

Fruit Cove Middle School

"THE PILOT"



Bi-Weekly Newsletter

August 29, 2025

CHARACTER COUNTS!



ST. JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Pillar of the Month:
August — Citizenship

Important Dates

September 1
Labor Day
Student/Teacher Holiday

September 9-12
Book Fair

September 10
Interims Issued

September 19
Teacher Inservice Day
Student Holiday

October 10
First Quarter Ends

October 13
Teacher Planning Day
Student Holiday

October 22
Report Cards

November 11
Veterans Day
Student/Teacher Holiday

School Hours
7:30am-1:50pm

Wednesday Dismissal
@ 12:50pm

The building is open
from 7:00am to
3:00pm.

3180 Racetrack Rd

"HOME OF THE FLYERS"

904-547-7880

Mission Statement

Fruit Cove Middle School will inspire in all students a passion for lifelong learning, creating educated and caring contributors to the world.

NJHS



Applications for new members will be due Friday, September 5. No late applications will be accepted. Current members information forms are also due by Friday, September 5. If not turned in by this date, student will be removed from NJHS. Dues for all current members is also due by September 5.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Doemel or Ms. Farbo.

<https://www-fcs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/students/clubs/>

FCA News

Fellowship of Christian Athletes begins September 3. The club is an outstanding way for athletes to connect to other athletes as well as deepen their faith. Required Forms are found under "School Clubs" on our school website. Please turn all forms into Mrs. Benavides Room 570. Club fee is paid on SchoolPay



<https://www.schoolpay.com/pay/for/2526-FCA-Club-Fee/SbzAkUk>

Testing News

The testing calendar is available on the website:

<https://www-fcs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/testing/>

August/September 2025		PM 1 TESTING WINDOW 8/11-9/26					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				8/28 8 th GRADE READING AM/PM	8/29	8/30	
8/31	9/1 Labor Day	9/2	9/3 6 th GRADE READING AM ONLY	9/4 6 th GRADE READING AM ONLY	9/5 7 th GRADE READING AM/PM	9/6	
9/7	9/8 6 th GRADE MATH AM ONLY	9/9 6 th GRADE MATH AM ONLY	9/10 FLYERS CLUB READING	9/11 7 th GRADE MATH AM AND PM	9/12 8 th GRADE MATH AM AND PM	9/13	
9/14	9/15	9/16	9/17 FLYERS CLUB MATH	9/18	9/19 TEACHER IN- SERVICE	9/20	
9/21	9/22	9/23	9/24	9/25	9/26 LAST DAY FOR TESTING PM1	9/27	

SAC News



Please Join Us FCMS Families

Our School Advisory Council (SAC) needs school family and community members!

Our group meets with administration to get informed about matters that affect our school. The best part, we participate in votes for requests to SAC for funds that make an impact on our school. Last year, we voted to pay for new computers for classrooms/labs and items to support our school's PBIS incentive store for students at FCMS.

We meet the 2nd Tuesday monthly in the Media Center from 2:30-3.

Contact Tee'ha Carroll at teeha.carroll@stjohns.k12.fl.us or call if you have any questions at 904.547.7880.

What is SAC?

- A council of parents, school faculty and staff, and other community and business members who meet to address the needs of the school, as related to the school improvement plan.
- A council of stakeholders who vote on expenditures to support the school improvement plan, such as items for PBIS and new computers that were approved and purchased last year.
- FCMS SAC meets once a month, on the second Tuesday of each month at 2:30pm.

What are the duties of the teacher, parent, business, and community representatives?

- Members act as a resource for SAC in the areas of community related issues that affect the school and its students.
- Members serve as a communications link between SAC, business, community, and parent groups.

2025-2026 Sunshine State Young Readers Award Program

The SSYRA Program has begun! Interested students will be added to an SSYRA Course in Schoology after the [parent permission form](#) is returned. **Registration is ongoing until December 1, 2025.** Students will read an SSYRA book and take a 25-point quiz on the book. They must score 60% or over to receive credit for the book. Successful quizzes are rewarded with a Schoology badge and a PBIS point. The program ends on Sunday, April 26, 2026.



2025-2026 Sunshine State Young Readers Award List

The Battle of the Books team will be determined by the quizzes completed by Sunday, January 19, 2026. The seven students with the most books read and the highest average quiz score will make up the team. The District Battle will take place on Tuesday, March 24, 2026.

For more information, visit the media center website:

<https://www-fcs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/sunshine-state-young-readers-program/>

Adventurer's Guild Club



Calling all 7th and 8th Grade Adventurers!

Do you enjoy role-playing games like *Dungeons & Dragons*, *Pathfinder*, or other epic quests? Do you love solving mysteries, being the hero, or searching for hidden treasure? Then the **Adventurer's Guild** (formerly known as RPG Club) might be the after-school group for you!

Join us for an **informational meeting on September 9**—right after school until 2:30 in Room 355—to pick up an application and learn more about the adventure that awaits!

PTO Book Fair

September 9—12

September 9—12

Family Night—September 11 (4:00-6:00pm)

For more information, see the link below:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/fruitcovemiddleschool2>



Cross Country News

Calling all runners. FCMS Cross Country begins August 25th. We will train Monday/Tuesday/Thursday from 215-330pm. You may be a strong distance runner or even join us to cross train for your primary sport. There are no tryouts. All athlete make the team. Please contact Coach Benavides Jill.benavides@stjohns.k12.fl.us for all required forms and information. All requirements must be turned in before you are allowed to train with the team.



FCTC—ELL/ESOL Opportunities

In a collaborative effort to broaden the reach of FCTC's ELL/ESOL classes, and better meet the needs of St. Johns County School District students, families, employees, and the community, we would like to survey as many residents as we can to see if there is enough interest in adding evening ESOL classes to some of our district high schools.

<https://forms.office.com/r/7Q4GRbKz2g>



Library News



Welcome to the 2025/2026 School Year!



Hours: 7:10am—1:50pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
7:10am—12:50pm Wednesday

Jennifer Jaeger, Media Specialist

Please check the [Media Center homepage](#) for more information.

Students may check out three books at a time and keep them for two weeks. Overdue book notices are sent by email every Wednesday at 9:00am. There are no overdue fees, however, students who lose or damage a book are responsible for the cost of the item. Payments can be made using SchoolPay: \$10 for paperback books, \$20 for hard cover books (see the website).

Parents who wish to restrict titles their child may check out in the school library should complete the form linked below and return it to your child's teacher or the media center. This link is also available on the media center homepage. No form is necessary if there are to be no restrictions.

[Library Book Access Form](#)

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Dear families,

Get ready—the Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school! This is a great opportunity to build your child's home library with new books they'll dive into again and again.

The easiest way to let your child shop the Fair independently is by creating an eWallet. It's easy to set up and easy for others to add funds.

Create an eWallet and you'll also have the opportunity to contribute to Share the Fair - the giving program that supports students at our school who need help buying books. Consider participating so that no child leaves the Fair empty-handed!

Here's everything else you need to know about the Book Fair:

Dates: September 9-12

Time: Students will visit during their ELA period

Family Event schedule and location: September 11 (4 PM – 6 PM)

For full details, and to create an eWallet, visit our school's Book Fair homepage:

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/fruitcovemiddleschool2>

More than ever, we need to get students reading. Studies prove* that children with more books at home have higher-level reading skills, and attain more years of education overall.

Lastly, this is a great opportunity to be a Book Fair volunteer! When you give your time, it helps make our Fair an unforgettable reading experience where *every purchase* benefits our school directly. See below the sign up link for volunteering:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0B45A5AD23ABFC1-58241044-fcms>

Happy reading,

[Ms. Angie Hensley]

Principal

[Fruit Cove Middle School]

P.S. Don't miss out! A new Scholastic sweepstakes offers a chance to get more books for your child's home library—plus an unbelievable vacation!



© 2015 Disney

Enter for a chance to
WIN a trip for 4 to Walt Disney World.
+ a collection of Disney books*
Infinite worlds and infinite stories await!

*NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Open to legal US residents age 18+ who are currently a parent or legal guardian of a PreK through 8th grade child in US schools. Open for entries 8/11/25 at 12:01am ET through 11/2/25 at 11:59pm ET. Void where prohibited. Sponsor: Scholastic Inc. For complete rules, go to: s-bf.com/magic-sweeps-rules



s-bf.com/magic-sweeps

Fruit Cove Middle School

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK TODAY

School Code: 10456

\$40 Yearbook For A Limited Time

\$20 8th Grade Dedication



Dedication Deadline:
November 1st

www.YearbookOrderCenter.com

Front Office Reminders

2025-2026 Bus Schedules

Families who have not yet logged in to the [BusPlanner website](#) or the [Chipmunk app](#) are strongly encouraged to create an account before the start of the new school year.



Forgotten items

If a student has left schoolwork, a project, PE clothes, a band instrument, etc., please drop it off no later than **8:15AM**. These items will not be taken after that time. The only exceptions would be lunch, money for lunch, glasses, or medicine. Thank you for your help with this!

Early checkout

If you need to take your student out of school early, the latest time that he/she can be picked up is at **1:20PM (12:20PM on Wednesdays)**. If you come after that time, you will need to wait until dismissal at 1:50PM (12:50PM on Wednesdays) to get your student.

Attendance News



If a student is unable to attend school, upon returning, the parent/guardian must complete an online attendance form, or submit a note within 48 hours stating the date of the absence, the specific reason for the absence, and have the parent/guardian's signature.

Emails and phone calls are not accepted as notification of absence.

For more Information checkout our "[Attendance Tab](#)"

ParentSquare News

We're excited to share that St. Johns County School District is launching a new and improved way to stay connected — **ParentSquare!**

ParentSquare is a unified communication platform that streamlines how we share important information with you. With this all-in-one tool, you'll receive updates from the district, your child's school, and teachers — all in one convenient place.

Please download the App!

[Download the App](#)



Android



iOS

www.parentsquare.com

PBIS Wish List



PBIS Rewards is a schoolwide management system that assists our school with Positive Behavior Interventions and Support. This platform makes it easy to continuously recognize students for meeting and exceeding behavior expectations from anywhere in the school! We love using PBIS and are looking for your help to stock our school store using the Amazon Wish List below!



https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/12ZC1TLXAE366?ref_=wl_share

School Website

<<http://www-fcs.stjohns.k12.fl.us>>

Visit often for up-to-date information about our school!

Check out our Instagram Pages @FCMSWEB and @FruitCove_Flyers
Don't forget to check the [Peachjar](#) for eflyers about community events.



• FCMS •

SAC

School
Advisory
Committee

Join us...

**School
Library &
Virtually**

**2:30-
3:00pm**

**2nd
Tuesday
Monthly**

September 9th

October 14th

*November 18th

December 9th

January 13th

February 10th

March 10th

April 14th

May 12th

*Alternate date due to holiday

To Join Us... Contact Tee'ha Carroll at 904-547-7880 or teeha.carroll@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Guidelines for Generative Artificial Intelligence

Generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence that generates original content such as essays, images, music, or videos.

- Use of generative AI to complete assignments is prohibited unless there is documented permission from the teacher.
- Never present AI-generated work as your own.

Good to go



- Use generative AI responsibly to support, not replace, your learning
- Use district-approved tools with teacher permission
- Stay curious, learn about how to appropriately use generative AI

Be Cautious

- Check for bias or unfair perspectives
- Be aware that generative AI can make mistakes or provide outdated information
- Ask questions if you're unsure about how to use generative AI appropriately



Never



- Never share personal information
- Don't use generative AI to complete assignments without documented teacher permission
- Never use generative AI in ways that violate school policies or the law





PTO

AUG 29

"FLYER"



Website



Instagram



Facebook

NEW SPIRIT WEAR

<https://www.fcmspto.com/category/spirit-wear>

PTO MEMBERSHIP

<https://www.fcmspto.com/join-the-pt>

PTO BOARDING PASS FUNDRAISER

<https://www.fcmspto.com/product-page/scorecard-25-26>

JOIN US

FCMS PTO

STAFF MEMBERSHIP

\$5

Sponsor a Staff Membership

[fcmspto.com](https://www.fcmspto.com)

FCMS PTO Membership [fcmspto.com](https://www.fcmspto.com)

	Child Size	Adult Size	Base Amount
Access to Flash Spirit Wear Sales	✓	✓	✓
Early Access to Dance Tickets	✓	✓	✓
Color Powder for Color Run (\$5 value)	✓	✓	✓
Yearbook			✓
"Boarding Pass" (\$20 value)			✓
Raffle: \$100 Code Ninja Gift Certificate			✓

\$5 fee utility! membership includes 30% off ALL spirit wear items
We also have an option on our website for families to sponsor a teacher (does not include spirit wear discount)

100% of membership fees go back to teachers and students.

While your level of involvement—whether through volunteering, attending meetings, or supporting fundraisers—is entirely up to you, our goal is for 100% of families to contribute through membership dues. This collective support enables the PTO to make a meaningful impact on the students and teachers of FCMS.

FCMS SPIRIT WEAR

ORDER NOW!

TSHIRTS | POLOS | SWEATSHIRTS

Orders will be delivered to your child's homeroom.

Save the Date!

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH!

ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE DANCING, PHOTO BOOTH, GAMES, AND MORE!

September 26, 2025
6:00-8:00pm

Ticket information to follow on PTO Social Media Pages.

Please follow us on Facebook and IG!

Help support Fruit Cove Middle School

Chick-fil-A DRIVE THRU Spirit Day Fundraiser

Thursday, September 18, 2025
6:00AM-8:00PM



Chick-fil-A SOUTH FLORIDA
 19709 San Jose Blvd
 Jacksonville, FL 32225
 Next to Brooks Rehab & Across from Daytona

20% of their net sales donated back will help pay for events, equipment, and other needs to support students and teachers.

Must mention the fundraiser or Fruit Cove MS when ordering. Drive-Thru only.

SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIR time!

September 9th - September 12th
 Family Night - September 11th (4 PM - 6 PM)

Digital Sign - <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/activities/2025-book-fair>
 Volunteer Sign Up - <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/activities/2025-book-fair>

Book Fair eWallet
 The easy way for kids to pay!

Sign for families to set up, easy for others to contribute. eWallet lets your child shop independently and choose books they want to read. After the Fair, any unspent funds become a Scholastic eGiftCard to use at a future Fair or to shop online.

Visit our school's Book Fair homepage to get started:
<https://www.fcmspto.com/2025-book-fair>

BOARDING PASS!

A great way to help our school and enjoy dining and services around Saint Johns! The FCMS PTO BOARDING PASS is our main fundraising that will help us contribute to school improvements. Several merchants are participating and offering great discounts that will pay for the card when you use it at your convenience during the school year. The card expires on August 31, 2026. Once you purchase the card on the [PTO Website](https://www.fcmspto.com), we will send it home in a sealed envelope with your child. Thank you!



For joining the PTO!

We are soaring towards 100% membership!

Thank you! :)

Come Drive the Bus with Us!

**Sat, Oct 25
8am to 11am**



BUDDY BUS

**Joined By Our
Community
Partners**



BLOOD MOBILE

PUBLIC SAFETY CAMPUS TEST TRACK

3640 GAINES ROAD

ST. AUGUSTINE, FL 32084



MUST HAVE A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE



FORTIFYFL

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

**#FORTIFYFL
GETFORTIFYFL.COM**



**DOWNLOAD
NOW**



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org