

SMOKE SIGNALS

Lakeside Academy

February 2025

Issue # 6

Greetings Sasquatch families,

For those of you who haven't heard, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow on Groundhog's Day this year predicting 6 more weeks of winter. I'm not sure what his compatriot prognosticating groundhogs Buckeye Chuck, Woodstock Willie, or Milltown Mel saw that morning, but no one let Florida know because we have beautiful weather in store and will be pushing 80 this week. On a separate note, you may want to mention to your northern relatives that in Florida we celebrate "Ground Conch Day" as apparently (based on in-depth internet sleuthing) an aquarium on Marathon Key has a prognosticating mollusk. . . only in Florida!

Cold weather or not, I can't help but be grateful for the hard work of our students, our staff, and our community for the good of our school. I'd like to especially thank our PTO and parent volunteers who helped assemble cubbies in the month of January for our elementary school classrooms. This was a major focus of our school this year and we are so grateful to the many folks who came out to help our kids. In addition, the Penny Wars has been a huge hit for our school, and our students were excited to battle by grade level and put that loose change to work here at Lakeside. This is just a few of the countless examples of our community rallying around our school.

Our newsletter is packed with highlights this month from Literacy Week and the 100th day of school. It's hard to believe we are over 100 days into the school year and I'm so grateful for the hard work and dedication from our students, staff, and community to help us in our inaugural year.

There's just a small campfire here tonight, the weather is a tad warmer here in Sasquatch country, but these are the latest smoke signals!

Dr. Gates

SCHOOL HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
8:40 am – 3:00 pm

Wednesday
8:40 – 2:00 pm

School doors open at 8:20 & close at 8:40
 Students who arrive after 8:40 they must check in at the front office.



scan here to start earning money for Lakeside Academy

Upcoming Events

- 2/4 – Basketball game at PVA 5:30
- 2/5 – No Early Release
- 2/6 – Spring Picture Day
- 2/11 – 3rd quarter Interims available on HAC
- 2/11 – Basketball game at LPA
- 2/12 – **Regular Early Release**
- 2/13 – Basketball game at FCA
- 2/14 – Student Holiday / Teacher Inservice Day
- 2/17 – President’s Day / Teacher & Student Holiday
- 2/18 – Home Basketball game vs. FCA 5:30
- 2/20 – PTO Meeting 9 am
- 2/20 – MS Band Concert 7:00
- 2/24 – Big Smiles Dental Visit
- 2/25 – SAC Meeting 3:30
- 2/27 – Character Counts Ceremony

Important reminders regarding car line procedures



Morning Drop-Off

- Please pull all the way forward and fill in every available space. Please do not stop mid-way or near front door, we need to get as many cars in drop off line as possible.
- Please ensure students are ready to exit upon stopping.

Afternoon Pick-Up

- Please hang your PIKMYKID number/name on your rear view mirror or place PIKMYKID card on dashboard so all staff can read.
- Keep pulling forward in the line, if cars ahead move, please move with them.

Please remember - the latest
time to check out
your student is **2:15 pm**

**A big thank
you to all the
parents who
volunteered
their time and
efforts to help
build cubbies
for our
amazing
teachers!
We appreciate
you!**





*Help support the Arts
at Lakeside Academy*

An Easy Way to Support Our Classroom!

What a wonderful community of learners we have in our classroom this year!

I'm so excited to help our students learn and grow.

I have registered our classroom on DonorsChoose, an amazing website where individuals can contribute to public schools. Throughout the year, I will post requests for resources that will help make your child's time at school even more engaging, dynamic, and enriching.

Please spread the word about our classroom page (and contribute if you can)!

~ Ms. Restrepo-Irizarry

<https://www.donorschoose.org/lakeside-art-ceramics>





Physical education corner

Wellness Corner

February is Healthy Heart Month, learning about heart disease and prevention is key. Heart health can be improved through regular cardiorespiratory activities, with a mix of moderate and vigorous physical activity. Remember 1 hour of moderate to vigorous physical activity each day is recommended. February Challenge: Add a Cardiorespiratory Endurance Activity each day! Take a walk in the neighborhood, play pickleball, swim, jump rope, etc.

Wear Red on February 13th to represent Heart Health Month



PE Corner

Quarter 3 Activities/Skills

- Soccer (completed)
- Floor Hockey (completed)
- Baseball/Softball – FUN AT BAT – overhand throwing, fly and ground balls throwing and fielding, batting, running, tagging base for out
- Golf – Grip, stance, putting, chipping for distance and accuracy
- Skill-Related Fitness – Agility, Balance, Coordination, Reaction Time, Speed, and Power - ruler drop, shuttle run, 40 yard dash, broad jump, sit to rise
- Pickleball – forehand/backhand strokes, kitchen play, serving
- Field Day



Physical education corner

Please make sure to send students to school for PE with the following:

- Appropriate athletic sneakers/tennis shoes
- Water bottle
- Appropriate attire and layers for unpredictable weather
- *If you are not sure they have PE – dress them like they do as we see them 2x per week

5th Grade Character Cup Updates

We have selected our 20 candidates for tryouts and will be narrowing it down to 5 boys and 5 girls with 1 alternate each. Tryouts are occurring on February 3rd or 4th.

Please mark your calendars to come out and support our final team on Wednesday, March 26th at 4pm at Toco Creek High School Stadium

LAKESIDE 1st ANNUAL FIELD DAY – WE NEED YOUR HELP

Due to our school being new, we have not had time to collect fun items to help us with field days. We are looking to secure the items on our [Equipment Wish List](#), if you can help us, we would greatly appreciate it.

~ Field Day will be Tuesday, March 4th and Friday, March 7th ~

Three grades will be scheduled on each day for 1 ½ hours each. Administration will be providing more information soon!

OTHER WAYS TO HELP:

- WE NEED 2 VOLUNTEERS TO RUN 8 STATIONS (16 TOTAL) SIGN UP COMING!
- MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD DRESSES IN THEIR TEAM COLOR (WILL BE RELEASED BY TEACHER AT A LATER DATE)
- MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD HAS A WATER BOTTLE AND CORRECT ATHLETIC FOOTWEAR/CLOTHING

bike safety

Florida Statute 316 specifically states that all children under the age of 16 must wear a properly fitted helmet when operating a bicycle. This of course applies to electric bikes as well. We are seeing more and more students without helmets, please reach out to your local law enforcement agencies if you need assistance with free helmet.

d) A bicycle rider or passenger who is under 16 years of age must wear a bicycle helmet that is properly fitted and is fastened securely upon the passenger's head by a strap and that meets the federal safety standard for bicycle helmets, final rule, 16 C.F.R. part 1203. A helmet purchased before October 1, 2012, which meets the standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI Z 90.4 Bicycle Helmet Standards), the standards of the Snell Memorial Foundation (1984 Standard for Protective Headgear for Use in Bicycling), or any other nationally recognized standards for bicycle helmets adopted by the department may continue to be worn by a bicycle rider or passenger until January 1, 2016. As used in this subsection, the term "passenger" includes a child who is riding in a trailer or semitrailer attached to a bicycle.

(e) Law enforcement officers and school crossing guards may issue a bicycle safety brochure and a verbal warning to a bicycle rider or passenger who violates this subsection. A bicycle rider or passenger who violates this subsection may be issued a citation by a law enforcement officer and assessed a fine for a pedestrian violation, as provided in s. [318.18](#).

Full Statute [CLICK HERE](#)

THERE IS A 70% INCREASE IN eBIKE/eSCOOTER INJURIES in 2023, LOCALLY WE HAVE HAD SEVERAL STUDENTS WITH HEAD AND BODILY INJURIES DUE TO NOT WEARING HELMET on REGULAR BIKE and SPEEDING ON eBIKES. Please Ask Deputy Ramos for more information!



Does your helmet fit properly?

Take the Helmet Fit Test

1



Eyes: Put the helmet on your head. Look up. You should see the bottom rim of the helmet.

2



Ears: Make sure the straps form a 'V' under your ears when buckled. The straps should be a little tight but comfortable.

3



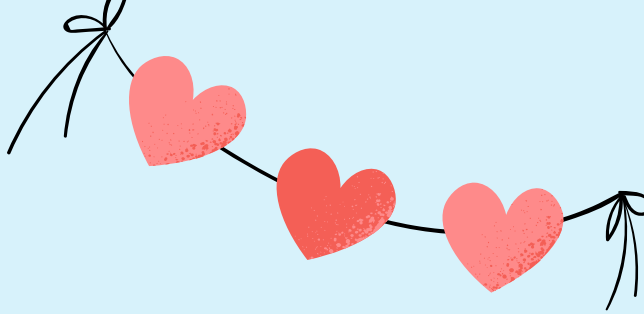
Mouth: Open your mouth as wide as you can. Does the helmet hug your head? If not, tighten the straps.

Now you're ready to roll!

LEADER IN PE

February looking for our students that demonstrate *CARING* and *THINK WIN WIN* behaviors as we move into our Team and more competitive sports, it is important to remember good sportsmanship, character, and kindness in PE.

Please check out some of our activities on Twitter X @SasquatchPE in Quarter 3



National School
Counseling Week
February 3-7

Random Acts of
Kindness
Day
February 17

GUIDANCE UPDATES



DON'T DELAY

**GET YOUR
YEARBOOK
TODAY!**

**LAKESIDE
ACADEMY**

School ID: 389932

\$35 until 11/30/24
\$40 12/1/25 - 2/14/25
\$45 2/15/25 until sold out

**FOR MORE INFO OR TO
PURCHASE:**

www.buytheyearbook.com

MEDIA CENTER NEWS



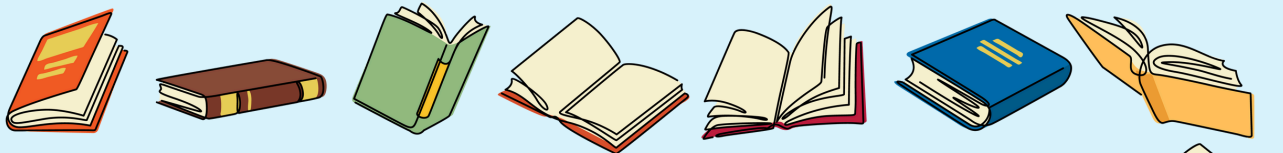
Click above for the SSYRA Jr. checklist



The students are making and creating in Media and are in need of materials! If possible, please donate materials from our [Amazon wish list](#). We are also looking for everyday household items for projects. Please click [here](#) to view list.

Thank
you!

The Media Center would like to say THANK YOU for all the amazing donations you have sent in for our Makerspace and library space! We appreciate your generosity!

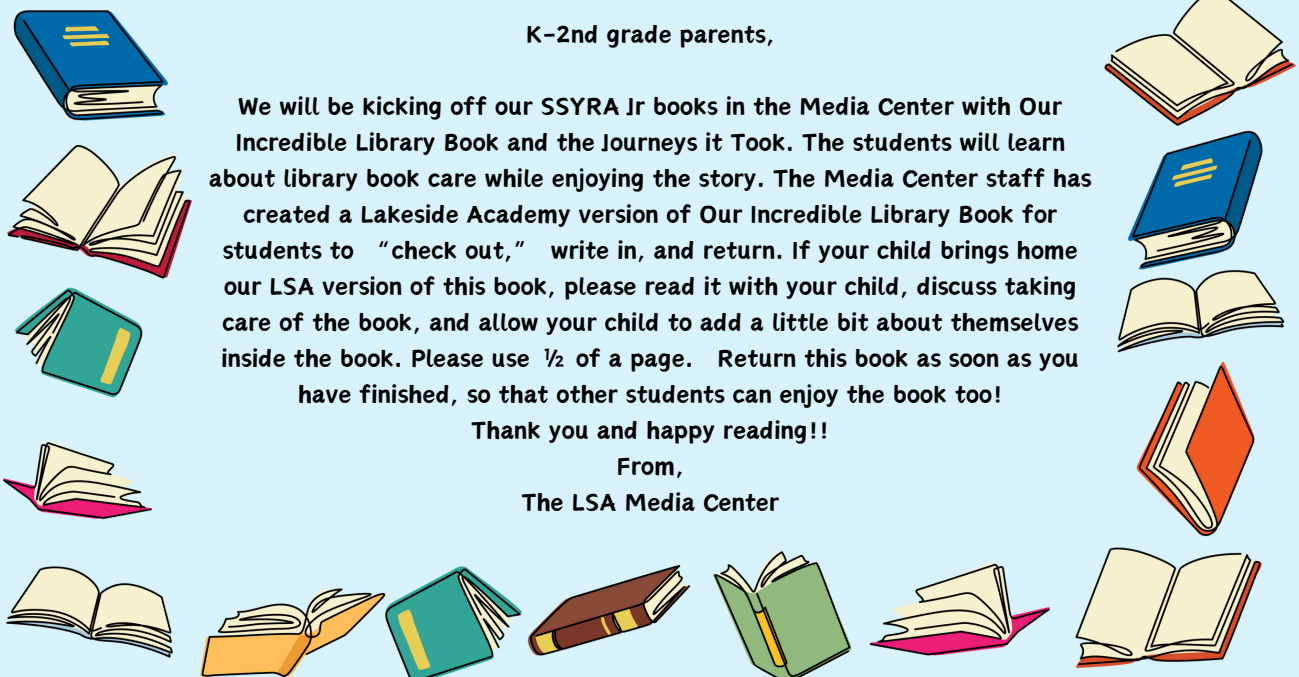


K-2nd grade parents,

We will be kicking off our SSYRA Jr books in the Media Center with Our Incredible Library Book and the Journeys it Took. The students will learn about library book care while enjoying the story. The Media Center staff has created a Lakeside Academy version of Our Incredible Library Book for students to "check out," write in, and return. If your child brings home our LSA version of this book, please read it with your child, discuss taking care of the book, and allow your child to add a little bit about themselves inside the book. Please use $\frac{1}{2}$ of a page. Return this book as soon as you have finished, so that other students can enjoy the book too!

Thank you and happy reading!!

From,
The LSA Media Center








Lakeside SSYRA Readers



These students have read all 15 books in their SSYRA grade level list!

 SSYRA Junior	 Grades 3-5	 Grades 6-8
<p>Dominic Masitti Eloise Read Sean Dalton Alma Sancho Ava Norman Addison Chase Marley Flood Brooklyn Darmody Deacon Halladey Sarahmithurla Prabhu Claire Jiang Ty Thupthai Holden Hendrickson Siddhant Parbhoo Archi Patel Gyan Patel Clemintine Zimmer Lily Dell Emma Delgado Addysen Sholette Theo Faatz Caleb Kawa Fiona Fread</p>	<p>Hemkrish Satheeshkunar Isabel Mathew Garv Shahani Amaia Cubero-Lopez Jannah Nishaj</p>	<p>Viviana Huntean</p>

Media Center Kindness Drawing Winners

These students were caught spreading kindness throughout our Media Center!

Every time a student is caught spreading kindness in the library, they enter our Bucket Filler Drawing. At the end of each month, one student from each grade level (K-5) will be pulled as our winners!

Kindergarten

Haley
Cagle

1st Grade

Bonnie
Walter

Second Grade

Eiley
Henderson

Congratulations, winners!!

3rd Grade

Cash
Love

4th Grade

Prayas
Kc

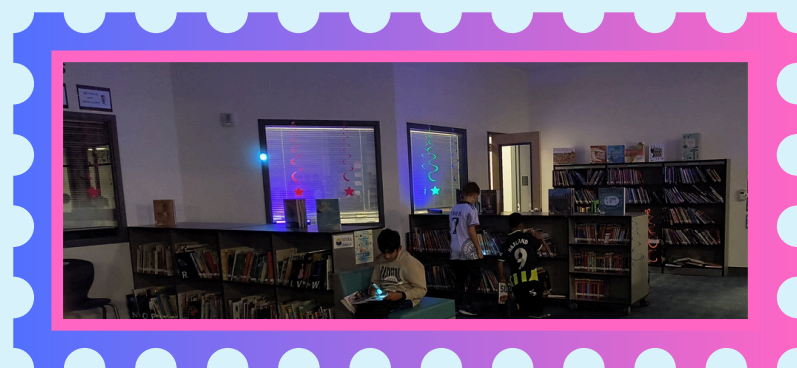
5th Grade

Walker
Barberio

Thank you for spreading kindness!

LITERACY WEEK

Lakeside Academy students celebrated Literacy Week with a neon glow check out party in Media. Students dressed in neon and created neon "bricks" with their favorite book, series, or genre written in highlighters. This year's Literacy Week theme was "Building Literacy: Constructing the Foundation for Success."



100TH DAY OF SCHOOL FUN

January 30th

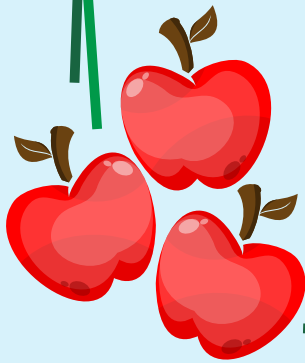


Ms. Moore and Ms. Ramdass KG class had a glow day since we are 100 days brighter!



**S
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*Papa John's
Pizza
available on
Wednesdays
\$2.00/slice
a la carte*

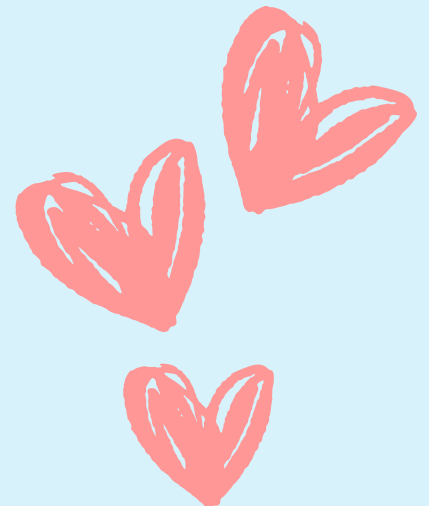
Clinic Corner

Clothing and snack donations would be greatly appreciated for our clinic!

We are in need of:

- Boys bottoms, all sizes
- Snacks (saltines, cheez-its, small water bottles)

Thank you kindly!

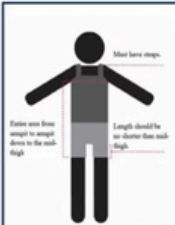


Middle School News

DRESS CODE POLICY

CELL PHONE POLICY

Dress Code Policy



ALL STUDENTS

Clothing must cover areas from one armpit to the other armpit, down to the mid-thigh. Tops must have shoulder straps and be long enough to adequately cover the waistline and not expose the midriff.

Reminders


- Clothing, piercings and accessories displaying profanity, violence, discriminatory messages, sexually suggestive phrases, symbols or phrases of alcohol, tobacco or drugs is unacceptable.
- Pajamas shall not be worn as exterior clothing on campus.
- Head gear, including but not limited to caps, hats, bandanas, and/or sunglasses should not be worn indoors.
- Students must wear shoes with backs that are safe for the learning environment. Bedroom slippers are prohibited.
- Rips or tears in clothing above the mid-thigh must not expose skin.

In accordance with statutory requirement F.S. 1006.07 (students are prohibited from wearing clothing that exposes underwear or that exposes body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner) enforcement will focus on positive guidance without embarrassment to the student and should not disrupt the educational process.

Page 14 in the St Johns County School District Code of Conduct

Phone Policy

Expectation: Upon entering school, phones and other wireless communication devices must be turned off and stored in student's backpack, purse, or locker. To assist students in maintaining academic focus, the device shall not be used during the school day without administrative approval.



Recording other students and staff is PROHIBITED

Failure to put phone away after teacher reminder will result in discipline consequences including confiscation of the device or loss of privilege to possess such a device on school campus as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

When there is reasonable suspicion that a student has used a cell phone in violation of the Code of Conduct or other school rules, or for an unlawful purpose, the school administration may search the phone's call logs, voice messages, text messages, photographs and any other applications in its investigation of the suspected violations.

Students can contact parents/guardians from a school phone if the need arises throughout the academic day.

Page 26/27 in the St Johns County School District Code of Conduct

Middle School PE Update

The locker rooms are complete and all middle school PE students have been assigned a locker and been given a lock in the locker room. Dressing out for class and wearing athletic footwear is an expectation. If a uniform still needs to be purchased for your child, please use this link to do so.

[PURCHASE UNIFORM HERE](#)

Please reach out to Coach Martel with any questions or concerns. We appreciate your support and look forward to more fun activities ahead!



Middle School News

~ ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ~

Please bring a set of headphones to keep in your backpack, for testing as well as classroom assignments.

Thank you!



Middle School News

2025 Sasquatch Basketball Schedule

Home Games are in Orange

GIRLS GAME AT 5:30 PM
BOYS GAME IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

January 9th:	LA vs POA
January 14th:	BYE
January 16th:	LA @ VRA
January 21st:	LA vs PIA
January 23rd:	LA vs MCA
January 28th:	LA vs LPA
January 30th:	LA vs VRA
February 4th:	LA @ PVA
February 6th:	BYE
February 11th:	LA @ LPA
February 13th:	LA @ FCA
February 18th:	LA vs FCA
February 20th:	LA @ POA
February 25th:	BYE
February 27th:	BYE
March 4th:	LA @ TCA
March 6th:	LA @ PIA

**COME OUT AND SUPPORT
OUR TEAMS!**



Softball Registration Now Open!!!



5th, 6th, and 7th grades

Register at- www.sjmsaa.org/softball

Registration closes February 15th

Season runs February- May

Come be part of the first softball team at

Lakeside Academy!

Let's go Sasquatches!!!!



SASQUATCH BUS EXPECTATIONS

Seatbelt on, face forward, aisle clear

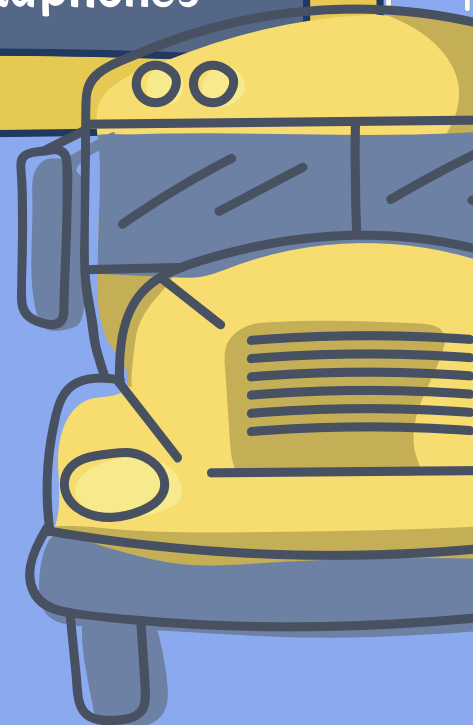
Voice levels

0 - Silence, 1 - Whisper, 2 - Calm voice tone

Respectful language

Hands and feet to self

Cell phones - sound off or use headphones





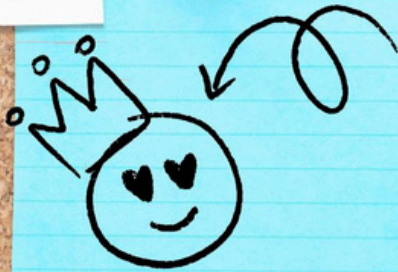
By Girls empowered by stem
starting January



FOR
GRADES
3-5

STEM WORKSHOP

01



What is GES?

Girls empowered by stem is a high school club partnering with Lake side to provide the opportunity for young girls to fall in love with stem!

How Does it work?

Once a month, students from Beachside High School will host after school workshops that are not only fun, but also encourage learning. Each station of the workshop explores a different field of STEM, allowing your child to figured out what they like best!

02

we speak:

- Spanish
- Telugu
- Marathi
- Portuguese

03



How to sign up?

1) Please Scan the QR code and fill out the interest form.
contact us at:
girlsEmpoweredbystem@gmail.com

testing INFO

How to Access the Family Portal



The Family Portal provides a central location for your student's assessment results.

The Family Portal can be used to:

- access your student's results for FAST Progress Monitoring testing, EOCs, Statewide Science, Retakes, the Florida Civic Literacy Exam, and the Florida Alternate Assessment.
- access prior statewide assessment results.
- print score reports.

How can I access the Family Portal?

- At the Florida Statewide Assessments Portal:
<https://ffast.org>
- Or at the direct link:
<https://fl-familyportal.cambiumast.com/>

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

- Your student's unique 6-digit access code (found in HAC under the Registration tab).
- Your student's date of birth.
- Your student's first name as it appears on their official school record.

What information can I find on the Family Portal?

- Your student's results from Fall 2020 through present.
- Your student's Individual Student Reports with interpretative guides.
- Glossary
- FAQs
- Performance Levels

Where do I get the Access Code?

The code can be found in the Home Access Center (HAC) under the Registration tab. The code will be located on the right side of the page under Additional Information.



ST. JOHNS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



ROBERT A. HARDWICK, SHERIFF

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS -vs- PUBLIC SERVICE ASSISTANT



SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS
School Crossing Guards guide students, families, pedestrians and bicyclists across busy streets in school zones.



PUBLIC SERVICE ASSISTANTS
Public Service Assistants maintain the flow of traffic by directing motorists safely through school zones.



ST. JOHNS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



ROBERT A. HARDWICK, SHERIFF

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

We see them but, what do they do?

A School Crossing Guard (SCG) is a person who helps children cross the street safely and ensures the safety of pedestrians and drivers. They receive training from the Florida Department of Transportation and they are certified by the State of Florida.

Some responsibilities include:

- Helping children cross the street
- Teach students the importance of bicycle helmets
- Remind drivers of the presence of pedestrians





St Johns County School District
Guest Teacher (substitute)
posting in AppliTrack Application
System on our district website
December 16th–January 3, 2025.

SJCSD is ready to hire Guest Teachers who are ready to make a difference for students in Pre-K - 12th grade.

Daily hourly rate \$15.00. Florida certified teacher or retired S.J.C.S.D teacher is \$18 hourly rate.

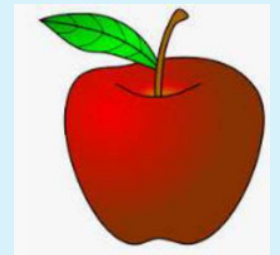
The Guest Teacher role provides:

- Opportunity to put your degree to work.
- Flexibility – you pick the days and schools.
- An opportunity to work with diverse student populations.
- An opportunity to contribute to the learning and development of the students in our school district.

Come join our team.

Applicants who hold a minimum of an Associate degree or equivalent of 60 credits or higher and who are 20 years of age or older are eligible to apply. Preferences given to applicants that have graduated or are graduating from an Education program. All applicants will be considered for strong teaching potential, above average references, experience in critical need areas, and/or an education degree.

For full job description, requirements and to apply online,
Visit: <https://www.applitrack.com/stjohns/onlineapp/>
Questions? Please call 904-547-7636 SmartFind Helpdesk or
application questions call AppliTrack helpdesk 547-7631.





The St. Johns County School Board is asking for input from the community on the leadership qualities desired in our next Superintendent. Your feedback is crucial in helping us identify the best leader to guide our district toward continued success. The Superintendent Search Public Survey, conducted by the Florida School Boards Association in collaboration with the St. Johns County School Board, is an essential part of this process. Your responses will help shape the application process and develop interview questions for candidates.

[Complete the Superintendent Search Public Survey](#)

[SAC Parent Needs Assessment Survey](#)

Only one parent from each family should complete the survey.

Thank you for your input!



FORTIFYFL

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

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



#FORTIFYFL
GETFORTIFYFL.COM



DOWNLOAD
NOW



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

