

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE

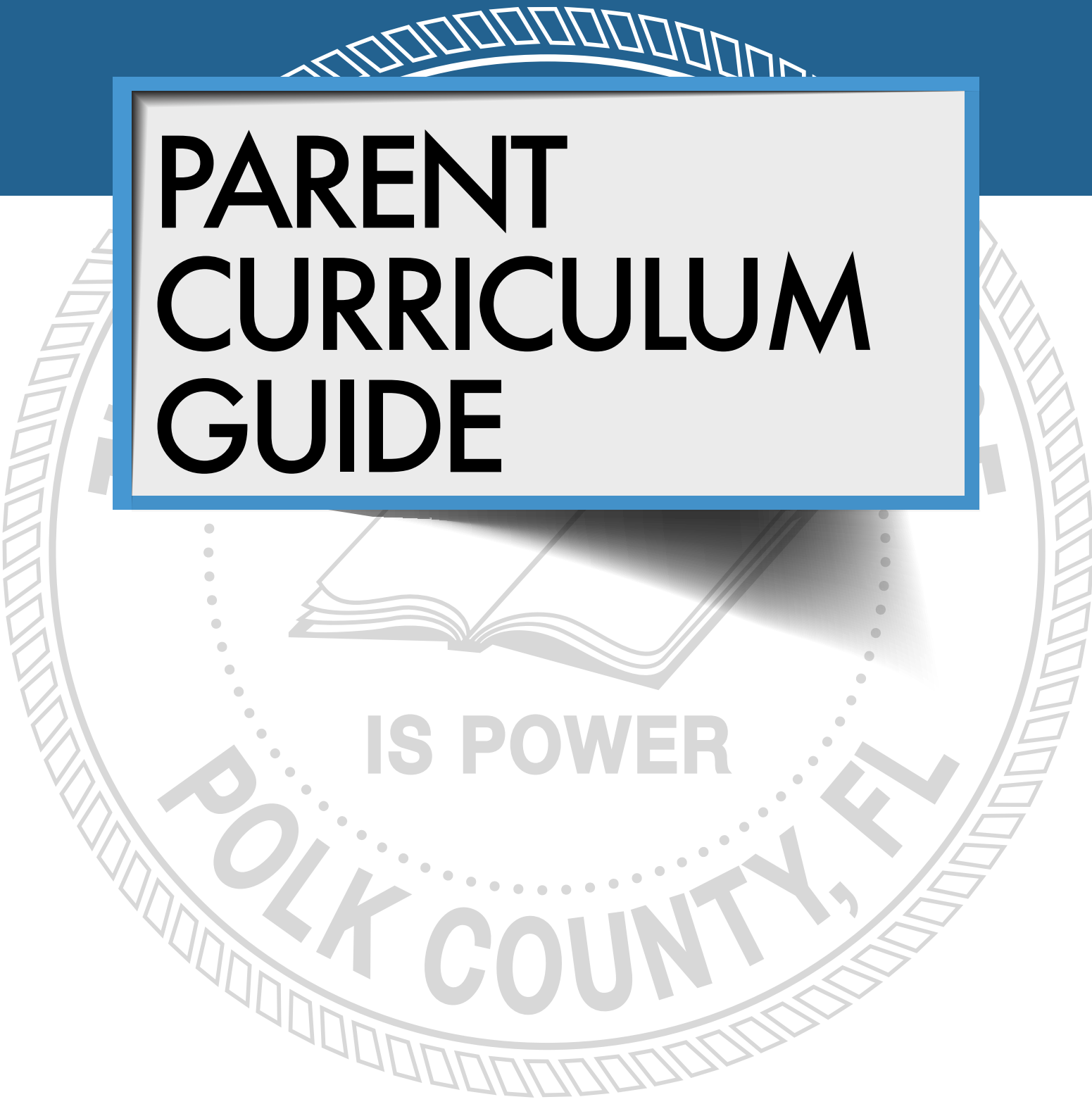
POLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
KEYS TO SUCCESS

POLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PHONE: (863) 534-0500

WEBSITE: WWW.POLK-FL.NET

Revised Oct. 2017

The background of the page features a large, faint, light gray seal of Polk County, Florida. The seal is circular with a decorative border of small squares. Inside the seal, there is an illustration of an open book with a beam of light shining down on it. Below the book, the words "IS POWER" are written in a serif font. At the bottom of the seal, the words "POLK COUNTY, FL" are written in a serif font, following the curve of the bottom edge.

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE

Polk County Public Schools

TABLE OF CONTENTS

p1 School Calendar

p2 Parent Resources

Helping at Home
Parent Portal
Parent Self-Assessment
Right to Know
Teacher Qualifications
Getting Involved at School

p6 Information Parents Need

Enrollment
Controlled Open Enrollment
School Attendance
School Uniforms
School Transportation
Free and Reduced-Price Meal Program
School Supplies
Help for Struggling Students
School Counseling Program
Health Immunizations

p8 Polk Educational Options

Office of Acceleration and Innovation
Office of Multiple Pathways Education

p10 Learning Support

Title 1
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
Exceptional Student Education (ESE)

p12 Schools by Area

Polk County Public Schools
Magnet and Choice Schools
Charter Schools

p14 Elementary (PreK - 5)

Preschool Programs
Curriculum

p15 Middle School (6 - 8)

Curriculum
Academics
High School Courses Taken in Middle School
Magnet Schools
Elective Choices
Extracurricular Student Activities

p18 High School (9 -12)

Schedules
Transfer Students
Diplomas, Certificates, and Designations
Eligibility to Participate in After-School
Athletics and Activities
Seal of Biliteracy
Credit Acceleration Program (CAP)

p22 State Required Performance

Statewide Assessments
Florida Statewide Assessment (FSA) Links

p24 Grade System and Reporting

Grading Scale
Interim Reporting
Regular Reporting
Reporting Student Retention
Honor Roll
Course Recovery, Grade Recovery,
and Grade Forgiveness
Grade Calculations

p27 Promotion and Retention

Reading Proficiency
Retention
Progress Monitoring Plans

PARENT
CURRICULUM
GUIDE

SCHOOL CALENDAR

2017 - 2018

AUGUST

- 8 Student Orientation
- 10 First Day of School

SEPTEMBER

- 4 Student Holiday
- 11 Interim Reports (through Sept. 15th)
- 13 Student Early Release
- 18 Student Holiday

OCTOBER

- 16 Student Holiday
- 24 Distribute Report Cards

NOVEMBER

- 10 Student Holiday
- 13 Interim Reports (through Nov. 17th)
- 20 *Holiday (through Nov. 24th)

DECEMBER

- 21 Last day before Winter Holidays

JANUARY

- 4 Students return after Winter Holidays
- 15 Student Holiday
- 17 Distribute Report Cards

FEBRUARY

- 5 Interim Reports Week (through Feb. 9th)
- 19 Student Holiday
- 26 *Student Holiday

MARCH

- 26 Spring Break (through March 30th)

APRIL

- 3 Distribute Report Cards
- 14 Student Holiday
- 23 Interim Reports (through April 27th)

MAY

- 17 Graduations (through May 24th)
- 24 Last Day for Students

*Storm make-up days (if needed): November 20 & 21, February 26

PARENT RESOURCES

HELPING AT HOME

Find resources to support your child's learning in language arts, mathematics and science at:
www.floridastudents.org

For more information regarding the Florida Standards go to
www.cpalms.org/Public

The district's curriculum is based on the Florida Standards/Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. These standards, developed by the state of Florida, outline what students should know and be able to do at all grade levels and in all subject areas, including reading, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, health, fine arts and physical education.

Kindergarten

- Read books together and talk about the pictures
- While reading to your child, take time to ask questions and listen to the answers
- Play rhyming word games
- Make an alphabet book with your child
- Point out words and shapes on signs, cereal boxes, magazines and other items in daily life
- Count and sort objects
- Talk about why we have rules at home and at school

2nd Grade

- Ask your child to re-read a paragraph or page to build fluency
- Help your child learn correct spelling of words
- Help your child use a dictionary
- Ask questions about what your child has read or have your child ask questions
- Practice addition and subtraction facts up to 20 and multiplying 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 times 10
- Help your child measure items around the house
- Encourage your child to write often
- Find where you live on a map

4th & 5th Grade

- Ask your child about their day by asking him/ her to share at least one thing learned
- Read a variety of text with your child, both stories and informational text
- Review vocabulary words, spelling words and mathematics facts
- Provide your child with opportunities to write
- After your child completes mathematics homework, ask him/her to explain how he/she solved the problems

1st Grade

- Read to and with your child, stopping often to talk about what you have read
- Play word games like blending sounds to make a word and replacing a letter to make a new word
- Encourage your child to write often (letters, notes, lists and stories)
- Involve your child in budget planning, shopping and measurement activities
- Provide your child with an allowance and let him/her plan how to spend it
- Play games that improve number sense, such as dominoes
- Contact your child's teacher about concerns
- Talk to your child about why we celebrate holidays

3rd Grade

- Help your child learn the correct spelling of words
- Help your child use a dictionary and thesaurus
- Read often with your child and stop while reading to discuss what your child has read
- Give your child opportunities to estimate items in the house—candy in a jar, socks in a drawer, etc.
- Give your child opportunities to measure items at home—the length of the table, the height of a chair, the weight of a box, etc.
- Review basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts
- Have your child create mathematics problems and then work together to solve them
- Provide writing opportunities for your child
- Talk to your child about why people vote in elections

PARENT RESOURCES

PARENT
CURRICULUM
GUIDE

Middle School

- Communicate expectations often
- Require your child to read something that interests them for 30 minutes each day
- Have your child read aloud to you, or to a sibling
- Be sure your child has at least 8 uninterrupted hours of sleep at night
- Involve your child in activities that involve measurement, such as cooking and building
- Provide a place and a time for your child to study every day that is away from noise and distractions
- Be sure your child has at least 8 uninterrupted hours of sleep at night
- Be sure your child comes to school and arrives on time; try to avoid checking your child out before the school day is over
- Ask about your child's homework and tests
- Promote high achievement and academic goals

High School

- Set long-term and short-term goals:
 - Long-Term Example: Get into a University, Graduate high school with a 3.0 GPA
 - Short-Term Example: Get a B in Algebra, Earn Industry Certification in career class
- Encourage participation in student organizations
- Discuss career aspirations and outline pathways to achieve those goals
- Connect with your child's guidance counselor and stay up-to-date on graduation requirements
- Encourage enrollment in higher level honors and AP courses when appropriate
- Require your child to read something that interests them for 30 minutes each day
- Help your child develop study strategies such as reviewing notes, using flashcards, or studying with a classmate or family member
- Ask about your child's homework and tests
- Login and check Parent Portal at least once a week

HELPING AT HOME (cont.)

PARENT PORTAL

 Log on to Parent Portal at:
parent.mypolkschools.net

PARENT PORTAL

From kindergarten through high school, parents can access student information using the Parent Portal online. It's as easy as 1-2-3...

1. Obtain the one-time use PIN for each of your students by visiting his or her school, or by obtaining the PIN Request form from school.
2. Create an account, if you don't already have one. Your username will be emailed to you once registration is Complete.
3. Attach your student(s) to your POLK-ID account by following the on-screen instructions after step 2.



PARENT RESOURCES

PARENT SELF-ASSESSMENT

Academics

- ☐ I require my child to complete homework assignments.
- ☐ I encourage reading at home.
- ☐ My child has a consistent time and place to do homework.
- ☐ I ask to see my child's schoolwork.
- ☐ I talk to my child about schoolwork.
- ☐ I attend workshops to help my child at home.
- ☐ I check backpacks every day.

Behavior

- ☐ I limit TV, video time and non-academic computer time.
- ☐ I expect my child to be respectful, work hard and be responsible.
- ☐ I read the Code of Conduct.
- ☐ I enforce school behavioral expectations.

Attitude

- ☐ I stress the importance of education and doing well in school.
- ☐ I believe my child will do well in school.
- ☐ I help my child set educational goals.
- ☐ Our family celebrates academic accomplishments.

Building Responsibility

- ☐ My child has a nutritious breakfast each morning.
- ☐ My child has a regular routine that includes chores, homework, family time and bedtime.
- ☐ My child accepts responsibility for his/her actions.
- ☐ My child attends school and is on time every day.

School/Home Connections

- ☐ I update address & phone numbers with the school office.
- ☐ I communicate regularly with my child's teacher.
- ☐ I respond promptly to requests for information.
- ☐ I attend teacher conferences, ESE staffings or other meetings to help my child succeed.
- ☐ I attend open houses, science fairs, musical events, class trips, sporting events, curriculum nights and other school activities.
- ☐ I volunteer in the school when possible.
- ☐ I read everything that comes home from school.
- ☐ I attend school events in which my child participates.

PARENT RESOURCES

PARENT
CURRICULUM
GUIDE

Dear Parents,

You have the right to know the professional qualifications of the educators who instruct your child. Federal law allows you to obtain certain information in a timely manner about your child's classroom teachers and instructional assistants/paraprofessionals. You have the right to ask for the following information about each of our child's teachers and instructional assistants/paraprofessionals:

1. The teacher's Florida certification area(s) and, if the teacher is teaching infield/if the teacher is qualified infield according to the District School Board of Polk County.
2. The teacher's college degree(s) and areas of study.
3. The teacher's advanced college degree(s) and areas of study.
4. The qualifications of any instructional assistant/paraprofessionals who provide services to your child.

In addition, you have the right to be provided information on your student's level of achievement on assessments like FSA in reading/language arts, mathematics and science. This information will be available at your child's school.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please send a written request to your child's school.

Parents have the right to request information about the professional qualifications of teachers and teacher assistants. Schools notify parents by letter if a teacher without the required certification is teaching out-of-field for four consecutive weeks.

Volunteer ⓘ

Volunteers are welcomed at our schools. All prospective volunteers must complete an application and submit to a background check. Volunteer approval status is valid at multiple schools within the district. Contact your child's school to learn about their volunteer opportunities and the complete application process.

Parent Organizations

Parent associations make a big impact on school improvement by sponsoring fundraisers and programs for the school. Join at your school today!

School Advisory Councils (SAC)

Schools are required by law to have a School Advisory Council to write the annual School Improvement Plan. Parents are elected to the School Advisory Council every year. Ask your school principal about the election process at your school.

Report Bullying

Bullying is unwanted, offensive, insulting, humiliating behavior which results in the victim feeling stressed, injured or threatened. Bullying behavior must be repetitive. An imbalance of power exists between the victim and aggressor. To report bullying, visit www.polk-fl.net, and search keyword "bullying"

RIGHT TO KNOW

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

GETTING INVOLVED
AT SCHOOL

Office of Public Relations
& Strategic Partnerships:
(863) 534-0636

ⓘ www.polk-fl.net/community/volunteers

INFORMATION PARENTS NEED

ENROLLMENT

Pupil Accounting:
(863) 534-0716

Proof of legal guardianship, birth certificate/proof of age, medical shot record (HRS form 680), two proofs of residency showing guardian's name and street address (utility bill, voter registration card, property tax bill, rental/lease documents, current driver's license), transfer papers from previous school with school's address and phone number. Students entering kindergarten must be five years old on or before September 1 of the school year. Students entering first grade must be 6 on or before September 1st and must have successfully completed kindergarten. All students in the Polk County School District are assigned a specific school location based on where they live.

CONTROLLED OPEN ENROLLMENT

Pursuant to HB 7029

www.polk-fl.net

KEYWORD: "Transfer / COE"

Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, parents seeking additional choice options for their student may apply for placement of their child in any school in the district that has not reached capacity. Schools with capacity will be identified with an "OPEN" status and those schools will be posted on the Polk County web page. The list will be updated yearly. The Controlled Open Enrollment period for Polk residents will be the first Monday thru the last Friday during the month of April. The COE open enrollment period for non-Polk residents will be the first Monday thru the last Friday in May. Placements/transfer assignments will be made through a random lottery system created by District staff. Placement in a COE school is usually granted through the completion of the highest grade at the school where the approval is granted. However, these placements are reviewed each year.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Florida law requires regular attendance for students between the ages of 6 and 16. The responsibility for attendance of students within the compulsory age limit rests primarily with the parent, with support from the teacher, principal, and attendance problem solving team.

EXCUSED ABSENCES	REQUIRED ACTION
Personal Illness	Parent note for days absent
Family death / illness	Parent note for days absent
Chronic/long-term illness	Medical documentation
Parent trips	Pre-approved by principal
Educational trips	Pre-approved by principal
School-sponsored activity	Pre-arranged with administration (student marked "present")
Judicial action	Copy of subpoena or summons. Notice of juvenile detention
Military dependents visits in time of combat duty	Approved by principal
Religious holidays	Prior written notice to principal or teacher

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

*Please check with your child's school for specific uniform requirements

Polk County Schools adopted a uniform policy for elementary and middle schools in 1999. School uniform requirements may vary. Basic Uniform Clothing:

Tops: White or Navy with collar

- Knit polo-type, oxford or dress shirts, blouses, turtlenecks- plain, with no design or writing
- Some school t-shirts are available through school offices

Bottoms: Navy, black or khaki/tan

- Walking shorts, slacks, skorts, skirts, skirted jumpers- plain, solid-color Twill, Corduroy, or Denim.

Other dress code rules:

- Belt is required if the garment has belt loops
- Shirts (including t-shirts) must be tucked-in
- Shorts/skirts must be mid-thigh or longer

INFORMATION PARENTS NEED

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE

Bus schedules are available at your school. Students entering the district after the school year begins should contact Transportation Services.

*Check for bus delays at www.polk-fl.net/parents/transportationservices/busdelays.aspx

Many of our schools participate in the Community Eligibility Provision that allows all students to receive a breakfast and lunch at no charge. For all other schools, parents may apply for free or reduced price meals online at www.polk-fl.net/nutrition or pick up an application at the school.

Please contact your child's school for a list of classroom supply needs.

Using the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), teachers and families work together to find out which skills each student needs to improve and then decide on an intervention plan. Contact your school's school guidance counselor for more information.

Each school offers a counseling program that is designed to promote the academic, social, and career development of all students. As an essential part of the instructional program, school counseling helps to build a foundation for student learning and academic success. Certified school counselors provide a variety of services, including classroom guidance, crisis intervention, individual and group services, support for parents, teachers, and administrators, and coordination of services with outside agencies.

All students entering Polk County Public Schools for the first time need to show proof of a physical exam within the last calendar year. All student immunizations must be up to date to be eligible to attend school in Polk County. Immunizations are recorded on a blue or white 680 form, which can be obtained from the Polk County Health Department, your doctor's office or the online Florida SHOTS program.

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION
Transportation: (863) 534-7300

**FREE & REDUCED-PRICE
MEAL PROGRAM**
Foodservices: (863) 534-0588

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

**HELP FOR STRUGGLING
STUDENTS**

**SCHOOL COUNSELING
PROGRAM**

HEALTH IMMUNIZATIONS
Health Services: (863) 291-5355

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Pre-kindergarten:	DTPs - Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (4) Polio (3) Hib - H. Influenza Type B (4) MMR - Measles, Mumps, Rubella (1) Hepatitis B (3) Varicella - Chicken Pox (1)
Kindergarten and Grades 1-12:	DTPs (5) Polio (4) Hepatitis B (3) MMR (2)
Kindergarten and Grades 1-9:	Varicella (2)
Grades 7-12:	Tdap (1)
Grades 10-12:	Varicella - Chicken Pox (1)

MENINGITIS

Meningococcal disease is the leading cause of bacterial meningitis in children 2-18 years of age in the United States. A dose of MenACWY is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for children and adolescents 11-18 years of age. For those who have never received MenACWY, a dose is recommended at high school entry.

POLK EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

OFFICE OF ACCELERATION AND INNOVATION

www.polk-fl.net

KEYWORD: "School Choice"

For a complete listing of
International Baccalaureate
programs, go to:
www.polk-fl.net
SEARCH: "IB"

Location:
Winter Haven High School ⓘ
Cambridge AICE

www.polk-fl.net ⓘ
KEYWORD: "Home School"

The **Dual Enrollment** program is an acceleration program that allows secondary school students to simultaneously earn credit toward high school completion and a career certificate, or an associate or baccalaureate degree at a Florida public institution. (s. 1007.271 F.S.). Some Dual Enrollment courses may be offered on a high school campus if a certified teacher is available to teach the course and enough students register for the course, otherwise they are offered at certain postsecondary campuses. Students take entry-level college courses to earn high school and college credit. The student does not pay the college's application fee, tuition or book fee. Some Dual Enrollment courses completed may not transfer equally to all post-secondary institutions that a student may attend for college. Please see your school counselor for more information and program requirements.

The **Advanced Placement** (AP) program, administered by the College Board, consists of college-level courses referred to as "AP courses". AP courses are rigorous high school courses that may count for college credit, in addition to high school credit, upon successful complete of the appropriate AP Exam. Post-secondary credit for an Advanced Placement course may be awarded to students scoring a minimum of 3 on a 5-point scale on the corresponding Advanced Placement Examination.

Magnet, Choice, and Scholarship Programs

Magnet and choice schools offer families options to match student interests and abilities to their educational needs. These programs require applications and may have specific entrance criteria and enrollment dates. Scholarship programs include Statewide Voucher Programs such as Opportunity Scholarships, McKay Scholarships, and Florida Tax Credit Scholarships.

International Baccalaureate (IB) programme spans the K-12 continuum and includes Primary Years Programme, Middle Years Programme, and Diploma Programme. Schools become accredited IB World Schools through rigorous accreditation and periodic evaluation processes. An IB Candidate School is one that has submitted an application for IB authorization to become an IB World School. Candidate status does not guarantee that authorization will be granted.

Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) ⓘ is administered by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate. Students can earn up to 45 college credits through the program. This robust, rigorous, and challenging international curriculum emphasizes a broad and balanced study that requires an in-depth understanding of subjects.

Home education, ⓘ as defined by Florida law, is "sequentially progressive instruction of a student directed by his or her parent in order to satisfy the attendance requirements of Sections 1002.41, 1003.01, and 1003.21." The law gives parents much freedom in directing and choosing the educational programs that best meet the needs of their child. Parents are responsible for all aspects of the student's home education program, and records are maintained by the parent.

Home Education Process:

1. Send notice of intent to the district school superintendent of the county in which the parent resides within 30 days of beginning your home education program.
2. Maintain a portfolio of records. Make your portfolio available for inspection by the superintendent upon a 15-day written notice.
3. Submit an annual evaluation for each child to the superintendent within one year of the letter of intent.
4. Preserve your child's portfolio for two years.
5. Submit a notice of termination within 30 days upon completion of your home education program when you stop home educating your child, or upon moving from the county.



PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE

Polk County School Board offers multiple pathway programs that provide unique and enhanced educational opportunities that appeal to students with diverse backgrounds, special talents, & similar interests. All pathways are designed to lead to a career or employment in a chosen field.

Academies & Pre-Academies ①

Polk County is ranked 2nd in the nation for having the highest number of certified academies accredited by the National Career Academy Coalition. Career academies are small, personalized learning communities within a school to create pathways from high school to post-secondary education and the work place. Pre-academies are designed to facilitate transition into high school academies. Students enter an academy through a voluntary application process; they must apply and be accepted with parental knowledge and support. Career Academies may include a college prep curriculum, industry certification, or partnerships with employers, the community, or higher educational institutions.

Career & Technical Colleges ①

Two technical colleges are operated by the Polk County School Board, where high school and post-secondary students can prepare for a variety of career and technical professions. These programs are tailored to maximize the understanding of specific career fields and earn industry certifications. Students engage in hands on and real world experiences to prepare for success in college and/or the workforce. Career and Technical Education centers may also provide a GED program to support the career goals of a student, including basic literacy instruction and elementary and secondary level courses. English for Speakers of Other Languages and Vocational English for Speakers of Other Languages courses are also offered.

Adult Schools ①

Students over age 16 may enroll in an Adult High School to earn a high school diploma or its equivalent by successfully passing the Standard GED® tests. The Polk County School Board's adult education system includes a range of instructional programs in Adult Basic Education, Adult High School, GED® Preparation, and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). These programs emphasize basic skills such as reading, writing, math, and English language competency. Adult education programs also offer adult learners transitioning opportunities to successfully enter postsecondary education.

Polk eSchool is a full-time virtual program. Students are enrolled in and complete all courses virtually. A full-time counselor is employed to serve K-12 students, and teachers are Polk County School Board employees. Courseware may be purchased from vendors or locally developed. While the students generally work from home they are not considered nor enrolled in Home Education (N998).

	●	●	●
Diploma	Yes	No	Yes
Guidance	Yes	No	Yes
FSA/EOC	Yes	Optional	Yes
Face-to-Face	Yes	Yes	No
Teachers	Local	Local	Vendor
Serve Home-school students	No	Yes	No
Serve brick-and-mortar students	No	Yes	No

Polk County eSchool

Polk Virtual Franchise (PVS)

Polk County District (Full-Time)
Virtual Instruction Program

Polk County District Virtual Instruction Program is the state mandated DVIP (District full-time Virtual Instructional Program). The program serves K-12 students that meet the state eligibility requirements. The Teachers and Curriculum are provided by state approved vendors. Students are enrolled in and complete all courses virtually. The students in this program are also required to meet the same program expectations as listed above.

OFFICE OF MULTIPLE
PATHWAYS EDUCATION
(863) 519-8438

① www.polkakademies.com

Ridge Technical College
(863) 419-3060
www.ridge.edu

① www.traviss.edu
Traviss Technical College
(863) 499-2700
www.traviss.edu

① www.EastAreaAdult.com
www.WestAreaAdult.com

LEARNING SUPPORT

TITLE I
(863) 534-0646

www.polk-fl.net ⓘ
KEYWORD: "Title I"

Title I schools receive federal dollars to buy supplemental resources to increase student achievement. Schools develop a Title I/School Improvement Plan, with the assistance of parents, to plan ways that resources can best be used to meet the needs of students. Those resources may include teachers, paraprofessionals, support staff, materials and supplies, technology, training for staff or family involvement activities.

Title I schools encourage families to be involved in their children's education by volunteering at school, participating in parent workshops, and attending school events. The most important role of parents is to make sure their children come to school on time and ready to learn.

Title I has **FIVE PARENT RESOURCE CENTERS** ⓘ in Polk County and parents in any Title I school may access these centers. They offer resources for checkout, tutoring, and workshops to families.

Title I is required to set aside funds to provide assistance to students in homeless situations. The Hearth Project is the district's homeless education program and works with district & school staff and parents/guardians & youth directly to identify homeless students' needs. The Heart Project welcomes parent and youth feedback and can be reached at 863-534-0801.

**ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS
OF OTHER LANGUAGES**
ESOL: (863) 647-4700

www.polk-fl.net ⓘ
KEYWORD: "ESOL"

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) ⓘ services are provided to students classified as English Learners (EL). A student is eligible for EL services if:

- The student was born outside the United States and has a native language other than English; or
- The student was born in the U.S. and comes from a home in which a language other than English is mostly used for communication; or
- The student is an American Indian or Alaskan Native and comes from a home in which a language other than English has had a significant impact on his or her level of English Language Proficiency; and as a result of the above, has sufficient difficulty speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language to deny him or her the opportunity to learn successfully in classrooms in which the language of instruction is English.

ⓘ TITLE I PARENT RESOURCE CENTERS:

These centers are for all parents who have a child (PRE-K through 12th grade) that attends a Title I school. Each center has a variety of information, resources, and materials that are available for parents to check out and take home.

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| • Combee Academy of Design & Engineering | (863) 668-3035 |
| • Frostproof Elementary | (863) 635-8600 |
| • Garner Elementary | (863) 965-5488 |
| • Mulberry Middle | (863) 425-9288 |
| • Sleepy Hill Elementary | (863) 815-6787 |



LEARNING SUPPORT

PARENT
CURRICULUM
GUIDE

English learners are placed in regular classrooms with teachers who are trained to use ESOL strategies to make learning comprehensible. They receive the same grade level curriculum as their native English speaking classmates. ELs are tested yearly to measure their progress in developing English language proficiency. Students remain in the ESOL program until they meet the language proficiency that will enable them to experience success in school. *Family involvement in schools is vital to the English Language Learners' success. Become involved in your child's education by contacting the school.*

The **Exceptional Student Education** Department supports the appropriate education of all students by establishing high expectations, removing barriers for students and teachers, modeling effective practices and sharing information. Students from Pre-K to age 22 with disabilities are served through the following programs:

- ① Autism Spectrum Disorder, Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities, Intellectual Disabilities, Physically Impaired with Orthopedic Impairment, Physically Impaired with Other Health Impairment, Physically Impaired with Traumatic Brain Injury, Specific Learning Disabilities, Speech Impairment, Language Impairment, and Visual Impairment.

Related services such as occupational therapy, physical therapy, mental health counseling, assistive technology, adaptive equipment, interpretive services and audiological evaluations are provided to students as needed. Transitional services for successful transition to post- school or vocational opportunities are also a mission of the department.

When a child meets criteria for services in special education, an Individual Education Plan (IEP) is developed. Most students with disabilities are served in the regular class setting with support from an ESE teacher. Although a continuum of services is available for students, inclusive practices are provided when appropriate, as a best practice in meeting individual needs.

Students with disabilities are provided access to all school functions, including but not limited to pep rallies, assemblies, dances, field trips and grade level meetings as well as classroom extracurricular activities, such as class activities, field trips, etc. Equal access to information about activities is required by section 504 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If a school has daily announcements, all activities announced shall be published in the daily announcement. Principals will designate a staff member to oversee publishing all activities in the daily announcement and providing a written copy to teachers of students with disabilities to send home on a daily basis. If any activity is not placed in the daily announcements, written notification of the activity will be provided to teachers of students with disabilities to send home on a daily basis.

Gifted Program ①

Gifted students have a different educational program that considers their high intellectual abilities and provides them with a greater range of challenges than the offerings of a standard curriculum.

Florida Diagnostic Learning Resource Service (FDLRS) ①

The ESE Department, in conjunction with the Florida Diagnostic Learning Resource Service (FDLRS) and the Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) provide workshops for parents throughout the school year, including a day-long conference each spring. Child Find identifies previously unserved children with disabilities.

**EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT
EDUCATION**

ESE: (863) 534-0930

① www.polk-fl.net
KEYWORD: "ESE"

① www.polk-fl.net
SEARCH: "Gifted"

FDLRS: (863) 647-4258

① www.polk-fl.net
KEYWORD: "FDLRS"

SCHOOLS BY AREA

POLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

* Academies that include a college preparatory curriculum with a career theme.

† Post-Secondary schools with adult classes, GED testing, and/or career programs.

◇ Alternative education opportunity centers.

Alturas		Eloise		Lakeland (continued)	
Alturas Elementary	519-3917	John Snively Elementary	291-5325	Padgett Elementary	853-6044
Auburndale		Fort Meade		Philip O'Brien Elementary	499-2950
Auburndale Central Elementary	965-5450	Fort Meade Middle-Senior *	285-1180	R. Bruce Wagner Elementary	701-1450
Auburndale High *	965-6200	Lewis Elementary (PreK-3)	285-1150	R. Clem Churchwell Elementary	853-6011
B.E.S.T. ◇	667-4415	Lewis Anna Woodbury Elementary (4-5)	285-1133	R.E.A.L. Academy ◇	413-2838
Clarence Boswell Elementary	499-2990	Frostproof		Scott Lake Elementary	648-3520
East Area Adult †	965-5475	Ben Hill Griffin, Jr. Elementary	635-7820	Sleepy Hill Elementary	815-6768
Jere L. Stambaugh Middle *	965-5494	Frostproof Elementary	635-7802	Sleepy Hill Middle *	815-6577
Lena Vista Elementary	965-5464	Frostproof Middle-Senior *	635-7809	Socrum Elementary	853-6050
Walter Caldwell Elementary	965-5470	Haines City		Southwest Elementary	499-2830
Avon Park		Alta Vista Elementary	421-3235	Southwest Middle *	499-2840
Highlands Youth Academy ◇	452-3815	Eastside Elementary	421-3254	Teen Parent ◇	499-2700
Bartow		Haines City High *	421-3281	Tenoroc High *	614-9183
Acceleration Academy ◇	534-7425	Sandhill Elementary	419-3166	Valleyview Elementary	648-3535
Bartow High *	534-7400	Shelley S. Boone Middle	421-3302	Wendell Watson Elementary	853-6060
Bartow Middle *	534-7415	Highland City		West Area Adult †	499-2835
Bartow Youth Academy ◇	519-3770	Highland City Elementary	648-3540	Lake Wales	
Floral Avenue Elementary	534-7420	Lake Alfred		McLaughlin Middle School	678-4233
Gause Academy of Leadership *◇	534-7425	Karen M. Siegel Academy ◇	965-5566	and Fine Arts Academy	678-4252
GED Testing Center †	534-7450	Lake Alfred Elementary	295-5985	Roosevelt Academy ◇	678-4262
Gibbons Street Elementary	534-7430	Lakeland		Spook Hill Elementary	
James E. Stephens Elementary	534-7455	Acceleration Academy (North) ◇	499-2835	Mulberry	
Jean O'Dell Learning Center ◇	534-7440	Acceleration Academy (South) ◇	499-2700	Kingsford Elementary	701-1054
Polk County Sheriff's Regional		Bill Duncan Opportunity Center ◇	499-2860	Mulberry High *	701-1104
Detention Center ◇	519-3820	Carlton Palmore Elementary	648-3510	Mulberry Middle	701-1066
Polk County Sheriff's Office		Cleveland Court Elementary	499-2929	New Horizons ◇	428-1520
Central Center ◇	519-3770	Crystal Lake Elementary	499-2966	Purcell Elementary	701-1061
Polk Halfway House ◇	519-5581	Crystal Lake Middle *	499-2970	Poinciana	
Polk Virtual School	534-7214	Dixieland Elementary	499-2930	Lake Marion Creek Middle	427-1471
Spessard L. Holland Elementary	648-3031	Doris A. Sanders Learning Center ◇	499-2980	Laurel Elementary	427-1375
Davenport		Dr. N. E. Roberts Elementary	815-6633	Palmetto Elementary	427-6012
Citrus Ridge: A Civics Academy	259-4001	George W. Jenkins High *	648-3566	Polk City	
Davenport Community Campus ◇	419-3486	Griffin Elementary	853-6020	Polk City Elementary	965-6338
Horizons Elementary	419-3430	Highlands Grove Elementary	648-3002	Winter Haven	
Loughman Oaks Elementary	421-3309	James W. Sikes Elementary	648-3525	Acceleration Academy ◇	419-3060
Ridge Community High *	419-3315	Jesse Keen Elementary	499-2880	Chain of Lakes Elementary	326-5388
Dundee		Kathleen Elementary	853-6030	Denison Middle *	291-5353
Donald E. Woods Opportunity Center ◇	421-3325	Kathleen High *	499-2655	Elbert Elementary	291-5364
Dundee Elementary Academy	421-3316	Kathleen Middle	853-6040	Fred G. Gamer Elementary	965-5455
Dundee Ridge Middle Academy *	419-3088	Lake Gibson High *	853-6100	Garden Grove Elementary	291-5396
Eagle Lake		Lake Gibson Middle *	853-6151	Inwood Elementary	291-5369
Eagle Lake Elementary	291-5357	Lakeland High *	499-2900	Lake Shipp Elementary	291-5384
Lake Region High *	297-3099	Lakeland Highlands Middle *	648-3500	Ridge Technical College †	419-3060
Pinewood Elementary	298-7977	Maynard A. Traviss Technical College *†	499-2700	Teen Parent ◇	419-3060
Eaton Park		Medulla Elementary	648-3515	Wahneta Elementary	291-5392
Oscar J. Pope Elementary	499-2992	PACE Center for Girls ◇	688-5596	Westwood Middle	965-5484
				Winter Haven High *	291-5330

SCHOOLS BY AREA

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE

Magnet and choice schools offer themed learning environments, such as math, science, technology, communication or the arts. Students must apply to attend magnet and choice schools.

Bartow

Bartow Elementary Academy Δ	534-7410
Bartow International Baccalaureate ø	534-0194
Summerlin Academy ø	519-7504
Union Academy Δ	534-7435

Davenport

Davenport School of the Arts ø	420-2557
--------------------------------	----------

Dundee

Dundee Elementary Academy Δ	421-3316
Dundee Ridge Middle Academy Δ	419-3088

Haines City

Bethune Academy Δ	421-3334
Daniel Jenkins Academy of Technology Δ	421-3267
Haines City International Baccalaureate ø	419-3371

Lake Alfred

Lake Alfred Polytech Academy	295-5988
------------------------------	----------

Charter schools operate as autonomous public schools and work under an accountability contract with the district. These schools are required to meet the same state standards as traditional public schools.

Auburndale

Berkley Elementary	968-5024
Berkley Accelerated Middle	984-2400
Polk Pre-Collegiate Academy	984-2400

Babson Park

Dale R. Fair Babson Park Elementary	678-4664
-------------------------------------	----------

Bartow

Achievement Academy	533-0690
Compass Middle Charter	519-8701

Davenport

Ridgeview Global Studies Academy	419-3171
----------------------------------	----------

Lake Alfred

Discovery Academy	295-5955
Discovery High School	268-7178

Lake Wales

Edward W. Bok Academy	679-2517
Hillcrest Elementary	678-4216
Janie Howard Wilson Elementary	678-4211
Lake Wales High *	678-4222

Lakeland

Combee Academy of Design & Engineering Δ	499-2960
Crystal Academy of Science & Engineering Δ	668-3055
Lawton Chiles Middle Academy Δ	499-2742
Lincoln Avenue Academy Δ	499-2955
Lois Cowles Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Arts ø	499-2855
North Lakeland Elementary ø	499-2850
Rochelle School of the Arts Δ	499-2810
Rosabelle W. Blake Academy ø	499-2870
Winston Academy of Engineering Δ	499-2890

Winter Haven

Frank E. Brigham Academy Δ	291-5300
Jewett Middle Academy Magnet Δ	291-5320
Jewett School of the Arts Δ	291-5373

Lake Wales (continued)

Polk Avenue Elementary	678-4244
Victory Ridge Academy	679-3338

Lakeland

Achievement Academy	683-6504
Lakeland Montessori Middle	413-0003
Lakeland Montessori Schoolhouse	413-0003
McKeel Academy Central	499-1287
McKeel Academy of Technology *	499-2818
Magnolia Montessori Academy	797-4991
Polk State College Collegiate High	669-2322
Polk State Lakeland Gateway to College Charter High	669-2322
South McKeel Academy	510-0044

Winter Haven

Achievement Academy	965-7586
Chain of Lakes Collegiate High	298-6800
Cypress Junction Montessori	259-1490
Hartridge Academy	956-4434
New Beginnings High School	298-5666

MAGNET AND CHOICE SCHOOLS (863) 534-0631

CHARTER SCHOOLS (863) 534-0625

ELEMENTARY (GRADES PreK-5)

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Head Start: (863) 648-3051

VPK: (863) 577-2450
www.polk-fl.net ⓘ
KEYWORD: "VPK"

ESE PreK: (863) 534-0930

CURRICULUM

Senior Directors of Literacy,
Mathematics, and Science:
(863) 534-0018

Polk County Schools support the socio-emotional, cognitive, language and physical development of the young child with developmentally appropriate programming.

- **Head Start** provides educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families. This program is free to families who qualify. For information, visit the district website and search: HEAD START
- **Florida's Voluntary PreKindergarten (VPK)** ⓘ prepares children for kindergarten. All of Florida's 4-year-old children are eligible to receive 540 instructional hours during the school year or 300 hours during the summer so they can enter school ready to learn. Certificates are issued by the Early Learning Coalition of Polk County.
- **Title 1 VPK** provides a quality early learning opportunity to 4-year-olds who reside in specific Title I school zones.
- **Florida First Start** provides the opportunity to learn necessary parenting skills through a home visitation program.
- **Exceptional Student Education PreK** provides specifically support the needs of students with disabilities.

The district's elementary grades curriculum is based on the Florida Standards/Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. These standards, approved by the Florida State Board of Education, outline what students should know and be able to do at all grade levels and in all subject areas, including reading, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, health, fine arts, and physical education.

The required program of study for elementary students in the Polk County Public Schools reflects state and local requirements for elementary education. The areas of study required are:

Language Arts (reading, writing, speaking, listening and language) - Students will be scheduled for 120 minutes per day, with an additional 30 minutes scheduled for each grade level a student is below grade level.

Mathematics - Students will be scheduled for 90 minutes per day.

Science - At the primary level (K-3), inquiry science will be scheduled for at least 45 minutes per day, and at the intermediate level (grades 4-5), inquiry science will be scheduled for a minimum of 50 minutes per day.

Health - Students will receive the minimum amount of instruction in health education, to include human sexuality, substance use prevention, HIV/AIDS, bullying prevention. Grades K-3 will receive 25 hours per year. Grades 4-5 will receive 36 hours per year.

Physical Education - All students in grades K-5 will receive a minimum of 150 minutes of physical education per week. A character development program shall be required in Kindergarten through fifth grade.

Visual Arts and Music - All students will take a minimum of 50 minutes per week in both visual arts and music.

Recess - All students will receive a minimum of 20 minutes of recess per day.

MIDDLE SCHOOL
(GRADES 6-8)PARENT
CURRICULUM
GUIDE

Middle grades course choices include core academics, fine arts and vocational electives as well as extracurricular activities. Our schools are student-centered, family-oriented and business-friendly. We welcome volunteers at all school locations!

English Language Art (ELA) - *Three (3) years of successful completion of language arts are required for promotion to high school.* A middle grades student who scores below proficient on the statewide, standardized assessment for ELA must be enrolled in and complete a remedial course the following year. Remediation courses will be determined by the student's test score and progress monitoring data related to decoding and text efficiency.

Mathematics - *Students are required to successfully complete three (3) middle grades or higher courses in mathematics for promotion to high school.* A middle grades student who scores below Achievement Level 3 on the state mathematics assessment must receive remediation the following year determined by the student's test score and progress monitoring data related to mathematics skills. Each school that includes middle grades must offer at least one high school level mathematics course for which students may earn high school credit. To earn high school credit for Algebra I, a middle grades student must earn a passing grade in the course. A passing score on the Algebra I statewide, standardized assessment is required to receive a standard high school diploma. To earn high school credit for a geometry course, a middle grades student must take the statewide, standardized geometry assessment for 30 percent of the final grade, and earn a passing grade in the course.

Science - *Students are required to successfully complete three (3) middle grades or higher courses in science.* To earn high school credit for a Biology I course, a middle grades student must take the statewide, standardized Biology I EOC assessment for 30 percent of the final grade, and earn a passing grade in the course.

Social Studies - *Three (3) years of successful completion of middle grades or higher courses in social studies is required for promotion to high school.* One of these courses must be a one-semester civics education course.

Physical Education - *Middle schools are required to provide students enrolled in grades 6 through 8 one (1) class period per day of physical education for one semester of each year.* Students in grades 6-8 are eligible to waive the physical education requirement if they meet any of the following criteria:

- The student is enrolled or required to enroll in a remedial course.
- The student's parent indicates in writing to the school that the parent requests that the student enroll in another course from among those courses offered as options by the school district; or
- The student is participating in physical activities outside the school day which are equal to or in excess of the mandated requirement.

The comprehensive health education curriculum for students in grades 7 through 12 must include a teen dating violence and abuse component including, the definition of dating violence and abuse, the warning signs of dating violence and abusive behavior, the characteristics of healthy relationships, measures to prevent and stop dating violence and abuse, and community resources available to victims of dating violence and abuse.

Elective Programs - The remainder of the middle school experience will include elective courses. Electives may include, but are not limited to: Fine Arts, World Languages, Technology, and Physical Education.

CURRICULUM

MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6-8)

ACADEMICS

Middle school students are required by the State of Florida Department of Education to take and pass **three years of core academic coursework** in order to be promoted to the next grade level. These core classes include **mathematics, social studies, English language arts** and **science**. These courses are specific in content and geared towards providing a solid academic foundation for high school. In addition, civics is required middle school educational components.

Middle School General Requirements (6-8)

Courses	Required Number of Courses:
English Language Arts	3
Mathematics	3
Science	3
Social Studies	3

As per s. 1003.4156 F.S., in order for a student to be promoted to high school from a school that includes middle grades 6, 7, and 8, the student must successfully complete these 12 courses.

HIGH SCHOOL COURSES TAKEN IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Students in middle grades may enroll in selected high school courses for the purpose of pursuing a more challenging program of study. All high school credit courses taken in the middle school will be included in both the middle and high school transcripts and are included in computing high school grade point averages and rank in class. The student will earn the high school credit if they meet the minimum grade required for both semesters of the course, including any state-mandated assessments. Credits earned will be applied toward the total credits needed for graduation, college admission, or for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program requirements. Parents may wish to consider the impact on the students GPA and subsequent rank in class, the possible lack of recognition by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) for senior high school courses taken in a grade below grade 9, and the benefit of retaking a course in which skills have not been mastered, when taking high school courses in middle school.

*If a middle school student's cumulative course average is less than 75% at the end of the first quarter grading period, the school administrator will request a conference with the teacher and parent/guardian to develop an individual Progress Monitoring Plan (PMP) to monitor the student's improvement. A second conference will be scheduled prior to the end of the first semester to reassess performance and placement of the student for the remainder of the school year.

Polk middle schools provide a rich academic plan for all students, including those with special learning needs and those who qualify for accelerated or advanced learning activities. Our middle schools also offer intensive reading and math courses for those students who test at Level 1 and 2 on FSA. ①

www.polk-fl.net
KEYWORD: "Middle ①
Schools"

MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6-8)

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE

In Polk County we offer, through an application process, three middle magnet schools, which are International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program schools. These schools provide an academic background for attending students to transition to IB magnet programs in high school. In addition, students may apply for a range of middle school choice programs in environmental studies, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and the arts to appeal to every student's interests.

Many of our middle school campuses have **Academy Programs** within schools, such as career academies and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) academies. Each is unique and offers something to enhance and enrich your child's basic education and are designed to provide students with a rigorous academic foundation for advanced coursework in high school.

The **Physical Education** curriculum focuses on student fitness and healthy living habits. All courses assess students in the five health related areas of fitness and reports are sent home/shared with the families. Health standards are integrated into the physical education curriculum along with concepts presented by visiting nurses. Many middle schools offer sports programs that vary by school and include basketball, volleyball, wrestling, soccer, tennis, golf and track.

Visual arts, music, dance and theatre are a part of a well-rounded education. Fine Arts courses focus on skills and knowledge specific to the area of study, as well as problem solving, higher order thinking and other 21st Century skills sought by perspective employers. The evidence shows that students who study the arts are more likely be proficient in mathematics and reading/language arts, and to score above their counterparts on standardized tests.

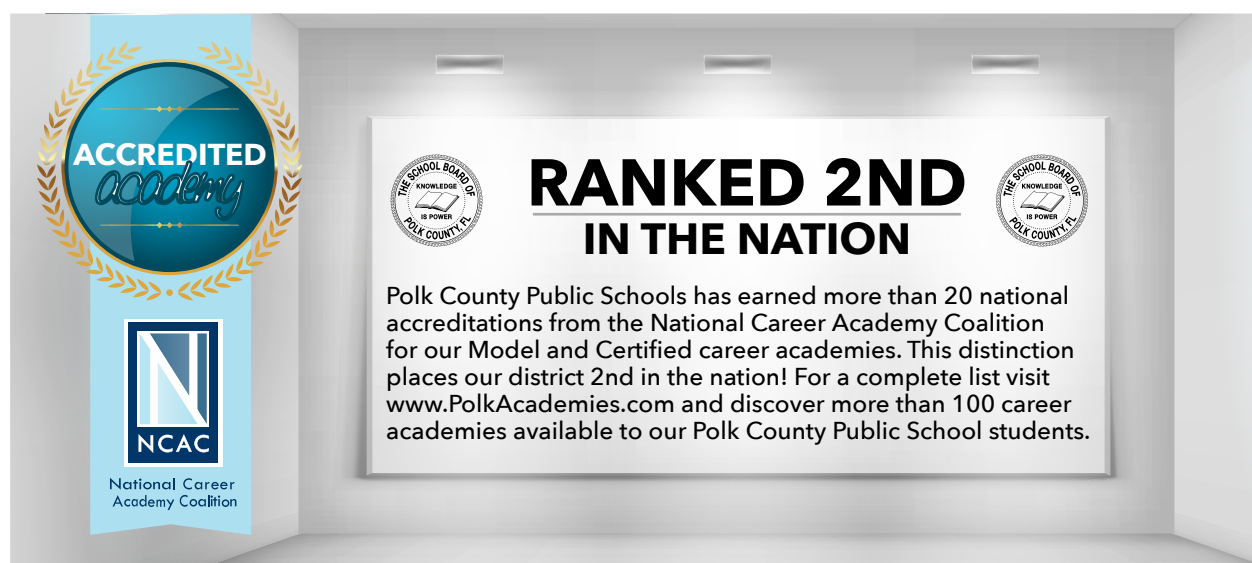
The **World Languages** program has a dual purpose: developing in our students the necessary skills to acquire and communicate in a foreign language, and to foster a cultural awareness that prepares them to interact in a global world.

Students who have specialized interests may join clubs involved with topics such as math, computers, chess, foreign language, business, science, technology, student government, academic honor clubs, broadcasting, drama or music.

MAGNET SCHOOLS

ELECTIVE CHOICES

EXTRACURRICULAR STUDENT ACTIVITIES



HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9-12)

SCHEDULES

Parents will receive high school schedules at the beginning of each high school year. Parents and students will review the schedule and make necessary changes with the high school counselor. High school counselors assist students and parents with academic and post-secondary planning. Counselors answer questions about course schedules, testing, vocational programs, career choices, colleges, universities, the Florida Bright Futures Program, scholarships and other financial aid sources. Complete information about post-secondary planning can be found in the *Polk County Schools Senior College Handbook*, available through your school counselor, or on the district's school counseling website.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7764/urlt/0084239-hs-assessments-state.pdf ⓘ

If a student transfers into a Florida public high school from out of country, out of state, a private school or a home school, the student's transcript is reviewed to determine if the student is required to take a Florida end-of-course (EOC) assessment in accordance with Rule **6A-1.09941**, F.A.C., *State Uniform Transfer of High School Credit*. Refer to the **High School Mathematics State-wide Assessments by State** ⓘ chart for a listing of statewide assessment mathematics exit exams and Algebra 1 statewide assessments.

DIPLOMAS, CERTIFICATES, AND DESIGNATIONS

High school graduation requirements for Polk County Public Schools - From one school year to the next, the requirements may be amended by any one of these three entities and it is important that students and their parents be aware of any changes that may affect their cohort. Your school counselor and administration has the graduation requirements pertaining to when a student entered ninth grade. It is advised that parents and students meet with school counselors to ensure they understand requirements for the appropriate cohort. Students entering grade nine may choose from one of four options to earn a standard diploma:

- 24-credit program
- 18-credit, Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL)
- An International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum
- An Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum

The **24-Credit Diploma** option includes sixteen core academic credits and eight elective credits.

- Four credits in English/Language Arts, four credits in mathematics, three credits of science, and three credits of social science
- One credit of fine and performing arts
- One credit of physical education with the integration of health.
- One online course

**A high school student who pursues the 24-credit high school graduation program may have the option to participate in early graduation (graduating in fewer than eight semesters). It is the students and parents responsibility to consult with the school counselor to verify that the student is on track or eligible for this option.*

An **18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL)** accelerated high school graduation option is also available.

- Four credits in English/Language Arts, four credits in mathematics, three credits of science, and three credits of social science
- One credit of fine and performing arts
- Three elective credits
- Physical education and an online course **are not required**

FLORIDA HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS

Any Florida home schooled student who has earned 17 high school credits and wants to graduate with a Polk County High School Diploma, must be enrolled in their zoned high school by the first day of school of their senior year. In addition to meeting all graduation requirements, a passing score on the 10th Grade Reading FSA and Algebra 1 EOC is required by Florida State Statute.

HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9-12)

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE

International Baccalaureate Diploma - Bartow High and Haines City High host the International Baccalaureate Program, a four-year rigorous high school curriculum covering all subjects. International Baccalaureate Examinations are used to grant post-secondary credit at community colleges and universities in Florida. Credit for IB and AP post-secondary courses are determined by college or university admissions offices. A student may be eligible for an International Baccalaureate diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office and a standard diploma if they:

- Complete and pass courses from the six content groups
- Complete the Community Action Service (CAS) requirement 10-15 quality reflections on experiences
- Complete and pass the Theory of Knowledge course
- Complete and pass the Extended Essay
- Take and meet the IB standards on the six exams

Students who meet all requirements will receive a standard diploma and an IB diploma.

Students who meet all requirements with the exception of the exam scores will earn a standard diploma and course certificates for exams they passed.

Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Diploma - Winter Haven High hosts the AICE Program. An AICE diploma is an international curriculum and examination system that emphasizes the value of broad and balanced study. In order to obtain the AICE diploma:

- Students must earn seven credits within a twenty-five month period.
- Credits are earned by passing examinations administered at the end of each course.
- At least one examination must come from each of the four subject groups: Mathematics & Sciences, Languages, Arts & Humanities, and AS Level Global Perspectives.

Students who meet all requirements will receive a standard diploma and AICE diploma.

Students who meet all requirements with the exception of exam scores will earn a standard diploma and course certificates for the exams they passed.

Certificate of Completion - A student who earns the required 24 credits, or the required 18 credits under Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) option, as per 1002.3105, F.S., but fails to earn passing scores on the state-approved graduation test or achieve a 2.0 GPA shall be awarded a certificate of completion in a form prescribed by the State Board of Education.

**A student who is otherwise entitled to Certificate of Completion may elect to remain in high school either as a full-time student or a part-time student for up to 1 additional year and receive special instruction designed to remedy his or her identified deficiencies.*

Diploma Options for Students with Disabilities

Students entering 9th grade in the 2014 -15 school year and thereafter, may not work toward a special diploma, they must choose a standard diploma option. Students who have been working toward a special diploma and were in grades 10 -12 during 2014 -15 can change to work towards earning a standard diploma, if they meet all of the requirements specified in the State Board of Education Rule. Once the student makes such a change, a special diploma is no longer an option.

**The 24-Credit, and 18-Credit Diplomas, are established by the Florida Legislature, the Florida Board of Education, and the School Board of Polk County.*

DIPLOMAS, CERTIFICATES, AND DESIGNATIONS

(Continued)

ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN AFTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

<http://www.fhsaa.org>

Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) By-Laws and Florida State law require students to be regularly promoted to be eligible for athletics during the first semester. Polk County Public Schools has added a GPA requirement to this FHSAA requirement. All students entering a Polk County High School must have been promoted from their previous school with an overall GPA of at least a 2.00 in all courses graded A-F in order to be eligible to participate in activities during the first semester. Courses graded Pass/Fail will not be included. This GPA will not include any grades earned during summer school after the student's exit year from the previous school.

HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9-12)

DIPLOMAS, CERTIFICATES, AND DESIGNATIONS (Continued)

In addition to the standard diploma options listed above, Rule 6A-1.09963, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), High School Graduation Requirements for Students with Disabilities, outlines two additional options that students with disabilities may complete within the 24-credit program.

These include:

- specific requirements for students with disabilities for whom the individual education plan (IEP) has determined that participation in the Florida Alternate Assessment is the most appropriate measure of the student's skills and instruction in the access points is the most appropriate means of providing the student access to the general curriculum.
- specific requirements for a standard diploma for students with disabilities for whom the IEP team has determined that mastery of both academic and employment competencies is the most appropriate way for the student to demonstrate his or her skills. For additional information on exceptional student education programs, visit the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services web page.

Graduation under early admission and advanced studies Students are admitted to early admission and advanced studies programs of colleges and universities if they have an unweighted GPA of 3.0, based on a 4.0 scale, and are accepted to the college or university.

Standard High School Diploma Designations

Students may earn one or more designations on their standard high school diploma—the Scholar designation, the Merit designation per F.S. 1003.4285, and a biliteracy seal per state rule 6A-1.09951, F.A.C.

Scholar designation: In addition to the requirements to earn a standard diploma, a student must satisfy the following requirements to earn the Scholar designation:

- Mathematics: Earn one credit in Algebra II and one credit in statistics or an equally rigorous course.
- Science: Pass the statewide standardized Biology I EOC assessment and earn one credit in chemistry or physics and one credit in a course equally rigorous to chemistry or physics. However, a student enrolled in an Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Biology course who takes each respective assessment and earns the minimum score necessary to earn college credit meets the requirement without having to take the statewide standardized Biology I EOC assessment.
- Social studies: Pass the statewide standardized United States History EOC assessment. However, a student enrolled in an AP, IB, or AICE course that includes United States History topics who takes the respective AP, IB, or AICE assessment and earns the minimum score necessary to earn college credit as identified pursuant to s. 1007.27(2) meets the requirement without having to take the statewide standardized United States History EOC assessment.
- World language: Earn two credits in the same world language.
- Electives: Earn at least one credit in an Advanced Placement, an International Baccalaureate, an Advanced International Certificate of Education, or a dual enrollment course.

Merit designation: In addition to the requirements for a standard diploma, a student must attain one or more industry certifications from the list established by the State Board of Education to earn the Merit designation.

SCHOLAR DESIGNATION

* A student with a disability is eligible for a Scholar designation and the student should have access to enroll in the required courses or programs. The IEP must include a statement of intent to pursue a standard high school diploma and a Scholar designation, as determined by the parent.

MERIT DESIGNATION

* A student with a disability is eligible for a Merit designation and the student should have access to enroll in the required courses or programs. The IEP must include a statement of intent to pursue a standard high school diploma and a Merit designation, as determined by the parent.

HIGH SCHOOL
(GRADES 9-12)PARENT
CURRICULUM
GUIDE**Seal of Biliteracy**

In 2016, the state of Florida adopted the Seal of Biliteracy  - an award given by a school, school district or county office of education in recognition of students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation.

There are THREE ways a student may earn a Biliteracy Seal:

- Option 1: Four course credits with a GPA of 3.0 or higher in the foreign language courses.
 - Silver requires on the 4 credits and the 3.0 or higher in the 4 foreign language courses.
 - Gold requires the 4 credits and the 3.0 or higher in the 4 foreign language courses AND a 4 or 5 on the Grade 10 ELA FSA.
- Option 2: test scores; please note option 2 also awards a Biliteracy Seal AND foreign language credits for passing scores. *For more information on test score requirements visit:* <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?id=6A-1.09951>
- Option 3: portfolio-only for languages that do not have a nationally recognized assessment; please contact the World Language Department. Please note option 3 awards a Biliteracy Seal, but does NOT award foreign language credits for a passing portfolio.

*A student who did not enroll in, or complete, foreign language courses, shall be awarded four foreign language high school credits, upon attaining at least the minimum score or performance level identified for the Silver Seal of Biliteracy. Per general counsel, no more than four (4) foreign language course credits in total should be awarded to a student who qualifies per option 2, regardless of any other earning of foreign language credits or awarding of foreign language credits. For example, if a student earns course credit through passage of a CLEP or AP exam, a credit is awarded per the Credit Acceleration Program (CAP). For the seal of Biliteracy, no more than four (4) credits in a foreign language should be awarded. Therefore, three (3) more foreign language credits would be awarded for a total of four (4).

For more information, contact your school counselor.

Credit Acceleration Program (CAP)

A student may earn high school credit in Algebra 1, Geometry, U.S. History or Biology I if the student passes the statewide, standardized end-of-course (EOC) assessment without the requirement of enrolling in or completing the course.

A student is also allowed to earn high school credit in courses required for high school graduation through the passage of an Advanced Placement (AP) examination or a College Level Examination Program (CLEP). If a student attains a passing score on an AP examination or CLEP, then the school district is required to award course credit to the student who is not enrolled or who has not completed the course.

Please see your school counselor for more information on participation in the Credit Acceleration Program.

SEAL OF BILITERACY

 sealofbiliteracy.org/florida

World Languages Department
(863) 647-4705

**CREDIT ACCELERATION
PROGRAM (CAP)**

STATE REQUIRED PERFORMANCE

STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS (Elementary - Middle School)

Polk County's schools use assessments for a variety of reasons. Assessments inform instructional practices for teachers and help them to differentiate their instruction to meet the needs of their students. At the district office, assessments are used to make adjustments to the course curriculum map and pacing guides as well as to help determine what professional development and support systems are needed at the schools.

	State Graduation Requirement	3rd Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
FSA ELA (Reading and Writing)	Must participate in assessment?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Must pass assessment?	Reading = YES* No Writing Component	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
FSA Math	Must participate in assessment?	YES	YES	YES	YES^	YES^	YES^
	Must pass assessment?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Statewide Science Assessment	Must participate in assessment?	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES
	Must pass assessment?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Civics EOC	Must participate in assessment?	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
	Must pass assessment?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO, but EOC counts as 30% of final course grade	NO

3RD GRADE PROMOTION REQUIREMENT:

*3rd grade students must demonstrate proficiency in reading in order to be promoted to 4th grade. Students who do not have an FSA score must demonstrate proficiency on every standard through the district's third grade reading portfolio. If proficiency is not demonstrated on every standard, students will be required to attend summer school to continue working on the portfolio. Students who do not demonstrate proficiency through the portfolio or through an alternate Reading Assessment such as SAT-10, STAR or Istation, will be retained, unless they qualify for one of the following Good Cause Exemptions outlined in statute 1008.25.

^Students who do not have an FSA score must demonstrate proficiency on every standard through the district's third grade reading portfolio. If proficiency is not demonstrated on every standard, students will be required to attend summer school to continue working on the portfolio. Students who do not demonstrate proficiency through the portfolio or through the alternate Reading Assessment will be retained, unless they qualify for one of the following Good Cause Exemptions outlined in statute 1008.25.

(High School)

www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/3/urlt/fcat-pass.pdf ⓘ

In order for a student to graduate with a standard high school diploma, assessment requirements are determined by their year of enrollment in grade 9. Information related to statewide assessment requirements is available in **Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments**. ⓘ The chart below lists the required assessments for each grade 9 cohort for State Assessments in Reading and the End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments.

STATE REQUIRED PERFORMANCE

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE

EOC COUNTS 30% FINAL COURSE GRADE	State Graduation Requirement	9TH GRADE COHORT				
		2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
ALGEBRA 1	Must participate in assessment?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Must pass assessment?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
GEOMETRY	Must participate in assessment?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Must pass assessment?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
BIOLOGY	Must participate in assessment?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Must pass assessment?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
US HISTORY	Must participate in assessment?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Must pass assessment?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Grade 10 Reading FCAT 2.0 (or ACT/SAT concordant score)	Must participate in assessment?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Must pass assessment?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Grade 10 FSA ELA (or ACT/SAT concordant score)	Must participate in assessment?	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Must pass assessment?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS (cont.) (High School)

Florida Statewide Assessment Links

TEST SCHEDULE <https://info.fl DOE.org/docu share/dsweb/Get/Document-7972/dps-2017-84a.pdf>

EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY SUMMIT www.fl DOE.org/edu acc summit.asp

FSA PORTAL <http://fsa assessments.org>

FLORIDA STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT LINKS

The Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) portal is available for districts, schools, students, parents and the general public to access information about the Florida ELA and Mathematics assessments. The portal serves as the primary location for school and district administrators to access resources for test administration and to conduct activities related to computer-based testing, test management and reporting. To access general information about the FSA and links to other FSA websites and resources, go to <http://fsa assessments.org/> The State of Florida's official source for standards information, course descriptions and standards resources is CPALMS.

- Per F.S. 1008.22, participation in the state assessment program is mandatory for all students attending public schools.

GRADE SYSTEM AND REPORTING

GRADING SCALE

According to s. 1003.437, F.S., grades will be reported by letter grade or numerical score in recording student progress as follows:

Letter Grade	Score	Description
A	90 - 100	Outstanding Progress
B	80 - 89	Above Average Progress
C	70 - 79	Average Progress
D	60 - 69	Lowest Acceptable Progress
F	0 - 59	Failure
I	N/A	Incomplete

INTERIM REPORTING

Schools are to establish procedures for teachers to notify parents/guardians when it is apparent that a student may fail or is doing unsatisfactory work in any skill level (i.e., skill level is below grade placement), course or grade assignment. These procedures should include the following:

1. Notification of parents/guardians, written or verbal, during the grading period.
2. Documentation by the school of such notification.
3. School attempt, in cooperation with parents/guardians, to assist the student in achieving at minimum levels.

**Parents are encouraged to log in to the "Parent Portal" for online grade monitoring and to contact teachers for questions or concerns (see page 3).*

REGULAR REPORTING

Report cards shall be issued to students after each marking period. Only report cards approved by the School Board, or in special cases by the Superintendent, shall be used. Grades on report cards must clearly reflect the student's level of achievement, including student performance which is below established standards for the student's grade placement. No penalty or reward shall be reflected in a student's academic grade for his/her conduct. Report cards will contain a separate designation for a student's conduct. Parents of student with disabilities will be informed of their student's progress toward IEP annual goals at the nine-week report card intervals. Interim progress reports will be given to all students in all subjects at the midpoint of the marking period.

REPORTING STUDENT RETENTION

In addition to the notification of parents/guardians through interim reporting and report cards after each marking period, schools will provide an opportunity for a conference involving the teacher, school counselor or principal and parent/guardian for any student not progressing appropriately toward standard diploma and graduation.

HONOR ROLL

The Honor Roll for all Polk County Middle and High Schools will be calculated and listed on the basis of grade point average (GPA) for each nine weeks. School procedures for yearly honor awards based on grade point average will be published in the school's student handbook. Weighted grades as defined by the Student Progression Plan apply to grades 9-12. Regardless of GPA, no student may be on the Honor Roll who has made a D or an F during the current grading period. The following divisions for Honor Roll are recommended:

GPA	Recognition
3.000 - 3.199	Honor Roll
3.200 - 3.499	Honor Roll with Honors Recognition
3.500 - 3.999	Honor Roll with High Honors Recognition
4.000 - above	Honor Roll with High Honors with Distinction

GRADE SYSTEM AND REPORTING

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE

Course Recovery programs allow students to receive credit for a course they previously failed or to improve grades for courses that they took previously. Students must have previously attempted the corresponding course (and/or End-of-Course assessment) since the course requirements for the Course Recovery course are exactly the same as the previously attempted corresponding course. It is important to note that Course Recovery courses are not bound by s. 1003.436(1)(a), F.S., requiring a minimum of 135 hours of bona fide instruction since the students have previously attempted successful completion of the corresponding course. Additionally, Credit Recovery courses should ONLY be used for credit recovery, grade forgiveness, or remediation for students needing to prepare for an End-of-Course assessment retake. ①

Please note that credit recovery courses no longer count towards SUS admissions.

For a credit recovery course to count as an NCAA core course it must meet all the following requirements:

- The course must meet all the requirements of an NCAA-approved nontraditional course.
- The school must follow its credit recovery policies, whether or not the student is an athlete. The NCAA Eligibility Center may request the school's policy if necessary.
- The credit recovery course should be clearly identified as such on the high school transcript. ①

Grade Recovery

Students also have the opportunity to pursue grade forgiveness for quarter grades through the District Credit Recovery programs made available during the school year for limited courses. Quarter Grade recovery is an opportunity for students who earn a "D" or "F" in a core academic course during the first, second or third quarter to improve their grade. There are 2 options:

1. **Students who earned a 50-69% for a quarter grade:** Communicate with the teacher of record to complete missing work, projects, or alternative assessments. *This option must be paired with participation in 4 tutoring sessions.* (Teachers have the discretion to deny students this option. If so, students may still participate in option 2).
2. **Students who earned below a 50% for the quarter:** Complete a district-developed hybrid curriculum (75% Edgenuity class and 25% paper and pencil work). *This option must be paired with participation in 4 tutoring sessions.*

Middle School Grade Forgiveness Policy

A forgiveness policy for a middle school student who takes any high school course for high school credit and earns a grade of C (or the grade equivalent), D (or the grade equivalent) or F (or the grade equivalent) must allow the replacement of the grade with a grade of C (or the grade equivalent or higher), earned subsequently in the same or comparable course. Any course grade not replaced according to a district school board forgiveness policy shall be included in the GPA.

High School Grade Forgiveness Policy

A forgiveness policy for required core courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of D (or the grade equivalent) or F (or the grade equivalent) with a grade of C (or the grade equivalent or higher), earned subsequently in the same or comparable course. A forgiveness policy for elective courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of D (or the grade equivalent) or F (or the grade equivalent) with a grade of C (or the grade equivalent or higher), earned subsequently in another course.

COURSE RECOVERY, GRADE RECOVERY, AND GRADE FORGIVENESS

① <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7746/urlt/CCDNarrative1617.pdf>

① <http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/nontraditional-courses>

GRADE SYSTEM AND REPORTING

GRADE CALCULATIONS

Middle School

Polk County reports and posts grades by the semester. Each semester is a stand-alone grade on the student's permanent record and transcript.

Middle School Course Grade Calculations with exception of Civics which has a State End of Course (EOC) Exam and a required state calculation.

QUARTER 1	QUARTER 2	SEMESTER 1 EXAM	SEMESTER 1 FINAL GRADE	QUARTER 3	QUARTER 4	SEMESTER 2 EXAM	SEMESTER 2 FINAL GRADE
45%	+	45%	+	10%	=	100%	
45%	+	45%	+	10%	=	100%	

*Semester Exams are developed and administered by each individual school.

High School

High School Course Grade Calculations with exception of Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology and US History which have a State End of Course (EOC) Exam and a required state calculation.

QUARTER 1	QUARTER 2	SEMESTER 1 EXAM	SEMESTER 1 FINAL GRADE	QUARTER 3	QUARTER 4	SEMESTER 2 EXAM	SEMESTER 2 FINAL GRADE
42.5%	+	42.5%	+	15%	=	100%	
42.5%	+	42.5%	+	15%	=	100%	

*Semester Exams are developed and administered by each individual school.

Courses with EOC Exam

Courses with a State End of Course (EOC) Exam: Civics, Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology and US History. The score earned on the EOC, per Florida Statute 1003.4282, will constitute 30% of the final course grade.

The District's Student Information System will calculate the final semester grades after EOC scores are received directly from the FLDOE. Grades in the grade book will reflect semester grades prior to the final course grade calculation, which includes the EOC score as 30% of the final grade.

QUARTER 1	QUARTER 2	SEMESTER 1 EXAM	SEMESTER 1 GRADE	QUARTER 3	QUARTER 4	SEMESTER 2 EXAM	SEMESTER 2 GRADE
50%	+	50%	+	N/A	=	100%	
50%	+	50%	+	N/A	=	100%	

*The semester grades are not final until the EOC score has been included in the final course grade at 30%.

SEMESTER 1 GRADE	SEMESTER 2 GRADE	EOC SCORE **	FINAL COURSE GRADE*			
35%	+	35%	+	30%	=	100%

*The final course grade is posted to the student's permanent record / transcript and displayed on the final report card as Term 1 and Term 2.

**EOC Scores are calculated based on the student's EOC Exam Achievement Level. Each level is calculated as follows:

Achievement Level 1 = 59
 Achievement Level 2 = 69
 Achievement Level 3 = 79
 Achievement Level 4 = 89
 Achievement Level 5 = 100

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE

Any student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in reading skills based on district determined tests conducted before the end of grades 1, 2 and 3, or based on teacher recommendation, must be given intensive reading instruction until the deficiency is remedied. According to state regulations, if a student's reading deficiency is not remedied by the end of grade 3, as demonstrated by scoring at Level 2 or higher on Florida State Reading Assessment for grade 3, the student **MUST** be retained. Good Cause Exemptions shall be limited to the following:

1. ELL students who have had less than 2 years of instruction in an ESOL program based on the Date Entered US School.
2. Students with disabilities whose individual education plan indicate that participation in the statewide assessment program is not appropriate, consistent with the requirements of Section 1008.212, F.S.
3. Students who demonstrate an acceptable level of performance on an alternative standardized reading or English Language Arts assessment approved by the State Board of Education.
4. Students who demonstrate through a student portfolio that he or she is performing at least a Level 2 on the statewide standardized equivalent English Language Arts assessment.
5. Students with disabilities who participate in the FSA and who have an individual education plan or a Section 504 plan that reflects that the student has received intensive remediation in reading for more than 2 years but still demonstrates a deficiency in reading and was previously retained in kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, or Grade 3. (NOTE: this applies to students with disabilities who participate in the FSA, but still demonstrate a deficiency in reading after more than 2 years of intensive remediation, and were previously retained in kindergarten, first, second, or third grade.)
6. Students who have received the intensive remediation in reading for 2 or more years but still demonstrate a deficiency in reading and who were previously retained in kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, or Grade 3 for a total of 2 years. Intensive reading instruction for students so promoted must include an altered instructional day that includes specialized diagnostic information and specific reading strategies for each student. The district school board shall assist schools and teachers to implement reading strategies that research has shown to be successful in improving reading among low performing readers.
7. Students who have received intensive reading intervention for 2 or more years but still demonstrate a deficiency in reading and who were previously retained in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3 for a total of 2 years. A student may not be retained more than once in grade 3. [Section 1008.25(6)(b)6, F.S.]

Student retention provides students with additional time to master the skills required for success in the next higher grade. A student being considered for retention must be referred to the school-based promotion/retention team and may **not** be retained multi-years in the primary and/or intermediate grades. Any student in grade 3 who scores Level 1 on the Florida State Reading Assessment must be retained (see Exemption from Retention for Good Cause at www.polk-fl.net). **THE PRINCIPAL HAS THE FINAL DECISION FOR RETENTION** within the guidelines of Florida State Board Rules. Please contact your child's school to schedule a conference if you have concerns about their progress.

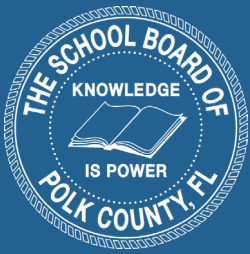
Students will receive a Progress Monitoring Plan (PMP) if they:

- Do not meet specific levels of performance as determined by the Polk County School Board in reading/writing, mathematics, science and/or social studies.
 - Do not meet specific levels of performance on statewide assessments at selected grade levels.
- The PMP is developed in consultation with the student's legal guardians and will be monitored throughout the year.

READING PROFICIENCY

RETENTION

PROGRESS MONITORING PLANS

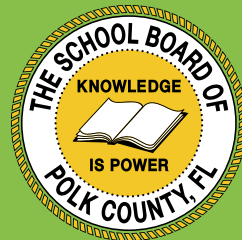


POLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS KEYS TO SUCCESS



Polk County School Board Television

Bright House Networks CH. 642
Comcast Cable CH. 7
Verizon FiOS CH. 45



For More News About Polk County Schools Visit: www.polk-fl.net

Follow us on
Twitter @PolkSchoolsNews
Facebook @PolkCountyPublicSchools