

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

Mission : The RJMMS community will work as One Team to ensure there are No Limits to our students reaching their full potential.

Vision: To prepare students for high school and post-secondary opportunities.

Volume 4 - Issue 6

September

22	Home Volleyball Game vs Sebastian 5:30pm
23	Early Release
24	In-House Thespian Festival Home Volleyball Game vs Pacetti Bay 5:30pm
25	Teacher In-Service/No School for Students
29	Away Volleyball Game vs Fruit Cove 5:30pm

Absence Reporting: Email Lindsey.cooper@stjohns.k12.fl.us to excuse you student's absence. Every absence after 15 days will require a doctor's note.

Student Rider Drop off	7:00 am
School Opens for all students	7:10 am
School Start Time:	7:30 am
School Dismissal Time:	1:50 pm *
* Wednesday 12:50 pm	



The Future Begins Here!

Character Counts! Pillar of the Month: Fairness

- Play by the rules.
- Take turns and share.
- Be open-minded; listen to others.
- Don't take advantage of others.
- Don't blame others.

In the Month of September, We Observe:

- Suicide Prevention Month
- National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
- National Hispanic Heritage Month

HOT TOPICS

- ❖ Book Fair Coming October 5-9, 2026
- ❖ National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) - applications are being accepted. Deadline - October 30th. Late applications will not be accepted. More information below.

Thought for the Week:

Success is not final; Failure is not fatal; It is the courage to continue that counts...

Winston Churchill

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

Special Announcements

8th Graders

We started tracking behavior for the 8th Grade Gradventure Trip on May 7, 2027. If you would like to attend, the following rules apply:

- Zero (0) days of OSS
- No more than 2 days ISS from September 1st until May 7th.
- No more than 10 days of unexcused absences
- Passing ALL Subjects

Parent University

Superintendent Dr. Brennan Asplen will host a series of Parent University sessions providing a dedicated space to discuss and address the unique topics and challenges parents and families face throughout the district.

The first session will focus on *attendance* and will be held Tuesday, September 22, from 6-7 p.m. at Sebastian Middle School (2955 Lewis Speedway, St. Augustine, FL 32084). Families may attend in person or participate virtually via Microsoft Teams. For more information, scan the QR code on the flyer or visit <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/supt/parent-university>.

B.E.L.I.E.V.E.



B - Bulldogs
E - Empower
L - Love
I - Inspire
E - Elevate
V - Value
E - Encourage



Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

RJ MURRAY MIDDLE SCHOOL

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

7TH AND 8TH GRADERS

Attention to all 7th and 8th graders interested in joining the National Junior Honor Society. Applications are now available and can be picked up from Ms. Pisano in Room 510 or the front office.



CHARACTER
CITIZENSHIP
LEADERSHIP
SERVICE
SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATIONS DUE

October 30, 2026

REQUEST AN
APPLICATION

Minimum Eligibility Requirements

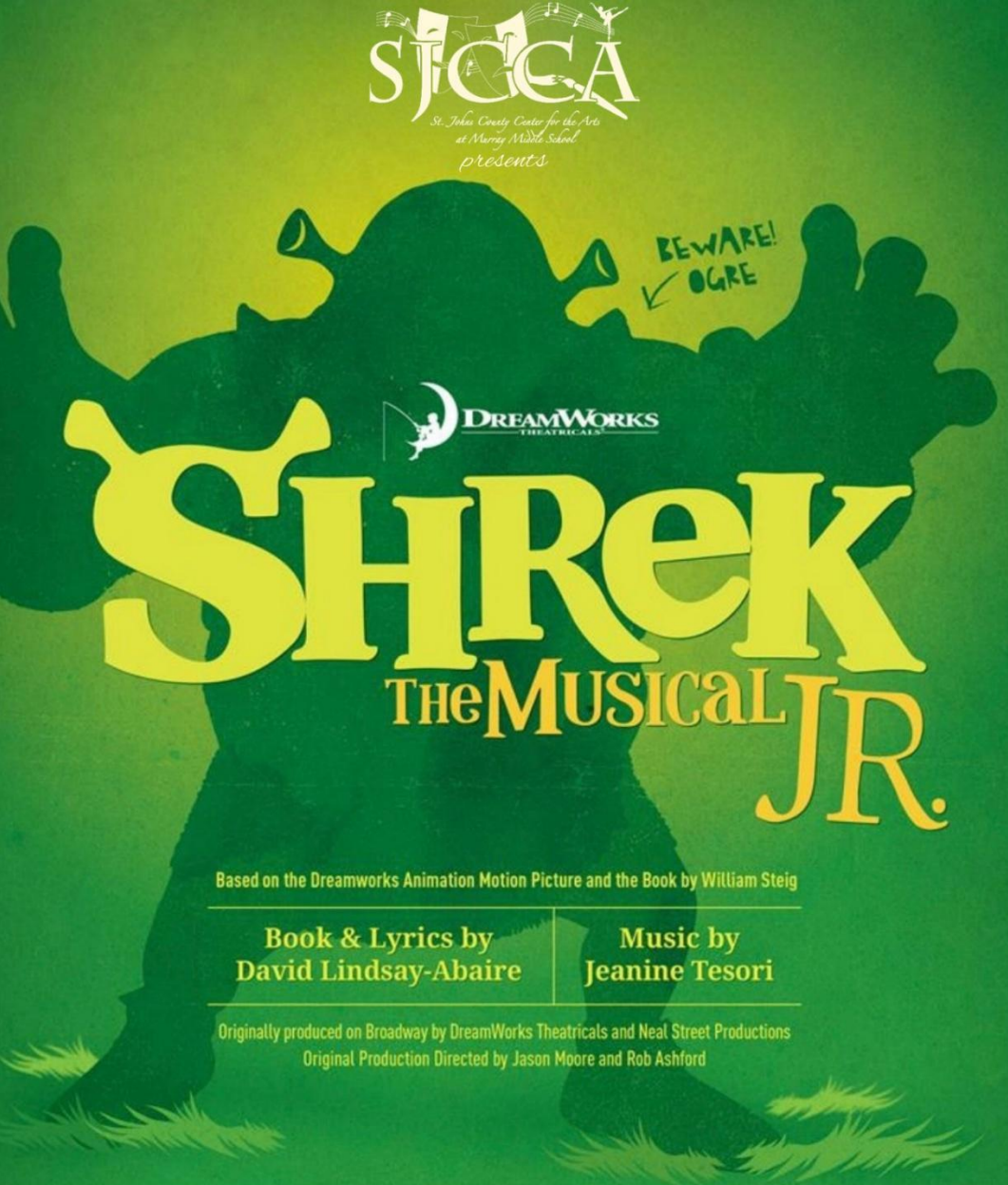
Criteria for NJHS:

- Enrolled in at least 2 Cambridge/Advanced courses
- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 (7th graders) or 3.0 (8th graders) at the time of applying
- Maintain a cumulative 3.5 average (7th graders) or a cumulative 3.0 average (8th graders) in the four core classes (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies)
- Maintain good attendance
- Complete the National Junior Honor Society application form

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars



STCCA
*St. Johns County Center for the Arts
at Murray Middle School
presents*

DREAMWORKS
THEATRICALS

SHREK

THE MUSICAL JR.

Based on the Dreamworks Animation Motion Picture and the Book by William Steig

Book & Lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire	Music by Jeanine Tesori
---	-----------------------------------

Originally produced on Broadway by DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions
Original Production Directed by Jason Moore and Rob Ashford

Scan for TICKETS! 

RJ Murray Middle School
150 N Holmes Blvd
St. Augustine, FL 32084

 **Scan for TICKETS!**

Friday, October 23rd - Opening Night, 6:30pm
Saturday, October 24th - Matinee, 1:30pm
Saturday, October 24th - Closing Night, 6:30pm

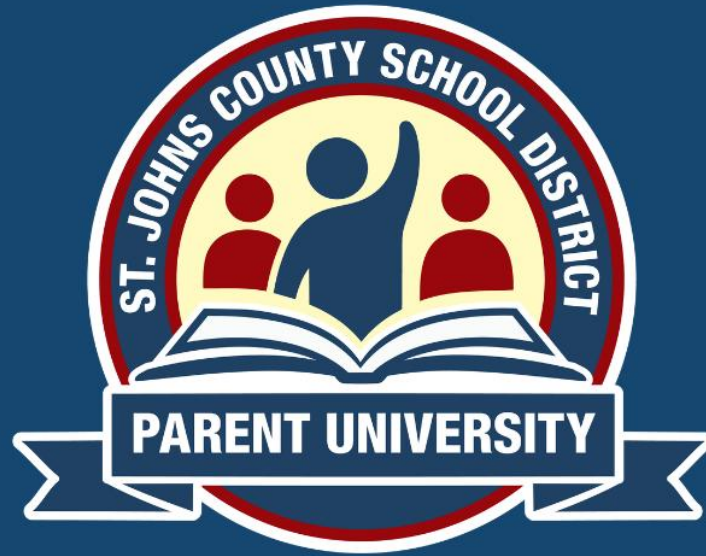
***Recommended for ages 5+, Shrek the Musical Jr. features crude humor, mild innuendo, sudden loud noises, and minor fairy tale peril.*

Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI (mtishows.com).

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars



DISCUSSION TOPIC:

ATTENDANCE

Every Day Matters

SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

6-7 P.M.

SEBASTIAN MIDDLE SCHOOL



LEARN MORE 



Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

PTO Spirit Wear on Sale Now

R.J. MURRAY
OFFICIAL SPIRIT WEAR STORE

BACK-TO-SCHOOL GEAR DROP

UP TO 35% OFF SITEWIDE



SHOP NOW

Sales benefit our PTO!

SHOP AT: 1STPLACE.SALE/21582

1ST PLACE
Spiritwear

FREE
SHIPPING
ON ORDERS
OVER
\$75

**Get The BEST DEALS
From Your Official Store**

- T-shirts
- Hoodies
- Polos
- Headwear
- Backpacks
- Drinkware
- And More...



**SCAN HERE
TO ORDER**

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

SEPTEMBER IS ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH

ATTEND TODAY. ACHIEVE TOMORROW.



Every Day Matters in St. Johns County School District!

Why Attendance Matters

- ✓ **Academic Achievement:** Regular attendance helps students stay on track with learning and reaching their goals.
- ✓ **Positive Relationships:** Students develop meaningful connections with staff and classmates through regular attendance.
- ✓ **Classroom Engagement:** Being present allows students to participate in lessons, discussions, and hands-on learning.
- ✓ **Future Success:** Strong attendance supports graduation, college and career readiness, and lifelong success.

Attendance Habits Start Early

School attendance is a shared responsibility between families and schools. Use these tips to help set your child up for success:

- ✓ Attend school every day, whenever possible
- ✓ Arrive on time and ready to learn
- ✓ Establish consistent bedtime and morning routines
- ✓ Prepare backpacks, homework, and clothing the night before
- ✓ Have a backup transportation plan when needed
- ✓ Promote a positive attitude about school
- ✓ Stay connected with your child's teachers and school
- ✓ Seek support when attendance challenges arise

Missing Just 2 Days a Month Can Add Up



Together We Can Make a Difference!

Every day a student is in school is an opportunity to:



LEARN | GROW | CONNECT | SUCCEED



Stay Connected!

Scan the QR code or visit:
www.stjohns.k12.fl.us

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars



ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE

Secondary Students

✓ Mark off each challenge as you complete it!

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SET A GOAL: How many days do you want to show up this week? <i>(Spoiler: 5!)</i>	What's one reason showing up today could make a difference for you?	Who's someone at school who makes your day better? Let them know.	GET INVOLVED: Take part in something today that makes school a better place for you.	Shout out someone who's been here every day. They're putting in the work!
What makes you feel like you belong when you walk into school? 	Say hey to someone you don't usually talk to. It might make their day.	HEY Ask a classmate: What helps you have a better day at school?	Send a quick text or message to someone who has been showing up and putting in the effort.	You made it through the week! Take a second to recognize your own effort.
How many days have you made it so far?	BE HONEST: What can make getting to school difficult? Naming the challenge is a start.	What's one thing you can do tonight to make getting to school tomorrow easier?	Finish this sentence: <i>"I showed up today because..."</i> KEEP IT REAL.	THINK AHEAD: What's one attendance goal you want to hit this year ?
Look back at your goal from Day 1. How'd you do?	Shout out someone who has helped you stay motivated or keep showing up.	Write down one thing that makes coming to school worth it for you.	Tell someone at school why you appreciate having them around. KEEP IT POSITIVE!	FINAL CHECK-IN: What did showing up this month mean to you? What, if anything, changed for you?



Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

**DO GOOD
WITH CHIPOTLE**



CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR
**RJ MURRAY MIDDLE
SCHOOL PTO**

25% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH | 4-8PM
1753 US HIGHWAY 1 S, SAINT AUGUSTINE, FL, 32084

Two ways to order!

1. Order with the CHIPOTLE APP
using code **HHXJNX4**
2. Order in person and show this
flyer at checkout.

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

Len Mattiace Stop the Bullying Campaign Contest is here!

St. Johns County School District is proud to partner with the Len Mattiace Foundation for the fifth consecutive year to support the Stop the Bullying Campaign Contest, an initiative dedicated to raising awareness and fostering safe, inclusive school environments for students across Northeast Florida. As many of you know, Len Mattiace, PGA TOUR golfer and Nease High School graduate, has been a passionate advocate for promoting kindness, compassion, and inclusion among our youth.

Contest Highlights

- Open to all middle school students
- Contest runs September 16 through November 5, 2026 (submission deadline: 5:00 PM)
- Cash prizes will be awarded to winning students
- Winners will be announced on November 12 and 13 during a special visit from the Prize Patrol

[Stop the Bullying Campaign Rules & Information](#)

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

**LEN MATTIACE
FOUNDATION**

STOP THE BULLYING – CONTEST –

Starts

**16
SEPT.**



More information

Ends

**05
NOV.
(5 PM)**

**CASH PRIZES!
OPEN TO ALL
MIDDLE SCHOOL
STUDENTS**



Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar - All Pillars



ST JOHNS COUNTY
MIDDLE SCHOOL
STUDENTS

**CREATE A PROJECT
TO HELP STOP THE
BULLYING**

**KINDNESS,
COMPASSION,
INCLUSION**

FALL SEMESTER 2026

\$3,300 OF PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN OUT



Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

American Legion DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

ORATORICAL COMPETITION

Find Your Voice. Make an Impact.

The American Legion Department of Florida Oratorical Competition gives high school students the opportunity to develop their public speaking skills, build confidence, and make a difference.



WHO CAN ENTER?

High school students
in grades 9–12.

*Homeschooled students
are also welcome!*



THE COMPETITION

A multi-tiered
competition beginning
at the post level, with
monetary awards
presented at each level.



AWARDS

Monetary awards
are presented at
each level of the
competition.



NATIONAL PRIZE

The National
competition awards a
**\$25,000
scholarship!**

Sharpen Your Skills ★ Build Your Future



For More Information, Contact:

Oratorical@legionmail.org



Learn more:

<https://www.legion.org/get-involved/youth-programs/oratorical-contest>



Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars



Making Connections with St Johns County School District

HIGH SCHOOL SHOWCASE

SAVE THE DATE



WHEN

Wednesday, December 9, 2026
3:30 – 7:00 PM



WHERE

WGV Renaissance
500 S Legacy Trail, St. Augustine, FL 32092



WHO

Families of rising 9th and 10th graders.
Free to attend.

Explore programs and career pathways, meet school and industry partners, and discover the opportunities that can shape your student's future.



PROGRAMS OF INTEREST & CAREER ACADEMIES



cte.stjohns.k12.fl.us

2026 UNF Physics Photo Contest – See the flyer on the next page.

UNF is holding their annual physics photo contest, which is open to any student in the greater Jacksonville area. Submissions are due on October 16th. This is a contest for all students (regardless of their level) in the greater Jacksonville area. This is an excellent opportunity for students to explore science and art. The top prize is a \$100 gift card to Amazon, and all they have to do is take photo (the more aesthetically pleasing the better...it is a contest) and write one to three sentences about the physics that is captured in the photo. Click the link below for the 2026 UNF Photo Contest Website for further information <https://materialstheory.domains.unf.edu/unf-physics-photo-contest/>.

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

2026 UNF Physics Photo Contest



SCAN ME



Submit your photo using the weblink above or email j.t.haraldsen@unf.edu
Subject line:
2026 UNF Photo Contest

Submission Period: Sept. 1 through Oct. 16

Finals on Facebook and Instagram: Oct. 26 through Nov. 1

Winners announced: Nov. 2 or 3

To compete in the contest, you must submit your photo, title, and description on the website (given by the QR code above) or email your submission to j.t.haraldsen@unf.edu by 11:59 pm on October 16, 2026.

Your photo must demonstrate/encompass/involve a concept of physics. These can be in any category of picture (natural or contrived). Animated and/or altered pictures are NOT allowed. However, a collage of multiple photos is acceptable.

Along with your photo, you must include a title and a small description (3-4 sentences) of the physical concept(s) involved in the photograph, your name and school, and your corresponding email address. Photographs must be owned by the participant and original.

Who can enter?

This contest is open to all students in the greater Jacksonville area (Jacksonville, Jacksonville Beach, and surrounding counties). This includes college, high school, middle school, and elementary school students. Middle and elementary school participants should have their parents submit their entry or have a class entry through their teacher.

How will judging work?

All entries will be evaluated by a committee of UNF Physics Faculty. From the original entries, the UNF Physics Faculty and staff will choose the top 10 photos to go to the final round. In the final round, the photos will be uploaded to the UNF Physics Facebook and Instagram Pages. The fans and followers of those social media Pages will then vote on the photos. The total number of votes will be determined by the number of likes and reactions the photo gets from both pages combined! In the event of a tie, the winners will share a fraction of the combined winnings from the combined places. All votes for the top photos will be verified. Fake or robot votes from fake accounts will be disqualified.

What is the takeaway?

There will be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards. The awards will be a \$100, \$50, and \$25 gift card for Amazon.com, respectively. There will also be a \$50 gift card prize for the top faculty and staff pick.

This is competition is on an honor system. Therefore, it is expected that all participants will act fairly and not tamper with votes (this includes purchasing of votes and reactions). If a photo is suspected of this, then it is possible that their photo may be disqualified. Votes should be from real accounts. UNF Physics reserves the rights to post and use photos on Facebook and other social media outlets, as well as in other media outreach for the department and university. Photographs must be owned by the participant, original, and cannot be found online. By submitting a photo, you are agreeing to these terms.

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

Running Reminders

Free Breakfast and Lunch: RJ Murray Middle is a site for free breakfast and lunch. We serve breakfast and lunch free of charge for all students. Breakfast starts at 7:10 am and stops at 7:25 am. We encourage all students to have breakfast each morning and lunch in our café.

Note: Students are not permitted to take Starbucks or Dunkin Doughnuts beverages into the classroom. Please make sure students consume these beverages before entering the building. Glass bottles create a safety risk. Please do not allow your student to bring beverages in glass bottles to school.

Home Access Center (HAC) Interim reports and report cards are released and accessible via (HAC).

Sign in Procedure: In line with a district wide sign in, all activity will be completed through use of an identification card.

Dismissal and Checkouts: Dismissal changes & Early Checkouts must be completed by 1:00 PM (M, T, TH, F) and by 12:00 PM (W). Make sure to have your identification.

Parent Drop Off and Pick:

Some friendly reminders:

1. Remember, the Parent Pick Up line is a hands-free zone, so help us keep kids safe AND keep the line moving by saving phone calls and texts for later.
2. Please pull up as much as you can to keep the line moving. Try to avoid large gaps in the line so we can make dismissal run smoothly for our students and staff!

Tardies – students are to report to class on time. Students who are late to class will not be permitted to enter without a pass. We will implement our tardy pass policy on Monday, August 17, 2026. After a student receives 5 tardies, school consequences will be given. Please talk to your student and encourage them to be on time for class and refrain from walking a peer to class.

Student Ids: All students must wear their IDs daily. Students without an ID will be charged \$5 for a replacement. Please encourage your student to wear their IDs daily.

Proof of Residency and Immunization - If you have not completed Proof of Residency or turned in the 7th grade immunization records, please contact the computer operator, Lindsey Cooper at 904-547-8484.

Clinic News: If you have any clinic questions, please contact Nurse Kim Lombardi at 904-547-8470.

You've Been Caught Getting Your BARK on! Our PBIS positive recognition program will recognize students for going above and beyond to meet the RJMMS Guidelines for Success – **Being Prepared, Acting Responsibly, Respecting Everyone, and Keeping Safe**. Students who are recognized will receive Bark Bucks points redeemable in our school store.

Our main goal is to keep building the wonderful sense of community that we are so lucky to have at our school. Whether it be the excitement of planning and volunteering, to attending activities with your family, know that your participation is so appreciated and valuable. Thank you for your support, and please let us know if you need anything!

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

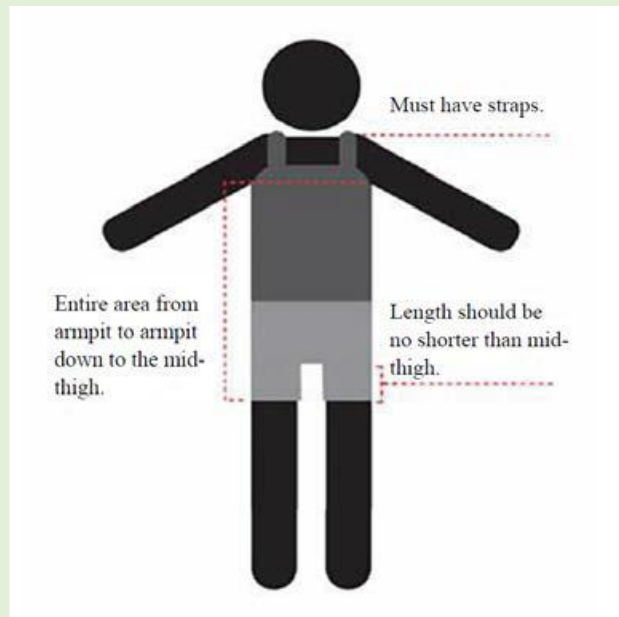
Student Dress Code

The primary responsibility for a student's attire resides with the student and their parent(s) or guardian(s). The St. Johns County School District expects students to dress in a way that is appropriate for the school day or any school sponsored event. Student dress code requirements reflect fair, equitable, and consistent practices for all students, while contributing to a safe and positive school climate.

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).

Pajamas shall not be worn as exterior clothing on campus.

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.



Students must wear shoes that are safe and appropriate for the learning environment. **Bedroom slippers are prohibited.**

The principals or designers will determine the appropriateness of attire in conjunction with the current dress code policy.

For special events and occasions (spirit weeks, athletic contests, etc.) principals may modify this policy for their particular school.

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

School Bus Rules and Behavior

Responsibilities of the Student Rider

- Follow the bus operator's directions instantly.
- Board and disembark assigned school bus at the bus at zoned/assigned school and assigned school bus stop. Student riders are not permitted to disembark from school buses at locations other than the zoned and assigned school bus stop.
- Remain seated at all times facing to the front of the bus while the school bus is underway.
- Keep head and limbs inside the school bus at all times.
- Refrain from pushing, tripping or other unsafe conduct while boarding, riding and disembarking the school bus.
- Refrain from any abusive, profane language, or other inappropriate communications with other student riders, school bus operators, school bus attendants, cyclists, motorists and pedestrians.
- Maintain strict silence at railroad crossings to ensure safe crossing of the school bus over the tracks.
- Refrain from consuming food or other substances while aboard a school bus. Water is permitted when appropriate at the discretion of the school bus operator. Metal water bottles should be stored in a students' backpack.
- Refrain from using cell phones and other electronic devices aboard a school bus as directed by the school bus operator. Audio or video recording aboard a school bus is strictly prohibited.
- Refrain from applying or spraying perfume, cologne or aerosol items aboard a school bus.

Discipline for Student Riders Violating School Bus Rules

- Disruptive behavior and violation of the Code of Conduct on a school bus by a student rider are grounds for suspension of the privilege of riding on a school bus, disciplinary action by the school administration, and/or assessment of criminal penalties by law enforcement.
- The principal or designee may suspend a student from the school bus for up to ten (10) days per occurrence for violating the standards of conduct for student riders aboard a school bus.
-



Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

Schoolology Parent Access Codes

1. Go to <https://homeaccess.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>
2. Log in with your User Name and Password.

-OR-

Click “Click Here to Register for HAC”

(For more information on registering, go to:
<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/hac/registration/>)

3. Once you're logged in to HAC, click on the
Registration page to find your student's
Schoolology Parent Access Code.

Welcome to

 **Home Access Center**

HAC 03

If you are unable to log in, or do not see all of your student(s) listed in HAC, please contact the school.
You may now use HAC as an app on your mobile device.
Check out the eSchoolPLUS Family App in your app store.

Department of Children and Families Abuse Hotline 1-800-962-2873

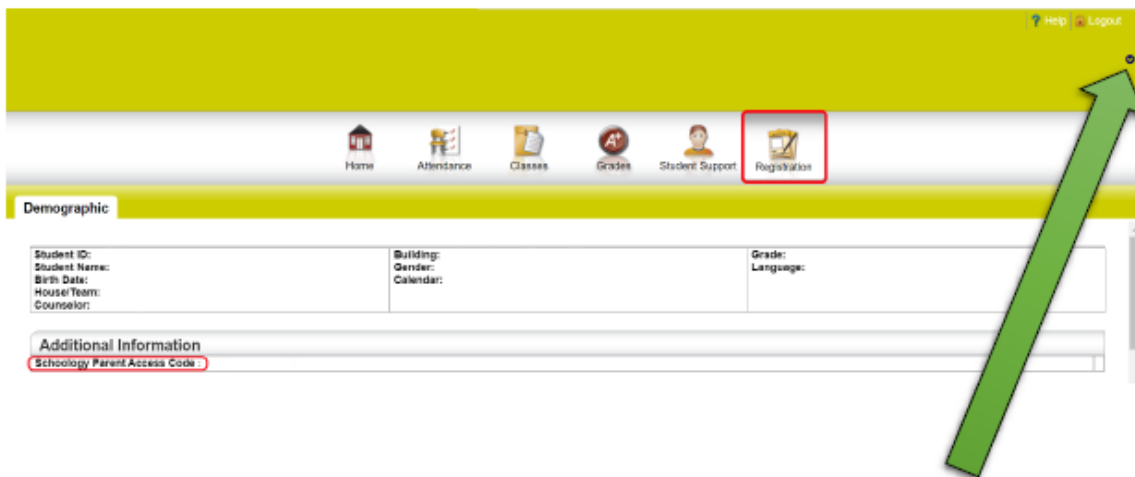
User Name

Password

[Forgot My User Name or Password](#)
[Click Here to Register for HAC](#)
[Click Here to Register with Access Code](#)

Sign In

If you have more than one St John's County student using Schoolology



Help Logout

Home Attendance Classes Grades Student Support **Registration**

Demographic

Student ID:	Building:	Grade:
Student Name:	Gender:	Language:
Birth Date:	Calendar:	
House/Room:		
Counselor:		

Additional Information

Schoolology Parent Access Code

Each student has a separate Schoolology Parent Access Code,
so you will click on the drop-down arrow to toggle between students.

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

Schoolology Parent Account

4. Go to www.schoolology.com.
5. Click on the Register button.
6. Click Parent.
7. Enter your Parent Access Code.
This is a 12-digit code in
xxxx-xxxx-xxxx format that you
received from HAC.

Login

Register

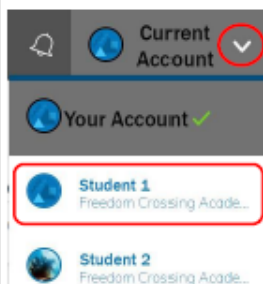
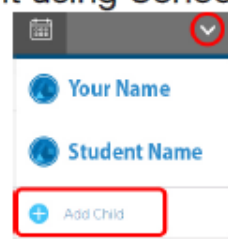
Note: Parent Access Codes can be found on your student's
Registration page on HAC (HAC instructions on the back of this page).

8. Fill out the form with your personal information.
9. Click Register to complete.

When you use a Parent Access Code to create an account,
you are automatically associated with that student.

If you have more than one St John's County student using Schoolology

You can add additional students to your account using
the Add Child option when you click on the account
drop-down arrow at the top-right of your screen.



To Toggle Between Accounts

Click on the account drop-down in the upper-right hand corner of
your screen. Then click on the account that you would like to access.

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026
August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

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.
- access prior statewide assessment results.
- print score reports.

How can I access the Family Portal?

- At the Florida Statewide Assessments Portal:
<https://flfast.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.

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of September 20, 2026

August Character Counts Pillar – All Pillars

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.

Submit A
Tip Online

Download On The
App Store

Get It On
Google Play



Important Notice

Florida Statute 943.082 states that if, following an investigation, it is determined that a person knowingly submitted a false tip through FortifyFL, the Internet protocol (IP) address of the device on which the tip was submitted will be provided to law enforcement agencies for further investigation, and the reporting party may be subject to criminal penalties under s. 837.05. In all other circumstances, unless the reporting party has chosen to disclose his or her identity, the report will remain anonymous.

