WAKULLA COUNTY

2021-2022 Superintendent's Report





WAKULLA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

69 ARRAN ROAD POST OFFICE BOX 100 CRAWFORDVILLE, FLORIDA 32326 TELEPHONE: (850)926-0065 FAX: (850) 926-0123



Cale Langston District III

Greg Thomas District IV

Jo Ann Daniels District V

Robert Pearce Superintendent Verna Brock

Melisa Taylor District II

District I

Dear Citizens of Wakulla County:

This year's Superintendent Report aims to give us a picture of all the great moments shared by our faculty, staff, and student's during the 2021-2022 school year.

Our District Teacher of the Year for 2021-2022 was My Mitchell from Riversink Elementary School. Mrs. Mitchell is an exceptional educator with a passion for quality instruction and acts as a resource to her fellow teachers. We appreciate her and her dedication to our students.

Wakulla County Schools continues to provide a rigorous and appropriate education for all students. Wakulla exceeded the state average in overall proficiency on state assessments and was in the top 3 of all 67 public school districts in Florida for graduation rate at 95.5%. As we move forward with the new school year, we hope to continue to set new goals and celebrate our student's accomplishments.

Together we can continue to give students the opportunity to pursue their interests, build their skills, and engage with all areas of their education. As we provide students a safe and robust learning environment with opportunities for enrichment, we hope to prepare them for working through the unique challenges posed by what is to come. Thank you all again for giving us another great year with Wakulla County's children.

Robert R. Pearce Superintendent

Robert R. Pewer



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Robert Pearce

Superintendent

Dear Wakulla County Citizens,

The 2021-22 school year began to look a bit more normal following the pandemic, and that sense of normalcy was welcomed by students, parents, teachers, district staff and employees, as well as your Board.

Wakulla County's students weathered the educational challenges of last year with better than state average learning gains for each grade level. Additionally, we have continued to offer more career and technical industry certifications while enabling students to earn college credits and even AA degrees prior to high school graduation, thus ensuring we represent all Wakulla County students, providing them with a variety of opportunities for success when they leave our school system.

Your Board Members and I truly appreciate the leadership of Superintendent Pearce and Assistant Superintendent Sunny Chancy, as well as the myriad of department and educational leaders within our district office. Furthermore, it is the hard work, consistency, and creativity of our teachers who remain dedicated to our school system and your children, day in and day out. We have the finest teachers in the state.

Thank you to all of our parents who so whole-heartedly support our teachers and district as we strive to bring the best education possible to our students while keeping them safe and healthy, as they are our greatest resource.

On behalf of the Wakulla County School Board, thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

Melisa Taylor, Chair

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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.

DISTRICT STAFF²⁰²¹₂₀₂₂

Robert Pearce

Superintendent

Randy Beach

Chief Finance Officer

Mike Barwick

Executive Director of Facilities & Maintenance

Sunny Chancy

Assistant Superintendent

Lori Sandgren

Director of Human Resources

Belinda McElrov

Executive Director of ESE & Student Services

Amy Bryan

Coordinator of Mental Health Services

Daniel Lilly

Director of Informational Services

Krista Sharin

Coordinator of Special Programs

Pat Jones

Coordinator of Transportation

Jim Griner

Coordinator of Safety & Risk Management

Holly Harden

Coordinator of Curriculum

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.



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.



What an amazing 2021-2022 school year we had! Of course, this was in large part because of our admin.stration, Alena Crawford (Principal), Lindsay Sparkman (Assistant Principal) and Amber Allen (Associate Dean). More than ever, this was a year to truly fulfill our school's vision which is to provide an atmosphere of warmth, trust, respect and of course, flexibility. Our goal was also to know our students and celebrate their diversities and fulfill their needs. We wanted to include parents and families in as many opportunities as possible. We were able to provide many Title 1 virtual family nights to which we were delighted with the amount of participation. Our teachers went above and beyond to make their parents feel included in the happenings of the classroom/school using such platforms as Class Dojo and Remind.

Students in grades 4th and 5th were able to participate in the very active Student Council, which was hosted by Terri Carter. Our student council raised money by having candy-gram events throughout the year around the holidays such as Pumpkin-grams for Halloween. Council members also held impressive drives for those in need—"Socktober" for those in need of socks and a pet food drive for animal shelters in need of cat and dog food. In addition to raising money and hosting awesome drives for those in need, our student council also organized an awesome Field Day for grades K-4. Field day was set up and ran only by those in student council and our students had a blast! Lastly, student members also organized Klan Wars for 5th grade students to participate in for a day of competition and fun.

With most of our students back on campus with us, it was the year to rock reading! Students at CES more than impressed with the amount of books read throughout the year. As a school, we read a total of 147,279,105 words total! Grade-level word counts are as follows: Kindergarten-49,575, First grade-1,820,796, Second grade-17,194,919, Third grade-26,221,666, Fourth grade-53,822,062 and Fifth grade-48,170,087.

CES absolutely wanted to celebrate some of our rock star readers and one way of doing so was adding them to the Word Count Club and/or the 100 Books Read Club. Each grade level has different requirements that the students must obtain. For example, 1st graders must reach 100,000 words, 2nd graders must read 200,000 words, third graders must read 500,000 words, fourth and fifth graders must read 1,000,000 words. We had 100 students who made it into the 100 Books Read Club! Individual students with the highest word counts were Olivia Tomberlin 4th grade-4,794,431, Joe Edwards 3rd grade-3,918,265 and Charlie Heaton 3rd grade-2,577,241. Many grade levels wanted to reward their readers for meeting AR goals with AR celebrations such as nacho parties, ice cream parties and game days! Every 9 weeks the class with the highest amount of words read got to hold on to the infamous Golden Cougar!

This year we wanted to not only acknowledge our readers but our mathematicians as well! Each grade level had different goals for their students to reach in math. For example, number recognition, addition and subtraction fluency and multiplication fact fluency. The students who reached their math goals were rewarded every 9 weeks with such celebrations as grade game days, popsicles, and more! To help master such skills, many of our teachers provided students with afterschool tutoring in Math and Science this year for grades 3rd-5th.

In addition to our students being rewarded for their academics, we also wanted to make sure they were acknowledged for their great choices and being positive role models in the school. Every Friday, teachers selected a student as their Paw Pat Winner of the Week. These students got to hear their name on announcements and pick out a prize from our paw-pat prizes.

Crawfordville students also worked hard to improve their computer technology skills with our ICT program. Students worked intensively for weeks mastering skills and then completing the course. We had a total of 42 receive their ICT certification.

Throughout the year CES had a ton of additional special events happen. We held our first ever Boosterthon Fundraiser. This fundraiser was mostly online and allowed for anyone who wanted to donate to the school to do so. Students earned prizes every week for the amount of money that they raised such as awesome kickball sets, flying drones and frisbees! We surpassed our goal of \$20,000 dollars and students were rewarded by pieing our administration and resource officer in the face! At the very end of the fundraiser all students whether they were able to raise money or not, got to participate in the Fun Run.

CES students in grades K-1 got to participate in Fire Prevention Day, which was provided by our local firefighters. Students learned all about fire safety and prevention, as well as got an inside look at a firetruck. Fifth grade students participated and completed the SAVE program which was presented by our resource officer Deputy Sessor.

In order to provide our students with learning opportunities, many of our teachers applied for grants. One of the grants that was obtained was done so by 2nd grade and the grant enabled the teachers to have a chicken incubator, which taught about the life cycle of a chicken. Garden Club also received a grant this year to help continue their garden and teach those in the club how to grow and maintain many plants such as lettuce, flowers, and broccoli.

Much of the success at CES would not be possible without the help of our fabulous teachers. Several teachers were recognized for their achievements and contributions throughout the year. Heather Osteen was our November teacher of the month and Terri Carter was our March teacher of the month. Lastly, our wonderful 1st grade teacher Erin Henderson was acknowledged as our teacher of the year.

Overall, we had a wonderful and productive school year. We look forward to the next school year working with students and their families as well as the community.



Medart Elementary enjoyed an awesome 2021-2022 school year! Our theme this year was "Find Your Place in the World – Your Journey Starts Here"! After a challenging 2020-2021 school year filled with quarantines and altered routines, Mustang students and teachers were eager to get back into more normal school days.

Medart Elementary students and teachers enjoyed some awesome field trip experiences during the school year. One of this year's experiences involved fifthgrade students having the opportunity to participate in an in-person field trip to the Challenger Learning Center in Tallahassee. During this field trip, students were in charge of completing a space mission. Their success was based on working as a team and following directions to accomplish their mission. This experience was offered through a grant, so it was at no cost to our students or school. In addition, our third-grade students were given an all expenses paid trip to a winter musical performance at Ruby Diamond Auditorium on the campus of Florida State University. These real-world experiences prove to be a valuable resource in helping motivate our students to continue their learning. We are extremely thankful for the opportunities that our surrounding community continues to offer our students each year.

During the school year, employees were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the school and teaching profession. Kindergarten teacher, Karla Nelson, was our October 2021 Teacher of the Month and was also recognized as our school level Teacher of the Year for 2021-2022. Second grade teacher, Wendy McGuire, was our February 2022 Teacher of the Month. In March, Karlyn Langford was chosen to represent Medart for the district as Employee of the Month. Mrs. Langford works in the front office at Medart. She maintains attendance, works with student records, and does way more tasks than could ever be listed here. We are proud of our Mustang employees for how dedicated they are to their profession, school, and students! They all show true dedication to our students and community each year!

In March our Project Learning Tree coordinator, Jessica Langford, organized a week of PLT activities that allowed our students to experience nature and science relevant to our surrounding area. Working with local agencies and volunteers, Mrs. Langford was able to schedule multiple educational experiences that enrich our students' knowledge of the world around us. Some of the presenters included FWC, Wakulla Springs State Park, and our own school board member, Jo Ann Daniels, who presented information about local sea life. This was an awesome learning opportunity for our students, and we appreciate our continued relationship with the great people of our community who volunteer their time and resources to come present to our students.

In May, our cafeteria manger Ms. Suesun Trice was chosen by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as one of five "School Lunch Heroes" in the state! After being nominated by her peers, Ms. Trice was surprised with an assembly where she was recognized by FDACS, Superintendent Pearce, district administrators, and all her students, faculty, and staff at Medart. In addition, she was awarded a \$2000 prize for being chosen as a top five finalist. We are thankful that she is a part of our school, and fortunate to have someone with us who is all about taking care of students in the cafeteria — or anywhere else she is needed across the campus!

As with every school year, challenges arise, and we work together to make sure our students are cared for each day. I could not be prouder of my faculty, staff, and students at Medart. Everyone plays a vital role in our success. If you work in any aspect of education, you are contributing to our

future by helping cultivate students into successful adults. We are looking forward to another wonderful year in 2022-2023 with our Magnificent Mustangs!



STAN WARD - PRINCIPAL

MEDART ELEMENTARY









The start and finish of the 21-22 school year for Riversink Elementary was in all ways EPIC! There was lots of excitement surrounding the start of this school year and the Otter family stepped up to the high expectations set by administration and community stakeholders for the students to receive the best effort possible every day. Mrs. Cutchen and Mr. Vernon were very excited to watch the students glow and show what they know as the teachers were again able to provide opportunities for enrichment.

The first annual FUN RUN was a smash hit and helped raise much needed funds to go directly back into the classrooms for teachers. Students were able to "slime" their principals as well as watch them kiss a pig for all their efforts to making the FUN RUN such a success. The return of on campus events and parent volunteers was also met with a feeling of reconnection to the community. Guest speakers for the S.A.V.E. program as well as the super seller picnic and water day were all welcome returns to a sense of normalcy for Riversink. Field trips to Ruby Diamond Auditorium, the Tallahassee Junior Museum, Aunt Louis' Farm, Mission San Louis, the High School production of Charlotte's Web as well as the 5th Grade trip to Wild Adventures were events all able to bring enjoyment and build memories for so many students as part of a well-rounded educational experience.

Mrs. Cutchen and Mr. Vernon were all about celebrating student achievement and growth through a mixture of established programs with some new additions which proved very successful and fruitful. Math Smarties, AR snow cone/ kickball parties, the Homework Heroes rewards programs and Math Ninja ice cream sandwich celebrations as well as Rainbow Reader bell ringers and million word "Dunk your Teacher or Principal" day are all ways that the administration and staff looked to recognize all the hard work that students were doing.

This year also proved to be a year of EPIC firsts for Riversink Elementary in other ways. The districts first elementary level Jr. Optimist Club was pioneered by Mrs. Mari Kimbrel and school board member, Mrs. JoAnne Daniels. The first state ranked Odyssey of the Mind Team with Mrs. Johnson as their sponsor was invited to attend the World Competition. They bested more than half the field as Wakulla County's first elementary school to accomplish this momentous achievement. Abigail Swenson, part of the 5th grade class, won the 4-H District wide speech contest. Riversink was also honored to be selected to host Governor Ron Desantis for the unveiling of the Florida's new reading agendas as part of the B.E.S.T. state standard adoption for education.

As the pandemic began to wane and safety protocols for health stabilized, schools were able to return their focus to helping students learn and reach their maximum potential and that is just what the otter faculty and staff did! The results were evident as the school and many of its members were recognized for their accomplishments and performance. Karen Haines and Regina Mitchell were both recognized as Employee of the Month for the district. Mrs. Cutchen constantly refers to them as the essential ingredient to the school's overall success. Teachers Amy Higginbotham and Lisa Wilson were selected by their peers as Teacher of the Month during the school year as well. And last but not least, Riversink's very own Ngoc "My" Mitchell was selected to represent the district as Teacher of the Year.

While several teachers and staff were selected to be honored, all the teachers at RES performed above any expectation that could be set. This was evident in the student's performance results on state standardized testing. Riversink set district highs in 3rd grade proficiency, and outperformed state averages in all measured categories. Riversink is proud to announce that we are again an "A" School and are thrilled by all of this year's EPIC accomplishments and doesn't plan to stop. Next year will be even more EPIC!













This year was a GOLD Medal Year for Shadeville Elementary School! We started the year welcoming new teachers in Kindergarten, First, Third, Fourth, Fifth, PE and Music! Emily Nichols (K), Jessica Schmidt (1st), Robin Glassner (3rd), Amanda Crunk (4th), Erica Bunch (PE) and Imani George (Music) were great additions to the Warrior Family. We also welcomed a new Assistant Principal, Eden Rodgers. As the year ended, Beth Cooper and Judy Brown retired. We are grateful for their time at Shadeville.

This year, Shadeville had a strong focus on math. Ms. Allison Garrett spearheaded a new math incentive program and students worked towards becoming Math Warriors! Similar to our grade level reading goals, each grade level created a standards-based goal for students to master in order to earn the title of "Math Warrior". In its first year, we had over 150 students become Math Warriors. Each student received a certificate, got to visit Mr. Weaver's treasure box, had their picture posted on the Math Warrior board and participated in a year-end celebration party!

Reading continues to be the cornerstone of Shadeville's foundation. This school year, Shadeville students read a combined total of 129,358,845 words! The overall top reader for Shadeville was fifth grader, Alexa Weaver with 4,810,493 words! The top readers for each grade were: Kindergarten-Johnathan Everton, First Grade-Lia Weaver, Second Grade-Dahlia Hunt, Third Grade-Katelyn Weaver, and Fourth Grade-Kaeden Kilgore. We are so proud of all our students for the hard work they give daily. At the end of each semester, all students who had earned points for taking Accelerated Reading quizzes were able to shop at our AR store. Students are allowed to purchase a wide variety of items using their AR points as currency. Our AR store is an extra incentive for students to continue to read and take quizzes after reaching their reading goals. Encouraging students to read for a minimum of 20 minutes a day can help them achieve their goal!

Not only is Shadeville lucky to have top-notch students, but we have amazing teachers as well! This year we celebrated Ms. Starla Perry and Ms. Betsy Williamson as teacher of the month. Ms. Perry is one of our teacher coaches in First grade, and Ms. Williamson graciously went back into the classroom for the year in Third grade. Our Teacher of the Year for Shadeville, was Ms. Amanda Coker. As our Speech Language Pathologist, Ms. Coker works with students from every grade level.

October brought fun filled events for our students. We celebrated Red Ribbon week by dressing up and "Saying No to Drugs". Each day had a theme and students were able to use their creativity to create fun outfits. We ended the week with the traditional Costume Parade, where every student was able to walk around the school wearing their costume.

During November, our students pushed themselves out of the learning zone and into a giving one. Shadeville partnered with a local church to collect non-perishable items for their food pantry. With a little friendly competition, Shadeville students were able to collect over 8,000 food items! The classes that collected the most items in each grade level got to "pie" Mr. Weaver and Mrs. Rodgers in the face. It was messy, but well worth it to support our local families!

April brought more than showers, it also brought the third annual Fun Run to Shadeville. The Fun Run combines fundraising and the importance of staying healthy to raise money to support our students in the classroom. The students had a blast running laps and encouraging each other to do their best. Through the Fun Run and Basket ticket sales, our students met the school wide goal and earned the chance to soak Mr. Weaver and Mrs. Rodgers! Each student in the school was allowed to throw a water balloon at either administrator during lunch! It was fun, but so very cold!

To wrap up the school year, Shadeville celebrated our students with end of the year awards. Students were recognized for their grades, citizenship, work habits, ICT certifications, perfect attendance and more! Lastly, we bid farewell to our Fifth graders with our traditional Graduation Ceremony. We wish our Warriors the best of luck in Middle School, we know that they will make us proud as they progress to becoming War Eagles!

NICHOLAS WEAVER - PRINCIPAL



The 2021-2022 school year was another great year to be a Bear at Riversprings Middle School under the direction of our dynamic administration team of Josh Sandgren as Principal and Bethany Pafford as Assistant Principal, Camden Smit as Associate Dean of Student Services, and Jessica Wells as Associate Dean of Discipline. We welcomed 17 new staff members to our Bear Family. Veteran teacher Carol Allen was named Teacher of the Year for RMS.

Two RMS Special Olympics athletes, along with their unified partners, qualified for the state games in Orlando in May 2022. Both athletes and their partners received medals in their events. Hannah Barlow (partner Savannah Giddens) earned Silver medals in Bocce Ball. Taylie Oaks (Partner Tristan Bower) earned Gold medals, also in Bocce Ball.

Our AVID students visited the Tuskegee Airmen and went to visit the FAMU college campus. The FSU softball team also visited with our AVID students. Dr. Brickler came to speak with our student body during Black History Month.

Colt Giddens placed first in this year's Coastal Optimist Club Oratorical Contest. He went on to represent Wakulla County in the district and regional competitions. The Coastal Optimist Club also sponsors an essay competition, and DJ Davis took home first place, Colt Giddens placed second, and Lillian Watters placed third for the district.

The Riversprings Band program had another successful year. RMS again fielded three bands, Symphonic, Concert, and Beginning Band, as well as a Jazz band that rehearsed only one day a week after school. These bands put on 3 concerts for parents and community throughout the year, and the Symphonic Band performed their songs in front of judges and earned an Excellent rating. RMS had 11 Band students participate in Solo and Ensemble where they performed a solo in front of a Judge. Emily Zak, Daniel Allen, Colt Giddens, Hannah Crook, Matthew Thaxton, Jamie Cooper, Trenton Wells, Dean Blumenthal, and Seth Kendrick scored a rating of Superior, and Tori Barone and Aislyn Hamilton scored a rating of Excellent. The RMS Jazz band also performed in the Wakulla County Celebration of the Arts.

Art students created a display honoring September 11, and an Art Club was created for students to further their interest in all things art. Drama club performed two short plays, Ten Ways to Survive the End of the World and The Boy Who Cried Werewolf, in the fall, and the musical, Cinderella, in the spring.

RMS athletic teams had another outstanding year. RMS Football ended the year with a record of 5-3. The RMS Girls Basketball claimed the County Championship and finished the season with a record of 8-4. RMS Girls Softball were 13-3 on the season and finished second in the conference. RMS Girls Soccer went 14-1 with an almost undefeated season! RMS Boys Basketball completed their season with 12-4 record. RMS Boys Soccer ended the season with an impressive 11-2 record, led by a talented 8th grade class that contributed to 24 wins 4 losses and 2 ties over the past three years. RMS Baseball finished the season with a record of 15-3-1. Cross country had a great season with most the runners setting new Personal Records every meet. Our wrestling team won three of their six tournaments, placed second once and third twice, and brought home a 19th straight County Championship.

RMS Academic Team hosted and competed in several tournaments throughout the year, placing in the top 4 in each tournament, and winning the Wakulla County Tournament sponsored by the Coastal Optimist Club. Once again, the team qualified for the National Championship tournament.

We continued to honor our individual awards at each grade level with in-classroom mini-ceremonies, and the RMS administration held their annual breakfast for the students who earned the top honors in the eighth grade, including the Honor Court, which recognizes students who earned the highest cumulative average over their 6th, 7th, and 8th grade years. All of the departing eighth grade students were celebrated with a picnic in Bear Park on the last full day of school.

RMS would like to thank all of the staff and community for all of the hard work that made this year the best it could be, and we are looking forward to the new school year!





Wakulla Middle School was ALL IN this year engaging faculty members and students to work together to build relationships and to accomplish academic success. Our school welcomed a new principal, Simeon Nelson and a new assistant principal, Priscilla Tucker. They supported an environment centered around a culture of learning, relationship building, and high expectations. As a school, we were thrilled to have them join our wildcat family! WMS would also like to give a shoutout to our teachers who planned and implemented engaging lessons for our students. Thank you to our parents for volunteering and dedicating time to support our students with their learning. Thank you to our students for challenging themselves. We could not be prouder of our Wildcat Family and the dedication they had for the school this year!

Our very own 8th Grade Math Teacher, Nicole Dissmore, was honored as Wakulla Middle School's Teacher of the Year! Mrs. Dissmore believes in showing her students the importance of mathematics to solve real world challenges. Her dedication to understanding her students' needs and teaching them based on their level is what makes her stand out! Mrs. Dissmore is also WMS' Drama Director. She directed and choreographed this year's production of Beauty and the Beast. We could not be prouder to have a teacher like her working at WMS, her prestige knowledge and unique implementation of the standards make an impact both inside and outside the classroom. In October, we recognized Barbara Cook. Ms. Cook is an outstanding Civics and Math teacher at WMS! She provides the students with engaging activities that make the students understand our judicial system, laws, and government. Ms. Cook also is the Yearbook sponsor! Often you will find her behind the lens of a camera at many extracurricular events taking pictures and chatting with parents and students! Ms. Cook is a prime example of the motto "All In!" She is always willing to do her part! We are thankful to have her at WMS! In February, we celebrated Bill Peck as the Teacher of the Month. Mr. Peck is an 8th grade Geography teacher and our Athletic Director. Bill Peck is most definitely a fan favorite among the students! You will hear 8th grade students saying, "I hope we get Coach Peck this year!" Coach Peck dedicates a lot of his free time investing in our athletes and motivating them to work hard, have fun, and do their best. He strives for student leaders and is a role model for many kids. Wakulla Middle School is lucky to have many amazing teachers working at our school. Wakulla Middle School's academic achievement is evident in our school through each content area. This year, our school ranked higher than the state's average for all content areas tested. This could not have been done without our teachers working diligently to meet the needs of all students and our students committing to working hard. Wakulla Middle School's ability to differentiate instruction, work with parents, and make learning enjoyable is what we are all about! At the conclusion of our school year, we celebrated our 8th grade students with an award ceremony. The ceremony recognized student leaders, athletes, and academic excellence.

This school year, our school was able to host pep rallies, dances, and many other events in person! We were excited to have everyone together again to celebrate successes and have a good time as a school. One special event we put on was our African American Heritage Rally. The FAMU gospel choir came and performed for the students and Mr. Royle King, a motivational speaker, discussed leadership and excellence. Another exciting event was when some of our 8th grade students visited the Tuskegee Air exhibit Flightline Tallahassee put on at the airport. Our students learned about the accomplishments and contributions of the Tuskegee Airmen had to America's armed forces.

Wakulla Middle School believes in empowering students to branch out and try new clubs and sports. We believe that students can succeed both in the classroom and outside of the classroom. This year, our track team won the district's conference which qualified them for the State championship! Coach Isaacs and Coach Ferguson worked tirelessly to coach them on skills and strategies of running, jumping, and throwing. With the support of the community, they were able to travel down to south Florida and compete! We were thrilled to represent Wakulla in this competition! Our Brain Bowl and Odyssey of the Mind teams worked hard to strategize and solve problems. Both teams competed against other teams in our district and state. Special shout out to Jennifer Anderson, Lara Davis, Samantha Babiez, and Morgan Jackson for committing to these students and training them to compete in academic challenges! This year, our school had 27 million word readers. Our top student from each month combined averaged over 700,000 words per month! Our drama club put on the production of Beauty and the Beast this past spring! All the set, costumes, and dances were created by the students. The show was a huge success and brought in crowds from all over the county! We are so proud of our students for this huge accomplishment.

This year was a transformation year for Wakulla Middle School. We came together as a team, held our students and faculty to high standards, and built meaningful relationships with our students. We envisioned a place for ALL students to come, feel welcomed, and to grow. To our parents and community, we are proud to serve the students we have on our campus each day. Thank you for trusting us with your children! Wildcats... ALL IN!!





During her speech to the Class of 2022, Principal Michele Falk conveyed the wisdom of NBA legend Michael Jordon by sharing his quote, "Some people want it to happen. Some wish it would happen, and others make it happen." While this message was imparted to graduating seniors as they embark on their post-high school endeavors, this sentiment could be seen and felt in the classroom and hallways of Wakulla High School throughout the 2021-2022 school year. Wakulla High School has made things happen.

ACADEMICS Wakulla High School—after two turbulent years of navigating the educational challenges faced as residuals from the global pandemic—earned a "B" grade from the Florida Department of Education. Demonstrating notable academic achievement, WHS students scored well above state proficiency percentages in the state testing areas of geometry, biology, and U.S. history. As a result of its well-rounded academic performance, our class of 2022 boasts an impressive graduation rate of 95.6%, graduating 317 of its seniors. Stephen Hartwein was named Valedictorian and Samantha Piotrowski was Salutatorian.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION Wakulla High School is without a doubt a leader in Career Tech Education and because of its successful CTE programs the Triumph Gulf Coast Board awarded Wakulla County School Board a \$20 million grant to create the War Eagle Career Academy. The Academy, to be located at Wakulla High School, will provide expanded career and technical education for Wakulla and Franklin County in partnership with Lively Technical College. Wakulla High School and Wakulla County School Board were awarded this grant for their outstanding innovation and attainment in Career Tech Education.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS With the guidance of their teachers and counselors, several War Eagles proudly represented Wakulla High School at the community, state, and national levels. Jason Oliver and Robert Babcock were chosen to represent Wakulla County at the American Legion's Boy State. Dawn Moody was honored as Wakulla School District's 202 Sunshine State Scholar. She was one of 103 juniors statewide to earn this prestigious award. Jaden Callaghan and Olivia Vaughn were selected to represent Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc. at the 2018 NRECA (National Rural Electric Cooperative Association) National Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. This year Superintendent Pearce awarded Briyaun Butler-Moore a new Superintendent Scholarship sponsored by Florida Prepaid. This 1-Year Florida College scholarship prepays tuition and local fees for 30 semester credit hours at any of the 28 Florida Colleges. Markedly, Salem Ransom and Rebekah Houston from Mrs. Christa Gauger's Geometry classes won gift card prizes through Math Nation's "Test Yourself" Geometry EOC Practice competition. This competition was held throughout the State of Florida.

THE ARTS Wakulla High School's arts department continued to shine in the 2021-2022 school year. Our theatre department saw the impressive participation of over 100 students in their three produced shows, Harvey, Charlotte's Webb, and Freak Friday. Troupe 5036 had an outstanding showing at districts this year and returned with three Critics Choice awards and five of its members earned superiors for either their solo or group performances at State Competition. Our Wakulla War Eagles band program saw much growth and success this school year with our new Director of Bands Josephy Kennedy. During the Fall of 2021, they earned the highest rating possible of straight Superiors in their assessment at the Marching Band District Music Performance Assessment (MPAs).

ATHLETICS Many of our athletic teams dominated their seasons this year. The Cross Country girls team took 1st place overall in 3 out of 7 regular season races. They achieved 3rd place in the district meet, 6th place in the regional meet allowing them to advance to the State meet where they placed 23rd in all of 3A! The boys placed 2nd overall in 3 out of 7 regular season races. They placed 8th in the district meet advancing to the regional meet where they placed 15th. Softball made it to the Sweet 16 regional playoff landing them in the top 16 teams in the state! Varsity football played in the Elite 8 regional championship, making them one of the top 8 teams in the state. This year, Wakulla High School had 14 student athletes awarded scholarships. Wakulla High School named Victoria Dichio Female Student Athlete of the year and Braden Lawhon was named Male Student Athlete of the year.

EXTRA-CURRICULARS Extra-curricular activities and clubs enjoyed many remarkable accomplishments during 2021-2022. Mu Alpha Theta, a Math Honor Society, was added to our list of extra-curricular opportunities for students. Sponsor, Barbie Hartsfield, had 17 members inducted in its inaugural year. Wakulla High School's Navy Junior ROTC Program helped establish a satellite unit at Franklin County High School as "Detachment Eastpoint." As a detachment, the new program in Franklin County relied on regular teaching visits from Captain Bradley Martin and Master Sgt. Robert Lane. WHS's FIRST Robotics Team competed at FAMU-FSU College of Engineering FIRST Robotics Competition held at FAMU in March. The event featured robots built by high school

students from across the Southeast, plus one team from Hawaii.

SOARING FORWARD It is evident Wakulla High School had a successful 2021-2022 school year. Looking onward there is an undeniable air of excitement and anticipation for what Wakulla High will make happen in the upcoming school year. Our Wakulla War Eagles will continue to soar forward by seizing excellent educational and social opportunities provided to them at Wakulla High School.

WAKULLA INSTITUTE

Wakulla Institute's administration, faculty and staff foster a nontraditional learning environment that meets the needs of each individual student while upholding academic integrity and promoting instructional innovation while addressing social and behavioral student needs.

Wakulla Institute has a fluid population that changes constantly and is made up of three different programs: IMPACT, Pathways, and the Graduation Deferment Program. IMPACT is a voluntary program developed to help students master skills required to receive course credit(s) Teachers provide computer-based and direct instruction through individual or small group instruction. Pathways is a disciplinary program and serves as an alternative to suspension and/or expulsion (Grades K-12) for students who demonstrate problems with discipline. The Graduation Deferment Program is a program developed for qualified students with Individualized Educational Plans that have meet graduation requirements but need continued support until the age of 22.

Wakulla Institute welcomed a new leader to the school in 2021-2022. Tolar Griffin became the administrator at Wakulla Institute. It was a successful school year. Over 70% of the students in the IMPACT and Pathways programs successfully completed their intervention program and returned to their zoned school. Wakulla Institute also increased its Federal Graduation Index score to 91%. The Graduation Deferment Program successfully reopened the Legacy Café in the 2021-2022 school year.

WAKULLA COUNTY ADULT EDUCATION

Wakulla County Adult Education serves students ages 16 and over by providing student centered GED preparation classes. Wakulla County Adult Education offers adult GED day classes in Crawfordville as well as night classes in Panacea. The Crawfordville location also serves as one of the areas only Pearson Certified GED testing centers.

The Crawfordville location is also home to the Legacy Boutique and Adults with Disabilities Program.

Wakulla County Adult Education welcomed a new leader in the 2021-2022 school year. Tolar Griffin became the new coordinator of Adult and Community Education. It was a great year at Wakulla County Adult Education. Twenty-four students earned a high school diploma by passing the GED exam. In May,

Wakulla County Adult Education held a graduation ceremony in the historic Crawfordville Elementary School auditorium. Students were able to fulfill there dream of walking across the stage and graduating from Wakulla County Schools.



TOLAR GRIFFIN- COORDINATOR OF ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION WAKULLA ADULT & COMMUNITY ED



The theme for the 2021-2022 school year was "Pre-K Rocks!". Our focus was to teach students that learning can be fun and entertaining. Having this mindset for the year, the teachers developed lessons to keep students engaged and having fun, leading to a very successful year.

Our students enjoyed many school-wide events; Halloween Dress Up Week was a huge success in October, Johnny Appleseed Day celebrated in September, and Polar Express Day rounded out the fun in December. In March Wakulla County Pre-K celebrated Dr. Seuss with a week of dress up that we're sure Dr. Seuss would've been proud to see. Students, faculty and staff all participated and dressed to express their favorite Dr. Seuss books. Family Fun Day in April was a huge success! A big thank you to our fabulous parents, students, teachers and staff for giving so generously and making it the best that it could be.

An "in-house" field trip occurred as we welcomed Wakulla County Emergency Management with a fire truck, an ambulance, a fire rescue truck, and firemen to demonstrate the proper way to avoid fires and be safe.

Students also had a gardening project where they planted gardens of tomatoes, lettuce, bell peppers, eggplant, strawberries and carrots to eat at school for snack. The students painted planters for "Project Learning Tree" and were able to watch their gardens grow in their unique grow box. It was a tremendous learning experience from start to finish!

Pre-K celebrated the outstanding work efforts of Ms. Michelle Pitts as she was recognized as the Teacher of the Year for Wakulla Pre-K. Cynthia Foster was the October 2021 Employee of the Month due to her hard work and dedication to the students and our school. Each award recipient is selected by a majority vote of

their peers. Wakulla Pre-K is very fortunate to have such a diverse, dedicated, and talented educational teaching staff who provide a safe, fun, play-based learning environment on a daily basis.

The Wakulla County Pre-K would like to thank all stakeholders for their support during a very trying year. With support from the entire community, we were able to make it through a year that has been like no other. We look forward to having a wonderful school year as things begin to get back to normal.

LOUIS HERNANDEZ - PRINCIPAL
WAKULLA PRESCHOOL

Keiser Memorial Abigail Hatfield Gilbert Memorial Sara Neet Distler Golf Kanoa Tucker **Anita Townsend Nursing** Margaret Gaynor C.L. Townsend Vocational Kaitlyn Newell Bonner Memorial Vocational Mason Herron Dr. James Brann Vocational **Emily Fondo** Paul DuBay Memorial **Cameron Tetrault** Jill Alexander/Frances Pearce Memorial Margaret Gaynor Roger Stokley Memorial Brayden Lawhon Wakulla Cattleman Association Mason Herron Wakulla County Electred Officials **Cameron Tetrault** Frank and Alice Veasman Star Abigail Hatfield **Optimist Club Star Camryn Grimes Optimist Club Annual Gary Clary** Noah and Mildred Posey Optimist **Andrew Buchleitner** Ernest and Miriah Koelliker Memorial Joshua Fielder WAB Steve and Kathy Brown Ashlyn Speigner Elsie Schulte Annual Hannah Francis Pee Wee Vause Annual Stephen Hartwein Tanya English Memorial **Alexis Davis** Paul Parker Team **Brooke Roddenberry Daniels Educator** Gabriella Jacobs Wakulla County Realtors Association Annual Victoria Dichio Brynna Paiano Te'Anna Williams William Sorrell Sara Neet **Ejaveon Olds** Briyaun Butler-Moore

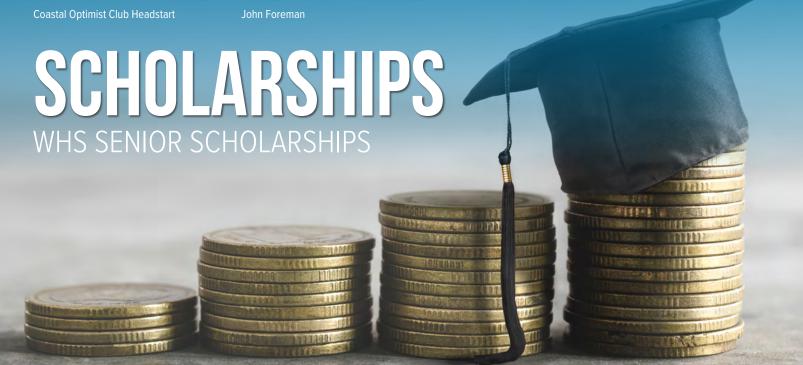
Carol Butler Memorial AirCon Justice B.K. Roberts Headstart Mary L. Roberts Headstart Walter C. Dodson Headstart Harry Morrison Headstart Pat Nobles Headstart Gabriella Jacobs St. Marks Powder Headstart Makenzie Thompson Wakulla Chamber of Commerce Headstart K'loni Timmons Wakulla Men's Association Headstart

Authentic Life Church Haylee Maloy Friends of the Wakulla Public Library Victoria Dichio **Bluewater Realty** Caleb McLean Sopchoppy Worm Gruntin' Jackson Roberson Panacea Waterfronts Gage Pitman Allie Byrd **National Honor Society** Gabriella Jacobs Wakulla County Arts Coalition Brynna Paiano, Lily Nichols Crawfordville Woman's Club Ashlyn Speigner, Te'Anna Williams Crawfordville Elementary School Ashlyn Speigner, Abigail Hatfield **Riversprings Middle School Laural Gray** Wakulla Chamber of Commerce Briyaun Butler-Moore Joshua Douin Memorial Scholarship Aenon Tsahakis, Brooke Brannan Rufus Williams Memorial Scholarship Te'Anna Williams Mike Falk Memorial Scholarship Steven Parrish Houston Taff Memorial Scholarship Softball Alyssa Berryman Houston Taff Memorial Scholarship Baseball Brayden Lawhon Randolph Nelson Memorial Scholarship Gary Clary, Briyaun Butler-Moore Dayna Snell Memorial Scholarship Kylee Pitman Paul Hoover Memorial Scholarship Clara Alford **Delta Sigma Theta Sorority** Hannah Francis, Te'Anna Williams FASFEPA Vivian Scott Scholarship T'e'Anna Williams Interact Rotary Club Ryan Ly Take Stock in Children Sara Chipps, Kayla Adams, Kinsley Bass Superintendent's Florida Prepaid Scholarship Briyaun Butler-Moore Henry Vause Emily Fondo, Madison Copeland, **Peyton Davenport** Guy H. Hudson Briyaun Butler-Moore Grady F. McKenzie Hailey Ryals G.F. McKenzie Vocational Sara Neet McKenzie Star Annika Matlock

Kyle Randolph

Kaitlyn Newell

John Foreman



Wildwood Men's Golf Association

Frank Snyder Memorial

Wakulla Men's Association

SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES

The 2021-22 school year was an exceptional one in the Student Services and Exceptional Student Education Department! The goal of the ESE department is always to ensure that students with disabilities are provided with all the excellent educational opportunities that general education students in the Wakulla County School system enjoy.

The Legacy Café and the Legacy Boutique were able to return to regular operations for the 2021-22 school year, providing training opportunities for students with disabilities to develop employable skills through hands on participation in all facets of the food service industry and obtain paid positions. Students participating in the Legacy Café plan the menu, shop for the food and supplies, prepare and serve the food, collect money, and perform the maintenance duties (laundry, dish-washing and cleaning). Participating students come from the Wakulla High School Exceptional Student Education Program and the Program for Adults with Disabilities. Adults with Disabilities create hand crafted items and sell them in our community.

October is Disability Awareness Month and the Wakulla School District celebrated in several ways. Short videos that promote inclusion were shown in all schools and students participated in engaging class activities to teach about various disabilities. White Cane Awareness Day was held Oct. 15th. White Cane Awareness Day emphasizes the critical role that this tool plays in visually impaired individuals living with independence and informing the students about its true significance.

On December 9th students with disabilities from Wakulla High School and Wakulla Institute visited the FDLRS building in Tallahassee and showcased their entrepreneur skills. Students from the Legacy Café took orders, prepared and delivered lunches to the staff at the FDLRS building. The Legacy Boutique set up a display and sold handmade holiday crafts to FDLRS and FLDOE staff. Students created every item offered in the boutique, ranging from various types of soap, sugar scrub, and wooden soap dishes to handcrafted jewelry and stamped spoons, plus many holiday gifts.

MENTAL HEALTH

The mental and emotional health of Wakulla County Students has always been important, but in the midst of a pandemic it has become a top priority. The Mental Health Team gave a Wellness Assessment to every student in the district in the Fall of 2020 and then followed up with anyone reporting a low score. Our school social workers continued to stay busy throughout the year, completing 577 mental health screenings and making 552 counseling referrals. They also maintained a caseload for counseling, facilitated re-entry meetings and responded to crisis situations. The Mental Health Coordinator worked with local agencies to make sure that needed services were in place and helped families overcome obstacles related to services. Due to the growing mental health concerns of students, a Mental Wellness Review Committee was also established to help with discipline issues related to mental health. Wakulla County has always been on the cutting edge in educational advancements and that continues with the increased focus on mental health.

cypes of soup, sugar scrub, and wooden soup dishes to handerafted jeweny and stamped spoons, plus many honday girls.

On February 23rd Special Olympics were held at Wakulla High School. Wakulla County's Special Olympics athletes and their partners competed in an exciting day of track and field events and Bocce. In May, Wakulla's Special Olympics team competed in the Statewide games in Orlando, Florida.



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"

TITLE I OVERVIEW

Title I is a federally funded educational program designed to provide supplemental funds to assist schools with helping students meet the state's challenging academic standards. The amount of money given to each school depends on the number of students from low-income families enrolled in the school. The goal of Title I is to increase student achievement through effective instruction, professional development for staff, and parent and family engagement.

WAKULLA COUNTY'S TITLE I SCHOOLS

- Crawfordville Elementary School
- Medart Elementary School
- Riversink Elementary School
- Shadeville Elementary School
- COAST Charter School

PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Wakulla County School District recognizes the importance of parent and family engagement. Research shows that when schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to perform better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more. Parent and family engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities.

In 2021-2022, due to contined safety protocols stemming from the pandemic, Title I schools hosted virtual events with embeded 'links to learning' to help parents learn how to help their children at home.

• 2022-2023 Title 1 Events •

Wakulla County School District is thrilled to announce that all Title 1 schools will host in-person events for the 22-23 school year. Look out for the event announcements on school websites, social media, newsletters, and each school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan.

GENERAL INFORMATION

SCHOOL/PROGRAM ENROLLMENT FOR DISTRICT

	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
Crawfordville Elementary	553	550	583	609	617	652
Riversink Elementary	482	468	455	498	472	499
Shadeville Elementary	576	593	604	610	579	617
Medart Elementary	517	517	478	402	341	413
Riversprings Middle School	507	516	539	572	557	551
Wakulla Middle School	588	570	512	525	508	514
Wakulla High School	1412	1445	1462	1412	1441	1389
District Pre-K Program	321	319	270	271	328	265
Total	5004	5063	4961	4939	4891	?



- **▼ COMMUNICATE:** Keep in touch with your child's teacher through telephone, e-mail, and parent-teacher conferences.
- BE AN EXAMPLE: Show your child that education is important by attending Title I events, reading at home, and showing your child that you support his/her progress in school.
- ✓ VOLUNTEER: Help at your child's school.
- **LEARN:** How to help your child with classwork, homework, and future educational plans.
- ✓ GET INVOLVED: Join and/or participate in School Advisory Council meetings and other school/parent organizations.



2021-2022 TITLE I VIRTUAL EVENTS

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING — Families learned about the Title I program and how it helps our schools.

READ, WAKULLA! – Families learned about the importance of reading and how to improve their child's reading skills at home.

STEM NIGHT – Families learned about a free science resource called Mystery Science and participated in a science activity with their child.

GET MOVING WITH MATH – Families learned math strategies to help support their child mastering grade-level standards.

BUMP-UP NIGHT - Families took a peek into next year's expectations and learned how to prevent the "summer slide."

ASSESSMENT

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).

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.

2021-2022 district and school performance reports can be accessed on Florida Department of Education's "Know Your Schools" portal at www.edudata.fldoe.org.

Know Your Schools

Find and Compare Florida Public Schools

Search by Zip Code, School, or City



2020-2021 GRADUATION RATE

Wakulla High School exceeds the State's graduation rate by 5.6%.

2020-2021 GRADUATION RATE				
Wakulla High School	95.7%			
State	90.1%			

AMERICAN COLLEGE TEST 2020

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

	WAKULLA	STATE
English	20.5	19.9
Math	19.9	19.6
Reading	22.5	21.4
Science	20.9	20.1
Composite	21.4	20.4

VPK-2 ADMINISTRATION

- The FAST VPK assessments will be aligned to the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards. The Kindergarten and grades 1 and 2 assessments will be aligned to the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards.
- ▼FAST VPK-2 assessments are Renaissance's Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and Star Mathematics.
- Tests will be computer-adaptive, administered through a web browser (headphones required, but only for VPK-2).



Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, students will be assessed using Coordinated Screening Progress Monitoring System assessments, which are aligned to the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards. FAST assessments include VPK through grade 10 English Language Arts and VPK through grade 8 Mathematics. FAST assessments will be administered three times per year, the first (PM1) will occur within the first 30 days of school; the second (PM2) will occur in the middle of the school year, and the third (PM3) will occur at the end of the school year.

GRADES 3-10 ADMINISTRATION

- Each subject-area test (Reading, Writing and Math) will be administered in one session.
- PM1 and PM2 will be used for informational purposes only and will not be used in accountability.
- ✓ PM3 will be a summative assessment used for accountability purposes (2023 is a baseline year).
- Tests will be computer-adaptive through Cambium's Test Delivery System (TDS) secure browser.
- € EOCs and 5th & 8th grade Science are not part of FAST.