

# Fruit Cove Middle School

# THE PILOT

Bi-Weekly Newsletter

3180 Racetrack Road "Home of the Flyers" 904-547-7880



January 9, 2026



Pillar of the Month:  
January - Respect

## Important Dates

### January 15

Report Cards

### January 19

Martin Luther King Jr Day  
Student/Teacher Holiday

### February 10

Interims Issued

### February 13

Teacher Inservice Day  
Student Holiday

### February 16

Presidents' Day  
Student/Teacher Holiday

### March 12

Third Quarter Ends  
March 13

### March 13

Teacher Planning Day  
Student Holiday

### March 16-20

Spring Break  
Student/Teacher Holiday

### March 23

Classes Resume for Students

### School Hours

7:30am-1:50pm

Wednesday Dismissal @

12:50pm

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

### Mission Statement

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



## Track & Field News

2026 FCMS Track and Field season begins Monday, Jan 26th. Email Coach Benavides at [jill.benavides@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:jill.benavides@stjohns.k12.fl.us) for all required forms. ALL requirements must be submitted BEFORE an athlete may join us.



## B6 Club News

### UPCOMING MEETING DATES:

Upcoming meetings:

January 22, February 5 & 19 1:55-3:00pm.

Meetings dates will always be posted on Schoology group page. Parents, please arrange for your child to be picked up in the front of the school by 3:00pm at the front loop (or walk/ride bike home at 3:00pm).

## 8th Grade Semi-Formal

February 1, 2026

6:00 - 8:00pm

St. Johns Golf & Country Club



Tickets can be purchased for \$30 by clicking on the link below.

<https://www.fcmspto.com/>



NJHS members will be creating and collecting items to send to the Children's Hospital at Baptist South for Valentines Day. Only the members will be doing this, it is not for all the student body. Valentines decorations, cards, small gifts can be dropped off to Mrs. Doemel or Ms. Farbo. Due date for all donations is January 30

## NJHS News

The next NJHS meetings:

Tuesday, January 13th is the officers meeting  
Thursday, January 15th is the all members meeting.



## Library News

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:

**SchoolPay: Paperback  
Library Book (\$10)**

**SchoolPay: Hard Cover  
Library Book (\$20)**

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](#)

## January Testing

### FRUIT COVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

**January  
2026**

WIDA TESTING 1/12-3/13

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			<b>1</b> New Year's Day	<b>2</b>
<b>5</b> CLASSES RESUME FOR STUDENTS	<b>6</b> 8 <sup>TH</sup> FAST READING AM/PM	<b>7</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> FAST READING	<b>8</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> FAST READING	<b>9</b> 7 <sup>TH</sup> FAST READING AM/PM
<b>12</b> 8 <sup>TH</sup> FAST MATH	<b>13</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> FAST MATH	<b>14</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> FAST MATH	<b>15</b> 7 <sup>TH</sup> FAST MATH AM/PM	<b>16</b>
<b>19</b> M L King Day	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Testing window ends.
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

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

## Join Us FCMS Families!

Our School Advisory Council (SAC) meets with the administration to stay updated on issues impacting our school.

For more information, please visit our website:

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

Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 13. Join us in person or online!

Microsoft Teams Need help?

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 295 114 505 494 5

Passcode: Sz6xL25r



Dial in by phone

+1 904-420-0831,,972032183# United States,  
Jacksonville

Find a local number

Phone conference ID: 972 032 183#

Contact Tee'ha Carroll

at [teeha.carroll@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:teeha.carroll@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

or call if you have any questions at 904.547.7880.

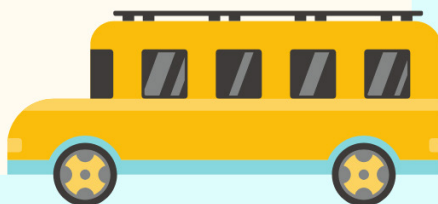
*Save the date  
& money!*

**8th Grade Incentive Trip to  
Gradventure Universal Studios**

**Friday, May 15th**

Information packets will be handed out  
in the New Year along with details to  
attend.

Cost will be \$225  
per student.  
Details will be  
provided.



## Cell Phone Reminder

Florida law prohibits middle school students from using wireless devices during the instructional school day, from the time they arrive on campus until the end of the day. This means phones must be powered off and stored away. Students may not call parents if in school. PLEASE add the school phone number to your contacts so your student or administration can reach you via phone if necessary.

The number is (904) 547-7874.

## Fruit Cove Middle School Last Call for Yearbooks!

New year, new memories to look back on!

Don't let the calendar flip without grabbing one of the last few yearbooks. Trust me - this smart dog knows you'll be glad you did!"



Less than 150 remain!

\$45



website to buy: [www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com)

School Code : 10456

# EVENT 2025-2026 SCHEDULE

8th Grade  
transition to HS

1

OCT  
ALL DAY

CAREER LESSONS  
THROUGH CIVICS  
CLASSES

Labs 835 and 845

5

DEC  
2<sup>ND</sup> PD

MIDDLE SCHOOL  
BLITZ

Overview of Academies throughout the district

Auditorium

18

FEB  
ALL DAY

HIGH SCHOOL VIDEO  
THROUGH PE CLASSES

Auditorium

19

FEB  
2<sup>ND</sup> PD

CREEKSIDE HIGH  
SCHOOL PEP RALLY

Auditorium

24-26

FEB  
ALL DAY

CREEKSIDE HIGH  
SCHOOL SCHEDULES

Go through language arts classes.  
Other schools will be TBD

Media Center





**JAN**

12 - AWAY VS PACETTI BAY

15 - BYE

21 - HOME VS SWISS POINT

22 - HOME VS GAMBLE ROGERS

**TEACHER APPRECIATION**

27 - HOME VS MURRAY

29 - AWAY VS LANDRUM

**FEB**

3 - AWAY AT SEBASTIAN

5 - HOME VS PACETTI BAY

10 - BYE

12 - AWAY VS SWISS POINT

17 - AWAY AT GAMBLE ROGERS

19 - AWAY AT MURRAY

24 - HOME VS LANDRUM

26 - HOME VS SEBASTIAN

**8TH GRADE NIGHT**

**MAR**

1 - SEMI FINALS

4 - CHAMPIONSHIP

**Doors open - 5:00pm**

**Girls - 5:30pm**

**Boys - 6:30**

**FLYER BASKETBALL**



# 8TH GRADERS

Program of Interest Application  
window now open!

Go to HAC Directions to see how to apply

## What is a program of Interest?

Opportunities exist for students to either learn real-world experience, graduate with an AA degree, start a career, further study an art, or join JROTC

Go to Programs of Interest to find out what program are available

## Keep in Mind

Your paragraph text

This is not the time to request electives, only to apply for a program of interest

Window closes on 1-26-26



## Remember

Students will go over their high school schedules at the end of February with their high school counselor to review teacher recommendations and to choose electives. A schedule will be sent out at a later date

## Questions?

Email [academies@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:academies@stjohns.k12.fl.us) or call (904) 547-6000  
or Email your child's school counselor  
[Amanda.Johnson@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Amanda.Johnson@stjohns.k12.fl.us) (A-L)  
[Kelly.howard@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Kelly.howard@stjohns.k12.fl.us) (M-Z)

# Career Academies

Application submission deadline for students currently enrolled in a St. Johns County public school: January 26, 2026, by 5:00 p.m.

## Timeline

Nov. 4- Dec. 10	Middle School Blitz held at each Middle School
10-Dec	High School Showcase Event 3:30 – 7:00 pm (World Golf Village Convention Center, 500 S Legacy Trail, St. Augustine, FL 32092)
5-Jan	Online Application OPENS 8:00 for newly applying 5th, 8th and 9th grade students.
January 8-22	Academy Nights (see schedule below)
21-Jan	St. Johns County Center for the Arts AUDITIONS at St. Augustine High School.
January TBD	Murray Middle School Arts auditions will be held at Murray Middle School and please bring your printed audition form.
	**Check school websites for audition sign-up directions.
26-Jan	Registration Deadline – Online – Registration will be closed at 5:00 p.m.
31-Jan	Last day for late applications
1-Jul	All out of zone placement decisions will be finalized

**Each high school will host an informational 2026 Academy Night. All parents with a student interested in attending one of the academies should make plans to attend these events. Each Academy Night will begin promptly at the time listed.**

1/21/2026	Allen D. Nease High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/12/2026	Bartram Trail High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/20/2026	Beachside High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/8/2026	Creekside High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/13/2026	Pedro Menendez High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/14/2026	Ponte Vedra High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/15/2026	St. Augustine High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/15/2026	St. Johns Technical High School	5:30 – 7:00pm
1/13/2026	<a href="#">St. Johns Virtual School</a>	5:30 – 7:00pm (Virtual)
1/22/2026	Tocoi Creek High School	5:30 – 7:00pm

Any SJCS D resident who is moving a student from home school, virtual school or private school may apply for an academy by pre-registering for school online at the SJCS D website and selecting to also apply for a Program of Interest. All pre-registrations need to be completed online by the end of the school day January 26, 2026.

For more information: <https://cte.stjohns.k12.fl.us/> If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact the Career & Technical Education Department at (904) 547-6000.





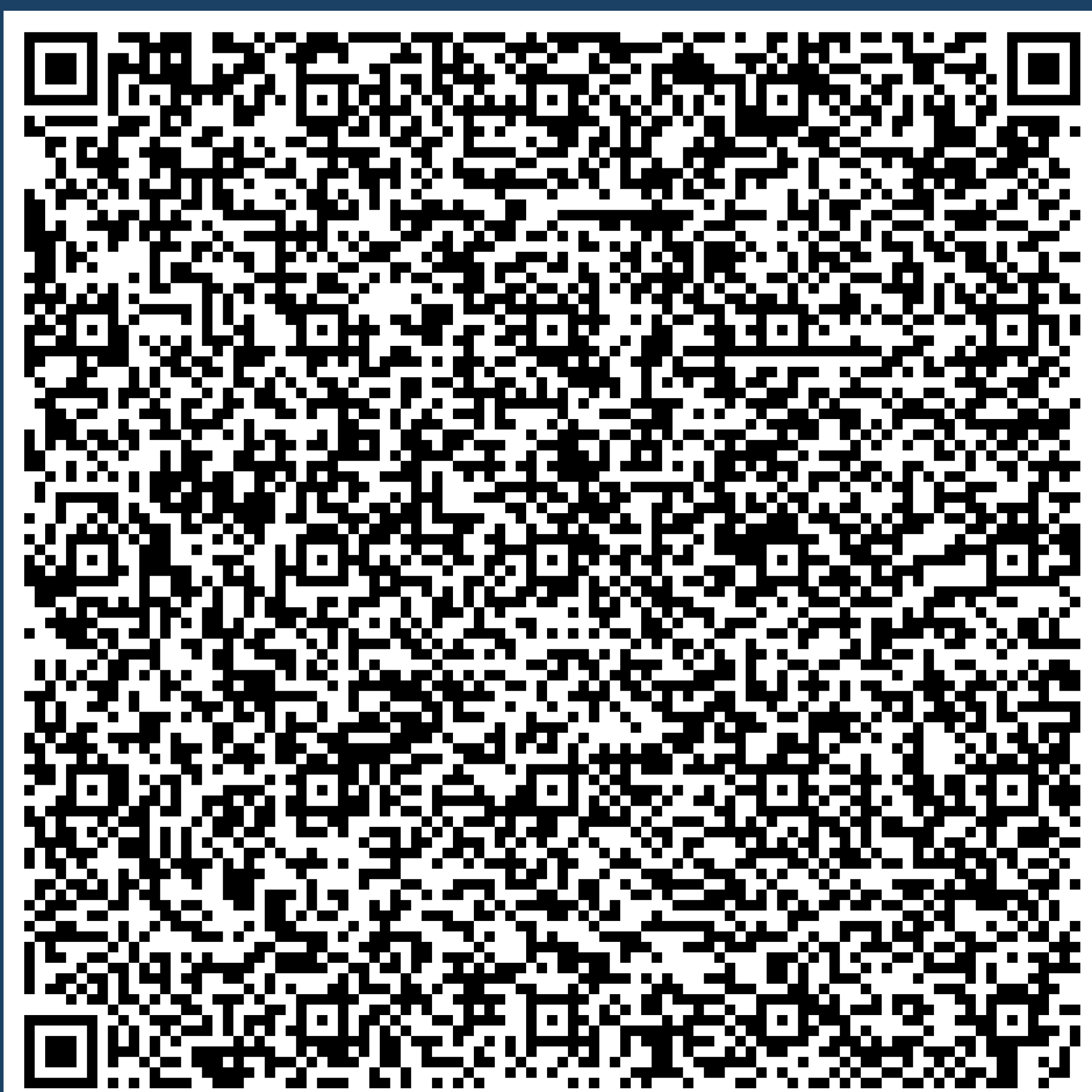
School Budget Transparency  
Presentation for Taxpayers

# VIRTUAL MEETING

CALLING ALL ST. JOHNS COUNTY CITIZENS FOR A  
SPECIAL VIRTUAL PRESENTATION BY  
SUPERINTENDENT DR. ASPLEN.

**MONDAY  
JANUARY 12  
7:00 P.M.**

[Click to Join](#)



**WEDNESDAY  
JANUARY 14  
7:00 P.M.**

[Click to Join](#)





## Front Office Reminders

**Forgotten items:** Please drop off any schoolwork, projects, PE clothes, or band instruments by 8:15 AM. After that, only lunch, lunch money, glasses, or medicine can be accepted. Thank you for your cooperation!

**Early checkout:** To pick up your student early, arrive by 1:20PM (12:20PM on Wednesdays). After that, you'll wait until dismissal at 1:50PM (12:50PM on Wednesdays).

**School Access:** Non-staff individuals must complete the district's volunteer application for school access, valid for 3 years. For assistance with the online application, call (904) 547-3945.

**Attendance:** If a student misses school, the parent/guardian must complete an online form or submit a note within 48 hours detailing the absence date, reason, and signature. Emails and phone calls are not accepted for notifying absences.



St. Johns County School District has introduced ParentSquare, a sleek communication platform for sharing vital updates from the district, your child's school, and teachers—all in one place. Please download the app Google Play or Apple Store!



Android



iOS



## 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



Students can earn PBIS points daily for exhibiting positive traits like citizenship, trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, and caring. These points can be traded for rewards in our online PBIS store, managed by the WEB Team. To order, students log in via /clever, choose their rewards, and place orders by Tuesday for delivery on the first and third Friday of each month.

[Support our positive choices initiative!](#)  
[Visit our PBIS store!](#)

Thank you for your support!



<<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.



JAN 9

# PTO "FLYER"



Website



Instagram



Facebook

## 8TH GRADE SEMI FORMAL



6PM | 02.01.2026 | 8PM

ST JOHNS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB



## 8TH GRADE PREMIER WEEK

★ Day 1: Movie Star Monday

Dress like a famous actor, musician, or iconic character from a red-carpet premiere.

🏆 Day 2: Awards Show Spirit Day

Wear school colors or spirit wear as if you're attending the big award night for your school.

🎁 Day 3: Class & Chill Wednesday  
PAJAMA DAY

★ Day 4: Best Ensemble Cast Day  
Coordinate matching outfits with a friend group or club

🎤 Day 5: - 80s & 90s Pop Icons  
Dress like a celebrity from another era—  
Madonna, MJ, Britney, Prince, etc.

PLEASE FOLLOW ALL SCHOOL GUIDELINES WHEN  
DRESSING UP

## OPEN POSITION

### 8th GRADE EVENTS

The PTO is looking for a passionate new addition to our team! Much of the planning in this position is already in motion and we need somebody to successfully see it through.

Please contact PTO PRESIDENT VIA EMAIL:  
FCMSPTOPRESIDENT@GMAIL.COM

**BRAVOZ™**  
FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

## Fun Night

Trampoline Park  
Laser Tag  
Ninja Course

14985 Old Saint Augustine Road  
Jacksonville, FL

Thursday, February 12, 2026  
6-9pm

Get your discounted tickets and support the PTO by pre-purchasing here:  
<https://bit.ly/3WDyTO1>



# THANK YOU

to the PTO BUSINESS PARTNERS

## Maverick



**Smiles by  
DR CRAIG HADGIS  
ORTHODONTIST**

**Craig T Hadgis DDS**  
Board Certified Orthodontic Specialist

## Blue Angel




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REALTOR®  
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www.dmccarty.watsonrealtycorp.com  
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