

Bulldog Bulletin

Week of October 4-10, 2026

October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility

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 8

October

- 6 Away Volleyball Game vs Gamble Rogers
PTO Virtual Meeting - 6:30pm
 - 7 Early Release
 - 12 Teacher Planning - No School for Students
 - 13 Away Volleyball Game vs Landrum
 - 14 Early Release
 - 15 Away Volleyball Game vs Sebastian
 - 20 Away Volleyball Game vs Pacetti Bay
 - 21 Reports Released in HAC
Early Release
 - 22 Home Volleyball Game vs Fruit Cove
 - 23-24 Shrek the Musical, Jr. Performances
 - 27 Home Volleyball Game vs Switzerland Point
Pink Out Day - Everyone Wears Pink
 - 28 Early Release
 - 29 Home Volleyball Game vs Gamble Rogers
 - 30 All "A" Honors Breakfast
- ### November
- 6 Pedro Menendez High School Connect @ Murray
 - 9-10 SAHS High School Connect @ Murray
 - 10 School-wide Spelling Bee (During School)
 - 11 Veterans Day - No School/Holiday
 - 12 Interims Released in HAC
 - 18 Picture Retakes

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: Responsibility

- Do what you are supposed to do.
- Always do your best.
- Use self-control.
- Be self-disciplined.
- Think before you act - consider the consequence.
- Be accountable for your choices.

In the Month of October, We Observe:

- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
 - Oct. 27th Pink Out Day Everyone Wears Pink
- National Hispanic Heritage Month

HOT TOPICS

❖ Book Fair October 5-9, 2026

- Parent Night at the Book Fair on Tuesday, October 6 from 2pm-5:30pm

❖ 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:

There are no shortcuts to any place worth going.

Beverly Sills

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Special Announcements

For All Out of County/Overnight Field Studies

If students would like to an out of county or overnight field study, the following rules apply:

- Zero (0) days of OSS
- No more than 2 days ISS
- No more than 10 days of unexcused absences
- Passing ALL Subjects

Note: School administration reserves the right to remove a student from a trip, place a student on a waiting list, and/or discuss participation with a parent prior to granting approval for student to attend a field study. Students with any special circumstances (including behavioral or medical) should contact school administration prior to registering or paying for trip.

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



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



You are cordially invited to attend the concert for St. Johns County High School and Middle School Honor Choir! The concert is at 7:00pm on Tuesday, October 6th at Beachside High School.



PTO Virtual Meeting

Tuesday, October 6th @ 6:30pm

Link to access the meeting will be sent via Parent Square separately.

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R.J. MURRAY MIDDLE SCHOOL

GOOD BOOKS
BRIGHT MINDS
BRIGHTER
FUTURES

EPIC

MEDIA CENTER

Read • Explore • Discover • Belong • Grow

Bulldogs Read. Bulldogs Lead.

Same Books
Brighter
Futures!

READ
LEARN
GROW
BELONG

BOOK FAIR HYPE WEEK
SEPTEMBER 28 – OCTOBER 2

Join us for a week of fun as we prepare for our Book Fair! Each day has a special theme to get our Bulldogs excited about reading, books, and all the amazing stories waiting for them!

MONDAY SEPT. 28 LIGHT UP THE FAIR Wear Yellow Let's Get Ready to Glow! Bright Readers Brighter Futures!	TUESDAY SEPT. 29 BOOK INSPIRED DAY Wear something that represents a book (No costumes – school appropriate) eWallet Setup Party! During your lunch period (Students must have money available to set up an eWallet)	WEDNESDAY SEPT. 30 WISH LIST WEDNESDAY Students with eWallets may preview the fair and create their wish list. Make Your List Dream Big!	THURSDAY OCT. 1 BULLDOGS LOVE BOOKS Wear Orange & Green Bulldogs Read. Bulldogs Lead. 	FRIDAY OCT. 2 GLOW UP THE FAIR Wear your brightest colors! Next Stop... BOOK FAIR!
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OUR GOAL:
\$7,000
Help us reach our goal and keep our Bulldogs reading!

R.J. MURRAY MIDDLE SCHOOL

GOOD BOOKS
BRIGHT MINDS
BRIGHTER
FUTURES

EPIC

MEDIA CENTER

Read • Explore • Discover • Belong • Grow

Bulldogs Read. Bulldogs Lead.

Books
Fuel
Big
Dreams!

BOOK FAIR WEEK
OCTOBER 5 – OCTOBER 9

The Book Fair is here! Join us for a week of shopping, fun, and celebrating the power of books. Every purchase helps support our EPIC Media Center and gets more great books into the hands of our students!

MONDAY OCT. 5 BOOK FAIR KICKOFF Let the Shopping Begin! Wear Orange & Green New books. New adventures. New possibilities!	TUESDAY OCT. 6 FAMILY GLOW PARTY NIGHT 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM Students & Families Welcome! Shop the Book Fair Together! Books Bring Families Together!	WEDNESDAY OCT. 7 GOLDEN TICKET DAY Shop the Fair Watch for Golden Tickets Win Special Prizes You could be a lucky winner!	THURSDAY OCT. 8 TEACHER FAVORITES DAY Support Classroom Libraries Shop Teacher Wish Lists Teachers Inspire. Books Empower.	FRIDAY OCT. 9 GLOW FOR THE GOAL Wear Neon Final Push Toward Our Goal! Every Purchase Makes a Difference!
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OUR GOAL:
\$7,000
Let's Do This Bulldogs!

Don't Forget!

- Set up your Book Fair eWallet the week of September 21st!
- The Media Center is always open for book check-ins and check-outs.
- Hispanic Heritage Month begins September 15!

READ MORE | BE MORE | GO FURTHER

if you
See Something, Say Something

Recognizing Concerning Behavior

Bullying & Harassment

Self-Harm Concerns

Weapons or Dangerous Items

Threats of Violence

Speak Up. Stay Safe. Protect Each Other.

How to Report a Concern

Tell a Trusted Adult Immediately

Submit an Anonymous Report Through Fortify Florida

Call 911 in an Emergency

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Title I and Title IV Waiver Feedback Opportunities

SJCSD is seeking feedback on proposed Ed Flex waivers for the 2026-2027 Title I, Part A and Title IV, Part A grants. **Please use the links below and respond by October 5, 2026.**

The Title I request would provide flexibility with carryover, schoolwide program eligibility, Parent and Family Engagement funding, budget revisions, and Rank and Serve requirements.

The Title IV request would provide flexibility with spending percentages across program areas and certain technology expenditures.

These waivers would help the district respond to identified student and school needs while continuing to use funds for their intended purposes.

- [Provide feedback on the proposed Title I waiver](#)
- [Provide feedback on the proposed Title IV waiver](#)

Take Stock in Children

INK!
INVESTING IN KIDS



About Take Stock in Children

Take Stock in Children is a statewide program that supports students with mentoring, guidance, and resources to help them succeed in high school and beyond. Graduates from the program are awarded tuition scholarships equaling 60 credit hours to the Florida state college or technical college of their choice.

Why Families Choose Take Stock

Founded in 1995, TSIC is a trusted statewide program supported by education, business, and community leaders. Investing in Kids has administered the program in SJC since 1998.

- **\$2.6+** million in scholarships awarded locally since 1998, funded by local donors
- **96%** of graduates since 2007 attend college immediately after high school
- **Class of 2026: 21 graduates** — 100% accepted to college or technical school, attending SJR State, UNF, UCF, University of Florida, FSU, USF, FAU, and FCTC with average scholarships earned of \$24,000+ per program graduate



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Take Stock in Children



Eligibility Requirements

Selected 7th-11th grade students sign a contract, agreeing to maintain a 2.5 GPA, stay in school, and remain drug and crime-free.

Students must also financially qualify based on income guidelines.

INCOME GUIDELINES

For interested applicants · per family size · 2026-27

Maximum adjusted gross income on 2025 US tax return

2 – \$43,500

3 – \$50,542

4 – \$61,050

5 – \$71,558

6 – \$82,066

7 – \$92,574

8 – \$103,082

Alternate eligibility may be available for families receiving TANF, SNAP, Medicaid, or ASSIST services

Next Steps

To complete an application, please scan the QR code or visit us online at:

<https://www.takestockinchildren.org/student-application/>



SCAN ME FOR THE TSIC STUDENT APPLICATION

or, for more information...

Attend our *VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION*

Thursday, October 8th - 7:00PM

Saturday, October 10th - 10:00AM



Register for the meeting by scanning the QR code

Questions?

Jim Wheeler
Program Director

(904) 547-7121

 james.wheeler@stjohns.k12.fl.us

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Field of Dreams Baseball – An Overview

Effective 09-01-2026

Who We Are:

Field of Dreams Baseball (FOD) is a youth sport league within the Creeks Athletic Association, a 501c3 corporation, located in Northwest St. Johns County, Florida. It was founded in 2011, and its inaugural season had 4 teams consisting of 41 players. Since that time, the league has grown year-over-year with the 2026 season supporting 14 teams with over 270+ players.

Mission:

Our mission is to provide a sustainable and all voluntary based organization that provides a safe ADA certified facility where children and young adults with special needs can play baseball FREE and be an active part of a thriving athletic association.

Purpose:

Our purpose is to enable children and young adults of all ages with special needs the opportunity to play baseball in an organized league; to wear a uniform; to participate in the singing of the National Anthem before each game; to have their names announced throughout the game; and to be a player on an athletic team.

Actualizing Our Mission and Purpose:

At FOD Baseball, we have two overarching operating principles which drives our organization:

1. All things are FREE at Field of Dreams

As of the 2026 season, it costs \$115 to place one child on the field. This cost includes a full major league replica jersey (hat, pants, shirt, belt, and socks), player insurance, and miscellaneous league expenses. In addition, concessions are also FREE and are sponsored by game-day donations, and several local companies, sponsors, and community partners.

2. Special Things Happen Between White Lines

As the league began to grow and flourish, we saw our local community and countless individuals come together to experience something very special. Most of the volunteers that help sustain the league are individuals that do not have a child in the league as with other youth sport organizations. We have all been witness to the fact that special things really do happen between white lines, and we are fortunate to be a part of it.

Maintaining Financial Stability and Sustainability:

The year-over-year financial costs incurred to support our Mission and Purpose must be stable, reliable, and sustainable over time. Most of the families that have children and young adults with special needs cannot afford the costs associated with participating in a youth sports organization. It is therefore incumbent on our league leadership and volunteers to establish, maintain and nurture financial donations that are the underlying essence of our league. It is only through the generosity of individuals, local businesses and community partners can we continue our work.

How To-Help:

If you would like to help, even in some small way, or if you know of a business or organization that can, please let us know by contacting either Gene Kolisnyk, FOD President, at UKE123@aol.com (904-613-8005) or George Vancore, FOD Director and Founding Father, at gvancore@bellsouth.net (904-742-1470). Also, please feel free to visit our website for more information about Field of Dreams @ www.FODBaseball.com. Thank you for your help, support, and consideration.

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Field of Dreams Baseball St. Johns County, Florida



Aberdeen Park
1401 Shetland Drive
St Johns, FL 32259

About FOD

Field of Dreams (FOD) is a voluntary based baseball league that supports children and young adults with special needs. They play their games on an ADA certified baseball field that allows children and young adults with special needs (intellectual or physical disabilities) the opportunity to play baseball, to wear a uniform and to play as a member of a team.

FOD is a place where children and young adults can meet at the field and play baseball. What child or young adult does not want to hear the cheering of the crowd; to receive a trophy or to play America's favorite sport? At Field of Dreams, they will, they do and they can.

Field of Dreams Baseball (FOD) is a 501(3)(c) non-profit voluntary-based organization and a proud member of the Creeks Athletic Association (CAA).

REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2027 Field of Dreams season is now open!

To Register, please visit our website at www.FODBaseball.com and click the "Register Online" button on the left side of the browser. There is no cost to register!

For players to be guaranteed a uniform by opening day, registration must be completed by December 12, 2026.

The season begins on January 29, 2027

Although all things are free at Field of Dreams, donations are being accepted this year to help cover a portion of the cost for each player. The full cost to field a player, which includes a major league baseball hat, pants, team shirt, socks, belt, insurance, and trophies is approximately \$115 per player. While this is not required, if you are able to help defray any of this cost or to make a donation, please feel free to donate via our "DONATE NOW" link within the website.

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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.



APPLICATIONS DUE

October 30, 2026

REQUEST AN
APPLICATION

Minimum Eligibility Requirements

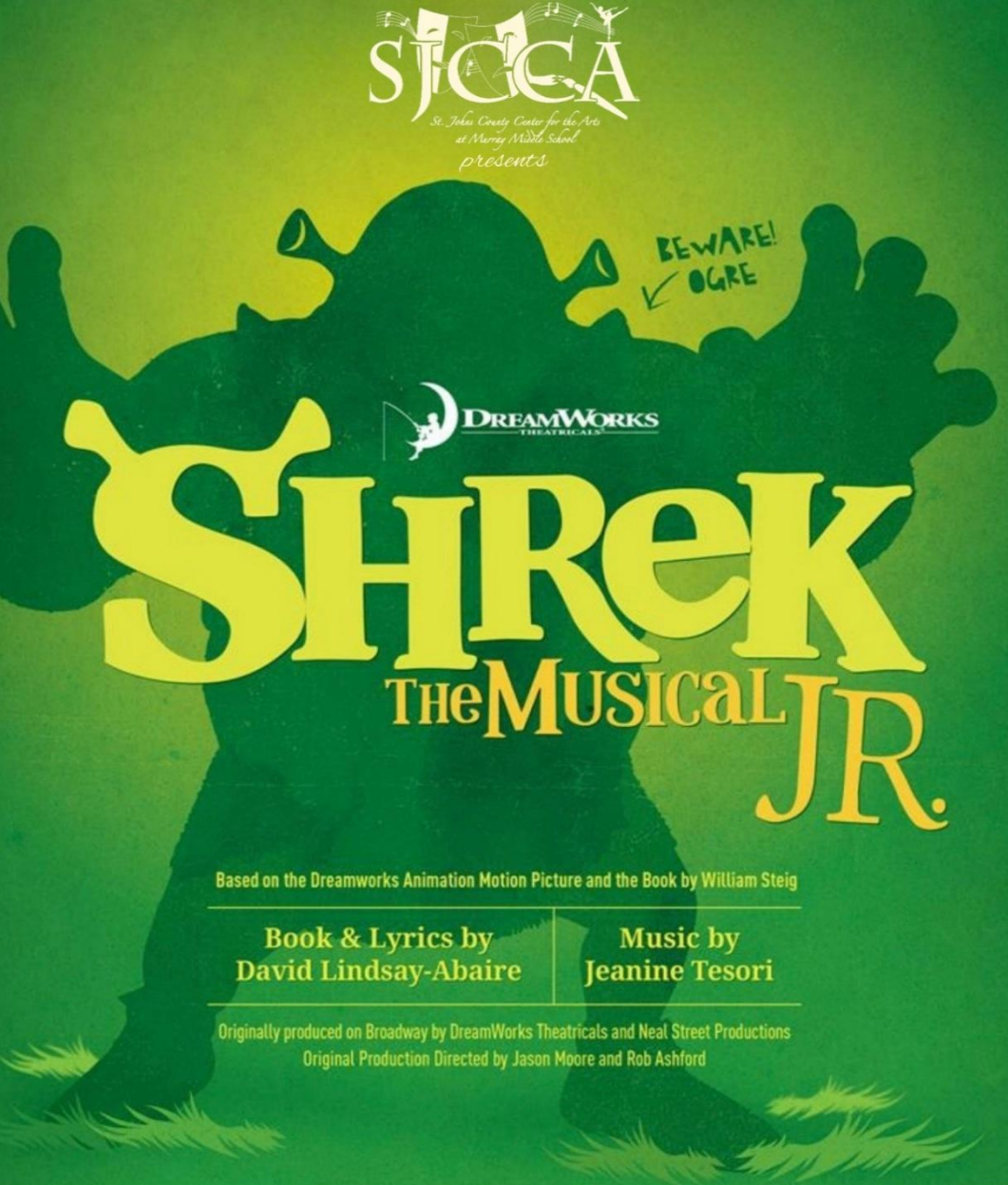
Criteria for NJHS:

- 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

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STCCA
*St. John's 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
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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).

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Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

We are excited to kick off our **R.J. Murray Middle School Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration**, September 15–October 15! This year's theme is **“Many Cultures, One Community.”**

As part of our school-wide celebration, each grade level and department will participate in our **Hispanic Heritage Hall Challenge**. Our goal is to transform R.J. Murray into a colorful, educational celebration of Hispanic and Latino history, culture, traditions, achievements, and contributions.

 **And yes, this is a competition!** The winning hallway will receive a **Nacho Party!**



Each hall has been assigned a special focus:

- **A Hall – 8th Grade:** Hispanic Countries & Government
- **B Hall – 7th Grade:** Traditions, Holidays & Celebrations
- **C Hall – Spanish, Media Center & Behavior Unit:** Famous Hispanic Leaders, Artists & Celebrities
- **D Hall – 6th Grade:** Places to Visit Across Hispanic Countries
- **Main Hall – Administration & Electives:** Food, Culture & Community

Students are encouraged to be an important part of the celebration by completing research projects, creating displays, sharing interesting facts, and helping bring their hall's theme to life.

 **Save the Date – October 15!**

Our month-long celebration will conclude with our **Family Celebration & Project Showcase, Gallery Walk, Hall Challenge Awards, and Teacher & Family Luncheon**. Families will have an opportunity to tour our halls, view student projects, take pictures, and celebrate everything our students have learned.

We want this to be **student-centered, educational, creative, colorful, and FUN!**

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R.J. MURRAY MIDDLE SCHOOL

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

September 15 - October 15

Join us as we celebrate the history, cultures, achievements, and contributions of Hispanic and Latino communities through a month-long school-wide event!

*Our Cultures
Our Stories
Our People
A Stronger Tomorrow*

*Many Cultures
One Community*

**DIFFERENT CULTURES
BRIGHTER TOGETHER**



HALLWAY DECORATING COMPETITION

Departments and grade levels will transform their hallways into vibrant cultural showcases highlighting Hispanic heritage.

HALL THEMES

★ A Hall (8th Grade)	Hispanic Countries & Government
★ B Hall (7th Grade)	Traditions, Holidays & Celebrations
★ C Hall (Spanish • Media Center • Behavior Unit)	Famous Hispanic Leaders, Artists & Celebrities
★ D Hall (6th Grade)	Places to Visit Across Hispanic Countries
★ Main Hall (Administration & Electives)	Food, Culture & Community



STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

Students will research a Hispanic country, person, tradition, or cultural contribution. Projects may include:

- ✓ Interesting Facts
- ✓ Traditional Foods
- ✓ Places to Visit
- ✓ Government Information
- ✓ Famous Celebrities
- ✓ Holidays & Traditions
- ✓ "Did You Know?" Facts
- ✓ Visual Displays & Creative Presentations

**EXPLORE
LEARN
CREATE
SHARE
CELEBRATE**



DID YOU KNOW?

- Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from September 15 through October 15.
- More than 20 countries have Spanish as an official language.
- Chocolate, tomatoes, corn, and avocados originated in the Americas.
- Sonia Sotomayor became the first Hispanic Justice of the United States Supreme Court.



FAMILY CELEBRATION & PROJECT SHOWCASE

October 15

Families are invited to:

- ★ Tour our decorated hallways
- ★ View student research projects
- ★ Take pictures with displays
- ★ Celebrate Hispanic culture and heritage
- ★ Attend the Hallway Competition Awards

*Familias
Escuelas
Comunidades
Más Fuertes
Juntos*



TEACHER & FAMILY LUNCHEON

October 15

Hispanic families, student participants, staff, and guests are invited to join us as we celebrate our month of learning and cultural appreciation.

*Good Food
Brings
People
Together*



Sponsored By:

Mr. McKenna | Mrs. Byrd | Ms. S. Brown
R.J. Murray Middle School

Celebrating Diversity • Building Understanding • Honoring Heritage

Let's learn, celebrate, and explore together!



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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.



The poster is for the Len Mattiace Foundation Stop the Bullying Contest. It features a green and blue color scheme. At the top, it says "LEN MATTIACE FOUNDATION" in white on a green background. Below that, "STOP THE BULLYING" is written in large green letters, followed by "CONTEST" in large green letters with hyphens on either side. In the center, there is a QR code with the text "More information" below it. To the left of the QR code, it says "Starts 16 SEPT." and to the right, "Ends 05 NOV. (5 PM)". At the bottom left, it says "CASH PRIZES! OPEN TO ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS" in blue. At the bottom right, there is a circular logo with a hand holding a heart, surrounded by the text "COMPASSION INCLUSION KINDNESS" and "#STOPTHEBULLYING".

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](#)

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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



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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>



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The district needs members for the District Library Material Objection Committee. Please share the following information in your newsletters and with your stakeholder groups.

District Library Material Objection Committee

The application for the District Library Material Objection Committee is open for the 2026-2027 school year. For information, please visit <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/news/objection-committee-2026/>

If you are interested in serving on the SJCSD Library Material Objection Committee, please submit your interest by completing the [Objection Committee Interest Form](#).

The required training is available online and must be completed prior to serving.

Please note: The form will remain open throughout the school year, and we will select committee members at random.

Thank you for your willingness to support our schools and students!



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

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Roadmap for Success

Dear Parents and Guardians,

St. Johns County School District is pleased to provide information regarding the **Programs of Interest Application Process for the 2027-2028 school year**. Current **5th, 8th, and 9th grade students** who are interested in exploring specialized Career Academies and Programs of Interest should begin preparing now for the application process.

To support students and families, a comprehensive **Student Toolkit** is available at [Home - Career and Technical Education \(CTE\) of St. Johns County](#). The toolkit includes important dates, application instructions, frequently asked questions, and resources to help students identify programs that align with their interests and future college and career goals. Families are encouraged to review the toolkit together and watch the Student Toolkit video before the application period begins.

We encourage all interested families to begin exploring opportunities now and use the Student Toolkit as a guide throughout the process. We look forward to helping students discover programs that connect their interests, talents, and future goals.

Sincerely,

Career and Technical Education Department

St. Johns County School District

cte.stjohns.k12.fl.us

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PTO Updates

Happy Fall, Y'all!

We're looking for help for our 1st quarter PBIS reward event! This event will include a fall fest (outside and gymnasium) and a movie in the auditorium.

There are a lot of moving parts at this event, so we hope to have lots of help! All concessions and supplies will be provided by PTO and the school.

* All volunteers must have approved volunteer status with SJCSJ. For more information-
<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/volunteer/>

Click below to sign up!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508044BAEA623AAF49-66371957-pbis>

PTO Virtual Meeting

Tuesday, October 6th @ 6:30pm

Link to access the meeting will be sent via Parent Square separately.

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/>.

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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 October 4-10, 2026

October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Transforming Lives

St. Augustine Regional Office

Hope for the Holidays

CHRISTMAS APPLICATION



We are thrilled to host the **Hope for the Holidays** program again this year. Beginning **Tuesday, October 3rd**, we will be accepting applications for families who are in need of Christmas assistance.

Through this initiative, Catholic Charities St. Augustine partners with other local organizations to gather toys for children who otherwise would not have gifts to open for the holidays. If you are facing financial hardship or having trouble making ends meet, please do not hesitate to apply. Applications are first come, first served.



In order to receive assistance, you must fulfill the following requirements:



You must have children living in your home



Applications can **ONLY** be submitted Tuesdays and Thursdays from **10am to 3pm**

You must include the following documents in your applications:

- Proof of St. Johns County residency, such as:
 - Current utility bill
 - St. Johns County ID
 - Lease agreement and/or mortgage documentation



Original birth certificate for **ALL** children



Photo ID



List of gift ideas for all family members prepared **before arrival**



A Note on Thanksgiving Assistance:

Through our food pantry, families will also have the opportunity to receive groceries to help you create a memorable and plentiful Thanksgiving dinner. Visit our food pantry on Monday or Wednesday from 9am to 3pm the week before and week of Thanksgiving to receive extra Thanksgiving staple items.

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October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility



DATE: Saturday, December 19, 2026

TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon

Gifts for Newborn – Age 12

TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT:

Debie Nantz at

904-834-5055 or

email st.augustine.toysfortots@gmail.com

Choose one of the following locations for toys pick up

Start date is October 2, 2026 – Deadline date is December 3, 2026

W.E. Harris Community Center

400 Harris street

Hastings, FL 32084

Solomon Calhoun Center

1300 Duval Street

St Augustine, FL 32084

Elks Lodge

1420 A1A South

St Augustine, FL 32080

The following information is required per child:

Name, age, last 4 digits of social security number, and gender

Bulldog Bulletin

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October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility

TRACK OR TREAT

Please join us!

Entry is Free!

October 28

Treats and a movie on the big screen.

6:00–7:30pm

Pedro Menendez High School

600 SR 206 W

Sponsored by
PMHS Student
Council



Bulldog Bulletin

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October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility

Thank you to Sherri Lee Heath, district staff, and our gifted teachers for an amazing field study event for our gifted and talented students. Our students were actively engaged, enjoyed interacting with their peers, and making new friendship connections.



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October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility

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 October 4-10, 2026

October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility

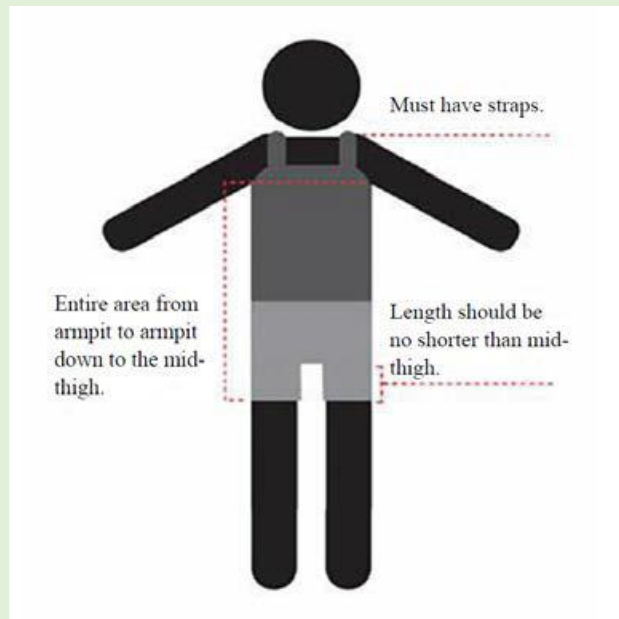
Student Dress Code

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 October 4-10, 2026

October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility

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 October 4-10, 2026

October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility

Schoology 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
Schoology Parent Access Code.

Welcome to
 Home Access Center

HAC 03

If you are unable to log in, or do not see all of your students 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

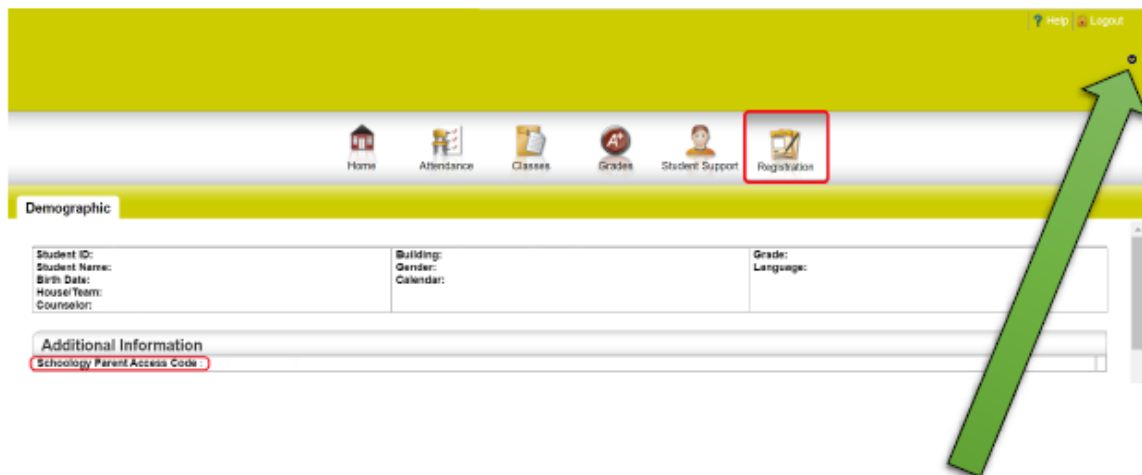
User Name

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 Schoology



Demographic		
Student ID:	Building:	Grade:
Student Name:	Gender:	Language:
Birth Date:	Calendar:	
Household:		
Counselor:		

Additional Information	
Schoology Parent Access Code	

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

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October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility

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

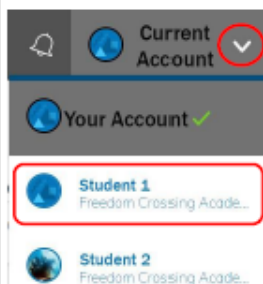
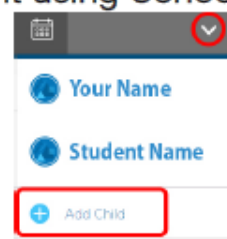
Note: Parent Access Codes can be found on your student's
Registration page on HAC (HAC instructions on the back of this page).

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 October 4-10, 2026
October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility

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.

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Week of October 4-10, 2026

October Character Counts Pillar – Responsibility

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.

