



# Notebook

July 2024



## KEY DATES

July 31 & August 7  
Early-Release Wednesdays  
(RAWLINGS ONLY)

August 1; 5:30 p.m.  
School Board Public Hearing on  
Tentative Budget/Millage  
District Office Boardroom

August 1-2  
Teacher Professional  
Development  
(10-month schools)

August 5-9  
Teacher Pre-Planning  
(10-month schools)

August 6; 6 pm  
School Board Meeting  
District Office Boardroom

August 7, 1 p.m.  
School Board Workshop  
District Office Boardroom

August 12  
First Day for Students  
(10-month schools)

August 20  
School Board Meeting  
District Office Boardroom

August 21  
Early-Release Wednesday\*

\*For elementary schools AND  
High Springs, Sidney Lanier,  
A. Quinn Jones and Duval

More information at  
[www.sbac.edu](http://www.sbac.edu)

## New/relocated students should register NOW!

Students who will be entering an Alachua County public school for the first time and those who have moved or will be moving to a new school within the district should be registered as soon as possible. They can be registered Monday through Thursday the week of July 29 and Monday through Friday the following week. (Schools are closed July 26.)

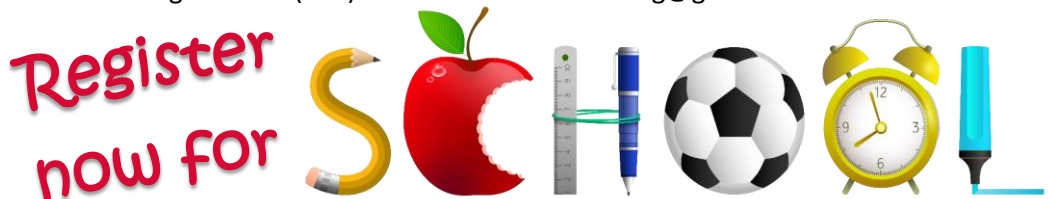
Last-minute registrations mean long waits for families, delays in starting class and fewer course options, particularly for middle and high school students. They also make it harder for principals and other school and district staff to create student schedules, hire staff, finalize bus routes and plan other programs and services.

If a child will be entering an Alachua County public school for the first time, parents should go to their zoned school with documents including the child's birth certificate, proof of a recent physical, proof of immunizations and two proofs of primary residence.

For those who've moved to a different school zone within the county, they'll need to take just the two proofs of residence to the new school.

More information about enrolling in school, including the online registration form, is available at [www.sbac.edu/enrollment](http://www.sbac.edu/enrollment).

Parents who aren't sure which school their child is zoned for or who need more information can visit the district's website at [www.sbac.edu/zoning](http://www.sbac.edu/zoning), contact the district's zoning office at (352) 955-7700 or email [zoning@gm.sbac.edu](mailto:zoning@gm.sbac.edu).



*Alachua County Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, disability (Section 504/ACA), sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, genetics or legally-protected characteristics in its educational programs, services or activities, or in its hiring or employment practices. The district also provides equal access to its facilities to the Boy Scouts and other patriotic youth groups, as required by the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act.*

*The School Board designates the following individuals to serve as the district's 'compliance officers' (also known as the Civil Rights Coordinators), who shall also serve as the district's Section 504 Compliance Officers/ADA Coordinators and Title IX coordinators.*

*Questions, complaints or requests for additional information regarding discrimination or harassment may be sent to: Alisha Williams, 352-955-7713, [williamsar@gm.sbac.edu](mailto:williamsar@gm.sbac.edu) (for employees); Dr. Toni Griffin, 352-955-7676, ext. 1604, or Damera Hopkins, 352-955-7671, ext. 6342 or [hopkinsdl@gm.sbac.edu](mailto:hopkinsdl@gm.sbac.edu) (for students)*

## Early-release Wednesdays now just once a month

Students will have nearly six extra days-worth of learning under a new early-release Wednesday schedule for the 2024-25 school year.

Beginning this fall, students in all elementary schools and High Springs Community School, Sidney Lanier School, A. Quinn Jones School and the Duval Early Learning Academy will have just one early-release Wednesday each month rather than every week. Most months the early-release Wednesday will be the third Wednesday of the month, but in March, it will be the fourth Wednesday, (March 26) to avoid Spring Break.

Students at Rawlings Center for the Fine Arts, which has moved to a year-round calendar, will continue to have early-release Wednesdays weekly up through and including August 7 before moving to the monthly schedule. Beginning with August 21 and for the rest of the school year, Rawlings and the other affected schools will have early-release Wednesdays on: August 21, September 18, October 16, November 20, December 18, January 15, February 19, March 26, April 16 and May 21.

## Family Access platform helps keep parents informed

Families can stay up-to-date on their child's grades, assignments, test scores, absences, discipline records and more by signing up for the free Skyward Family Access platform, which is available on their phones, tablets, laptops and desktops. Families can also use the system throughout the year to change their emails and phone numbers. They can even report their child's absences through Family Access rather than reporting them directly to the school.

Information on signing up for Skyward Family Access is available at [www.sbac.edu/familyaccess](http://www.sbac.edu/familyaccess). Parents can also contact their school or email [familyaccessrequest@gm.sbac.edu](mailto:familyaccessrequest@gm.sbac.edu) for help.



## Free parent coaching, support available to ACPS families

Alachua County Public Schools continues to offer free parent coaching for any ACPS family through its partnership with the national Cook Center and ParentGuidance.org.

The free service includes weekly calls with a dedicated coach and 24/7 app messaging with a response within 24 hours when needed. Families can also access other tools, including a variety of helpful videos and other content. To sign up for parent coaching, go to <https://cookcenter.info/coaching>.

The Cook Center also provides free monthly webinars for all ACPS families. Those webinars are focused on mental health and related issues. They are typically held the final Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. and are available in both English and Spanish. Fliers about the webinars are posted on the ACPS website at [www.sbac.edu/parentacademy](http://www.sbac.edu/parentacademy). Notices are also sent to parents through the Skylert parent notification system, fliers emailed through the Peachjar platform and reminders posted on the district's social media pages.

Welcome back to school!



## Check out the ACPS Back to School page!

Families will find plenty of information to make the start of school easier by visiting the district's Back to School page at [www.sbac.edu/backtoschool](http://www.sbac.edu/backtoschool). That includes enrollment information, school supply lists, bus schedules (available August 1), meet your teacher and open house dates/times, school calendars and more.