Ranked #5 in Florida

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

PARENT GUIDE

A Three Year "A" Rated School District

STRONGER TOGETHER

SDIRC

2025 2026

#MySDIRC

Table of Contents

Our District 6
District Overview 7
Unified Mission 8
Strategic Pillars and Guiding Principles 8
Leadership 9
School Board 10
Superintendent David K. Moore, Ed.D. 11
Our Schools 12
Overview 13
School Schedules 13
Instructional Calendar 13
School Contact Information 14
District Data Dashboards 16
Parental Rights 17
Parental Rights in Education 18
School Choice & Student Enrollment 19
Student Enrollment 20
School Choice 20
School Safety 21
School Safety and Security Overview 22
Active Assailant Drills 22
New Emergency Response Protocol 22
Partnership with Law Enforcement 23
Anonymous Tip Reporting: FortifyFL App 23
Centegix Visitor Management System 23
Refining Emergency Drills 23
Centegix CrisisAlert-Mobile Panic Alert System 24
Academics 25
Standards and Courses 26
Instructional Materials 26

Proper Use of Instructional Materials 26
Money Collected for Lost or Damaged Instructional Materials - Enforcement 26
Sale of Instructional Materials 26
CTE 27
Dual Enrollment 27
Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Services 28
Section 504 29
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) 30
Report Cards 31
Academic Advisement 32
School Counselor Services 33
Career Exploration 34
College Advisement 34
Assessment 35
State Assessments 36
Assessment Calendar 36
Accessing Student Score Reports 36
Retakes 36
Special Programs 37
Title I Program 38
Parent's Right to Know 38
McKinney-Vento – Homeless Children and Youth 39
Early Childhood Education – VPK & Preschool Early Intervention 40
Extended Learning Opportunities 41
Extended Day Program 42
Before School Activities 42
Afternoon Activities 43
Extended Day Staff 43
Registration Procedures 43
Summer Programs 43
Summer Learning Opportunities 43
Extended School Year (ESY) 43
Technology 44

Focus 45
Chromebook Information 46
Resources 49
Behavior & Expectations 52
Behavioral Expectations 53
Attendance 53
Dress Code 55
ID Badges 56
Cell Phone Policy 57
Reporting Bullying/Harassment 58
Vaping 59
Alternative 2 Out of School Suspension – A2OSS 60
Food & Nutrition Services 61
Food Services 62
Meal Cost 62
How to Apply for Free or Reduced-Price Meals 62
Online Meal Payments 63
Health & Wellness 64
School Health Services 65
Physical & Immunization Requirements 65
Emergency Contact Information School Health/Wellness Form 66
Students with Medications at School 66
Illness 66
Mental Wellness Services 67
Extracurricular 68
Champions List 69
Extracurricular Scholastic Requirements 69
Extracurricular Activities – Virtual School 70
Transportation 71
General Information 72
Transportation Facts & Requirements 72
Find My Bus Stop 72
Bus Behavioral Expectations 72

Getting Involved 73
Importance of Parent Involvement 74
Parent Teacher Association – PTA 74
School Advisory Council – SAC 74
Superintendent's Exceptional Student Education Parent Advisory Council 74
Additional Information 75
Library Media Center 76
Searchable School Library Catalog 76
Objections to Library Media Center, Reading Lists, and District-Approved Instructional Materials 76
Title IX 77
FERPA Notification of Rights 78
Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) 79
Armed Forces Recruiter Access to Students and Student Recruiting 79
Directory Information 79
Student Grievances 80
Complaints Relating to Employees 80
Anti-Harassment 80
Florida KidCare 81

OUR DISTRICT

District Overview

The School District of Indian River County (SDIRC) is a community of achievers with a strong record of academic success. Indian River County is located approximately halfway down Florida's east coast. Centrally located 75 miles south of the Kennedy Space Center and 135 miles north of Miami, our 543 square miles contain beautiful beaches, immaculate ocean and riverfront communities, and acres of farmland.

Our district includes 13 elementary schools (4 of which are K–6 and expanding to K–8 by the 2027–2028 school year), 4 middle schools, 2 high schools, one alternative education center, one exceptional student education school, one technical college, 5 charter schools, and a virtual school. No matter which school your child attends, we are committed to providing a safe, supportive, and academically challenging environment.

SDIRC is proud to be ranked **5th in the state**, with **100% of our schools rated A or B**—including **100% of our high schools earning an "A" rating**. We have earned an **"A" rating as a district for three years in a row** and have been recognized by the state as an **Academically High-Performing School District**. Our students continue to shine, outperforming the state average in every tested subject on the Spring 2025 assessments—English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies—and showing strong academic growth across the board.

In 2023–2024, we achieved a **96% high school graduation rate**—our highest ever—ranking us **4th in Florida**. Many of our schools are eligible for the Florida School Recognition Program, which rewards academic excellence and provides added resources to support continued success. All of our schools are also fully accredited by the **Cognia Global Accreditation Commission**, reflecting our ongoing dedication to quality education and continuous improvement.

We're especially excited about our growing **School Choice** and **Innovative Programming** options for families, including **Magnet Schools**, **K–8 models**, **Classical Education**, and our expanding **Signature Areas of Study**. These opportunities reflect our commitment to building a "Best in Class" school system that supports every child's unique journey.

At SDIRC, we believe every student deserves an excellent education and every family deserves a strong school partner. We look forward to working together to support your child's growth, learning, and future success—because in Indian River County, we are always striving to be "Best by Kids".

Unified Mission

"Transforming education to inspire & empower ALL students to maximize their full potential."

Our district has identified "Transforming education to inspire & empower ALL students to maximize their full potential" as our unifying mission. The underlying rationale for establishing a unifying mission is to clearly communicate the overarching educational priority in our district, while connecting all those supporting the work of the Strategic Plan to a common and meaningful purpose.

Strategic Pillars and Guiding Principles

Our district is committed to ensuring every student thrives. This commitment is anchored by our *Strategic Pillars* and guided by the principles that shape the way we work each day. Together, they provide a clear framework for decision-making, action, and accountability.

Our Strategic Pillars and Guiding Principles

- **Connected by Community** – *We Thrive Together*. We build strong, supportive, and trusting relationships with families, staff, and community partners.
- **Fueled by Innovation** – *We Challenge What Is Possible*. We embrace creative and forward-thinking solutions to transform learning, inspire intellectual curiosity, and prepare students for the futures of tomorrow.
- **Driven by Leadership** –*We Lead at Every Level*. We empower individuals to take initiative, act with integrity, and accelerate progress.

Together, these Strategic Pillars and Guiding Principles reflect our shared vision: a district where students are supported by their community, inspired through innovation, and prepared to lead with purpose.

LEADERSHIP

School Board

Regular School Board meetings are held on Monday evenings and are open to the public. Parents are encouraged to attend, either in person or via live broadcast. Further information is available at https://www.indianriverschools.org/schoolboard.

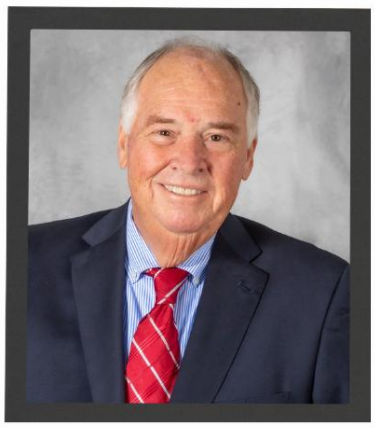
School Board of Indian River County

Teri L. Barenborg, Chair
District 4

Dr. Peggy Jones, Vice Chair
District 3

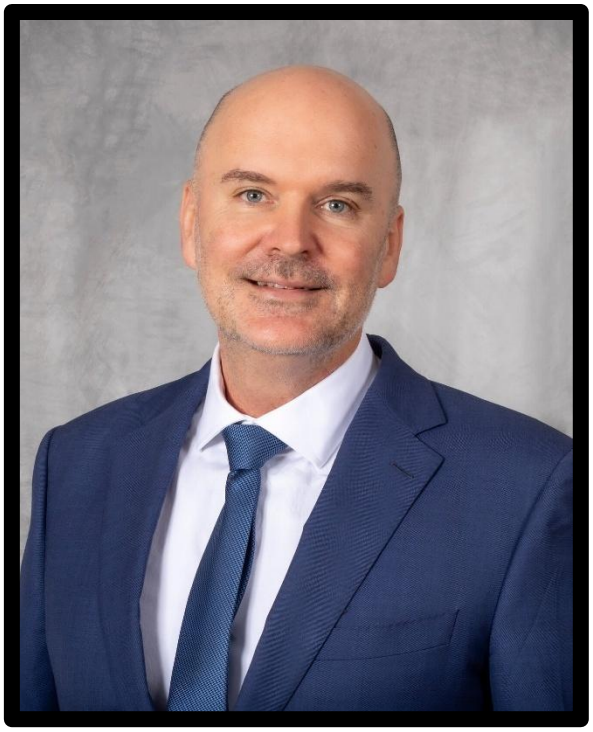
Gene A. Posca, M.D.,
District 1

Jacqueline Rosario
District 2



David Dyer
District 5

Superintendent David K. Moore, Ed.D.



Dr. David K. Moore—named the 2025 Florida Superintendent of the Year and a finalist for National Superintendent of the Year—has served as Superintendent of the School District of Indian River County (SDIRC) since 2019. With a record of transforming schools in both urban and mid-size districts, he has led SDIRC to become one of the highest-performing school districts in Florida. Under his leadership, SDIRC has earned three consecutive district "A" grades, doubled the number of "A" schools, and achieved a 100% "A" or "B" school rating. The district now ranks 5th of 67 districts statewide, has been designated an Academically High-Performing District, and celebrates a 96% graduation rate.

Dr. Moore's tenure, among the longest of any Florida superintendent, began just before the COVID-19 pandemic. While other districts struggled with stagnant achievement, SDIRC posted its strongest performance results in two decades. Before arriving in Indian River, Dr. Moore built a reputation in Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) for successfully turning around underperforming schools. As Assistant Superintendent, he led the Division of Academic Support and redesigned the Education Transformation Office, moving schools from 83% rated D or F to just 1%. His expertise in instruction, paired with a data-driven culture and performance management systems that attract national attention, has continued to shape SDIRC's success.

At SDIRC, Dr. Moore has prioritized building strong leadership teams, establishing leadership academies for administrators and instructional coaches, and negotiating multi-year teacher contracts with salary raises. He also secured overwhelming community support for an operating millage, with 75% of voters approving additional funding to expand district resources. His Strategic Plan has served as a blueprint for improving instructional quality, strengthening infrastructure, and embedding data-informed decision-making across the district.

In 2025, Dr. Moore was also honored with the Florida STAR Superintendent Award for galvanizing private sector support and launching the Indian River Education Fund, which engages C-suite leaders and the county's largest employers to strengthen public education through financial and intellectual contributions. Recognized nationally as a 2021 Superintendent to Watch, Dr. Moore has participated in highly competitive leadership programs, including the Yale Fellowship for Educational Leaders and the Florida Chief Executive Officers-District Leadership Program. His career reflects an unwavering commitment to creating the conditions for student success and driving systemic change in public education.

OUR SCHOOLS

Overview

A successful education means defining "success" for each student and then placing this student in an educational environment that is vibrant and supportive. In the SDIRC we view success as a student envisioning their own unique future and using the available resources to make that vision a reality. Our schools offer a variety of courses and programs that help students reach their goals. For more information, please visit https://www.indianriverschools.org/schools.

School Schedules

Elementary School – Start 8:50 a.m. Dismissal 3:30 p.m. Modified Days: 8:50 a.m.-1:40 p.m.

Middle School – Start 8:00 a.m. Dismissal 2:41 p.m. Modified Days: 8:00 a.m.-12:50 p.m.

High School – Start 7:05 a.m. Dismissal 1:52 p.m. Modified Days: 7:05 a.m.-12:05 p.m.

Specialty Schools

IR Prep – Start 7:05 a.m. Dismissal 1:52 p.m.

Wabasso School – Start 8:30 a.m. Dismissal 2:45 p.m.

Instructional Calendar

To access the current instructional calendar as well as the proposed calendar for next school year, visit https://www.indianriverschools.org/calendars/instructional_calendar. Click on the image of the calendar below to open the current calendar.

School District of Indian River County
2025-2026 Instructional Calendar

Day of the Week	Date	Event Description
Thursday	7/31/2025	Optional teacher planning day
Friday	8/01/2025	Optional teacher planning day
Monday	8/04/2025	Teacher planning/school-based professional learning
Tuesday	8/05/2025	District professional learning day
Wednesday	8/06/2025	Teacher planning/elementary school orientation
Thursday	8/07/2025	Teacher planning/middle school orientation
Friday	8/08/2025	Teacher planning/school-based professional learning; high school orientation
Monday	8/11/2025	First day of school for students
Monday	9/01/2025	Labor Day; no school; holiday for students/employees
Tuesday	9/16/2025	High school open house
Wednesday	9/17/2025	Middle school open house
Thursday	9/18/2025	Elementary school open house
Monday	9/22/2025	No school for students/teachers
Friday	10/10/2025	End of first grading quarter
Tuesday	10/21/2025	High school conference night
Wednesday	10/22/2025	Middle school conference night
Thursday	10/23/2025	Elementary school conference night
Friday	10/24/2025	No school for students/teachers due to conferences
Friday	10/31/2025	Staff professional learning day; no school for students
Monday	11/10/2025	No school for students/teachers
Monday	11/24/2025	Thanksgiving Break begins; no school for students/employees (exception 12-month employees);11/24/2025-11/28/2025
Thursday	11/27/2025	Thanksgiving; no school; holiday for students/employees 11/27/2025-11/28/2025
Thursday	12/18/2025	Modified instructional day
Friday	12/19/2025	Modified instructional day; end of second grading quarter
Monday	12/22/2025	Winter Break begins; no school for students/employees 12/22/2025-1/04/2026
Monday	1/05/2026	Optional teacher planning day; no school for students
Tuesday	1/06/2026	Teacher planning/school-based professional learning day; no school for students
Wednesday	1/07/2026	Students return from Winter Break
Monday	1/19/2026	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; no school; holiday for students/employees
Friday	1/30/2026	Staff professional learning day; no school for students
Tuesday	2/10/2026	High school conference night
Wednesday	2/11/2026	Middle school conference night
Thursday	2/12/2026	Elementary school conference night
Friday	2/13/2026	No school for students/teachers due to conferences
Monday	2/16/2026	Presidents' Day; no school; holiday for students/employees
Friday	3/13/2026	End of third grading quarter
Monday	3/30/2026	Spring Break begins; no school for students/employees (exception 12-month employees); 03/30/2026-04/03/2026
Thursday	5/14/2026	Vero Beach High School graduation
Friday	5/15/2026	Sebastian River High School graduation
Monday	5/25/2026	Memorial Day; no school; holiday for students/employees
Wednesday	5/27/2026	Modified instructional day
Thursday	5/28/2026	Modified instructional day
Friday	5/29/2026	Modified instructional day; last day of school for students; end of fourth grading quarter
Monday	6/01/2026	Optional teacher planning day

School Contact Information

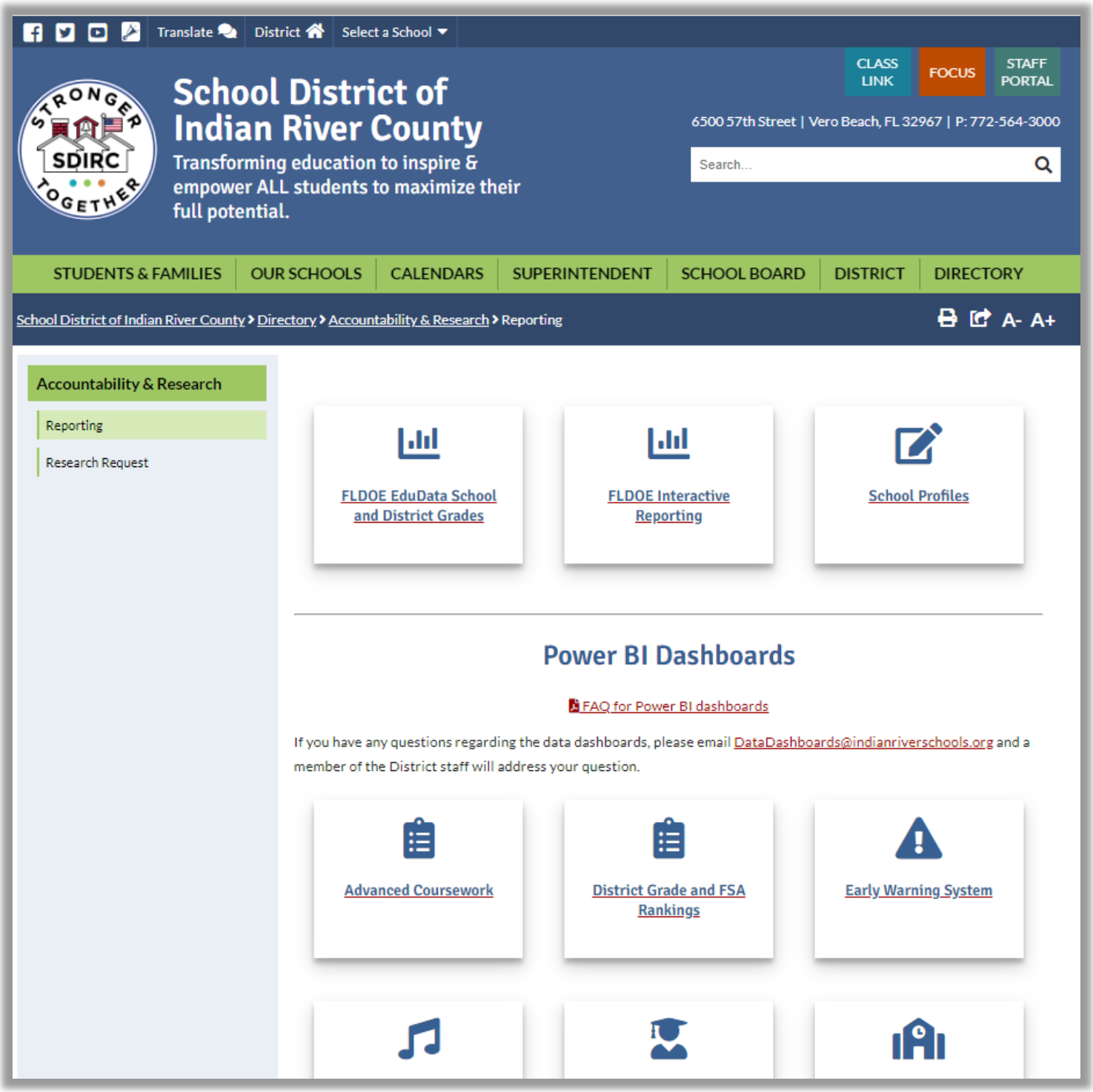
	School and Address	Phone	Grades	Social Media
	Beachland Elementary 3350 Indian River Blvd. E. Vero Beach, FL 32963	☎ 564-3300	Prek-5th	#MyBES
	Citrus Elementary 2771 4th Street Vero Beach, FL 32968	☎ 978-8350	K-5th	#MyCES
	Dodgertown Elementary 4350 43rd Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32967	☎ 564-4100	Prek-5th	#MyDES
	Fellsmere Elementary 50 N. Cypress Street Fellsmere, FL 32948	☎ 564-5970	Prek-6th (K-8th by 2027-2028)	#MyFESK-8
	Gifford Middle School 4530 28th Court Vero Beach, FL 32967	☎ 564-3550	6th-8th	#MyGMS
	Glendale Elementary 4940 8th Street Vero Beach, FL 32968	☎ 978-8050	Prek-5th	#MyGES
	Indian River Academy 500 20th Street SW Vero Beach, FL 32962	☎ 564-3390	Prek-5th	#MyIRA
	Liberty Magnet School 6850 81st Street Vero Beach, FL 32967	☎ 564-5300	K-5th	#MyLMS
	Osceola Magnet School 1110 18th Avenue SW Vero Beach, FL 32962	☎ 564-5821	K-6th (K-8th by 2027-2028)	#MyOMSK-8
	Oslo Middle School 480 20th Avenue SW Vero Beach, FL 32962	☎ 564-3920	6th-8th	#MyOsloMS
	Pelican Island Classical Magnet School 1355 Schumann Drive Sebastian, FL 32958	☎ 564-6500	K-6th (K-8th by 2027-2028)	#MyPIC
	Rosewood Magnet School 3850 16th Street Vero Beach, FL 32960	☎ 564-3840	K-6th (K-8th by 2027-2028)	#MyRMSK-8

	School and Address	Phone	Grades	Social Media
	Sebastian Elementary 400 Sebastian Boulevard Sebastian, FL 32958	☎ 978-8200	Prek-5th	#MySES
	Sebastian River High School 9001 Shark Boulevard Sebastian, FL 32958	☎ 564-4170	9th-12th	#MySRHS
	Sebastian River Middle School 9400 CR 512 Sebastian, FL 32958	☎ 564-5111	6th-8th	#MySRMS
	Storm Grove Middle School 6400 57th Street Vero Beach, FL 32967	☎ 564-6400	6th-8th	#MySGMS
	Treasure Coast Elementary 8955 85th Street Sebastian, FL 32958	☎ 978-8500	K-5th	#MyTCE
	Vero Beach Elementary 1770 12th Street Vero Beach, FL 32960	☎ 564-4550	Prek-5th	#MyVBE
	Vero Beach High School 1707 16th Street Vero Beach, FL 32960	☎ 564-5600	9th-12th	#MyVBHS
	Wabasso School 8895 US Hwy 1 Sebastian, FL 32970	☎ 978-8000	All grades	#MyWS

	Treasure Coast Technical College 4680 28th Court Vero Beach, FL 32967	☎ 564-4970		#MyTCTC
	Indian River Virtual School 8895 US Highway 1 Sebastian, FL 32958	☎ 564-3156	All grades	
	IR Prep 1707 16th Street Vero Beach, FL 32960	☎ 564-6240	Secondary Only	#MyIRPREP
	School District Office JA Thompson Administrative Complex 6500 57th Street Vero Beach, FL 32967	☎ 564-3000		#MySDIRC

District Data Dashboards

The School District of Indian River County maintains several public-facing Power BI data dashboards detailing current and historic data pertaining to academics, extracurricular activities, student attendance and discipline, enrollment information, and district grade information. To access these dashboards, direct your browser to the following link:
https://www.indianriverschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=1549525&pageId=9329835



PARENTAL RIGHTS

Parental Rights in Education

At the School District of Indian River County, we are committed to respecting the rights of parents and guardians and encouraging your active involvement in your child's education. We recognize your important role in guiding your child's upbringing, education, and care, and we want to make sure you have support if concerns arise that are not quickly resolved at the school level. These rights are outlined in Florida's House Bill (HB) 1557, also known as the Parental Rights in Education Act.

To support this commitment, the School Board has adopted Policy 5780.01, which explains how the School District of Indian River County upholds parental rights in education.

We also invite you to read a letter from Florida's Commissioner of Education, Anastasios Kamoutsas, which shares important information and resources to support your child's success.

If you have a concern, our district has created clear steps to help resolve it. The procedures are explained in the attached document and must be followed so that your concern can be properly reviewed and documented. You can also find the Parental Rights Dispute Resolution Form on the SDIRC website under the "Students and Families" tab. Parents may submit complaints utilizing this form.

SCHOOL CHOICE & STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Student Enrollment

Visit our www.indianriverschools.org/enrollment website for full details, screenshots, and videos on how to enroll in SDIRC schools through the Focus Parent Portal application.

The online student enrollment application is always available in the Focus Parent Portal.

Enrollment Requirements:

Kindergarten: A child must be 5 years old on or before September 1st to enroll in kindergarten.

First Grade: To enroll for the first time in our district, a child must be 6 years old on or before September 1st and have proof of satisfactory completion of a kindergarten program.

K-12 Transfer Students: Provide a copy of your student's latest report card, Florida Statewide Assessment scores, or other achievement results, along with all required documentation (see below). If your student receives ESE services and/or other accommodations, please provide a copy of their IEP/504/ELL/Gifted EP plan.

Documentation Requirements:

- Birth Certificate or other state approved proof of birth
- Social Security Number (optional)
- Proof of school physical (no older than 1 year from the school start date)
- Certificate of Immunization (DOH form 680) obtained from a local doctor or County Health Department
- Two (2) current utility bills with your name and address for proof of residence
- Emergency Contact Information

*Students will be excluded from school if immunizations are not up to date, if physicals have expired or are incomplete and if records have not been submitted to the school by the 30th school day after transferring into Indian River County.

For each student who returns to SDIRC from year to year: The parents will need to fill out the Parent Acknowledgement Forms and Re-Enrollment Contact Verification each year prior to the start of school through the Focus Parent Portal.

School Choice

Each year from November 1 to the end of June. the SDIRC School Choice application is open for the next school year. Parents must have a Focus account linked to their student to complete the application. For each student who does not want to attend their zoned school, an application can be filled out with up to three choice schools selected. Choice lotteries are held four times a year: Late January, March, May and July, with the application re-opening prior to each subsequent lottery. After each lottery is run, parents have ten days to accept or decline their choice offering. Please visit this section of our enrollment website for full details on our Open Enrollment process for school choice. Click here to learn more about our School Choice opportunities.

SCHOOL SAFETY

School Safety and Security Overview

The School District of Indian River County has elevated our safety and security across all our campuses placing a high priority on student and school safety. The SDIRC has built a strong collaborative relationship with all five local law enforcement agencies, and we are proud to say we have a dedicated School Resource Deputy or Officer (SRD/SRO) on every school campus, public or charter. We also benefit from the FLDOE Office of Safe Schools best practices and required initiatives, such as the FortifyFL app that allows for anonymous reporting of suspicious activity.

We believe our students, families, staff, and community are key partners in keeping our schools safe. SDIRC encourages everyone to help us maintain safety and security by reporting any concerns to the appropriate authorities. As always, we are a See Something, Say Something school district.

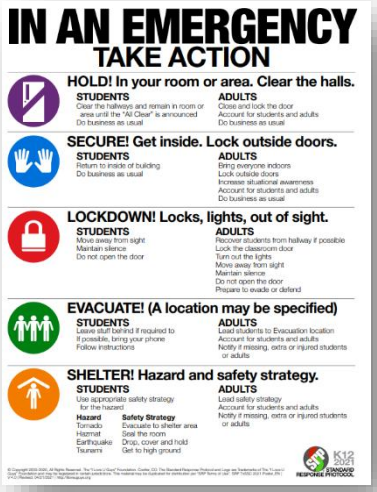
Active Assailant Drills

In accordance with Florida Administrative Rule 6A-1.0018 and our commitment to student and staff safety, the School District of Indian River County conducts periodic Active Assailant Drills at all campuses. These drills are designed to test our emergency plans and ensure preparedness for any active threat situation. To enhance the effectiveness of our response and ensure best practices, we actively partner with local law enforcement agencies during these drills. This collaboration allows for a well coordinated response, which improves real-time decision-making, and ensures all stakeholders are aligned in safeguarding our schools. Parents are encouraged to speak with their children about the importance of these drills and the role they play in maintaining a secure learning environment.

New Emergency Response Protocol

As part of our continuous efforts to enhance school safety, the School District of Indian River County is transitioning from the traditional color-coded emergency system to the Standard Response Protocol (SRP) from the "I Love You Guys" Foundation.

Best practices in school safety have shown that plain-language directives such as HOLD, SECURE, LOCKDOWN, EVACAUTE, and SHELTER, are easier to understand and act upon during high-stress situations. This change will promote greater clarity, reduce confusion, and ensure that students, staff, and first responders are all using the same language during an emergency.



Partnership with Law Enforcement

See something, Say Something
Report a tip to the Indian River County Sheriff's Office by phone or email.
schooltips@ircsheriff.org or (772) 978-6000 (non-emergency number)

Anonymous Tip Reporting: FortifyFL App

To help keep our schools safe, the State of Florida created a tool called FortifyFL. It's a free app and website where students, parents, or community members can quickly and anonymously report anything that might be unsafe. Students are often more comfortable using this type of anonymous tool instead of speaking up in person, which is why FortifyFL is such an important part of our safety plan. We encourage parents and guardians to review this resource with their children and remind them that making an intentional false report is a serious matter. Under Florida Statute 943.082, if law enforcement investigates and finds that someone knowingly submitted a false tip, the IP address of the device it was sent from will be provided to law enforcement. **Making an intentional false report can lead to criminal charges under Florida law (s. 837.05)**.

Centegix Visitor Management System

The School District of Indian River County uses the Raptor Visitor Management System. With the Raptor Visitor Management system, visitors are screened against the registered sex offender databases in all 50 states. The Raptor Visitor Management system ensures that accurate and reliable records are kept for the visitors who enter your school every day.

Refining Emergency Drills

In accordance with Florida Administrative Rule 6A-1.0018, and as part of our continued commitment to emergency preparedness, the School District of Indian River County is making an intentional update to how we conduct school-based tabletop exercises. Beginning in the 2025-26 school year, these training sessions will occur more frequently but will be shorter in duration. This approach is designed to strengthen teamwork, improve communication, and help build the kind of muscle memory that allows our School Safety Teams to respond quickly and confidently. The goal is to ensure that, in the event of a real emergency, our staff are well-practiced and ready to protect the safety of everyone on campus.

Centegix CrisisAlert-Mobile Panic Alert System

The School District of Indian River County is introducing the Centegix CrisisAlert badge system for all staff. This wearable badge will allow employees to quickly and discreetly request help during both everyday situations and more serious emergencies. In the event of a critical incident, staff can instantly alert law enforcement. We are working closely with our local law enforcement partners and the 911 Communications Centers to implement this state-of-the-art technology across all our schools, reinforcing our commitment to keeping every student and staff member safe. This implementation meets the requirements set forth in Florida Statute §1006.07(4)(c), known as Alyssa's Alert.

ACADEMICS

Standards and Courses

The Florida Standards provide the foundation for instruction in the School District of Indian River County. We encourage parents and legal guardians to visit CPALMS, the State of Florida's official source for standards information and course descriptions, to review detailed information.

Instructional Materials

In accordance with Florida Statute 1006.40, the School District of Indian River County is committed to providing "each student in kindergarten through grade 12 with a major tool of instruction in core courses of the subject areas." The FLDOE provides valuable information pertaining to instructional materials on the following websites:

- FLDOE Instructional Materials
- FLDOE Standards Review
- Florida Statutes Title XLVIII, Chapter 1006

View the list of instructional materials utilized in all of our schools.

Florida law requires school principals to be responsible for instructional and library materials on their campuses. If you have questions or would like to review available print or digital resources kindly contact your child's principal.

Proper Use of Instructional Materials

The principal shall assure that instructional materials are used to provide instruction to students enrolled at the grade level or levels for which the materials are designed, pursuant to adopted district school board rule. The school principal shall communicate to parents the manner in which instructional materials are used to implement curricular objectives of the school.

Money Collected for Lost or Damaged Instructional Materials - Enforcement

The school principal shall collect from each student or the student's parent the purchase price of any instructional materials the student has lost, destroyed, or unnecessarily damaged and to report and transmit the money collected to the district school superintendent. The failure to collect each sum upon reasonable effort by the school principal may result in the suspension of the student from participation in extracurricular activities or satisfaction of the debt by the student through community service activities at the school site as determined by the school principal, pursuant to policies adopted by the district school board rule.

Sale of Instructional Materials

The school principal, upon request of the parent of a student in the school, shall sell to the parent any instructional materials used in the school. All such sales shall be made pursuant to rule adopted by the district school board, and the principal shall annually provide information to parents that they may purchase instructional materials and how to purchase the materials.

CTE

Career and Technical Education (CTE) refers to courses or programs designed to prepare students for careers in current or emerging professions. It provides students in grades 6-12 with the academic and technical skills, knowledge, and training necessary to succeed in future careers and post-secondary education. These programs help to build and improve math, science, literacy, and problem-solving skills. CTE prepares learners for the world of work through applied learning that is competency-based or work-based. All CTE programs provide the opportunity to earn a recognized Industry Certification.

The Dual Enrollment program at Treasure Coast Technical College offers high school students the opportunity to enroll in post-secondary clock hour courses creditable toward both high school graduation and a career certificate. High school juniors and seniors may participate, provided entrance requirements are met through a formal application process. All dual enrollment programs provide the opportunity to earn a recognized Industry Certification. As a dual enrollment student, tuition, books, and lab industry certification fees are waived.

The Career Pathways articulation agreement between Indian River State College (IRSC) and the School Board of Indian River County enables students who successfully complete a secondary CTE program the opportunity to receive articulated credits upon initial registration at IRSC.

Dual Enrollment

The School District of Indian River County and Indian River State College co-sponsor appropriate college courses in high schools during the normal class hours, after normal class hours, and during the summer term. Students enrolled in dual enrollment classes shall earn both high school and college credit if they meet the requirements for satisfactory completion of such classes. An eligible high school student may be enrolled as a full-time dual enrollment student at any Florida college or university with which the School District has a current interinstitutional articulation agreement. The student must be accepted by that institution to attend.

Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Services

In accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), students with disabilities are provided high-quality, specially designed educational instruction and related services, which may include technology devices, therapies, special transportation, accommodations, and other educational supports. These services are provided in the student's least restrictive environment (LRE); that is, an environment in which students with disabilities are educated with their non-disabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate. Separate classes, separate schooling, or removal of students with disabilities from the general education environment occurs only when the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in general education classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. Exceptional Student Education (ESE) services vary based on a student's individual needs. Services are determined by an Individual Education Plan (IEP) Team which includes the students' parents. The student's plan of support and services is documented in the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP).

The school district supports the access, involvement, and progress of each student's individual education program by providing a range of educational services that best meet the individual needs of the student.

The Principal on each campus serves as the Local Education Agency (LEA) representative and plays a crucial role in ensuring students with disabilities receive a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment. The LEA also plays a vital role in IEP meetings, ensuring students' needs are met and services are provided effectively. The Principal may delegate the LEA role to a designee.

The school Resource Specialist serves as the ESE point of contact on the school campus. Resource Specialists assist with ensuring ESE compliance. They schedule and facilitate IEP and other ESE team meetings for students with disabilities and serve as an ESE resource for school staff and families.

The district ESE Department provides professional learning, technical assistance, and problem-solving guidance to schools and families to support the implementation of ESE programs and services on school campuses.

Section 504

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a federal civil rights statute designed to encourage participation and equal access to federally funded programs for individuals with disabilities, and to prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. This, along with the Americans with Disabilities Act as Amended (ADAAA), guarantees students who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities the right to full participation and access to a Free and Appropriate Education (FAPE). Under these laws, the school must ensure that eligible students have equal participation and opportunity to benefit to the same extent as their nondisabled peers. Protections under Section 504 do not guarantee that a student will succeed, but rather, the student is provided FAPE and afforded the opportunity to succeed. Eligibility under Section 504 is determined by a team of individuals who know the student and can provide relevant input regarding the impact of the student's disabilities. Parents and students are strongly encouraged to participate as a Section 504 team member.

All students with disabilities who qualify under Section 504 are provided protection from discrimination, procedural safeguards, manifestation determinations, as appropriate, and periodic re-evaluations to determine the need for continued protections and for an accommodation plan. The need for an accommodation plan is a separate eligibility decision. The Section 504 team is to consider the impact of mitigating measures when making this determination. Interventions and accommodations that align specifically with a student's needs are to be implemented and progress monitored for a period a team deems necessary. The site-based team will reconvene to review the data and make an eligibility determination. A team member reserves the right to request a formal meeting to review the current plan at any time. This request is made through the school-based Resource Specialist. If you are the parent of a student with a disability and want additional information about Section 504, call your student's school and ask to speak to the Resource Specialist.

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

All parents complete a 3-item "Home Language Survey" upon initial enrollment. ESOL staff assess any child whose parent/guardian answers "yes" to any of these questions. The results of the English language test will determine ESOL program eligibility. The ESOL program is designed to help improve English language proficiency and academic potential.

Teachers utilize ESOL strategies and accommodations, as appropriate, during classroom instruction for English Language Learners (ELLs). Each school in the district with 15 or more ESOL students of the same native language shall have an ESOL staff member to provide additional assistance to children in the ESOL program.

ELLs shall have equal access to all programs and services offered by the schools based on need and eligibility, regardless of language proficiency, race, ethnicity, or national origin. This shall include, but is not limited to, advanced programs and instruction in basic subject areas that are understandable to ELLs and equal and comparable in amount, scope, sequence, and quality to that provided to English proficient students. ELLs with special needs and/or in need of additional services shall be provided equal and comparable services to those provided to English proficient students in a timely manner and appropriate to the student's level of English proficiency.

All English Language Learners will be assessed annually using a statewide language proficiency assessment. The statewide annual English Language Proficiency Assessment, ACCESS for ELLs, measures the areas of language acquisition: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Each student identified as an ELL shall continue to receive ESOL instructional support until the student is reclassified as English proficient and exits from the ESOL Program.

Report Cards

All students receive report cards every nine weeks through the Focus Parent Portal. They will also receive progress reports between each report card. For secondary schools, most academic subjects will be given a grade ranging from A to F. There is a space on your child's report card where teachers can make additional comments about your child's progress.

High School Report Cards: In grades 9, 10, 11, & 12, your child's report card will state his or her cumulative grade point average (GPA). This average is calculated by changing letter grades into a number value: A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0. The numerical values are then added and divided by the total number of classes taken. A GPA of 2.0 is required for high school graduation.

Elementary Report Cards: All elementary teachers will be grading students by their progress toward mastery of the standards. The standards assessed each quarter will be the ones that will show on the report card with all standards expected to be assessed by the end of the year. For grades 2-5, academic subjects will be given a grade ranging from A to F.

In **Grades K-1**, students are assessed using the following academic scale:

M=Mastering or proficient in understanding the skills needed during the reporting period
D+=Progressing towards mastery
D=Developing understanding of skills/needs support
L+=Progressing towards development
L=Limited understanding and/or not demonstrating skills needed

In **Grades 2-12**, students are assessed using the following academic scale:

A=90-100
B=80-89
C=70-79
D=60-69
F=0-59

ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

School Counselor Services

School Counselors design and deliver school counseling programs that improve student outcomes. They lead, advocate, and help students form healthy goals, mindsets, and behaviors by connecting their school counseling program to the school's academic mission and school improvement plan. They uphold the ethical and professional standards of the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) and promote the development of the school counseling program based on the following areas of the ASCA National Model: define, deliver, manage, and assess.

School Counseling Programs Promote Student Success Through:
• Academic Development
• College & Career Development
• Personal and Social Development

School Counselors work to facilitate programs, goals, and objectives that contribute to the district's mission to "empower all students to maximize their full potential". As vital members of elementary, middle, and high school leadership teams, school counselors create a culture of success for all.

School Counselors help students:

- Apply academic achievement strategies
- Manage emotions and apply interpersonal skills
- Plan for postsecondary options (higher education, military, workforce)

Examples of ways in which counselors support students:

- Individual student academic planning and goal setting
- School counseling classroom lessons based on student success standards
- Short-term counseling (individual and group)
- Crisis assessment and intervention
- Referrals for long-term support
- Data analysis to identify student issues, needs, and challenges

Visit the District website to learn more about school counseling.

Career Exploration

Xello, an online career planning and work-based learning coordination system, is Florida's official tool to empower students in the development of a personalized plan for the future. The program features a user experience that is interactive and developmentally appropriate. Xello is utilized with students in grades kindergarten through graduation.

Program Features:

- Build personalized profiles to highlight their interests, skills, and abilities
- Take career matching assessments to guide and motivate exploration
- Explore options by reviewing career profiles, labor market data, and post-secondary training opportunities
- Set both short and long-term goals and track progress with academic course planning and managing the application process
- Continually learn, reflect, and reassess their plans with the support of college and career readiness lessons

College Advisement

The School Counseling Program prepares and advises students and parents towards higher-education opportunities from 9th to 12th grade. Starting in 9th grade, assistance is provided in making a four-year plan, finding appropriate post-secondary institutions and helping navigate school admissions requirements, financial aid, and the scholarship process.

School Counseling Program Topics for Success:

- Grade-Level Specific Information (9th – 12th)
- College Readiness Checklists (9th – 12th)
- Dual Enrollment
- Scholarship Process
- Financial Aid (FAFSA)
- College Advising
- College Applications & Essays
- Letters of Recommendation
- Admission Testing Information (SAT, ACT, CLT)

View current program resources and college and career pathways on the District website.

ASSESSMENT

State Assessments

All Florida public school students, including those enrolled in full-time virtual school, must participate in the Florida Statewide Assessments Program. Homeschoolers may choose to participate in the spring assessment window but are not required to test. The full set of state assessment windows can be found on the FLDOE Assessment Calendar webpage. For the 2025-2026 school year, the following assessments will be given:

- **Grades K-2:** Either Star Early Literacy or Star Reading and Star Math, three times a year
- **Grades 4-10 Writing*:** once a year in April
- **Grades 3-10 English Language Arts*:** three times a year
- **Grades 3-8 Math*:** three times a year
- **Grades 5 & 8 Science*:** once a year in May
- **State End of course exams*:** once a year in May
    - Students who have completed at least 80% of the following courses must take the exam:
        - Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, US History, Civics (7th grade)
- **Students in Access Points curriculum** courses will take the Florida Alternate Assessment for the above *starred tests in the spring between February and April
- **12th Grade Florida Civic Literacy Exam:** upon completing US Government either in December or April
- **Grades K -12 WIDA:** Access for English Language Learners: for ELL Students, once a year beginning in late January
- **10th graders** will take the PSAT in the Fall
- **11th graders** will take the SAT school day in the Spring

Tests that are held three times a year will occur in August, December, and May*

Assessment Calendar

The state requires the district submit the Uniform Statewide Assessment Calendar by October 1st of each year. Please visit the school district Department of Accountability & Research website for the most current assessment information.

Accessing Student Score Reports

All Florida Statewide Assessment scores can be found within your SDIRC Focus Parent Portal Account. Families can access resources for understanding these reports on the FLDOE website here: https://flfast.org/resource-list/en/family-portal .

Retakes

The state holds retake windows for all End of Course (EOC) Exams and the required 10th Grade English Language Arts exam four times a year. The calendar can be found at the above FLDOE calendar link. Schools will set individual testing dates within the windows.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Title I Program

The purpose of Title I is to ensure that all students have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education, and reach proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments.

Title I funds assist schools with the highest percentages of economically disadvantaged students in improving student achievement and are used to enhance the district's instructional program. In accordance with federal law, funds are allocated to schools to support the purpose of Title I and the goals of the Schoolwide Improvement Plan (SIP).

In addition to a variety of other family engagement and community outreach activities, each school with a Title I program hosts an annual parent meeting that notifies parents of their opportunities to provide input on their child's education throughout the school year. The written Parent and Family Engagement Plan (PFEP) and school-parent compact, jointly developed with parents, address the importance of ongoing communication between the school and families and describes ways each will be responsible for supporting student learning.

Parent's Right to Know

Family engagement is an important component of the Title I program. Each school with a Title I program is required to send notification to parents regarding the "right to know" provision.

1. At the beginning of the school year, schools notify parents of their right to request (and receive in a timely manner) information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers, including at a minimum, the following:

   - Whether the student's teacher—
     - has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
     - is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
     - is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
   - Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

2. Notify parents of the level of achievement and academic growth of the student, if applicable and available, on each of the State academic assessments.

3. Provide timely notice that the student has been assigned, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who does not meet applicable State certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

4. At the beginning of each school year, notify parents that they may request (and receive in a timely manner), information regarding any State or District policy regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by the State or District.

5. Make widely available through public means for each grade level, information on each assessment required by the State including—

- the subject matter assessed;
- the purpose for which the assessment is designed and used;
- the source of the requirement for the assessment; and
- where such information is available—
    - the amount of time students will spend taking the assessment, and the schedule for the assessment; and
    - the time and format for disseminating results.

6. Notify parents of English Language Learners (ELLs) within 30 days of the beginning of the school year, or if identified as an ELL after the start of school, within 2 weeks of their child's participation in the English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program; Inform parents of ELLs on ways they can support their child's education.

McKinney-Vento – Homeless Children and Youth

The McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program is designed to address the barriers that students experiencing homelessness may face in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school. Under this program, school districts must ensure that each homeless child and youth have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as other children and youth.

The Federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act states that children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence are considered homeless. If you lost your housing due to economic reasons and now live doubled-up with family or friends; live in a shelter, motel, vehicle, camping ground, or temporary trailer; on the street; or in another type of temporary or inadequate housing, your child(ren) may be eligible to receive support through the McKinney-Vento Act.

It is the policy of the School District of Indian River County (Board Policy 5111.01) that students experiencing homelessness will not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their homeless status. The Board recognizes that a student experiencing homelessness have the right to remain in their school of origin, the school that the student attended when permanently housed or last enrolled, and the right to dispute their school assignment, if their assignment is other than their school of origin. According to the student's best interest, a homeless student will either remain in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness or be enrolled in the school in the attendance zone where the student currently resides.

If you believe your child(ren) may be eligible for the support provided by the McKinney-Vento Act, contact the district's McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison, Karen Malits, Director of Federal Programs at (772) 564-3096.

Early Childhood Education – VPK & Preschool Early Intervention

SDIRC's Early Learning Programs encompass the school year statewide Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program (VPK) and Preschool Early Intervention Program, which provides Exceptional Student Education (ESE) services to our youngest learners ages 3 to 5.

Our SDIRC Early Learning Programs consists of 24 classrooms (12 VPK and 12 PreK ESE) across 7 public elementary schools in the SDIRC, and itinerant therapies servicing 400+ students within the county.

We also provide summer programming for PreK ESE (ESY), Summer VPK, VPK Summer Bridge Program and "STEP into Kindergarten," our Summer Transition Enrichment Program.

Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) is a FREE 540-hour state program designed to prepare every child in Florida for kindergarten and build the foundation for their educational success. All age-eligible children (age 4 on or before September 1st of the current school year) are entitled to participate. The VPK mission is to ensure that all children are intellectually, socially, emotionally and physically ready to enter school and are ready to learn, fully recognizing the crucial role of parents and caregivers as their child's first teacher. VPK applications begin in January of the current school year. Applications are completed in the Focus Student Information System.

Summer VPK is a 300-hour program offered for 30 calendar days in June and July. All age-eligible children (5 years old on or before September 1 and did NOT complete a Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten during the school year) are entitled to participate. Summer VPK applications begin in March of the current school year. Applications are completed in the Focus Student Information System.

SDIRC's Early Learning Programs also provides Early Intervention Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Services for preschool-age (3-5 years) children in classroom settings. These classrooms accommodate fewer children per teacher ratio. Opportunities for inclusion with typical peers are provided as appropriate. Classroom teachers are certified and have additional support staff to assist with the special needs of each child. A child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) may include specialized transportation.

Children who only meet eligibility criteria for speech or language therapy can be served at itinerant sites throughout the district. If the child attends a private/faith-based childcare center, specialized transportation may be provided for the therapy sessions. **If you suspect your child may have a developmental delay or disability, contact the Preschool Evaluation Team (PET) office directly at 772-564-4166**. Physicians, community members, teachers, and other early childhood programs who suspect a child may have a disability can also suggest the parent/guardian contact the PET office. The parent or guardian will be asked to complete an intake to share relevant information with our Child Find secretary. Relevant information may include developmental, speech or language concerns, medical concerns, prior evaluations, or therapies.

EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Extended Day Program

The purpose of our Extended Day Program is to decrease the number of latch-key children by providing services for parents who need support. The program is designed to enrich children's lives educationally, socially, emotionally, and physically in a safe and familiar setting. The program is open on regular school days to students in kindergarten through 5th grades.

Extended Day Program Costs		
		SDIRC Employees who qualify
Registration Fee	$32.00 first child $16.00each additional child	$25.00 per child
Morning Program 7:00 a.m. - 8:20 a.m.		
1 Day	$10.00 per week per child	No Charge
Two to Five Day Week	$25.00 per week per child	$20.00 per week per child
Afternoon Program 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.		
1 Day	$20.00 per week per child	$10.00 per week per child
Two to Five Day Week	$45.00 per week per child	$35.00 per week per child
Other Fees		
Pick-up Late Fee	$10.00 per child every 15 minutes or portion thereof past 6:00pm	$10.00 per child every 15 minutes or portion thereof past 6:00pm
Late Payment Fee	$10.00 per child per week when payment is not received on time	$10.00 per child per week when payment is not received on time

Extended Day Online Registration
Please ONLY register using the links below if your child is a new student to Extended Day, incoming kindergarten or transferred from another school. If you are unsure, please call before registering your child. 772-564-6223 or 772-564-4975
Beachland Elementary Online Registration
Citrus Elementary Online Registration
Dodgertown Elementary Online Registration
Fellsmere Elementary Online Registration
Glendale Elementary Online Registration
Indian River Academy Online Registration
Liberty Magnet Online Registration
Osceola Magnet Online Registration
Pelican Island Classical Magnet Online Registration
Rosewood Magnet Online Registration
Sebastian Elementary Online Registration
Treasure Coast Elementary Online Registration
Vero Beach Elementary Online Registration

Before School Activities

The program is open on regular school days to students in kindergarten through 5th grade, hours are 7:00 a.m.- 8:20 a.m.

Afternoon Activities

Afternoon program hours are at the close of the school day until 6:00 p.m. A wide variety of enrichment activities, including arts and crafts, computers, music, games, and sports, are offered at each site. A low staff/child ratio and nutritious snacks are also features of the program.

Extended Day Staff

All staff are School Board employees and as such, each has been fingerprinted, drug-tested and meets all requirements of School Board employment, including having undergone a criminal background check.

Registration Procedures

The online registration must be completed, and a $25.00 registration fee paid **BEFORE** a child may participate in any Extended Day program. As part of the registration, required information is gathered related to medical, emergency contact, and any special needs.

Summer Programs

The Extended Day program runs two (2) Summer Camps each summer. Incoming kindergarteners to outgoing 5th graders are eligible to attend. Fieldtrips are included in the weekly fee.

Summer Learning Opportunities

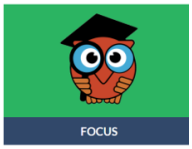
2026 Summer Learning Opportunities are an option for 3rd grade students who have not successfully mastered State Standards during the 2025-2026 school year, as well as secondary students (middle/high school) who need to pass core courses.

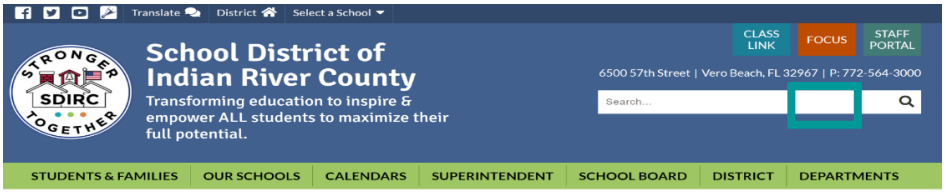
Additional academic summer programs are also open/offered across the district for other students to participate in.

Extended School Year (ESY)

Extended School Year (ESY) services include Exceptional Student Education (ESE) and related services that are provided to students with disabilities beyond the regular 180-day school year. Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), school districts must provide ESY services if the student requires those services to receive a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Typically, ESY services are provided if there is a concern that the student will regress (or lose progress) in critical life skills during his/her time off from school. School districts are not required to provide ESY services to all students with disabilities—only to those who require ESY services based on data reviewed and determined by a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) team.

TECHNOLOGY



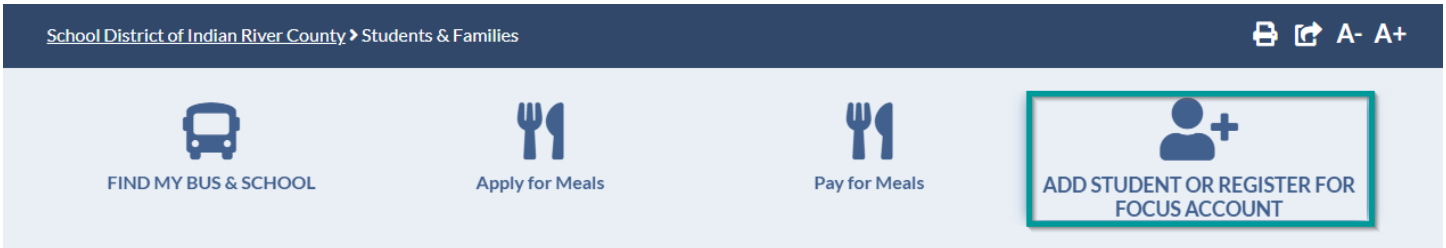


Focus

What is Focus? Focus is a web-based Student Information System (SIS) and grade book designed for use in K-12 districts. Focus offers the Parent/Student Portal tool for grades K-12 in addition to teacher access. Additionally, parents can choose to download to their personal phones through the "Indian River Schools Focus" app.

What is the Parent/Student Portal tool? This self-service web-based software allows parents or guardians to view their own student's demographics, schedule, grades, attendance, homework assignments, and much more. Students may also access their own information.

How do I create an account in the Focus Parent/Student Portal? Visit the District's website at **www.indianriverschools.org.** From the District's homepage click on the Student & Families tab***, then click the*** Focus Registration Portal link. Detailed instructions are provided for your convenience to guide you step-by-step to create a user account. If you are having issues creating a Focus parent portal or connecting your student to your parent portal, please contact the Focus Hotline at 772-564-3066 – Mon – Fri, 8 am – 5pm.



The Focus Parent Portal is a tool designed to enhance communication and involvement for you in your child's education. This portal will allow you to monitor your child's progress in school by providing timely access to both assignments and grades that are entered by the teacher throughout the grading period. This communication tool will improve your ability to assist your child and to communicate with the teacher if necessary.

After creating your Parent Portal Account, you have four options to choose from:

- Enroll a new, not previously enrolled student.
- If you do not know your enrolled child's Student ID number, you cannot link to the child from home. You will need to visit your child's school and bring along a valid Driver's License or a government-issued photo ID.
- If your enrolled child's social security number is on file with the school district and you know your child's Student ID number, you can link to the child from home.

- If you know your child's Student ID number, but your child's SSN is not on file with the district or you are not willing to provide the last four digits of your child's Social Security Number, you can link to the child at this time, but you will need to visit the school to activate your account.

I created an account for my student last year. Do I have to create a new one this new school year?
No.

Chromebook Information

All students in grades 2 -12 will be issued a Chromebook. This device is issued solely for **educational** use. Any use deemed inconsistent with the purpose as determined by school administrators or by The School District of Indian River County personnel will be considered a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Expectations: If taken home, your student must bring a ***fully charged*** Chromebook to school each day. Students will be unable to complete classwork if they do not bring the charged device to school.

User Responsibilities:

The student is responsible for ensuring the Chromebook and charger are not damaged, lost, or stolen while it is loaned out to him/her. Do not leave the Chromebook unattended at any time. Do not deface, write on, or put stickers of any type on the Chromebook. Your student will receive a case that snaps onto the Chromebook. They may decorate and personalize the case, but not the device. Keep food and drinks away from the device. Do not tamper with the device's hardware or existing software. The Chromebooks are filtered and monitored at home and at school. The district does not permit unethical use of the Internet, email, or any other media. Violation of this policy may result in the loss of device loan privileges and disciplinary action by the school.

Financial Responsibility: The student (parent/guardian) is financially responsible for the costs associated with replacement of the loaner equipment if it is severely damaged, lost, or stolen. If the Chromebook is damaged, lost, or stolen, the student must notify the school's administrator immediately. If stolen, student must file a police report and notify the School Resource Deputy.

<u>Fees:</u> SDIRC has changed our insurance structure for the 25-26 school year. Going forward, the fee structure for loss or damage will be charged the following:

FEE STRUCTURE FOR LOSS OR DAMAGE

Occurrence	Standard Fee	Economic Hardship
1st Occurrence (Covered by Insurance)	$0	$0
2nd Occurrence	$50	$25
3rd Occurrence	$75	$35
Intentional Damage	$75	$35
Lost Chromebook	$400	$200
Replacement Charger	$25	$15

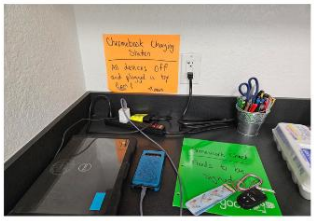
****Families must have an approved Free/Reduced Lunch application on file with the District to receive the Economic Hardship rate.***

<u>Duration:</u> Chromebooks are issued for the student's duration at the school and must be returned when devices are collected school-wide in May.

<u>Exiting the District:</u> If the student is leaving the school district, the Chromebook must be returned to withdraw from school.

Chromebook Care

Best Practices for Families

	Every home should have safe storage and charging space for the Chromebook. Make sure this is on a flat surface where it is visible and cannot be stepped on or knocked over.
	Each night, the Chromebook should be placed in the safe space and plugged in so it is completely charged for the next day. A fully charged Chromebook will last the whole day. The charger can be left at home.
	Make sure your child brings his/her Chromebook to school EVERY DAY.
	The case should remain on the Chromebook at all times. The case can be personalized with stickers, Cricut, etc., but do not put stickers or write directly on the Chromebook.
	Keep the Chromebook away from food, liquid, and extreme temperatures.
	The most vulnerable part of the Chromebook is the screen. Many things can damage it. Take extra care not to drop the Chromebook. Don't put anything, including paper or pencils, inside the Chromebook.

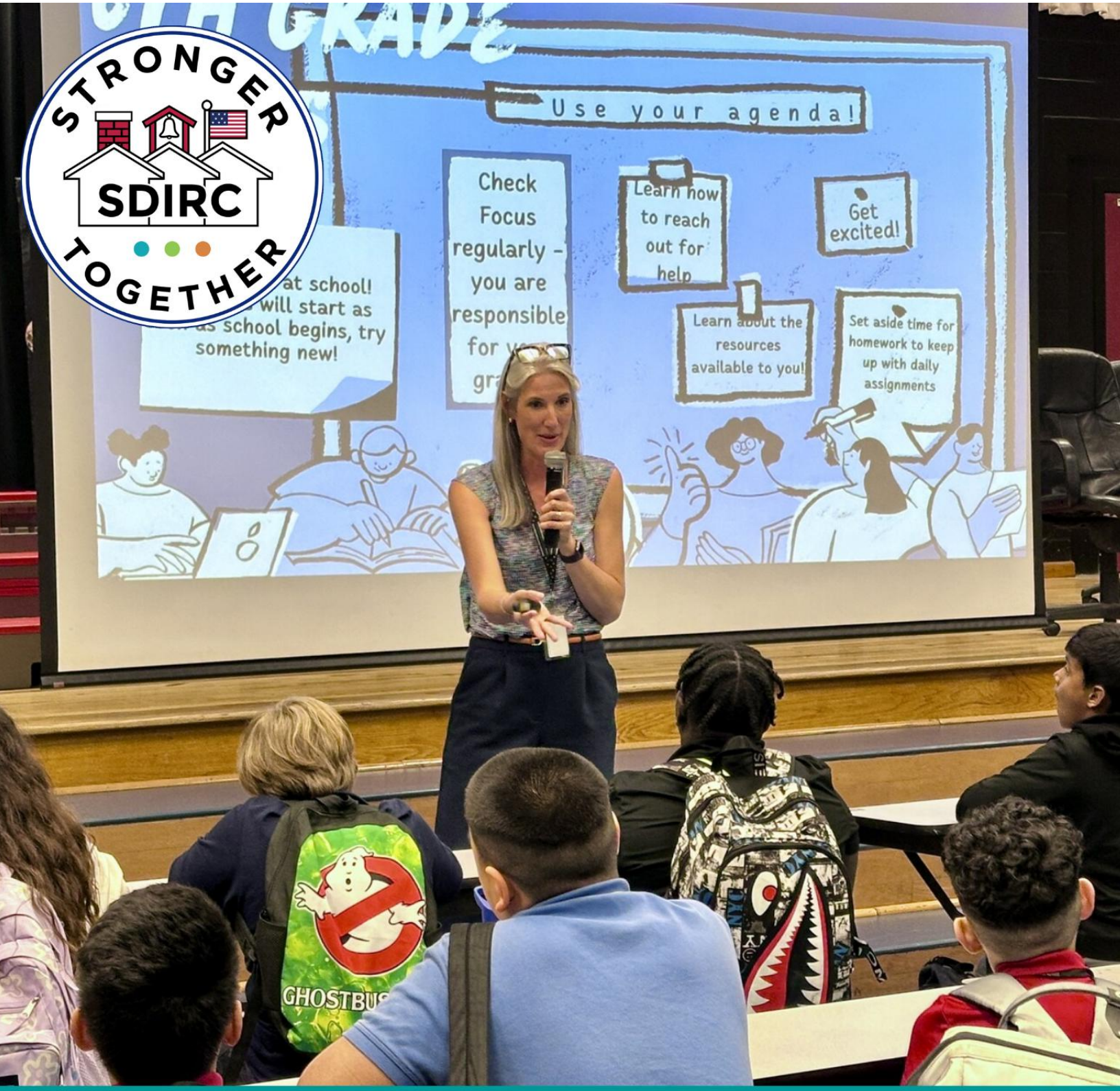
Resources

As the demand for access to digital resources increases, it is important to keep our parents informed. In an effort to help parents assist their children with access to these resources at home, the Instructional Technology Department has developed this site to provide guidance and support for the district standardized applications used in your child's classrooms.

	Technology Overview Video	Click here to watch a video that explains the technology available at the School District of Indian River County.
	FAQ	Click here to see answers to some of the most frequently asked questions.
	Online Textbooks	Click here to see the different digital textbooks available to our students.

	Cyber Safety	Click here to find different ways to keep your kids safe online.
	ClassLink	**ClassLink** is our single sign on portal where students can access all digital applications.
	Canvas	**Canvas** is our learning management system where students can access digital content.
	Focus	**Focus** is our gradebook program where students can access grades and attendance.
	Office 365	**Office 365** is the online version of Microsoft Office, which is free to students.
	i-Ready	**i-Ready** is an is an individualized learning program to practice reading and math skills
	Digital Readiness Profile	**The Digital Readiness Profile** outlines the digital skills necessary for students to be successful.

	GoGuardian	**GoGuardian** is the application teachers use to monitor student devices.
	Chromebooks	All the information you and your student need to know about using and navigating Chromebooks.
	Support / Help	If the information above has not answered your questions, click here for additional assistance.
	LEARNPublic Portal	The LEARN **Public Portal** provides access for PII information from contracted vendors of online services.



BEHAVIOR & EXPECTATIONS

Behavioral Expectations

Each member of the school community plays an important role in the creation of a safe, supportive, and positive school climate. All community members, including school staff and administration, parents/guardians, community organizations, and students, are responsible for promoting school environments that support teaching and learning.

Students are expected to follow the Code of Student Conduct standards, federal and state laws, and school board policies while on school grounds, at school-sponsored events, and while being transported to and from school or school-related activities and events.

Attendance

All students are expected to attend school regularly and to be on time for classes to benefit from the instructional program and to develop habits of punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility. Regular attendance is when a student attends more than 95% of the academic school year; this may include up to 8 absences in the 180-day school year. Absences should be limited to illness, emergencies, and court dates. Appointments and vacations should be scheduled outside of school days and times whenever possible. Chronic absence is described as missing 10% of the school year – about 18 days- regardless of if the absence is excused or unexcused. This is the threshold at which absenteeism begins to affect student performance. Additionally, if a student misses 50% of any school day, the day will be considered an absence. Regular school attendance is a necessary part of a student's education. Excessive absences impair a student's educational progress, impact whether the student passes or fails a course, and may result in court proceedings, athletic/extra-curricular ineligibility, and/or the loss of driving privileges.

Tardiness: Tardiness is defined as an arrival to school or class after the designated time, or after the tardy signal has sounded. When tardiness becomes excessive -- four (4) or more times per nine-week grading period-- the parent/guardian will be notified by classroom teachers. Progressive interventions will be initiated by the MTSS Individual Problem-Solving Team.

Early Departure: An early departure is any unexcused departure prior to the end of the class or school day. Parents are encouraged to keep students in school for the entire school day with minimum interruptions or requests for early dismissal. Early dismissals interfere with classroom instruction. Dismissal within the final 30-minutes of the school day is prohibited unless the school principal determines that it is an emergency.

EXCUSED ABSENCES The following factors are deemed to be reasonable excuses for students' school absences:	
• Insurmountable problems (e.g. extreme weather, communicable disease outbreak, etc.) * • Medical appointments and/or personal illness (medical evidence may be required after 5 consecutive days of absence) • Approved school activity • Religious instruction or holiday • Out-of-school suspension •	• Death of a family member • Attendance at a center under the supervision of Children and Family Services • Court appearance • Appointments for a therapy service provided by a licensed health care practitioner or behavior analyst certified pursuant to FL Law for the treatment of autism spectrum disorder •

* Prior permission is required by the principal or designee except in cases of emergencies. Absences not listed above shall be documented as unexcused. (Failure to attend ≥50% of a school day will result in an excused or unexcused absence). Each secondary school will have student attendance requirements and an incentive plan for participation in Extracurricular Activities.

- After five (5) consecutive days of a student being called out sick, medical documentation will be required to continue excusing absences.
- After nine (9) total days of excused absences in one semester, documentation (for one of the reasons above) will be required to further excuse absences. Phone calls will no longer be accepted.

MAKE – UP POLICY FOR ABSENCES

EXCUSED ABSENCES (refer to table above for list and qualifying factors)

- A student will have two (2) days to make up work for each day missed. Principals may grant time extensions to the student for extenuating circumstances per School Board Policy 5200.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

- A student will have two (2) days to make up work for each day missed.

OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION (unexcused absence: does not meet qualifications for an excused absence)

- Per Florida State Statute 1003.01, a student who receives an out-of-school suspension is expected to complete all assignments while at home serving the suspension. Students will receive 100% credit for work that is appropriately completed.
- For each suspension, the student will have the following allotted time to submit assignments following the last day of their suspension:

1 - 3 Days of Out-of-School Suspension	4 to 7 Days of Out-of-School Suspension	8 to 10 Days of Out-of-School Suspension
one (1) school day	three (3) school days	up to five (5) school days

Additional attendance information is available in the Attendance Handbook. Florida Statues: F.S. 1003.01, F.S. 984.151, 1002.20, 1003.02, 1003.21,1003.23, 1003.24, 1003.26, 1003.27
School Board Policy:5200

Dress Code

Dress and grooming expectations contribute to student success. A unified dress code has been established for all elementary schools. Visit your school's webpage to learn more about the criteria for your student's school campus. The dress code for middle and high schools is determined by the School Advisory Council (SAC). Since each school differs based on SAC decisions, please visit the school's webpage to learn about the dress code requirements that are in place. Please review district-wide expectations of the Dress Code Policy in the Code of Student Conduct as needed.

Dress and Grooming Expectations for All Students

(excerpted from the Code of Student Conduct)

- Pants are to be worn at the waist, with no visible undergarments, and present no safety hazards.
- Dress, grooming practices, and personal hygiene will not interfere with schoolwork, create disorder, disrupt the educational program, or prevent the student from achieving educational objectives.
- Hair and clothing must not block vision or restrict movement.
- Dress practices must not be indecent, vulgar, or disruptive to an orderly learning environment, and must not cause or result in discrimination against, bullying, or harassing of other students or school staff.
- Clothing and accessories will contain no inappropriate words, phrases, themes, or advertisements (e.g., alcohol, tobacco/vaping, drugs, gang-related symbols, guns, knives, or violence promoting symbols (for clarification of symbols see page31).
- Clothing will fit appropriately and include no oversized or undersized garments. • Apparel will contain no sheer, net, mesh, or sleepwear items. Shirts will cover the person from the shoulders to the waist at all times, with no revealed abdomen or chest.
- Shorts, skorts, dresses and skirts are to extend beyond mid-thigh.
- Apparel will not contain headphones, ear buds, stocking caps, bandanas, towels, and other headgear. Hoods will not be worn on school property, buses or school related activities. Cultural or religious exemptions are allowed at the principal's discretion.
- Hats and sunglasses may only be worn for P.E. activities, recess, or other specific circumstances when authorized by the Principal.
- Jewelry, accessories, or extended fingernails that could be deemed unsafe are not permitted.
- Dog-type collars, chains, and spikes are not allowed.
- Trench coats/capes and blankets are not allowed.
- Certain courses may require a specific dress code.
- Student identification cards must be worn on their person and visible during the instructional day and while utilizing SDIRC transportation to and from school.

Per F.S. 1006.07(2)(d), each district school board shall adopt a dress code policy that prohibits a student, while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day, from wearing clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner or that disrupts the orderly learning environment. Any student who violates the dress code in this manner is subject to the following disciplinary actions:

***First Offense**: A student shall be given a verbal warning, and the parent or guardian will be contacted.

***Second Offense**: The student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period of time not to exceed 5 days, and the school administrator shall meet with the student's parent or guardian.

***Third or Subsequent Offense**: A student shall receive an in-school suspension pursuant to s. 1003.01(5) for a period not to exceed 3 days. The student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 30 days, and the school administrator shall call the student's parent or guardian and send the parent or guardian a written letter regarding the student's in-school suspension and ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.

*For each offense above, parent contact should be made to bring a change of clothes. A student may not return to class until dressed in appropriate attire. Purposeful or recurring dress code violations will result in a Level 3 (Repeated Failure to Follow Rules/Directions) or Level 4 (Repeated Level 3 Behaviors) discipline referral and associated corrective interventions.

District officials do have the flexibility to relax certain dress code requirements to ensure student safety and comfort. For example, if our community is experiencing extremely cold weather, the code may be relaxed to allow heavy coats, denim jeans, and other cold-weather apparel that may not meet standard school dress code requirements.

Note: The Principal has the final authority to determine when personal appearance does not meet expectations. Unless otherwise approved for instructional purposes.

ID Badges

All students are expected to wear their ID badge on their person, and it must be visible throughout the day while on the school campus and during bus transportation. The use of ID badges is to allow for proper identification of students, access materials in the media center, purchase meals, and ride school district transportation. Students who lose their provided ID badge will have to purchase a replacement badge. Failure to wear your ID badge will be considered a dress code violation and result in disciplinary actions as outlined in the Code of Conduct.

Student photo identification badges (ID Badge) provide greater safety, accountability, and efficiency in schools and are required when on school property or riding school transportation. Due to the nature of this responsibility, it is understood that students at the elementary level may need assistance with meeting this requirement.

Cell Phone Policy

While Florida has recently introduced statewide cell phone legislation (House Bill 1105), the School District of Indian River County is in its third year of implementing our Wireless Communications Device (cell phone) policy. This consistency has allowed us to remain focused on teaching and learning. Clear, progressive discipline steps are outlined in our Code of Student Conduct and communicated with parents and students. The success of this initiative is a result of our consistency in applying the policy across all schools and the support provided to our teachers, ensuring classrooms remain focused and distraction-free.

GRADES K - 8: Cell phones must be placed on silent mode and out of sight from the start of the school day until the end of the school day. If a cell phone is visible or a student is seen using a cell phone during the school day, this will be considered a violation of the cell phone guidelines.

GRADES 9 - 12: Cell phones must be placed on silent during school hours. Upon entering the classroom, cell phones must be out of sight. If a cell phone is visible or a student is seen using a cell phone during class, this will be considered a violation of the cell phone guidelines.

GRADES 6 - 12: Cell phones may be used for unique activities to enhance instruction. This will require the teacher to receive prior written approval from the principal (e.g., Biotech, HOSA).

Violations of these guidelines may result in confiscation of the wireless communication device or electronic device.

Minor Cell Phone Misuse	
1st Offense	• The student will be instructed to put the phone away. • An office discipline referral submitted • The student will be assigned ASPIRE or Temporary Supervised Out-of-Class Time Out (elementary) or other intervention as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct • Parent contact is required
2nd Offense	• The student will be instructed to put the phone away • An office discipline referral submitted • A mandatory parent conference with the administrator will take place • A cell phone agreement will be signed • The student will be assigned ASPIRE, A2OSS, or other intervention as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct
3rd Offense	• Phone taken to the office and will only be returned to a parent • An office discipline referral submitted • A mandatory parent conference with the administrator will take place • The student will be assigned A2OSS or Out-of-School Suspension • The student will also be assigned a Temporary Loss of Extracurricular Privileges
Any violation beyond a 3rd offense will result in an automatic referral to the Suspension Expulsion Review Team (SERT) for consideration of an alternative school-based program.	

Major Cell Phone or Other Wireless Communications Device Violations

An office discipline referral will be submitted when a major cell phone violation occurs. Additionally, a mandatory parent conference will take place with an administrator and law enforcement. The student will be assigned an automatic ten (10) days of out-of-school suspension with a possible SERT referral for consideration of an alternative school-based program or expulsion.

The following violations are serious offenses and **will not be tolerated** in our schools or on school-provided transportation (this is not a complete list):

- Capturing and/or recording fights or similar events and/or posting recordings and/or images
- Capturing, recording, or transmitting (sending or posting) images and/or video of any student or staff member without consent
- Cyberbullying (an investigation must be conducted)

For more details on the cell phone policy and procedures, please review the Code of Student Conduct.

Reporting Bullying/Harassment

The school district is committed to providing an educational setting that is safe, secure, and free from offensive conduct, harassment, or bullying for all our students and employees. Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated in the School District of Indian River County. All reports of bullying will be taken seriously and thoroughly investigated in a timely manner.

Bully/Harassment Reporting Procedure

- Students and parents can submit a Bullying/Harassment report in **Focus** in both the Parent Portal and Student Portal. Reports can also be submitted confidentially through **drop boxes** located in the health room, school counselor's office, media center, or main office of each school.
- All reports submitted via drop-boxes or verbally must be entered into Focus within 24 hours of receipt of the report.
- When a report is submitted in Focus, the school principal will receive an email and a Focus alert. An investigation of any reported incident will be conducted by a trained administrator or administrator designee.

Bullying Investigation Timeline

24 hours	Days 1 - 10	Days 11 - 15
Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of potential victim(s) and potential offender(s) must be notified within 24 hours of receipt of the bullying report. This notice shall include information about due process rights.	An investigation must be completed within 10 school days of receipt of bullying report. ++More time may be needed based on the nature of the investigation.	Outcome letters must be sent to the parent(s)/guardians(s) of all involved students and the identified victim must also be sent the Hope Scholarship* information no later than 15 school days of receipt of the bullying report.
Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of potential victim(s) and potential offender(s) must be notified within 24 hours of receipt of bullying report. This notice shall include information about due process rights.		

*Learn more about the Hope Scholarship by clicking on the link.

PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION *School Board Policy 5517.01

Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be contacted by the school principal within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of an incident report. Notification may be by telephone, e-mail, personal conference, or first-class mail. The notice will advise individuals of their respective due process rights, including the right to appeal any resulting determination.

If the incident involves a crime, the principal shall inform the parent/guardian of the identified victim(s) by telephone or first-class mail about the Unsafe Schools Choice Option.

DUE PROCESS RIGHTS *School Board Policy 5610

The principal will hold an informal hearing to give the student an opportunity to explain their side of the story. An appeal may be made to the Superintendent, whose decision will be final.

Prevention & Intervention Supports for Bullying and/or Harassment

The District has adopted a framework of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) at all traditional public schools within the district. It is embedded within the existing Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS) framework. PBIS incorporates the provision of direct instruction in the development of socially acceptable behaviors and clearly outlines schoolwide expectations. Within each of the school-based PBIS frameworks, schools have incorporated various evidence-based programs and strategies to support positive behavior and address bullying concerns. The District also requires annual training for all staff members in the Bullying Recognition and Response. Students receive training in how to respond to bullying and the reporting procedures annually as well.

For more information about the supports, procedures, guidelines, and definitions for bullying and/or harassment, view the Code of Student Conduct.

Vaping

Vaping guidelines were developed to address the possession, use, distribution, or sale of tobacco or nicotine products. Corrective interventions for these behaviors have been designed to support the cessation of vaping.

Additional guidelines are in place for vaping-related behaviors associated with drug possession, use, distribution, or sale of any drug, narcotic, or controlled substance or look-alike substances. This may include types of cannabis, including, but not limited to, marijuana and hemp, and derivatives, including, but not limited to, THC and CBD products.

Corrective Interventions for Vaping Nicotine/Tobacco

Vaping Nicotine/Tobacco behaviors will follow progressive discipline. Students will be assigned the FL Tobacco Prevention Program for the first offense. Secondary students will also be assigned ASPIRE for 2 - 5 days. Elementary students will be assigned 1 day of Temporary Supervised Out-of-Class Time Out. In addition, elementary students will be referred to the school counselor after the second violation and assigned a second session in the FL Tobacco Prevention. Students in Grades 6 – 12 will be referred to a Drug Abuse

Treatment Association (DATA) Counselor and assigned a second session in the FL Tobacco Prevention Program for the second offense, as well as be assigned three (3) days of A2OSS or OSS. Parents will be contacted with each violation, with a parent and student conference to be held with an administrator after the second and third offenses. After three violations, the student will be automatically referred to the Suspension Expulsion Review Team (SERT) for consideration of an alternative school-based program.

Corrective Interventions for Vaping THC/Drugs

The first violation will result in an out-of-school suspension for 3-6days and citation or similar prearrest diversion. A referral to THRIVE will also be made. The second offense and thereafter results in an out-of-school suspension for 7-10 days, a citation or similar prearrest diversion, and a SERT referral for consideration of an alternative school-based program or expulsion.

Florida law (Section 985.12, Florida Statutes) authorizes citation and similar prearrest diversion programs for non-serious misdemeanors for youth with no criminal history. This is a pre-arrest diversion program that serves as an alternative to arrest. **If a student or the parent/guardian declines to participate or does not successfully complete the diversion program, law enforcement will determine if arrest is appropriate or allow the student to continue in the program. If arrested, the student will proceed through the normal juvenile court process**. *Per the Department of Juvenile Justice procedures, a student may not be eligible if multiple citations have already been issued.

Florida State Statutes 322.056 requires the suspension of the student's driver's license for 6 months if under 18 years of age and found guilty of a drug offense. If a student is not eligible for a driver's license (underage), the department will withhold the issuance of a driver's license for a period of 6 months after their eligibility.

Review the Code of Student Conduct for more information.

Alternative 2 Out of School Suspension – A2OSS

A2OSS is an alternative to out-of-school suspension at the secondary level (Grades 6 – 12). It is a short-term intervention program that may be utilized as a corrective intervention at Levels 3 or 4. It is designed to reduce the repeat of serious behaviors that adversely impact the educational environment related to behavioral infractions. Students are assigned to the A2OSS program following a serious behavioral violation.

A2OSS Resources to Support Student Success

- SDIRC-employed teacher (with certification in exceptional student education) to provide instruction
- A quiet and focused environment for students to complete class assignments
- Provision of ESE or 504 services according to individual student plans (IEP or 504 Plan)
- An opportunity for reflection and the learning of new strategies for responsible decision-making

FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES

Food Services

Food and Nutrition Services is committed to providing the opportunity for every child to eat a well-balanced and nutritious meal daily. In advocating student achievement, our aspiration is to develop life-long eating habits that promote health and wellness through proper nutrition.

The School District of Indian River County offers a choice of healthy meals each school day. All meals served meet the nutritional standards set by the United States Department of Agriculture. All meals which are prepared in our kitchens are either baked or steamed. To reinforce healthy eating, we refrain from frying any food. All foods offered, including ala carte items, meet dietary restrictions and are Smart Snack compliant.

Meal Cost

The School District of Indian River County offers a choice of healthy meals each school day. All meals served meet the nutrition standards set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The following is the meal prices set for the 2024-2025 school year.

Grade Level	Meal Offered	Cost
Elementary Schools	Breakfast – Full Pay Lunch – Full Pay	$1.75 $2.75
	Breakfast – Reduced Price Lunch – Reduced Price	$0.30 $0.40
Middle Schools	Breakfast – Full Pay Lunch – Full Pay	$1.75 $3.00
	Breakfast – Reduced Price Lunch – Reduced Price	$0.30 $0.40
High Schools	Breakfast – Full Pay Lunch – Full Pay	$1.75 $3.00
	Breakfast – Reduced Price Lunch – Reduced Price	$0.30 $0.40
Adults	Breakfast – Full Pay Lunch – Full Pay	$3.50 $5.00

How to Apply for Free or Reduced-Price Meals

The SDIRC Food and Nutrition Department offers an easy-to-use online system where you can apply for free or reduced-price meals and add funds to your child(ren)'s account(s). To apply for free and reduced

meal benefits for the 2025-2026 school year, start the process now by visiting LINQ Connect: LINQ Connect.

Remember, a new application must be submitted each school year to maintain your free and reduced-meal status, and one application per household is required.

• No account needed to access and submit the application!

• Already have an account? Simply sign in to manage your details and make payments.

• New to LINQ Connect? Register for an account and apply today!

Be sure to search for our district by entering "Indian River County Public Schools (Vero Beach, Florida)" when applying.

Online Meal Payments

We offer an online Meal Payment Program, a state-of-the-art online service that offers you the convenience and information you need to manage your student's meal account. Parents who choose to make prepayments using LINQ Connect's Online Payment Center will have a small program fee added to each family transaction based on the amount deposited. The fee is used to cover the credit card and other payment processing fees and is not collected by our district. The system has been overwhelmingly successful thus far, and we encourage all parents to utilize LINQ Connect's Online Payment Center.

For those who do wish to prepay into their student's meal account, visit linqconnect.com.

For more information, visit https://www.indianriverschools.org/directory/food_nutrition_services

HEALTH & WELLNESS

School Health Services

The School District of Indian River County employs a Health Assistant who is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) or a Registered Nurse (RN) for each school campus who works under the direction of a Registered Nurse. The school Health Assistant works to serve the students' health needs during school hours.

Services available to your child include:

- First aid for minor injuries/Health Room access for student health needs during school hours
- Assistance with medications during school hours, with parental consent
- Department of Health/nursing referrals
- Individualized School Health Plans
- State mandated health screenings with parental consent:
    - Vision (grades K, 1, 3, 6)
    - Hearing (grades K, 1, 6)
    - BMI (height-weight) grades 1,3,6
    - Scoliosis (grade 6 only)
    - *Optional grades may be screened*

Visit SDIRC Health Services or call 772-564-5940 with questions about health services.

Physical & Immunization Requirements

Any student entering Florida schools for the first time must present a School Entry Health Exam (Florida State Form DH 3040) performed within the last 12 months prior to the first day of school. Immunizations must be submitted to the health room on the required State of Florida's DH 680 form. No other forms are acceptable.

7th Graders (Must have a Tdap before entering 7th grade):1 dose (Tdap) Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis

Per Florida Statue, 1003.22, "prior to admittance to or attendance in a public/private school, grades K-12, or any other initial entrance into a Florida public/private school, each child must have on file with the school a certification of immunization." "An authorized school official issues a temporary exemption, for up to 30 school days, to permit a student who transfers into a new county to attend class until his/her records can be obtained. Children and youths who are experiencing homelessness and children who are known to the department, as defined in s. 39.0016, shall be given a temporary exemption for 30 school days."

This Statue also states, "The parents of any child admitted to or in attendance at a Florida public or private schools, grades Pre-K through 12, are responsible for assuring that the child is in compliance with the provisions of this section." Immunizations and physicals are offered by your local pediatrician/healthcare provider, by your local Department of Health or community clinics. For additional immunization information go to http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/index.html or www.immunizeflorida.org

Health Resources (School Physicals and/or Immunizations)		
IRC Health Department	1900 27th Street, Vero Beach	772-794-7425
Treasure Coast Community Health (North)	12196 County Road 512, Fellsmere	772-257-8224
Treasure Coast Community Health (Central)	1555 US Hwy 1, Suite 105, Vero Beach	772-257-8224
Treasure Coast Community Health (South)	1545 9th Street SW (on Oslo Rd.), Vero Beach	772-257-8224
Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) Mobile Unit	Call for mobile unit schedule *(physicals only)*	772-567-5551

Emergency Contact Information School Health/Wellness Form

Every student is required to have a School Health/Wellness Form. This form is to be updated annually through the annual Parent Acknowledgement Form.

This form includes:

- Emergency contact information
- Important health information
  - Allergies
  - Current medical diagnosis and conditions
  - Name of their health care provider
- A section to provide parental permission to share personal health information in cases of health and safety emergencies.

Per Florida Statute, 1014.06, Parental Consent for Health Care Services (except as otherwise provided by law), a health care practitioner, as defined in s.456.001 (any person "licensed" issued a permit, registration, certificate or license, including a provisional license issued by the Florida Department of Health) may not provide or solicit or arrange to provide health care services or prescribe medicinal drugs to a minor child without first obtaining written parental consent.

Students with Medications at School

A student shall be able to carry emergency medication such as: metered dose inhaler, EpiPen, diabetic supplies, or pancreatic enzymes on their person while in school, when they have approval from their parents and physician and proper paperwork on file in the health room. Headache medicine may be carried by a student once the correct notification paperwork is filed in the health room. Headache medicine does not require a physician's note or prescription. For additional medication requirements, please refer to the Medication Procedures Parent Handbook located in the Health Room at each school. The school health assistant will gladly review the handbook with you and assist with answering any questions you may have.

Illness

Sick children should not be sent to school. Students should have no vomiting or diarrhea and be fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before being sent back to school after an illness. If a student becomes sick at school, a call will be made to the parent or guardian to come pick up the student.

Mental Wellness Services

Your child's education and well-being are our main priorities.

Support Provided by SDIRC Staff

- Care Coordination: referrals to outside agencies, progress monitoring, problem-solving for identified students
- Counseling Services: individual, group with parent permission
- Coaching & Consultation: school teams, families, and outside providers
  School Crisis Response: assessment, intervention, follow-up

Crisis Support is Available 24/7:

-
- Call New Horizons Mobile Crisis Response at 772-468-3909
- Text "home" to 741741 to reach the Crisis Text Line
- Call or text 988 Crisis Lifeline or chat online at 988lifeline.org
- **911 is always available in any emergency**

Risk Assessments

SDIRC staff will assess a situation and decide if a student requires additional evaluation. School teams will follow state-mandated procedures regarding suicide and threat assessments, and the parent/guardian will be notified. Schools may utilize support services from partner agencies (e.g., New Horizons Mobile Crisis Response) to aid with de-escalation and risk assessments in accordance with state law (SB 7030, HB 945).

If SDIRC staff are concerned about student safety following a suicide or threat assessment, the parent/guardian will be contacted immediately. If you are called to the school, please remain calm and model healthy coping skills when you arrive. The parent/guardian will be asked to problem-solve with the team, working with their student. In rare instances in which the student's safety cannot be maintained, the parent/guardian may be asked to meet their student at the hospital.

In cases in which a licensed mental health professional or law enforcement officer believes the student to be a harm to themselves or others, the student will be referred for an evaluation at the local emergency department or Baker Act receiving facility. Every effort will be made to have parent/guardian transport a student for further evaluation. In the event that the student is at great risk and displaying potentially harmful behavior, the student may be transported by a member of law enforcement.

Additionally, upon return to school, the school-based team may request to hold a Circle of Care meeting The purpose of this meeting is to plan for the student's re-entry to school and to ensure any necessary supports are put in place. Parents/guardians are encouraged to participate. If the student is hospitalized outside of the school day, the parent/guardian may contact the school counselor to inform them of the hospitalization so that a Circle of Care meeting can be held.

We will always treat every child and family with dignity and provide support throughout the evaluation and follow-up process. The information obtained will be held confidential and only shared with relevant team members.

To view the annual SDIRC Mental Health Allocation Plan, please visit this website: https://www.fldoe.org/schools/k-12-public-schools/sss/mental-health.stml

Learn more about SDIRC Mental Wellness Services and additional resources by visiting the linked webpage, calling 772-564-6199, or consulting with your student's School Counselor.

EXTRACURRICULAR

Champions List

The Champions List is an extracurricular guide outlining academic and athletic extracurricular programming available at each school location. The Champions List supports compliance with F.S. 1014.05 (e) procedures, pursuant to s. 1006.195(1)(a), for a parent to learn about the nature and purpose of clubs and activities offered at his or her minor child's school, including those that are extracurricular or part of the school curriculum. To find out more information about the academic and athletic extracurricular programming available at your student's school, please review the school's website.

Extracurricular Scholastic Requirements

To participate in interscholastic, extracurricular student activities, a student must:

- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by statute for high school graduation per s. 1003.43(1), F.S.
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required for high school graduation, specified in s. 1003.43(1), F.S., during his or her junior year.
- Maintain satisfactory conduct, and if a student is convicted or is found to have committed a felony or delinquent act, which would have been a felony if committed by an adult, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, the student's participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is contingent upon School Board policy.

Any student who is exempt from attending a full school day based on rules adopted by the District School Board for double sessions or programs, experimental schools, or schools operating under emergency conditions, must maintain a 2.0 GPA, or its equivalent, on a 4.0 scale and pass each class.

A home education student is eligible to participate in the interscholastic extracurricular activities at the public school that he or she would be assigned to attend based on a district's attendance area policies or may develop an agreement to participate at a private school provided the following conditions are met:

- The student must meet the requirements of the home education program per s. 1002.41, F.S.
- During the period of participation, the home education student must demonstrate educational progress in all subjects taken in the home education program by a method of evaluation agreed upon by the parent and the school principal, which may include:
    - Review of the student's work by a certified teacher chosen by the parent.
    - Grades earned through correspondence.
    - Grades earned in courses taken at a community college, university, or trade school.
    - Standardized test scores above the 35th percentile, or any other method in s. 1002.41, F.S.

- The student must meet the same residency requirements as other students in the school at which he or she participates.

- The student must meet the same standards of acceptance, behavior, and performance as required of other students in extracurricular activities.

- The student must register with the school his or her intent to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities as a representative of the school before the beginning date of the season for which the activity in which he or she wishes to participate. A home education student must be able to participate in curricular activities if that is a requirement for an extracurricular activity.

- Any public school or nonpublic school student who has been unable to maintain academic eligibility for participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is ineligible to participate as a home education student until the student has successfully completed one grading period in home education, fulfilling the requirements for interscholastic extracurricular eligibility, s. 1006.15(3)(a)2, F.S., to become eligible to participate as a home education student.

Extracurricular Activities – Virtual School

Virtual school is a school of choice and therefore certain programs and activities offered at traditional schools may not be available to virtual students. The District has made every attempt possible to create consistency between traditional and virtual instructional programs; however, there are activities and events that are impossible to replicate in an individual, online instructional environment.

Students in grades 6-12 may participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities providing they adhere to the requirements, as specified in s. 1006.15, F.S. Students who want to participate in an interscholastic extracurricular activity must meet the same residency requirements as other students in the school where they participate. The residency requirement is based on the District Student Assignment plan. Therefore, all Indian River Virtual School (IRVS) students who want to participate in an interscholastic extracurricular activity must go through School Assignment and be assigned a school. IRVS students participating in interscholastic extracurricular activities must meet the requirements of participation as set forth by the Florida High School Athletic Association Policy 26 Section C. All Florida High School Athletic Association requirements must be met, as specified in s. 1006.15, F.S

TRANSPORTATION

General Information

Safe and efficient transport of students is the goal of the SDIRC Department of Transportation. To reach the Department of Transportation, please call the main number – (772) 978-8801.

Transportation Facts & Requirements

- ✓ Riding the school bus is a privilege.
- ✓ All rules that apply to school grounds and activities also apply to the bus.
  - See the Code of Conduct and Parent Handbook for School Bus Transportation for more information about successful student behaviors and corrective interventions, transportation expectations, and other relevant information.
  - Students may lose bus privileges
- ✓ Parents are responsible for the supervision and safety of students at the bus stop until boarding.
  - Arrive at least 10 minutes before the scheduled bus arrival.
  - Parent supervision is **mandatory** at stop locations (AM & PM) for all Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade students.
    - These students will not be permitted to exit the bus without guardian supervision; safety concerns will be reported to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) if mandated supervision is not provided.
- ✓ Safety/security measures include video recordings while on board.
- ✓ Bus stops are designated by the physical home address on file only.
- ✓ Students are only permitted to ride their assigned bus.

For students who qualify for Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Curb-to-Curb Services

- ✓ Provided using the home address only.
- ✓ Caregiver **must** be at the home address at pickup and drop-off.
- ✓ Cancellation of ESE transport is required if your child will be absent.
  - Call 772-978-8819 or 772-987-8840 as early as possible; leave a message with your name, student's name, route #, home address, and the date(s) of cancellation.
- ✓ Call the numbers above if you are running late for the PM drop-off.
- ✓ Students who receive ESE Curb-to-Curb services will not be permitted to exit the bus without guardian supervision; safety concerns will be reported to DCF if mandated supervision is not provided.

Find My Bus Stop

Use the Find My Bus or School link on the SDIRC main website. Select "Can I Ride a Bus", enter your street address, municipality, grade level, and then click submit. Your zone school appears, along with bus stop location and AM/PM times. If no school/bus stop information appears, please call **772-978-8801** and choose option 2 for Routing. Students attending choice, charter, or magnet schools are required to contact the Department of Transportation for the designated depot stop location.

Bus Behavioral Expectations

Safe and efficient transport of students is the goal of the Department of Transportation. All rules that apply to school grounds and school activities apply to the school bus. Riding the school bus is a privilege. Misconduct while riding a school bus represents a serious threat to the safety of all occupants of the bus as well as other motorists, pedestrians, and members of the community; therefore, students must follow bus safety and courtesy rules. Safety and security measures on the school bus include video/audio recordings of all passengers including driver/attendant. Parents are responsible for the supervision and safety of students until boarding and after departing the bus.

GETTING INVOLVED

Importance of Parent Involvement

Parent engagement is considered the best predictor of student success. Parents play a vital role in all stages of children's learning; their engagement in their child's education improves achievement. Parents and families provide their children with the foundation of their values, including educational responsibilities, home/school expectations, and aspirations. Parents are the primary providers in preparing their children for school readiness and academic success. Parents' knowledge of their children's unique histories, traditions, life experiences, and learning experiences are important to their success. Parents also share knowledge about community resources and challenges, both of which are valuable and critical to their child's progress.

Parent Teacher Association – PTA

PTA (Parent Teacher Association) is the largest volunteer organization working exclusively to improve the education, health, safety and well-being of all children and youth. The National PTA organization was founded in 1897 and has been an advocate for all children.

By joining PTA, your individual efforts are strengthened by 6.5 million parents, teachers and community members who share in your commitment to making a better life for all children.

School Advisory Council – SAC

School Advisory Council, or SAC, is the name given to each school advisory council in the School District of Indian River County. Florida's 1991 System for School Improvement and Accountability legislation mandated that every school have a school advisory council.

Elected members of a school advisory council include teachers, educational support personnel, and parents. In high schools, students are also elected members. Business partners and community representatives are invited to be members by the principal.

Superintendent's Exceptional Student Education Parent Advisory Council

The Exceptional Student Education Parent Advisory Council (ESE PAC) is an organization facilitated by Exceptional Student Education staff in collaboration with parents, to give children with special needs, including those with disabilities and those who have been identified as gifted, in our community a voice. The mission of the ESE PAC is to cultivate the partnership between the school district and families of students with special needs through communication, advocacy, education, and collaboration to maximize individual student potential. The ESE PAC meets quarterly, with the superintendent attending two meetings per year, with the goal of evaluating, planning, and developing exceptional student education services and programs.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Library Media Center

The primary objective of the library media center is to implement, enrich, and support the educational program of the school. The library media center shall provide a wide range of materials on all levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal, and with the representation of different points of view.

"Library Media Center" means any collection of books, eBooks, periodicals, and videos maintained and accessible to students on the site of the school, including classrooms. An employee who holds a valid educational media specialist certificate will select books made available to students through the school library and recommended or assigned grade-level reading lists. The selection of library/media center collections will be based on reader interest, support of state academic standards and aligned curriculum, and the academic needs of students and faculty. Accordingly, elementary classroom libraries are a type of school library; materials in all school libraries must be selected by a certified media specialist under Section 1006.28(2)(d)(1), F.S.

In accordance with Section 1006.28(2)(4)(d), F.S., the School District of Indian River County establish[ed] and maintain[s] a program of school library media services for all public schools in the district, including school library media centers, or school library media centers open to the public, and, in addition such traveling or circulating libraries as may be needed for the proper operation of the district school system.

By completing the Library Book Access Student Permission Form, parents and legal guardians select the level of access to their child's school library/media center. The form is located in the Focus Parent Portal.

Searchable School Library Catalog

The library collection of each school in the School District of Indian River County can be searched using our online catalog. To conduct a search, simply click Search the School Library Catalog. Additionally, all school websites have a "Library Media and Instructional Materials" quick link located in the "I Want To" menu on the home page. For further assistance with library materials or navigating Insignia Library Software, please contact your school's Library Media Specialist.

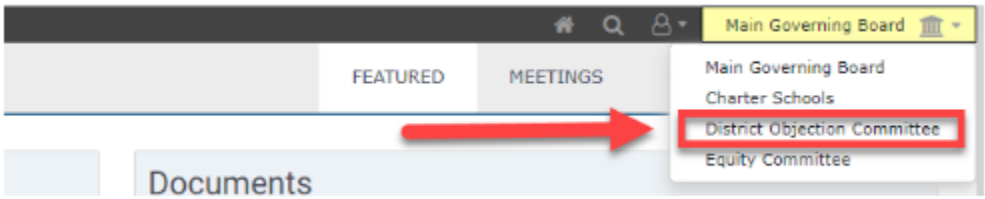
Objections to Library Media Center, Reading Lists, and District-Approved Instructional Materials

In accordance with po2522 - Objections to Adoption or Use of Instructional, Library Media, or Reading List Materials, parents/legal guardians and residents of the county may object to the use of a specific instructional material in the classroom, made available in a school library, or included on a reading list, based on the criteria set forth in F.S. 1006.28(2)(a)2. or F.S. 1014.05(1)(c). A resident of the county who is not the parent or legal guardian of a student with access to School District materials may not object to more than one (1) material per month in accordance with State Board rules.

A parent/legal guardian or resident of the county who has an objection to the use of a library/media center, reading list, and district-approved instructional material should request, preferably in writing, a conference with the Principal or Principal's designee to discuss the use of the material. The petitioner

should include the name or title of the objected material, the author, page number, and the specific reason for the objection. In the event the issue is unable to be resolved at the school level, the Principal or designee shall provide an explanation of the reconsideration process and will direct the parent/ legal guardian to complete the SDIRC Specific Material Objection Form.

The School Board has established a District Objection to Instructional Materials, Library Media Materials, and Reading List Materials Committee ("District Objection Committee"). As a District Committee, functioning under the Sunshine Law, every meeting will be noticed and open to the public. An audio recording of each meeting will be made available on the school district's publicly accessible BoardDocs website for transparency along with the minutes.



Title IX

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 is a federal law, enacted in 1972, which states: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

On May 6, 2020, the United States Department of Education released its final rule under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. The final rule requires school districts to follow a specific Title IX Grievance Process while investigating allegations of sexual misconduct. The Office of Civil Rights of the United States Department of Education considers sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual violence, sexual assault and intimate partner violence) to be a form of sexual discrimination and requires the school districts to take immediate and effective steps to respond to sexual misconduct.

For more information or to access the Formal Complaint Form, please visit our website at: https://www.indianriverschools.org/SDIRC_Notices_of_Nondiscrimination/Title_IX_Information

FERPA Notification of Rights

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents and students over 18 years of age certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

- The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access. A written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect should be submitted to the school principal. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify parents or the eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. Schools are not required to provide copies, unless the records are impossible to review. However, if copies are requested, schools may charge a fee for copies, as outlined in School Board Policy 8330, at the current rate of copies for public records, as per §119.07(4)(a).

- The right to request that a school correct records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate. Parents or eligible students may ask the school to amend a record they believe is inaccurate by writing the school principal, clearly identifying the part of the record they believe is inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student will be notified by the school advising them of their right to a hearing regarding the request. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting for his or her view about the contested information.

- The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records. FERPA allows schools to disclose without consent to the following parties or under the following conditions according to 34 CFR § 99.31: school officials with legitimate educational interests, specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes; appropriate parties in connection with financial aid for a student; accrediting organizations; to comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena; appropriate officials in cases or health and safety emergencies; and state and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to state law. Upon request, the school district will forward records to another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

- The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school district to comply with the above FERPA requirements. The office that oversees FERPA is Family Policy Compliance Office, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-4605. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires that The School District of Indian River County, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. The district may, but does not have to, include all the information listed.

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) requires the School District of Indian River County to notify parents and obtain consent or allow the parents to opt their child out of participating in certain school activities. These activities include a student survey, analysis or evaluation that concerns one or more of the following areas:

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
- Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
- Sexual behavior or attitudes;
- Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
- Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
- Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
- Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
- Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

This requirement also applies to the collection, disclosure, or use of student information for marketing purposes (marketing surveys), and certain physical exams and screenings. You will be notified, if your child will be asked to participate; and at that time, you will be provided with information about the survey.

Armed Forces Recruiter Access to Students and Student Recruiting

The Solomon Amendment is a Federal law that allows access to schools to release student information to a recruiting officer for any branch of the United States Armed Forces. In addition, this information is provided to institutes of higher education who request such information. Parents and students 18 and older can be removed from the list if they do not want to be contacted. Either the high school student (if over 18) or the parent of the student may request that the student's name, address, district assigned e-mail address, and telephone listing not be released. Opt-In/Out through the Parent Acknowledgement Forms in Focus.

Directory Information

The District may make available, upon request, certain information known as directory information without prior permission of the parents or the eligible student. Directory information means information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The Board designates the following as student directory information: a student's name and grade level. School Board Policy 8330.

Student Grievances

This grievance procedure is not to be used to challenge student discipline of any type, including a suspension or expulsion.

The SDIRC School Board will not discriminate nor tolerate harassment in its educational programs or activities on the basis of race, (including anti-Semitism [as defined in Bylaw 0100]), ethnicity, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, gender status, or gender identity), disability (including HIV, AIDS, or sickle cell trait), pregnancy, marital status, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information, which are classes protected by State and/or Federal law (collectively, "protected classes"). Learn more about SDIRC policy and associated grievance procedures in Board Policy 2260.

A grievance is a complaint alleging a violation of Title IX, Section 504, and other federal and state civil rights laws, rules, and regulations.

Compliance Officers for Student Grievances:

- Director of Student Services (772-564-5946)
  - Title IX
- Director of Exceptional Student Education (772-564-5944)
  - Americans with Disability Act
  - Section 504

Complaints Relating to Employees

School Board Policy 9130 describes the process that should be followed when filing a formal complaint against an employee. The written complaint must be signed by the person making the complaint and submitted to the superintendent/designee. The complaint must state the basis of the charge against the employee and identify why he or she believes that the employee has acted in a manner that is in violation of any law, policy or otherwise is wrongful conduct by an employee. If you have any questions regarding complaints relating to employees, you may contact the compliance officer below.

Anti-Harassment

School Board Policy 3362.02 states that the Compliance Officers will be available during regular school/work hours to discuss concerns related to legally prohibited harassment. Compliance Officers are assigned to accept complaints of unlawful harassment directly from any member of the School District community or a visitor to the District, or to receive complaints which are initially filed with a school building administrator. Upon receipt of a complaint, either directly or through a school building administrator, the Compliance Officer or designee will begin either an informal or formal process (depending on the request of the member of the School District community alleging harassment). In the case of a formal complaint, the Compliance Officer will prepare, after consultation with the School Board Attorney, recommendations for the Superintendent or will oversee the preparation of such recommendations by a designee. All

members of the School District community must report incidents of unlawful harassment that are reported to them to a Compliance Officer within five (5) calendar days of learning of the incident.

Compliance Officer for Employees:

Director of Human Resources – 772-564-3000

Florida KidCare

It is important for you to know that the School District's insurance does not cover your child for accidents that occur at school or during school sponsored activities.

All accident and medical claims are the responsibility of the parents or guardians. For less than the cost of a single physician's visit, you can purchase accident insurance for your child. Forms are available at your child's school.

Through Florida KidCare, the State of Florida offers health insurance for children from birth through age 18, even if one or both parents are working. It includes four different programs. When you apply for the insurance, Florida KidCare will check as to which program your child may be eligible for based on age and family income. Application can be made online at www.floridakidcare.org or call 1-888-540-5437.

If you do have other insurance, the voluntary student accident plan offered through the schools can help fill "gaps" caused by deductibles and co-pays. Coverage can be purchased at any time throughout the year.

Contact your child's school or the Department of Risk Management office, 772-564-3176 or 772-564-3130.