

Volusia County Schools

Back-to-School

Guide



2011-2012

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Volusia County School Board

Overall responsibility for the education of Volusia County's students rests with the five member school board. Each member resides in a different geographic area of the county and is elected by the voters in his or her geographic district. All members are elected to a four-year term on a staggered basis.

The regular meetings of the school board are usually held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the DeLand Administrative Complex, 200 North Clara Avenue, DeLand, at 4 p.m. Occasionally meetings are held at a school site in Volusia County. The dates and locations of all meetings are publicized and the public is invited to attend. Meetings are broadcast live on the district's website.

The agenda for school board meetings is published in advance and is available at the school board offices in DeLand and on the district's web site at <http://myvolusiaschools.org>.

Volusia County School Board Members

Mr. Stan Schmidt, Chairman

District 3
5574 Trail Side Drive
Port Orange, Fl 32127
Home Phone: (386) 761-1742

Dr. Al Williams, Vice-Chairman

District 2
3839 Calliope Avenue
Port Orange, Fl 32129
Home Phone: (386) 322-7311

Ms. Candace Lankford

District 1
330 Lake Winnemissett Drive
DeLand, Florida 32724
Home Phone: (386) 734-1082

Ms. Judy Conte

District 4
40 Nicholas Court
Ormond Beach, FL 32176
Home Phone (386) 677-0642

Mrs. Diane Smith

District 5
1355 Voltaire Street
Deltona, Florida 32725
Home Phone: (386) 789-3977

Administrative Staff

To express approval, concern or to gather information about Volusia County Schools, the following is a list of people you can call or write:

Dr. Margaret A. Smith	Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Chris Colwell	Deputy Superintendent for Instructional Services
Dr. Robert Moll	Deputy Superintendent for Financial and Business Services
Ms. Annette Martinson	Area Superintendent
Mr. Tom Russell	Area Superintendent
Mr. Rich Kizma	Chief Counsel for Labor Relations/Contract Services/Policy Development
Ms. Peromnia Grant	Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Dr. Don Boulware	Executive Director for Management Information Services
Mr. Greg Akin	Director of Transportation
Dr. Barbara Bush	Director for ESE Programs and Student Services
Ms. Allene Dupont	Director for K-12 Curriculum
Ms. Carolyn Gardinier	Director for Federal Programs/Grant Development Services
Mr. Gary Marks	Director for Alternative Programs/Athletics/Security
Mr. Sandy Hovis	Director for Professional Standards
Ms. Saralee Morrissey	Director of Site Acquisition and Intergovernmental Coordination
Mr. Russ Tysinger	Director of Maintenance and Operations
Ms. Nancy Wait	Director for Community Information Services
Ms. Denise Dietrich	Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Volusia County Schools' administrators and staff can be reached as follows:

**DeLand Administrative Complex
P. O. Box 2118
200 North Clara Avenue
DeLand, Florida 32721-2118**

For general information, call Support Services:

(386) 734-7190, 255-6475 or 427-5223, 860-3322, extension 20000

2011-2012 Back-to-School Information

Volusia County Schools will welcome approximately 61,000 students when school begins for students on Monday, August 22, 2011. All schools will operate on the same calendar. Teachers return to their classrooms on Tuesday, August 16, 2011.

Volusia County Schools operate under a different countywide theme each year. The theme for the 2011-2012 school year is “**Soaring to Success in the Global Age.**”

Additional information on Volusia County Schools is available on the school district’s web site: <http://myvolusiaschools.org>.

Starting/Ending Times for Volusia County Schools

Grade Level	Non-Early Release Days	Early Release Days
Elementary (K-5)	7:55 a.m. – 2:05 p.m.	7:55 a.m. – 1:05 p.m.
Elementary Plus One (K-5)	7:55 a.m. – 3:05 p.m.	7:55 a.m. – 2:05 p.m.
Middle (6-8)	8:56 a.m. – 3:41 p.m.	8:56 a.m. – 2:41 p.m.
Combination (K-8)	7:55 a.m. – 3:05 p.m.	7:55 a.m. – 2:05 p.m.
High (9-12)	7:29 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.	7:29 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

These times are approximate. Schools may differ slightly in beginning and ending times because of student transportation schedules. Family members should contact the school their child will attend for exact times. Questions and concerns about bus transportation during the first few days of school should be directed to the assigned school.

Enrollment Information

- Children eligible for kindergarten enrollment must be five years old on or before September 1.
- Children eligible for first grade enrollment must have completed kindergarten in an accredited public or non-public school, and must be six years old on or before September 1.
- Entrance requirements for any Volusia County public school include a birth certificate or other legal evidence of date of birth; immunization records signed by a physician; record of a physical examination performed within 12 months prior to entry conducted by a health professional in Florida or in the state where the student resided at the time of the examination and who is authorized to perform the exam under such licensure; and proof of residence (see School Board Policy 203).

Student Dress Code

In June 2011 the school board approved a district-wide student dress code policy. The dress code applies to every student in the 2011-12 school year and will be reviewed in January 2012 to assess compliance.

- No hats, caps, visors, hoods, bandanas, sunglasses or other head gear, except with administrative permission
- Upper garments must be long enough to overlap the beltline or stay tucked in during the course of normal movement (no bare midriffs). Shirts, blouses, and dresses must cover shoulder to shoulder, which means no muscle shirts, tank tops, spaghetti straps, or halter tops with or without covering. Necklines must be modest; low cut necklines are prohibited. The cut of the garment must not expose under-garments or cleavage.
- Lower garments must cover undergarments and the buttocks. Dresses, skirts, and shorts must be at least mid-thigh or below in length. The waistband of the pants, shorts, or skirts must be worn and secured between the hips and the waist.
- Footwear must be safe and appropriate. Athletic shoes are required for all PE classes. Cleats, slippers, and shoes with wheels are not permitted. Cleats may be worn for appropriate extracurricular sports in proper areas.
- Clothing, jewelry, and accessories shall not convey messages that are crude, vulgar/profane, violent/death-oriented, gang related, sexually suggestive, promote alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or illegal activities or products. Jewelry and accessories that pose a safety concern are prohibited, including dog collars, wallet chains, large hair picks, or chains that connect one part of the body to another.

Other things to know:

- Students may wear special clothing related to a school sponsored activity or program, as per-mitted by the principal (such as ROTC uniforms, t-shirts on spirit days, sports jerseys, etc.)
- All schools have the option of adopting a standard dress code (uniform) when developed and agreed upon in collaboration with the School Advisory Council.
- The dress appearance of any student shall not be extreme, to the point of creating a disturbance, or be hazardous to the student and/or others, or school property, whether or not the specific case is outlined in the requirements.

Parent Notification System

The School District of Volusia County will continue to utilize the school-to-home telephone messaging system. This system allows the superintendent and school principals to send periodic and personalized messages to all parents and families with one recorded phone call.

Educational research clearly demonstrates a significant link between enhanced parental involvement and student achievement. The district will reinforce this important point by using the school-to-home messaging system on a regular basis. What is particularly significant in the use of this system is our ability to reach families at a moment's notice should an emergency situation arise.

Calls of a general nature (i.e. announcements, updates or reminders) will be made to one phone number per family. Calls regarding emergencies will be made to as many as six numbers (i.e. home, cell phones and work numbers). Utilizing more than one number in an emergency situation will allow us to reach a greater number of parents and families as soon as possible.

Parents are encouraged to list current phone numbers on the Emergency Information Card for each student. Only the numbers listed will be used.

Support Services

Need Help? Call 20000 to reach support staff in Technology Services! Support services staff serve as the first and central point of contact for employees and the community regarding district operations, sharing information and responding to all public records requests. The staff provides daily contact with employees at schools and various district departments to provide the first level of technical support required with district supported hardware, software, peripheral devices, district general information, all district application portals and student information support. The staff is also responsible for district forms management control and district applications technical training.

For assistance, call extension 20000 from any of the following district numbers: (386) 734-7190, 255-6475, 427-5223 or 860-3322. Support Services can also be reached by clicking on “CONTACT US” from the district’s homepage web site located at <http://myvolusiaschools.org>.

The Support Services Center is open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for designated district holidays.

**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF VOLUSIA COUNTY
2011-2012 School Calendar**

Make-up days for inclement weather include January 3 and April 30. The order in which the days would be used will be decided later if they become necessary.

August 16 (Tuesday) Preplanning Begins – Teachers Report
 August 22 (Monday) First Day of School for Students
 September 5 (Monday)..... Labor Day Holiday
 September 23 (Friday)..... Professional Development Day/Student Holiday
 October 14 (Friday) Teacher Duty Day/Student Holiday
 November 11 (Friday) Veterans Day Holiday
 November 22 (Tuesday)..... Thanksgiving Holiday Begins - End of Day
 November 28 (Monday) Classes Resume
 December 15(Thursday)..... Winter Holiday Begins - End of Day
 December 16 (Friday)..... Teacher Duty Day
 January 4 (Wednesday) Classes Resume
 January 16 (Monday) Martin Luther King’s Birthday Holiday
 February 20 (Monday) Presidents’ Day Holiday
 March 15 (Thursday)..... Spring Holiday Begins - End of Day
 March 16 (Friday)..... Teacher Duty Day/Student Holiday
 March 26 (Monday)..... Classes Resume
 April 30 (Monday) Teacher Duty Day/Student Holiday
 May 28 (Monday) Memorial Day Holiday
 June 8 (Friday)..... Last Day of School for Students
 June 12 (Tuesday) Last Day of School for Teachers

Early Release Days

All students will be released approximately one hour early on the 32 Wednesdays listed below.

August 31	September 7 September 14 September 21 September 28	October 5 October 12 October 19 October 26	November 2 November 9 November 16 November 30	December 7 December 14	January 4 January 11 January 18 January 25
February 1 February 8 February 15 February 22 February 29	March 7 March 14 March 28	April 4 April 11	May 2 May 30	June 6	

Grading Period/Report Card Dates

Period	Days	Grade Period Begins	Midterm Ends	Grade Period Ends	Grades on Parent Portal	Report Card Distribution
1	37	Aug. 22, 2011	Sept. 15, 2011	Oct. 13, 2011	Oct. 20, 2011	Oct. 25, 2011
2	40	Oct. 17, 2011	Nov. 14, 2011	Dec. 15, 2011	Jan. 9, 2012	Jan. 13, 2012
3	50	Jan. 4, 2012	Feb. 8, 2012	March 15, 2012	March 22, 2012	March 27, 2012
4	53	March 26, 2012	May 1, 2012	June 8, 2012	June 18, 2012	June 21, 2012

2011-2012 School Immunization Requirements For School Entry and Attendance

All students entering Volusia County Schools must have current immunizations, unless the student has a medical or religious exemption. Contact your physician or Volusia County Health Department. Immunizations are provided at no cost at the Volusia County Health Department.

Vaccine / Grade	# of Doses	Pre-K	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DTP/DT/DTaP	4/5*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Polio (OPV/IPV)	4/5 **	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MMR	Shot #1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Measles / MMR	Shot #2	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tdap/Td	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hepatitis B	2/3***	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Varicella	2/1****	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		

- * If the 4th dose of DTP/DT/DTaP is given on or after the 4th birthday, a 5th dose is not required.
- ** If the 4th dose of Polio (OPV/IPV) is given on or after the 4th birthday, a 5th dose is not required.
- *** Three dose series required for all students entering or attending pre-k and kindergarten. An alternative two dose hepatitis B vaccine series for adolescent 11 through 15 years of age has been approved. Children who receive the two dose series should be considered in compliance.
- **** Beginning with the 2008/2009 school year, children entering kindergarten will be required to receive two doses of varicella vaccine. The one dose varicella requirement started in the 2001/2002 school year. Varicella is not required if there is a history of documented disease.

MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE

Meningococcal disease is a serious illness caused by bacteria. It is a leading cause of bacterial meningitis in children 2-18 years of age in the United States. A dose of MCV4 is recommended for children and adolescents 11-18 years of age. For those who have never received MCV4 a dose is recommended at high school entry.

FLORIDA CERTIFICATION OF IMMUNIZATION FORM DH 680

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

Volusia County Health Department Clinics

Daytona Beach – 1845 Holsonback Drive, 386-274-0500
 DeLand – 909 N. Stone Street, 386-822-6215
 Deltona – 3151 Howland Blvd., 386-789-7507 or 386-789-7508
 New Smyrna Beach – 717 W. Canal Street, 386-424-2065

Health Services – 386-822-7896, ext. 21077

***If a child has not completed a vaccine series (Hepatitis B, DTP, or Polio) which requires more than one shot over a period of months, a Temporary Medical Exemption, with an expiration date, must be completed on the blue card (DH 680).**

Volusia County Schools Data

Students 2010-2011

Pre-Kindergarten	553
Elementary (K-5)	27,621
Middle (6-8)	14,389
High (9-12)	19,121
Total:	61,684

Based on the 20-day count of student enrollment September 13, 2010

Projected Enrollment 2011-2012

Elementary (Pre-K - 5)	27,970
Middle (6-8)	14,190
High (9-12)	19,013
Total:	61,173

Actual Student Enrollment

Year	Total
1999-2000	60,289
2000-2001	61,259
2001-2002	62,305
2002-2003	62,577
2003-2004	63,796
2004-2005	65,044
2005-2006	65,407
2006-2007	65,767
2007-2008	64,696
2008-2009	63,271
2009-2010	62,416
2010-2011	61,684

Based on each school year's 20-day student enrollment count.

Schools 2011-2012

Elementary	45
Middle Schools	12
High Schools	9
Combination Schools	2
Alternative Education/DJJ	4
Charter Schools	9
Total:	81

Employees 2010-2011

Instructional	4,651
Support Services	3,287
Administrative - District Level	73
Administrative - School Level	200
Total:	8,211

Source: DOE Fall Survey

Instructional Salaries

	2010-2011
Beginning Salary - Bachelor's	\$34,010
Beginning Salary - Master's	\$37,001
Beginning Salary - Specialist's	\$38,424
Beginning Salary - Doctorate	\$39,903

Dropout Rate

Year	Volusia Dropout Rate	State Dropout Rate
2004-2005	1.1	3.0
2005-2006	1.4	3.5
2006-2007	1.3	3.3
2007-2008	1.0	2.6
2008-2009	1.3	2.3
2009-2010	1.1	2.0

Graduation Rate

Year	Volusia Graduation Rate	Florida Graduation Rate	Volusia NGA* Rate	Florida NGA* Rate	Volusia NCLB** Rate	Florida NCLB** Rate
2004-2005	83.0	71.9	81.5	69.7	78.0	69.0
2005-2006	81.9	71.0	80.2	68.9	76.7	68.3
2006-2007	82.6	72.4	80.9	70.3	76.7	69.8
2007-2008	81.9	75.4	80.3	73.1	77.1	72.8
2008-2009	82	78.6	80.5	76.3	76.7	76.2
2009-2010	81.9	80.7	81.2	79.0	78.7	78.2

*NGA-National Governors Association

**No Child Left Behind

Human Resources Information

To effectively operate and manage the educational programs and services of the School District of Volusia County, the district employs a highly qualified team of administrators, support staff and teachers.

- Approximately 188 principals and assistant principals manage instructional sites.
- Over 4,550 skilled teachers and instructional staff assist students daily in their learning processes while motivating each student to achieve maximum potential. The instructional and administrative personnel are certified by the state of Florida.
- Forty-four percent of the certified staff hold masters, educational specialist or doctorate degrees.
- Approximately 3,247 support staff are employed to perform clerical, transportation, food preparation, custodial and maintenance services.
- The School Board of Volusia County is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, seeking to enhance the diversity of our staff, and insuring a safe and orderly environment.

Applicants recommended for a position in the district are required to be fingerprinted, thus enabling a criminal background records check at the state and national levels, and also to complete a drug screening process.

A complete listing of job vacancies in the School District of Volusia County is available on a 24-hour daily basis via the district's web site. Interested persons may access the web site at <http://myvolusiaschools.org>. The system is updated daily. Applicants who have registered with the district, or have a completed application on file, can apply for positions via the web site.

Job vacancies are also posted at the DeLand Administrative Complex and at the county regional libraries.

Student Achievement - Testing Information

Student achievement is measured throughout a student's educational career using a variety of testing instruments that include both norm-referenced and criterion-referenced assessments. Collectively, the data derived from student achievement tests support several purposes that include school, district, and state accountability; instructional and program decision-making; student placement; and monitoring student progress. A brief summary of the major testing programs is provided below.

- ◆ **Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT):** The FCAT is a state mandated test that measures the degree to which students are learning the Sunshine State Standards in reading, mathematics, science, and writing. The reading FCAT is administered to students in grades 3 through 10. The mathematics FCAT is administered to students in grades 3 through 8, except for those students who are enrolled in Algebra 1. Students in grades 7 through 10 who are enrolled in Algebra 1 will be administered an End of Course exam. Over the next several years, End of Course exams will begin to be administered in geometry, biology, American History and civics. The writing FCAT is administered to students in grades 4, 8, and 10, and the science FCAT is administered to students in grades 5, and 8. FCAT results are used for school accountability purposes as well as to monitor individual student

progress. Students who are seeking a high school diploma are required to pass the reading and mathematics exams prior to graduation or attain a concordant score on the ACT or SAT.

- ◆ **Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT):** The PSAT may be used for academic planning and preparation for the SAT. The PSAT is offered to students in grade 11 for a fee. Students receive a detailed report of their performance on the verbal, writing and mathematics sections of the PSAT.
- ◆ **PLAN:** The PLAN serves as a measure of academic progress for students in Grade 10. PLAN is a powerful predictor of success on the ACT, an early indicator of college readiness, and a tool to help students explore careers that match their interests. Volusia County will offer the PLAN for the first time in the 2011-2012 school year to all 10th grade students. Students will receive a detailed Score Report including data on their English, Mathematics, Reading and Science assessments. They will also receive information on their High School course plans compared to the recommended core and a College Readiness analysis in the four tested academic areas. The score report contains detailed information about career possibilities matched to student aptitude and interest and suggestions for improving skills in each subject area based on scores.
- ◆ **SAT Reasoning Test and the ACT test:** The SAT and ACT are voluntary, national standardized tests administered several times each year. Most students who plan to attend college after graduation participate in the SAT or ACT programs during their junior or senior year. College admissions personnel use these test results in conjunction with grades, class rank, participation in extracurricular activities, etc., in selecting students for admission and placement into special programs.
- ◆ **The Advanced Placement (AP) Program:** The AP program, sponsored by the College Board, provides students the opportunity to receive college credit for high school course work. Student achievement in AP courses is measured by scores on a rigorous end-of-course examination. In general, students who receive a score of 3 or higher (based on a 5 point scale) on the AP exam are eligible to receive college credit for the course.
- ◆ **International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program:** The IB program, sponsored by the International Baccalaureate Organization, provides students the opportunity to earn college credit for high school course work. An IB diploma can be earned if a minimum number of points for passing exams are earned as well as satisfactory participation in creativity, action and service. Exams are scored on a 1 to 7 point scale.

National, state and district initiatives encourage educators to adopt alternative forms of classroom assessment that include portfolios of student products, and objective evaluations of student performances, presentations and demonstrations. By expanding the pallet of assessments, educators seek to measure a broad range of learning objectives and to monitor growth over time. Because assessment programs play a key role in establishing expectations for students, Volusia County educators continue to use a variety of instruments that measure the degree to which students are reaching high academic standards.

**2006-2007 through 2010-2011
Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test - FCAT
All Curriculum Groups**

GRADE	SCIENCE					
		2006-2007 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2007-2008 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2008-2009 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2009-2010 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2010-2011 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3
5	Volusia	44	46	52	54	59
	Florida	42	43	46	49	51
8	Volusia	39	41	46	44	50
	Florida	38	40	41	43	46
11	Volusia	40	38	40	42	44
	Florida	37	38	37	38	40

GRADE	READING					
		2006-2007 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2007-2008 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2008-2009 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2009-2010 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2010-2011 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3
3	Volusia	72	75	74	74	74
	Florida	69	72	71	72	72
4	Volusia	69	73	76	73	71
	Florida	68	70	74	72	71
5	Volusia	74	69	73	69	70
	Florida	72	67	71	69	69
6	Volusia	64	62	66	67	66
	Florida	62	63	66	67	67
7	Volusia	63	66	68	67	69
	Florida	63	65	67	68	68
8	Volusia	48	54	54	53	53
	Florida	49	53	54	55	55
9	Volusia	41	46	47	48	49
	Florida	41	46	47	48	48
10	Volusia	33	39	35	39	36
	Florida	34	38	37	39	39

**2006-2007 through 2010-2011
Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test - FCAT
(Continued)**

GRADE	MATHEMATICS					
		2006-2007 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2007-2008 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2008-2009 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2009-2010 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3	2010-2011 % Equal to or Greater Than Level 3
3	Volusia	75	77	77	76	76
	Florida	74	76	78	78	78
4	Volusia	69	72	75	73	71
	Florida	69	71	75	74	74
5	Volusia	57	63	62	62	61
	Florida	59	61	62	63	63
6	Volusia	47	46	50	55	53
	Florida	50	53	55	57	57
7	Volusia	55	57	56	56	59
	Florida	59	61	60	61	62
8	Volusia	61	65	64	66	63
	Florida	63	67	66	68	68
9	Volusia	59	62	65	63	*NA
	Florida	60	65	68	67	*NA
10	Volusia	63	69	65	69	69
	Florida	65	69	69	73	71

*FCAT Grad 9 Mathematics is no longer administered

GRADE	WRITING					
		2006-2007 % 3.5 or Higher	2007-2008 % 3.5 or Higher	2008-2009 % 3.5 or Higher	2009-2010 % 4 or Higher	2010-2011 % 4 or Higher
4	Volusia	72	67	81	61	78
	Florida	78	77	85	68	81
8	Volusia	83	87	87	76	82
	Florida	86	88	90	76	82
10	Volusia	77	77	71	71	72
	Florida	79	78	77	77	75

Scholastic Assessment Test Scores (SAT) 2002-2010

Verbal Scores

	<u>2002-2003</u>	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>
Volusia	505	508	508	495	501	504	499	503
Florida	498	499	498	496	497	496	497	496
Nation	507	508	508	503	502	502	501	501

Mathematics Scores

	<u>2002-2003</u>	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>
Volusia	498	503	501	492	499	497	495	504
Florida	498	499	498	497	496	497	498	498
Nation	519	518	520	518	515	515	515	516

Note: In Volusia County, approximately 53% of seniors took the SAT in 2009.

American College Test Scores (ACT) 2002-2010

Verbal Scores

	<u>2002-2003</u>	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>
Volusia	19.6	19.8	19.8	19.9	19.7	19.4	19.1	19.0
Florida	19.8	19.9	19.8	19.6	19.1	19.0	18.7	18.6
Nation	20.3	20.4	20.4	20.6	20.7	20.6	20.6	20.5

Mathematics Scores

	<u>2002-2003</u>	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>
Volusia	19.7	20.1	20.0	20.1	20.3	19.9	19.5	19.8
Florida	20.3	20.4	20.4	20.3	20.0	20.0	19.7	19.7
Nation	20.6	20.7	20.7	20.8	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0

ACADEMICS

Elementary School Education

Over 27,600 kindergarten through fifth grade students are housed in the district's elementary schools and elementary charter schools. The elementary program is aligned with Florida's standards in all subject areas including art, health education, language arts, mathematics, music, physical education, reading, science and social studies. Skills, concepts and processes are developed, reinforced and integrated to provide students with a balanced elementary experience. Students have access to fully equipped media centers, technology, textbooks, math manipulatives and supplementary materials and equipment to ensure a positive, well-balanced learning environment and educational program. School tutoring programs are offered for students needing additional assistance in reading and mathematics. A summer reading camp is provided for grade three students who need more time to develop and refine basic reading skills.

READING

The primary program emphasizes the development of a solid foundation of the five essential skills needed to succeed at learning to read: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary. The intermediate program enhances reading development and focuses on reading to learn.

ELEMENTARY ASSESSMENTS

Volusia County's elementary school students are assessed in a number of ways including teacher observations, tests, and projects; district and state assessments; and standardized norm-referenced tests. The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) is administered in reading and mathematics to students in grades 3-5. In addition to reading and mathematics, grade 4 students take the FCAT Writing Test, and FCAT Science is an additional state assessment in grade 5. Second grade students participate in the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) and SAT-10.

SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Support programs include Title I (schools meeting federal guidelines), exceptional student education, tutoring and guidance programs. Other support programs may be available in elementary schools. Parenting classes and materials are offered to assist families.

Students who perform exceptionally well in the academic program and meet the qualifications may participate in the district's gifted program. Gifted classes are offered beginning in kindergarten. The program is delivered in a variety of models from resource to self-contained environments.

Middle School Education

Volusia County's middle schools include grades six, seven, and eight. Each middle school has distinguishing characteristics that match the needs and traits of the students who attend the school.

Volusia County's middle schools serve approximately more than 13,500 students. Listed below are the names and locations of the district's middle schools:

✓ Campbell Middle	Daytona Beach
✓ Creekside Middle	Port Orange
✓ DeLand Middle	DeLand
✓ Deltona Middle	Deltona
✓ Galaxy Middle	Deltona
✓ Heritage Middle	Deltona
✓ David C. Hinson, Sr. Middle	Daytona Beach
✓ Holly Hill School (combination K-8)	Holly Hill
✓ New Smyrna Beach Middle	New Smyrna Beach
✓ Ormond Beach Middle	Ormond Beach
✓ River Springs Middle	Orange City
✓ Silver Sands Middle	Port Orange
✓ Southwestern Middle	DeLand
✓ Taylor Middle-High (combination 6-12)	Pierson

THE MIDDLE YEARS: AGES 10-14

Between the ages of 10 and 14, children experience more physical changes than at any other time in their lives except from birth to age two. During this period, the body undergoes the most dramatic changes it will experience in a lifetime. Muscles and bones grow rapidly and at different rates. The head, hands and feet grow to their adult size. Girls begin the growth spurt approximately three years before boys.

The children "in the middle" are often characterized by mood swings and feelings of insecurity. They can be happy one minute and sad the next. Their behavior can vary from mature to immature. They may feel confused and perplexed by their rapidly changing bodies, while their need for approval increases. When friends become essential to them, middle schoolers want to dress alike, walk alike and talk alike. They value approval from adults but need approval from their friends.

WHY A "MIDDLE" SCHOOL?

In order to meet these dramatic changes, the school changed from within. Middle schools in Volusia County are student-centered institutions where children reach high standards and high expectations as they transition from childhood to adolescence.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHERS

Middle school teachers in Volusia County Schools are dedicated to academic progress. As students work toward independence, teachers encourage students to develop a positive identity by establishing and maintaining high standards and high expectations for all students.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS AND FAMILIES

National research has shown that children are more successful in school when their parents and families are involved in their education. The middle school staff is eager to work with families. Conferences are often arranged so that families can meet with all of the students' teachers at the same time. Staff wants to work with families to enhance the students' day-to-day school life.

Volusia County middle schools are designed to bridge the gap between elementary schools and secondary schools. The middle years represent a fragile period that is characterized by change in every facet of a youngster's existence.

Considerable attention is placed on offering middle school students a variety of academic and exploratory experiences that will enable them to make sound choices about their future and instill in them the desire for life-long learning.

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS COMPETE

Opportunities for middle school students to exhibit and participate in annual events abound in Volusia County. Some examples are the Science Fair, the Social Studies Fair, the Foreign Language Festival, the Fitness Festival, MATHCOUNTS, numerous music festivals and competitions, as well as community and school art shows and displays.

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THE NEXT GENERATION SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS

The curriculum for students in the middle schools in Volusia County represents high standards and high expectations. Each subject taught in the middle school has its own curriculum guide -- a living document that demonstrates the alignment between Volusia County's curriculum and Florida's Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. The curriculum guides confirm what students should know and be able to do by the time they leave grade eight for the high school.

STUDENT NEEDS

Extensive programs exist to accommodate the needs of all students in Volusia County's middle schools. Examples include programs for the gifted, for the limited English proficient, for the at-risk, and for those students with special needs.

PROMOTION

In order to be promoted from grade 6 to grade 7 to grade 8, a student must make acceptable progress in at least five of seven courses per grade level to include at least three of the four core courses: English, mathematics, science and social studies.

In order to be promoted to grade 9, middle school students must successfully complete the following:

- 3 courses in language arts
- 3 courses in mathematics
- 3 courses in science
- 3 courses in social studies

CREDIT RETRIEVAL

Credit retrieval labs are available for middle school students. These labs provide an opportunity for students to retrieve failed credits in language arts, science, math or social studies through a competency-based, on-line curriculum.

High School Education

Over 17,000 ninth through twelfth grade students are enrolled in Volusia County's ten high schools: Atlantic, DeLand, Deltona, Mainland, New Smyrna Beach, Pine Ridge, Seabreeze, Spruce Creek, Taylor and University.

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

Special academic programs include the *Superintendents' Diploma of Distinction* which is offered at all ten high schools. This diploma includes *Advanced Placement (AP)*, which offers students the opportunity to take college level courses while still in high school. Many colleges give credit and/or advanced college standing to students who attain an acceptable score of three or above (5-point scale) on an AP examination.

The *International Baccalaureate (IB)* program is offered at DeLand and Spruce Creek high schools. This program is designed for students seeking admission to competitive four-year, post-secondary institutions. Students must take a sequenced curriculum and participate in exit exams, which could qualify the student for college credit or advanced standing. The International Baccalaureate program has specific entrance requirements including an application.

All high schools offer specialized career academies. Examples include health, engineering, law, science, finance and tourism. *Academies* are part of the extensive career and technical education (formerly vocational education) curriculum offered throughout the district. Many career and technical education programs include dual enrollment components. Career academies may have specific entrance requirements for admission, including an application.

Volusia Virtual School provides full and part-time online opportunities for high school students. These courses must be taken as part of the student's regular schedule. Information can be found on the parent, student or staff page of the Volusia County Schools home page. Click on Volusia Virtual School for an information packet and application, and to view a webinar that discusses the program. Students may also continue taking courses through Florida Virtual School, the state of Florida's on-line high school. Students may take courses on-line through Florida Virtual School in addition to their regular high school schedule. Credits earned through Volusia Virtual School and Florida Virtual School may be accepted for high school graduation.

Volusia County Schools' partnership with Daytona State College also offers students the opportunity for dual enrollment. Students who meet the minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) and test score requirements may take college courses that count toward high school graduation requirements and college degree requirements. These courses are provided free of charge to the students.

Extra and co-curricular programs are offered at all high schools and may include, but are not limited to, student government, band, chorus, theater, service organizations, athletic teams and special interest clubs. These offerings are dependent upon the specific needs of each high school community.

SELECTING THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE RIGHT FOR YOU

Volusia County high schools offer a wide range of academic programs and a variety of scheduling options. Families should contact individual schools to learn about specific program offerings and requirements. In an effort to meet student needs, it may be possible for a student to attend a school outside his or her zoned attendance area if there is a documented and substantive reason. Out-of-zone variance forms may be obtained at any school or by contacting the district zoning office at (386) 734-7190, 255-6475, 427-5223 or 860-3322, extension 50820.

Career Connection

The *Career Connection* is a partnership among Volusia/Flagler County Schools; Daytona State College (DSC); the Workforce Development Board of Flagler and Volusia Counties, Inc.; and the business/community that enables students to make connections between education and the future. The *Career Connection* provides career awareness, exploration, and training to students through Career and Technical Education programs and career academies.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)/CAREER PATHWAYS

The *Career Connection* offers rigorous Career and Technical Education programs (CTE) in career clusters relevant to student interests and career opportunities. A CTE program consists of three or more job preparatory courses that teach valuable, entry-level work skills to students. Classroom learning is enhanced through program specific work-based experiences. Business and industry partners provide career speakers, job shadowing opportunities, internships and on-the-job training opportunities for students and teachers. Students select CTE programs that match their career goals.

Broad CTE areas are as follows:

- Agriculture Education
- Business Computer Technology Education
- Diversified Education
- Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- Health Science Education
- Industrial Education
- Marketing Education
- Public Service Education
- Technology Education
- ROTC

CTE programs provide rigorous content and relevant work-based experiences tied to end-of-program certifications and the FL Ready to Work program.

The mission of the *Volusia Flagler Career Pathways Consortium* is to aid secondary students in transitioning from high school to post-secondary study. Consortium agreements between pathway partners provide an identified “track” to high school graduates for additional post-secondary training in related CTE program areas. *Pathway* consortium partners include Volusia County Schools, Flagler County Schools and Daytona State College.

CAREER ACADEMIES

Volusia County Schools, a *Career Academy Innovation Community at the Leadership Level*, is one of three districts in the nation to receive this prestigious Ford Motor Company Fund award for building excellence in academies through community partnerships. Volusia career academies utilize extensive business partnerships to incorporate industry standards into the classroom and to provide field studies, service learning, career shadowing, on-the-job training and internships. Select academic courses coupled with CTE programs provide for integration of rigorous and relevant curriculum resulting in the unique academy small learning environment. Through the academy model, teachers and business partners provide the 21st century skills necessary for students to be successful in the global workforce. The 29 Volusia career academies are as follows:

EAST SIDE ACADEMIES

Atlantic High School

Communications & Arts in Performance

The academy inspires and enriches student creativity and artistry through innovative and integrated communications and performing arts curriculum. Through prestigious community partnerships with Seaside Music Theater, WCEU, Daytona Playhouse, Daytona Museum of Arts and Science and many more, students gain valuable hands-on experiences.

Horticultural, Environmental & Marine Science

The academy provides training in careers crucial to Florida’s unique environment and prepares students to preserve and protect the earth by working in fields related to horticultural and environmental services.

Law & Government

The academy provides experiences in careers for students who aspire to be lawyers, legal secretaries, court reporters, police officers, game wardens, firemen, postal workers, urban planners, forensic scientists, crime lab technicians and other law and government related fields.

Mainland High School

Communications & Multi-Media Technology

The academy offers a comprehensive program for students interested in journalism, multi-media technology, television production, programming, computer graphics, networking and other technologies being developed and used by business and industry.

Design & Manufacturing Technology

The academy is designed for students interested in architecture, engineering, construction, computer aided manufacturing, drafting, electronics and interior design.

Science & Medicine

The academy is a program for students with career interests in high level science and mathematics careers in health science, medical and environmental arena.

Simulation & Robotics

The academy offers rigorous courses in math and computer science to prepare students for elite careers in the fields of digital engineering with emphasis on gaming simulation, applied robotics and artificial intelligence.

Sports Science

The academy provides educational and vocational experiences in the fields of athletic training, sports administration, strength and conditioning.

New Smyrna Beach High School

Agritechnology & Environmental Resources

The academy prepares students for careers in agriculture, horticulture, veterinary assisting or marine resources.

Culinary Arts

The academy utilizes the industry-standard, *ProStart Curriculum*, to teach students industry skills in food service. Students in the advanced courses are responsible for the total operation of *Cuda Café* and *Cuda Catering*.

Entertainment & Sports Marketing

The academy prepares students for careers in advertising, public relations, finance, entrepreneurship, publishing, and marketing including Internet, sales and TV media.

Engineering

The academy provides training in three career areas: construction, engineering and interior design.

Medical

The academy prepares students for careers in the health care industry through the Academy's unique partnership with Bert Fish Medical Center.

Seabreeze High School

Culinary Design

The academy prepares students for careers in food and beverage operations, accounting and financial management, marketing and sales, and/or property management using the Florida Restaurant Association's curriculum, **ProStart**, to provide industry standard training.

Drafting & Design

The academy prepares students for entrance into a broad range of drafting and design careers, such as: engineering, architecture, interior design, landscape architecture or as a computer aided design (CAD) operator in numerous fields.

Web & Digital Media

The academy provides students with the opportunity to combine concepts of print and web media for careers in graphic arts, web development and desktop publishing.

Spruce Creek High School

Finance

The academy prepares students with the analytical, mathematical, and verbal skills needed for careers in the Financial Services Industry as a National Academy Foundation (NAF) sponsored program.

Information Technology & Robotics

The academy prepares students to for entry level, technical, and professional careers related to the design, development, support and management of hardware, software, multimedia and systems integration services.

WEST SIDE ACADEMIES

DeLand High School

Building Construction

The academy provides a rigorous academic focus coupled with the NCCER (National Center for Construction and Education Research) industry certification.

Engineering

The academy allows students to explore the many fields of engineering and they gain hands-on experience with robotics, computer-numerically-controlled machines and other industry specific equipment.

Deltona High School

Drafting & Trade Related Occupations

The academy pairs Architectural and Industrial Drafting with Production Technology in preparation for the NCCER (National Center for Construction and Education Research) industry certification.

Entrepreneurship, Marketing & Management

The academy provides students with strong, focused coursework in the business industry, including hands-on internships and on-the-job training opportunities.

Health Services

The academy prepares students for careers in the field of health care. Through strong partnerships with the local health care community, students participate in intensive medical preparation combined with career related and core academics.

Graphic Arts & Design

The academy provides students with the opportunity to explore careers in the areas of Graphic Arts Technology including Offset Printing, Technical Writing, Business Systems, Journalism and Digital Design.

Pine Ridge High School

Agriscience Education & Communications

The Academy provides learning experiences in the fields of agriscience communications and technology.

Sports Science & Emergency Services

The academy provides training for students interested in any of the three following career areas: Athletic Training and Advanced Sciences (advanced sciences are for students preparing for a pre-med type career); Sports Marketing and Management; and First Responder and Fire Rescue Services.

Taylor High School

Environmental Science & Services

The academy prepares students for careers in environmental resources, forestry, wildlife management and golf course management. Partnerships with local environmental and government agencies provide real world connections for students.

University High School

Finance

The academy prepares students with the analytical, mathematical and verbal skills needed for careers in the financial services industry. Students are trained for careers in banking and credit, financial planning, international finance, securities, insurance, accounting and economics.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)

The STEM academy affords students the opportunity to engage in technology, medical, simulation and engineering projects using the same tools as professionals in the industry and experience in applying mathematics and science to solve real-world, practical problems. After a year-long exploration of the STEM career cluster, academy students select a specific program pathway for in-depth study: biotechnology, biomedical, simulation/robotics, or engineering.

For more information on *Career Connection* programs, contact Tom Besaw, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, at (386) 734-7190, 255-6475, 427-5223 or 860-3322, extension 20641.

Drop Out Prevention Program

Dropout Prevention programs have been established at each middle and high school through credit/course retrieval labs. The labs provide an opportunity for middle school students to remediate failed courses in the Odyssey labs for promotion and for high school students to retrieve failed credits through APEX, a competency-based, online curriculum, and remain on track for graduation. Alternative to expulsion sites, Riverview and Highbanks, and the Department of Juvenile Justice educational programs have implemented original credit retrieval labs, using APEX and Odyssey to deliver their curriculum and facilitate transition for their students to their zoned schools. A teenage parent program is provided at DeLand High School, where students complete a traditional high school program, along with parenting courses, aided by on-site childcare in a developmental childcare center for their children. A district-facilitated teenage parent program provides teenage parent (TAP) services and contracted childcare to pregnant and parenting students who elect to remain at their zoned schools on the east and west sides of the district. The Chiles Academy is a charter conversion school for teen parents and their children.

For more information on *Dropout Prevention* programs, contact Carol Downing, Coordinator, On-line Learning at (386) 322-6100, extension 38375.

Volusia Virtual Blended Learning (Formerly known as Storefront School)

In addition to virtual classes, Volusia Virtual offers a full-time program, blending online learning with live teacher support. This *high school of choice* serves students in grades 10R, 11 and 12, who have passed FCAT or have near-passing scores and who have at least 10 to 12 credits. The performance-based program is set in a computer lab, utilizing a web-based curriculum from APEX Learning. Courses are cooperatively paced, based on individualized goals set by teacher and student. There are two sessions: 8 a.m. – noon and noon – 4 p.m. Additionally, students must either have a job, volunteer or be dual-enrolled at Daytona State College. Referrals are made through the zoned school guidance counselors.

Drivers Education

Volusia County Schools will be offering a drivers education program for the 2011-2012 school year, pending funding. Drivers Education will be offered in the summer, after school, and on Saturdays at most high schools within the district, pending funding. Students who register for one of these models will need to have their learners permit prior to registering for the class. Funding for this program is made possible from the Slosberg Driver Education Trust Fund.

Volusia County Schools' driver education instructors are approved as examiners for the state Driver Education Licensing Assistance Program (D.E.L.A.P.). This means that students who are certified by driver education teachers may not have to take the Class E road test when they obtain their drivers license from the Department of Motor Vehicles. Please note that the *Department of Motor Vehicles always has the option of re-testing a student even though they have received the driving test waiver by the driver education instructor.*

The Department of Education's course description for Driver Education/Traffic Safety Classroom and Laboratory course sets clear expectations for what students know and what skills they will learn. In addition, students will be taught some basic collision avoidance skills associated with defensive driving and vehicle control. The performance expectation is that each student will have a minimum of six hours behind the wheel (range and/or traffic driving) and twenty hours of classroom instruction. Students will have more than 30% of this course behind the wheel of a vehicle.

To receive their permanent license from the Department of Motor Vehicles a student is required to have a learners permit for one full year. They must also have a parent/guardian certify that they have experienced at least fifty hours of behind the wheel driving with no less than ten of those hours being at night.

World Languages

The world has many languages. To be able to communicate with people from other nations in their own language is one of the most exciting ventures anyone can experience. Being bilingual or multilingual is an asset in today's world and will help each of us compete in the global workforce.

Rapid growth and changing demographic patterns demand that Volusia County Schools' students have the ability to communicate across cultures in more than one language. Currently, the district educates over 10,000 students K-12 in a variety of foreign languages. Students who acquire linguistic proficiency in another language will be citizens who are actively, successfully and joyfully engaged in the world around them; and they will learn and understand their own language better.

Middle schools offer foreign language in grades 6, 7 and 8. Sixth and seventh grades students are introduced to a foreign language, its culture and literature. Eighth graders can elect foreign language instruction in the language offered at their individual school for middle school/junior high credit or for high school credits.

Most high schools offer four years or more of Spanish. In addition, French, German and Latin are offered at several of our high schools. Italian, Russian, and Chinese are offered at Pine Ridge High School and Japanese is offered at Mainland High School. DeLand High School and Spruce Creek High School also offer International Baccalaureate (IB) classes. Many of our high schools offer AP World Languages programs.

The World Languages program also encourages student participation in state and national foreign language competition. Students are recognized by the school board for high achievement and special awards.

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

All schools, grades kindergarten through twelve, offer English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). Students in the ESOL program represent more than 78 language groups from 158 countries. While the ESOL students are learning the English language and American culture, they are encouraged to keep alive the culture of their native countries.

The ESOL curriculum is aligned with the district's language arts curriculum and the state standards to facilitate transition to regular classes and to provide for the development of communication skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing.

The ESOL program is also designed to enhance the cultural sensitivity of all students in our schools by demonstrating respect for all languages and encouraging the pride and self-esteem of students of different backgrounds.

Health

Comprehensive health education is part of an integrated curriculum in grades pre-kindergarten through five. The curriculum includes information on safety, injury prevention, mental and emotional health, growth and development, family life, environmental health, consumer health, personal health and hygiene, substance abuse prevention, disease prevention and control, nutrition, and emergency care.

Health lessons are provided to middle school students through health modules integrated into the curriculum.

Health education courses in high school are an elective selection and are not required courses to graduate from a Florida high school for the 2011-2012 school year.

Human growth and development, or human sexuality education, is an integral part of the curriculum and is taught in the Personal Fitness course. It is also an area about which parents ask the most questions. The school district follows the Florida Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and Student Progression Plan.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Students learn to appreciate themselves and others, and their uniqueness and talents. Mental and emotional health, family roles and responsibilities, and disease prevention and control are a part of the curriculum. Disease prevention and control begins with such simple tasks as hand washing and properly covering mouths when sneezing.

Fifth grade students, with parental permission, participate in a puberty education program, which provides an overview of changes their bodies are going through. The sexes are separated for instruction and emphasis is placed on the changes that each sex is experiencing and concerns and questions students may have. Teachers, guidance counselors and school nurses are trained to present this information. Parents may make an appointment to preview all materials at the school site.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sixth, seventh and eighth grade students participate in the district health lessons. Parent information forms are sent home prior to the teaching of the human sexuality information, which includes HIV/STD prevention and transmission education. The curriculum is abstinence based only program for students in the sixth and seventh grade. The curriculum in eighth grade is Abstinence Plus where additional information on contraceptive education is presented. Parents may choose to have their child not participate in this portion of the curriculum. The teacher will give the student an alternative assignment. Parents may make an appointment to preview all materials at the school site.

Topics covered during this program include the physical and emotional changes that occur during puberty and adolescence, anatomical terminology, personal hygiene, menstruation and conception. Both sexes are together when conception and some personal hygiene information are discussed, as well as discussion of general pubertal changes. The sexes are separated when the discussion moves on to menstruation, contraception and sexually transmitted diseases, including the AIDS virus. The information is general, used to dispel myths and emphasize the importance of abstinence as the only 100 percent way to avoid sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, pregnancy and other possible problems.

HIGH SCHOOL

Students receive health information through the Personal Fitness course, biology, some applied technology classes and health electives. Parent information forms are sent home providing parents with the opportunity to withhold consent from participation in the unit. An Abstinence Plus curriculum is used in high school. This curriculum teaches about the use of contraceptives. However, abstinence is taught as the only 100 percent way to avoid sexually transmitted diseases (including AIDS), pregnancy and other problems. Prevention and transmission of sexual infections are discussed.

OTHER COMPONENTS OF HEALTH EDUCATION

Many illnesses are lifestyle related and could be avoided by choosing positive, healthy behaviors. The goal of comprehensive health education is to increase awareness of health issues and health enhancing behaviors. A variety of resources are available to teachers to help them in this endeavor, including the elementary Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program, the elementary and middle school “Too Good for Drugs” curriculum and “Too Good for Violence” curriculum. Red Ribbon Week, Great American Smoke-Out Day, World AIDS Day, Fit to Achieve Day, Heart Month and Living Well in Florida Month are some of the events that provide teachable moments for our students. Information on health and fitness is available to parents. Lifetime health and safety are important achievements.

Language Arts/Writing

The curriculum for kindergarten through grade twelve in Volusia County emphasizes proficiency in reading, speaking, listening, viewing and critical thinking, as well as writing. The study of literature and nonfiction is also a vital part of the Language Arts curriculum. At the high school level, Advanced Placement courses addressing literature and language are offered in addition to the regular Language Arts courses.

Language Arts skills contribute to students’ overall success in all other content areas. Effective communication skills, critical thinking and organizational ability enhance students’ performance. Students are taught to evaluate their own work. For example, writing portfolios, much like artists’ portfolios, are maintained throughout the year by students. Students are taught to use their collected writings to recognize their progress and to identify areas for improvement.

Students must demonstrate proficiency in writing in grades 4, 8 and 10 on the FCAT Writing Assessment test. Students prepare for the FCAT Writing Assessment in many ways. Schools encourage frequent opportunities to write for a variety of purposes using the writing process, as well as timed practice writings similar in format to the state’s assessment. At the district level, workshops are offered to familiarize teachers and administrators with the assessment rationale, writing prompts, test format, scoring procedures, and strategies to improve student writing. Focused training is offered in the traits of writing (Write Traits), including “voice,” ideas, organization, sentence fluency, word choice and conventions. At the high school level, student workshops preparing them for the SAT/ACT exams are offered.

Students are expected to use the computer as a tool, not only for word processing, but also for the production of sophisticated presentations with sound and text, graphics and video animation. Teachers and students use interactive lesson activities through the Internet. All of these uses of technology provide real-life applications for communication skills.

Students in Volusia County present for many audiences. Schools publish student books and class anthologies. Students also participate in a variety of contests throughout the year. Numerous students receive recognition each year through the Florida State Poets Contest and the PTA Reflections Contest.

Many schools also hold literary fairs where students present senior projects, perform in plays, give speeches and produce other presentations, in addition to displaying student writing for parents and community.

Every teacher promotes literacy every day when we ask students to read, write, share and speak in our classrooms. The highlight for students is the Secondary Literacy Fair in April. At this event, students in grades 6-12 participate in various literary events both at their local school sites and the district-wide fair. Events include, but are not limited to, all kinds of word game contests, writing and speaking competitions, graphic depiction of a literary piece, dramatic interpretations and Manga cartoon contests.

Mathematics

Volusia County mathematics teachers work to provide instruction that promotes access and equity for all children. The programs and practices that teachers implement are designed to meet the individual learning styles of each student. All students in the Volusia County mathematics classrooms have the opportunity to experience both rigor and relevance.

With the adoption of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) in September of 2007, a variety of teaching tools were realigned and teams of teachers revised the Volusia County Curriculum Maps. The state also adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in mathematics, which will begin with implementation in kindergarten for the 2011-2012 school year. During the summer of 2011, the curriculum maps were once again revised to improve content, pacing, and the listing of educational resources available to teachers to enhance the planning, teaching and learning of mathematics. This year's revision also reflects the addition of newly adopted textbooks in many grade levels to be implemented in the 2011-2012 school year. Teachers of all grade levels continue to work together to develop common assessments which can be shared through the web-based assessment platform. The mathematics classrooms in Volusia County are powerful and enriching environments where students participate in active learning. Through the use of manipulatives, technology and teamwork, students develop an understanding and appreciation of mathematics to prepare students for a successful future.

In addition to our comprehensive mathematics curriculum, opportunities are offered to meet the needs of both mathematically talented, as well as mathematically challenged students. Staff development programs for teachers continue to support raising academic achievement for all students, as well as "closing" the achievement gap. In

addition to content training, teachers have the opportunity to participate in training which encourages reading, writing, communicating, problem solving and using technology effectively. A mathematics training initiative to implement the CCSS is being offered as a series of content training modules to assist teachers in implementing the NGSSS and CCSS. In addition to these offerings, many schools work collaboratively to meet the individual needs of students and host school-based trainings. Cadres of teacher leaders participate in the vertical team process, which encourages articulation among teachers in feeder school patterns, as well as offers an opportunity for teachers to examine content at all grade levels.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MATHEMATICS

Last school year, professional development opportunities for elementary teachers included primary and intermediate PROMiSE modules, FCAT Test Specifications/Webb's Complexity Model, and training on the newly adopted enVision textbook and its technology components by Pearson/Scott Foresman. Other areas of training included geometry with manipulatives, Hands on Equations, use of alternative algorithms, manipulatives and problem solving, and an exciting new piece of software: DimensionM. Thinking Math I, II and III courses were offered with overwhelming interest throughout the year. In addition to the above-mentioned workshops, content training was offered to individual schools based on need. Several TrainU online courses focused on using calendar math, developing mental math abilities, problem solving strategies and implementing math journals in the classroom.

In order to assist schools with intervention and enrichment, the district identified materials and instructional strategies that could be used by all schools. Each school had a representative trained in the use of these materials and additional teachers were trained to assist in the implementation.

Mathematics achievement in elementary schools continues to be assessed in a variety of ways. Paper and pencil content assessments clustered by topic called District Interim Assessments were implemented in all schools last school year. These assessments utilized the Scantron Achievement Series to grade and analyze results for grades 2-5. In addition, teachers used manipulatives, observation, oral, teacher-made and textbook assessments to evaluate students' performance levels.

The state-testing program includes the FCAT 2.0 at grades three through five. Multiple choice and gridded response items are a part of the test at fourth and fifth grade and multiple choice only at third grade.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATHEMATICS

Professional development programs for middle school teachers during last school year included: training on newly adopted textbooks for mathematics courses middle school/junior high 1, 2 and 3, implementing the NGSSS, using technology effectively – graphing calculators and computers. In addition, training modules adapted from PROMiSE were offered to all middle school teachers. Teachers, students and parents will have access to materials that complement the series online: Big Ideas Math (<http://bigideaslearning.com/>). Teachers are also using the TI-NSpire Navigator™ system, TI-Navigator™ system and e-instruction CPS Clickers, as well as other response systems to assess and stimulate mathematical discussions in the classroom.

The wireless system interacts with student handheld graphing calculators or other devices and allows the teacher to adapt instruction to meet individual student needs.

Mathematics achievement in middle schools is assessed in a variety of ways. Classroom tools include teacher made tests; performance-based projects and activities; tests and quizzes; and activities formatted to reflect the Department of Education's FCAT 2.0. The FCAT 2.0 is administered to students in grades six through eight in mathematics. In addition, during the 2011-2012 school year, teachers will continue to implement district benchmark common interim assessments to help guide instruction and monitor student progress.

Excellence in mathematics is promoted both in and out of the classroom. The 2010-2011 school year marked the eleventh year of an accelerated program for middle school students who excel and love mathematics. Volusia middle school students have the opportunity to take Algebra I, Algebra I Honors, and/or Algebra II Honors for high school credit. Middle school students also participate annually in MATHCOUNTS competition sponsored by the Engineering Society. Students are given a rigorous test that includes algebra and geometry, as well as an oral team round of questions. In April of 2011 Embry Riddle University hosted the second annual Volusia STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) event. Over 300 middle school students attended this event to raise interest and excitement in mathematics and science. Teachers and students alike had a productive and exciting day.

HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS

To meet the demands of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS), all schools will be receiving new instructional resources in many of the mathematics courses. Teachers from all high schools came together during the 2009-2010 school year to choose materials that would assist in raising student achievement in Volusia County. Some implementation began during the 2010-2011 school year, however most will be implemented in the classroom during the 2011-2012 school year.

Technology continues to be an avenue to support students who face rigorous state graduation requirements. For the 2011-2012 school year, professional development will continue to include technology training, using reading, writing, communication and assessment strategies in the mathematics classroom, and implementing new instructional materials to increase student achievement in the NGSSS and the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) to meet the challenges of increased graduation requirements. Training to support new courses to assist students with college readiness and financial applications will be offered, as well as training to support interest in STEM related fields. Technology training includes using the Internet, data projectors, district adopted software, software aligned with the textbooks, and the use of graphing calculators, probe-ware, and the TI-Navigator™ systems, classroom learning systems that work with the graphing calculator. The probe-ware allows students to collect and interpret real-world data. The learning system encourages student engagement and collaboration, serves as a means of formative assessment, and can assist with classroom management.

Multiple forms of assessment will continue to be used to measure mastery of the Volusia County curriculum. Teacher-developed assessments, which include projects, tests, performance assessments, authentic assessments and observations, are used in the

classroom. Students in grade ten will take the PLAN[®] during the 2011-2012 school year. This will give them important information to assist as they plan for their academic future. This helps students and teachers identify strengths and potential curriculum areas that need to be emphasized. Grade eleven students can still elect to take the Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) to qualify for National Merit Scholarships. In addition, the state-testing program for 2011-2012 includes the Algebra 1 End-of-Course test for students enrolled in the algebra equivalencies and the Geometry End-of-Course test for students enrolled in Geometry or Geometry Honors.

Some high school students choose to expand their mathematical knowledge by participating in various competitions, which include the National High School Math Exam, Florida Math League and Mu Alpha Theta competitions. Mu Alpha Theta is a math honorary with chapters at many of our high schools. The 2011-2012 school year should be an exciting venture as teachers meet the challenges of preparing students for an increasingly service-oriented, information-based society, as well as increased mathematics graduation requirements. For more information, contact Margaret Bambrick, Mathematics Specialist K-12, in the district mathematics office, at (386) 734-7190, 255-6475, 427-5223 or 860-3322, extension 20667.

The Performing and Visual Arts

The Sunshine State Standards for the Performing and Visual Arts set clear guidelines for student expectations and assessment. Understanding arts content, while improving techniques and skills, is accomplished through creating and communicating, making cultural and historical connections, using aesthetic and critical analysis, and applying the arts to real-life situations. The standards also reflect how skills relate to the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) objectives.

The Volusia County District provides sequential, comprehensive arts education for K-12 music and visual arts students and 6-12 dance and theater students. All arts programs offer an honors component for motivated students who receive weighted credit for successfully completing the requirements of the program as well as exhibit critical thinking and decision-making skills, reveal leadership qualities, demonstrate creative solutions for communication using a variety of media, display a high level of artistic comprehension and performance ability and participate in self-evaluation.

Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate arts programs carry weighted credit and have specific course objectives involving the process of creating in the arts, development of a portfolio and capability to be evaluated and perform well at the national/international level.

The Performing and Visual Arts programs are supported by many county cultural organizations, which work with the school system and the Performing and Visual Arts Specialists to encourage growth in the arts, evaluate achievement and celebrate talent.

VISUAL ARTS: TWO- AND THREE- DIMENSIONAL IMAGERY

Students in elementary school begin developing visual literacy and thinking skills. They work with a range of art media, learn about artists and art styles, and develop strategies to

analyze their work and the work of others resulting in a critique of the artwork. Elementary students receive 30 to 50 minutes of regularly scheduled art instruction.

At the middle school level, art courses comprise a portion of each school's elective offering. Students may take a 4-1/2 or 9-week exploratory course, a semester course or yearlong course. Art instruction at this level offers a more in-depth experience in specific concepts, media and techniques. Students also investigate the Visual Arts as a career choice.

High school art courses emphasize media, content and concepts in drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture, ceramics or digital arts that are offered as a semester or yearlong course of study. Visual arts experiences may also include installation or performance based art and exhibition opportunities. All high school visual arts courses include instruction in art history and aesthetic criticism.

Each year, art students may have work selected for exhibit in juried and non-juried shows throughout Volusia County. The annual K-12 Volusia Students Create Exhibit is hosted by various museums and art centers on a rotating eastside-westside county basis. Other exhibit opportunities may include the Halifax Art Festival, DeLand Fall Festival of the Arts, DeBary Art League Youth Celebration of the Arts Festival, Florida State Fair (grades 10-12), Volusia County Select (grades 10-12), and other local or school-based events.

International Baccalaureate visual arts students install an east- or west-county exhibit in conjunction with their IB exam for the visual arts, and Honors and Advanced Placement Studio Art students prepare a body of work for exhibit as part of the course requirements. In addition, their instructors exhibit personal works at the beginning of each school year.

PERFORMING ARTS: DANCE

Eight high schools and four middle schools offer dance as an elective credit or exploratory component showcasing dance forms in ballet, tap, jazz and modern. Level three dance students may apply for honors dance credit. Two high schools offer International Baccalaureate programs in dance. All participating high schools have dance ensembles that perform at school and community functions throughout the year.

Dance students participate in activities such as school-based shows, district, regional and state competitions, local parades, Community Days, state conference for dance teachers, and professional dance competitions and conventions. In addition, each school produces between one and five dance concerts during the school year.

While each school is diverse in its course offerings, the emphasis remains on teaching dance as a vehicle for the development of self-discipline, integrity, responsibility, aesthetic awareness and creative problem solving.

PERFORMING ARTS: MUSIC

Elementary students receive music instruction one or two times a week for 35-40 minutes. The basal text is Silver Burdett's "Making Music." In addition, Orff instruments are provided for every elementary school. The melding of traditional and Orff approaches in the district's music instruction allows schools to better address the individual needs of their student population.

Almost all middle and high schools have traditional band and choral ensembles. Some high schools also offer orchestra, jazz ensembles, third-level honors music course, Advanced Placement music theory, International Baccalaureate music and piano lab.

Eligible middle and high school bands, choruses, orchestras, small ensembles and soloists participate in Florida School Music Association performance assessments with the Florida Bandmasters Association, Florida Vocal Association or Florida Orchestra Association. Both district and state assessments provide excellent opportunities for the student to receive constructive criticism for the performance medium and to begin building a resume for scholarship consideration and college or university admission.

Approximately 500 students participate annually in the Volusia Public Schools' All-County Music Festival concert and learn from working with a guest conductor and band and choral directors from Volusia and neighboring counties.

All fifth grade students are invited to attend the annual Young People's Concert at Peabody Auditorium to experience an orchestra such as the Orlando Philharmonic and dance from the Orlando Ballet, sponsored by the Daytona Beach Symphony Society, Florida Power and Light and the Volusia County School Board.

PERFORMING ARTS: THEATER

Middle school theater teachers offer beginning theater arts work in semester and yearlong classes and programs for sixth grade students. Various middle schools maintain drama clubs which present plays or programs in addition to the daily theater curriculum. Several middle schools are now affiliated with Junior Thespians and attend performance assessment festivals.

Every high school offers a Drama I or Acting I program, introducing students to the craft and the historical background. Several high schools offer an audition-only class for the serious theatrical student and/or a musical theater class. There are four levels of drama, two levels of acting, four levels of comprehensive theater (which incorporate all theater activities from performance to production), and two levels of American musical theater (which is usually team-taught with a music teacher). Stagecraft is offered in schools where the facility includes a scene shop area. Junior and senior students may enroll in the Honors Acting IV or Drama IV class, requiring a portfolio project. Two schools maintain International Baccalaureate theater classes.

Each area high school has an active thespian troupe in the International Thespian Society, the honor society for secondary theater students. Students from each high school have the opportunity to participate in the District Three Thespian Competition, as well as the Florida State Thespian Festival, one of the largest secondary school theater assessment festivals in the world. These events allow students to compete in acting, musical theater, pantomime, play writing, costume and scene design, stage management, publicity, directing and one-act play competition. Students from Volusia, Flagler and Lake counties participate annually. In addition, the Florida Theater Conference also offers a one-act play competition and college scholarship opportunities.

Physical Education

Physical education is taught at all elementary, middle and high schools. Students in the elementary grades receive instruction in physical education for 150 minutes per week. Middle school students participate in physical education five days for 225 minutes a week and high school students are required to have one credit in physical education with half of that credit in personal fitness to graduate.

Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, a student can receive a physical education waiver in both elementary and middle school. Certain criteria must be met before this waiver can be received. Parents will need to check with their school administration if interested in receiving this waiver for their child.

The legislature has allowed for a waiver to the personal fitness course and other physical education courses since July 1, 1999. Incoming ninth, tenth and eleventh graders who participate two full seasons in an interscholastic sport at the junior varsity or varsity level and pass a personal fitness competency test with a grade of C or better can waive the physical education credit. In addition, students can satisfy the one-half physical education credit required for graduation using the marching band waiver. Students must have participated in one full season of marching band or band auxiliaries. The high schools also offer participation in interscholastic sports programs.

The Florida Next Generation Sunshine State Standards set clear expectations for schools and the students' knowledge and skills attained. The physical education standards reflect the national standards established by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE). The content areas for physical education are physical education literacy, responsible physically active behaviors and advocating and promoting physically active lifestyles. These standards will be the district's benchmarks when providing physical education instruction for students in all grades for the 2011-2012 school year.

Special events that reflect this philosophy are the Fitness Festival, American Education Week, National Sports and Physical Education Month, Wellness Activities, Girls on the Run, Jump Rope for Heart and Hoop for Hearts and Adventures to Fitness.

Reading

The Volusia County School District is committed to helping all students become proficient readers. The Sunshine State Standards require that students read all types of materials: literature, articles from magazines and newspapers, and other informational texts. The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT), a rigorous test based on the Sunshine State Standards, requires students to read on grade level and use higher order thinking skills to demonstrate the ability to apply knowledge through written responses. The reading section of the FCAT is currently administered in grades 3-10, with scores for all grades used for accountability.

In order to prepare our students for these challenging assessments, each school level is focused on the particular needs of students. Elementary reading instruction reflects a balance of quality children's literature and explicit instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. The district uses the *Treasures* reading series from Macmillan. The materials emphasize oral language and vocabulary development. Phonics instruction is explicit and systematic in all grades K-5. Fluency

instruction emphasizes comprehension as well as accurate word reading and rate. Teachers model good reading strategies in whole group instruction and help students practice the strategies during small group instruction. The new program provides early intervention for those students experiencing difficulty developing these early reading skills. Instruction in all grades emphasizes application of comprehension, vocabulary and writing skills. Students have increased exposure to nonfiction and informational text. The connection of reading skills and content area learning is important for students to be successful in all areas as they transition to the middle school grades.

At the middle school level, reading is offered in all grades. Following the guidelines of the state reading plan, students receive reading instruction based on individual levels of proficiency. Struggling readers receive intensive reading instruction focusing on areas of need; such as, decoding, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. More proficient readers work to further develop their skills in comprehension and vocabulary. All middle school students focus on developing a variety of comprehension strategies to meet the challenging level of textbooks in all content areas. Every teacher is considered to be a teacher of reading. Each subject area contributes to the success of students as readers. In grade eight, if a student demonstrates above proficiency on the reading portion of the FCAT during the seventh grade year, the student may opt to take a foreign language course instead of a reading course based on availability at the school. Intensive reading courses are instrumental in meeting the needs of students performing below grade level in reading.

At the high school level, a reading course is required for those students who have not achieved proficiency on the reading portion of the state test. The Read 180 program has been implemented in all high schools to support struggling readers. Reading is central to the success of students in all high school courses; therefore, high school teachers increase students' reading skills through comprehension and study strategies in all content areas.

In order to ensure that teachers are prepared to model appropriate reading strategies for students, reading coaches have been hired at each middle and high school to provide professional development in comprehension strategies.

Independent reading beyond the school day is essential for all students. Reading 20-30 minutes daily, at least four days per week, will have a dramatic impact on student reading proficiency and vocabulary development.

Science Adjunct Classrooms

The Volusia County Schools IBIS (Investigating Biology in Science) Project is an outdoor field study designed around the new Biology Honors curriculum. The outdoor classrooms include: Bicentennial Youth Park, Rose Bay and Lyonia Preserve. Volusia County students and teachers experience personal interactions with nature through exciting hands-on investigations. These educational learning activities correlate with the district science curriculum with major emphasis on environmental science and service learning. Students have the opportunity to learn about the wealth of natural resources in Volusia County and ways to protect Florida's fragile ecosystems.

Science

Rigor, relevance and relationships are essential to the teaching of the K-12 science curriculum. It is the district's expectation that science educators provide opportunities for students to move beyond definitions to practical applications of concepts, to connect concepts to real life, write to explain, and demonstrate understanding of concepts through hands-on experiences. Ongoing professional development is provided throughout the year to ensure teachers have the necessary tools to successfully prepare students to meet the Next Generations Sunshine State Standards required for the middle school FCAT 2.0 and the high school Biology end of course exam.

Students are encouraged to compete in the science fair, Science Olympiad or some type of science competition. The Tomoka Region Science and Engineering Fair for middle and high school students will be held in January 2011, at Atlantic High School in Port Orange. The Elementary Science EXPO will be held in May 2011 at Atlantic High School in Port Orange.

For further information regarding science education, contact the district science office at (386) 734-7190, extension 20688.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCIENCE

The K-5 science curriculum aligns with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. Students can interact with the curriculum through inquiry-based learning experiences, problem solving, hands-on experiences and a variety of assessments. Integration of researched-based instructional strategies such as the use of science notebooks and technology are encouraged.

Ongoing training opportunities are provided for teachers that support content knowledge within elementary curriculum topics, curriculum mapping, effective planning strategies and science best practices, inquiry-based science instruction, use of available resources and preparation for elementary science FCAT 2.0.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

The middle school science program is comprised of Comprehensive Science 1, 2 and 3. Each course level addresses earth, life and physical science concepts. This program is centered on the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSS). These NGSSS are designed to engage students in concepts, principles, laws and theories of science at successively higher levels of thinking each year.

Advanced Comprehensive Science is also an option for students. This course enables students to experience high-level content and laboratory experiences. Students wishing to enter the program should have a proficiency in mathematics, reading and writing. Teacher recommendations are required for admission to these courses.

HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE

High school science courses are offered in a sequence. This sequence provides students with a strong academic background in the various disciplines. Laboratory experiences, technology, inquiry methods and problem solving are integral to each science course.

Three credits in science are required for graduation purposes. All science courses are aligned with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

Course offerings are as follows:

- 9th grade students take Biology I or Biology I Honors
- 10th grade students may elect to take Physical Science, Chemistry or Physics
- 11th and 12th grade students are encouraged to take one of the following courses: Earth Space, Environmental Science, Marine Science, Physics or Chemistry
- Additional science elective courses are offered
- Advanced Placement course offerings vary from school to school and may include Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Environmental Science

Social Studies

The social studies are made up of the essential core subjects of civics/government, economics, geography, and history, and also include humanities and social sciences electives such as law studies, psychology and sociology. The vision for social studies education is to develop educated citizens of good character. Instrumental to this vision are courses founded in Florida's Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and taught by educators committed to rigorous educational opportunities for all students.

Professional development support focusing on content expertise, instructional strategies, curriculum mapping and assessment preparation is provided to teachers on an ongoing basis. Additionally, training in discipline specific reading and writing is continuously provided. The dynamic programs used in social studies are based on confirmed educational research and best practices.

Special summer programs focusing on local history are offered annually to teachers for the purpose of increasing expertise in Volusia County history. These summer programs are offered in cooperation with local historical societies and museums. Finally, there is on-going training in multi-media presentation software and web-based instruction to allow teachers to enhance their classroom presentations and enable students to create projects using 21st century tools.

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) requires students to demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing and math skills. The social studies curriculum of history, geography, government and economics, provides an environment for students to develop reasoning, reading comprehension and writing skills, and math applications. An essential link to improved literacy is the content knowledge gained from courses such as history and geography; they provide the essential domain knowledge students need to become advanced readers. The Florida Department of Education has recently added statewide end-of-course exams in American History, civics, economics, and World History to its assessment calendar beginning with an American History field test in 2012.

The study of social studies ensures students use what they have learned in relevant ways as they demonstrate their knowledge in a variety of social studies activities and assessments.

The most public of these demonstrations of social studies knowledge is the annual Volusia County Social Studies Fair in which approximately 70 public and private schools

and nearly 1000 students participate, followed by the Florida History Day competition and the National History Day competition. Prior to competing at the county level, an estimated 25,000 students compete at the school level. Students also participate in the National Mock Election program, Stock Market Game, Model United Nations Clubs, Student/Citizen City Government Days and geography bees. Additionally, each school participates in a variety of character education and community service activities.

The “Volusia Council for the Social Studies” is the active professional organization for social studies educators. This organization co-sponsors the annual Social Studies Fair and Social Studies Teachers of the Year Banquet. Membership in the council is open to any teacher.

Alternative Education Program - Schools of Placement

The Alternative Education program offers educational opportunities for approximately 3,000 students at 8 sites in Volusia County. The educational programs are staffed with certified teachers and are operated/monitored by the Volusia County School Board. Many of the sites are operated through a collaborative agreement or contract between the school district and various community agencies, including the Department of Juvenile Justice. These alternative education sites include:

Riverview and Highbanks Learning Centers - These two centers are designed to address the behavioral problems of middle and high school students. The programs offer competency-based education programs with an emphasis on social skills. Students are placed at these facilities by the district Student Placement Committee and/or the area superintendent(s).

Regional Juvenile Detention Center - This is a residential program operated by the Department of Juvenile Justice. Clients are placed at this facility by various law enforcement agencies while awaiting adjudication by the court system.

Stewart-Marchman Residential Adolescent Program (RAP) - The program provided at this facility offers treatment for clients, ages 13-18, who are dependent upon drugs and/or alcohol. The educational programs are individualized to comply with their transition plan. Clients attending the center have been referred by the Department of Children and Family Services, the client's family or adjudicated by the court system throughout the state of Florida. The Residential Adolescent Program serves a maximum of 28 clients. The average length of stay is 6 to 9 months.

Stewart-Marchman Intensive Commitment Program (Oaks) – This program is contracted by the State of Florida, Department of Juvenile Justice. Their mission is to provide a structured environment in a residential setting for male clients, ages 14 -18, who have been adjudicated in court and committed by the State of Florida. The program is designed to provide rehabilitation for committed youth through performance contracting and behavior modification. In order to exit the program, the client must complete 180 successful days.

Sequel/TSI of Florida – This Level VIII Secured Intensive Residential Commitment program is contracted by the State of Florida, Department of Juvenile Justice. Its mission is to provide a structured environment in a residential setting for a maximum of 33 male clients, ages 13-18, who have been adjudicated in court and committed by the State of Florida. The program is designed to provide rehabilitation for committed youth through performance contracting and behavior modification. The length of stay is 12 to 18 months.

Volusia County Branch Jail – This is a residential commitment facility, owned and operated by the State of Florida, Department of Corrections. Its mission is to provide a temporary holding facility for juvenile and adult inmates. The facility serves adult inmates and approximately 5-10 juvenile inmates, up to age 18, who are awaiting adult court hearings or placement in an adult corrections facility. Inmates who have been incarcerated in this facility have been referred either by the judicial system or an area law enforcement agency. The average length of stay is 6 to 12 months (including weekends and holidays). Upon placement in the facility, the inmates are enrolled in the education program. Emphasis is placed on GED preparation.

Volusia Halfway House - This is a DJJ residential group treatment facility operated by the Department of Juvenile Justice for 24 male clients, age 16-18, who have been adjudicated and committed by the State of Florida. The average length of stay is 6 months.

Consultation services only are provided to:

- PACE CENTER FOR GIRLS
- AMIKIDS

Exceptional Student Education and Student Services

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION (ESE)

Approximately 16 percent of Volusia County Schools' students benefit from special education each school year. Programs are provided for those students with learning, intellectual, emotional/behavioral, and/or physical exceptionalities. Students with disabilities are referred to as students first -- they are more like other students than different -- and education in the least restrictive environment serves their best interests as well as that of the community.

Pre-kindergarten programs for students with disabilities serve children ages three to five, enabling them to master academic, social/emotional, communication (speech/language) and physical skills.

Students ages 3-22 with mild to severe disabilities are served at schools throughout the district. Programs are delivered in accordance with the student's Individual Educational Plan (IEP). The continuum of ESE services is provided to all ESE students ranging from least restrictive environment (consultation) to the most restrictive (separate class) based on education data provided to the committee during Individual Educational Plan (IEP) meetings. Students in low incidence programs such as multi-VE and separate class-emotional/behavioral disabilities (SC-E/BD) are served at cluster sites. Some elementary and middle school VE Mild/Moderate students may also be served at cluster sites.

Gifted students, kindergarten through grade twelve, are provided a rigorous, enriched curriculum. Students must meet Florida eligibility criteria to receive gifted services. Elementary gifted services are provided in a full-time, self-contained classroom with the exception of kindergarten. Kindergarten gifted services vary from consultation, resource, to full-time services. Middle school gifted students may enroll in full-time academic gifted classes in any or all of the five core academic areas of reading, language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Consultation services are available to support the wide variety of high school academic programs available to the high school gifted

learner. The gifted program at the elementary level is provided at twelve cluster sites and all middle and high schools offer gifted services.

Volusia Adaptive/Assistive Technology Team (VAATT) was formed by Volusia County to ensure that all students have equal access to the curriculum via adaptive/assistive technology. The VAATT facilitates team-based assessments; provides equipment and software for trial use; assists with recommendations for assistive device selection; procures equipment/software; and provides training to staff, students and families. Assistive technology includes equipment that allows alternative access to computers, augmentative/alternative communication systems and specialized software. VAATT produces customized visual supports for classrooms and individual students for behavior and communication.

The Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) is a network of nineteen state and federally funded associate centers which provide support services to educators, families of students with exceptionalities, and community agencies throughout Florida. Each center provides services in the four areas of Child Find, Human Resource Development, Parent Services and Technology. FDLRS/East serves the counties of Volusia and Brevard with personnel assigned in each location.

Additional information on Volusia County Schools Exceptional Student Education Programs is available at: www.volusia.k12.fl.us/ese.

STUDENT SERVICES

Student Services include school social services, school psychological services, SED/Net, and partners with guidance and counseling services.

The Student Services staff works in collaboration with other professionals and community agencies in order to meet numerous student and family needs. Staff members address such issues as absenteeism, self-esteem, interpersonal relations, peer mediation, career education/planning, school safety, academic/behavioral issues and mental health. Working together with school personnel, families and the community, Student Services professionals offer support such as consultation, referral, assessment, progress monitoring, counseling, and case management. In addition, the staff provides services to schools in times of crisis with grief and loss issues.

School Social Service serves as a vital link between the home, school and community in order to help students increase academic and social/emotional success. School social workers are professionally trained in social work and counseling. They work with students both individually and in group settings, make home visits, collaborate with school staff and community agencies, and provide social and developmental assessments. School social workers provide support services to students and their families with issues such as irregular attendance, behavior, substance abuse, domestic violence, health or physical problems, teen pregnancy, special education related services and poverty. They also provide case management services to students and families when necessary by assessing their needs. When appropriate, they arrange, coordinate, monitor, evaluate and advocate for multiple services to meet the needs of the students and families. The School Social Service Department includes compulsory school attendance, the drivers license and learnfare programs, and homeless education services.

School Psychological Services provides on-going consultative services with teachers, parents and students regarding school related issues, providing healthy and effective alternatives to address learning and behavioral difficulties. School psychologists assist teachers and problem-solving teams in developing classroom intervention strategies for students whose learning skills and abilities or social/emotional adjustment interferes with their educational progress. In addition, school psychologists are professionals with specialized training in both psychology and education who assess the intellectual, academic, behavioral and emotional strengths and weaknesses of students through the use of individual assessment instruments, direct observation, progress monitoring tools and interviews. School psychologists' efforts help students succeed academically, emotionally and socially.

The SED/Net Project (Multi-Agency Network for Students with Emotional Disabilities) is funded by the Department of Education to serve Volusia, Flagler, Putnam and St. John's counties. SED/Net provides technical assistance, support, and coordination of services on behalf of school age children and youth with highly complex emotional and behavioral needs.

SCHOOL COUNSELING

School Counseling is a comprehensive program delivered by certified master's level guidance counselors. Developmental guidance and counseling services are designed to help all students develop their personal, educational and career strengths and to become responsible and productive citizens. School counselors focus on the academic and career planning needs of all students to support the highest possible achievement of every student through high school graduation and beyond. As mental health professionals, school counselors are the school-based providers of mental health services for students through prevention and intervention services. Counselors assist students in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary for healthy development. Our comprehensive developmental counseling program recognizes that parents, school personnel and community members each have an important role to play and valuable resources to contribute in assisting students with their academic, career, social and emotional development. Our developmental guidance and counseling programs include four essential components: guidance curriculum, responsive services, individual planning and system support. School counselors are an integral part in increasing student achievement.

Extended Day Enrichment Program

The Extended Day Enrichment program was developed in response to the present and growing need for supervised programs for elementary age students during the out of school hours. During the 2011-2012 school year, the School Board of Volusia County will offer this program at 39 schools including Blue Lake, Champion, Chisholm, Citrus Grove, Coronado, Cypress Creek, Deltona Lakes, Discovery, Edgewater, Starke, Enterprise, Forest Lake, Freedom, Friendship, George Marks, Holly Hill, Horizon, Indian River, Longstreet, Manatee Cove, McInnis, Orange City, Osteen, Palm Terrace, Pathways, Pierson, Pine Trail, Port Orange, Pride, Read-Pattillo, Spirit, Spruce Creek, Sugar Mill, Sunrise, Sweetwater, Timbercrest, Volusia Pines, Westside and Woodward Avenue elementary schools. The program offers supervised enrichment programs, homework monitoring, exploration of fine and performing arts, technology, recreational activities, as well as development of friendships and leisure time skills to over 3300 students. For more information, contact any school where the program is offered.

FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools

FUTURES Foundation is proud to be celebrating its 26th successful year of providing direct support to Volusia County Schools. The FUTURES Board of Directors recognizes that the quality of life in our community depends, to a great extent, on the quality of our schools. FUTURES provides an avenue for individuals and businesses to develop positive and supportive relationships with the school system. The FUTURES Board has been, and continues to be, committed to reaching for the highest standards of educational excellence and has made public education a top priority.

During the 2010-2011 school year, FUTURES accomplished the following:

Mini-Grants Program: FUTURES awarded \$64,000 in mini-grants to fund 127 innovative and creative projects that otherwise might not have been possible due to budget constraints. Since the program inception, over 2,500 projects have been funded totaling over \$1.2 million dollars.

Turn-Around Program: FUTURES recognized 85 middle and high school students who made a dramatic improvement in their attitude about school, as exemplified by attendance, behavior, and classroom and school involvement. The students were presented with certificates at an awards ceremony followed by a Cubs game at Jackie Robinson Stadium.

School Matching Grants Program: FUTURES provided matching grants of over \$37,000 to 10 schools to ensure that low performing students receive the tutoring assistance that they need. This is the ninth year that FUTURES has matched money raised at the schools, essentially doubling the number of students that are able to be served.

Staff Recognition Programs: FUTURES sponsored activities such as Teacher of the Year, Principal of the Year, Superintendent's Outstanding Achievement Award, New Teacher Breakfast and FUTURES First Year Teacher Award.

Classroom Energy Programs: FUTURES funded projects focusing on electricity and weather, motion forces and energy, and circuits and energy transfer. Another program provided classroom materials and equipment for hands-on activities relating to the transformation of potential to kinetic energy. A third program involved research and experiments with solar energy.

S.T.E.M. Program: This FUTURES program provided funding for four Harris Company engineers to work side by side with students and their teacher in physically designing and building sophisticated robotics systems. The project culminated at a competition at the University of Central Florida.

Public Involvement: FUTURES provided funding for informational brochures, billboards, and two Educator Intern programs, which paired community leaders and teachers with school administrators in a daylong job-shadowing experience.

Tomorrow's Leaders Program: FUTURES sponsored the Tomorrow's Leaders program, which selected 42 high school juniors to participate in four day-long seminars led by community leaders. These seminars not only familiarized the students with the challenges facing Volusia County in such areas as criminal justice, government, diversity, health, social services, and economic development, but also instructed them on the development of leadership skills.

Take Stock in Children: FUTURES serves as the lead agency in Volusia County for this program that targets low-income children with high academic abilities and provides them with a mentor and a 2+2 college tuition scholarship upon graduation from

high school. Academic progress is regularly monitored on all 170 students in the program. Applications for FUTURES Take Stock are available in middle school guidance departments in December.

FUTURES “Invest in our Future” Payroll Deduction Program. All Volusia County School’s employees are encouraged to consider donating a small portion of each paycheck to the Foundation. All contributions are tax deductible, as allowed by law, and documentation is provided to each donor. Every contributor is given a pin acknowledging his/her support and belief in the public schools of Volusia County. This program continues to assist with the numerous needs of district students and staff.

FUTURES utilizes monies earned from the sale of the License for Learning automobile tag to fund many of its programs. Twenty dollars from the purchase of each License for Learning tag in Volusia County goes directly to FUTURES. The License for Learning specialty license plate is available at all Volusia County tag agencies.

FUTURES also has Endowment Fund to enhance and perpetuate the Foundation’s mission by providing an income base to support programs and activities. Donors can make outright gifts, pledged gifts and/or planned gifts.

For more information FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools, call extension 50730.

Office of Professional Development and Support

The mission of the Office of Professional Development and Support is to provide educators with individualized training opportunities that directly impact student achievement. Emphasis is placed on maintaining a climate of continuous, responsible, self-renewal for all personnel. In order to ensure a standard of quality for professional development, the National Staff Development Council Standards and the Florida Professional Development Evaluation Protocol are followed. All courses offerings satisfy the state-mandated requirements for certification and/or recertification.

Course offerings center on research/evidence-based strategies. When these strategies are utilized effectively, there is a high correlation that student achievement will increase.

There are a variety of professional development formats. These include school-based PD such as lesson study, group studies and book studies; web-based, online training focusing on subject matter and best teaching practices; and hybrid face-to-face and online training to help teachers and schools customize training to meet the needs of their school improvement plans and individual growth plans.

Other programs currently supported by the Office of Professional Development and Support are the Empowering Educators for Excellence, Professional Development Schools and National Board Certification.

Media Services and Instructional Technology

Media Services provides support to school library media programs and numerous district-level programs and events. The mission of Media Services is to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information.

Elementary, middle and high school students and staff have access to their library media centers throughout the school day. Media centers are staffed by certified media specialists and media clerks. The media specialist plans with teachers and instructs students in locating, evaluating and using information. Materials in school media centers are selected in accordance with district and state standards. In addition to teaching, media specialists serve their schools as information specialists, curriculum consultants and technology leaders.

Students have access to a world of information both within and beyond the school walls by using print, audio-visual, multimedia and online resources. Each school media center has Internet access with student use defined by school board policies.

The district's media production team develops multimedia components for instructional use and professional development. The team also develops and produces original programming for broadcast on Instructional Television and encodes video content for video-on-demand. Equipment facilitation is provided for school board meetings and other district events.

Instructional Television (ITV) broadcasts via the local cable company. Broadcasts include programming that supports the curriculum, student instruction and professional development. Various satellite teleconferences are also received and broadcast via ITV and streamed to the teachers' desktop using a video-on-demand system on the district's Intranet.

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

The Instructional Technology Department's mission is to support the district's technology goals and to develop, train and assist with integrating technology into classroom instruction. The IT Team supports all district instructional personnel, Pre-K-12.

The IT Team plans and delivers many types of technology trainings/workshops. The focus of many of these workshops is to help teachers use available technologies to make instruction come alive for students. Workshops include a variety of technology integration topics/programs, MOBI and Student Response Systems, Interactive White Boards/software, Web 2.0 tools, Microsoft Office programs and more. Face-to-face training opportunities, initiated both at the district and school levels, are available throughout the school year. The IT Team also assists with district distance learning opportunities by providing on-line technology training courses and tutorials.

Reading Counts, FCAT Explorer, Safari Live, Read180, Pinnacle Grade Book, NetSupport and ActiveClassroom are just some of the district-wide programs supported by the Instructional Technology Team.

School Way Café

The Volusia County School District maintains the largest restaurant operation in the county, serving over eight million school meals each year. School meals are available to all Volusia County students at a reasonable price. Student breakfast and lunch prices are as follows:

2011-2012 STUDENT BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PRICES

Students	Breakfast	Lunch
Elementary	\$1.00	\$1.75
Middle	\$1.00	\$2.00
High	\$1.00	\$2.00

Note: all meal prices are subject to change

Students whose families meet the federal income guidelines are eligible for the free or reduced price meal program. Applications for the free and reduced price meal program are available at all schools. Free and reduced price meal applications are also available on line. Go to <http://myvolusiaschools.org> and click “Free and Reduced Meals” in the Quick Links box on the left. Please contact your school with questions or contact the district office at (386) 734-7190, 255-6475, 427-5223 or 860-3322, extension 20540.

Volusia County’s School Way Café district office includes a registered dietitian on staff. Staff members analyze school meal menus using a computerized system for nutrient content. All menus planned by the district comply with the “Dietary Guidelines for Americans.”

A variety of information including menus and nutritional information can be accessed on the School Way Café web site: <http://myvolusiaschools.org>. Click on *departments*, under the Financial Services Heading *and then* click under *School Way Café*.

School meals contain no more than 30 percent fat of the total calorie intake over a weekly average and no more than 10 percent saturated fat. Sugar and salt content in school meals has also been reduced. School Way Café continues to offer nutritious lunches throughout the year, providing a variety of entrée choices daily including healthy salad plates and fresh fruit and vegetable choices. All schools participate in the “Fresh 2 U” campaign to introduce students to more fresh fruits and vegetables. All schools offer breakfast daily.

In addition to the meal programs, secondary school students are offered a wide variety of a la carte selections. At the high school level, educational opportunities include culinary students being able to get hands on experience in our cafeterias.

SCHOOL WAY CAFÉ 2010-11

Total student lunches served	6,062,535
Total student breakfasts served	2,099,686
Total federal after school snacks	366,266
A la carte & adult sales	\$2,807,827

In addition to the regular nutrition programs, Volusia County Schools provides catering services to Volusia County Head Start Programs, Easter Seals Programs and the Police Athletic League (2010-2011):

Head Start Meals	Breakfasts	106,206
	Lunches	107,004
	Snacks	26,714
Easter Seals Schools		6,795
Police Athletic League	Snacks	11,205

School Way Café, as the Volusia County School food service program is known, is a partially funded federal program designed to provide nourishing meals to students in public schools. The department is dedicated to building a foundation for learning for our students and community by providing caring support, good nutrition and quality service.

For general information, parents should contact their child’s school or the district School Way Café office at (386) 734-7190, 255-6475, 427-5223 or 860-3322, extension 20530.

Student Health Services

Student Health Services appraises, protects and promotes the health of all Volusia County students as part of the coordinated school health program. The services are intended to supplement, rather than replace, parental responsibility, to encourage parents to give attention to their child’s health, to discover health problems, and to encourage the use of the services of physicians, dentists, and community agencies. Services include health appraisals, nursing assessments, nutrition assessments, preventative dental care, vision screening, hearing screening, scoliosis screening, growth and development screening, health counseling, referral and follow-up of suspected or confirmed health problems, meeting emergency health needs in each school, referral of students for appropriate treatment, and consultation with a student’s parents or guardian in reference to the need for follow up. In addition, the department is mandated to ensure that all students have a physical and updated immunizations.

Health Services address any number of minor and/or major health issues encountered in any given day in Volusia County schools. School nurses and clinic assistants address a constant flow of students entering the clinic with an assortment of health issues that include, but are not limited to, administration of medication; assistance with complex or chronic health conditions, including tube-feedings, catheterizations, and glucose monitoring; injury and illness; screenings; and personal and/or family problems.

In Volusia County, all schools, with the exception of alternative education sites, have health clinics staffed with registered nurses, licensed practical nurses or clinic assistants as determined by the needs of the students attending each school. Registered nurse supervisors provide medical oversight with day-to-day oversight provided at the school level. Federal law requires the district provide services to children with disabilities to ensure their access to public education.

Student Transportation Services

Volusia County Schools Student Transportation Services offers the following information to ensure a safe and productive ride to and from school.

Regular school bus transportation in the school district is provided in accordance with Florida Statutes and State Board of Education Rules. In general, transportation is provided for students whose homes are two miles or more from the nearest appropriate school. The two mile limit calculation is defined in the Florida Administrative Rule 6A-3.001 (3) as: A reasonable walking distance for any student who is not otherwise eligible for transportation pursuant to Section 1011.68, Florida Statute, is any distance not more than two miles between the home and school or one and one-half miles between the home and the assigned bus stop. Such distance shall be measured from the closest pedestrian entry point of the property where the student resides to the closest entry point of the assigned school building or to the assigned bus stop. The pedestrian entry point of the residence shall be where private property meets the public right-of-way. The district shall determine the shortest pedestrian route whether or not it is accessible to motor vehicle traffic.

It is the parent/guardians' responsibility to ensure the safe travel of their students during the portions of each trip to and from school and home when the students are not under the custody and control of the school district, including during each trip to and from home and the assigned bus stop when the school district provides bus transportation. Florida Administrative Rule 6A-3.0121(5) states: Parents shall provide the necessary assistance and protection for their children while en-route to and from the school bus stop and comply with the school bus schedule. Parents shall provide the necessary supervision of such child at the school bus stop in accordance with district policy.

In a school district the geographic size of Volusia County that means 280 skilled bus operators transport approximately 25,000 students each day. The district provides special transportation services for physically, mentally and emotionally challenged students and teen parents along with their babies each school day. Each parent/guardian must indicate at the time they register their child as to whether they will be utilizing the school bus transportation services. Only students who request transportation services and are eligible per the above guidelines will be assigned to a bus route.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL RIDE

It is extremely important for parents to update their child's Emergency Information Card at the school and keep it updated throughout the year. The information on the emergency data card is used to contact parents when a need arises. Current telephone numbers are essential to communication during a bus emergency.

Some School Bus Facts

1. The Volusia County Schools Student Transportation Services operates by a set of safety, security, health and driver qualification guidelines that meet and in most cases exceeds federal and state laws to ensure that school buses are the safest mode of transportation for our school children. Everything that we do and how we do it is dictated by federal and state laws, policies, regulations and local procedures.

2. Bus operators and attendants are highly trained professionals who have the children's safety in mind. They receive specialized training in student behavior management, loading and unloading, security and emergency management procedures.
3. Transportation staff participates in pre-employment and random substance abuse testing as well as frequent driving record checks, and submits to background checks and annual medical exams to keep their Commercial Drivers License with the proper endorsements. They receive, at a minimum, 60 hours of initial certification training and eight hours of annual re-certification training in their job field.

The safety and security of children is our number one concern and we have been hard at work developing our behavior management plan to address some growing concerns about safe behavior such as:

- Safety issues concerning a small percentage of students that jeopardize the safety for all
- Safety issues concerning proper behavior at railroad crossings (Over 60 percent of our buses cross a railroad track at least once a day)
- Address student failure to cooperate or comply with the bus operators and address an increasing profanity problem
- Discipline strategies for throwing objects at, in or out of the bus

Behavior Management Plan, Safe Rider Program Components

- Briefing from each bus operator at the beginning of school to review the bus rules and riding expectations with periodic reviews throughout the school year.
- A hierarchy of the discipline structure starting with the bus operator and attendant.
- Instant accountability for unsafe behavior. Students will be held accountable for their unsafe actions.

Unsafe Behavior on the Ride Home

1. If unsafe behavior occurs before the bus leaves the school, the student will be provided with two options:
 - a. Correct the behavior and continue home (*behavior documented*) or
 - b. Be referred to the school administrator to be removed from the bus and sent to the office to contact their parent to come get them
2. If unsafe behavior occurs after the bus leaves the school, the operator will call dispatch. The dispatch operator or area manager will assess the situation and then make a determination on either returning the student back to school or continuing on.
3. If either of the above instances occurs, the graduated discipline plan will be in effect.

The Behavior Management program also includes a defined and graduated discipline plan to encourage students to make better behavior choices. The Code of Student Conduct and Discipline applies to all students being transported. Each transported student shall remain seated after boarding until the appropriate time for departing from the bus. The students must conduct themselves in an orderly manner with orderly conversation allowed. Safety regulations and school bus rules must be followed at all times.

To help make bus trips safe and enjoyable, parents and students should know the following safety rules:

Students should observe the following Safe Rider Rules established by the Volusia County School District. These rules are posted on all school buses:

1. Students should show respect for the school bus operator and attendant at all times and follow their instructions promptly.
2. Keep hands and feet to yourself and keep all objects inside the bus.
3. Students MUST remain seated in their assigned seat and buckle their seatbelt at all times unless otherwise directed by the school bus operator and attendant.
4. Quiet conversation with the student seated near you is allowed. At railroad crossings, all students must remain silent until the bus has crossed the tracks.
5. Students should WAIT for instructions (hand signals or otherwise) from the school bus operator EVERY TIME when crossing the street to board the bus or when exiting the bus. Students should be able to maintain eye contact with the school bus operator and cross in full view of the school bus operator.
6. Food, gum or drinks are NOT to be consumed on the school bus. Finish eating/drinking before entering the bus.
7. Harassment and Bullying is Prohibited at all times.
8. Students are to wait at the bus stop in an orderly manner.
9. Students are to board and exit the school bus only at their assigned bus stop.
10. Cell phone usage is prohibited while on the school bus. Students may ask permission to use their cell phones to call their parents if the bus is delayed.

If a child receives three bus incident referrals, parents will receive a letter concerning the child's unsafe behavior and the final warning that if the behavior does not improve, a recommendation will be made to remove the child from the bus for the remainder of the school year. Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right.

Parents should encourage their children to carry all school materials in a backpack with reflective material. This will reduce the chance of a child dropping something or trying to retrieve articles that may fall under or near the bus. Children should wear light colored clothing and avoid having coats with drawstrings to ensure their safety while loading and unloading the bus.

1. Waiting for the School Bus:
 - a. Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic
 - b. Stay a safe distance from the road at least 10 feet
 - c. Be at the stop 10 minutes early, the driver has a schedule to keep and cannot wait nor return to the stop to get you
 - d. Wait safely off the road and be in line when the school bus approaches
 - e. Stay clear of the road by at least 10 feet until the school bus comes to a complete stop
 - f. Don't play or push others, horseplay is not allowed
 - g. Cross the roadway in front of the bus only when given permission by the bus driver; never cross the road behind the school bus
 - h. The bus must stop 12 feet from the nearest student
2. Boarding the School Bus:

- a. Let the smaller children board first
 - b. Always use the handrail and go up and down the steps one at a time
 - c. Don't push, crowd or disturb others in front of you
 - d. Be seated immediately in your assigned seat and buckle-up
3. Items students may NOT carry on the school bus at any time:
- a. Skateboards
 - b. Large sport bags
 - c. Animals of any kind
 - d. No glass containers
 - e. Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs
 - f. Musical instruments that may not be taken on the bus:
 - Cellos Half and full size
 - Snare Drum
 - French Horn
 - Saxophone (Baritone &)
 - Trombone
4. Items students MAY CARRY on the school bus:
- a. Only those items that can be carried on a child's lap
 - b. Musical instruments that may be taken on the bus:
 - Baby Baritone
 - Alto
 - Cornet
 - Clarinet
 - Flute
 - Elementary Bell
 - Trumpet
 - Violin
 - Viola

Transportation needs to partner with parents to help make Volusia County school buses a safer and more enjoyable part of the students' day. Visit the website at www.myvolusiaschools.org for more information concerning Student Transportation Services. For information, parents should call the transportation office at (386) 258-4677.

Title I

Title I, under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, provides federal funds to supplement school districts with special programs and services for children. Title I programs emphasize high academic standards, student achievement, professional development, and parental involvement. The program is aimed at stimulating the reform of the nation's educational system at the state and local levels, improving student knowledge and skills which are needed to succeed in the 21st century, and increasing parental involvement in the educational process. Title I is divided into three parts:

- Part A services economically disadvantaged students
- Part C services our migrant students
- Part D services our neglected and delinquent students

Elementary, middle and high schools with an enrollment of at least 40 percent low-income students are eligible for school-wide projects. During the 2010-2011 school term, 37 elementary schools, 10 middle schools, 7 high schools, 11 alternative schools, and 5 charter schools were designated as Title I "school-wide projects."

Title I is an integral part of the total educational process of Volusia County Schools and adheres to these four overall goals which support the District Strategic Plan:

- Close the achievement gap for students in Title I schools as compared to those in non-Title I schools
- Provide service-oriented support and resources to school communities
- Increase collaboration with other departments
- Promote life-long learning

Title I is guided by the following Mission Statement: ***Through service and leadership, we will ensure fair and equal opportunities for school communities to attain a high quality education.***

Volunteer/Partnership Programs

Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) have served the school district, its employees, and its students since before the formal beginning of the program 33 years ago. Approximately 18,600 volunteers gave over 821,000 hours of service in 2010-2011. Volusia's school volunteers supplied a daily average of 4,561 volunteer hours over a 180-day school year, at a value of over \$15 million (www.independentsector.org).

VIPS involves all segments of the community and all age groups who help meet the needs of students through the enhancement of education. Volunteers work in every aspect of school operations. They assist in the classroom, school office, health room and adjunct classrooms; provide one-on-one tutoring and mentoring to at-risk students; and work with PTA/PTSA/PTO, School Advisory Councils, Extended Day Enrichment Programs, academic enhancement programs, and extracurricular organizations.

The *Youth Partnership Program* (YPP) encourages high school students to serve as community volunteers with the purpose of increasing their awareness of the needs of the community and the lifelong value of volunteerism. YPP volunteers give their time and talent by choice, without receiving payment or curriculum credit, to help others in their community or at their school. In the act of volunteering students gain personnel satisfaction, explore careers, develop leadership skills, make new friends, and possibly

obtain future job experience. Documented and approved volunteer hours are recorded by the high school within the student's records. During the past school year almost 1,900 high school students documented approximately 192,000 hours of service to our schools and community.

Businesses and civic organizations have also enhanced the quality of education in Volusia County Schools for 25 years through the *Volusia Partners* program. Partners support schools by providing career speakers, job shadowing opportunities, academic recognition, sponsorship of extracurricular clubs and resources for high school academies. Many businesses offer their employees release time to tutor or mentor students. The department's *Volunteer Speakers Bureau* manages a database of community partners available for classroom presentations, coordinates Vehicle Days at elementary schools and arranges EVAC's KidSmart presentations for kindergarten classrooms.

All volunteers are cleared through the volunteer application process, wear VIPS identification when on campus, and sign in and out of school sites. Annual recognition and appreciation events are held by individual schools and the district to thank volunteers and business partners for the outstanding service they provide our schools and students.

A wealth of information can be found on the district's website at MyVolusiaSchools.org. Select the "*Parents & Students*" tab, scroll to "*Programs*," and then select "*Volunteers/Partners*." New web-listings provide the current needs for volunteers and partners, as submitted by the school-level program coordinators. To speak with the district's facilitator on becoming a VIPS volunteer or a Volusia Partner, please contact Volunteer/Partnership Programs at (386) 734-7190, 255-6475, 427-5223 or 860-3322, extension 38380.

School District of Volusia County

VISION STATEMENT

Through the individual commitment of all, our students will graduate with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to be successful contributors to our democratic society.

Adopted April 14, 1992, and reaffirmed January 14, 1997

2008-2013 Goals

School Board Approved January 29, 2008

Academic Excellence

- Goal 1 We will continue to support and implement a comprehensive curriculum, which incorporates the arts, foreign language, health education and physical education, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, career and technical education, character education, technology, and social development.
- Goal 2 We will promote responsible citizenship and prepare all students for work, post-secondary education, and adult living.
- Goal 3 We will increase achievement for each and every student as measured by rigorous national, state, and local standards.

Access and Equity

- Goal 4 We will meet the diverse educational needs of all students.
- Goal 5 We will ensure effective access to rigorous programs for all students.
- Goal 6 While continuing to raise all student academic performance, we will close the achievement gap between identified sub-populations and the general population as a whole.

High Performing Instructional and Non-Instructional Staff

- Goal 7 We will be strong advocates for public education.
- Goal 8 We will continue to recruit, retain, develop, and support high performing personnel.
- Goal 9 We will continue to foster a climate that promotes professional development for instructional and non-instructional staff.
- Goal 10 We will maximize efforts to protect instructional time.

2008-2013 Goals Continued:

Involved Family and Community

- Goal 11 We will continue to provide and encourage a climate in which the involvement of families and community members from diverse cultural backgrounds is valued and welcomed.
- Goal 12 We will increase our commitment to family and community partnerships to provide resources and programs to maximize student achievement.
- Goal 13 We will involve families and the community in our proactive efforts to provide a safe, orderly, and well-disciplined environment in our schools and during school activities.
- Goal 14 We will communicate district expectations and work collaboratively to support the family's responsibility to foster academic achievement and appropriate behavior for all students.

Safe and Orderly Environment

- Goal 15 We will promote an emotionally, intellectually, and physically safe environment for all students and staff.

Effective Operations

- Goal 16 We will focus on excellence in individual and organizational performance.
- Goal 17 We will maximize and allocate federal, state, and local resources to implement the District's Strategic Plan.
- Goal 18 We will continue to improve managerial and operational efficiency and effectiveness.
- Goal 19 We will foster a climate for all students and personnel that promotes open communication, ethical behavior, shared responsibility, accountability, mutual respect, and lifelong learning.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF VOLUSIA COUNTY 2010-11 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Volusia County School District was the first school district in Florida and the third in the nation to receive district-wide accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.
- Dr. Margaret Smith, Superintendent of Schools, was named Florida's 2010 Superintendent of the Year by the Florida Association of District School Superintendents.
- Volusia County School District teachers and administrators are innovative and creative in developing and delivering nationally recognized programs such as gender specific classes and Plus One that extends the day by one hour for selected high poverty schools.
- The Volusia Teachers Organization was awarded a \$125,000 grant and the school district received an \$11.6 million Race to the Top grant to assist in collaborative work on developing and implementing a new teacher and evaluation system.
- Volusia was recognized by the Florida Department of Education for an outstanding exceptional student education program, including gifted education.
- Mainland High's Internet Science and Technology Fair team and teacher, Cathy Colwell, received a Meritorious Achievement Award from the National Medal of Technology Program for the tenth year in the row.
- The Chiles Academy, a chapter school for pregnant and parenting teens, is named a Star-Rated Site and ranked one of the top MicroSociety schools in the nation.
- Deltona High teacher, Starr Woods, is one of three outstanding African-American educator recipients of the Governor's Excellence in Education Award.
- Four students were named 2010 Dell Scholar recipients: Brody Lanigan, New Smyrna Beach High; Sharine Adams, Mainland High; and Cynthia Piedra and Irma Hernandez, both of Taylor High
- Fifty-five schools earned the Five Star School award from the Florida Department of Education
- Tomoka Elementary's physical education program was named a President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports Physical Activity and Fitness Demonstration Center
- Volusia's 2011 graduates garnered more than \$26,900,000 in scholarships

- The following students all won State Championship titles: Spruce Creek High students, Ginny Grams, swimming, and Kaysie Junco, weightlifting; DeLand High student, Nicke Ciciarelli, weightlifting; and New Smyrna Beach High boys weightlifting team and their coach, Tim McRae
- Erin Johnson, Pine Ridge High teacher, was named Florida's Outstanding Agricultural Education Teacher by the National Association of Agricultural Educators
- Lisa Bynum, Heritage Middle teacher, was named Florida's Agriscience Teacher of the Year by Florida FFA Association
- Kathleen Weaver, New Smyrna Beach High teacher, was named Florida's Outstanding Young Member by the Florida Association of Agricultural Educators
- Four Deltona High students won the annual Sober Spring Break PSA contest held by Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation
- Four School Way Café managers won awards from the Florida School Nutrition Association: Teresa Azevedo, Ormond Beach Middle, was awarded a scholarship, Leadership Award and a Smart Start for her breakfast program; Debra Feeney, Volusia Pines Elementary, won the Innovative Idea Award; Winnie Crockrell, Holly Hill Elementary, won the state "Super School" award for her "All Star School Lunch" program; and Debbie Tillman, Read-Pattillo Elementary, was awarded the Silver Medal President's Award
- Volusia colleges and universities partner with the schools for professional development programs, career and technology programs and academies, and mentoring of students.

VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOLS LIST

Atlantic High School

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

Blue Lake Elementary School

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

Campbell Middle School

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

Champion Elementary School

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

Chisholm Elementary School

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

Citrus Grove Elementary School

729 Hazen Road
DeLand, FL 32720
Telephone: (396) 626-0053

Coronado Beach Elementary School

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

Creeside Middle School

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

Cypress Creek Elementary School

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

DeBary Elementary School

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

DeLand High School

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

DeLand Middle School

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

Deltona High School

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

Deltona Lakes Elementary School

2022 Adelia Boulevard
Deltona, FL 32725
Telephone: (386) 575-4115

Deltona Middle School

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

Discovery Elementary School

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

Edgewater Public School

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

Enterprise Elementary School

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

Forest Lake Elementary School

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

Freedom Elementary

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

Friendship Elementary School

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

Galaxy Middle School

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

Heritage Middle School

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

Hinson, David C. Middle School

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

Holly Hill School (K-8)

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

Horizon Elementary School

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

Indian River Elementary School

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

Longstreet Elementary School

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

Mainland High School

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

Manatee Cove Elementary School

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

George Marks Elementary School

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

McInnis Elementary School

5715 Highway 17, P.O. Box 758
DeLeon Springs, FL 32130
Telephone: (386) 943-6384

New Smyrna Beach High School

1015 Tenth Street
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
Telephone: (386) 424-2555

New Smyrna Beach Middle School

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

Orange City Elementary School

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

Ormond Beach Elementary School

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

Ormond Beach Middle School

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

Ortona Elementary School

1265 North Grandview Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32118
Telephone: (386) 258-4668

Osceola Elementary School

100 Osceola Avenue
Ormond Beach, FL 32176
Telephone: (386) 258-4669

Osteen Elementary School

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

Palm Terrace Elementary School

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

Pathways Elementary School

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

Pierson Elementary School

1 West First Avenue
Pierson, FL 32180
Telephone: (386) 740-0850

Pine Ridge High School

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

Pine Trail Elementary School

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

Port Orange Elementary School

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

Pride Elementary School

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

Read-Pattillo Elementary School

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

River Springs Middle School

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

Seabreeze High School

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

Silver Sands Middle School

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

South Daytona Elementary School

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

Southwestern Middle School

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

Spirit Elementary School

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

Spruce Creek Elementary School

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

Spruce Creek High School

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

Starke Elementary School

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

Sugar Mill Elementary School

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

Sunrise Elementary School

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

Sweetwater Elementary School

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

Taylor Middle-High School

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

Timbercrest Elementary School

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

Tomoka Elementary School

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

Turie T. Small Elementary School

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

University High School

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

Volusia Pines Elementary School

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

Westside Elementary School

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

Woodward Avenue Elementary School

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

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Boston Avenue Charter School

340 North Boston Avenue
DeLand, FL 32724
Telephone: (386) 624-6982

Burns Science and Technology Charter School

160 Ridge Road
Oak Hill, FL 32759
Telephone: (386) 951-6302

Chiles Academy

868 George W. Ingram Boulevard
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
Telephone: (386) 322-6102

Easter Seals Charter School

1219 Dunn Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
Telephone: (386) 255-4568

2219 South Woodland Boulevard
DeLand, FL 32720
Telephone: (386) 736-9849

Ivy Hawn Charter School of the Arts

565 S. Lakeview Dr., Unit 110
Lake Helen, FL 32744
Telephone: (386) 228-3900

Reading Edge Academy

2975 Enterprise Road
DeBary, FL 32713
Telephone: (386) 668-8911

Reading Star Academy

2700 Enterprise Road
Orange City, FL 32763
Telephone: (386) 775-3856

Richard Milburn Academy

1025 Mason Avenue, #1031
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
Telephone: (386) 304-0086

913 E. New York Avenue
DeLand, FL 32724
Telephone: (386) 738-9150

Samsula Academy

248 North Samsula Drive
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
Telephone: (386) 423-6650

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

Department of Juvenile Justice

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

Highbanks Learning Center

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

Riverview Learning Center

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

SCHOOLS OF CHOICE

Volusia Virtual (formerly Storefront)

1250 Reed Canal Road
Port Orange FL 32129
Telephone: (386) 506-0014

1000 W. Rhode Island Ave.
Orange City, FL 32763
Telephone: (386) 968-0037



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