2023-2024 Parent Guide & Calendar

Ready, Set, Accelerate

Citrus County Schools

Superintendent
Sandra 'Sam' Himmel

A message from your Superintendent

SANDRA 'SAM' HIMMEL
SUPERINTENDENT

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We are so excited that you have chosen the Citrus County School District for your family's educational needs. We continue our commitment to address the health and safety of our students and maintain excellence in education.

The administration, teachers and school board would like to thank you for your support, understanding and shared dedication to our learning community. We shall continue to work in unison to be the best we can be.

Staff have engaged in continuous learning and professional development with the goal of delivering instruction that meets the needs of students whether in the traditional classroom or in a virtual setting. Parents, please know that I deeply appreciate and value the role you play in your child's education. I encourage you to stay involved with each year of your child's school career to ensure the greatest success possible.

We created this calendar to support our parents to stay involved in their child's education and extracurricular activities. Within these pages are important dates, facts, and resources to benefit you and your child throughout the school year. Specifically, we have included district policies and guidelines, enrollment information, testing schedules, graduation requirements and security and safety programs. The calendar also includes names and telephone numbers of individuals who can provide additional information on a variety of subjects. I encourage you to write on, cut out and tab any pages you frequently visit.

We extend our gratitude to our community partners, especially the Citrus County Education Foundation, for their support in creating this calendar.

Once again, thank you for being a part of the Citrus County School District family. As your Superintendent of Schools, I am honored to serve you, and I am confident that the 2023-2024 school year will be an exciting and successful one!

Sam Himmel

Sandra "Sam" Himmel
Superintendent of Schools

Citrus County School Board

THOMAS KENNEDY
VICE-CHAIR
KennedyT1@citrusschools.org
DISTRICT 1

VIRGINIA "GINGER" BRYANT
BryantG@citrusschools.org
DISTRICT 2

DOUGLAS A. DODD
CHAIRMAN
DoddD@citrusschools.org
DISTRICT 3

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DISTRICT 4

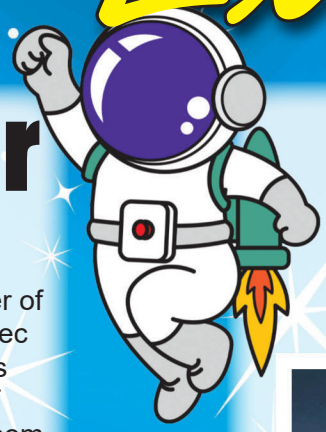
JOE FAHERTY
FahertyJ@citrusschools.org
DISTRICT 5

Citrus County School Board 352-726-1931 • www.citrusschools.org
1007 W. Main Street, Inverness, FL 34450

Shining Examples

Teacher of the Year
Mrs. Lita Stanton

The Florida Teacher of the Year Program rec ognizes and honors the contributions of outstanding classroom teachers who have demonstrated superi- or capacity to inspire a love of learning in students of all back- grounds and abilities. Mrs. Lita Stanton, our 2024 Citrus County Teacher of the Year has been teaching for the Citrus County School District for 12 years. Lita's academ- ic, social, and tech- nological expertise is critical in her position as she manages multi- ple tasks at any given moment. She consistently builds strong relationships with her stu- dents, their families, and colleagues, allowing her to positively impact the school climate and student achievement. Citrus High Principal Mark Kahler says, "Her rich background in mathematical strategies helps differentiate instruction for her students. Explicit instruction, developing relationships, and student-to-student collaboration are the cornerstones of her teaching."



School-Related Employee of the Year
Mrs. Angelica Lefevers

Mrs. Angelica Le- fevers, our 2023 School-Related Employee of the Year has been making a differ- ence in the lives of young students in Citrus County for the past five years and currently serves as an ESE paraprofessional, where she works with some of the most challenging students on cam- pus. She is caring and consistent when providing communication to families as needed. Debi Collins, Lecanto Primary School ESE Staffing Specialist, says, "Angelica always maintains a positive outlook. There is rarely a time that Angelica is without a smile or a kind word. She works hard, loves her job, and is an amazing coworker."

Scholarship Opportunities

Local: Citrus County Coalition for College & Careers

State: Bright Futures, Florida student scholarships and grants

Federal: FASA, Pell grants

Senior Checklist

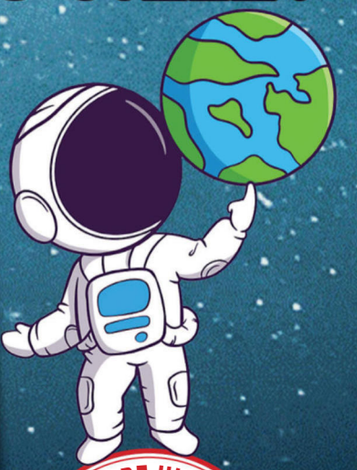
Our Superintendent Sam Himmel is committed to making sure every senior graduates from high school and is prepared for success after they walk across the graduation stage.

In order to provide our community with a strong and ready workforce, Citrus Schools enables our graduates to have the tools necessary to prepare for success in college and careers.

Choosing a college pathway opens many doors — but it is expensive. Please take advantage of all of the scholarships available to you. Nearly 70% of seniors take out student loans and graduate with almost $30,000 in debt.

Use the QR codes for more information on scholarships and ways to stay debt free.

Join Our Team!



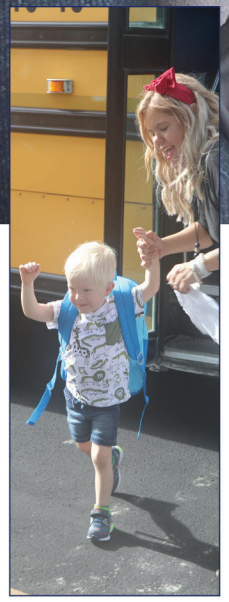
- Teachers & Substitute Teachers
- Maintenance • Custodial • Paraprofessionals
- Food Services • Bus Drivers

Questions? Contact our Human Resources Department at 352-726-1931, ext. 2295 Or view open positions and apply online at www.CitrusSchools.org

AUGUST 2023

Are We There Yet?

School staff, parents, and students are all responsible for creating a culture of positive behavior. Parents and students must follow the school district's Student Code of Conduct.



LOADING AND UNLOADING:

- Always stay away from the 10 foot "danger zone" around the bus, except when you are directed by the driver to get on or off the bus.
- Always be sure the driver can see you.
- Always wait for the driver to signal that it is safe to cross the road and/or load onto the bus.
- When crossing a traffic lane, always look left, right, then left again.
- Cross only if approaching traffic has stopped.
- Never walk behind the bus or along the side of the bus.
- Only board your assigned bus, unless other arrangements are approved by your school.

DURING THE BUS RIDE:

- Always follow the driver's directions.
- Never distract the driver from driving unless there is immediate danger to you or others.
- Remain seated and keep the aisles clear and keep arms, legs and head inside the bus.
- Never bring unsafe or unauthorized items into the bus.
- Always show respect for your fellow students.

BUS STOPS:

Bus stops are placed at the closest intersection to a student's home whenever feasible. You can easily find where the closest bus stop is to your home by clicking on the QR Code below or by calling the Transportation office that serves your child's school.

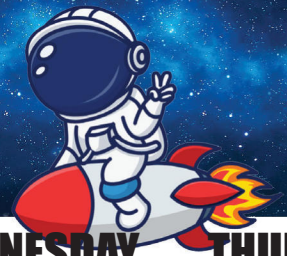
More information on staying safe between home and school and bus safety tips:

Questions? Contact: Marilyn Farmer, Director of Transportation

Crystal River: 352-795-0057, serving: CRPS, CSES, RCE, CSMS, CRMS, CRHS, and AES
Lecanto: 352-746-2714, serving: CRE, FRE, HOM, LPS, LMS, LHS, and CREST
Inverness: 352-344-2193, serving: FCE, HES, IPS, PGE, IMS, CHS, and WTC

REMEMBER: *Parent or guardian must be at the bus stop morning and afternoon for Pre-K and Kindergarten. Students will be returned to the school if the adult is not at the bus stop.*

AUGUST 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Professional Development Teacher Workday	2 Professional Development Teacher Workday	3 Professional Development Teacher Workday	4 Professional Development Teacher Workday	5
6	7 Professional Development Teacher Workday	8 Professional Development Teacher Workday	9 Professional Development Teacher Workday	10 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Update Your Child's Emergency Form

Update names, addresses and telephone numbers of your student and any family members who may pick up your child.

Kindergarten

KINDERGARTEN REPORT CARD

P PERFORMING SUCCESSFULLY

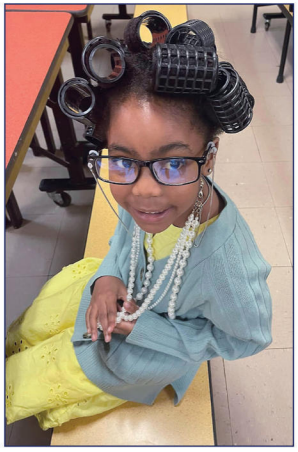
Example: The student reads material at his/her grade level and can demonstrate understanding of what is read.

I INCONSISTENT PERFORMANCE

Example: The student is improving in his/her ability to read and understand written text but often needs help to complete assignments successfully.

N NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

Example: The student regularly struggles with reading. Extra assistance is regularly needed.



GRADING CODES FOR OTHER AREAS

Grade	Definition
S	Satisfactory Performance
N	Needs Improvement
U	Unsatisfactory Performance
X	Areas to Develop

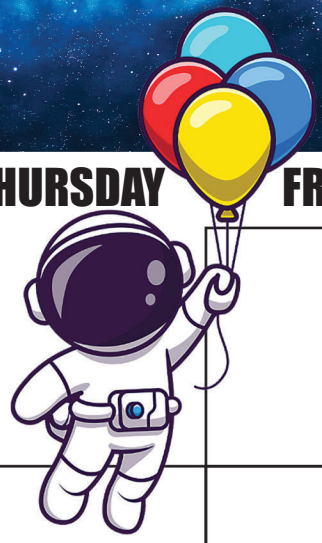
Throughout the report card there are opportunities for teachers to note areas that need to be developed or improved.

Did You Know?

All students will be evaluated within the first 30 days of the school year. Your child's teacher will let you know how well your child is progressing.

SEPTEMBER 2023

SEPTEMBER 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program establishes lottery-funded scholarships to reward Florida high school graduates for high academic achievement. To find out more about Florida Student Scholarships & Grant Programs:						2
3	4 HOLIDAY - LABOR DAY	5	6	7		9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Parent Conference - Elementary & Middle Professional Development High School	28	29	30

Elementary

OCTOBER 2023

GRADES 1-5 REPORT CARD

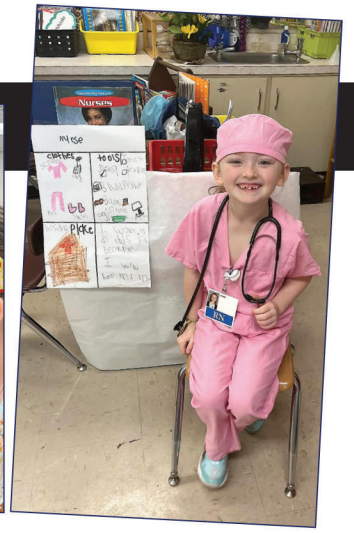
Five letters are used to describe student performance

GRADE	SCORE
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 -

GRADING CODES FOR OTHER AREAS

Grade	Definition
S	SATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE
N	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
U	UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE
X	AREAS TO DEVELOP

Throughout the report card there are opportunities for teachers to note areas that need to be developed or improved.



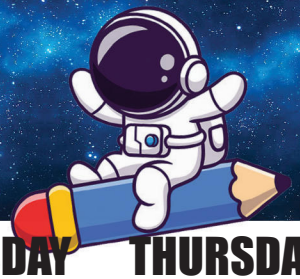
Questions? Contact: Renè Johnson

Director of Teaching & Learning

352-726-1931, ext. 2412

JohnsonR2@citrusschools.org

OCTOBER 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 FTE WEEK - SURVEY 2	10 FTE WEEK - SURVEY 2	11 FTE WEEK - SURVEY 2	12 FTE WEEK - SURVEY 2	13 END OF QUARTER 1 FTE WEEK - SURVEY 2	14
15	16	17	18 Student Early Dismissal - Professional Development	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 HOLIDAY - FALL BREAK	28
29	30	31				

Did You Know?

Citrus County Schools offer *MyPaymentsPlus:*

- Manage your student's meal account
- Check your student's account balance
- Monitor the items your student purchases
- Receive email notifications when the account reaches a low balance
- Make a prepayment into your student's meal account

Secondary REPORT CARD

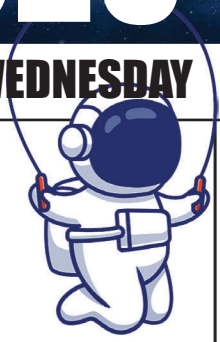
NOVEMBER 2023

Students receive electronic report cards every nine weeks. They also receive mid-term progress reports every 4-5 weeks. Most academic and elective subjects are given a grade percentage ranging from 0 to 100% where the ranges represent the following progress.

GRADE	SCORE	PERCENT
A	OUTSTANDING	90-100
B	ABOVE AVERAGE	80-89
C	AVERAGE	70-79
D	LOWEST ACCEPTABLE	60-69
F	FAIL	0-59

Questions? Contact: Shawyn Newman
Director of Curriculum & Instruction
352-726-1931, ext. 2241
NewmanS@citrusschools.org

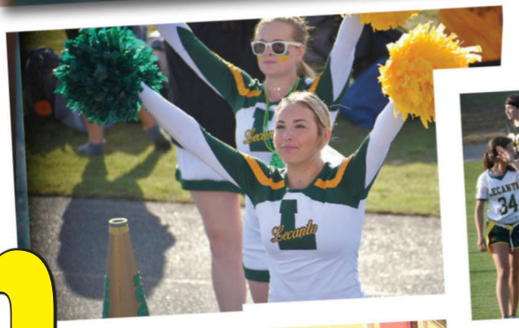
NOVEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FLORIDA FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION MONTH: A time to celebrate the crucial role parents and families play in their children's education. When schools work together with families to support learning, children are more motivated to succeed, not just in school, but throughout life.			1 	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 HOLIDAY - VETERAN'S DAY OBSERVED	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING BREAK
19 HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING BREAK	20 HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING BREAK	21 HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING BREAK	22 HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING BREAK	23 HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING BREAK	24 HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING BREAK	25 HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING BREAK
26 HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING BREAK	27	28	29	30		

Nutrislice (nutritional analysis software) is available on our website for parents and students to track the nutrient content and food allergens of our menu items. It is also available in a mobile app.

Game On

DECEMBER 2023



The opportunity to participate in the Citrus County School District's athletic program is a distinct privilege. With that privilege comes certain responsibilities as well as the rewards and honor of being a part of an interscholastic athletic program.

The Citrus County School District, through policy and action, supports the belief that a strong program of extracurricular athletics provides a balance in educational programming for its students. Our successful athletic program includes dedicated coaches, active support from the student body, outstanding leadership from school administrators, and most importantly, a great sense of pride fostered by the entire community.

CHS Athletics

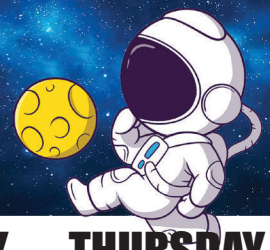
CRHS Athletics

LHS Athletics

We are looking forward to seeing our student athletes compete and have success both in and out of the classroom!

Questions? Contact: Robert Verlato, District TOSA-County Athletics, 352-726-1931, ext. 2250, VerlatoR@citrusschools.org

DECEMBER 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
• **Encourage Children to Read!** Have your child catch up on reading he/she enjoys. Let your child pick a book because it looks interesting. Help your child discover the joy of reading! • **Cook up an Easy Lesson!** Invite your child into the kitchen to help with a special dish — from holiday treats to potato pancakes. Recipe measurements are great practice with fractions. • **Build Something Together!** Whatever the medium — clay, paper, Legos, wooden blocks — building is a great way to stretch a child's imagination and help him/her think creatively! Building is the starting point of engineering.					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Student Early Dismissal - Teacher Workday	22 END OF QUARTER 2 Student Early Dismissal - Teacher Workday	23 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK
24 31 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	25 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	26 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	27 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	28 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	29 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	30 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK

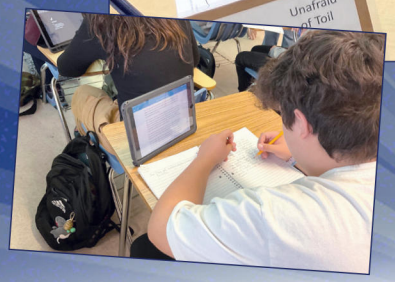
Student Testing

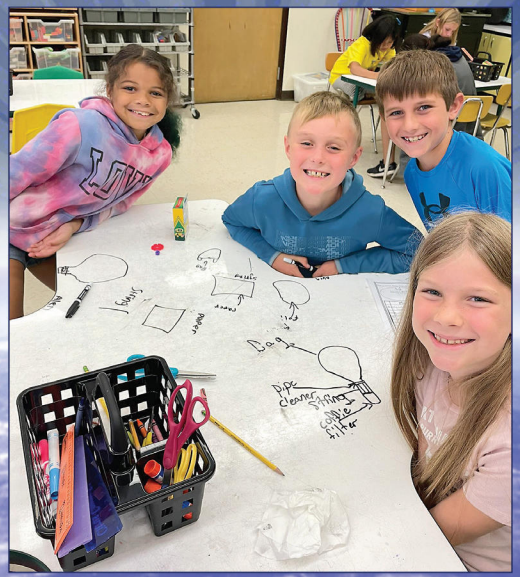
JANUARY 2024

Florida's Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.) progress monitoring and coordinated screening program includes VPK through grade 10 English Language Arts and VPK through grade 10 Mathematics assessments that are aligned to Florida's Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards and are administered three times per year.

In addition to F.A.S.T., the following are state assessments that take place at the end of a course:

- Grade 5 & 8 Statewide Science Assessment
- Grades 4-10 Writing
- Algebra 1 EOC
- Geometry EOC
- Biology EOC
- US History EOC
- Civics EOC





QUESTIONS?

Contact: Amy Crowell,
Director of Assessment, Accountability & Monitoring Department
726-1931 x2237
CrowellA@citrusschools.org

F.A.S.T.
FLORIDA'S ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT THINKING

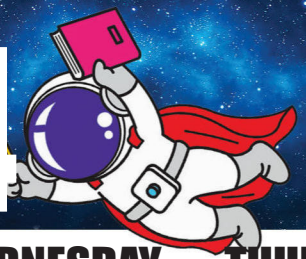
Family Portal

The Family Portal provides a central location for Florida families to access their students' statewide test results.
Log into Skyward Family Access and click "District Links" from the home page. Select "Statewide Assessment Scores" to access your students' test results beginning with Spring 2021.

Other assessments such as ACT/SAT, Advanced Placement (AP), End-of-Term Final Exams, and District Assessments also occur throughout the year.

For a detailed assessment calendar, you may access our Uniform Statewide Assessment Calendar on the district website at www.citrusschools.org/calendars.

JANUARY 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	2 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	3 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	4 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	5 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	6 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK
7 HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS BREAK	8 Professional Development Teacher Workday	9 Students Return	10	11	12	13
14	15 HOLIDAY - MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

every student, every day

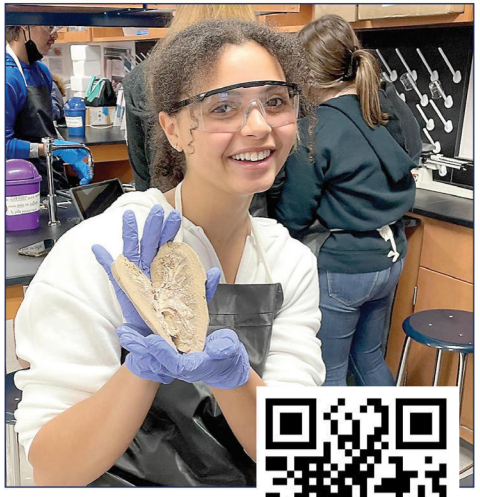
#EveryDayCounts

Any Student, Any Academy

Academy of Environmental Science — AES: Located on the beautiful Salt River in Crystal River, the waterfront location of the Academy provides the perfect setting for 9th- and 10th-grade students to explore their environment. Classes are created to offer hands-on, project-based learning opportunities to ensure connections to the real world.

Academy of Computer Science - CHS: Provides students with the best foundation possible in the computer sciences arena. Students will learn coding using the Python programming language, take Advanced Placement courses and more.

Construction Academy — CHS: Our newest academy provides opportunities in the building construction industry and/or prepares students for the skills needed to be competitive as they enter the workforce. The curriculum is through the Home Builders Institute, the nation's leading educational resource for CTE in the building industry.



Academy of Health Careers — CRHS: Encourages students to become health care workers and to assist students into post-secondary education in the pursuit of the health care career of their choice.

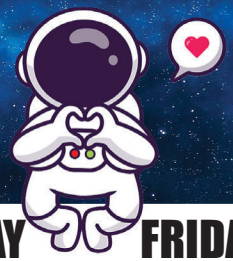
Lecanto School of Art — LHS: A program designed especially for students with a high interest in visual arts. Hundreds of students have graduated from this program, many of which have received offers for art scholarships worth a combined total of over two million dollars.

FEBRUARY 2024

Questions? Contact: Darrick Buettner, Director of Special Academic Programs

352-726-1931 x2241 • BuettnerD@citrusschools.org

FEBRUARY 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 FTE WEEK - SURVEY 3	6 FTE WEEK - SURVEY 3	7 FTE WEEK - SURVEY 3	8 FTE WEEK - SURVEY 3	9 FTE WEEK - SURVEY 3	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 HOLIDAY - PRESIDENTS' DAY	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

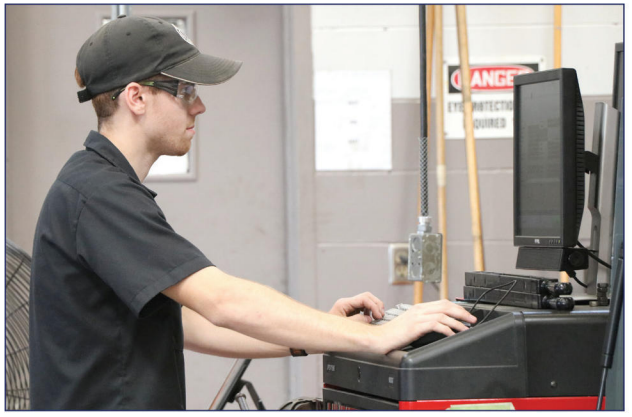
HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

Pursuant to section 1002.40, Florida Statutes, the Hope Scholarship Program provides a public-school student who was subjected to an incident of violence or bullying at school the opportunity to transfer to another public school with capacity or request a scholarship to attend an eligible private school. To find out more, visit the Florida Department of Education:

MARCH 2024

Withlacoochee Technical College:

- Offers 20 different programs
- Offers both postsecondary and dual enrollment (high school students receive free tuition)
- Has highly qualified instructors
- Provides real world instruction to meet students' career goals
- Provides internships/on-the-job training
- Financial assistance available through Pell Grants and scholarships
- Most programs can be completed within a year



Adult Education:

Withlacoochee Technical College offers both GED Prep and Adult ESOL classes. GED Prep classes provide the opportunity for adults who did not complete a formal high school program to obtain their high school-level equivalency credential or diploma. Adult ESOL provides English language learner adults with English language instruction that will increase their ability to communicate in English for a variety of purposes including employment, education, and life in the United States.

Integrated Education and Training:

Integrated education and training (IET) is now available for individuals who want to work on acquiring basic skills (GED) or learning to speak English (ESOL) while pursuing occupational or industry-specific training. Students are enrolled in both an adult education program (GED or ESOL) and a career and technical program and split their time between the two. Call for more information.

Questions? Contact: David Roland

Director of Withlacoochee Technical College

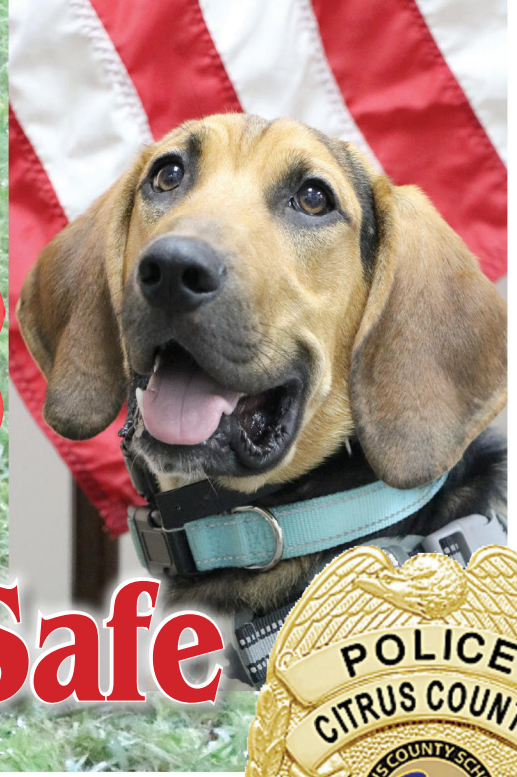
352-726-2430 - RolandD@citrusschools.org

1201 W. Main Street, Inverness, FL 34450

MARCH 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Learning that works for Florida CTE®					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 END OF QUARTER 3 Student Early Dismissal - Teacher Workday	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 HOLIDAY - SPRING BREAK
24 31 HOLIDAY - SPRING BREAK	25 HOLIDAY - SPRING BREAK	26 HOLIDAY - SPRING BREAK	27 HOLIDAY - SPRING BREAK	28 HOLIDAY - SPRING BREAK	29 HOLIDAY - SPRING BREAK	30 HOLIDAY - SPRING BREAK

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) PROGRAMS prepare individuals for occupations important to Florida's economic development. These programs are organized into 17 different career clusters and are geared toward middle school, high school, district technical school, and Florida College System students throughout the state. Learn more about what we offer:



Meet Sammy!

Keeping Campuses Safe

Hello families! Can you believe we are in the 2023-2024 school year. Before you know it, we will be in graduation season and saying goodbye to the class of 2024!

School safety continues to be an ever-changing landscape that touches all aspects of a student's life. From practicing emergency drills with students and staff to topics such as youth mental health, safety is intertwined in it all. With the support of Superintendent Himmel, my goal is to always make student and staff safety a priority so that students can concentrate on learning while they feel safe at school.

Last year we participated in discussions with students and staff and listened to some of the challenges they were experiencing. Often, the issue of vaping was a major concern among students and their frustrations with fellow students abusing vaping devices at school. From an enforcement perspective, electronic cigarettes have presented challenges in detection since the discharge of the smoke is like water vapor that quickly dissipates and the devices themselves are easily concealable. Long gone are the days of "Smoking in the Boys Room" and the acceptance of it all. This discussion made me think about having a different approach to detection and deterrence of electronic cigarettes. Sgt. Richie Cunningham is a law enforcement K-9 trainer and part of the staff of the Citrus County School Board Police Department. With Sgt. Cunningham's help, we developed a program that will train K-9's to detect Vaping devices, Nicotine and THC.

We recently acquired Sammy (pictured above) from a local rescue. He is a bloodhound mix, which are known for their great noses. Sammy has been working all summer on learning obedience and odor detection with Sgt. Cunningham and his wife Trish who is also a K-9 trainer. Our hope is that Sammy provides a different approach to our vaping issue as he visits our secondary schools this year and provides an educational prevention message to our students. So, look for Sammy this year just remember he is a working dog, but does love attention.

As always, my wish is that all students, staff, and families have a great year and please remember that safety is everyone's job as we continue to work in the greatest community in Florida!

Thank you, Chief Vincent
School District Police Chief

APRIL 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 STUDENT/TEACHER DAY OFF	20
21	22 STUDENT/TEACHER DAY OFF	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

NOTES

Celebrating Our Graduates

MAY 2024

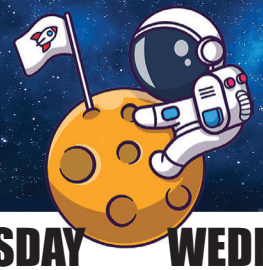
MOST POPULAR PROGRAMS BY NUMBER OF COMPLETERS & MEDIAN FIRST-YEAR EARNINGS

Bachelor's Degree		Vocational Certificates		Career Certificates		Apprenticeships	
Registered Nursing	$64,848	Network & System Administration	$40,928	Law Enforcement Officer	$45,928	Plumbing	$60,424
Computer/Information Technology Administration	$49,264	EMT Paramedic	$36,568	Correctional Officer	$43,100	AC, Refrigeration, & Heating	$50,686
Education/Teaching	$45,372	Information Technology	$38,776	Insurance Claims Adjuster	$42,000	Pipe Fitting/ Sprinkler Fitter	$48,962
Homeland Security/ Criminal Justice	$43,088	Business Admin/Management	$35,008	Firefighter	$40,096	Electrician	$47,284
Business Administration and Management or Marketing	$42,576	Accounting Technician/ Bookkeeping	$34,620	Practical Nursing	$36,836	Sheet Metal Technology	$44,300

Measuring the Economic Success of Florida's Graduates

The Florida Economic Security Report provides information on graduates of Florida's public higher education institutions, including the State University System, Florida College System, and District Technical Centers. The chart to the left shows the highest median first-year earnings for the most popular post-secondary programs. The full report can be accessed via https://lmsresources.labormarketinfo.com/special/ESR.pdf

MAY 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) represents good news for our nation's schools. This bipartisan measure reauthorizes the 50-year-old Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the nation's national education law and longstanding commitment to equal opportunity for all students. The law builds on key areas of progress in recent years, made possible by the efforts of educators, communities, parents, and students across the country.			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 CREST GRADUATION LAST DAY FOR SENIORS	18
19	20 WTC GRADUATION	21 CITRUS HIGH GRADUATION	22 LECANTO HIGH GRADUATION	23 CRYSTAL RIVER HIGH GRADUATION	24	25
26	27 HOLIDAY - MEMORIAL DAY	28 Student Early Dismissal - Teacher Workday	29 END OF QIARTER 4 LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS Student Early Dismissal - Teacher Workday	30 Teacher Workday	31	

The Power of the Arts

JUNE 2024

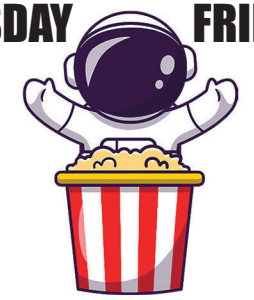
Every young person deserves a complete and competitive education that includes the arts. The Citrus County School District provides many avenues PK-12th grade to help students find a particular activity of interest.

It has been proven that involvement in the arts is associated with gains in math, reading, cognitive ability, critical thinking, and verbal skills. Arts learning can also improve motivation, concentration, confidence, and teamwork. Works of art provide a visual context for learning about historical periods. Music, painting, drama, and dance help literature come alive. Graphic designs and drawings, such as those made by inventors and engineers, complement learning about scientific and technological principles and innovations.

JUNE 2024

DID YOU KNOW?

The Citrus County School District operates a Summer Feeding Program that serves FREE breakfast and lunch to hungry children when school is out for the summer.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 FLAG DAY	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

District Student Services

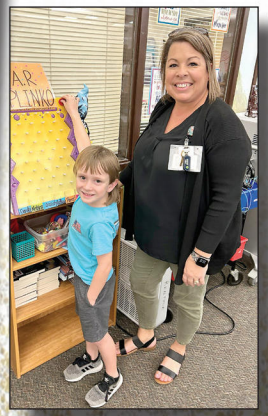
JULY 2024

Health Services & Screenings:

We provide a safe, healthy, positive learning environment that fosters student achievement. We have a school nurse for every two schools in our district and a designated health room attendant in all our schools. School based health screenings will be conducted every school year as required by Florida Statute 381.0056, appropriate

Student Code of Conduct:

Parents and Families - Please take time to read and review. This contains everything from requirements for attendance, student dress and student behavior. It also provides explanations of the consequences and penalties associated with failing to meet requirements and standards set forth by this policy. We also want to emphasize the position of the Citrus County School Board on zero tolerance for school-related violent crime, controlled substances, alcohol and student victimization which are all included.



Questions? Contact: Kit Humbaugh

Director of District Student Services

352-527-0090 x6306

OR

Jennifer Greco

Coordinator of District Student Services

352-527-0090 x6304

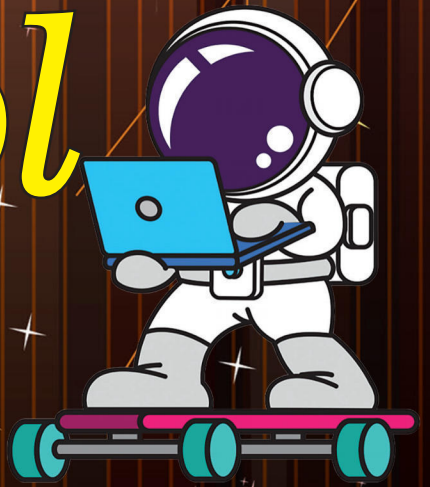
- Attendance
- Bullying and Harassment
- Due Process
- Title IX
- Expulsions
- Health Services
- Home Education
- McKinney-Vento Liason
- Other School Related Services

JULY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

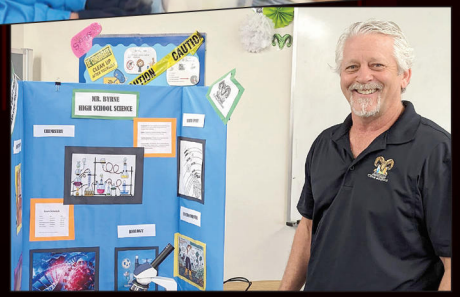
STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT:

Citrus eSchool



Citrus eSchool

Citrus eSchool provides a free, full-time, part-time, and home education K-12 virtual courses to students who are residents of Citrus County or students of military personnel assigned elsewhere. Virtual students can work from home with more flexibility in their schedule, completing assignments in evening hours and on weekends if necessary.



CURRICULUM

Our virtual program features rigorous Florida Virtual School (FLVS®) curriculum. Over 190 courses, including multiple foreign language classes and a wide array of elective courses, are available.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Full-time Citrus eSchool students and home education students may participate in sports and other extracurricular activities at the student's zoned school.

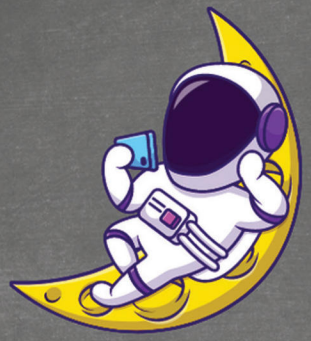
OUR TEACHERS

Our Virtual courses are taught by dedicated, Florida-certified Citrus County teachers who are committed to achieving student success.

- One-on-one or small group support keeps students engaged and on pace
- Personalized instruction
- Frequent communication with students, parents, and counselors

® Florida Virtual School & FLVS are registered trademarks of Florida Virtual School, a public school district of the State of Florida.

Questions? Contact: Deborah Dumas, Principal • 352-726-1931 x6450 • DumasD@citrusschools.org



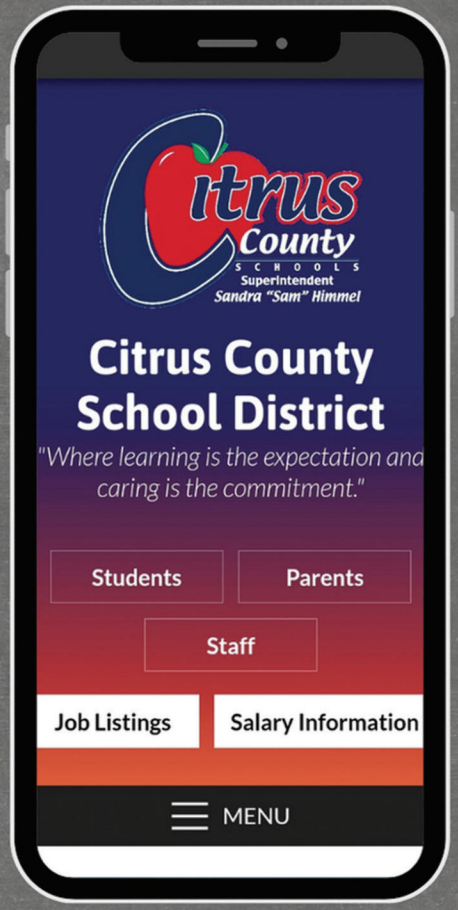
Communications & Public Information

citrusschools.org

@Citrusschools

@CitrusSchools

CitrusCountySchoolDistrict



YouTube

CitrusSchools

Photos & Videos

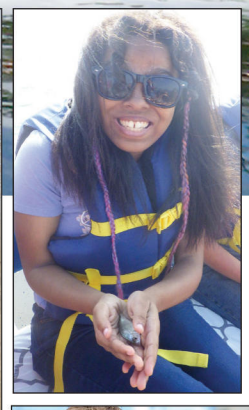
Public Records Requests

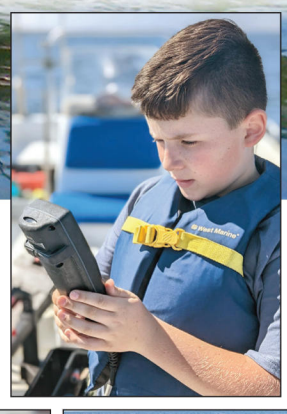
Public Information & Communications Officer

Lindsay Blair, (352) 726-1931 Ext 2211

The mission of the MSS is to increase student environmental literacy through hands-on laboratory and field-based educational experiences in the Gulf of Mexico coastal and near-shore habitats; to inspire student interest and involvement in environmental conservation and protection; and to promote student development of environmental stewardship ethics.

MARINE SCIENCE STATION





History of the Marine Science Station

Since 1967, the Citrus County School Board has operated the Marine Science Station (MSS) as an educational enrichment center for marine and environmental sciences.

As a Citrus County Schools public educational facility, the MSS provides outstanding learning opportunities for approximately 2,500+ elementary and secondary school students from Citrus County per academic year (4th grade, 7th grade science and high school science students). The hands-on laboratory and field-based educational experiences are an integral component of the science curriculum of Citrus County Schools and are offered at no charge to the schools, teachers, students, or parents.

Earnie Olsen, Supervisor

352-795-4593 ~ OlsenE@citrusschools.org

12646 W. Fort Island Trail, Crystal River, FL 34429

Food & Nutrition Services

ONE Team, ONE Goal, NO Limits, that's the motto our Food and Nutrition Services team lives by! Our employees are much like our teachers/educators, in the cafeteria. They help our students understand proper nutrition, customer service, number recall, kindness, and consideration for others, all while wearing a smile.

Our students eat breakfast and lunch for **FREE** thanks to the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). This program has helped eliminate the burden of collecting household applications to determine eligibility for school meal programs and focus on the important task of feeding our children.

You have enough to worry about, let us take care of breakfast and lunch. Even if you have a picky eater, we can still help by providing a drink and sides to their favorite packed entreé, at no cost to you!

You can view the menu every week by visiting our website, selecting your school, and choosing the breakfast or lunch menu. www.citrusschools.org - menu

Roy Pistone II, RDN, M.Ed., SNS
Director of Food & Nutrition Services
352-726-1931, ext. 2404

"In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

Calendar of Events 2023-24

JULY 2023
29 Stuff the Bus 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

OCTOBER 2023
21 Schoolhouse Scramble – Inverness Golf and Country Club

NOVEMBER 2023
4 Lake Hernando Dragon Boat Festival 8:00 AM @ Lake Hernando
17 Foundation Fest – 6:00 PM College of Central Florida

DECEMBER 2023
Galaxy of Stars

FEBRUARY 2024
Regional Science Fair

MARCH 2024
Bunco for Books
Math Field Day

APRIL 2024
6 Schoolhouse Hustle 7:00 AM @ CREST
27 Superintendent's Golf Classic

MAY 2024
4 Citrus Kids Triathlon – 8:00 AM @ Bicentennial Park

For more information contact:
Shaunda Burdette, Executive Director
BurdetteS@citrusschools.org
(352) 726-1931 x2240

Join the cause to help local education by visiting www.citruseducation.org

Like us on Facebook.com/citruseducation

Citrus County Education Foundation

Funding Success in the Classroom

The Citrus County Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to support Citrus County Schools, pre-k through 12th grade, by providing resources to enhance the quality of education for present and future generations. For three decades, we've been funding opportunities for success in our classrooms, focusing on impacting as many Citrus County students and teachers as possible. CCEF funds programs such as Supplies 4 Success free teacher store, Foundation 4 Success classroom mini-grants, First Library early literacy program, scholarships for high school seniors, Golden Citrus Scholars, the Regional Science & Engineering Fair, Math Field Day, Men Building Men & Women Building Women mentoring programs, and investments in numerous other programs impacting more than 15,000 Citrus County students each year!

A special Thank you to our A+ donors:

Suncoast Credit Union
Citrus Oral & Facial Surgery
Robert L. Brockett, DMD & Rushi S. Patel, DDS, PhD
Publix
HCA Healthcare
Citrus County Chronicle
www.chronicleonline.com
Duke Energy
Gulf to Lake Marine & Trailers
Technology Conservation Group
Crystal Financial of Raymond James
Walmart
Subway
Sodium Fishing Gear
Citrus County Coalition for College & Career
World Fusion Grill Bar Sushi
CFEF Consortium of Florida Education Foundations
Black Diamond Foundation Inc.

Citrus County School Directory

ELEMENTARY/PRIMARY SCHOOLS – GRADES PK-5

Central Ridge Elementary
Sarahy Ramallo, Principal
185 W. Citrus Springs Blvd., Citrus Springs 34434
352-344-3833 (Citrus) 352-465-5709 (Marion)
Email: DowlingA@citrusschools.org

Citrus Springs Elementary
Sharon Lowe, Principal
3570 W. Century Blvd, Citrus Springs 34433
352-344-4079 or 352-489-8144
Email: PoncedeleonK@citrusschools.org

Crystal River Primary
Christina Touchton, Principal
8624 W. Crystal St., Crystal River 34428
352-795-2211
Email: BosticM@citrusschools.org

Floral City Elementary
Bart Adams, Principal
8457 E. Marvin St., Floral City 34436
352-726-1554
Email: HovenJ@citrusschools.org

Forest Ridge Elementary
Michelle McHugh, Principal
2927 N. Forest Ridge Blvd, Hernando 34442
352-527-1808

Hernando Elementary
Kyle Jaecks, Principal
2975 E Trailblazer Lane, Hernando 34442
352-726-1833
Email: KellyT@citrusschools.org

Homosassa Elementary
Alice Harrell, Principal
10935 W. Yulee Dr., Homosassa 34448
352-628-2953
Email: GerhardtC@citrusschools.org

Inverness Primary
Bridget Merchant, Principal
206 S. Line Ave, Inverness 34452
352-726-2632
Email: WearL@citrusschools.org

Lecanto Primary
Mollie Chandler, Principal
3790 W. Educational Path, Lecanto 34461
352-746-2220
Email: KroningH@citrusschools.org

Pleasant Grove Elementary
Robert Hermann, Principal
630 Pleasant Grove Rd, Inverness 34452
352-637-4400
Email: BrendelC@citrusschools.org

District Administrators 726-1931

Name	Title	Extension #	Email Address
Sandra "Sam" Himmel	Superintendent of Schools	Ext. 2205	HimmelS@citrusschools.org
Jonny Bishop	Assistant Superintendent, School Support Services	Ext. 2210	BishopJ1@citrusschools.org
Dr. Scott Hebert	Assistant Superintendent, School Operations	Ext. 2251	HebertS@citrusschools.org
Patricia Kahler	Chief Academic Officer	Ext. 2227	KahlerP@citrusschools.org
Amy Crowell	Director, Assessment, Accountability and Monitoring	Ext. 2237	CrowellA@citrusschools.org
Debra Stanley	Director, Career, Technical and Adult Education	Ext. 2248	StanleyD@citrusschools.org
Kathy Androski	Director, Educational Technology	Ext. 2236	AndroskiK@citrusschools.org
Mary Wolf	Director, Exceptional Student Education	Ext. 2329	WolfM@citrusschools.org
Sean Furniss	Director, Federal Programs	Ext. 2201	FurnissS@citrusschools.org
Tammy Wilson	Director, Finance	Ext. 2472	WilsonTa@citrusschools.org
Roy Pistone	Director, Food Services	Ext. 2404	PistoneR@citrusschools.org
Suzy Swain	Director, Human Resources	Ext. 2273	SwainS@citrusschools.org
Shawyn Newman	Director, Instruction and Curriculum K-12	Ext. 2230	NewmanS@citrusschools.org
Eric Stokes	Director, Maintenance, Facilities & Construction	Ext. 2444	StokesE@citrusschools.org
Chuck Dixon	Director, Planning and Growth Management	746-3960	DixonC@citrusschools.org
Laura Lindeman	Director, Professional Development	Ext. 2232	LindemanL@citrusschools.org
Steven Baumer	Director, Risk Management & Employee Relations	Ext. 2271	BaumerS@citrusschools.org
Darrick Buettner	Director, Special Academic Programs	Ext. 2241	BuettnerD@citrusschools.org
Kit Humbaugh	Director, Student Services	527-0090	HumbaughK@citrusschools.org
Rene' Johnson	Director, Teaching and Learning K-12	Ext. 2412	JohnsonR@citrusschools.org
Marilyn Farmer	Director, Transportation	Ext. 2371	FarmerM@citrusschools.org
Jennifer Story	Coordinator, Assessment, Accountability and Monitoring	Ext. 2259	StoryJ@citrusschools.org
Brendan Bonomo	Coordinator, Certification and Professional Standards	Ext. 2275	BonomoB@citrusschools.org
Lance Fletcher	Coordinator, Educational Technology	Ext. 5929	Lance.Fletcher@citrusschools.org
Gary Pearcy	Coordinator, Exceptional Student Education	Ext. 2328	PearcyG@citrusschools.org
Jim Gerlach	Coordinator, Maintenance, Facilities and Construction	Ext. 2289	GerlachJ@citrusschools.org
Jennifer Greco	Coordinator, Student Services	527-0090	GrecoJ@citrusschools.org
Caitlin Hamzawi	Supervisor, Assessment, Accountability and Monitoring	Ext. 2244	HamzawiC@citrusschools.org
Christine Jernigan	Supervisor, Business Operations	Ext. 2417	JerniganC@citrusschools.org
Kelly Niblett	Supervisor, Food Services	Ext. 2481	NiblettK@citrusschools.org
Al Balk	Supervisor, Instructional Materials	Ext. 2490	BalkA@citrusschools.org
Michelle Shank	Supervisor, School Health	Ext. 6308	ShankM@citrusschools.org
Mary Pitt	Supervisor, Student Services	Ext. 6310	PittM@citrusschools.org
Bruce Gaskins	Supervisor, Transportation	Ext. 2428	GaskinsB@citrusschools.org
David Vincent	District Police Chief/School Safety Specialist	Ext. 2308	VincentD@citrusschools.org
Lindsay Blair	Public Information & Communications Officer	Ext. 2211	BlairL@citrusschools.org

Rock Crusher Elementary
Amanda Haynes, Principal
814 S. Rock Crusher Rd, Homosassa 34448
352-795-2010
Email: ErlandsonS@citrusschools.org

MIDDLE SCHOOLS – GRADES 6-8

Citrus Springs Middle
John Weed, Principal
150 W. Citrus Springs Blvd, Citrus Springs 34434
352-344-2244
E-Mail: RichieK@citrusschools.org

Crystal River Middle
Brian Lancaster, Principal
344 N.E. Crystal St. Crystal River 34428
352-795-2116
Email: OsteenS@citrusschools.org

Inverness Middle
Melissa Baird, Principal
1950 US Hwy 41 North, Inverness 34450
352-726-1471
Email: SuydamJ@citrusschools.org

Lecanto Middle
Inge Frederick, Principal
3800 W. Educational Path, Lecanto 34461
352-746-2050
Email: JacksonL1@citrusschools.org

HIGH SCHOOLS – GRADES 9-12

Citrus High
Mark Kahler, Principal
600 W. Highland Blvd, Inverness 34452
352-726-2241
Email: PaquinS@citrusschools.org

Crystal River High
Phillip McLeod, Principal
3195 Crystal River High Dr. Crystal River 34428
352-795-4641
Email: ZizekJ@citrusschools.org

Lecanto High
Jason Koon, Principal
3810 W. Educational Path, Lecanto 34461
352-746-2334
Email: HeadK1@citrusschools.org

OTHER SCHOOLS / SITES

Academy of Environmental Science
Ernest Hopper, Principal
12695 W. Fort Island Trail
Crystal River 34429
352-795-8793
Email: RieckN@citrusschools.org

Citrus eSchool
Deborah Dumas, Principal
352-726-1931
Email: GradyP1@citrusschools.org

CREST School
Lee Mulder, Principal
2600 S. Panther Pride Drive, Lecanto 34461
352-527-0303
Email: VientosT@citrusschools.org

E-Nini-Hassee (Eckerd Youth Alternative)
Jo Lynn Smith
7027 E. Stage Coach Trail, Floral City, FL 34436
352-726-3883
Email: jsmith@eckerd.org

PACE Center for Girls
Angela Kennedy, Executive Director
3630 W. Educational Path, Lecanto, FL 34461
352-464-6520
Email: cozette.pierce@pacecenter.org

Marine Science Station
Earnie Olsen, Supervisor
12646 W. Fort Island Trail, Crystal River 34429
352-795-4393
Email: BriggsT@citrusschools.org

Renaissance Center
Christina Thrasher, Principal
3630 W Educational Path, Lecanto, FL 34461
352-527-4567
Email: PregparsonsN@citrusschools.org

Withlacoochee Technical College
David Roland, Director
1201 W. Main St, Inverness 34450
352-726-2430
Email: HudsonA1@citrusschools.org