



# NASSAU SOUNDS

Dr. Kathy Burns, Superintendent

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL

### NASSAU COUNTY SCHOOLS

*"Serving All of Nassau County"*



2020-2021

Nassau County Public Schools  
[www.nassau.k12.fl.us](http://www.nassau.k12.fl.us)

## Superintendent's Message

Dear Friends and Families of the Nassau County School District,

As we prepare for the start of the school year on August 24th, the schools we left in the spring will look different for everyone in the fall. The hallways, the learning environment, the cafeteria, sports, and all that encompasses education will look different. However, the one thing that will remain unchanged is our passion for educating our students and continuing to support their growth academically, socially, and emotionally. We have been working throughout the summer to prepare for this year by implementing as many procedures and safeguards as possible at every school. We are committed to ensuring a safe and healthy return to school.

In Education,



Dr. Kathy Burns -- Superintendent



**O** *"Our mission is to develop each student as an inspired life-long learner and problem-solver with the strength of character to serve as a productive member of society."*

## Virtual Instruction Program Notification

In accordance with F.S.1002.45(1)(b), school districts must provide timely written notification concerning at least one open enrollment period for full-time virtual students. Nassau Virtual curriculum options include MDVS (My District Virtual School, a service of NEFEC), K12 LLC, Apex Learning, and FLVS franchise courses. All Virtual Instruction Programs offered by Nassau County are provided at no cost to the parent or student. Enrollment in part-time virtual courses may be requested by contacting your student's school guidance counselor.

Virtual instruction provides an alternative to the traditional school and classroom. Successful participation in virtual instruction necessitates that learners be self-motivated and possess good organizational and time-management skills. If you are interested in participating in a full-time Virtual Instruction Program, please contact Nassau Virtual School at (904) 277-9029. **The last day to enroll in a full-time VIP for the 2020-21 school year is September 11, 2020.** Please visit [www.nassauvirtual.com](http://www.nassauvirtual.com) to learn more about virtual school options.

## Nassau County School Board Equity and Annual Notice of Non-Discrimination

The School Board of Nassau County, Florida, does not discriminate in admission, access, treatment or employment in its programs and educational or extra-curricular school activities on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, marital status, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other reason prohibited by law. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other patriotic youth groups.

Steps and forms for filing a complaint are available on the district's website under the *Equity and Non-Discrimination* tab. The following district contacts have been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination and harassment policies, reports of alleged violations, concerns about compliance and/or the complaint procedures:

### Title IX / Bullying and Harassment / Section 504:

Mark Durham  
 Assistant Superintendent of Instruction  
 1201 Atlantic Avenue  
 Fernandina Beach, FL 32034  
 (904) 491-9905  
[durhamma@nassau.k12.fl.us](mailto:durhamma@nassau.k12.fl.us)

### Equity / Non-Discrimination Contact:

Tia Brown, Director  
 Professional and Staff Development  
 1201 Atlantic Avenue  
 Fernandina Beach, FL 32034  
 (904) 491-9889  
[brownti@nassau.k12.fl.us](mailto:brownti@nassau.k12.fl.us)

### Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Jeffrey Bunch, Director of Facilities  
 86334 Goodbread Road  
 Yulee, FL 32097  
 (904) 225-5343  
[bunchje@nassau.k12.fl.us](mailto:bunchje@nassau.k12.fl.us)

## AUGUST IMPORTANT 24 DATES

School Year 2020 - 2021

**First Day of School**  
 Monday, August 24, 2020

**Last Day of School**  
 Friday, June 4, 2021 (half day)

### STUDENT HOLIDAYS

(Includes full-day teacher planning days)

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| September 7, 2020 | January 19, 2021  |
| October 26, 2020  | February 15, 2021 |
| November 11, 2020 | April 2, 2021     |
| January 18, 2021  | May 31, 2021      |

**Thanksgiving Break**  
 November 25th - 27th

**Last Day of School before  
 December Break**  
 Friday, December 18, 2020

**December Break**  
 December 21st - January 1st  
 (school resumes Monday, January 4)

**Spring Break**  
 March 22nd - March 26th

**Weather Make-Up Days (if needed)**

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| September 7, 2020 | December 22, 2020 |
| October 26, 2020  | February 15, 2021 |
| December 21, 2020 | April 2, 2021     |

**Half Days for Students:**

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| September 25th   | April 23, 2021 |
| November 6th     | June 4, 2021   |
| February 5, 2021 |                |

### Early Dismissal Days\*

(1 hour early dismissal every Wednesday for teacher planning)

\* See individual schools for half day and early dismissal times.

## Meet & Greet

In an effort to minimize crowds, orientation for the 2020-2021 school year will occur either virtually or in-person on a staggered schedule. Please refer to each school's website ([nassau.k12.fl.us](http://nassau.k12.fl.us)) for details regarding the format.

- All **Elementary Schools** will host an **in-person** Meet & Greet on a staggered schedule. Each school will communicate directly with parents regarding

the schedule.

- All **Middle Schools** will host a **virtual** orientation through Microsoft Teams for 6th graders and new students. Information will be posted on school websites and Facebook pages.

- **High school** formats for orientation will **vary**. Information will be posted on each school's website.

## 2019-2020 Transportation Department News

Please confirm your child's bus stop and time prior to the beginning of school. Schedules and route information will be available at each school and on the Nassau School District website ([www.nassau.k12.fl.us](http://www.nassau.k12.fl.us)). Here Comes The Bus parent app is available to parents. See our website for instructions on how to sign up.

**Please be aware that no route changes or notes to ride a different bus will be allowed until after Monday, October 5th.**

Students are eligible for transportation if they live over two miles from school for middle and high school students, and over one mile for elementary school students. Students are not eligible for

transportation if they attend a school outside of their attendance zone.

**Parents must ensure the safe travel of their students when the students are not under the custody and control of the school district. This includes each trip to and from home and the assigned bus stop when the district provides transportation. (FAC 6A-3.0121)**

Please fill out and return your child's **Bus Registration Form** within five school days of their initial ride. Please direct your transportation questions to the Transportation Department at (904) 225-0127 or (904) 879-5031.

## Exceptional Student Education Update

The goal of the Nassau County Exceptional Education Department is to provide a gold star level of services to students with disabilities and their families. Each year we strive to enhance our services and supports so that they are even better than the previous year.

Several grants have been developed to provide assistance to E.S.E. students during the school year. If you would like to have more information or to provide input into the development of these grants, please contact the E.S.E. office at 904-491-9881. The school district is required by statute to inform parents of eligible students of their option to use a McKay Scholarship for their child to attend a private school or a public school of choice within their district. To learn more about your child's educational options, please contact the E.S.E. office at 904-491-9881. You may also contact the Department of Education, Office of Independent Education and

Parental Choice Information Hotline at 1-800-447-1636 or you may visit the Nassau School district website ([www.nassau.k12.fl.us](http://www.nassau.k12.fl.us)) for a link to the Florida Department of Education website, <http://www.fl DOE.org/schools/school-choice>. On either website, you may select the McKay Scholarship option.

The Nassau County School District will make every effort to undertake the identification and location of students with disabilities in this district who are not receiving services. All educational supports and services will be individually designed to meet the individual needs of students through Exceptional Student and Section 504 programs. The Nassau County School District will ensure that students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to participate in academic, nonacademic, and extracurricular activities with students who are not disabled to the maximum extent appropriate.

## Food and Nutrition Services Department

### Safety is our top priority!

School meals are safer than ever in Nassau County with new safeguards put in place in all cafeterias. New cleaning and disinfecting protocols were created in the kitchen and additional hand sanitizer will be available in the cafeteria. Staff will be wearing masks during meal service and all items will be wrapped to prevent cross-contamination. We encourage all parents and students to send in any money or pre-payments prior to meal service in an envelope with your child's information. Cash will not be handled by the food service employees during meal service.

**Titan School Solutions - NEW Website & App for School Meals!** School meal accounts are easier than ever with our NEW family portal. Visit online at <https://family.titank12.com/> or download the free app on your phone - **Titan Family Connect**. You can quickly and easily apply for free and reduced-price meals online or add money to your student's account. You may view your child's cafeteria transactions, sign up for email/text low balance alerts, AND access school menus and nutrition all in the same place. New features include splitting payments between siblings and/or staff and no minimum online payment. Paper applications for free and reduced-price meals are also still available at your school, if needed. You will receive a letter or email notifying you of your eligibility if you apply for free and reduced-price meals. Please review the notification and let us know if you have any school-age children who are not listed.

**New School Menus:** Menus, nutrition and allergen information will now be available to view from the same Titan Family Portal. Additionally you can view them directly from our main home page at [www.nassau.k12.fl.us](http://www.nassau.k12.fl.us) under School Meals click on School Menus. As part of our COVID-19 precautions, for back to school and until further notice, all menu items will be wrapped and there will not be any self-service salad bars. Breakfast grab & go items will also be available. Meal prices will remain the same for this school year - Elementary Breakfast/Lunch: \$1.50/\$2.25,



Secondary \$1.75/\$2.75, Reduced Price Breakfast/Lunch: \$0.30/\$0.40.

**Find Out More:** To learn more about what is happening in your cafeteria make sure to follow us on Facebook @NassauNutrition or Nassau County School Nutrition Association, Inc. Questions? Call 904-491-9924 or toll free 877-813-2298.

## Title I Corner Notice to Parents of Elementary Students:

Please be advised of several important documents coming your way. Be on the lookout for information regarding the following:

- **Title One Handbook:** This document will contain helpful information, including "Parent's Right To Know" details, suggestions for how parents can bridge the gap between school and home, and general information on how the Title I program is implemented in each of our eight Title I schools.

- **Parent and Family Engagement Plan:** This document will provide Title I Parent Survey data, the barriers to parent involvement, and the steps our Title I schools will take to overcome these obstacles. In addition, it will outline the various opportunities available for parents to become involved in all activities at their child's school.

- **School Improvement Plan:** This document will give parents information regarding strategies planned for improving student achievement, school budget information, and opportunities for input at their child's school.

We look forward to working with your children this year!

## Nassau County Florida Immunization Requirements School Year 2020 - 2021

By the time your child starts school he/she should have the required immunizations. New and transferring students, kindergarten students, and those entering seventh grade will need to provide proof of immunization prior to enrollment in Nassau County Schools.

### **PROOF OF THE FOLLOWING IS REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS TO REGISTER NO SHOTS, NO SCHOOL, NO JOKE!**

**Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DtaP)**  
4 or 5 doses - 5th dose not required if 4th given after 4th birthday. (REQUIRED FOR GRADES K-12)

\* **Polio Series (IPV)**  
3 - 5 doses. (REQUIRED FOR GRADES K-12)

**Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)**  
2 doses (REQUIRED FOR GRADES K-12)  
(1st dose must be given on or after 1st birthday)

**Hepatitis B (Hep B)**  
3 doses or 2 doses if use 2 dose vaccine series. (REQUIRED FOR GRADES PRE-K-12)

**Tetanus/Pertussis Booster (Tdap)** 1 dose  
Tdap for Grades 7 through 12

**Varicella (chickenpox)**  
2 doses for Kindergarten through Grade 12, (1st dose must be given on or after student's 1st birthday)

(Varicella Vaccine is not required if varicella disease is documented by a health care provider.)

\* If four or more doses are administered before age 4, an additional dose should be administered at age 4-6 years and at least six months after the previous dose. A 4th dose is not necessary if the third dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose.

Parents should get their child's immunizations with their child's doctor if they have private insurance or Medicaid. For those without insurance, immunizations are provided through the Nassau County Health Department (NCHD) at no charge for children birth through 18 years of age. Parents must bring to the NCHD their child's up-to-date immunization record to help identify needed immunizations and prevent unnecessary shots for their child. The NCHD will also provide parents with a required Proof of Immunization Form 680 if needed. They must have an up-to-date immunization record to provide a 680 form.

**For more information about our clinics, call our Yulee Clinic at 904-875-6110 #1.**

**For more information on vaccines and school requirements visit [www.immunizeflorida.org](http://www.immunizeflorida.org).**

NOTE: The Nassau County School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) meets throughout the year to advise and support our schools' health and wellness needs. If you would like to be involved, visit our website at <https://www.nassau.k12.fl.us/intervention>. Click on SHAC for meeting dates and more information. We welcome parent and public involvement!

### **NASSAU COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION AND VALUES**

#### **OUR MISSION:**

Our mission is to develop each student as an inspired life-long learner and problem-solver with the strength of character to serve as a productive member of society.

#### **OUR CORE VALUES:**

We believe that:

- all people have intrinsic worth.
- all people are responsible for their actions.
- effective relationships are developed and maintained through mutual respect, trust, and communication.
- the higher the expectations, the higher the performance.
- everyone can learn and that life-long learning is essential for individuals and communities to thrive.
- the role of family is critical in the moral development of an individual.
- strength of character is essential to making quality life choices.
- the community is strengthened when the potential of each person is developed.

## Notification of Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

The federal Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents certain rights regarding the taking of surveys by students. Any survey that contains one or more of the protected areas and is funded, in whole or in part, by the DOE, requires prior written consent from the parents.

The eight protected areas identified by PPRA are:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent;

2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;

3. Sex behavior or attitudes;

4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;

5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;

6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;

7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parent; or

8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Surveys associated with Puberty/Abstinence classes in 5th through 12th grades are given throughout the year at the completion of the respective programs. Substance abuse and lifestyle surveys are conducted by various groups or organizations and the state of Florida. Similar surveys are given periodically in some classes. Questions regarding this policy may be directed to Andreu Powell, Director of Intervention, Prevention & Safety Services, at (904) 491-9883.

## Our School Leaders 2020-2021

| School                             | Principal                | Assistant Principal  |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Bryceville Elementary</b>       | Tammy Smith              |                      |
| <b>Callahan Elementary</b>         | Melissa Johnson          | Kristy Collins       |
| <b>Callahan Intermediate</b>       | Monica Cason             | D. Michelle Thompson |
| <b>Callahan Middle</b>             | Rhonda Devereaux         | Lindsay Hays         |
| <b>Emma Love Hardee Elementary</b> | Rebecca Smith            | Ashleigh Clark       |
| <b>Fernandina Beach High</b>       | Christopher Webber       | Meredith Lane        |
| <b>Fernandina Beach Middle</b>     | Edward Brown             | Kathryn Benson       |
| <b>Hilliard Elementary</b>         | C. Danielle Loudermilk   | Jacquelin Sims       |
| <b>Hilliard Middle-Senior High</b> | Tammy Johnson            | John Crawford        |
| <b>Southside Elementary</b>        | Marlena Palmer           | Jill Williams        |
| <b>West Nassau High</b>            | Daniel Snyder            | Richard Pearce       |
| <b>Wildlight Elementary</b>        | Amber Nicholas-Bovinette | Sarah Ray            |
| <b>Yulee Elementary</b>            | Bryce Cubbal             | Vicki Grubbs         |
| <b>Yulee High</b>                  | Yvon Joinville           | Donna Jackson        |
|                                    |                          | Mandi Matricardi     |
| <b>Yulee Middle</b>                | George Raysor            | Tara Middleton       |
|                                    |                          | Lori Amos            |
| <b>Yulee Primary</b>               | Kerri Boatright          | Tracy Miller         |

NASSAU COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
1201 Atlantic Avenue  
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
FERNANDINA BCH., FL  
PERMIT NO. 190



## Congratulations to the 2020 Nassau Teachers and School-Related Employees of the Year!

| School / Department                       | Teacher of the Year    | School-Related Employee of the Year |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Bryceville Elementary School</b>       | Natalie Faucher        | Rosalinda Willetts                  |
| <b>Callahan Elementary School</b>         | Michelle Barnes        | <b>Shelly Harrison *</b>            |
| <b>Callahan Intermediate School</b>       | Heather Drury          | Kathryn Mizell                      |
| <b>Callahan Middle School</b>             | Stephanie Lundquist    | Barbara Hadden                      |
| <b>Emma Love Hardee Elementary</b>        | Katherine Sicotte      | C. Lynn Adams                       |
| <b>Fernandina Beach High School</b>       | Evelyn French          | Angela Green                        |
| <b>Fernandina Beach Middle School</b>     | Heather Stefanski      | Sofia Klingele                      |
| <b>Hilliard Elementary School</b>         | Leigh Ann Brubaker     | Michele Ivey                        |
| <b>Hilliard Middle-Senior High School</b> | Marella Hunter         | Jennifer Folliett                   |
| <b>Southside Elementary School</b>        | Carol Anne Young       | Tara Bowen                          |
| <b>West Nassau County High School</b>     | Jennifer Helbert       | Cheri Arp                           |
| <b>Wildlight Elementary School</b>        | <b>Whitney Jones *</b> | Amy Pope                            |
| <b>Yulee Elementary School</b>            | Kellie Jones           | Dana Whitekus                       |
| <b>Yulee High School</b>                  | Ashley Murray          | Gregory Albertie                    |
| <b>Yulee Middle School</b>                | Patrick Schimella      | Jennifer Harmon                     |
| <b>Yulee Primary School</b>               | Toni Webber            | Peggy Colwell                       |
| <b>District Office</b>                    |                        | Cathy Carter                        |
| <b>Facilities Department</b>              |                        | Jimmy Hall                          |
| <b>Transportation Department</b>          |                        | R. Carole Crawford                  |

\*Denotes District Winner



## Professional Learning for Educators: Federal Title II-A Funds 2019-2020

**“Those who teach must never cease to learn.”**

The goal of the Office of Professional and Staff Development is to provide and support high quality professional learning opportunities for our educators. Through research-based learning experiences, our teachers and school leaders can effectively implement proven instructional practices that increase teacher efficacy and ultimately increase student learning.

Working collaboratively with the district's office of Curriculum and Instruction (K-12), the 2019-2020 school year yielded many opportunities to develop teachers and leaders. Below are only **a few highlights**.

- Sixty-nine teachers completed the course requirements to add Reading Endorsement to his/her Florida certificate.
- Twenty-three teachers of English Language Learners completed coursework to meet Florida requirements for ESOL training.
- Collectively, our teachers and administrators received more than 24,500 hours of online professional learning between August 2019 and July 2020.
- Provided instructional coaching for every first-year teacher through the district's Great Beginnings New Teacher Program and for teachers of English Language Learners.

- Professional learning support was provided for two Nassau County private schools through the district's federal title II funding.

As we plan for the year ahead, we are looking forward to providing continuous

learning opportunities for our teachers based on the vision of the district and the needs of the students. Our goal for 2020-2021 is to empower our teachers to become highly effective facilitators in any learning environment.

## Collection of Social Security Numbers

School Board Rules and procedures for maintaining student records shall be consistent with Florida Statutes, State Board of Education rules, and federal laws relating to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and Privacy Rights of Parents and Students. The Nassau County School Board collects Social Security numbers from students for the following reasons:

1. To be used as student identification numbers as required by Florida Statute;
2. To facilitate the processing of student scholarships, college admission and other applications;
3. For other purposes when consent of the parent or adult student is granted.

(Authority: Section 1008.386, Florida Statutes; 6A-1.0955, State Board of Education Rules)



# School Begins Monday, August 24th