize service charges and processing fees, as determined by law, to be debited (at our option) from the same account via paper draft or electronic funds transfer.

www.EnvisionPayments.com

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOLS
PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

The promotion requirements for students in Okeechobee public schools are found in the Okeechobee County School Board Student Progression Plan.

Elementary School (grades K-5)

Students shall demonstrate satisfactory progress in reading and mathematics as measured by state assessments and locally determined criteria

☒ To be promoted to grade 4, a student must score a Level 2 or higher on the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment required under s.1008.22 for grade 3.

Middle School (grades 6-8)

Middle grades students must earn passing grades in ELA, math, science, and social studies for three grading periods of the school year (three out of four quarters per course). To be promoted from middle school a student must complete:

- ☒ 3 middle grades or higher courses in English Language Arts
- ☒ 3 middle grades or higher courses in mathematics
- ☒ 3 middle grades or higher courses in social studies (One of these courses must be at least a one-semester or year-long course in civics.)
- ☒ 3 middle grades or higher courses in science
- ☒ 1 course in career and education planning

High School (grades 9-12)

Promotion to the next grade level in high school is dependent on a student earning the required number of credits.

GRADE CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS
High school graduation credit requirements

	Sophomore (Gr. 10)	Junior (Gr. 11)	Senior (Gr. 12)	Graduate
24 Credit Diploma	5 credits	11 credits	17 credits	24 credits
Mid-Year Promotion	7.5 credits	13.5 credits	20.5 credits	
18 Credit Diploma	5 credits 6	8 credits	13 credits	18 credits
Mid-Year Promotion	credits	8.5	15.5 credits	

Mid-year promotion is permitted when students earn the appropriate number of credits to join their cohort and are in the appropriate English class for that cohort.

TESTING REQUIREMENTS

- Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) will be administered three times per year in grades VPK through grade 10 English Language Arts and VPK through grade 8 Mathematics.
 - The end-of-course assessments are computer-based tests designed to measure student achievement of the specified standards for middle and high school level courses in Biology 1, Civics, US History, Algebra 1, and Geometry.
 - The statewide science assessment measures student success with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and includes assessments in grades 5 and 8.
- All students must participate in the statewide assessments for the course(s) in which he/she is enrolled. For more information on state assessments and the Credit Acceleration Program (CAP) go to <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment>, or for high school graduation testing requirements go to <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/k-12-public-schools/sss/graduation-requirements/>

[STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN CLICK HERE](#)

Each student's progression from one grade to another is determined by proficiency in reading, writing, science, and mathematics. The Okeechobee County School Board has established the following comprehensive program for student progression:

- Evidence of a student's performance will be reflected by grades assigned following the district-adopted grading policy.
- Students who score below proficiency in English Language Arts and mathematics on statewide assessments are considered for remediation.
- Appropriate alternative placement will be considered for a student who has been retained for 2 or more years
- For additional information, please review the [Student Progression Plan](#).

REPORTING OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Progress reports are issued at the mid-point of each grading period.

Report cards are distributed at the end of each grading period.

All students in grades K-5 will earn an E, S, N, or U in physical education.

Kindergarten students will earn grades of E, S, N, or U.

Students in grades K-12 will earn letter grades A, B, C, D, or F based on mastery of standards for grade level and course content.

All students will earn grades of S, N, or U in conduct.

Grading Chart

Grades 1-12	Description of Grade	Kindergarten and Select Subjects Grades 1-5
A = 90 - 100%	A = Excellent Progress	E = Excellent
B = 80 - 89 %	B = Above Average Progress	S = Satisfactory
C = 70 - 79 %	C = Satisfactory Progress	N = Needs Improvement
D = 60 - 69 %	D = Lowest Acceptable Progress	U = Unsatisfactory
F = 0 - 59 %	F = Unsatisfactory Progress	
I = 0%	I = Incomplete	

VISION
TOGETHER,
ACHIEVING
EXCELLENCE:

PUTTING
STUDENTS
FIRST

MISSION

Instilling
excellence and
determination so
every student can
achieve tomorrow's
possibilities.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE DISTRICT'S STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

ELEMENTARY REPORT CARD

1. Instructional Levels for Reading and Math classes
2. Classroom Conduct in their academic classes (S,N,U)
3. Conduct for "Specials" such as music and PE (S,N,U)
4. Grading period-we have four nine weeks grading periods
5. Indicates your child's level of study skills
6. Class subjects
7. Grade earned in the subject that grading period(achievement grades for academic subjects and effort grades for Specials)
8. Final Class Grade for the year
9. Teacher and Parent Comments
10. Please sign and date the report card here and list a phone number
11. Reading Level of your student
12. Shows your child's placement for next year
13. If marked this indicates danger of failing
14. Conference Record
15. Attendance information for each grading period

See sample Elementary School Report Card report card below

SCHOOL BOARD OF OKEECHOBEE COUNTY – REPORT CARD

000000003

STUDENT NAME	SCHOOL	TEACHER	GRADE	DATE	MARKING PD	PLACEMENT FOR NEXT YEAR
BRAHMAN, JILL	OKEECHOBEE ELEMENTARY	PORTER	04	08-21-23	04	P = Promoted in Next Grade R = Retained in Grade A = Administrative Placement for Good Cause to Next Grade

COURSE NUMBER	SUBJECT	MARKING PERIOD				FIN GR	CONDUCT				EXPLANATION OF MARKS	ATTENDANCE						
		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		REPORT PERIOD	1	2	3	4		
5010050	READ E LEVEL	B	A	A	A	A												
5010090	WRITING E	C	B	B	B	B												
5012000	MATH E LEVEL	B	B	C	A	B												
5013000	MUSIC GEN E	E	E	E	E	E												
5015010	PHYS ED E	S	S	E	E	S												
5020000	SCIENCE E	B	B	A	A	A												
5021000	SOCIAL STUDIES	B	*	*														
	CLASSROOM CONDUCT						S	S	S	S								

INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL FOLLOWS GRADE
The instructional level indicates the grade level at which the student is receiving instruction in Mathematics and Reading.

BB = First Grade 3 = Third Grade
 P = First Grade 4 = Fourth Grade
 1 = First Grade 5 = Fifth Grade
 2 = Second Grade

An (X) indicates the level of work study skills.
 () The student does the work that is assigned, is seldom late in completing work, and gives excellent attention to classroom tasks.
 (X) The student usually does the work that is assigned, usually completes work on time, and gives attention to classroom tasks.
 (X) The student sometimes does the work that is assigned, seldom completes work on time, and gives little attention to classroom

Student is reading:

- o Enrichment Reading
- o On Grade Level
- o Below Grade Level

At the present rate of progress, your child's promotion to the next grade may be in danger due to:

- o Grades _____
- o Other _____

Teacher requests conference with Parent
 Date Requested _____
 Date Held _____
 Retention Discussed _____

Teacher Comments: _____

Parent Comments: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____ Telephone Number: _____

SIGN AND RETURN TOP SHEET

1. Instructional Levels for Reading and Math classes
2. Classroom Conduct in their academic classes (E, S, N, U)
3. Conduct for "Specials" such as music and PE (E, S, N, U)
4. Grading period – we have four nine weeks grading periods
5. Indicates your child's level of study skills
6. Class subjects
7. Grade earned in the subject that grading period (Achievement grades for academic subjects and Effort grades for Specials)
8. Final Class Grade for the year
9. Teacher and Parent Comments
10. Please sign and date the report card here and list a phone number
11. Reading Level of your student
12. Shows your child's placement for next year
13. If marked this indicates danger of failing
14. Conference Record
15. Attendance information for each grading period

MIDDLE SCHOOL REPORT CARD

1. Student Name and Street Address - let the school know if this is incorrect
2. Student's Grade Level
3. School Term S1 = 1st semester class S2 = 2nd semester class YR = year-long class
4. Period - Time when class meets during the day
5. Student Number
6. Grading Period Data - 4 nine weeks periods, Grd - grade earned in class, Abs - Absences in that class, Tar - tardies to that class
7. Grade Point Averages - Grading Period GPA-total quality points for each grade earned, divided by the number of classes
8. Total Credits - total credits earned toward graduation. Middle school students may earn a graduation credit if they earn a passing grade in Algebra 1.

See sample Middle School Report Card below

School: (863) 462-5056
Guidance:
Attendance:

School Board of Okeechobee County

Student Name: Bubba J Brahman
Address: 1234 Brahman Way
Okeechobee, FL 34974

Student Number: 470000000
Grade: 07
School Year: 23 - 24

Advisor:
Homeroom:

Term	Period	Course Number	Course Title	Instructor	1st Nine Weeks			2nd Nine Weeks			Semester			3rd Nine Weeks			4th Nine Weeks			Semester Grade	Credits Earned	Conduct	Conf Req
					Grd	Abs	Tar	Grd	Abs	Tar	Grd	Abs	Tar	Grd	Abs	Tar	Grd	Abs	Tar				
S1	01	8100310	Orientation to Agriscience	MEGAN WILLIAMS	A																0.00		
S2	01	1508070	M/J Comprehensive Physical Science	CARLEY MCCOIN																	0.00		
YR	02	0500000	M/J Personal, Career, and Social Studies	SHAVEL JAMES																	0.00		
YR	03	1001040	M/J Language Arts 2	SHAVEL JAMES	B																0.00		
YR	06	1205050	M/J Accelerated Mathematics	HOWARD MARTIN	A																0.00		
YR	02	1700010	M/J Research 2	SHEWBA MANSOOR																	0.00		
YR	09	2002070	M/J Comprehensive Science	SHEWBA MANSOOR	B																0.00		
YR	08	2106016	M/J Civics & Career Planning	TRACY BUNTING	C																0.00		
YR	02	7855040	Advanced Academics: 6-8	CAROLYN COOPER																	0.00		

Grades flagged with a (#) are forgiven and not included in semester GPA. Courses bolded and flagged with an (*) are not included in semester GPA.

Grade Point Average	
1st Nine Weeks	0.0000
2nd Nine Weeks	_____
Semester 1	_____
3rd Nine Weeks	_____
4th Nine Weeks	_____
Semester 2	_____
Total Credits	0.0000

GRADE LEGEND

90 - 100	A	OUTSTANDING - EXCEPCIONAL
80 - 89	B	ABOVE AVERAGE PROGRESS - POR ENCIMA DE LOS AVANCES PROMEDIO
70 - 79	C	AVERAGE PROGRESS - PROGRESO MEDIO
60 - 69	D	LOWEST ACCEPTABLE PROGRESS - PROGRESO ACEPTABLE MÀS BAJA
0 - 59	F	FAILURE - FALLO
	I	INCOMPLETE - INCOMPLETA

Middle School Report Card

1. Student Name and Street Address
5. Student Number
2. Student's Grade Level
6. Grading Period Data - 4 nine weeks periods
Grd - grade earned for that nine weeks
Abs - absences in that class
Tar - tardies to that class
3. School Term - S1 Semester 1, S2 Semester 2, YR Year long
7. Grade Point Average
Grading Pd Average - total quality points for each grade divided by the number of classes
4. Period - time when class meets during the day
8. Total Credits - total credits earned towards graduation. Middle school students may earn a graduation credit if they earn a passing grade in Algebra 1.

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT CARD



1. Student Name and Street Address - let the school know if this is incorrect
2. Student's Grade Level
3. School Term S1 = 1st semester class S2 = 2nd semester class YR = year-long class
4. Period - Time when class meets during the day
5. Semester Data - 2 semesters per year
 - Grd* - semester grade for that class - calculated by averaging both nine weeks' grades with each passing semester grade (D or better) earning .5 credit
6. Total Credits - total credits earned toward graduation
7. Student Number
8. Grading Period Data - 4 nine week periods
 - Grd - grade earned in the class for the 9 weeks
 - Abs - absences in that class
 - Tar - tardies to that class
9. Grade Point Averages
 - Grading Pd GPA - total quality points for each grade divided by the number of classes
 - Cumulative GPA - total quality points for all classes in with earned credit divided by total classes taken

*Neither a semester grade nor credit will be given in courses with a State Administered EOC until the results of the EOC have been received and calculated in to 1st and 2nd semesters' grades.

See the High School Report Card sample below

School: (863) 462-5025
Guidance:
Attendance:

Student Name: Bubba J Brahman
Address: 2800 Brahman Lane

School Board of Okeechobee County
Semester 1
OKEECHOBEE HIGH SCHOOL

Student Number 470000000000
Grade: 10

School Year: 23 - 24

Advisor:
Homeroom:

Term	Period	Course Number	Course Title	Instructor	1st Nine Weeks			Semester Grade	3rd Nine Weeks			4th Nine Weeks			Semester Grade	Credits Earned	Conduct	Cont Req
					Grd	Abs	Tar		Grd	Abs	Tar	Grd	Abs	Tar				
YR	01	1001350	English Honors 2	SANDERS PA	A	1	1	A							0.00			
YR	02	2109320	World History Honors	MATCHETT E	A	1		A							0.00			
S1	03	MAT-1033	INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA	HOLCOMB JI	A	1		A							0.00			
YR	04	2003350	Chemistry 1 Honors	SZENT SAM	A	2		A							0.00			
YR	05	2400310	Leadership Techniques Hon	PRYOR WILL	A	2		A							0.00			
S1	06	8106210	Animal Science and Service	PRESCOTT J	A	2		A							0.00			

Grades flagged with a (F) are forgiven and not included in semester GPA. Semester grades with (*) are EOC grades.

Grade Point Average	
1st Nine Weeks	4.0000
2nd Nine Weeks	3.8333
Semester 1	4.0000
3rd Nine Weeks	_____
4th Nine Weeks	_____
Semester 2	_____
Cumulative GPA	3.7000
Total Credits	7.0000

GRADE LEGEND

90 - 100	A	OUTSTANDING - EXCEPCIONAL
80 - 89	B	ABOVE AVERAGE PROGRESS - POR ENCIMA DE LOS AVANCES PROMEDIO
70 - 79	C	AVERAGE PROGRESS - PROGRESO MEDIO
60 - 69	D	LOWEST ACCEPTABLE PROGRESS - PROGRESO ACEPTABLE MÀS BAJA
0 - 59	F	FAILURE - FALLO
	I	INCOMPLETE - INCOMPLETA

High School Report Card

1. Student Name and Street Address
2. Student's Grade Level
3. School Term - S1 Semester 1, S2 Semester 2, YR Year long
4. Period - time when class meets during the day
5. Semester Data - 2 semesters a year, semester grade is an average of the the two nine weeks within that semester. Earning a D or better earns .5 credit
6. Total Credits - total credits earned towards graduation
7. Student Number
8. Grading Period Data - 4 nine weeks periods
 - Grd - grade earned for that nine weeks
 - Abs - absences in that class
 - Tar - tardies to that class
9. Grade Point Average
 - Grading Pd Average - total quality points for each grade divided by the number of classes
 - Cumulative GPA - total quality points for all classes with earned credit, divided by the total classes taken.

BEST STANDARDS PARENT GUIDES FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

The B.E.S.T. Standards for English Language Arts (ELA) are literacy standards for Florida students that will shape their education and make Florida the most literate state in the nation. The B.E.S.T. Standards will pave the way for Florida students to receive a world-class education and prepare them for a successful future. The links below contain a Parent Guide for each grade that include what each child know at the end of the grade along with learning activities and a recommended reading list.

[PreKindergarten](#)
[Kindergarten](#)
[Grade 1](#)
[Grade 2](#)
[Grade 3](#)
[Grade 4](#)
[Grade 5](#)
[Grade 6](#)
[Grade 7](#)
[Grade 8](#)

[Spanish PreKindergarten](#)
[Spanish Kindergarten](#)
[Spanish Grade 1](#)
[Spanish Grade 2](#)
[Spanish Grade 3](#)
[Spanish Grade 4](#)
[Spanish Grade 5](#)
[Spanish Grade 6](#)
[Spanish Grade 7](#)
[Spanish Grade 8](#)



BEST STANDARDS PARENT GUIDES FOR MATHEMATICS

B.E.S.T. Mathematics Course Descriptions
 Course Descriptions for the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) for Mathematics can be found on [CPALMS](#).

Instructional Guides (B1G-M)

The B.E.S.T. Instructional Guides for Mathematics (B1G-M) assist educators with planning for student learning and instruction aligned to Florida's B.E.S.T. Standards for Mathematics. Please note that the instructional guides will continue to undergo edits as necessary.

- [B.E.S.T. Instructional Guide for Mathematics Components with Tiered Instruction \(PDF\)](#)
- Elementary Grades Mathematics B1G-M
 - [Grade Kindergarten B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Grade 1 B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Grade 2 B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Grade 3 B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [DRAFT Grade 3 Accelerated B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Grade 4 B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [DRAFT Grade 4 Accelerated B1G-M with Tiered Instruction \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Grade 5 B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
- Middle Grades Mathematics B1G-M
 - [Grade 6 B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [DRAFT Grade 6 Accelerated B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Grade 7 B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [DRAFT Grade 7 Accelerated B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Grade 8 B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
- High School Mathematics B1G-M
 - [Algebra 1 B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Algebra 1 Honors B1G-M with Tiered Instruction - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Geometry B1G-M - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Geometry Honors B1G-M - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Math for Data and Financial Literacy - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Math for Data and Financial Literacy Honors - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Math for College Algebra - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Math for College Liberal Arts - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Math for College Statistics - Updated 6-1-23 \(PDF\)](#)

Additional information regarding B.E.S.T. Mathematics is available by accessing the Florida Department of Education's [B.E.S.T. Mathematics webpage](#).

NEW WORLDS READING INITIATIVE

Program Eligibility

Any VPK student in Florida who is not making age-appropriate progress according to FAST assessments,
OR any K-5th grade student in Florida in public or district-sponsored charter school who is not yet reading on grade level.
For additional information and enrollment opportunities, **Please visit New Worlds Reading.**



Free books delivered to your door to help young readers.





Accessing the Florida Family Portal

bit.ly/okeefamilyportal (Spanish Version)



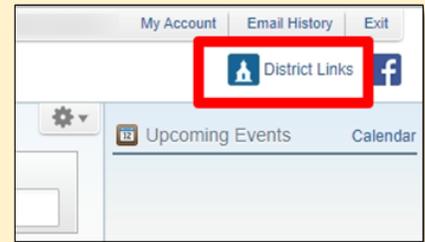
The new Family Portal provides a central location for your child’s state assessment results.

On the Family Portal, you can access your child’s results for ELA & Math Progress Monitoring assessments, EOC Exams (including Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, Civics, and US History), and Renaissance STAR assessments. You will also have the ability to print reports from this portal.



How can I access the Family Portal?

1. Go to [Skyward Family Access](#) for each student
2. Click District Links (right)
3. Click Cambium Family Portal



What information do I need to log in to the Family Portal?

A username and password for your Skyward Family Access account.

What information can I find on the Family Portal?

- Your child’s results from the state test administration regardless of the current school of enrollment.
Note- If new to our district from another Florida district, these reports will be available after a few months.
- Your child’s Individual Score Reports with interpretive guides.
- Glossary
- FAQs
- Performance Levels

How do I get my Skyward Family Access Account?

Please contact your child’s school to receive the username and password for your Skyward Family Access account.

You only need account information for one child and you will be able to access all children enrolled in the school district through Skyward.

[Skyward Family Access](#)



FLORIDA STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM 2023–2024 SCHEDULE*

The testing windows below denote the amount of time provided for districts and schools to select test administration days; they do not represent the amount of time students spend taking the assessments. The windows are established to provide maximum flexibility to efficiently deliver these important measurements of student progress and performance and maximize student learning and instructional time.

Writing	
Dates	Assessment
April 1–12, 2024	Grades 4–10 Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Writing
ELA Reading and Mathematics	
Dates	Assessment
May 1–31, 2024	Grades 3–10 Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) English Language Arts (ELA) Reading & Grades 3–8 Mathematics End-of-Year Progress Monitoring Assessment (Third Administration, PM3)
Statewide Science Assessment	
Dates	Assessment
May 6–17 1–31, 2024	Grades 5 & 8 Science
EOC & FAST ELA Reading Retake Assessments	
Dates	Assessment
September 11–October 6, 2023 November 27–December 15, 2023 May 1–31, 2024 July 15–26, 2024	B.E.S.T. Algebra 1 & Geometry End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments Biology 1, Civics, & U.S. History EOCs FAST Grade 10 ELA Reading Retake
FSA Retake Assessments	
Dates	Assessment
September 11–29, 2023	Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) Grade 10 ELA Reading Retake FSA Grade 10 ELA Writing Retake FSA Algebra 1 EOC Retake
February 19–March 8, 2024	FSA Grade 10 ELA Writing Retake FSA Grade 10 ELA Reading Retake FSA Algebra 1 EOC Retake

*School districts establish daily testing schedules within these windows according to state-provided guidance. For more detailed scheduling information for a specific school or district, please visit that organization's website.

FLORIDA STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM 2023–2024 SCHEDULE

The windows below denote the amount of time provided for districts and schools to select progress monitoring administration days; they do not represent the amount of time students spend taking progress monitoring assessments. The windows are established to provide maximum flexibility to efficiently deliver these important measurements of student progress and performance and maximize student learning and instructional time.

FAST	
Dates	Grade Levels and Subjects
First Administration (PM1): August 7–September 29, 2023 Second Administration (PM2): December 4, 2023–January 26, 2024 Third Administration (PM3): April 15–May 31, 2024	Grades K–2* FAST Reading & Mathematics
First Administration (PM1): August 14–September 29, 2023 Second Administration (PM2): December 4, 2023–January 26, 2024 Third Administration (PM3): May 1–May 31, 2024	Grades 3–10 FAST ELA Reading & Grades 3–8 FAST Mathematics

*Assessment calendar guidance for VPK programs is available at <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/early-learning/providers/fast-star-earlit.stml>.

Florida Alternate Assessment	
Dates	Grade Levels and Subjects
September 25–October 13, 2023	Florida Standards Alternate Assessment (FSAA)—Performance Task Grade 10 ELA Makeup Algebra 1 Makeup
February 26–April 12, 2024	Florida Alternate Assessments (FAA)*—Performance Task Grades 3–8 ELA & Mathematics Grades 4–8 Writing Grades 5 & 8 Science End-of-Course Assessment (Civics)
March 11–April 26, 2024	FAA*—Performance Task Grades 9 & 10 ELA Grades 9 & 10 Writing End-of-Course Assessments (Algebra 1, Biology 1, Geometry & U.S. History)
Data Collection Periods: September–October 2023 November–December 2023 March–April 2024	FAA*—Datafolio Grades 3–10 ELA (Reading & Writing) Grades 3–8 Mathematics Grades 5 & 8 Science End-of-Course Assessments (Algebra 1, Biology 1, Civics, Geometry & U.S. History)

*Aligned to Access Points for B.E.S.T.

[Assessment calendar guidance for VPK programs](#)

FLORIDA STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM 2023–2024 SCHEDULE

Other Statewide Assessments	
Dates	Assessment
October 2023–April 2024	Preliminary ACT (PreACT)
October 2023	Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT)
November 6–December 15, 2023 April 15–May 31, 2024	Florida Civic Literacy Exam
January–March 2024	National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Mathematics (Grades 4, 8 & 12) Reading (Grades 4, 8 & 12) Science (Grade 8)
January 22–March 15, 2024	ACCESS for ELLs Alternate ACCESS for ELLs
March–April 2024	ACT*
March–April 2024	SAT*
March–April 2024	Classic Learning Test (CLT)*
May 2024	Advanced Placement (AP) Exams

*Districts will select the ACT, SAT, or CLT to administer to all Grade 11 students in the district.

[Accessing the Florida Family Portal](#)



OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOLS



The Office of K-12
Accountability & Assessment

Okeechobee Assessment Calendar 2023-2024

Achieving Excellence Through Data

bit.ly/OkeeAssessCalendar

Revised: 08/08/2023

	Date Ranges	Test	Assessment Description	Grades	Mode	Required
August	8/10 - 9/20	FAST STAR PM1	State Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Coordinated Screening Progress Monitoring using STAR Early Literacy, STAR Reading, STAR Math	Grades VPK - 2	CBT	State
	8/14 - 9/20	FAST PM1	State Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Coordinated Screening Progress Monitoring using Cabium's Test Delivery System (TDS) PM1	Grades 3-10 ELA Grades 3-8 Math	CBT	State
	8/15 - 9/29	STAR PM1	District administration of STAR Reading and STAR Math	Grades 3-5	CBT	District
September	9/1 - 9/20	District PM1	Progress Monitoring Assessments - Biology (USA Test Prep) and Civics (Performance Matters).	Grades 7 & 9-12	CBT	School
	9/11 - 10/6	FAST/EOC	Fall State Assessments - B.E.S.T. Algebra 1 & Geometry EOCs, Biology 1, Civics, & U.S. History EOCs, FAST Grade 10 ELA Reading Retake, & FSA Reading Retake Assessments, Writing Retake, & FSA Alg 1 Retake	Grades 9-12	CBT	State
	9/1 - 9/20	NWEA #1	NWEA Diagnostic Assessment - progress monitor assessment for science.	Grades 3-8	CBT	District
	Sept. - Oct.	FAA - Datafolio #1	Florida Alternate Assessment - Datafolio Collection Period #1 (select ESE students)	Grades 3-12	Other	State
October	10/2-10/31	PSAT	NMSQT - Standardized test that provides practice for the SAT.	Grades 11	CBT	National
	October 11th	SAT	SAT (School Day) - a national college admissions exam	Select Grade 12	CBT	National
Nov.	Nov. - Dec.	FAA - Datafolio 2	Florida Alternate Assessment - Datafolio Collection Period #2 (select ESE students)	Grades 3-12	Other	State
	11/6 - 12/15	FCLE	Florida Civics Literacy Exam- administered through US Government courses	Grades 11-12	CBT	State
December	11/27 - 12/15	EOC	Winter State Assessments - B.E.S.T. Algebra 1 & Geometry EOCs, Biology 1, Civics, & U.S. History EOCs	Grades 9-12	CBT	State
	12/4 - 12/22	FAST STAR PM 2	State Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Coordinated Screening Progress Monitoring using STAR Early Literacy, STAR Reading, STAR Math	Grades VPK - 2	CBT	State
	12/4 - 12/22	FAST PM 2	State Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Coordinated Screening Progress Monitoring using Cabium's Test Delivery System	Grades 3-10 ELA Grades 3-8 Math	CBT	State
January	1/9 - 1/31	District PM 2	Progress Monitoring Assessments - Biology (USA Test Prep) and Civics (Performance Matters).	Grades 7 & 9-12	CBT	School
	1/10 - 1/31	NWEA #2	NWEA Diagnostic Assessment - progress monitor assessment for science.	Grades 3-8	CBT	District
	1/10 - 1/31	STAR #2	District administration of STAR Reading and STAR Math	Grades 3-5	CBT	District
	1/22 - 3/8	WIDA	WIDA ACCESS for ELLs - Measure the English language proficiency of English Language Learners (ELL).	ELL students Grades K-12	PBT	State
February	2/19 - 3/8	FSA Re.	Spring Retake Assessments - FSA ELA Retake, FSA Writing Retake, FSA Algebra I Retake	Grades 12	CBT	State
	2/26 - 4/11	FAA PT	Florida Alternate Assessment - Performance Task for specific ESE students that are identified.	(ESE) Grades 3-8	PBT	State
March	3/4 - 4/26	SAT	SAT (School Day) - a national college admissions exam	Grade 11	CBT	National
	Mar. - Apr.	FAA - Datafolio 3	Florida Alternate Assessment - Datafolio Collection Period #3 (select ESE students)	Grades 3-12	Other	State
	3/11 - 4/26	FAA PT	Florida Alternate Assessment - Performance Task for specific ESE students that are identified.	(ESE) Grades 9-12	PBT	State
	3/25 - 4/19	NWEA #3	NWEA Diagnostic Assessment - progress monitor assessment for science.	Grades 3-8	CBT	District
	3/25 - 4/26	STAR #3	District administration of STAR Reading and STAR Math	Grades 3-5	CBT	District
April	4/1/ - 4/12	Writing	BEST Writing Assessment	Grades 4-10	CBT	State
	4/15 - 5/24	FCLE	Florida Civics Literacy Exam - administered through US Government courses	Grades 10-12	CBT	State

Okeechobee Assessment Calendar 2023-2024 Continued

May	5/1 - 5/24	FAST PM3	Grades 3–10 FAST ELA Reading & Grades 3–8 Mathematics End-of-Year Comprehensive Progress Monitoring Assessment 3-10 ELA and 3-8 Math	Grades 3-10	CBT	State
	5/1 - 5/24	FAST PM3	State Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Coordinated Screening Progress Monitoring using STAR Early Literacy, STAR Reading, STAR Math	Grades VPK - 2	CBT	State
	5/1 - 5/24	EOC	Spring EOC Assessments for Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology 1, Civics, & US History	Grades 7-12	CBT	State
	5/6 - 5/17	NGSSS Sci	Florida Statewide Science Assessment	Grades 5 & 8	CBT	State
	5/6 - 5/10	AP	Advanced Placement Exams - Exams offered to students taking advanced placement courses.	Grades 9-12	CBT	Program Required
	5/15	SAT10	Stanford Achievement Test - Alternative Assessment for 3rd grade promotion.	Select Grade 3	CBT	Other
June	6/26	Terranova	Terranova - Alternative Assessment for 3rd grade promotion.	Select Grade 3	CBT	Other
July	July 10 - July 21	EOC	Summer State Assessments: Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology 1, Civics, US History	Grades 7-12	CBT	State
Ongoing	Ongoing	Ind Cert	Industry Certification - Exams designed to demonstrate technical skills in career and technical education courses	Grades 6-12	CBT	Program Required
	Ongoing	PERT	Postsecondary Education Readiness Test - Offered to high school students to determine placement in coursework and to show college readiness.	Grades 10-12	CBT	Other
	Ongoing	Course Assessments	Common Unit Assessments will occur throughout the school year based on the curriculum map for the following courses: ELA K-8, Math K-8, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, US History, and Science 6-8.	Grades K-12	PBT / CBT	District
	Ongoing	GED Night Testing	GED Night Testing is 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM Sep. 12,13,14; Oct. 3,4,5; Nov. 7,8,9; Dec. 5,6,7; Jan. 16,17,18; Feb. 6,7,8; Mar. 5,6,7; Apr. 9,10,11; May 14,15,16	Adult ED	CBT	Other



Family and Teacher Program Guides

Reflex Math

Adaptive and individualized, Reflex is the most effective system for mastering basic facts in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division for grades 2+. Full of games that students love, Reflex takes students at every level and helps them quickly gain math fact fluency and confidence. Educators and parents love the powerful reporting that allows them to monitor progress and celebrate success.

Logging into Reflex Math

1. Visit

<https://launchpad.classlink.com/okeechobee> 2.

Choose Reflex Math tile

3. Login using:

Teacher Login - use teacher's

last name, select your class and then find student's name

Renaissance

STAR Reading, STAR Math, STAR Early Literacy, Accelerated Reader, Lalilio, Freckle, STAR Phonics, STAR CBM Reading, STAR CBM Math Today, more than 40 percent of US schools rely on Renaissance solutions for data and insights to equitably move learning forward. As technology continues to change, and as teachers and students connect in new ways, our commitment to accelerating learning is unwavering—both inside and outside the classroom. We currently use the following Renaissance products: STAR Reading, STAR Math, STAR Early Literacy, Accelerated Reader, Lalilio, Freckle, STAR Phonics, STAR CBM Reading, STAR CBM Math.

Logging into Renaissance

1. Visit <https://launchpad.classlink.com/okeechobee>

2. Choose Renaissance

3. Student will be automatically logged in and can select the product they want to use.

Footsteps2Brilliance

The comprehensive Footsteps2Brilliance curriculum contains over 1,000 interactive books, songs, and games that can be read in either English or Spanish. It uses game-based methodology to engage students and inspire a love of learning. This content is appropriate for students in K-2 grade and struggling readers who need phonics support.

Logging into Footsteps2Brilliance

1. Visit <https://launchpad.classlink.com/okeechobee>

2. Choose Web links at the bottom and then select the Footsteps2Brilliance tile

3. Login using your student's super secret code

UNIQUE Learning

K-12 Students with a Significant Cognitive Disability

The award-winning Unique Learning System is a one-of-a-kind program designed specifically to give students with complex learning needs meaningful access to the general education curriculum. From one convenient, cloud-based platform, educators deliver differentiated, standards-aligned content enhanced by powerful assessments, data tools and evidence-based instructional support. Students from K through transition have the advantage of consistent high-quality instruction, a motivating interactive

learning environment, engaging symbol support and a path to independence. Designed for students on a modified curriculum.

Logging into UNIQUE

1. Visit <https://launchpad.classlink.com/okeechobee>

2. Choose Student

3. Login using district credentials

4. Click on the three horizontal lines at the top right hand of the screen

5. Click "Sign In" and next click "Student"

6. Once you are logged in, a student folder with assignments will appear.

7. Use the following login information based on your child's grade level: Username and password to be provided by your child's teacher.

FAMILY AND TEACHER PROGRAM GUIDES

Khan Academy

Khan Academy offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empower learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom. We tackle math, science, computer programming, history, art history, economics, and more. Our math missions guide learners from kindergarten to calculus using state-of-the-art, adaptive technology that identifies strengths and learning gaps. We've also partnered with institutions like NASA, The Museum of Modern Art, The California Academy of Sciences, and MIT to offer specialized content.

Logging into Khan Academy

1. Visit <https://launchpad.classlink.com/okeechobee>
2. Choose Weblinks at the bottom and then select the Khan Academy tile
3. Login using: click on Log in with Active Directory

Edmentum

Edmentum is the parent company for three products used in the district:

Exact Path combines adaptive diagnostic assessments with individualized learning pathways to promote growth for 6-12 grade students in math, reading, and language arts.

Study Island provides games and game-based Group Sessions. Your students can engage in meaningful practice and formative assessment when playing games and competing with their classmates.

Courseware online courses open up a world of content for students who are seeking to retrieve credit at high school or recover course at middle school. Students at OAA also use Courseware courses to attain first time credit.

Logging into Edmentum

1. Visit <https://launchpad.classlink.com/okeechobee>
2. Choose the appropriate tile for the program you will be using.
3. Login using: click on Log in with Active Directory

Google Classroom

Google worked with educators across the country to create Classroom: a streamlined, easy-to-use tool that helps teachers manage coursework. With Classroom, educators can create classes, distribute assignments, grade and send feedback, and see everything in one place. Your child may or may not have used Google Classroom during their regular school session. For those new to Google Classroom, teachers will be inviting students to join via the student's email.

Logging into Google Classroom

1. Visit <https://launchpad.classlink.com/okeechobee>
2. Choose Weblinks at the bottom and then select the Google Classroom tile
3. Will automatically login

Math Nation

Math Nation is a dynamic resource available to all math students and teachers in Florida! Aligned to the Florida Mathematics Standards by the University of Florida, Math is customized to help students succeed in 6th-8th Grade Mathematics, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and beyond.

Logging into Math Nation

1. Visit <https://launchpad.classlink.com/okeechobee>
2. Choose Weblinks at the bottom and then select Math Nation tile
3. Students should automatically be logged in.

Schoology

Schoology is a learning management system with assessment management to improve student performance, foster collaboration, and personalize learning. Teachers add resources and assignments to the platform. Student can access resources, complete assignments and upload work into

Schoology

Logging into Schoology

1. Will open as a tab when a student signs on to his/her Chromebook
2. Login with network username and password

FAMILY AND TEACHER PROGRAM GUIDES

NewsELA

Fuel students' curiosity with over 10,000 texts across 20+ genres that go deep on any subject. It's all real-world content, so students practice accessing the complex texts they'll find inside and outside the classroom.

Every text comes with a quiz that's aligned to ELA standards for informational reading or literature, so teachers can focus on each student's individual skill development. Multiple levels mean students approach rigorous texts confidently. Real-time differentiation means teachers can include all students in every lesson, and no one ever feels left out of a discussion.

Logging into NewsELA

1. Visit <https://launchpad.classlink.com/okeechobee>
2. Choose Web links at the bottom and then select the Clever tile
3. Log into Clever and then select the Newsela tile in Clever. Student will automatically be logged in.

Gale Resources

Gale is a global leader in education, learning, and research resources online. We have a vast digital archive of research databases, reference books. (both eBook and print), and more!

Logging into Gale

1. Visit <https://launchpad.classlink.com/okeechobee>
2. Choose the Gale tile
3. There is no login for this resource during this time.

IXL

IXL provides online content in Math, English Language Arts, Science, Social Studies and Spanish. IXL Learning products are used in classrooms and homes in more than 190 countries around the world. We touch the lives of millions of educators and learners daily—from teachers providing personalized guidance to each student, to parents looking for high-quality educational games for their kids, to a university student tackling a foreign language, and more. IXL alone is used by over 400,000 teachers and over 8 million students (who have answered a whopping 60 billion questions to date!).

Logging into IXL

1. Students should have site bookmarked and know login info.

Progress Learning

Progress Learning is recognized as a nationwide leader in curriculum resources and test preparation for high schools, middle schools, and elementary schools. We offer a multitude of review products for subject area end-of-grade, end-of-course, graduation level, career readiness, and college entrance assessments. Our programs are tailored to both individual state and/or Common Core standards.

Logging into Progress Learning

1. Visit <https://launchpad.classlink.com/okeechobee>
2. Choose the Progress Learning tile
3. Students should automatically be signed in through Clever.

THE EARLIER, THE BETTER

FLORIDA PREPAID COLLEGE PLAN  FLORIDA
PREPAID
COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS

Enrollment in a Florida Prepaid College Plan can occur at anytime. New pricing is announced at the start of the annual Open Enrollment Period.

The cost of college shouldn't be the reason your child or grandchild misses out on a great education. By saving early with the Florida Prepaid College Plans, you can help ensure that your child or grandchild will get that chance. It's the easiest and most affordable way to plan and save for a child's future - today. For information visit our website: Myfloridaprepaid.com or call 1 (800) 552-GRAD (4723)

WHAT CAN YOU DO BEFORE YOUR CHILD STARTS SCHOOL? FOOTSTEPS2BRILLIANCE

FREE LITERACY APP FOR OKEECHOBEE RESIDENTS!



Okeechobee County Schools is providing Footsteps2Brilliance®, a comprehensive literacy app, to the parents of all pre-K - 2nd grade children who live in Okeechobee, FL. This engaging app will help you prepare your child for school.



[FOOTSTEPS 2BRILLIANCE
CLICK HERE](#)

Información de Aplicación Gratuita para los Residentes de Okeechobee!



Las Escuelas del Condado de Okeechobee estan ofreciendo una aplicacion integral de instruccion - Footsteps2Brilliance® -, a los padres de todos los niños de pre-K - 2do grado, que viven en Okeechobee, FL. Esta atractiva aplicacion le ayudara a preparar a su hijo/a para la escuela.



The Okeechobee County School Board has received Corporate Accreditation through Cognia (formerly AdvancED). This year, the District is participating in the accreditation process. Our accreditation demonstrates our dedication to continuous improvement in all that we do. We are committed to preparing all students to be college and career ready and function as productive citizens.



WORK FOR THE OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

A CAREER CLOSE TO HOME

Looking for more than just a job? Start a career with the Okeechobee County School Board. The County offers positions in town with no out of town commute required.

WORK - LIFE BALANCE

Many County School Board positions follow the same schedule as our student's schedules. Many positions do not require nights, holiday or weekend hours.



CONTACT US

☎ 863.462.5000 Ext 1028

✉ careers@okee.k12.fl.us

WWW.OKEECAREERS.COM

BENEFITS



Multiple plans with comprehensive coverage, including a free plan for the employee. We also offer access to Urgent Care at no cost to employees covered under the districts medical plans.

WORK PERKS



The Okeechobee School Board pays 10% into the Florida Retirement System toward meeting your retirement needs. We offer 401 (K) and 403 (B) plans. We also offer a generous leave policy.

JOIN OUR TEAM



Available Positions:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Teachers | Para Professional |
| Food Service | Bus Driver |
| Secretary | Bookkeeper |

[CONTACT US](#)

TUTORIAL PROGRAMS

Tutoring programs are available at most schools. The programs are designed to meet the needs of the individual students. Tutoring may be provided face-to-face by a school district employee or virtually by a third-party vendor. Please contact the school guidance office for additional information regarding tutoring services.

Afternoon tutoring is provided at the Freshman Campus and Okeechobee High School. Tutoring can involve computer-assisted instruction as well as individual instruction. Please contact the high school guidance office for additional details regarding tutoring opportunities.

FEV Tutor provides live, online, 1-on-1 tutoring sessions with subject-matter experts to identified students. Please contact your child's school for more information.

The Tutoring Center at Indian River State College offers free tutoring for qualifying high school students. To participate in the program, students must:

- Be at least 14 years of age.
- Be currently enrolled in 9th - 12th grade, a recognized online program, or a comprehensive home education program.

In-person tutors are available Tuesday through Thursday from 3:00-7:00 p.m.

Please contact the [Tutoring Center](#) for additional information.

Floridastudents.org is a website freely available to Florida public schools and login is integrated with all districts. There are resources and student tutorials to support learning in language arts, mathematics, science, civics, and U.S. History.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENT PARTICIPATION

Serving on School Advisory Councils

Parents are notified through the school newsletter regarding School Advisory Council meetings. All schools have an Advisory Council composed of a balanced number of parents, students, business/community representatives, school board employees, and the school's principal. The Advisory Council works toward achieving the School Improvement Plan goals which are based on the State Education Goals. Lottery funds are distributed to the schools for the Advisory Council to use toward fulfilling those goals. Call your child's school for more information.

Becoming a School Volunteer

Volunteers are vital to any school's staff. Some serve in the following capacities: classroom volunteers, clerical assistants, community resources, computer assistants, media assistants, mentors, and business partners. All volunteers are required to complete an application through Skyward which includes references and preferences as to areas in which they wish to volunteer. If you would like to volunteer contact the District Coordinator at (863) 462-5000 Ext. 1061. Contacts at school sites will be the Assistant Principals.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Contact your child's school to see when the next Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting will be held. Parents of ELL Students Parents/guardians of ELL students are encouraged to participate in our District Parent Leadership Council. For more information on our ELL program contact 462-5000, Ext. 1060.

MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT

The Federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act states that children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence are considered homeless. If, due to a loss of housing, a child must live in a shelter, motel, vehicle, or campground, on the street, in abandoned buildings, or doubled-up with relatives or friends, then he/she is eligible to receive services provided under the McKinney-Vento Act. The McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program is designed to address the problems that homeless children and youth have faced in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school. Under this program, state educational agencies must ensure that each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as other children and youth.

Under McKinney-Vento, children (PreK-12) have the right to:

- Continue to attend the school they last attended before they lost their housing (school of origin), if that is the parent/guardian's choice and is in the child's best interest, or the school which is zoned for their temporary residence.
- Enroll and attend classes immediately while the school arranges for the transfer of school and immunization records and other required enrollment documents.
- If necessary, enroll and attend classes in the school selected by the parent/guardian (school of origin or zoned school), while the school and the parent/guardian seek to resolve a dispute over which school is in the best interest of the child - NOTE: This does not mean any school in the district, only the school of origin or zoned school.
- Receive transportation to the school of origin (if a parent/guardian requests such transportation).
- Participate in any school programs and receive any school services for which they qualify.

If you are experiencing homelessness, please notify your child's school counselor or call 462-5000, Ext. 1066.

AFTER-SCHOOL ELEMENTARY CHILDCARE PROGRAM

After-School Daycare is offered at all elementary schools for students in Pre-K to 5th grade. AfterCare provides an after-school snack, homework time, and group craft or outdoor activities from immediately after school until 5:45 pm. For more information about the program or to register, click on the website www.okee.k12.fl.us/aftercare or call (863) 462-5000 ext. 1042.



STUDENT COUNSELING & ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

School Counseling Service is provided at all school sites during the school day for the following purposes:

- Academic Counseling
- Scheduling of Courses
- Career Information
- Personal Situations

Parents can schedule conferences with their counselor or teachers by calling the office at their child's school.

SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR PARENTS

It has been proven that when parents are actively involved in their children’s education, children perform better in school. You are just as important as your child’s teacher in helping your child receive a good education. You can make a big difference just by being a part of your child’s everyday school experience. All schools have agenda books, websites and newsletters to provide communication to parents.

“Mentoring Works!” “The number one indicator of success for a child is a good relationship with a caring adult.” Mentors assist students with goal setting, educational planning, career planning, and by supporting student success. The district has created and begun a community volunteer program called Building Uniquely Diverse and Dynamic Youth (BUDDY). Please apply at <http://bit.ly/BUDDYMentoring> or **click here** for the brochure with the QR code. Please call 863-462-5000 x 1040 for more information.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Okeechobee County provides reading mentors at North, Seminole, South, and Everglades Elementary School. Children are matched with a “Big” and work to build a book-centered relationship focused on improving reading skills to K-3 graders. Referrals for this program must be made through the child’s teacher. For more information on Big Brothers Big Sisters call (863) 824-2227 or www.bbbsbig.org.

Take Stock in Children program provides four-year college tuition scholarships to at-risk, low-income students in Okeechobee County. The students are selected during the ninth grade. Individual mentors are assigned to scholarship recipients. Parents interested in application, mentoring, or other program information, should call Indian River State College Foundation. (772) 462-7252.

AmeriCorps St Lucie, Indian River & Okeechobee Reads is a mentoring program that recruits members of the community and trains them in the art of reading tutoring. The tutors receive 100 hours of training and are then placed in Central or Seminole Elementary School. The selected schools refer K - 3 students who are below grade level in reading for intensive tutoring.

AmeriCorps is a National and Community Service Program in which members commit to serving a minimum of 450 or 900 hours of service over an eleven month period. In return, they receive a modest living allowance and, upon successful completion of their term of service, an educational award that can be applied to furthering their education or paying down student loans. For more information on AmeriCorps, call (863) 824-2227.

Family Literacy Services: Each elementary school has general meetings to address literacy. Individual grade meetings are also organized for different school sites. Migrant Parent meetings have a literacy component. Schools sometimes utilize Title I funds for literacy activities according to their Parent and Family Engagement Plans.

The Okeechobee County Public Library also works with family literacy by providing academic and enrichment programs for children and families (863) 763-3536.

FAU-Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)
FAU CARD is a community based program providing assistance and supports to children and adults with autism spectrum disorder and related disabilities, their families, the professionals serving them, and the community. FAU CARD was established by the Florida Legislature, and is funded by the Florida Department of Education to provide assistance with; early identification of autism, referrals to therapeutic interventions, trainings to decrease difficult behaviors and increase communication and social skills, transitioning to employment, and information about supplemental funding supports. Registered clients receive individualized attention to meet specific needs. All services are free. Contact your Okeechobee Clinical Specialist (772) 873-3422.

FORTIFYFL

Suspicious Activity Reporting Application



FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.



CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FORTIFYFL



Notice:
Someone who knowingly submits a false tip through FortifyFL may be subject to further investigation by law enforcement, and may be subject to criminal penalties under Section 837.05, F.S.

getfortifyfl.com

What is the School District Doing to Ensure Your Child is Safe at School?

Employee Training

- Active Threat Training
- Child Abuse Mandatory Reporting
- Bullying and Harassment Modules
- Stop the Bleed Modules
- Youth Mental Health First Aid
- Threat and Safety Assessment and Intervention

School Hardening

- Single Point of Entry
- Security Cameras at entry point
- Locked Classroom Doors
- Access control at entrances

Supervision

- School Resource Officers (SRO) at every school
- Guardian Program: staff and teachers
- Alternative School: more restrictive environment
- Security Tours with First Responders
- Schools are used for LEO and SRO training
- Daily security checks by SROs

Threat Management

- Threat Management Protocol
- School-based threat management teams
- District-based threat management teams
- District crisis counselors and school psychologists
- Individualized safety plans for students
- Interventions to meet student needs

Substance Abuse

- First Time Offender Education Program
- Partnership with D.A.T.A. program
- Random Drug Testing: high school activities
- Canine sweeps with LEO and SRO

Prevention Curriculum

- Second Step: K-5
- Child Trafficking education
- See Something, Say Something
- Positive Behavioral Supports
- Monthly Mental Health and Wellness Videos
- Martha's House curriculum

Online Safety and Reporting Tools

- FortifyFL: anonymous reporting app.
- On-line Safety Instruction
- Crime Stoppers Hotline
- Online monitoring of threats
- Crime Watch at each school site
- Blocking of unapproved sites from network

Recognizing the Need for Help

- Early warning system for those in need of support
- Guidance counselors at all sites
- District-level Board Certified Behavior Analyst
- District-level Behavioral Interventionists
- Registered Behavioral Technicians at sites
- Access to FL School Safety Portal
- Behavior Intervention Plans
- District-level crisis counselors

Services for Students and Families

- Family engagement activities
- Licensed mental health counseling available
- Employment of a district social worker



HEALTH RESOURCE & FAMILY ASSISTANCE GUIDE

Need help at School?

Ask to speak with the School Counselor at:

Central Elementary
863-462-5077
South Elementary
863-462-5087
North Elementary
863-462-5100
Everglades Elementary
863-462-5108
Seminole Elementary
863-462-5116
Yearling Middle School
863-462-5056
Osceola Middle School
863-462-5070
Freshman Campus
863-462-5288
Okeechobee High School
863-462-5025
Okeechobee Achievement
Academy/Okee Virtual School
863-462-5125

Community Services

211
www.211treasurecoast.org
Big Lake Mission and Outreach
863-763-4654
Children's Home Society
(Wavecrest Shelter)
772-460-9752
Department of Children and
Families Economic Services
866-762-2237
Fl. Legal Rural Services
1-888-582-3410
Healthy Families of
Okeechobee
863-623-5119
Healthy Start of Okeechobee
863-462-5877
LIHEAP—Energy Assistance
863-357-2240
Lake Okeechobee Rural
Health Network
561-844-4220
Martha's House Hotline
863-763-0202
My Aunt's Closet
863-634-2306
Our Village Okeechobee
863-447-0473

United Way House
863-824-5546
Waves of Change
772-528-1852

Behavioral Health Providers

CINS/FINS
772-460-9752
DATA (Substance Abuse)
772-595-3322
Health Haven
863-261-8354
Helping People Succeed
772-320-0770
www.hpsfl.org
Hibiscus Children's Center
863-467-1166
www.hibiscuschildrenscenter.org
Hospice of Okeechobee
863-467-2321
www.hospiceofokeechobee.org
Hospice of Treasure Coast
772-403-4530
Legacy Behavioral Health Center
863-357-8268
www.legacybhc.com
Martha's House
863-763-2893
www.marthashouse.org
New Horizons of the Treasure
Coast
863-462-0040
www.nhtcinc.org
Suncoast Mental Health Center
863-824-0300
www.suncoastmentalhealth.org
Tykes and Teens
772-220-3439
www.tykesandteens.org
Sandy Pines (Residential)
772-744-0211
Cleveland Clinic Behavioral
Health (Baker Act)
772-563-4666
Coral Shores Behavioral Health
772-403-4000
coaralshoresbehavioral.com

**New Horizons (Baker Act)
772-672-8470**

**New Horizons Mobile Crisis
Unit 772-468-3909**

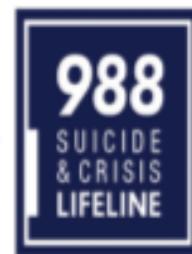
**National Suicide Prevention
Hotline
800-273-(TALK)8255**

Check out the valuable information on the school district website at:

www.okee.k12.fl.us under the Parent or Student Tab, then click on Mental Health Information

School District Social Worker
Pam Hancock, BSW
863-462-5000 Ext 1098

Director of Mental Health and Behavioral Supports
Katharine Williams, MS, LMHC
863-462-5000, Ext. 1040 or
(863) 634-1574



Fl  **rida**
KidCare

HEALTH AND DENTAL INSURANCE
**MOST FAMILIES PAY NOTHING
AND MANY PAY JUST \$15
OR \$20 A MONTH.**

With year-round enrollment,
the time to apply is always now:
floridakidcare.org
1-888-540-5437

RECURSOS DE SALUD & GUÍA DE ASISTENCIA FAMILIAR

¿Necesita ayuda en la Escuela?

Solicite hablar con un Consejero de la Escuela en:

Primaria Central 863-462-5077
 Primaria Sur 863-462-5087
 Primaria Norte 863-462-5100
 Primaria Everglades 863-462-5108
 Primaria Seminole 863-462-5116
 Escuela Intermedia Yearling 863-462-5056
 Escuela Intermedia Osceola 863-462-5070
 Campus de primer año 863-462-5288
 Escuela secundaria Okeechobee 863-462-5025
 Logro Okeechobee
 Academia 863-462-5125

Servicios a la Comunidad

211
www.211treasurecoast.org
 Misión y alcance de Big Lake 863-763-4654
 Sociedad Hogar de Niños (refugio de cresta de ola) 772-460-9752
 Departamento de Niños y Familias
 Servicios Económicos 866-762-2237
 Florida. Servicios Rurales Legales 1-888-582-3410
 Familias Saludables de Okeechobee 863-623-5119
 Comienzo saludable de Okeechobee 863-462-5877
 LIHEAP—Asistencia de Energía 863-357-2240
 Red de salud rural del lago Okeechobee 561-844-4220
 Línea directa de la Casa de

New Horizons (Baker Act) 772-672-8470

New Horizons Mobile Crisis Unit 772-468-3909

National Suicide Prevention Hotline 800-273-(TALK)8255

Martha 863-763-0202
 El armario de mi tía 863-634-2306
 Nuestro Pueblo Okeechobee 863-447-0473
 Casa de Camino Unido 863-824-5546
 Olas de cambio 772-528-1852

Proveedores de Servicios de Ayuda de Salud Mental y Comportamiento

CIN/ALETAS 772-460-9752
 DATOS (Abuso de Sustancias) 772-595-3322
 refugio de salud 863-261-8354
 Ayudando a las personas a tener éxito 772-320-0770
www.hpsfl.org
 Centro Infantil Hibiscus 863-467-1166
www.hibiscuschildrenscenter.org
 Hospicio de Okeechobee 863-467-2321
www.hospiciodeokeechobee.org
 Hospicio de la Costa del Tesoro 772-403-4530
 Centro de salud conductual heredado 863-357-8268
www.legacybhc.com
 casa de marta 863-763-2893
www.marthashouse.org
 Nuevos horizontes de la costa del tesoro 863-462-0040
www.nhtcinc.org
 Centro de salud mental de Suncoast 863-824-0300
www.suncoastmentalhealth.org
 Chicos y Adolescentes 772-220-3439
www.tykesandteens.org
 Sandy Pines (Residential) 772-744-0211
 Clínica de Salud Conductual de Cleveland (ley Baker) 772-563-4666
 Costas de Coral Salud Conductual 772-403-4000
coralshoresbehavioral.com

New Horizons Equipo de Repuesta Mobil 772-468-3909

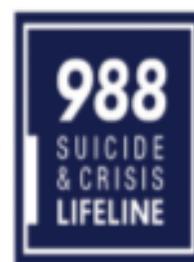
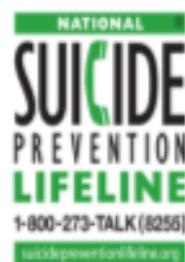
Línea Directa Nacional para la Prevención del Suicidio 800-273-(TALK)8255

Puede revisar la valiosa información en el sitio web del distrito escolar en:

www.okee.k12.fl.us - vaya donde dice Padres o Estudiantes, luego haga clic en Información de Salud Mental

Trabajadora Social del Distrito Escolar
 Pam Hancock, BSW
 863-462-5000 Ext 1098

Directora de Salud Mental y Apoyo Conductual
 Katharine Williams, MS, LMHC
 863-462-5000, Ext. 1040 or (863) 634-1574



Fl  rida
 KidCare

HEALTH AND DENTAL INSURANCE

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística.

Llame al 1-888-540-5437
 (TTY: 1-800-955-8771).

FDOE'S PARENTS' PAGES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Information provided to help parents prepare their children for school, support their learning and assist them in finding child care. Please visit the Florida Department of Education's Parent page to view past newsletters. To receive notifications to your email about future issues of Parents' Pages, sign up today!

ACADEMICALLY CHALLENGING CURRICULUM TO ENHANCE LEARNING (ACCEL) OPTIONS

ACCEL options are educational options that provide academically challenging curriculum or accelerated instruction to eligible public school students in kindergarten through grade 12. ACCEL options include whole-grade and midyear promotion; subject-matter acceleration; virtual instruction in higher grade level subjects; and the Credit Acceleration Program under s. [1003.4295](#). Additional ACCEL options may include, but are not limited to, enriched science, technology, engineering, and mathematics coursework; enrichment programs; flexible grouping; advanced academic courses; combined classes; self-paced instruction; rigorous industry certifications that are articulated to college credit and approved pursuant to ss. [1003.492](#) and [1008.44](#); work-related internships or apprenticeships; curriculum compacting; advanced-content instruction; and telescoping curriculum. For more information on ACCEL Options, please contact your child's school.

ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)

AVID'S MISSION IS TO CLOSE THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP BY PREPARING ALL STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE READINESS AND SUCCESS IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY.

AVID SCHOOL SITES:

CENTRAL ELEMENTARY

NORTH ELEMENTARY

SEMINOLE ELEMENTARY

SOUTH ELEMENTARY

YEARLING MIDDLE SCHOOL

OSCEOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL

OKEECHOBEE FRESHMAN CAMPUS

OKEECHOBEE HIGH SCHOOL



THE STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOLS IS SKYWARD

Part of this system is a Family Access portal. Through this portal, parents are able to check their student(s) grades, assignments, attendance, and other student information. In order to receive your login and password information, you must go to the school that your child attends and present an ID. If you have children in more than one school, you need only go to one of the schools. The login and password can not be mailed or given over the phone. Only guardians listed within our system will be able to receive this information. The link to access the Family Access portal can be found on our county webpage. <http://www.okee.k12.fl.us>. Please just look for "Skyward Family Access" under QUICK LINKS on the main page.



LEARNING THE BASICS OF INTERNET SAFETY

Children use a variety of online services, and each of these services can have different safety concerns. However, there are some basic tips which you can employ no matter how your children use the Internet.

- Keep the computer in a high-traffic area of your home.
- Establish limits for which online sites children may visit and for how long.
- Remember that Internet technology can be mobile, and make sure to monitor cell phones, gaming devices, and laptops.
- Surf the Internet with your children and let them show you what they like to do online.
- Know who is connecting with your children online and set rules for social networking, instant messaging, e-mailing, online gaming, and using webcams.
- Continually dialogue with your children about online safety.

Start a discussion with your child

- What are your favorite things to do online?
- What is personal information? Why should you keep it private?
- What could you do to be safer online?
- What would you do if anyone online asked to meet you face-to-face?
- Besides me, who do you feel that you can talk to if you are in a scary or uncomfortable situation

Great resource for both parents and students: www.netSMARTZ.org



CHROMEBOOKS

Okeechobee County Schools provides a Chromebook to every student to use in the classroom. Students in grades 6-12 are able to take their Chromebooks home at night to use for homework and unfinished classwork. The OCSB Chromebook Handbook can be found [here](#). We offer parents the option to purchase Chromebook Insurance each year for \$30 which will cover minor damages such as broken screens, broken chargers, and broken keyboards. For more information on the insurance, please see the Chromebook Handbook.

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOLS

**Cell Phone Policy following the signing of House Bill 379
by Governor DeSantis**

We want to inform parents and students.
Elementary and Middle Schools didn't change.
High School students will notice a difference.
What does this new legislation look like in our schools?

Elementary Schools:

Central Elementary, Everglades Elementary, North Elementary, Seminole Elementary, and South

Elementary:

Cell phones will be silenced and out-of-sight during the school day.
A student may not use a wireless communication device during instructional time, except when expressly directed by a teacher solely for educational purposes. (HB379).

Middle Schools:

Okeechobee Achievement Academy, Osceola Middle School, and Yearling Middle School:

Cell phones will be silenced and out-of-sight during the school day.
Lunchtime access to phones will be at the discretion of school site administrators.
A student may not use a wireless communication device during instructional time, except when expressly directed by a teacher solely for educational purposes. (HB379).

High Schools:

Okeechobee Freshman Campus and Okeechobee High School:

Cell phones will be silenced and out-of-sight during instructional time (class periods).
Use will be limited to transitions (class changes) and lunchtimes.
A student may not use a wireless communication device during instructional time, except when expressly directed by a teacher solely for educational purposes. (HB379).

At all school levels:

Office phones, at each school site, can be used if a student needs a parent during the school day.
Students will be expected to follow the teacher's directions for cell phone storage and times of appropriate use.



FEDERAL PROGRAMS



Title I, Part A

Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged

- Provides supplemental materials and personnel at Title I schools including Reading Coaches and paraprofessionals to support effective instruction and student learning.
- All Okeechobee schools have Title I school wide programs.

Title I, Part C

Education of Migratory Children

- Serves approximately 400 children at all ten school sites
- Migrant Advocates are available at all schools for all Migrant students and families
- Before-school migrant tutorial is available at middle schools
- Migrant Summer Camp opportunities: Reading & STEM for grades K-8
- English classes are available for migrant parents. For more information, call 863-462-5000 Ext. 1066

Title I, Part D

Delinquent & At-Risk Youth Programs

- Provides supplemental services for students in one Juvenile Justice facility in Okeechobee County and one paraprofessional to support student learning at Okeechobee Achievement Academy.

Title III

Supplemental Instructional Support for English Language Learners

- Program designed to help ensure that children who are limited English proficient attain English proficiency, develop high levels of academic achievement and meet the same challenging state academic content and achievement standards as all children.
- For more information, contact the Office of Student Services at 462-5000 Ext. 1060.

Title IV

Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE)

Improves student academic achievement by:

- Providing all students with access to a well-rounded education
- Improving school conditions for student learning to support safe and healthy students, and
- Improving the use of technology in order to advance digital literacy of all students.

Title V

Rural and Low Income Schools

- Provides supplemental funding to help meet the needs of rural and low-income districts.
- Services partially funded by Title V include the AVID Program, Graduation Coach, and Behavior Interventionist.

McKinney-Vento

- Provides support to children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

[CLICK HERE TO
LEARN MORE
ABOUT EACH
GRANT](#)

HIGH SCHOOL

High School includes grades 9 – 12 and is designed to prepare students to meet the challenges of adulthood by developing their academic, leadership, and citizenship skills. At the high school level, students start making choices about the design of their academic programs. They are able to customize their course of study with a career in mind, or may choose to take a variety of electives in order to help them make a decision about their future career path. For those students who choose to attend college after graduation, the increased rigor of the academic classes will help to prepare them for a less restrictive more self-directed study environment.

- **Okeechobee High School/Freshman Campus** serves only ninth graders. OFC's main building is the result of a historical renovation of the original Okeechobee High School building.
- **Okeechobee High School**, home of the Brahmans, serves tenth through twelfth graders.
- **Okeechobee Achievement Academy** serves students in need of additional support.

Instructional Levels

At each secondary grade level from 8th through 12th grades, there are established optional instructional program levels within the subject areas. These instructional levels are identified in the Florida Course Code Directory. Students are assigned to the levels based on individual evaluation of the student's academic achievement level. If the student is performing below grade level they will be assigned to a remedial class. If they are prepared to experience a more rigorous academic opportunity they may be scheduled into an honors curriculum.

At the high school level, if your child's cumulative grade point average falls below 2.5 on a 4.0 scale you will be notified that your child is at risk of not meeting the graduation standards and a conference will be suggested.

Students who score at Level 1 on the ELA portion of the FAST (administration 3) will be offered an intensive reading course the following year. Level 2 readers will be offered an intensive reading course or a content area course in which reading strategies are delivered. High school students scoring at Level 1 or Level 2 on FAST Algebra may be offered remediation the following year.

Enrollment Termination

A student who attains the age of 16 years during the school year is not subject to compulsory school attendance beyond the date upon which he or she attains that age if the student files a formal declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment with the District School Board. Public school students who have attained the age of 16 years and who have not graduated are subject to compulsory school attendance until the formal declaration of intent is filed with the District School Board. Florida Statutes 1003.21.

The declaration must acknowledge that terminating school enrollment is likely to reduce the student's earning potential and must be signed by the student and the student's parent. The school district must notify the student's parent of receipt of the student's declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment. The student's school counselor or other school personnel must conduct an exit interview with the student to determine the reasons for the student's decision to terminate school enrollment and actions that could be taken to keep the student in school. The student must be informed of opportunities to continue his or her education in a different environment, including, but not limited to, adult education and GED test preparation. Additionally, the student must complete a survey in a format prescribed by the Department of Education to provide data on student reasons for terminating enrollment and actions taken by schools to keep students enrolled.

GRADUATION

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

I. Graduating seniors

Florida law allows students entering grade nine to choose from one of five options to earn a standard high school diploma:

- 24-credit program [Florida Statutes 1003.4282 \(IIB1\)](#);
- 18-credit, Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) option [Florida Statutes 1002.3105](#)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway [1003.4282 F.S](#) <https://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/career-tech-edu/pathways-option.stml>

In addition to the three options available for students to earn a standard diploma listed above, [Rule 6A-1.09963](#), Florida Administrative Code, High School Graduation Requirements for Students with Disabilities, outlines two additional options that students with disabilities may complete. See Section VII, Graduation for Exceptional Education Students

EARLY GRADUATION

Students who complete a minimum of 24 credits, achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale and earn a passing score on the statewide assessments required for high school have an option to graduate in fewer than eight semesters (four years). A student who graduates from high school midyear may receive an initial Bright Futures Scholarship award during the spring term following the student's graduation, as long as the student applies for the scholarship award no later than August 31 of the student's graduation year.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING ATHLETICS AND BAND)

Students who want to participate in an extra-curricular program must practice good self-control and good citizenship. In order to maintain eligibility a student must earn a 2.0 or higher cumulative GPA depending chosen activity.

POST-HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

It is the goal of the Okeechobee County School System that each graduate is prepared to enter some post-secondary institution or the workforce upon graduation. This may include any university, community college, vocational institution, technical institution, internship program, the military, or a job-training program. In order to enter a college a student must submit ACT or SAT scores that meet minimum requirements. In order to take advantage of these experiences the student may be required or advised to take one or more of the following standardized tests:

- **American College Testing Program (ACT)** – This test is used for college admission and is designed to measure classroom achievement in four areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science.
- **Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)** - Is a test which identifies a students skills and competencies in preparing for the workforce.
- **Postsecondary College Readiness Test (PERT)** - 10th and 11th graders - A test administered to assess their basic computation and communication skills in preparation for their entry into a degree program at a state college or university. The test includes Reading, Writing, and basic Mathematics sections.
- **Pre-Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT)** – designed for sophomores or juniors (and designated freshman). It can be used as practice for the SAT, which the student will take the following year. In the 11th grade it is used to determine which students will participate in the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- **Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)** – This test is used for college admission and is designed to measure general verbal and mathematical abilities.



Florida Student Scholarship & Grant Programs

[Login](#)



First-Time Applicants

Students must submit a completed Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) to OSFA for programs denoted by an asterisk (*). In order to apply for State Scholarship & Grant Programs, a student must first [Create a Student Account](#). After logging into your account, you may proceed to complete the FFAA.



Eligible Institutions

High Schools:
Verify if your high school is a participating Florida public or private high school.

Postsecondary Institutions:
Verify if the postsecondary institution you are planning to attend is eligible to disburse state aid.

NOTE: We recommend downloading the newest version of your preferred browser for the best experience. (Chrome, Firefox, Microsoft Edge, Safari)

State Scholarship and Grant Programs

- Benacquisto Scholarship Program (FAQ)
- Bright Futures Scholarship*
- Effective Access to Student Education
- First Generation Matching Grant
- Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship*
- Florida Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship Program
- Florida Law Enforcement Reimbursement Program - Application
- Florida Student Assistance Grant - Career Education
- Florida Work Experience Program
- Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program
- José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant*
- Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship
- Minority Teacher Education Scholarship
- Randolph Bracy Ocoee Scholarship Program*
- Rosewood Family Scholarship*
- Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans* (Award Amounts)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE FLORIDA STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP & GRANT PROGRAMS](#)

Okeechobee County Schools 2023-2024
School starts on Thursday, August 10, 2023

Regular school day - start and end times (revised 9.7.23)				
	Tardy/Moment of Silence/HR	Instruction Begins	Early Release Time	End Time
Okeechobee High School	7:04 a.m.	7:05 a.m.	10:50 a.m.	2:10 p.m.
Freshman Campus	7:15 a.m.	7:17a.m.	10:30 a.m.	1:45 p.m.
Achievement Academy (middle/high)	7:18 a.m.	7:20 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	1:50 p.m.
Reach Program	7:00 a.m.	7:02 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	1:50 p.m.
OAA Elementary	8:07 a.m.	8:10 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	2:50 p.m.
Osceola Middle	9:00 a.m.	9:25 a.m.	12:20 p.m.	3:40 p.m.
Yearling Middle	9:00 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	12:20 p.m.	3:40 p.m.
Central, South & Seminole Elementary	8:10 a.m.	8:13 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	2:50 p.m.
Everglades Elementary	8:10 a.m.	8:12 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	2:50 p.m.
North Elementary	8:09 a.m.	8:10 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	2:50 p.m.

Early Release Dates for 2023-2024 school year	
Friday, September 15	Friday, February 16
Friday, November 17	Friday, April 19
Friday, December 22	Friday, May 24

Open House Schedule - start and end times		
Level/School	Date	Times
Okeechobee Virtual School	Thursday, August 3, 2023	6-8pm
Okeechobee High School Sophomores		
All Elementary Schools	Tuesday, August 8, 2023	5-7pm
All Middle Schools	Tuesday, August 8, 2023	6-8pm
Okeechobee Achievement Academy		
Okeechobee Freshman Campus	Tuesday, August 8, 2023	7-9pm
Okeechobee High School		

If you are unable to attend Open House, student schedules will be available on Skyward Family Access.

Bus stops will be advertised in the Back to School Guide to be published on August 2, 2023 or you may use this interactive bus stop finder after August 2, 2023:

<https://www.infofinder.com/ifi/?cid=OCS2HQDQXRJ7>.



[click here for bus route information](#)

Academic Advisement Students Entering Grade 9 Prior to 2023-2024



What Students and Parents Need to Know 24-Credit Standard Diploma Requirements

What options lead to a standard diploma?

Successful completion of one of the following options:

- 24 credits
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum
- International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum
- 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway

(See section [s.] [1003.4282](#), Florida Statutes [F.S.])

What are the state assessment requirements?

Students must pass the following statewide assessments:

- Grade 10 English Language Arts (ELA) or a concordant score
- Algebra 1 end-of-course (EOC) or a comparative score

A waiver of assessment results is granted by the Individual Educational Plan (IEP) team for students with disabilities. Additionally, students who have been enrolled in an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program for less than two years may meet the requirement for grade 10 ELA by satisfactorily demonstrating grade level expectations of formative assessments.

Refer to [Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments](#) for concordant and comparative scores.

Students enrolled in the following courses must participate in the corresponding EOC assessment, which constitutes 30 percent of the final course grade+:

- Algebra 1 • Geometry
- Biology • U.S. History

+ Special note: Thirty percent not applicable if not enrolled in the course but passed the EOC (Credit Acceleration Program [CAP]). (See s. [1008.22](#), F.S.)

What is the difference between the 18-credit ACCEL option and the 24-credit option?

- 3 elective credits instead of 8
- Physical Education is not required

What is the difference between the CTE Pathway option and the 24-credit option?

- At least 18 credits are required
- 4 elective credits instead of 8
 - 2 credits in CTE courses, must result in a program completion and industry certification
 - 1.5 credits in work-based learning programs; Physical Education is not required
- Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, CTE or Practical Arts is not required

Available To All Students, Including Students With Disabilities

4 Credits ELA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELA 1, 2, 3, 4 • ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), AICE, IB and dual enrollment may satisfy this requirement
4 Credits Mathematics*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry • Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry) ** • An identified computer science*** credit may substitute for up to one mathematics credit (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)
3 Credits Science*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of which must be Biology, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses • Two of the three required course credits must have a laboratory component • Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology)** • An identified computer science*** credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology)
5 Credits Social Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 credit in World History • 1 credit in U.S. History • 0.5 credit in U.S. Government • 0.5 credit in Economics
Career and Technical Education, or Practical Arts*
1 Credit Physical Education*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To include the integration of health
Students must earn a 2.0 unweighted grade-point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale for all cohort years and pass statewide, standardized assessments.

*Eligible courses are specified in the Florida Course Code Directory.

**Industry certifications for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education may substitute for mathematics and science credit.

***A computer science credit may not be used to substitute for both a mathematics and science credit.

Academic Advisement
Students Entering Grade 9 Prior to 2023-2024
What Students and Parents Need to Know



Scholar Diploma Designation

In addition to the requirements of s. [1003.4282](#), F.S., a student must satisfy the following requirements:

- Earn 1 credit in Algebra 2 or an equally rigorous course
- Pass the Geometry EOC
- Earn 1 credit in Statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course
- Pass the Biology 1 EOC++
- Earn 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics
- Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics
- Pass the U.S. History EOC++
- Earn 2 credits in the same World Language
- Earn at least 1 credit in an AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course

** Special note: A student is exempt from the Biology 1 or U.S. History EOC assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP, IB, or AICE Biology 1 or U.S. History course; takes the respective AP, IB or AICE assessment; and earns the minimum college credit.

Industry Scholar Diploma Designation

- Meet standard high school diploma requirements
- Attain one or more industry certifications from the list established (per s. 1003.492, F.S.)

What is CAP?

The CAP allows a student to earn high school credit if the student passes an AP examination, a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or a statewide course assessment without enrollment in the course. The courses include:

- Algebra 1 • Geometry
- Biology • U.S. History

What are the additional graduation options for students with disabilities?

Students, in collaboration with parents and the IEP team, may choose two additional standard diploma options available only to students with disabilities. Both allow students to substitute a CTE course with related content for one credit in ELA 4, mathematics, science and social studies (excluding Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology 1 and U.S. History). The two options are as follows:

- Students with a most significant cognitive disability may earn credits via access courses and be assessed via an alternate assessment.
- Students enrolled in the academic and employment option must earn at least 0.5 credit via paid employment in addition to meeting the standard diploma graduation requirements.

State University System

Admission into Florida's [State University System](#) (SUS) institutions is competitive. Prospective students should complete a rigorous course of study in high school and apply to more than one university to increase their chance for acceptance. To qualify to enter one of Florida's public universities, a first-time-in-college student must meet the following minimum requirements (credit earned by industry certification does not count for SUS admission):

- High school graduation with a standard diploma, a minimum of a 2.5 GPA and admission test scores meeting minimum college-ready test scores per Board of Governors (BOG) Regulation 6.008
- 16 credits of approved college preparatory academic courses per BOG Regulation 6.002
- 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
- 4 Mathematics (Algebra 1 level and higher)
- 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
- 3 Social Science
- 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language or other equivalents)
- 2 approved electives

Florida College System

The 28 colleges of the [Florida College System](#) serve more than 650,000 students. Colleges offer affordable and stackable workforce credentials including certificate programs, associate in science degrees and associate in arts degrees, which transfer to a bachelor's degree program. All colleges also offer workforce bachelor's degree programs in areas of high demand. All Florida College System institutions have open-door admissions for students who earned a standard high school diploma or an equivalent diploma, or earned college credit.

Florida also offers students 49 accredited career and technical colleges or centers throughout the state, which provide the education and certification necessary to work in a particular career or technical field. Programs are flexible for students and provide industry-specific education and training for a wide variety of occupations.

[Career, Adult and Technical Education District Postsecondary Institutions](#)

Where is information on financial aid located?

The Florida Department of Education's Office of Student Financial Assistance administers a variety of postsecondary educational state-funded grants and scholarships.

[Office of Student Financial Assistance](#)

For more detailed information on Graduation Requirements visit the Florida Department of Education's webpage at <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/k-12-public-schools/sss/graduation-requirements/>.

Academic Advisement Students Entering Grade 9 in 2023-2024 and Thereafter



What Students and Parents Need to Know **24-Credit Standard Diploma Requirements**

What options lead to a standard diploma?

Successful completion of one of the following options:

- 24 credits
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum
- International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum
- 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway (See section [s.] [1003.4282](#), Florida Statutes [F.S.]

What are the state assessment requirements?

Students must pass the following statewide assessments:

- Grade 10 English Language Arts (ELA) or a concordant score
- Algebra 1 end-of-course (EOC) or a comparative score

A waiver of assessment results is granted by the Individual Educational Plan (IEP) team for students with disabilities. Additionally, students who have been enrolled in an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program for less than two years may meet the requirement for grade 10 ELA by satisfactorily demonstrating grade level expectations of formative assessments.

Refer to [Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments](#) for concordant and comparative scores.

Students enrolled in the following courses must participate in the corresponding EOC assessment, which constitutes 30 percent of the final course grade+:

- Algebra 1 • Geometry
- Biology • U.S. History

+ Special note: Thirty percent not applicable if not enrolled in the course but passed the EOC (Credit Acceleration Program [CAP]). (See s. [1008.22](#), F.S.)

What is the difference between the 18-credit ACCEL option and the 24-credit option?

- 2.5 elective credits instead of 7.5
- Physical Education is not required

What is the difference between the CTE Pathway option and the 24-credit option?

- At least 18 credits are required
- 3.5 elective credits instead of 7.5
 - 2 credits in CTE courses, must result in a program completion and industry certification
 - 1.5 credits in work-based learning programs; Physical Education is not required
- Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, CTE or Practical Arts is not required

Available To All Students, Including Students With Disabilities

4 Credits ELA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELA 1, 2, 3, 4 • ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), AICE, IB and dual enrollment may satisfy this requirement
4 Credits Mathematics*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry • Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry) ** • An identified computer science*** credit may substitute for up to one mathematics credit (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)
3 Credits Science*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of which must be Biology, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses • Two of the three required course credits must have a laboratory component • Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology)** • An identified computer science*** credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology)
3 Credits Social Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 credit in World History • 1 credit in U.S. History • 0.5 credit in U.S. Government • 0.5 credit in Economics
1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, Career and Technical Education, or Practical Arts*
1 Credit Physical Education*
• To include the integration of health
Students must earn a 2.0 unweighted grade-point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale for all cohort years and pass statewide, standardized assessments.

*Eligible courses are specified in the [Florida Course Code Directory](#).

**[Industry certifications](#) for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education may substitute for mathematics and science credit.

***A computer science credit may not be used to substitute for both a mathematics and science credit.

****This requirement was added for students entering grade nine 2023-2024 and thereafter.

Academic Advisement
Students Entering Grade 9 in 2023-2024 and Thereafter
What Students and Parents Need to Know



Scholar Diploma Designation
<p>In addition to the requirements of s. 1003.4282, F.S., a student must satisfy the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earn 1 credit in Algebra 2 or an equally rigorous course • Pass the Geometry EOC • Earn 1 credit in Statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course • Pass the Biology 1 EOC++ • Earn 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics • Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics • Pass the U.S. History EOC++ • Earn 2 credits in the same World Language • Earn at least 1 credit in an AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course <p>** Special note: A student is exempt from the Biology 1 or U.S. History EOC assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP, IB, or AICE Biology 1 or U.S. History course; takes the respective AP, IB or AICE assessment; and earns the minimum college credit.</p>
Industry Scholar Diploma Designation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet standard high school diploma requirements • Attain one or more industry certifications from the list established (per s. 1003.492, F.S.)

What is CAP?

The CAP allows a student to earn high school credit if the student passes an AP examination, a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or a statewide course assessment without enrollment in the course. The courses include:

- Algebra 1 • Geometry
- Biology • U.S. History

What are the additional graduation options for students with disabilities?

Students, in collaboration with parents and the IEP team, may choose two additional standard diploma options available only to students with disabilities. Both allow students to substitute a CTE course with related content for one credit in ELA 4, mathematics, science and social studies (excluding Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology 1 and U.S. History). The two options are as follows:

- Students with a most significant cognitive disability may earn credits via access courses and be assessed via an alternate assessment.
- Students enrolled in the academic and employment option must earn at least 0.5 credit via paid employment in addition to meeting the standard diploma graduation requirements.

State University System
<p>Admission into Florida's State University System (SUS) institutions is competitive. Prospective students should complete a rigorous course of study in high school and apply to more than one university to increase their chance for acceptance. To qualify to enter one of Florida's public universities, a first-time-in-college student must meet the following minimum requirements (credit earned by industry certification does not count for SUS admission):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High school graduation with a standard diploma, a minimum of a 2.5 GPA and admission test scores meeting minimum college-ready test scores per Board of Governors (BOG) Regulation 6.008 • 16 credits of approved college preparatory academic courses per BOG Regulation 6.002 • 4 English (3 with substantial writing) • 4 Mathematics (Algebra 1 level and higher) • 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab) • 3 Social Science • 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language or other equivalents) • 2 approved electives
Florida College System
<p>The 28 colleges of the Florida College System serve more than 650,000 students. Colleges offer affordable and stackable workforce credentials including certificate programs, associate in science degrees and associate in arts degrees, which transfer to a bachelor's degree program. All colleges also offer workforce bachelor's degree programs in areas of high demand. All Florida College System institutions have open-door admissions for students who earned a standard high school diploma or an equivalent diploma, or earned college credit.</p>
<p>Florida also offers students 49 accredited career and technical colleges</p> <p>or centers throughout the state, which provide the education and certification necessary to work in a particular career or technical field. Programs are flexible for students and provide industry-specific education and training for a wide variety of occupations.</p> <p>Career, Adult and Technical Education District Postsecondary Institutions</p>

Where is information on financial aid located?

The Florida Department of Education's Office of Student Financial Assistance administers a variety of postsecondary educational state-funded grants and scholarships.

[Office of Student Financial Assistance](#)

For more detailed information on Graduation Requirements visit the Florida Department of Education's webpage at <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/k-12-public-schools/sss/graduation-requirements/>.

EARNING COLLEGE CREDIT IN HIGH SCHOOL

Students may earn college credit in high school through any of the following programs for which they are eligible:

Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement (AP) is the enrollment of an eligible secondary student in a course offered by the Advanced Placement Program administered by the College Board. Postsecondary credit for an AP course may be awarded. Students should consult their college requirements/policies. Students who are enrolled in an Advanced Placement course and earn the minimum score necessary to earn college credit are not required to take the state end-of-course assessment for that subject.

Credit Acceleration Program (CAP)

The purpose of the Credit Acceleration Program (CAP) is to allow a secondary student to earn high school credit in courses required for high school graduation through passage of an end of course assessment in Algebra I, Biology, Geometry, and/or United States History or an Advanced Placement or College Level Examination Program (CLEP) test. Notwithstanding Florida Statutes 1003.436, definition of "credit", a school district shall award course credit to a student who is not enrolled in the course, or who has not completed the course, if the student attains a passing score on the corresponding end of course assessment, Advanced Placement exam or CLEP test. The district shall permit a public school or home education student who is not enrolled in the course, or who has not completed the course, to take the assessment or exam during the regular administration of the assessment or exam.

Dual Enrollment

The dual enrollment program is defined as the enrollment of an eligible secondary student or home education student in a postsecondary course creditable toward high school completion and a career certificate or an associate or baccalaureate degree. The Okeechobee County School Board and Indian River State College operate under a Dual Enrollment Contract. College credit and vocational certificate courses may be offered to high school students pending the approval of the high school principal. Students enrolled in an approved dual enrollment course are exempt from the payment of registration, tuition, and laboratory fees

a. Requirements for students to be admitted in a dual enrollment course:

(1) Students must have completed at least one semester of 9th grade and have earned a minimum of 4 high school credits, and a cumulative unweighted

high school grade point average of 3.0 or better and/or the approval of their high school principal.

(2) Students must meet the same entrance requirements as students desiring to enroll in the same courses on the college campus and have the approval of the high school principal.

(3) Dual enrollment course offerings are limited to approved courses at Indian River State College. Students must receive prior approval from their principal to enroll. Courses not taken at IRSC are not covered by the Dual Enrollment Contract and therefore are not eligible for tuition and instructional materials reimbursement by OCSB. This includes talent identification programs, college summer programs, summer camps and courses at schools other than IRSC.

(4) College ready scores are required for all students participating in dual enrollment. Grades earned in dual enrollment courses will carry the same grade weight as Advanced Placement courses when grade point averages are calculated.

(5) Any college credit course comprising 3 credits or higher and/or any vocational clock hour course comprising 75 hours or higher that is listed in the State Common Course Numbering System (SCNS) for post-secondary credit can be considered for Dual Enrollment. Courses that meet high school graduation requirements are listed in the DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSE EQUIVALENCY LIST. All high schools shall accept these post-secondary courses toward meeting the requirements of Section 1003.43, F.S.

Early College Admissions (Full-Time College)

Students may enter college full time during their senior year if the following criteria are met:

- a. The student must successfully complete the 11th grade with enough credits to be classified as a senior.
- b. The student must have achieved at least a 3.0 cumulative unweighted grade point average during his/her sophomore and junior year.
- c. The student must have the approval of the high school principal.
- d. Students must meet the same entrance requirements as students desiring to enroll in the same courses on the college campus, have earned a college-ready score as indicated above, and have the approval of the high school principal.
- e. Students entering the Early College Admission Program may earn a high school diploma to be awarded with the student's class at graduation or at a later time based on the following:

- The student must demonstrate mastery of skills measured by state standardized assessments.
- The student must earn sufficient college credit to fulfill the remaining high school graduation requirements (based on three semester hours equaling one-half high school credit).
- The student must maintain at least a 2.0 GPA in college courses.

VIRTUAL SCHOOL: WHICH OPTION IS RIGHT FOR ME?

Okeechobee Virtual School

Okeechobee Virtual School (OVS) was created as yet another choice for a quality education within the district. OVS has partnered with Florida Virtual School to offer high quality curriculum yet have access to local teachers. OVS offers all core courses which are required for graduation for grades K-12, and many elective courses including some Advanced Placement Courses(AP). There are two options for OVS:

With OVS Full Time, secondary only, you can:

- Take courses for FREE, if you are a resident of Okeechobee County or in a surrounding county with a waiver from your home county.
- The teachers are employees of the Okeechobee County School Board and therefore held to the OCSB standards for quality.
- Take a full-time, online, course load at home.
- Do course work online, but maintain a traditional, 180-day school calendar and schedule.
- Take up to six courses per semester.
- Be a full-time, online student.

With OVS Flex (secondary only), you can:

- Take courses for FREE, if you are a resident of Okeechobee County or in a surrounding county with a waiver from your home county.
- The teachers are employees of the Okeechobee County School Board and therefore held to the OCSB standards for quality.
- Open Enrollment Windows will be advertised but will typically be 30 days prior to a semester beginning.
- Take a single course or multiple courses to supplement your schedule.
- Keep your traditional school as the school of record.
- The traditional school keeps your transcript and determines when graduation requirements are met.
- Meet online course graduation requirements.
- Homeschool students are registered with the Okeechobee County School District. That means the records are maintained by the school district and the parent/guardian is responsible for curriculum.

As a homeschool student, we know that you have choices in how and when you learn. So, whether you are looking for a single course or a full-time solution, you and your family can enjoy more flexibility with OVS.

Enrollment

There are enrollment deadlines for OVS. Find out how to enroll by:

- Contacting Okeechobee Achievement Academy (OAA) which is home to OVS by calling 863-462-5125 or emailing audie.ash@okee.k12.fl.us or
- Access New Student Enrollment Portal
 - If you have a child currently enrolled in an Okeechobee County School, then you may access the New Student Enrollment Portal from your Skyward Family Access by [clicking here](#).
 - If you do not have a child enrolled in an Okeechobee County School, please submit a Portal Account Request by [clicking here](#).

Drop/Withdrawal

Okeechobee Virtual School sets high expectations for the success of its students. We are committed to meeting the needs of all students and will work tirelessly to facilitate student success. To ensure continuity of learning, students must submit assignments in their course on a weekly basis and maintain regular contact with their instructors.

- Any student who does not make progress in the course for a period of 14 calendar days and has not made prior arrangements with his/her instructor will be scheduled for a Success conference to organize additional support and progress monitoring.
- The assistant principal will work with the student, parent, and the course instructor to create a Success Plan for the student.
- Failure to respond to attempts to contact the student, or failure to adhere to the Success Plan created by the student and family may result in Administrative Removal from the course with a W/Withdrawn-F grade.

Note: W/Withdrawn- No grade: (No academic penalty) Student must withdraw during the 14-day grace period to receive no penalty. W/Withdrawn- F grade: Student withdrew with unsatisfactory performance after the 14-day grace period.

Florida Virtual School

FLVS is a public school district in the state of Florida and has several different types of school options to serve Kindergarten-12th grade students. To learn more, [click here](#).

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

All secondary schools offer multiple career and technical education programs designed to provide a link between academic performance and the workplace. The goal of Career Education is to provide students with real-world, hands-on instruction that gives meaning and incentive to learn the material presented in academic classes.

For School-to-Career planning, [FloridaShines](#) works with the state's 40 colleges and universities and other partners to help you succeed in school and beyond. Check your transcript. Register for an online course. Search libraries across the state. And a whole lot more. All designed to help Florida students shine.

The Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC) is a statewide provider of innovative educational services for Florida's K-20 community. Working collaboratively with the state's 12 public universities, 28 public colleges, K-12 school districts, and other partners, FLVC provides services that help students succeed in school and life after graduation. Those services include:

- An array of academic advising, career readiness, and distance learning resources for students and parents, available through the FloridaShines website
- Support for the academic libraries at the state's public colleges and universities, including a discovery tool used by students and faculty to access library resources and an integrated library management system used by library staff
- Tools and training materials used by academic advisors, distance learning staff, librarians, and other staff at Florida's public colleges and universities to provide services to their students and faculties.

After selecting a career, students at OHS may choose to enroll in the following programs:

- Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair
- Technical Agriculture Operations
- Building Construction Technology
- Animal Science and Services
- Digital Design
- Aquaculture
- Nursing Assistant
- Agricultural Communications



After completing a program, students may gain additional college credits with Indian River State College through an articulation agreement.

To explore even more careers, upperclassmen may decide to participate in the internship program. After researching an occupation and completing a resume, students have an opportunity to intern in businesses throughout Okeechobee County.

By providing such comprehensive services in career and technical education, students should be able to select a career based on their interests, enroll in courses that provide technical skills needed in that career area, potentially earn college credit, and, most importantly, enter employment well prepared to work.

All Okeechobee County School District students are afforded the opportunity to enroll in the Career and Technical Education programs beginning in the eight or ninth grade. The various programs and courses within those programs currently offered are located in the CTE Guide on the district website okee.k12.fl.us, on the Career and Technical Education page. Each program offers work-based learning opportunities through on the job training courses. The CTE Graduation Pathway is included within this parent guide. The CTE Graduation Pathway graduation option includes the following:

- Successfully complete a minimum of 18 credits.
- Have a minimum, cumulative GPA of at least a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Meet the requirements of
 - 4 English credits (including the statewide grade 10 Reading assessment or the grade 10 ELA assessment, or earn a concordant score)
 - 4 Math credits (including the statewide Algebra I EOC assessment, or earn a comparative score)
 - 3 Science credits
 - 3 Social studies credits
- Complete two credits in career and technical education. The courses must result in a program completion and an industry certification.
- Complete two credits in work-based learning programs. A student may substitute up to two credits of electives, including one-half credit in financial literacy, for work-based learning program courses to fulfill this requirement.

- continued on the following page -

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CONTINUED

Students are also able to complete various foundational and soft-skills credentialing programs via the Florida Ready to Work website - floridareadytowork.com. Parents and students can contact their school counselor for more information and to seek help signing up for the courses. Parents can contact the certified school counselor at the Okeechobee Freshman Campus (863) 462-5288, for more information on any of these items for further assistance and guidance.



COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING SERVICES

The Okeechobee High School College and Career Center offers a variety of services for students and families to plan for graduation and college and career success. Starting in 8th grade, students participate in a Career Fair and attend a spring tour of OHS Career and Technical programs. Parents of Freshmen and Sophomores are offered evening scheduling to increase involvement in their student's graduation plan. Dual Enrollment (DE) classes are offered in a variety of academic subjects and career fields. PERT, SAT, and ACT are offered at various times of the year to determine college and career readiness. Sophomores take PSAT in the fall. Juniors take PSAT/NMSQT to enter in the National Merit Scholarship competition. Juniors take SAT School Day in March. All students have access to Khan Academy for free SAT test prep. OHS hosts College Fair Day and Career Day in the fall and Financial Aid Night in January. FAFSA Nights occur frequently for Seniors and their parents to assist with the Federal Student Aid application. The ASVAB (Military) test is given twice a year. Contact the College and Career Center in the Guidance office for more information.



CAREER PLANNING TOOL AVAILABLE FOR ALL K-12 STUDENTS

XELLO, a new career planning platform, will be available for ALL Okeechobee County School students starting the 2023-2024 school year. All Okeechobee Schools have plans to make sure that every student K-12 will utilize the program to explore careers in which they may be interested. Age appropriate lessons are prepared within the program that will allow students to learn about careers, set goals, complete interest and skills surveys, review careers that might match them, research colleges and technical schools, create resumes, and much more. Xello empowers every student to design a personalized plan for the future by providing a high-quality career development experience that's modern and visually appealing and interactive. It has been professionally translated into Spanish and can support other preferred languages.

In the Xello platform, students can:

- Build personalized profiles to display their interests, skills and abilities
- Take career matching assessments to guide and motivate exploration
- Explore their options by reviewing career profiles, labor market data and postsecondary training opportunities
- Set both short and long-term goals and track their progress with academic course planning and managing the college application process
- Prepare for the world of work by developing a professional resume and creating shareable portfolios, and applying for local work-based learning opportunities
- Continually learn, reflect, and re-assess their plans with the support of built-in college and career readiness lessons

Ask your child about XELLO today!

UNLOCK YOUR COLLEGE DREAMS WITH FAFSA!

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is your ticket to federal grants, loans, and work-study programs.



- **APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID IN MINUTES.**
- **GAIN ACCESS TO FEDERAL AND STATE STUDENT AID.**
- **MANY SCHOOLS REQUIRE IT FOR SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY.**

START YOUR APPLICATION AT STUDENTAID.GOV!

EDUCATION FOUNDATION
of Okeechobee 



FAFSA

EDUCATIONAL CHOICE IS AN OPTION

Controlled Open Enrollment

The Okeechobee County School Board allows parents to declare school attendance preferences. This system is called Controlled Open Enrollment. Parents may choose to apply for a “zone waiver” for any school of their choice that has not reached capacity. Zone waivers are approved through a lottery system. For any student who attends a school on a zone waiver, the parents must provide transportation to and from school. For more information about Controlled Open Enrollment, please contact the Student Services Office at 863-462-5000 ext. 1060.

Students may be assigned to the “**alternative school**” if they have been in trouble in the community or need specialized programs.

A parent of a special education student or a student with a 504 plan may request a different public school or receive a scholarship to attend a private school through the “Family Empowerment Scholarship Program”. In order to take advantage of this option parents can contact the Student Services Office at (863) 462-5000 Ext. 1060 for more information. You can access information at www.floridaschoolchoice.org.

A parent may choose to enroll their child (grades K-12) in Florida Virtual School internet computer-based public school. Contact your child's School Counselor for more information.

Parents also have a choice of enrolling their child in a “**Home School Program**”. They are responsible for educating their own child and reporting annually to the superintendent about their progress. Information on the Home Education Program is available from the county office (863) 462-5000 Ext. 1060.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL)

Students identified as English Language Learners are served according to provisions of the Okeechobee County School Board District ELL Plan. This plan establishes procedures for identification, assessment, comprehensive instruction, parental involvement and personnel training regarding services to students with limited English proficiency. Copies of the District ELL Plan are available at the School Board Office, room 306. In addition, parents/guardians of ELL students are encouraged to participate in our District Parent Leadership Council. For more information on our ELL program contact 462-5000, extension 1060.



HELP DESK:

GENERAL QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR CONCERNS CAN BE EMAILED TO:
OKEE.HELPDESK@OKEE.K12.FL.US

THE EMAIL WILL BE ROUTED TO THE APPROPRIATE SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT.

MTSS/SCHOOL-BASED INTERVENTION AND SUPPORT

Every child's path to a successful goal of a diploma is not always the same. Some children may need additional supports to master that goal. During your child's school years, you will be meeting with the staff of your child's school to discuss the specific issues and educational needs of your child. A teacher along with an administrator and/or school counselor may request to have a team of professionals meet to discuss your child's academic, communication, behavior, or emotional concerns. The different teams are called the Grade Content Team or the School Problem Solving Team (SPS Team). The team reviews your child's records and progress and assists in identifying and analyzing concerns. Interventions (or tiered levels) are recommended by the team, and a plan to monitor your child's response and determine the level of progress is developed. The team regularly reviews your child's response to interventions. This is known as the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). MTSS is a framework that helps promote the success of every child. Okeechobee County Schools uses an array of academic monitoring tools and assessments to determine the best educational decisions for students. In addition, behavioral concerns are addressed through the Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) initiative. The goal of PBIS is to build effective school-wide environments in which positive behavior promotes better academic success. Monthly mental health and wellness videos that are created using the state mandated five-hour resiliency focused model of required instruction are also used in our district to help promote whole child wellness. Contact a school administrator for more information.

Sometimes a student, despite appropriate interventions, continues to exhibit academic and/or behavioral concerns. In those cases, the SPS Team may invite the a resources specialist and/or a board certified behavioral analyst to work with the team in developing Tier 3 interventions. After reviewing Tier 3 data the team may determine that further assessment is needed. This assessment will help determine if your child is eligible for Exceptional Students Education (ESE) services provided by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Information Act (IDEIA). Each school in our district, in addition to a counselor, has a school psychologist, ESE Resource Specialist and a behavior interventionist that you may contact. This person will help you with any concerns or questions regarding the interventions, referral for testing process, the actual testing or ESE programs, and services in which your child is involved. Contact the ESE office (863) 462-5000 Ext. 1055. In addition to tiered interventions through MTSS, there is a district school social worker and three crisis counselors available to all students needing support for emotional and/or mental health needs. If interested in these services contact the Department of Mental Health and Behavioral Supports office (863) 462-5000 Ext. 1099, or contact your child's school counselor to make a referral.

In line with Senate Bill 7030 written into law in 2019, Okeechobee County Schools participates in a Universal Screening process of all students. This process includes a mental health/behavioral form supported by the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) system. It will be used to help school administration, leaders, and teachers nominate students based on the prevalence and early development of both externalizing (i.e. manipulating behaviors, disrespect, aggression, etc.) and internalizing behaviors (i.e. isolating behaviors, anxiety, depression, etc.). The form will be available for all students; however, the district will adopt a triage process where the students with the highest scores will be nominated for immediate Tier 2 or Tier 3 supports. This process will happen twice per school year. Teachers will collect data and present this data to the School Leadership Team who will then create a master list of students in need of tiered supports. School staff as well as school and district based mental health professionals and community partners will facilitate interventions based on the needs of the students. All intervention plans will require parent notification.

IF YOUR CHILD NEEDS EXTRA HELP IN SCHOOL...

He/she may need additional services. The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) allows you and or their teacher to refer your student for evaluation. You will be a part of the evaluation and eligibility teams that determine eligibility and plan for programming to meet your students' needs.

- You may ask your students school to evaluate your child for free if you think they may need special educational services.
- If your student qualifies as a student with a disability, you will be a part of the Individual Education Plan (IEP) team to determine the services needed for your student.
- You will be provided with your procedural safeguards to inform you of what your rights are under IDEA.

IF YOUR CHILD IS PERFORMING AT A HIGH LEVEL

If your student has high grades, test scores or possibly a special talent, they may need the enrichment class for gifted students. You and or their teacher can refer them for evaluation. If your student meets the evaluation criteria as a gifted student you would be part of the Education Plan (EP) team to determine what services would address their needs. Your student would then receive instruction in an enrichment setting.

WHAT ARE ACCOMMODATIONS?

The term "accommodation" may be used to describe an alteration of environment, curriculum format, or equipment that allows an individual with a disability to gain access to general education curriculum or complete assigned tasks. Examples include but are not limited to extended time on assignments or assessments, breaks for movement, instruction in small group and possibly assistive technology. The IEP team will determine what accommodations each student requires to be successful. These accommodations will be included in the IEP and will be provided in all academic settings.

SECTION 504

In order to qualify for a 504 plan, the child must meet the criteria set forth in the federal law for identification as an individual with a disability: Section 504 defines a person with a disability as "any person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities". Section 504 requires agencies to provide individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in their programs and benefit from their services. Depending on a student's individual needs, services may include, but are not limited to, extended time on assignments and assessments, breaks, counseling, as well as training in study strategies, organizational skills, and time management.



OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Dependability, Ethics

Code of Student Conduct

Dear Parents:

This Code of Student Conduct has been developed by parents, teachers, students, administrators, school board and community members. Working together, we feel we have developed high expectations for student behavior as well as a reasonable set of possible consequences that accompany a rule infraction.

The basis for this strict Code is the concept of RESPECT- respect for others, for property, for authority and for self. It is the responsibility of the student, parent and school to work together to enforce the code in a fair and equitable manner so that our schools can remain a safe environment free from violence and harassment.

Please review the Code of Student Conduct with your children. Discuss it with them so that they may understand there may be consequences for their actions. We are very proud of our students and believe that they will live up to our high expectations if we communicate the rules, assign consequences to change behavior, progressively increase the consequences for repeated offenses and proactively work with students and parents to provide incentives to prevent undesirable behavior.

It is only with the help of all stakeholders that our schools remain a safe haven for all students to thrive educationally and socially.

Sincerely,

The Code of Conduct Committee

Every student will be given a Code of Student Conduct during the first week of school or upon enrollment.

A digital copy can be found on our District Website: www.okee.k12.fl.us

The Successful Student Parent Guide Okeechobee County Schools 2023-2024

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DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
 700 SW SECOND AVENUE
 OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974
 (863) 462-5000



Ken Kenworthy Superintendent
School Board Members:
MELisa Jahner Chairperson
Dr. Christine Bishop Board Member
Jill Holcomb Board Member
Malissa Morgan Vice Chairman
Amanda Riedel Board Member



Elementary Schools	Phone	Principal	Assistant Principal
Central Elementary	462-5077	Cynthia Kubit	Julianne Gagliardo
Everglades Elementary	462-5108	Christina Norman	RaeAnn Whiteside
North Elementary	462-5100	Dr. Tuuli Robinson	Heather Briney
Seminole Elementary	462-5116	Dr. Robyn Ziolkowski	Sonya VanderMolen
South Elementary	462-5087	Lonnie Steiert	Jennifer McCluskey
Secondary Schools	Phone	Principal	Assistant Principal
Middle Schools:			
Osceola Middle School	462-5070	Alyson Shirley	Krista Stanley
Yearling Middle School	462-5056	Dr. Pat McCoy	Kellyann Campbell
High Schools:			
Okeechobee Achievement Academy & Okeechobee Virtual School	462-5125	Audie Ash	
OHS/Freshman Campus	462-5288	Vicki Goggans	Ashley Kidd
Okeechobee High School	462-5025	Lauren Myers	Nicole Hurst, Tamara Wendt

District Administrators	Phone	Title
Lisa Bell	462-5148 X 1214	Supervisor of Food Services
Andi Canaday	462-5000 X 1046	Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Wendy Coker	462-5000 X 1060	Director of Student Services
Jeff Diefendorf	462-5083 X 1251	Director of Operations
Shawna May	462-5704 X 1117	Director of Information Technology
Kim Morrison	462-5000 X 1055	Director of Exceptional Student Education
Janet Pineda	462-5000 X 1096	Director of Finance
Daryl Roehm	462-5000 X 1064	Coordinator of Career and Technical Education
Frank Shin	462-5704 X 1103	Coordinator of Network Systems
Heather Siler-Dobbs	462-5000 x 1066	Director of Grants and Special Programs
Britani Stanley	462-5000 X 1060	Coordinator, K12 Accountability and Assessment
Dr. Joseph Stanley	462-5000 X 1022	Director of Human Resources
Brent Stuart	462-5146 X 1211	Supervisor of Transportation
Dylan Tedders	462-5000 X 1061	Asst. Superintendent of Administrative Services
Katharine Williams	462-5000 X 1099	Director of Mental Health & Behavioral Supports

[Not sure who to call, click here for the Who to Call District list 2023-24.](#)