

# Z IN THE ONE

SEMINOLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Kindergarten Coding in ALL Kindergarten classrooms  
at SCPS Elementary Schools



Issue #1

SCPS Newsletter

January 29, 2016

From SCPS Superintendent - Dr. Walt Griffin

## Greetings SCPS Families,



It gives me great pleasure to share with you our new and exciting Quarterly e-newsletter, "In-The-Zone!" This publication will be your go-to-source filled with all the latest news, information, and happenings from across the district. Our goal behind this resource is to provide yet another useful tool to communicate, connect, and engage with our parents, business leaders, and community.

Remember, there are many ways our district communicates news and information to you, such as:

Website: [www.scps.us](http://www.scps.us)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SeminoleCountySchools](http://www.facebook.com/SeminoleCountySchools)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/SCPSinfo](http://www.twitter.com/SCPSinfo) or @SCPSinfo

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/SeminoleCoSchoolsFL](http://www.youtube.com/SeminoleCoSchoolsFL)

Pinterest: [www.pinterest.com/SCPSinfo](http://www.pinterest.com/SCPSinfo)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/SCPSinfo](http://www.instagram.com/SCPSinfo)

Flickr: [www.flickr.com/SCPSinfo](http://www.flickr.com/SCPSinfo)

In addition, the district and all of our schools utilize our SchoolConnects phone and email system to distribute important reminders, updates, and emergency information when something out of the ordinary occurs. It's important for parents to

know, that in order to receive these types of notifications, we must have accurate and updated phone and email addresses for you listed in Skyward. Please be sure you've listed all the phone numbers you wish to be contacted at such as: home, work, and cell into the Skyward database and also list all the email addresses you wish to receive information to.

The SchoolConnects system also provides us the ability for text-messaging. However, parents must opt-in first to allow us to send such messages. There are three key steps to follow:

- 1.) As mentioned above, make sure the cell number you wish to receive text messages to is entered into the Skyward database for your student(s).
- 2.) Next, from your cell phone, text the word "Join" to the number 56360.
- 3.) Finally, create a contact in your phone for your child's school or SCPS with the number 56360. You may always unsubscribe to this service at anytime by texting the word "Stop" to that same 56360 number from your cell phone.

It's a team effort to continually make SCPS the "High-Achieving" and "A"-rated district we are year-after-year and I hope you'll take this opportunity to stay connected with us in whichever way is most convenient and comfortable for you. Thanks to our hard-working students, teachers, administrators, school board members, and you, our involved parents and community members, SCPS remains one of the top public school districts in the state.

Our children's futures are very bright because of it so, I wish to close this message by simply saying THANK YOU to everyone that makes SCPS GREAT!

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## DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

### **SCPS Extended Day Child Care - Quality Care That Is Convenient And Affordable**

The Extended Day Child Care and Enrichment Program is a fee-supported program operated by Seminole County Public Schools under the direction of the Elementary Education Department and follows the Florida Department of Education standards. We follow the School District policies and school calendar. The program provides a balance of both educational and recreational activities that are enjoyable for each child. The safety and well being of each child is a major aspect of our program. Program staff are trained to assist student's progress through daily activities and making appropriate decisions regarding their behavior. We provide a safe and familiar setting for pre-kindergarten and elementary school children.

The Extended Day Child Care and Enrichment Program offers before and after school child care, enrichment classes, and summer camp. The children are directed through various fun and educational activities: snack time, organized playground games, supervised homework time, arts and crafts, and special events following a centers based approach. Each day after and/or during attendance the children are provided snack and then participate in the scheduled activities: organized playground games, supervised homework time, arts and crafts, character education, and special events that are both fun and educational. The computer lab is used at select schools.

The Enrichment classes are offered for a ten-week period in the Spring and Fall for one hour after school. The classes are available at an additional cost. It is not included in the weekly childcare fees. Classes vary by school. Our summer camp is open to children who are in kindergarten through 5th grade for the current school year. There are typically four school locations and registration begins April 1st of each school year. Program fees include lunch and all field trips.

#### **Hours of Operations**

Before School Care	7:00 A.M. – 8:15 A.M.
After School Care	from dismissal – 6:00 P.M.
Early Dismissal	from dismissal – 6:00 P.M.

We look forward to serving you and your family.

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## **Choices - Learn about all the Choices your children have as SCPS students**

The Choices Department manages the various processes for student assignment that promote and support the Excellence and Equity goals of Seminole County Public Schools (SCPS). Those processes include school choice options that help minimize overcrowded conditions, promote and maintain a diverse student enrollment, accommodate family choice to the maximum extent possible, and support the implementation of educational pathways (ePathways) initiatives to the maximum extent possible. Seminole County Public Schools educational choice options for families include:

### **Choice of Residence**

- All families are zoned to an elementary (Kindergarten – 5th grade), middle (6th grade – 8th grade), and high school (9th grade – 12th grade) based upon their address. Families are able to check their school zones here <http://www.scps.k12.fl.us/Schools/SchoolInformation/SchoolZoneSearch.aspx>
- -All residential addresses will be zoned to one elementary school, one middle school, and one high school except for those addresses, which are zoned to an elementary region school zone. Those addresses are zoned for any one of three elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. If your address is zoned to elementary Region 1, Region 2, or Region 3 and you would like more information please visit <http://choices.scps.k12.fl.us/RegionSchools/RegionZones.aspx>

### **Magnet Schools & Programs**

- Magnet Schools are high-quality and innovative educational programs that specialize in a particular theme and are open to all Seminole County students who meet the eligibility requirements. Magnet Schools offer dedicated classes with specific instruction related to the theme of the school or program.
- There are magnet schools and programs at the elementary, middle, and high school level for those students who have a specific academic interest.
- For more information about elementary magnet options visit <http://choices.scps.k12.fl.us/MagnetSchools/ElementaryMagnetSchools.aspx>
- For more information about middle school magnet options visit <http://choices.scps.k12.fl.us/MagnetSchools/MiddleSchoolMagnets.aspx>
- For more information about high school magnet options visit <http://choices.scps.k12.fl.us/MagnetSchools/HighSchoolMagnets.aspx>

### **Program Specific Transfer Options**

- At the high school level there are a limited number of program specific transfer options available. These “Program of Emphasis Transfer” options allow students to pursue a specific area of study that might not be available at their zoned school.

- Program of Emphasis Transfers are available for incoming 9th grade students prior to the start of the school year.
- For more information about high school Program of Emphasis Transfers visit <http://www.seminoleschoolchoices.us/Home/NewsStories/NewsProgramEmphasis.aspx>

### **Capacity Transfer Options**

- A school choice option that is permitted under School Board Policy 5.30 to encourage the transfer of students from overcrowded schools to less overcrowded or under-enrolled schools.
- Transportation is not provided.
- If approved, the student is eligible to remain at the requested school through the highest grade.
- The transfer remains valid as long as the student remains a resident of the same attendance zone.
- All available options are published annually on a transfer chart.
- For more information about capacity transfers visit <http://www.seminoleschoolchoices.us/Transfers/CapacityTransfersCharts.aspx>

### **Diversity Transfer Options**

- A school choice option that is permitted under School Board Policy 5.30 that is designed to balance the free and reduced-price meals participation at district schools.
- Students who qualify for free and reduced-price meals who attend a school with a high percentage of free and reduced-price meals may transfer to schools with a low percentage of free and reduced-price meals. Transportation is provided to a designated school. Other school choices are without transportation.
- Students who do not qualify for free and reduced-price meals who attend a school with a low percentage of free and reduced-price meals may transfer to schools with a high percentage of free and reduced-price meals. Transportation is provided to a designated school. Other school choices are without transportation.
- If approved, the student is eligible to remain at the requested school through the highest grade.
- The transfer remains valid as long as the student remains a resident of the same attendance zone.
- All available options are published annually on a transfer chart.
- For more information about capacity transfers visit <http://www.seminoleschoolchoices.us/Transfers/DiversityIncentiveTransfersCharts.aspx>

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### **SCPS Dining Services** - A restaurant approach for our student guests

At Seminole County Public Schools (SCPS), when it comes to dining services, the students are guests and the cafeteria is a restaurant. We have a focus on nutritious, fresh meal options that is convenient for both parent and

student and is a cost savings to the parents. Everything is done with higher standards and a high level of customer service in mind.

SCPS is leading the industry with our new antibiotic-free, hormone-free, steroid-free all-white meat chicken. We are the first school district in the state and one of the first in the country offering this on our menu. The chicken sandwich is all white meat with whole grain breading, which is half the calories and fat and a quarter of the sodium when compared to our fast food restaurant counterpart.

SCPS has two registered dietitians on staff to make sure that all Seminole County students receive healthy, nutritious meals to help them be successful in the classroom. This includes offering a variety of whole fresh fruits and vegetables and fresh salads every day and a protein option every morning for breakfast. Also, our pizzas are made fresh with whole wheat dough and reduced fat cheese.

Products used in our restaurants at each of the schools are name brand products that you would likely purchase for your families already. SCPS also purchases products, like the fruits and vegetables, from Florida growers which helps sustain the local economy.

In addition, parents can conveniently add money to their child's account, safely and securely online and without any convenience fees at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). Also, for easy access, the school lunch menus are available at the new SCPS app for Apple or Google Devices.

Purchasing lunch at school is not only convenient, but can save parents approximately about \$100 dollars, per child, per school year.

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## Kindergarten Coding Is Being Taught In ALL Kindergarten Classroom In SCPS

The 2015-16 school year has been especially exciting for kindergarten students in Seminole County! This year, they are being introduced to the concept of coding through a carefully planned curriculum that was developed by SCPS teachers and staff. These ten lessons will help prepare kindergarten students for the future by allowing them to become familiar with technological devices while also learning the fundamentals of computer science.

Coding has become an essential skill in our global society. It is estimated that 1.4 million programming jobs will need to be filled over the next decade, making computer programming a possible high-wage, high-demand career pathway for many students. More importantly, learning to code also helps students develop the skills needed to think logically, solve problems and challenge themselves. For these reasons, SCPS has decided to expose students to coding at a young age.



We also believe that the best way to approach teaching kindergarteners how to code is to adapt existing resources and programs to fit student needs. iPads and Bee-Bots, which are small programmable robots, are being used to teach kindergarteners the basics of computer programming. First, students use physical movement to become familiar with coding concepts, then they work in a team with the Bee-Bot Robots, and finally they use basic coding applications on iPads. Parents are also encouraged to practice coding at home with their kindergarteners through extension activities provided to students.





*Photos: Ms. Neal's kindergarten class at Woodlands Elementary participating in a coding lesson with the Bee-Bots.*

## Two New Blended Learning Courses For SCPS Middle School Students

SCPS is excited about two new blended learning courses available to middle school students! Launched in the fall of 2015, iJourney and iConnect are two courses that make up the ePathways iSeries for middle school. Both courses are taught in a blended learning format, which combines traditional face-to-face instruction with online learning. iJourney is a course that can be taken at all twelve middle schools in Seminole County, while iConnect is being piloted at nine schools with expansion to the other three in the near future. iJourney empowers students to explore their interests and learn about career opportunities that may suit them and offers the opportunity for students to earn the Living Online digital tool certification. iConnect teaches students to use technology to effectively



communicate with various audiences and presents the opportunity to earn two digital tool certificates, Key Applications and Computing Fundamentals.



iJourney is an interactive course which allows students to explore their interests, examine potential career pathways, and become educated about online communication and digital citizenship. Teachers are leading students in discussions and activities along with self-guided online instruction. Students will learn about how to become more successful in school along with how to contribute to our digital society.

iJourney also encourages students to think and plan their futures through creation of a portfolio that describes their future plans. This information will assist teachers, counselors, and administrators to help students achieve their goals.

iConnect is a high school half-credit course offered to middle schools. This course meets the blended and online learning requirement for high school graduation. iConnect helps students learn how to use Word, Excel, PowerPoint and HTML/Coding to effectively communicate with others. In the beginning of



the course, students pick a topic based on their interests that will be used all semester. Once the students learn the basics of different methods of communication, students will tailor the message that they have written for different audiences. By the conclusion of the course, students should be able to use a variety of tools to communicate effectively.



Parents of middle school students should expect to see their children acquire new skills and knowledge in these courses that will continue to be used in high school and beyond.



Photos: Ms. McLinden 7th grade iJourney class at Jackson Heights Middle School in Oviedo working on a lesson on navigating the web safely.

## What Is SCPS' CS2020?



In Seminole County, we have an obligation to prepare our students for their futures—for solving problems not yet identified, in jobs not yet envisioned, using technologies not yet invented. This challenge requires us to focus on helping students develop lifelong skills such as problem-solving and communication while also teaching about emerging disciplines and careers.

For these reasons, ramping up instruction in computer science (CS) will be a significant priority of this school district for the next five years. We are calling this exciting initiative CS 2020 because, by the 2020-21 school year, all Seminole County students in grades PreK-8 will experience computer science and robust pathways will be available to high school students who wish to continue their studies.

This initiative is important because we believe that our graduates who understand computer science will be informed citizens, prosperous workers, and knowledgeable consumers. Mary Meeker, a venture capitalist who reports on global technology trends, has noted that as of 2015 there are 5.2 billion people worldwide using mobile phones and 2.8 billion people accessing the Internet. With these numbers continuing to grow, the consumer, business, security, education, healthcare, and governmental sectors of the U.S. economy will evolve rapidly.

Jobs should be plentiful for those who can code, and more importantly many types of workers will need to have a general knowledge of computer science in order to succeed at their jobs. Tasneem Raja, a writer and computer science specialist, has argued that "...exposing today's third-graders to a dose of code may mean that at 30 they retain enough to ask the right questions of a programmer..."

We also want students to learn about the ways in which computer science can be used to harm others. We need to teach students about the dangers of cybercrime and how to protect themselves and their families from those who use computer science inappropriately or illegally.

For the past few months, a task force of school and district employees, business partners, parents, and students have met to create a computer science action plan. This year, our kindergarten students have been learning how to code using monthly lessons that are aligned to content standards. Building on this success, we will take the following steps for the 2016-17 school year:

- Computer science instruction for all students in grades 1 and 3.
- Middle school students will begin to see more computer science in their iJourney, iConnect, and science classes.

- High schools will offer more sections of AP Computer Science, and a program of emphasis in cybersecurity will begin at Lake Howell High School.
- A recommitment to robotics at all levels as an application of computer science.

We want to hear from parents, community members, and local businesses with computer science expertise who are interested in partnering with us to implement the CS2020 vision. You can support this effort by serving on a program advisory committee, assisting with teacher training, volunteering with students who want to accelerate their learning, or offering an internship or job shadow to current high school students. Please email us at [ePathways@scps.us](mailto:ePathways@scps.us) for more information.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Seminole County Public Schools!

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## **SCPS Supporting Our Youngest Learners From Birth To Age 5**

Have you heard about all of the great ways SCPS is reaching out to families to support our youngest learners from birth to age 5? First, there is Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) serving over 850 four-year-olds. The VPK classes are at every elementary school, Seminole High, and the Early Learning Center located in Sanford, which hosts 5 VPK classes. SCPS schools offer half day programs (free of charge) and full day programs (3 hours free, with the rest of the day provided through parent pay or subsidized through School Readiness or Title 1, depending on the site and eligibility requirements). Some of the full day programs are inclusion programs with our Pre-K ESE students. The goal of VPK is to ensure that students enter Kindergarten “ready to learn.” Every year the VPK classes show excellent readiness rates as evidenced on Florida’s state readiness test.

Second, Great Start Pathways to Success is a relatively new program for our district. Funded through millage dollars and various grants, Great Start promotes parent education and helps parents develop essential early literacy skills in their children. When a baby is born to a Seminole County resident, the parent is greeted in the hospital and is given a “goodie bag” that contains various resources, books, and ideas for encouraging early literacy. The babies even receive a Great Start bib with the “Class of 2033” on it. Parent/child playgroups are hosted at a variety of locations throughout the district. Great Start also has a social worker who provides case management services to families, including assistance through home visits.

It is the commitment of our school district and School Board that ALL children receive the resources and assistance necessary to be ready to learn when entering Kindergarten. We are excited to offer these initiatives beginning at birth.

For more information about SCPS’ Early Learning Programs, contact Great Start at 407-320-3945 or the VPK Office at 407-320-0463.

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## **New 5th Grade STEM Classrooms At 5 SCPS Elementary Schools**

Seminole County Public Schools is proud to announce that five of our elementary schools have been chosen to participate in a 5th grade STEM reconstruction project. STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math are subjects that our students will use every day in their future and these classrooms have been equipped to prepare our students for those challenges. Fifth grade classrooms at Spring Lake, Heathrow, Lake Mary, Winter Springs and Stenstrom elementary schools were chosen to spearhead the project and a total of sixteen classrooms were redone over winter break. Thirteen more schools were chosen to be redone this summer, which will add 43 more STEM classrooms to our elementary schools. The project was funded by a voter approved millage.

Teachers were delighted to see the new renovations and students couldn’t believe their eyes. Each classroom received new flooring, paint, cabinetry and furniture and technology infrastructure. Students and teachers walked into class with a new 65” interactive flat panel on their teaching wall that replaced the whiteboard, sixteen laptops with charging racks and storage units and three collaboration stations with 42” flat panel monitors. These monitors are able to project images from



the student's wireless laptops, which allows them to collaborate and work in groups. The colorful furniture gave the classrooms a more modern feel and made it more engaging to the students. The tabletops that replaced the standard school desks provided more space for complex science tasks and the seating options allow more movement and physical engagement. Teachers enjoy how spacious the rooms are and how the students are able to move the tables together in a variety of ways to work on more interactive assignments.

The STEM project has moved these classrooms toward a student-centered model of teaching and learning instruction. Teachers are seeing that students are coming up with their own questions and using the tools they have been given to answer them on their own. Students have been more engaged and are excited to learn and act as a team in a different way. Dr. Gooch, principal of Heathrow Elementary says that, "All fifth graders will have access daily to the new STEM labs. They are excited to learn and ready to collaborate in a different way." This program has introduced our students to the classroom of the future. It facilitates working on projects together and will help them focus more on what they are trying to accomplish and less on what the technology is. The future of learning is now for our SCPS students.

Below are Before and After pictures from Heathrow Elementary's 5th grade math and science teacher Ms. Diana Congden classroom.

Before



After





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## Once Again, SCPS Has One Of The Highest Graduation Rates In The State

The FL Department of Education recently released the 2014-15 graduation rates. As you can imagine, graduating students from our schools is one our most important strategic goals since it represents the successful completion of school for our students and their families and it opens the door for many wonderful opportunities for them.

Once again, SCPS has one of the highest graduation rates in the state. At 86.4 percent we continue to rank first in Central Florida and first for the 17 largest school districts in the state. In addition, our grad rate places us 9 percentage points above the state average. In an area that we continue to improve in every year, our 2015 graduation rate represents an improvement of 1.4 percent over the 2014 rate.

This outstanding accomplishment is a tribute to the hard work that our students have done and the support that they have received from their families. It is also due in large part to the work of our Prek-12 teachers who have instructed, guided, and encouraged year after year as they move through our school system. Congratulations go out to our dedicated teachers, support staff and administrators who helped our district achieve at such a high level.

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## SCPS Teacher Of The Year Finalist

Seminole County Public Schools (SCPS) has chosen its 2017 Teacher of the Year Finalists and they are Chris Pombonyo, Leslie Antmann and Ashley Barnette. These passionate teachers have been recognized by their schools for bringing something unique to each of their classrooms.



### **Chris Pombonyo, Crystal Lake Elementary, 1st grade**

Chris Pombonyo, a published author with great enthusiasm for education, sets his 1st grade classroom up as a stage at Crystal Lake Elementary School. His students learn from a plethora of innovation practices and authentic experiences that he hopes will ignite their passion for learning. Chris incorporates the latest technology into each of his lessons which engrosses students and better prepares them for their future. Outside of teaching, Chris reaches a large-scale audience through his Famous in First blog and as being the host of Lights! Camera! Teach! which is a part of the programming for the iTeach TV Network.



### **Leslie Antmann, Markham Woods Middle School, Choral Director**

Leslie Antmann has served as a role model for over 10 years as the choral director at Markham Woods Middle School. Her mission has always been to provide her students with the best quality performing arts experience possible, so she helped create a district-wide Chorus Professional Learning Community where teachers across the district can collaborate to ensure all students receive the same curriculum. Leslie has also made numerous traditions in her classroom where students feel at home and are a part of a culture centered on belonging, trust, and excellence. To her students, the chorus room is seen as a joyful and happy place where they are challenged and held to high expectations to ensure the most success.



### **Ashley Barnette, Lake Mary High School, US History**

Ashley Barnette, a Lake Mary High School graduate, has stayed close to her alma mater as a US History teacher for 11th grade students. She found her calling in education after graduating from UCF in 2006 with a degree in theater. Ashley has utilized her skills in the performing arts to create a more hands-on setting within the classroom that engages her students and provides them with more creative ways of thinking. Besides her work in the classroom, she also helped develop and co-leads a model teacher program for new teachers at Lake Mary High School.

### **Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools:**

The Foundation is a direct support organization to SCPS that serves to fund innovation in learning that normally wouldn't be paid for with public funds. Since inception, The Foundation has raised more than \$20 million to help ensure that today's students become tomorrow's productive members of society. The Foundation funds and/or manages approximately 35 programs that align with our three priorities: 1.) Addressing issues that inhibit a student's opportunity to receive a quality education; 2.) Programs that enhance the learning environment and improve student performance; and 3.) Professional education and acknowledgement to help sustain our A-rated, high performing school district 14 years running. Visit: [www.FoundationSCPS.org](http://www.FoundationSCPS.org) or call 407.320.0176 for more information.

## Google Expeditions Visits Several SCPS Schools

Google Expedition visited some SCPS schools so that our students could experience their new technology first hand. This was the first time that Google Expedition has showcased this technology to schools in the US. They had been mostly in Europe before making their way to Central Florida.

Partin Elementary, Pine Crest Elementary, Hamilton Elementary, Goldsboro Elementary, Greenwood Lakes Middle, Sanford Middle, South Seminole Middle, Crooms Academy of Information Technology and Lake Mary High School were all able to use Google Expedition in their classrooms with their students. Teachers were able to choose locations that were subject area appropriate. Greenwood Lakes Television Production students were able to 'visit' a television studio. The theater students were able to 'tour' historic theaters in Europe and culinary students at Lake Mary High School were able to 'visit' a commercial kitchen at a world-renowned restaurant.

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## EPathways - We Need YOU!

The ePathways team would like to thank you for your efforts in supporting students to be college and career ready! We are actively recruiting business and industry partners to support workplace learning. This program provides students with the opportunity to apply their classroom learning to real world workplace settings through internships, job shadows and other career experiences. We recognize that our teachers and staff are valuable resources in the community. Please help us connect students to industry by sharing the workplace learning program with those in industry so that we may follow up with them. Spouses, neighbors and civic organizations are all potential partners in this program.

Over the last two years, Workplace Learning has provided career experiences to hundreds of Seminole County students. This year's spring interns are beginning their first week of work, where they will be gaining invaluable interpersonal skills and experiences through internships. This fall, nearly 400 students attended the internship expo. The number of students exceeded the number of opportunities and we need your help in meeting the increasing demand for internship experiences.

Show your support! Complete the electronic [Workplace Learning Interest Form](#) or visit the ePathways website to learn more about Workplace Learning and how you can start helping prepare for tomorrow's workforce today!

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## Sign up for SCPS Text Message Alerts

Step 1: Ensure your school has your cell phone number on file through our Skyward database

Step 2: From your cell phone, text the word "Join" to the number 56360. At any time you can unsubscribe by texting "Stop" to 56360.

Step 3: Create a contact on your phone with the name of your school or simply SCPS and the phone number 56360.

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## Videos

[Google Expedition Program at Greenwood Lakes](#)

[Download the SCPS App Today!](#)

[News 6 'Getting Results in Our Schools' SCPS Features](#)

## SCPS School Board Members



Tina Calderone, Ed.D.  
Chairman



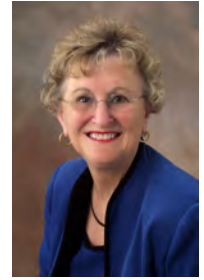
Amy Lockhart  
Vice Chair



Karen Almond  
Board Member



Jeffrey Bauer  
Board Member



Dede Schaffner  
Board Member



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Connect with us:



## Our Mission

The mission of the Seminole County Public Schools is to ensure that all students acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be productive citizens.

### Seminole County Public Schools Educational Equity - Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Educational Equity Administrator for Seminole County Public Schools has the responsibility of assuring compliance with the educational equity requirements by providing technical expertise, monitoring activities or programs related to compliance, and responding to equity complaints. One of the responsibilities is to administer the Educational Equity Complaint/Grievance Procedures as adopted by the School Board.

*It is the policy of the School Board of Seminole County, Florida, that no employee, student, or applicant shall - on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, marital status, age, religion, or any other basis prohibited by law - be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination and harassment under any educational programs, activities, or in any employment conditions, policies, or practices conducted by the District. Additionally, the School board of Seminole County provides equal access to public school facilities for the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups as required by 34 C.F.R. 108.6.*

Every employee, student, or applicant for employment at Seminole County Public Schools has a solemn right to be treated fairly, equally, equitably, and with dignity. If for any reason you - the employee, student, or applicant for employment - find that you have been victimized by acts of discrimination and or harassment, whether intentional or unintentional, you are strongly encouraged to file an Educational Equity Complaint or Grievance with the Educational Equity Administrator, or any county or school-level administrator. All such complaints must be immediately forwarded to the Educational Equity Administrator for dissemination, action, and resolution. Forward to: SCPS Educational Equity Administrator, Seminole County Public Schools, Educational Support Center, 400 E. Lake Mary Blvd., Sanford, FL 32773-7127. (407) 320-0198.