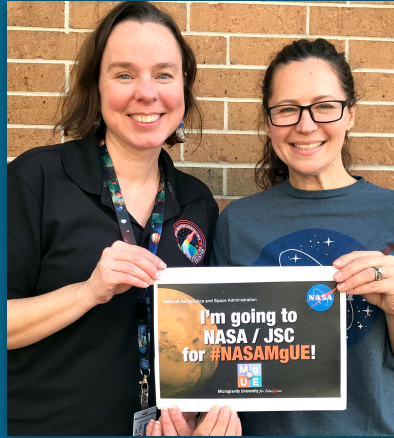




# WAKULLA COUNTY 2017-2018 Superintendent's Report





Robert Pearce  
Superintendent

Verna Brock  
District I

Melisa Taylor  
District II

# WAKULLA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

69 ARRAN ROAD  
POST OFFICE BOX 100  
CRAWFORDVILLE, FLORIDA 32326  
TELEPHONE: (850)926-0065  
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Becky Cook  
District III

Greg Thomas  
District IV

Jo Ann Daniels  
District V

Dear Citizens of Wakulla County,

I hope you enjoy this year's issue of the Superintendent's Report, which provides a portrait of the activities and achievements of our students, faculties and staffs during the 2017-2018 school year.

Wakulla County public schools earned a District grade of "A" from the Florida Department of Education. Wakulla ranked #3 in Florida based on state assessments students took in grades 3 through 10 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. In addition, several grades were also assessed on Science and Social Studies. Wakulla's ELA proficiency as a district increased by four percent from the previous year. Other factors in the district grade designation included Graduation Rate and Industry Certifications earned.

One of the ongoing highlights in the district is the growth in Career and Technical Education (CTE) course offerings. Plans were made during the 2017-2018 school year to begin a Cosmetology Program for students in grades 9-12 in the school year 2018-2019. In addition to an up and coming heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) to provide as many possible opportunities for students to earn certificates to either enter the job force immediately or continue their education through a post-secondary school.

Our district Teacher of the Year for 2017-2018 was Kerry Adams from Shadeville Elementary School. Mrs. Adams is a leader in her school and in the State as evidenced by earning the Brian Dassler Leadership in Education Award which exemplifies her passion for kids. A leader among teachers, she represents the craft of education and we are proud of her accomplishments.

The Wakulla County School System continues to try and capture every student's interest by having competitive sports teams; the annual Celebration of the Arts with student music, art, dance, and drama on display; the annual Black History Month festivities; academic competitions; technical training; and more. Our belief is that if students have a reason to attend school, it gives us the chance to engage them in all areas of their education. Thank you for giving us the opportunity for another year to work with your children.

Sincerely,

Robert "Bobby" Pearce





Robert Pearce  
Superintendent

Verna Brock  
District I

Melisa Taylor  
District II

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Dear Citizens of Wakulla County,

What an honor and privilege it has been for me to serve as your “Voice in Education” for the past 24 years. I appreciate the confidence and trust you have placed in me to make sure the Wakulla School District is the best in the State.

Despite the difficulties today's educators face, our schools and students have continued to bring us accolades from not only the State Department of Education, but from other school districts. We have the best team of teachers, support staff, and administrators working to make sure our children receive the very best education possible. We are again ranked an “A” District and are committed to the success of all of our students. You can keep up with all the achievements of our students, events, and calendars on our web site: [wakullaschooldistrict.org](http://wakullaschooldistrict.org).

We as Board Members realize that the success of our District comes from the hard work of our students, teachers, support staff, and administrators. We also understand how important the support of our parents and business community are to this success. It truly does take the “entire village” to raise and educate its children.

Thank you again for the wonderful experiences and memories; I treasure them all. I will continue to volunteer in our schools and help wherever needed to keep the standard of excellence we have built, growing for many years to come.

On behalf of the Wakulla County School Board, I want to thank you for your support, generosity, and dedication to provide the highest quality education for our children. Together we can accomplish our motto: “Committed to Success.”

Respectfully Yours,

Rebecca S. “Becky” Cook  
Chairman, Wakulla County School Board

## VISION

We will provide a rigorous and appropriate education that results in success for all students.

## MISSION

We are committed to success for all students, teachers, staff, and our community.

## CORE VALUES *(governing our Way of Work)*

### We will always:

- Make decisions based on the best interest of the students;
- Behave in an ethical manner;
- Prepare students for productive citizenship;
- Be willing to try innovative research-based programs;
- Employ highly trained and dedicated individuals who can work effectively in their assigned positions;
- Treat each person with dignity, and honor their right to be safe;
- Recognize the uniqueness and capability of each student;
- Set high expectation, and embrace a challenging curriculum;
- Celebrate our cultural heritage and the diversity that enriches our lives;
- Embrace (implement as an expected standard) technology to engage students and enhance education;
- Work to involve our community and all stakeholders in the educational process;
- Teach and practice responsibility and service to others;
- Teach students to be accountable for their own actions;
- Focus on continuous improvement for student achievement and professional growth;

### We will never:

- Compromise or stop striving for excellence;
- Give up on a student.

# WE ARE PROUD OF OUR SCHOOLS!



The Wakulla County School District is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, which is an accreditation division of AdvancED.

2017-2018

## DISTRICT STAFF

Robert Pearce  
Superintendent

Randy Beach  
Chief Finance Officer

Sunny Chancy  
Chief Academic Officer

Angela Walker  
Executive Director of Human Resources

Randy Bristol  
Executive Director of Facilities & Maintenance

Tanya English  
Executive Director of ESE & Student Services

Sue Anderson  
Director of Special Programs & District Assessment

Timothy Stephens  
Director of Technology Services

Jim Griner  
Coordinator of Safety & Risk Management

Pat Jones  
Coordinator of Transportation

Lori Sandgren  
Coordinator of Curriculum

Dod Walker  
Director of Adult, Athletic and Diversity  
Recruitment Programs





**Belinda McElroy**  
Principal

# CRAWFORDVILLE ELEMENTARY

"Adventures in Learning" was the theme for the 2017-2018 school year. Crawfordville Elementary welcomed back a dynamic group of skilled individuals and were fortunate to add new members to the already amazing staff. Three new teachers were added; Amanda Davis, Katherine Hunter, and Tawanda Bowen. Lindsay Sparkman joined the team as an Associate Dean of Student Services. Summer Stokley, Olivia Roberston, John Ely, and Shanequa Jones joined the awesome team of paraprofessionals.

Crawfordville continued on its trek to involve parents in their child's education by providing numerous opportunities to attend activities during the day and evening that fostered parental involvement. Such events included our Annual Country Fair, BINGO for Books, Title I Annual Parent Night, Grand Luncheon, Grade Level Parent Nights, Awards Assemblies, Winter Holiday Program, "Bump Up" Night, and Science Night.

In September, our Cafeteria was filled with more than 200 dads, granddads, uncles, brothers, and other male role models in honor of Dad's Day. Dad's Day was our spinoff of Florida's initiative "Dads Take Your Child to School Day" designed to highlight the significant difference dads and other male role models can make by taking a more active role in their children's educational experience and providing an opportunity for dads to engage more fully in their child's education and strengthen the connections between dads and the school.

Throughout the year our students were involved in the learning process through a variety of special activities. Students participated in the Spelling Bee, Odyssey of the Mind, the Writing Bowl, Brain Brawl, Student Council, Jr. Garden Club, Fire Prevention Day, SAVE, Project Learning Tree (PLT), Cougar Cadets, Dr. Seuss Day, and Read Across America Day. Our third Annual Battle of the Books was also a huge success. Teams of parents, teachers, and students "battled" it out while recalling information from books read throughout the school year.

During Red Ribbon Week, which is a nationally recognized week that focuses on healthy lifestyles, good choices, and saying no to drugs, students took part in daily activities with the most popular being the themed dress up days. During the month of September, Crawfordville and all other Wakulla County Schools joined together to raise money to support our senior citizens. Each week students donated change to participate in fun activities such as wearing a hat, wearing pajamas, indulging in a delicious snow cone, and enjoying popcorn and a movie. Teachers also supported the cause by paying to "dress down" each week. Donations topped \$1,000.00 and students learned the importance of giving back to the community and looking out for the elderly.

During the course of the school year teachers were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the school and teaching profession. Alisa Adkison was our November 2017 Teacher of the Month and Amber Allen was our March 2018 Teacher of the Month. In December, Kim Bartnick was selected by her peers as Teacher of the Year!







**Stan Ward**  
Principal

# MEDART ELEMENTARY

Medart Elementary School enjoyed another great year in 2017-2018! Mustang students had many opportunities to participate in learning activities that were both fun and educational. Throughout the school year we had guest speakers, educational field trips, and hands on learning opportunities that gave our students real world opportunities. Some of these experiences included Project Learning Tree week. This awesome experience was organized by third grade teachers Jessica Johnson and Melissa Jackman. During this week, community members volunteer to come to the school to promote science and how we can help protect the environment. Our fourth and fifth grade students were also provided the opportunity to participate in educational field trips to Wakulla Springs where they learned about nature and the history of our world famous springs.

During the course of the school year teachers were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the school and teaching profession. Ginni Brown was our October 2017 Teacher of the Month and Jessica Johnson was our February 2018 Teacher of the Month. In December, Cary Gerrell was represented Medart as she was selected by her peers as Teacher of the Year! We are proud of how dedicated these teachers are to their profession, school, and students!

Medart Elementary's intermediate Odyssey of the Mind team, coached by fourth grade teacher Sandra Whaley and third grade teacher Melissa Jackman, qualified for the State competition in the worldwide program "Odyssey of the Mind". They advanced to State with excellent scores from the Regional competition in Crestview, Florida on March 3, 2018. The team included students Isabella Ayotte, Fletcher Brown, Alexis Green, Brooklynn Green, Kyrin Hand, Logan Hand, and Skyler Harrell. They ranked in first place for their division in their problem category. Our Odyssey of the Mind team also did a great job of representing our school and community at the State Competition in Orlando. We are equally proud of our first ever primary team who represented us at the regional competition. The team was made up of students from first and second grade, and were coached by second grade teachers, Betsy Jones and Traya Terranova. Members of the primary team were Gus Barwick, Temperance Hill, Hayden Jones, Allison Kinsey, Madeline McGuire, Isaac Murray, and Emma Solburg.

Medart faculty, staff and students were one of only 40 schools in the state of Florida to be awarded the status of an "Asthma-Friendly School". An "Asthma-Friendly School" provides educational health services for students with asthma, ensuring that they take their medicines and learn to use them correctly. In addition, the school provides asthma education which increases awareness for all students, faculties, staff, and families. Teachers and staff participated in an online class to learn more about asthma, and students were educated on asthma through a short online video provided by the American Lung Association.

Our Veteran's Day Assembly was enjoyed by our students, their families, and community members, too. Former Medart Elementary Principal, Randy Anderson, sang the songs of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard while a slideshow presented photos and military service information for many of our local veterans. Second grade teachers Glenda Hance, Betsy Jones, Angela Swain, and Traya Terranova organized the program and their second grade students entertained the audience with patriotic songs.

We look forward to another great year with our Magnificent Mustangs!







Simeon Nelson  
Principal

# RIVERSINK ELEMENTARY

Riversink Elementary School (RES) celebrated their 10th year by reaching "A" status on the Florida Standards assessment. Our students and faculty worked extremely hard and should be proud of their excellent performance. Our third graders were highest in our district with 71% proficiency in English and Language Arts. In addition, our fifth graders exceeded expectations with 78% proficiency in Science. RES continues to be rated as a Highly Effective School by the State of Florida and helped the Wakulla County School District earn another "A"!

Our academic success would not be possible without our fantastic staff. This year we recognized Cassie Burhnam as our Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Burhnam was selected among her peers for her outstanding work in fourth grade. Mrs. Burhnam served as the KAGAN coach for RES, and as a past Reading Coach for our district. She stated, "It is such an honor to be individually recognized when you work with such a talented group of teachers and administrators". Additionally, Katie Hart was selected as teacher of the month for April. Mrs. Hart brings the joy of reading to our students through various activities in the library. She is always willing to provide students with support and encouragement. Mrs. Kimbrel was honored as the November teacher of the month. Mrs. Kimbrel is a fourth grade teacher who always goes above and beyond to support her students. She is a firm believer in having a positive relationship with students and making learning fun.

RES continues to serve the whole child by providing a multitude of experiences for students. This year students participated in a week long PLT (Project Learning Tree) adventure. Our school was able to partner with various community members so that students could learn more about wildlife and habitats significant to our area. We were also able to partner with our local law enforcement so that our fifth grade students could become S.A.V.E. graduates. Our Otter students had a spirit week that focused on making healthy lifestyle choices. Students dressed in costumes each day based on a theme. We saw superheroes, princesses, and cute PJ's throughout the week. We ended the week with a fantastic parade. As part of our Positive Behavior Support Program, we held PBS Rallies to encourage students to make the best behavior choices throughout their school day. During the rallies, we had a visit from McGruff, who sang songs and gave away fun prizes.

RES continued to participate in the Tropicana Speech Contest. This year, fourth grader, Amaya Riggles was our school winner. Amaya wrote an energetic speech on Florida State Woman's Basketball. Go Noles! We also celebrated Maddie Callaghan as our school Spelling Bee champion. These young ladies are excellent representatives of what it means to be an Otter.

We had so much to be excited about this year at Riversink Elementary. However, the retirement of Mrs. Diane Driggers was bitter sweet. We are excited to watch her leap into the next season in life, but she will be greatly missed. Mrs. Driggers was a founding teacher of RES. She dedicated 30 years to the profession of teaching and will leave a legacy at Riversink.







Nicholas Weaver  
Principal

# SHADEVILLE ELEMENTARY

Shadeville Elementary School began the 2017-2018 school year with a new administrative team as former principal, Susan Brazier, retired. Faculty and staff welcomed, with open arms, Nicholas Weaver, principal, and Frankie Harvey, assistant principal. While the majority of the instructional staff remained the same, a few additions were made. Judy Brown, a former Pre-K Eaglet, joined the Kindergarten team and Julia Parker returned to SES as a second grade teacher. Jill Voorting and Beverly Revell became members of the third grade team while Danni Lafferty joined the Exceptional Student Education team. Music teacher Kristin Dow and art teacher Natalie Begley joined the special area team and served students at Shadeville and Riversink Elementary School. Susan Tillman, a former curriculum coach and classroom teacher, provided assistance to teachers and students in the capacity of Reading Coach while Karen Procelli provided instruction for students in the PASS (Positive Alternative to School Suspension) program. Shawn Peed, Tamika Smith, and Tammy Wade became members of the paraprofessional team. At the end of the year, Shadeville faculty and staff bid fond farewell to long-time educator Jennifer Hester at an emotional retirement celebration.

Throughout the year Shadeville students were actively involved in the learning process through a variety of special activities. Students participated in the Spelling Bee, Brain Brawl, Student Council, Peace Keepers, Fire Prevention Day, SAVE, SAVE Essay Contest, Project Learning Tree (PLT), Safety Patrol, Arrow Council, and Red Ribbon Week. Our Million Word Reader Club reached an all-time high with 54 participants. Of those 54 participants, fourteen were multi-million word readers. Students were recognized for their efforts during the Million Word Luau at the end of the school year. The intermediate (3rd -5th) Odyssey of the Mind team, coached by Kerry Adams placed 2nd at Regionals and 7th in the State Competition. Team members included Brody Beam, Emil Bendeck, Kendall Coleman, Colt Giddens, Sophie Stalvey, Reena Taylor, and Emily Zak. The primary (K - 2nd) Odyssey of the Mind team, coached by Amy Seidler accompanied the intermediate to the Regional competition to gain confidence and experience. Team members included Ashley Dollar, Brian Ford, Savanna Giddons, Lia Jones, Jacob Perry, Seth Ward, and Alexa Weaver.

Parents are an integral part of Shadeville Elementary and had numerous opportunities throughout the school year to attend events during the day and evening that fostered parental involvement. Such events included our Annual Fall Festival, BINGO for Books, Annual Title I Parent Night, Donuts for Dads, Dads Day Lunch, Veteran's Day Program, Mother's Day Tea, Kindergarten Circus, Holiday Musical, Costume Parade, School Advisory Council, and Grand Luncheons.

Students were rewarded for excellent behavior throughout the school year by participating in "Arrow" Pep Rally's. The "Arrows" program was initiated to encourage students to Aim high with a positive attitude, Respect themselves and others, exhibit Responsible Behavior, Obey the rules the first time, be a Warrior who displays kindness, and make SES a Safe place to be. Arrows were entered into weekly drawings and collected throughout each grading period for big prize drawings during each Pep Rally.

During the course of the year, numerous employees were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the school and teaching profession. Kay Reeves was chosen by her peers as Teacher of the Month for September 2017. Tonya Montague was recognized in October as Employee of the Month and Christina Nall was chosen as January's Teacher of the Month. To cap off the teacher recognitions, Fifth grade teacher, Kerry Adams, was selected as SES's 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year and Wakulla County's 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year. At the Florida Department of Education's Annual Teacher of the Year program, Mrs. Kerry Adams was recognized as a "High Impact Teacher" due to her students' learning gains and was presented with the Dr. Brain Dassler Leadership Award for her compassion and dedication to her students and colleagues.





**Michelle Yeomans**  
Principal

# RIVERSPRINGS MIDDLE

Riversprings Middle School continued to create possibilities of all kinds for its students this year. From the arts, to academics, to athletics, the Bears showcased their talents.

The Riversprings Symphonic Band, comprised of 44 seventh and eighth grade students, earned a Superior, the highest rating, from all three judges, on their concert music at this year's Music Performance Assessment (MPA). In addition, they earned a Superior rating for their sight

reading. Individually, 19 students performed solos for the Solo & Ensemble judging, with 16 of those students receiving a superior rating, and 3 receiving a rating of excellent. Nine students earned the honor of participating in the All-District Band, with five of those sitting first chair in their respective sections, and one student, eighth grader Allie Nutting, performed in the FMEA All State Honor Band. Also, the band was invited to perform at both Shadeville Elementary and Riversink Elementary for their Positive Behavior Plan Pep Rallies. The RMS Chorus earned an Excellent rating on their MPA.

Seventh grade Art student Haley Bruce won the Crawfordville Lions Club International Peace Poster contest. The theme was "The Future of Peace". Her poster has gone on to be judged at a regional level. The RMS Drama Troupe performed its first ever musical, the Rogers and Hammerstein classic, "Oklahoma!", much to the enjoyment of parents, community, and students.

Presley Jones, a sixth grade student at RMS, took first place in the Wakulla County Tropicana Speech contest with her humorous speech, "Older Parents," which explained why her dad falls into that category. Gabriella Jacobs, an eighth grader at RMS, was the second place winner in this year's Coastal Optimist Club Oratorical Contest, speaking on the theme of, "What are My Roots of Optimism?" The Coastal Optimist Club also sponsors an essay competition. Sammie Piotrowski, an 8th grade student at Riversprings Middle School, won second place, and two students from RMS, Allie Nutting and Ryan Brown, received the Honorable Mention award. Eighth graders Blythe Gouker and Lia Roddenberry earned third place in the Capital Regional Science Fair in the microbiology category.

Athletically speaking, RMS did very well. Many teams boasted winning seasons, and our wrestling team brought home their 15th straight County Championship.

Students also gave back to their community and beyond, participating in a canned food drive at Thanksgiving and a change drive to buy Christmas presents for classmates and their families who needed assistance this holiday season. RMS Avid students and the Student Council joined together to raise over \$300 for Camp Boggy Creek, a camp for children who are affected by cancer. RMS started donating annually to the camp when one of our RMS Bears attended the camp

several years ago. AVID students also visited TCC during the year and crossed the parking lot to Shadeville to read and interact with several of the elementary school classes.

Our Brain Brawl Academic Team won every tournament they entered this year, including the Lewis Falcon Tournament in Valparaiso, which earned them a qualifying bid to the National Academic Quiz Tournament National Championship for the second year in a row. The RMS Academic Team was led by 8th grade co-captains Samantha Piotrowski and Gabriella Jacobs, with a lot of scoring help being provided by 7th graders Jae T. Thaxton and Legion Taylor. They also won the Wakulla County Brain Brawl Championship for the ninth straight year. Samantha Piotrowski was named Player of the Week on Feb. 3 by the National Academic Quiz Tournaments (NAQT) organization.

Riversprings is led by some amazing faculty and administrators. Missy Hudson was honored as the Wakulla County Employee of the Month for May. Distinguished Coach Frances Knight was selected as the Wakulla County Teacher of the Month for November. Lesley Jamison, RMS Kagan Coach and Track Coach, was named Wakulla County Teacher of the Month for March. Jennifer Thaxton, media specialist and eighth grade language arts teacher, was given the honor of representing Riversprings as Teacher of the Year. Michele Yeomans and Shannon Smith were named Administrators of the Year.







Tolar Griffin  
Principal

# WAKULLA MIDDLE

Wakulla Middle School had an excellent year! Thank you to our faculty, staff, students, parents, and community partners for your continued support and engagement. Your encouragement and the relentless pursuit of academic achievement helped propel WMS to score seven percentage points higher than last year and earn the statewide distinction of being an A+ school! We could not be more proud of our Wildcat Family!

During the fall, our 8th Grade science teachers Melissa Martin and Katrina Roddenberry led the charge to submit a proposal for NASA's Microgravity University for Educators (MgUE) 2018 Challenge. This included obtaining special permission from NASA to participate because it was intended to be a high school program. Because Integrated Science is a high school credit course, the team was allowed to submit a proposal. Nationwide, WMS was one of only 10 schools selected for the all-expenses paid trip to Johnson Space Center in Houston, and the only middle school chosen. Martin, Roddenberry, and 8th grade students Idalia Rodriguez, Camryn Grimes, Katia Toth, and Morgan Crum tested their Satellite Launching Experimental Device (SLED) during Spring Break. The SLED was designed by the NASA Team and other students in the Integrated Science course. During their trip to Houston, the team was able to successfully launch the SLED, and the students worked with NASA engineers to explain their designs. The aim was to expose the students to real-world STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) problems and to strategize a solution.

Academic Achievement continues to be rewarded on our campus, and many students were recognized during our Spring Awards Ceremonies. Our 8th Grade Honor Court included Clara Alford, Briyaun Butler-Moore, Victoria Dichio, Margaret Gaynor, Ryan Ly, Kyle Randolph, Lily Stolk, Kanoa Tucker, Macie Varnes, and Aubrey Willis. Our highest grade point average went to Laureate Victoria Dichio and Oracle Ryan Ly. Through our continued partnership with Wakulla Academic Boosters, Head Start Scholarships were given to Briyaun Butler-Moore, Aubriana Edmondson, Sara Neet, Ejaveon Olds, and William "Clay" Sorrell. Additionally, Seed Pearl Awards were given to Navi Dean and Emmanuel "EJ" Manning. The Principal's Award recipients were Brice Williamson and Macie Varnes.

Part of being a well-rounded Wildcat is participating in school activities. Our sports and clubs shined this year! Coach Mallory Harrison led our Girls Soccer Team to Conference Champions. Coach Sara Lovestrand's winning Volleyball Team went undefeated during the season and were Conference Champions. Coach J.T. Medley led the Baseball team to a county championship. WMS' Odyssey of the Mind team, under the guidance of Katrina Roddenberry, came in 1st out of 11 teams in their category for the Emerald Coast Regional Competition and 8th out of 22 teams in their category at

the Florida Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament. Chorus and Symphonic Band, directed by Alaina Miller and Haley Shimer respectively, demonstrated their talents at the Music Performance Assessment and both earned an Excellent rating – the second highest rating possible. In addition, under the direction of our AVID Site Coordinator, Amanda Hofheinz, WMS received the school-wide Site of Distinction award last year for using AVID strategies throughout the school. Our Spring Musical, Mary Poppins, was a huge success thanks to our outstanding Directors, Nicole Dissmore and Barbara Cook, talented actors and actresses, and hard-working technical crew.

Acknowledging our incredible staff is a long-standing tradition that we honor at WMS. In October, we recognized Sara Lovestrand as our Teacher of the Month. In January, Katrina Roddenberry was accepted into the U.S. Space Foundation's International Teacher Liaison Program. Roddenberry is one of only 31 teachers world-wide to serve on this annual panel. In February, we recognized Roddenberry as our Teacher of the Month. Our Teacher of the Year was Nicole Dissmore, and Tolar Griffin (Principal) and Amy Bryan (Assistant Principal) were chosen as the Wakulla County Schools Administrators of the Year. Way to go, Wildcats!







Michael Barwick  
Principal

# WAKULLA HIGH

Wakulla High School's convocation of eagles grew tremendously in the 2017-2018 school year with 20 new faculty members and close to 1,500 students. Even with all the new War Eagles on campus, to say we had a stellar year would be an understatement. Wakulla High School not only maintained their "A" school grade from the Florida Department of Education, but our Eagles exceeded the state averages in math and reading on the 2018 Florida Standards Assessments (FSA). Wakulla High School proudly scored first in the state

on the United States history end-of-course exam. Additionally, WHS was third in the state in ninth grade biology end-of-course exam results. WHS saw an eighteen-point increase in gains for its lowest quartile in math and a four-point increase for its lowest quartile on FSA.

These achievements allowed Wakulla High to preserve their Silver Medal status from the US News and World Report. In 2018, WHS placed 2,517 out of 20,500 schools putting us in the top 12% of high-performing public high schools in all 50 states. One crucial requirement for this honor is a minimum graduation rate of 80%. Not only did Wakulla High meet the 80%, but they exceeded it! The graduation rate for WHS was 92%-- a tremendous feat for all stakeholders!

Wakulla High School continues to implement a highly successful vocational program. During the 2017-2018 school year, 424 students earned industry certifications through our Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. The CTE program played a vital role in Wakulla High maintaining their "A" grade.

The success of our school can be directly correlated to the effort of our faculty and staff. Two of our educators, Sonia Rosier-Clark and Sue Hutchins, were chosen by their peers as Teachers of the Month for September and January, respectively. Both educators are Associate Deans in Guidance and Student Services and have a fundamental role in the success and well-being of our students. Wakulla High is proud to have Kristi Keith as our 2018 Teacher of the Year. In 2017-18, she taught U.S. History, U.S. History Honors, and Advanced Placement Human Geography. Ms. Keith's leadership is seen in many areas of school life as the Junior Class Sponsor, Student Government Association Sponsor, and Junior Varsity Cheerleading Coach.

Five 2018 graduating seniors, Ebone Davis, Christian Hamel, Shawn St. Martin, Ja'Mecia Rosier, and Della Rae Watson, earned full scholarships to Tallahassee Community College under the Take Stock in Children State Program.

A number of rising seniors were selected to represent Wakulla County at both the state and national level. Zackary Windsor was chosen to represent Wakulla County at the American Legion's Boy State. Arthur Thompson was one of only 300 students across the country selected as a National Youth Delegate for the 2018 Washington D.C. Youth Summit on the Environment. Faith Joiner was honored as Wakulla School District's 2018 Sunshine State Scholar. Elizabeth Hughes was selected as one of four students to

represent Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc. at the 2018 NRECA (National Rural Electric Cooperative Association) National Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. Carlos Kilpatrick was recognized as an outstanding student by the Florida Board of Education in January.

During the first week of February, a group of 30 students participated in a Civil Rights Tour. These students spent two months preparing for the trip by attending bi-weekly roundtable discussions. The students visited five powerful museums in both Alabama and Tennessee and concluded the experience by walking across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, AL, the epicentre of the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s. Students shared their experiences at Wakulla High School's Annual Black History Program.

In addition to academics, many Wakulla High School students participated in clubs and extra-curricular activities. Dramatis Personae had 10 students advance to state competition in Tampa with individual events expanding from costume and set design to play writing to acting and musical numbers. They also presented The Wizard of Oz locally. The Wakulla High School Chorus received "Superior" ratings for all four choirs that performed at the District Music Performance Assessment. Madison Fountain and Noah Pilkinton scored "Superior" ratings at District Solo & Ensemble festival. Gabriel Herron was accepted into the Florida All State Concert Choir and performed with the All State Concert Choir at the Florida Music Educators' Conference. The War Eagle Band saw select members receive "superior" ratings at District Solo & Ensemble. The War Eagle Colorguard participated at State Solo & Ensemble for the first time and achieved a "superior" rating on their Pirates of the Caribbean indoor show. Eight National Honour Society members attended the NHS Leadership Summit in Orlando hosted by the National Association of Secondary Schools. The Environmental Club started a successful paper recycling program in 2017. Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) hosted a BMX event for 9th and 10th graders as part of our Homecoming and Red Ribbon Week events to share the benefits of healthy living, including an anti-tobacco and anti-bullying message.

For 2017-2018 War Eagle Athletics, Boys Cross Country, Girls Varsity Volleyball, Girls Varsity Softball, Boys Varsity Wrestling, and Boys Weightlifting all brought home district wins. Our athletic program had 12 student athletes sign athletic scholarships to post-secondary institutions.

Wakulla War Eagles will continue to strive for excellence in the classroom, on the field, and among our community.





# WAKULLA ADULT & COMMUNITY ED



**DOD WALKER**

Director of Adult, Athletic and Diversity Recruitment Programs

During the 2017-18 school year, the Adult Education Program continued to expand and thrive in all three areas including the Adults with Disabilities, Adult Basic and GED Preparation Programs. The graduating GED class was the largest in several years, serving over 75 students.

An additional program location was added at the Panacea Women's Club to meet the needs of citizens living in the southern end of the county. This program will be continued into the coming school year. In the spring, 20 graduates marched across the stage to receive their diploma and shake the hand of the Superintendent.

The Adults with Disabilities Program was extremely fortunate to have the Wakulla County School Board acquire and renovate a portable for the Legacy Café & Boutique this year. So with the 2017-18 school year, it became official, the Legacy Café & Boutique would have its own location adjacent to the Wakulla Institute cafeteria! Students stayed busy all year in the boutique classroom designing displays, creating seasonal gifts, filling requested orders for bridal and baby showers, and learning new crafting skills. While doing this, they continued serving delectable salads and sandwiches every Tuesday and Thursday in the café. Students enjoyed serving lunch and helping customers shop in the boutique.

The Legacy Boutique added two new events during the 2017-18 school year. Students held craft bazaars in November and March. Boutique patrons shopped for holiday items in the fall and found many beach and garden items in the spring. Additionally, students maintained a display of boutique products for sale in the Wakulla Public Library. The Legacy Café also catered lunch for two community workshops during the school year.

The Adults with Disabilities Program serves as a job training opportunity for post graduate students. Several students have turned their skills into full or part time jobs, while others are enjoying the rewarding benefits of volunteer positions in the community. During the 2017-18 school year, one of our students, Michael Gibson, was featured in the Department of Education's AWD monthly newsletter. He was spotlighted due to his amazing positive spirit and "can-do" attitude! He works at Legacy three days a week, while also managing to maintain three additional part time jobs in the community! He embodies the mission statement of Legacy Boutique and Wakulla County Schools, "...committed to success."

In addition to several community education programs such as sewing and yoga, the Adult Education Program held the annual "Night Welding" series which lasted 8 weeks and was co-hosted by Lively Technical Center, along with the WCSB. It was again very successful and graduated over a dozen participants.



**LAURA KELLY**

Principal

## WAKULLA PRESCHOOL

"Little Hands with BIG Dreams" was theme for the 2017-2018 school year at Wakulla Pre-K. Students enjoyed participating monthly in Bytes for Books. This was a partnership with Florida Diagnostic Learning Resources System (FDLRS), WFSU Public Media and Parents of the Panhandle Information Network (POPIN) which presented themed literacy lessons to two classes at a time which included a short informational video paired with a book and a hands-on craft idea. The students left the session with their craft and a copy of the book that was read aloud. Parents were invited to attend and participate with their child. In November, St. Francis Wildlife Refuge presented, "Tigers in the Sky" and brought several species of owls as part of our Project Learning Tree Celebration. In April as part of Earth Day, the students participated in a school-wide campus clean up by collecting and sorting trash into paper and plastic so it could be recycled. In addition, flowers and seeds were planted by students in the school garden as part of the campus beautification project prior to Graduation. The Knights of Columbus held their annual Tootsie Roll Drive and again donated their proceeds to the District Pre-K Program. Silver4Seniors Friday Dress Up Days and October Dress Up Week continued and provided a lot of fun and entertainment for both students and staff.

Jolly Holmes was recognized as the September, 2017 Employee of the Month, LeNita Winkler as the 2018 Wakulla Pre-K Teacher of the Year and Carrie Pigott as the April, 2018 Teacher of the Month. All three awards are voted and selected by their colleagues. In addition, Jolly Holmes was honored as the 2017-2018 District Employee of the Year for her dedication and commitment to the District Pre-K. Pre-K is very fortunate to have such dedicated staff who have a genuine love for teaching the "littlest learners."





# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

In 1991, the School Improvement and Accountability Act established School Advisory Councils in Florida comprised of parents, teachers, community members, school staff and students. The groups at each school work cooperatively to develop a School Improvement Plan every year for their schools. With increased standards and accountability for schools, students were assessed by the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA, including End of Course Exams). Students were also assessed by FCAT 2.0 Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) End of Course Exams. Along with survey information and other data, these test results pinpointed where a school needed to focus in order to help its students achieve for 2017-2018.

## VOLUNTEERS LEND A HELPING HAND

Successful volunteer programs are critical to the vitality of the school system and the continued success of our students. Volunteers provide extra hands and loving hearts that assist and support our students, teachers, and staff throughout the district.

Volunteers are involved at every level of the educational process in Wakulla. Each year volunteers break new ground as they discover more ways to serve our students and build our community. During the 2017-2018 school year, over 1937 volunteers logged 12,853 hours in service to our schools. Also several of these volunteers serve as mentors to individual student. The time and effort of these dedicated volunteers served to sustain and enhance the academic achievement of all of our students.

Across the district, volunteers worked in classrooms and hallways helping individual or small groups of students with their studies. Some served by shelving books in media centers, assisting students in school clinics, speaking to classes, demonstrating career skills, mentoring students or helping with clerical tasks. Still other helped supervise field trips and participated in fund-raising events. The impact of these enthusiastic volunteers was immeasurable.

Our need for volunteers and mentors is ever present. If you are interested in volunteering or in becoming a mentor, please call a school, contact the district office or visit [wakulla.schooldesk.net](http://wakulla.schooldesk.net) and click on Volunteer/Mentor at the top of the page to find ways that you can help.

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SPONSORS

### TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

District  
Peer Leadership  
Student Ambassador

### COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Alvin Hall Leadership and Achievement  
Brian Parsons Memorial  
Coalition of the Arts  
Crawfordville Elementary School  
Crawfordville Women's Club  
Education Enrichment Council  
EEC-President's Scholarship  
EEC-Members of the Year Scholarship  
4-H Enrichment Council Scholarship  
Paul Hoover Memorial Scholarship  
Josh Douin Memorial Scholarship  
KEYS  
Maria Simmons Johnson STEM  
Riversprings Middle School  
Rufus Williams Memorial Scholarship  
St. Marks Powder (Engineering and Science/Math Related) (2)  
Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce  
Wakulla County Christian Coalition  
Wakulla County Recreation

### ROTARY INTERACT ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The Sherida Crum Leffert Distinguished Citizen Scholarship  
Rotary Club Scholarship (3)

### NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

### WAB ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Henry Vause Vocational (4)  
Guy H. Hudson  
Grady F. McKenzie  
Wildwood Men's Golf  
Frank Snyder Memorial  
Wakulla Men's Association  
Keiser Memorial  
Gilbert Memorial  
Distler Golf  
Anita Townsend Nursing  
Bonner Vocational  
Brann Vocational  
Townsend Vocational  
McKenzie Vocational  
Paul Dubay Memorial  
Alexander Pearce Memorial  
A.L. Porter  
Wakulla Cattleman  
Wakulla Co. Elected Officials  
McKenzie Star  
Optimist Stars  
W.C. Dodson  
Koelliker Memorial

### WCABA HEADSTART SCHOLARS

Pat Nobles  
B.K. Roberts  
Mary L. Roberts  
Wakulla Coastal Optimist  
Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce  
Robert G. Carter  
Harry Morrison  
Wakulla Men's Association  
St. Marks Powder

### WAB SCHOLARSHIPS TO OTHER COLLEGES

Optimist Club Annual  
Wakulla Men's Association  
Elsie Schulte Annual  
Pee Wee Vause Annual  
Wakulla Realtors Association (3)  
Steve & Kathy Brown WAB  
Noah & Mildred Posey Annual







# GENERAL INFORMATION

## ATTENDANCE

Florida school law requires each parent of a child from six to sixteen years of age to be responsible for the child's school attendance. The law allows absences for illness and certain other special circumstances. During the 2017-2018 school year, average student attendance was 91.94 percent district wide.

Every effort is made by the schools to encourage student attendance. Incentives for attendance include special activities and awards. It is the responsibility of the parents to notify the school when their child will not be in attendance.

## INSTRUCTIONAL AND NON-INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF COUNT FOR DISTRICT

	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Administrative	25	26	28	28	30	30
Certified Employees, Instructional	344	346	357	348	342	342
Paraprofessionals	90	90	96	90	90	91
Clerical/Secretarial	52	51	53	53	53	53
Service Workers	138	138	136	139	140	141
Other Professional	10	11	11	11	17	17
Total Full Time	659	662	681	669	672	674

## NON DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The School Board of Wakulla County, Florida does not discriminate in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, marital status, disability, genetic information for applicants and employees, or any other reason prohibited by Federal and State law regarding non-discrimination. See 34 C.F.R. 100.6(d); 34 C.F.R. 106.9; 34 C.F.R. 110.25.

In addition, the School Board provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. See 34 C.F.R. 108.9.

Disabled individuals needing reasonable accommodations to participate in and enjoy the benefits of services, programs, and activities of the School Board are required in advance to notify the administrator at the school/center at which the event or service is offered to request reasonable accommodation.

The lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to any opportunity or event associated with Wakulla County Schools.

The designated Equity Coordinator, Title IX and Section 504 Compliance Coordinator as required by 34 C.F.R. 100.6(d) is Angie Walker, Executive Director of Human Resources, 69 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327; 850.926.0065; [angela.walker@wcsb.us](mailto:angela.walker@wcsb.us).

## SCHOOL/PROGRAM ENROLLMENT FOR DISTRICT

	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Crawfordville Elementary	562	569	612	554	553	550
Riversink Elementary	456	475	460	462	482	468
Shadeville Elementary	607	583	580	559	576	593
Medart Elementary	510	498	502	479	517	517
Riversprings Middle School	558	566	499	497	507	516
Wakulla Middle School	600	603	568	605	588	570
Wakulla High School	1229	1221	1300	1370	1412	1445
District Drop-Out Prevention Prog.	32	62	45	36	48	85
District Pre-K Program	310	317	389	384	321	319
Total	4864	4894	4910	4946	5004	5063

# SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES

## EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

Goals within the ESE Department focused on insuring that each student was provided with instruction within the Least Restrictive Learning Environment (LRE) and training for teachers and administrators in providing strategies and accommodations to meet the instructional needs of all students. Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) and Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource Systems (FDLRS) provided a week long training in Kagan Structures to help teachers understand brain research and strategies for high yield student engagement. In addition, they provided support in Universal Design For Learning (UDL) at Wakulla High and both middle schools to provide tools for teachers to make lessons accessible and meaningful to all students. Administrators and school ESE Coordinators were trained in using Facilitated IEP structures and LEArn and LEAd Training to lead IEP teams with positive communication and foster engagement from all participants.

## STUDENT SERVICES

Partnership with the Wakulla County Health Department provided dental clinics in the elementary schools and pre-K for qualifying students, as well as flu shot clinics in each of the schools. Through partnerships with DISC Village, Apalachee Mental Health, Big Bend Hospice and Capital City Youth Services, schools provided counseling during the school day on site to students meeting referral criteria. Teachers and school counselors/deans also participated in training on Suicide Prevention; Mental Health First Aid; Trauma Informed Care; Preventing Cyberbullying and helping students avoid risky behavior.

## HEALTH SERVICES

Partnership with the Wakulla County Health Department provided dental clinics in the elementary schools and pre-K for qualifying students, as well as flu shot clinics in each of the schools. All elementary, middle and high schools received the Healthier US School Challenge Bronze Award, which provided \$500 to spend on wellness activities. Farm Share provided MRE (Meals Ready to Eat) and schools distributed them to insure that no students were without food during weekends, in addition to Blessings in a Backpack programs sponsored by local churches.

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

With a growing emphasis on the need for an educated workforce in all areas, the tie-in of academic skills needed on the job continued. Elementary students explored career awareness through school-based enterprises, guest speakers, career days, and field trips. Middle school students participated in career exploration and interest inventories through guidance and had more extensive career days. Career and Technical Education program completers in the 12th grade worked at jobs in the areas for which they were trained, earning high school and also college credits. Career and Technical Education programs included Accounting, Culinary Arts, Web Design, Carpentry, Digital Design, TV Production, health care through the Wakulla High School Medical Academy, the Engineering Academy, Automotive Technology and our Welding partnership with Lively Technical Center. Those programs helped students earn over 500 industry certifications grades 8 through 12 for 2017-2018. Exceptional Education students had a comprehensive career preparation curriculum with all special diploma students receiving on-the-job training.

## DROP OUT PREVENTION

During the school year, the school district continued to operate prevention programs for students at risk of dropping out of school. The Early Head Start Program provided pregnant teens and teen parents with childcare to help them stay in school. The intervention programs at Wakulla Institute gave students in grades 6-12 an alternative to suspension and/or expulsion and helped students with a Credit Recovery program to earn back failed classes. In addition, an alternative high school setting let students who fell behind their peers earn a regular diploma on time through the Performance-Based Exit Option Diploma program.

## GUIDANCE/PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Florida State University Multidisciplinary Center continued to provide contracted psychological and counseling services to schools, in addition to training on Zones of Regulation and other requested topics.

## TITLE I

Title I is a federally funded program designed to provide supplemental services to improve academic achievement at schools with a high percentage of students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch. Title I initiatives are closely aligned with School Improvement Plans. In 2017-2018, funding through Title I increased student achievement by providing teachers, instructional coaches, instructional software, technology, books, supplies, and extended learning activities.

Title I recognizes the importance of family engagement. Research clearly shows that a student's academic success improves when the home and school work together. In 2017-2018, Title I provided opportunities for families to participate in school activities and receive training on how to help their children succeed in school. BINGO for Books, STEM Night, FSA Parent Night, and Family Literacy Night are a few of the popular events that were hosted by Title I schools during the 2017-2018 school year.

# TESTING

Assessment is a vital part of the instructional process. The Wakulla County School System utilizes testing to determine appropriate placement of students, to guide instruction, and to assess content mastery. Testing provides administrators, teachers, and parents an opportunity to assess how students compare to other students in Florida and in the Nation. Essentially, assessment results are used to revise the curriculum to better meet the needs of students.

## FLORIDA STANDARDS ASSESSMENT TEST (FSA)

The primary purpose of Florida's K-12 statewide assessment program is to measure students' achievement of Florida's education standards. Florida's educational standards were developed with the goal of providing all students with an education based on high expectations. The Florida Standards Assessments include: grades 3-10 English Language Arts (Writing component in grades 4-10), grades 3-8 Mathematics, as well as the Algebra I and Geometry end-of-course-exams (EOC).

	ELA		MATH		SCIENCE	
PERCENT SCORING PROFICIENT	WAKULLA	STATE	WAKULLA	STATE	WAKULLA	STATE
Grade 3	66	57	65	62		
Grade 4	59	56	54	62		
Grade 5	61	55	66	61	62	55
Grade 6	56	52	63	52		
Grade 7	66	51	58	54		
Grade 8	74	58	57	45	56	50
Grade 9	53	53				
Grade 10	59	53				

## END-OF-COURSE-EXAMS (EOC)

EOC assessments measure the Florida Standards or the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) for specific courses, as outlined in their course descriptions. All students enrolled in Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, US History, and Civics are required to take an assessment in the spring of each year. Students must score a Level 3 or above to be considered proficient on an EOC.

### 2018 NGSSS EOC ASSESSMENT

PERCENT SCORING PROFICIENT	WAKULLA	STATE
Biology 1	85	65
U.S. History	88	68
Civics	79	71

### 2018 FLORIDA STANDARDS ASSESSMENT EOC

PERCENT SCORING PROFICIENT	WAKULLA	STATE
Algebra 1	68	63
Geometry	68	57

## AMERICAN COLLEGE TEST 2017-2018

The American College Test (ACT) is one major test used for college admission.

	WAKULLA	STATE
English	20.4	18.9
Math	20.6	19.5
Reading	22.3	21.1
Science	20.9	19.5
Composite	21.2	19.9

### 2017 GRADUATION RATE

Wakulla High School: 92.4%  
State: 82.3%