



ST. LUCIE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

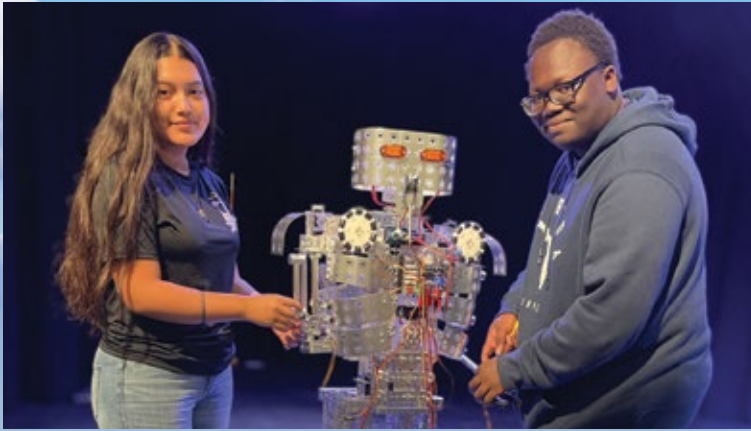
SOLID

AS A

ROCK

2020-2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

ST. LUCIE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TAKE A CLOSER LOOK



DISTRICT ACCOLADES

- Ranked [1st in state](#) for academic growth
- 93% graduation rate, ranked [10th in state](#)
- 98% graduation rate for traditional high schools
- One of the top producers of industry certifications state-wide
- Recognized as a Cambridge District of the Year

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

- 34 academies and 56 programs such as:
 - Aerospace Technologies
 - Allied Health Assisting
 - Applied Cybersecurity
 - Industrial Biotechnology
 - Marine Oceanographic Studies
 - Manufacturing Technologies
 - Veterinary Technology
 - Emerging Technology in Business
 - Game Simulation / Animation
 - Pharmacy Technician
 - Biomedical Sciences
 - Robotics

BREAKING RANKS PARTNERSHIPS

- World Wide Scholastic eSports Federation
- Lego™ Education
- Microsoft EDU
- Dell Technologies
- Franklin Covey Leader In Me
- Minecraft Education
- Nearpod
- Economic Development Council, St. Lucie County

TEACH NEAR THE BEACH

- Teach near the beach on the beautiful Treasure Coast
- Awarded one of the BEST places to work for the last 4 years
- Robust professional development
- Competitive pay and benefits package
- Wellness Plan with incentives



St. Lucie

PUBLIC SCHOOLS



WWW.STLUCIESCHOOLS.ORG



ST. LUCIE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD MEMBERS



Debbie Hawley
CHAIRMAN
DISTRICT #1



Dr. Donna Mills
VICE CHAIRMAN
DISTRICT #3



Jack Kelly
DISTRICT #2



Jennifer Richardson
DISTRICT #4



Troy Ingersoll
DISTRICT #5

▼ Scan below to learn more about our board members



The mission of the St. Lucie Public Schools is to ensure all students graduate from safe and caring schools, equipped with the knowledge, skills, and desire to succeed.

LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

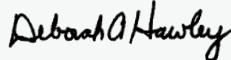
Each Child, Every Day. Never has this belief been more evident than during the 2020-2021 school year. During a year that could have been memorialized as full of setbacks, St Lucie Public Schools, under the exemplary leadership of Superintendent E. Wayne Gent and his equally exemplary leadership team, has consistently led the way with innovation and safety.

Along with the colossal efforts of EVERY department within our school district, the administration and staff at each of our school sites, as well as our community partners, a safe and quality academic year for our students was possible.

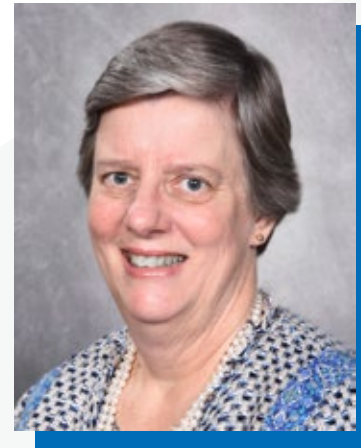
While the fact that parents are their children's first teacher has long been recognized, parents were called upon this year to take even more responsibility for their children's education. Parents had to make decisions based on the needs of their individual family, sometimes at great personal sacrifice. We commend the parents and guardians for their commitment to ensuring their children were present and ready to learn, whether it was in person or virtually.

On behalf of the SLPS Board Members, we want to take a moment to remind the SLPS educators how extraordinary you are. Nothing could have prepared you for the challenges a worldwide pandemic would present, but those challenges became opportunities – opportunities for resourcefulness with new ways of delivering instruction. As educators, you are dedicated to helping the students you serve learn and grow in any setting or circumstance. Your professionalism, innovation, and compassion during this unprecedented year has been a guiding light in the communities we serve, and we are profoundly grateful for each of you.

Most sincerely,



DEBBIE HAWLEY
ST. LUCIE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD CHAIRMAN



LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Our organization has been challenged, since March 2020, in ways that we could never have imagined. From closing our school buildings, to creating an entire new virtual learning platform, MySchool Online, to developing safety procedures and protocols to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, St. Lucie Public Schools, our team of professionals never skipped a beat.

Our team readily embraced the changes with grace and compassion. In fact, I believe that this year, the community, and our parents have found a much greater appreciation for what the District does each and every day. Despite the unprecedented year that we faced, our 2,800 dedicated teachers and 2,100 committed staff have continued to thrive and have remained committed to supporting the goals and dreams of our future innovators, creators, and leaders.

This challenge did not shake us, it did not take us off course, we remained steadfast in our mission of graduating students from safe and caring schools, equipped with the knowledge, skills, and desire to succeed. On the contrary, it brought out the best in us and it is clear to me that St. Lucie Public Schools remains **Solid as a Rock!**

Sincerely,



E. WAYNE GENT
ST. LUCIE PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT



GUIDING PILLARS

01

Teaching & Learning



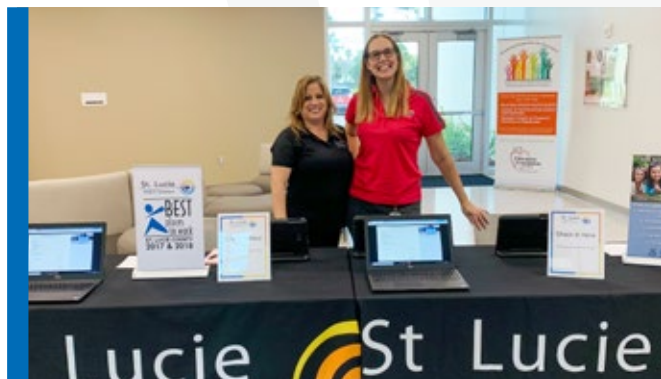
02

Safe & Caring Schools



03

Talent Development & Growth



04

**Communication/
Community Involvement/
Customer Service**



FACTS AT A GLANCE

35K

Meals Served Daily

Free and Reduced Lunches

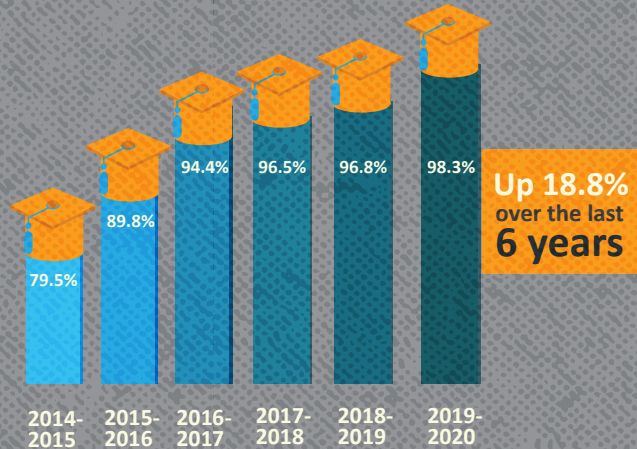
67.2%

39,500

Student Enrollment (VPK-12th grade)

GRADUATION RATE

Traditional High Schools



58

Countries Represented in Schools

41

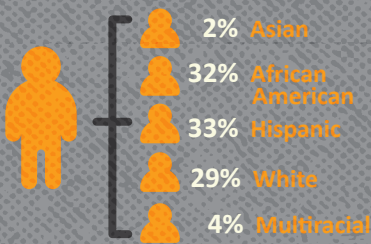
Languages Spoken in Schools

9%

ESOL Students



TOTAL BUDGET \$647,093,043



CAREER AND TECHNICAL

34

ACADEMIES

56

PROGRAMS



39
schools

- 17 Elementary Schools
- 9 K-8 Schools
- 4 Middle Schools
- 1 6-12 School
- 5 High Schools
- 1 Virtual School
- 2 Alternative Schools

39,500

STUDENTS

4,900

EMPLOYEES



308

Routed buses, traveling over six million miles per year

23,000

Students transported daily

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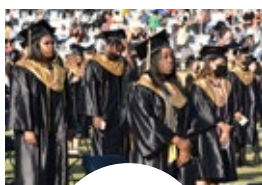
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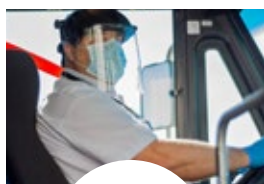
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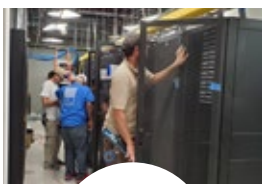
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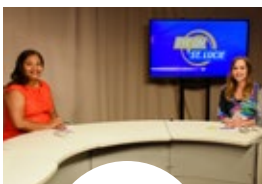
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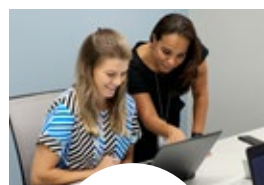
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COVID-19 DISTRICT RESPONSE

COVID-19 DISTRICT RESPONSE



Superintendent Gent established a COVID-19 Team to plan for a safe return to school. This team included leaders from every division, as COVID-19 would affect the daily procedures of every part of the school system. He designated an administrator on special assignment to be the COVID-Lead who would be responsible for researching, designing and managing COVID-19 safety strategies throughout the year.

COLLABORATING WITH THE ST. LUCIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

As SLPS prepared for a safe return to school for all students and employees, the COVID-19 Planning Team worked closely with the St. Lucie County Department of Health (SLC DOH) to develop policies and procedures to keep students and staff as healthy as possible. This partnership was and continues to be a key component in the success experienced when schools reopened in August.

Using guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control and with guidance from the SLC DOH, the District developed a 70-page Safe Return to School Plan. A parent screening tool was also developed so that parents could screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms daily. Teachers and clinics used the screening tool throughout the day as well. An isolation room and procedures were adopted by all schools to use when a student had COVID-19 symptoms at school.

All new procedures were in place for guests and parents to be screened upon entering the front office. Each school identified a COVID-19 Lead who would manage all possible positive cases and quarantines at the school, working in collaboration with district personnel and the SLC DOH.

At the district level, the COVID-19 team worked with the SLC DOH to create a new procedure to identify and track positive cases for students and staff and plan for quarantines from the school setting. This was only possible because of the close collaboration between many departments: Transportation, Facilities and Maintenance, Instructional Technology, The Office of Teaching and Learning, Student Services, Communications, school administrators, and teachers at the school.



DID YOU KNOW?

Through a partnership with St. Lucie County Department of Health, SLPS was the first district on the Treasure Coast to offer COVID-19 vaccines to employees.



TRAINING STAFF AND STUDENTS

All staff were trained to understand what COVID-19 was and how to safely mitigate for COVID-19 in the classroom and school setting.

Custodians and cafeteria personnel received training in COVID-19 procedures for their areas of responsibility. Bus drivers were trained in how to screen for COVID-19 and seat students on the bus to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Schools were provided with videos and training materials appropriate to every grade level, K-12, to educate students in how to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

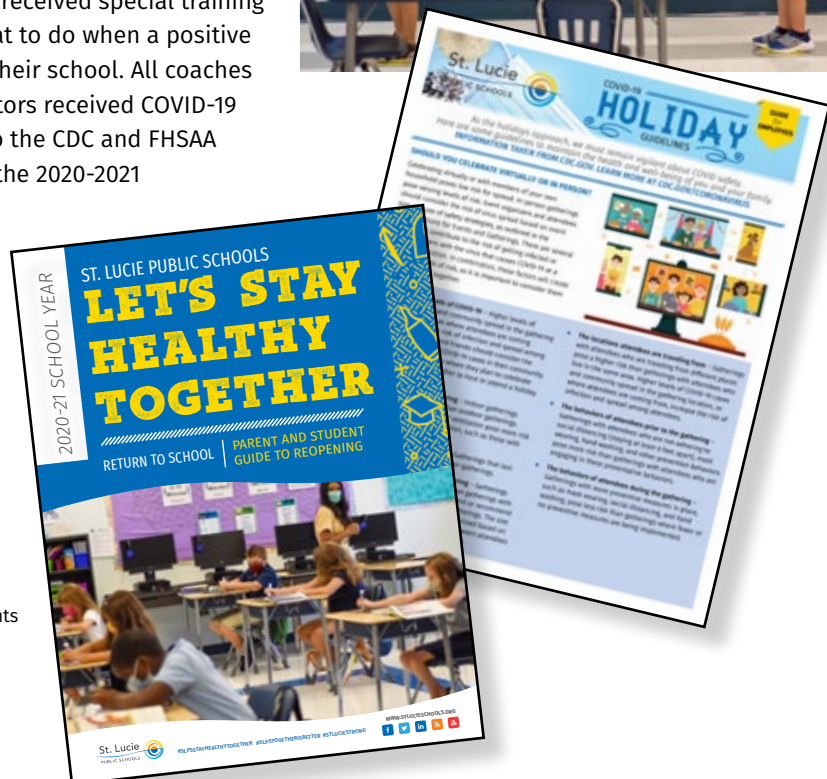
Schools also trained their students in school procedures, social distancing, hand hygiene and proper mask use. Front office staff were trained on how to screen guests and teachers as they entered the front office.

Clinic paraprofessionals received training specific to procedures in the clinic and isolation room for COVID-19. Nurses also received training in how to give a COVID-19 rapid test from the clinic during the school year.

All visual and performing arts teachers received COVID-19 training specific to their specialties in dance, chorus, band, music and drama. Physical education teachers were also specifically trained for COVID-19 for locker room usage, gym usage, and sports.

Administrators received special training procedures in what to do when a positive case occurred at their school. All coaches and athletic directors received COVID-19 training aligned to the CDC and FHSAA requirements for the 2020-2021 school year.

SLPS provided easily accessible guides for both reopening and holiday travel for parents and students based on CDC recommendations and guidelines. ▶





REDESIGNING SCHOOL SPACES AND BUSES FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

Schools rearranged their classroom desks and tables to allow for as much social distancing as possible. Principals redesigned the flow of traffic in hallways to allow students to social distance during transition time. All areas of the schools were reorganized to create as much space as possible. The SLPS Publications Department designed signage that was used to create traffic patterns and remind students of social distancing throughout the school setting. Water fountains had to be discontinued and replaced by water bottles to prevent

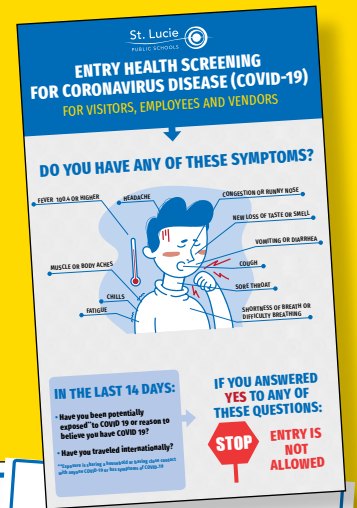
COVID-19 contamination and to keep students hydrated. Buses were equipped with extra disposable masks to ensure every student arriving at school had a mask. Extra routes were added and students were arranged in seats to promote as much social distancing as possible on the bus.

VIGILANCE AND FLEXIBILITY WERE KEY TO COVID-19 SUCCESS

As the school year proceeded, staff learned to be flexible as the CDC and the state of Florida produced new guidelines for the safe mitigation of COVID-19. SLPS will continue to respond with agility to changes.

SCHOOL SITE VACCINATION CLINICS

SLPS was also able to provide three school sites (Ft. Pierce Westwood Academy, Ft. Pierce Central High School and Treasure Coast High School) for students 12 and over to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccination. Also, SLPS was able to organize two school sites (Dan McCarty Middle School and Lincoln Park Academy) to serve as walk up vaccination sites for anyone interested in receiving the vaccine. Future vaccination sites will be planned next fall.



SLPS created and provided various COVID-19 signage to schools for education on CDC best practices as well as signage to help with social distancing. ▶



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

13 Graduation

14 Acceleration
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16 District Breakdown
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GRADUATION

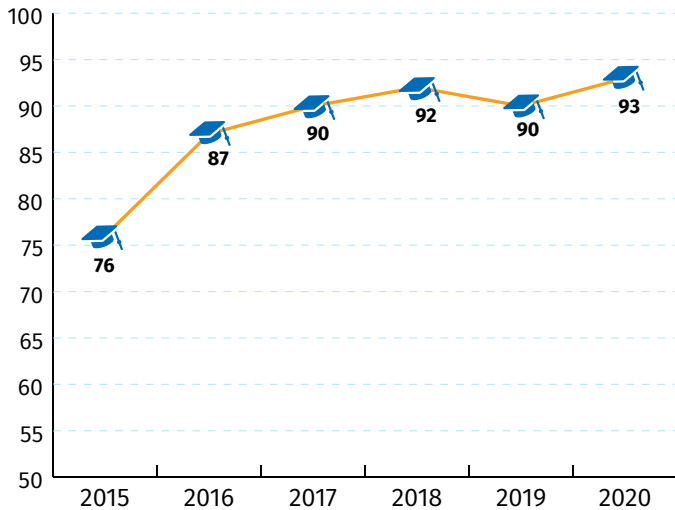
St. Lucie Public Schools proudly boasts a graduation rate of 93.2%. Only 3 other districts in the state have 4 consecutive years of 90%+ graduation rates. This is a federal graduation rate that is uniform, accurate and comparable across all states. The graduation rate has improved 18.8% over the last 6 years.



Did You Know?

SLPS ranks 10th in the state for graduation rate.

SLPS DISTRICT GRADUATION RATES

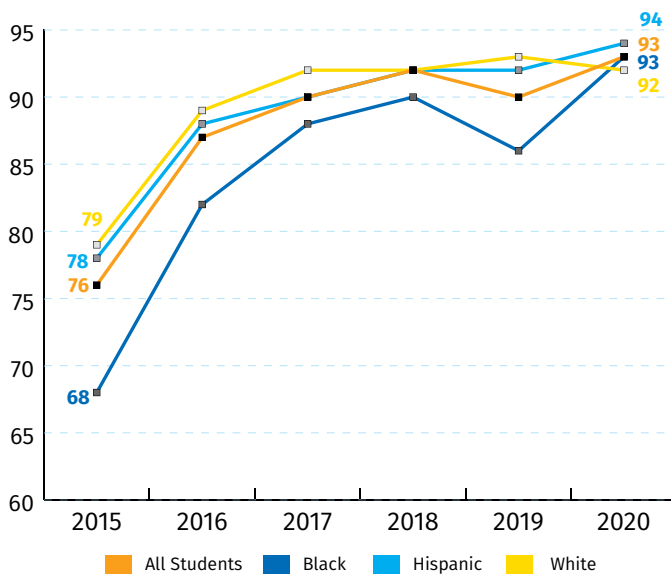


SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES

SCHOOL	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	INCREASE OF FIVE YEARS
FPCHS	80.1%	92.4%	95.5%	95.5%	97.0%	98.3%	18.2%
FPWA	63.8%	83.1%	89.8%	91.7%	91.4%	96.2%	32.4%
LPA	98.6%	96.7%	99.6%	99.5%	100%	99.6%	1%
PSLHS	70.7%	81.4%	89.8%	96.8%	94.8%	97.6%	26.9%
SLWCHS	82.3%	89.2%	93.2%	97.6%	98.2%	98.8%	16.5%
TCHS	82.7%	91.8%	97.3%	98.1%	98.5%	99.6%	16.9%
DISTRICT	75.5%	86.8%	90.1%	91.8%	90.4%	93.8%	18.8%
STATE	77.9%	80.7%	82.3%	86.1%	86.9%	90%	12.1%

FPCHS= FORT PIERCE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, FPWA= FORT PIERCE WESTWOOD ACADEMY
 LPA= LINCOLN PARK ACADEMY, PSLHS= PORT ST. LUCIE HIGH SCHOOL
 SLWCHS= ST. LUCIE WEST CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL, TCHS= TREASURE COAST HIGH SCHOOL

SLPS GRADUATION RATES - CLOSING THE GAP



SLPS SUBGROUP GRADUATION RATES STATE RANKINGS



ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED

92.5% 5.6% above state average

ESE GRADUATION RATE

91.6% 9% higher than state average

HISPANIC GRADUATION RATE

94% 4.5% higher than state average

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING STUDENTS

92.6% 6.9% above state average

BLACK GRADUATION RATE

92.5% 5.9% higher than state average

WHITE GRADUATION RATE

92.4% 1% higher than stage average

ACCELERATION SUCCESS

Acceleration success is how students perform in rigorous above-level courses in both middle school and high school. Acceleration success represents 2 of the 11 district-grade components.



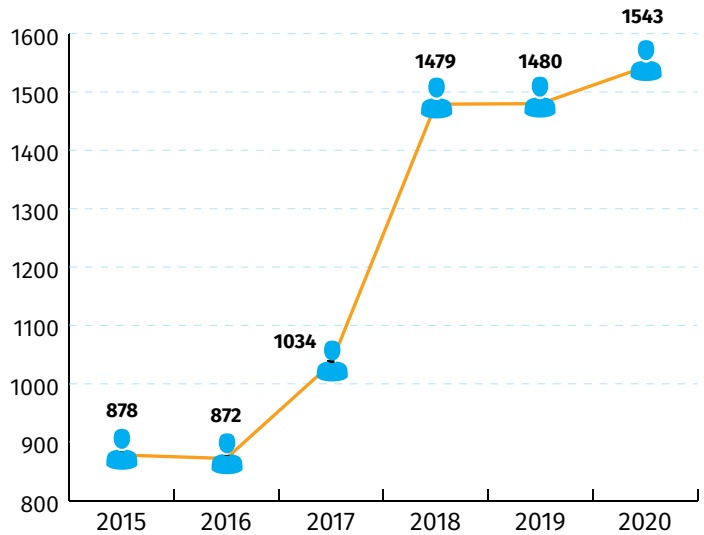
MIDDLE SCHOOL ACCELERATION

This component is based on the percentage of eligible students who passed a high school level EOC (Algebra/Geometry) assessment or industry certification.

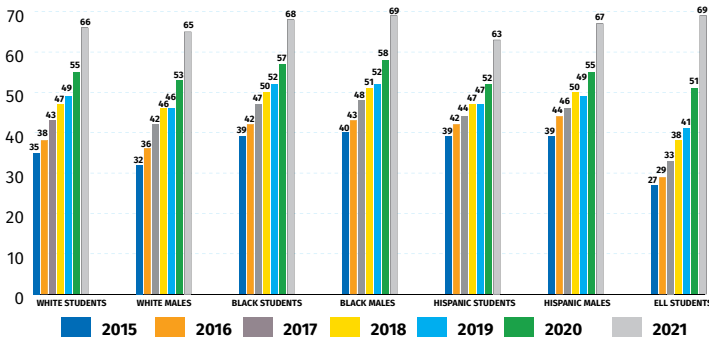
SUCCESS STRATEGIES

- Scheduled students based on their demonstrated ability on standardized tests.
- Promoted equity and access in upper level courses.
- Continued use of Power BI to identify students not in algebra by 8th grade and ensure enrollment.
- Revised scope and sequence to prevent gaps from acceleration.
- Expanded AMP (Accelerated Math Program) program.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ALGEBRA COURSE ENROLLMENT



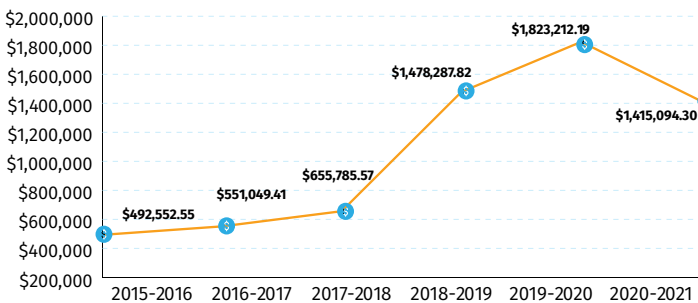
CTE PERCENT PARTICIPATION



GRADES 9-12 CTE PARTICIPATION

- Added programs to meet local job market.
- Continued counselor bus tour, PD & State of the Jobs Conference.
- Strong community support to increase student engagement.
- Expanded marketing of programs to students and community.
- Used Power BI to monitor acceleration enrollment with expectation that ALL students are enrolled in school to work or accelerated coursework.

CTE REIMBURSEMENT



HIGH SCHOOL ACCELERATION

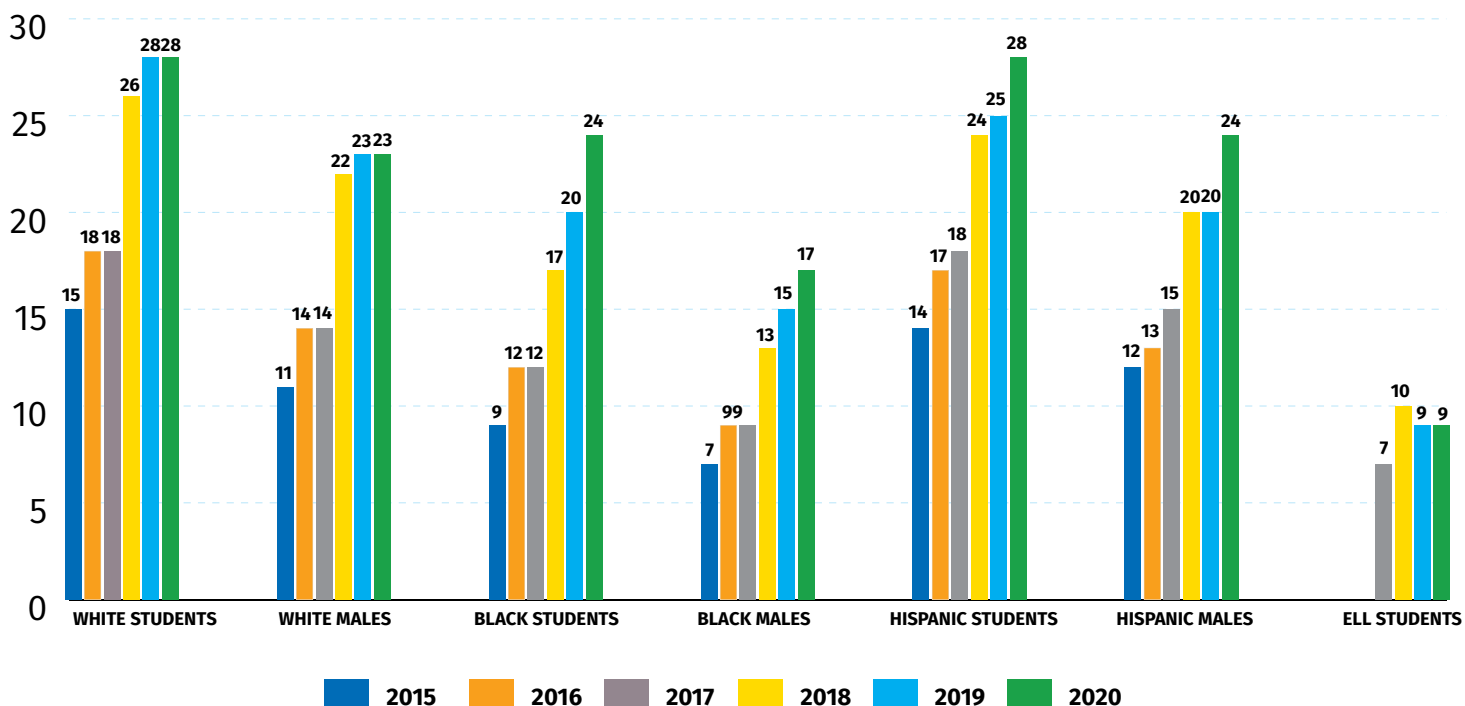
This component is based on the percentage of graduates from the graduation rate cohort who earned a passing score on an acceleration examination (Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education-AICE), a passing grade in a dual enrollment course that qualified for college credit, or earned an industry certification.

SUCCESS STRATEGIES

- Scheduled students based on their demonstrated ability on standardized tests.
- Promoted equity and access in upper level courses.
- Utilized the data monitoring system (Power BI) to ensure Hispanic and Black students are scheduled for AP/IB/AICE classes.
- Increased enrollment through magnet program at Fort Pierce Westwood and increase AP/IB/AICE course offerings.
- Expanded college board partnership: PSAT for 8, 9, 10, and 11.
- Continued use of PSAT data and AP potential.

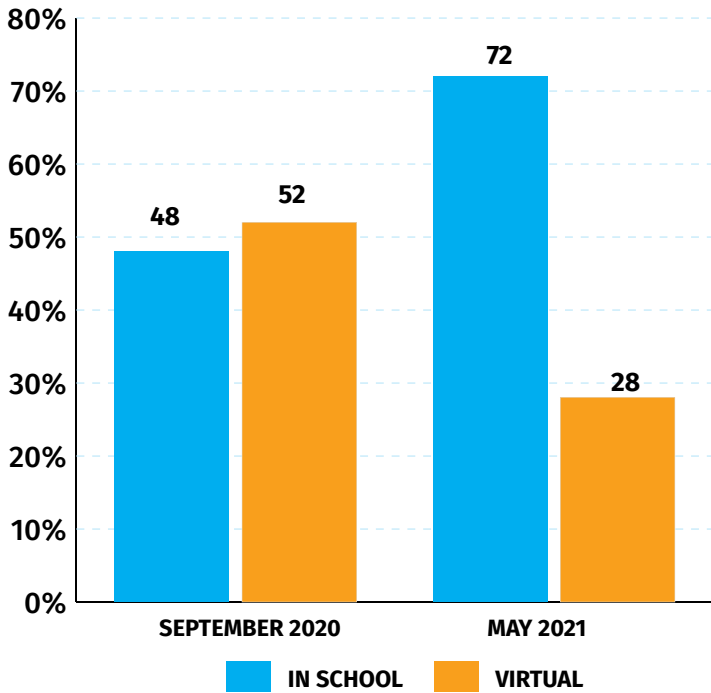


GRADES 9-12 AP, IB AND AICE PARTICIPATION

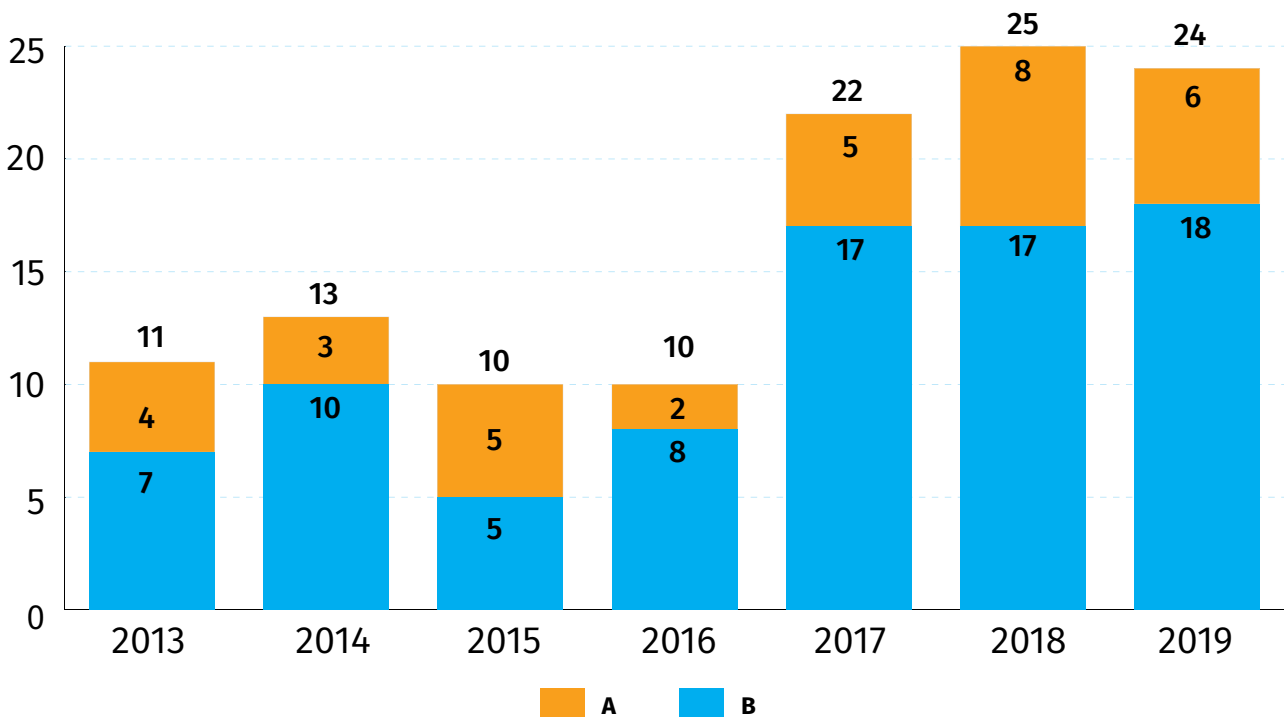


DISTRICT BREAKDOWN & SCHOOL GRADES

TRADITIONAL VS MYSCHOOL ONLINE

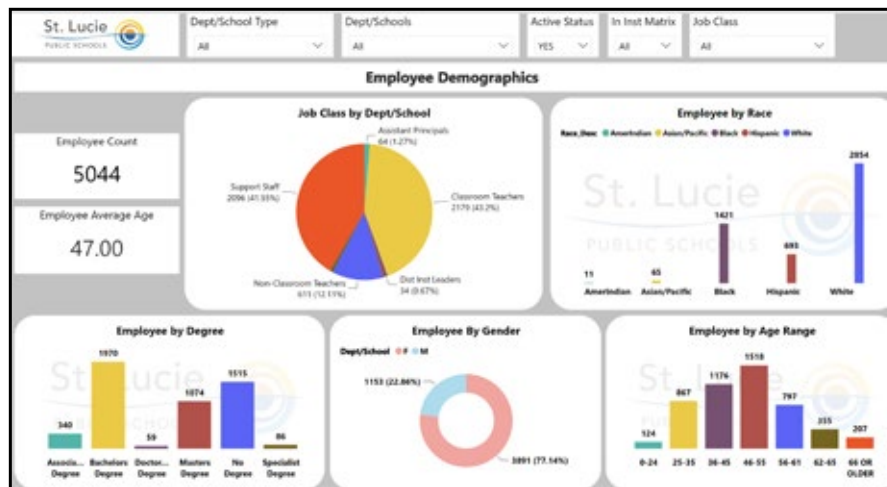
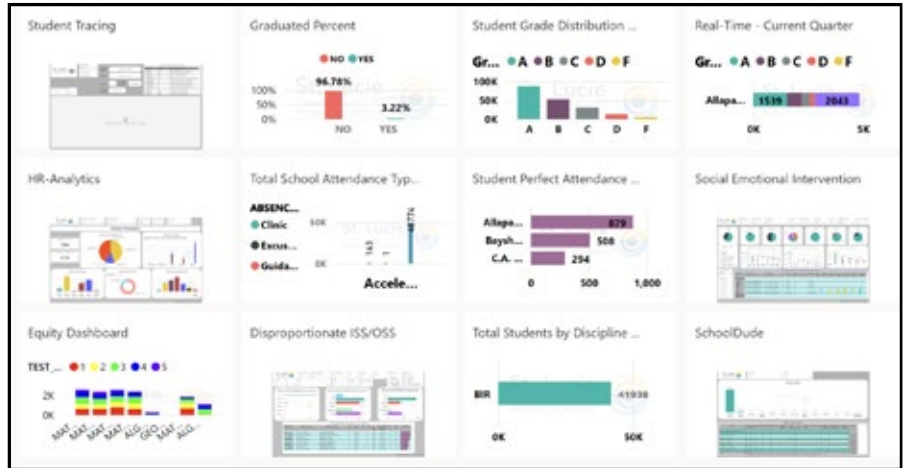


SLPS A & B GRADES BY YEAR

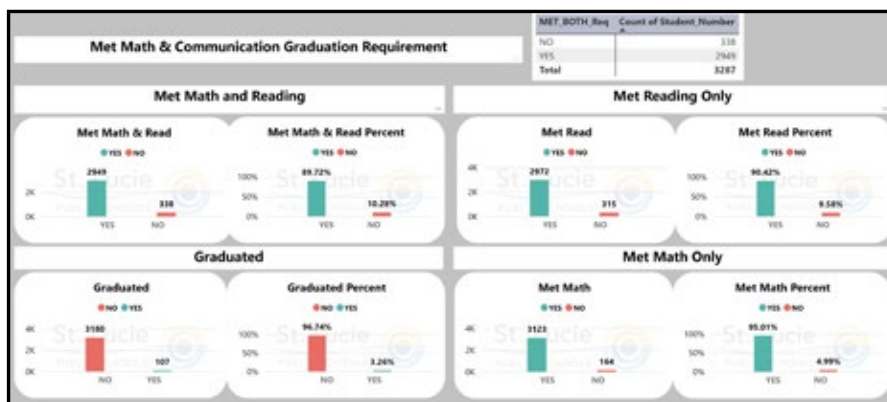


SCHOOL MONITORING

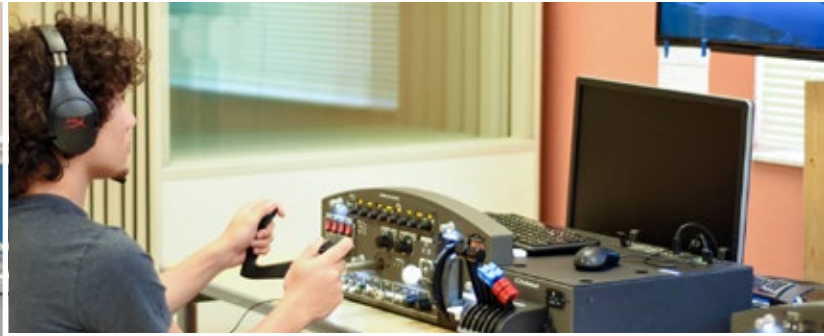
In 2017-2018, the Deputy Superintendent in conjunction with the Chief Operations Officer gathered a team to develop a Dashboard to monitor the most important metrics that promote student achievement. These metrics included monitoring student graduation, attendance, grades, discipline and student scheduling. Over time, additional dashboards were added to include social/emotional support and interventions, work orders and human resources and financial metrics. These tools allow school and district administrators to make immediate decisions when directing district resources to schools that promote student success. As a result, SLPS has improved dramatically in all areas of student achievement.



The human resources dashboard allows district leaders to monitor hiring practices, recruitment and retention metrics, employee transfers, and ensures that school and district leaders promote hiring diversity practices and promotes equal opportunity access to employment.



The graduation dashboard allows school leaders to monitor student graduation metrics in real time and intervene to support student success when necessary. **As a result, SLPS has one of the highest graduation rates in the State and has earned a 90%+ graduation rate for four consecutive years. Only 4 districts in the state have accomplished this feat.**



OFFICE OF TEACHING & LEARNING

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INSTRUCTIONAL CONTINUITY PLAN

When it became necessary to close schools due to the pandemic in March 2020, OTL developed an Instructional Continuity Plan (ICP) to ensure that students' educational opportunities continued while at home. When schools reopened in August, about 50% of the students remained at home. Knowing that there would continue to be a need for virtual learning, OTL revamped and bolstered the ICP.

The *Instructional Continuity Plan* (ICP) has three components: Content Delivery, Mobile Devices (laptops), and Internet Access.

- ◆ *Content Delivery* explained which resources students will use for core instruction and which materials can be used as supplemental resources to enhance core instruction.
- ◆ *Mobile Devices* explained how the District ensured that any student who needed a laptop device to access the instructional resources was provided with one.

- ◆ *Internet Access* posed the greatest challenge. SLPS had to ensure that all students could continue their studies while at home. The District has taken steps throughout the years to assist students in getting access to the internet at home through projects such as The 1Million Project; however, partnerships with service providers was crucial to providing free or reduced-cost internet service to students during the pandemic and was key to the success of the implementation of the Instructional Continuity Plan.

CURRICULUM

OTL created daily teacher lessons for synchronous (live virtual lessons) instruction through the District's innovative learning model, MySchool Online.

- 956 Canvas modules/lessons were developed based on Scope and Sequence in English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies and Science. These lessons were utilized for traditional classrooms as well.
- Specialized lessons for Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes and Electives were also developed for Canvas.
- CTE secured program specific resources to be used in a virtual learning environment.

- Testing protocols were developed to be used for varying Industry Certifications with the challenges of social distancing.



Expanded Summer School: Curriculum training and staffing guidelines were developed to serve the 9,000 students who will participate this year.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

The successful implementation of the Instructional Continuity Plan would not have been possible without the support of the Federal Programs team. Through cross departmental collaboration and aligned use of federal relief dollars including planning, application, and monitoring, the following embedded efforts could be achieved.

Managing the Governor's Education Emergency Relief (GEERS) funding to provide for:

- After-School Tutoring Programs for all elementary and K8 schools during second semester.
- PPE for classroom teachers
- K-12 Civics Books

- School Counselors to plan for the upcoming school year during the summer
- **Managing CARES Act funding to provide for :**
- Reading intervention programs for all schools.
- Monitoring and data analysis identifying students who need additional support.





Every student deserves great teachers, not by chance but by design.
- Anonymous



OFFICE OF TEACHING & LEARNING

A robust training plan was developed and implemented to ensure that teachers, students and parents had the knowledge and understanding needed to ensure that both Traditional and MySchool Online instruction would be successful.

- 4,093 teachers and support staff were trained for MySchool Online Learning.
- Created MySchool Online Webpage tutorials for teachers and families.
- Offered Individual and group “Bookings” for continuous support.
- Members of the Talent Development Team served as Help Desk Specialists to answer calls from parents, teachers and students.
- Created a hybrid model for New Teacher Orientation to ensure social distancing and to provide quality support.
- Revamped RISE (Refining and Improving Starting Educators) training for new teachers
- Provided teacher support on how to effectively use the Canvas modules with an additional 172 hours of support as well as monthly Canvas chats.
- Career & Technical Education (CTE) staff facilitated Collaborative Learning & Planning (CLP) sessions with CTE teachers of like programs across schools to learn how to effectively teach in the MySchool Online platform and utilize resources.
- Magnet School Assistance Program (MSAP) and Professional Development of Arts Educators (PDAE) staff facilitated CLP sessions with arts and elective teachers to learn how to effectively teach in the MySchool On-line platform and utilize new resources.
- On-site visits to teachers of the arts classroom to help them adjust their teaching strategies to meet unique challenges in their programs.

OTL ACCOLADES



1,464

hours provided of planning and instruction support for core teachers.



344

Unit Assessments in grades 2-11 core subjects maintained and revised.



105

teachers trained over the course of two years for the Computer Science Grant.

CURRICULUM DEPARTMENT

- During the 20-21 school year, most events were moved to a virtual platform such as Science Fair, History Fair, College Fair, HBCU/HSI Fair, Project Citizen.
- Developed training and support for Suite360 and Required Instruction for Human trafficking, Substance Abuse, and Mental Health.
- Developed a new Coach Log within the calendar with support from Talent Development.
- Completed ELA Textbook Adoption process on-line through Canvas resulting in our highest level of teacher evaluation participation of new materials
- Implemented a VPK Pilot Progress Monitoring Program at all sites.
- Implemented Targeted Kindergarten Oral Language and Vocabulary Project.

TALENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Teacher Development

- Talent Development offered a professional virtual conference by tapping into the talented teachers in SLPS. The DIY Teach Conference occurred

- ◆ Created Canvas course for teachers working with leaders/coaches.
- ◆ Created a video library of SLPS CLPs in action.
- ◆ Provided support to schools and teams on implementation of CLP's.

and continues to offer scholarships to teachers passing the GK test.

- ◆ New Teacher Support expanded and thrived with socially distanced face-to-face support and virtual support and included new features such as, High-Five Your Mentor.

in 90-day plan in all trainings.

- ◆ Worked with FLDOE BSI on Master Coach training.
- ◆ Created Coach Log with Power Automate features.



on Saturday, April 24th and included 14 teacher presenters and 139 participants.

- Developed system of Collaborative Learning and Planning protocols:

- Supported teacher retention through expansion of course offerings for teachers to receive certifications:
 - ◆ Requirements to earn Reading Endorsement are now all available on-line for free for teachers which has increased the number of completers to approximately 180 teachers.
 - ◆ All five of the ESOL modules are now online.
 - ◆ OTL now offers preparation for content areas tests in ESE, Elementary Ed, Professional Ed and GK

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- Model District for the development of the Leadership Tracking System (Wallace Grant), now "live" for hiring season.
- Implemented Diversity and Equity training for leaders including Canvas modules.
- State-approved Preparing New Principals Program includes revised content and assignments through a blended model with rigorous entrance criteria.
- ELITE Program with FAU partnership beginning Cohort 6. Program graduates now fill seven Assistant Principal and one Intern Principal roles in SLPS.

GRANTS



SLPS HAS BEEN AWARDED

\$6,262,341

in new competitive grants during the 20-21 school year



\$38,931,222

Managed in previously awarded grants



Afterschool tutoring program serves

137 ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS



\$3,300,000

for the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant for NPK8, CAST, SGAET & SRE



\$496,311

awarded in collaboration with Alternative Education for STOP School Violence (The H.E.A.R.T Project)



\$4,250,000

through the local Mitigations Strategy & Community Block Grant

MAGNET SCHOOL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

St. Lucie Public Schools was awarded a \$12.5M Magnet School Assistance Program Grant in 2017. This 5-year grant made it possible to revitalize three schools, which include the new Creative Arts Academy of St. Lucie (K-8 Visual and Performing Arts), Samuel S. Gaines Academy of Emerging Technologies (K-8 STEM Magnet) and Fort Pierce Westwood Academy: The WEST Prep Magnet (9-12 STEAM Magnet High School). The purpose of the grant is to reduce minority group isolation to match that of the school district. Additionally, magnet schools provide new innovative programs that support the specific themes of the schools and are accessible to all students across the county. Implementation of programs such as the Cambridge AICE Diploma program, Leader in Me, Project Lead the Way, as well as multiple Career Technical Education programs, prepare students

to be college and career ready, while focusing on character and leadership development. Student enrollment is contingent on the completion of a magnet school application and selection is determined through a lottery process. Applications more than doubled for the three MSAP schools in comparison to previous year despite challenges with reduced large face-to-face recruitment events. Recruitment strategies included:

- A MSAP Magnet Expo hosted 300 people on rotating schedules
- School-Based Open Houses and Tours
- “Laurie on Location” Facebook Live Events on Campuses
- Targeted mailings and weekend community event recruitment tables



► Creative Arts Academy of St. Lucie students participated in the Peacock District Arts Contest.



▲ Implementation of “Leader In Me” is thriving at both MSAP K-8 schools and the only Florida high school participating is Fort Pierce Westwood Academy.



▲ MSAP staff worked with Full Sail University and Fort Pierce Westwood Academy has been invited to participate as an official pathway partner which brings up to \$15,000 of scholarship funds.

◀ Sam Gaines Academy of Emerging Technology has reached a grant goal of becoming our first school nationally recognized by the Microsoft Showcase School Incubator Program through the support of the MSAP and staff.

◀ Sam Gaines Academy of Emerging Technologies also participated with 29 other schools nationwide in the Dell Girls Who Game with the support of the MSAP grant and staff.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

CTE earned three pre-apprenticeship pathways grants for programs with quality teachers that connect to Apprenticeship programs:



\$218,053

TECHNICAL DESIGN

Port St. Lucie High School



\$85,325

OUTBOARD MARINE SERVICE TECH

St. Lucie West Centennial High School



\$88,260

PHARMACY TECH

Fort Pierce Westwood Academy



\$50,000

GRANT FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP & TRAINING

Fort Pierce Westwood Academy, Treasure Coast High School



\$441,000

NEW GRANTS TOTAL



NEW! Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Program approved for Port St. Lucie High School for the 2021-22 year.

- 2021 Ready to Work Boot Camp took place on June 7-11, 2021 for SLPS students.
- CTE and the Economic Development Council continued yearly Guidance Counselor's Bus Tours-virtually. The focus this year was on Healthcare and Marine industries.
- Criminal Justice students participated in a virtual Great Explorations event hosted by Indian River State College's Criminal Justice department on March 25, 2021.
- Fort Pierce Westwood Veterinary Assisting Academy Surgical Suite is up and running. Surgery days included Veterinarians from the Advisory Board who performed surgeries with FPW Vet students assisting and completing post-surgery medical follow up.



CTE: INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS 5 YEAR TREND

School Name	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21
SLWCHS	242	492	583	810	696	809
TCHS	201	420	442	573	413	493
FPC	213	335	438	490	483	548
PSL	164	453	425	504	369	348
FPWWA	85	165	393	533	366	354
LPA	84	161	109	70	41	55
District Total	989	2026	2390	2980	2,368	2,607*

*AS OF 6/7/21

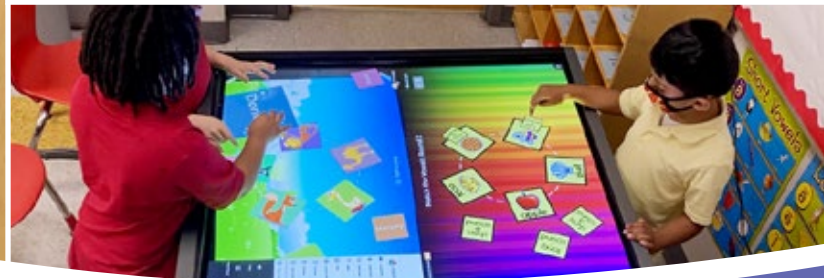


WORKFORCE READY

St. Lucie
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



LEARN MORE AT STLUCIEPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG



STUDENT SERVICES & EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

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ABOUT STUDENT SERVICES

The Student Services Department plays an integral role in supporting the physical, social emotional, behavioral, and mental health of all students. Student Services works together with school communities to provide supportive programs and services for students. With an increased emphasis on mental health, much of the work has focused on expanding these services in schools. There are professionals on all school campuses that provide an array of mental health services that include school counseling, psychological services, social work, and mental health counseling. In addition to

addressing the mental health needs of students, the team works with families and students to problem solve barriers to regular school attendance and connect them to the appropriate school and community resources. Student Services also plays an important role on school teams and shares the responsibility of providing interventions and evaluating students that are experiencing academic, social emotional, or behavioral concerns. With parents, community members and organizations as partners, Student Services is committed to working together with a common goal of being champions for children.



- Elementary school counselors delivered Safer Smarter Kids in all elementary schools, grades K-5. The lessons focus on age appropriate ways to stay safe and how to ask for help in uncomfortable situations.
- All Elementary school counselors created a channel on the Canvas

- learning platform for students to engage in activities that promoted mental health and wellness.
- School Social Workers, mental health counselors, and school psychologists supported the delivery of Signs of Suicide (SOS) prevention curriculum to 9th grade students enrolled

in brick and mortar and MySchool Online. The goal of the program is to increase the students' knowledge about depression, encourage personal help seeking skills, and to reduce the stigma of mental illness to decrease suicide and suicide attempts among our youth.

- Members of our school psychologist/school social worker teams created "virtual" lunch-bunch meetings with students that were participating in MySchool Online to encourage connectedness with their peers and school community.



SUBSTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION

- School social workers led Substance Abuse Education groups after school for students that were identified as first- time marijuana users. Over 20 students completed the program successfully during the 20-21 school year.
- Community agency partner New Horizons, delivered Too Good for Drugs instruction in all 5th grade classrooms throughout the district.

ATTENDANCE

- School social workers worked with each of their school’s attendance teams to identify students that had barriers to regular school attendance. They provided both group and individual interventions based on the student need with a goal of improving students connectedness to their school community.
- School Social Workers contacted over 3,000 families throughout the course of the school year to assist in

supporting student engagement in My School Online and Brick and Mortar classrooms.

- School Social Workers in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club truancy project processed over 1,000 referrals from schools to support students that had significant attendance concerns, they contacted families and, in many cases, connected them with school and community resources to address the barriers to regular school attendance.
- Over 50 individual cases were heard in truancy court during the 2020-2021 school year.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- The Student Services Department developed a comprehensive professional development plan that had multiple offerings for staff to continue to enhance their skills through the virtual format.
- Threat assessment core team members from each secondary school participated in an updated Threat

Assessment Train- the- Trainer PD offered by FDOE Office of Safe Schools.

- Secondary School GSA Advisors participated in a PD provided by De Palazzo, Equality Florida. The training focused on GSA Basics, Current Risk Factor for LGBTQ+ youth, and online groups and spaces, and sharing of resources.
- All SLPS school counselors, school psychologists, mental health counselors, and school social workers were trained in Columbia Severity Suicide screener and revised Risk Assessment procedures considering the needs of students enrolled in MySchool Online.
- All school psychologists, mental health counselors, and school social workers participated in Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools to provide school-based, group and individual intervention.



STUDENT SERVICES INITIATIVES

All school districts are required to submit a Comprehensive Mental Health Plan to the DOE prior to August 1, of each school year.

Scan here to see the health plan ▶



The plan is required to:

- Identify staff roles and responsibilities
- Outline the Tiered System of Supports
- Outline the Continuum of Mental Health, Social and Emotional and Behavioral Services at School Campuses
- Demonstrate how district teams provide on-going support
- Show Mental Health Collaborative Partnerships, and Community Partnerships



YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID (YMHA)

YMHA is an 8-hour education program that introduces participants to the unique risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems in adolescents, including anxiety, depression, psychosis, eating disorders, substance use disorder,



ADHD and other disruptive behavior disorders. YMHA emphasizes the importance of early intervention and teaches individuals how to help an adolescent who is in crisis or experiencing a mental health challenge. YMHA uses role-playing and simulations to demonstrate how to assess a mental health crisis; select interventions and provide

initial help; and connect young people to professional, peer, social, and self-help care. Learn more about YMHA at www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org

EQUITABLE DISCIPLINE PRACTICES

Dr. Ella Thompson partnered with St. Lucie Public Schools to provide Deans, Discipline Officers, Assistant Principals, ESE Program Specialists, and ESE School-based Specialists meaningful professional development focused on Equitable Discipline Practices. With Dr. Thompson's extensive expertise in the area of school equity she guided educators through a series of 5 sessions focused on deepening understanding of equity and its effect on discipline decisions, evaluating disparities within current discipline practices, identifying our own biases, and identifying strategies to change attitudes and bias among staff. Throughout the session, teams developed a plan to address equity at each of their schools with a goal of improving outcomes for all students.



SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS AND SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER SERVICES

St. Lucie Public Schools employs 40 School Psychologists and Social Workers who provide services to all district schools. Psychologists and Social Workers provide comprehensive services including consultative and direct services to students, families, and school staff, addressing the physical, social, emotional, behavioral, learning and mental health needs of students.

- School Psychologists and Social Workers work to fulfill the district's mission of ensuring that all students

graduate from safe and caring schools, equipped with the knowledge, skills, and desire to succeed. They support attendance, student engagement, positive school climate, drop out and child abuse prevention, mental health services, early warning systems, accommodations for individuals with disabilities, graduation, suicide, crisis prevention and response, drug abuse, bullying and threat assessment.

- Psychological Services Staff completed 1,059 Evaluations for students suspected of having a disability or who were referred for gifted.

HOPE AMBASSADORS CLUB

In May 2019, First Lady Casey DeSantis launched Hope for Healing Florida, a multi-agency mental health and substance abuse campaign, and Hope Ambassadors is the newest element of the initiative. It is a youth peer-to-peer student mentorship program that recruits student volunteers to work with their peers and help create an environment of kindness and compassion in their schools.

In January 2021, SLPS was notified that Fort Pierce Central High School had been selected as 1 of 25 high schools within the state to participate in the Hope Ambassadors Program.

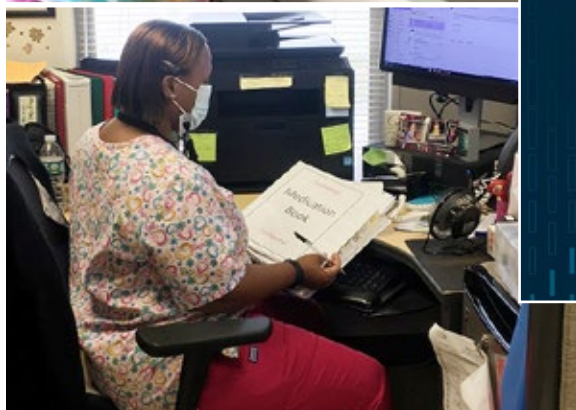
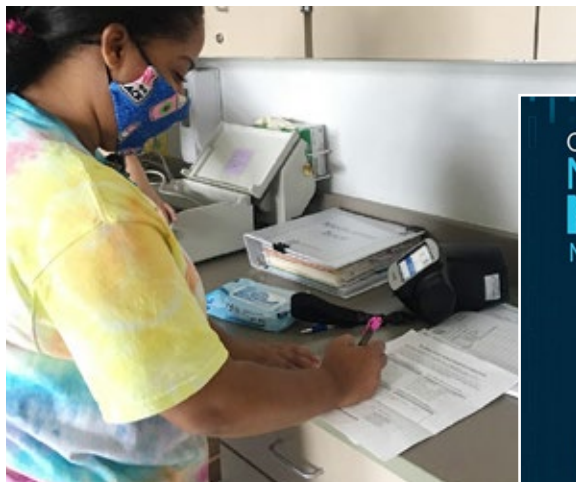


The creative students in the Hope Ambassadors Club at Ft. Pierce Central High School, under the direction of Mrs. Natasha Santoro, designed this year's Mental Health Awareness Month t-shirt. SLPS is so grateful for the students' work and excited to see their design in print.

HEALTH SERVICES

The School Health Services Program is a component of the public health system that provides basic health services to all public-school students. The services include: health appraisals; nursing assessments; child-specific training; preventative dental screenings and services; vision, hearing, scoliosis, and growth and development screenings; health counseling; referral and follow-up of suspected or confirmed health problems; first aid and emergency health services; assistance with medication administration; and health care procedures for students with chronic or acute health conditions.

The goal of school health services is to ensure that students are healthy, in school, and ready to learn. The Health Services team has implemented all health and safety protocols established by the district in each of the schools throughout this global pandemic. They have maintained a safe and healthy environment for all children in the school by providing immediate attention to those students who presented with any symptoms and ensured they received the appropriate attention warranted.





POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) is a framework designed to teach students behavioral expectations across all school settings including the classroom, cafeteria, playground and on the school bus. By teaching and reinforcing students for following expectations, the likelihood of students engaging in positive behaviors increases and the likelihood of students engaging in more serious behaviors decreases.

This school year, twenty-five St. Lucie Public Schools were awarded model school status by the University of South Florida's PBIS project. To achieve model school status schools must meet rigorous criteria and demonstrate that they have a tiered system in place to improve outcomes for all students. SLPS is very proud of the schools and the PBIS district team that leads this project in collaboration with the University of South Florida.

GOLD

Bayshore Elementary School
 Floresta Elementary School
 Dale Cassens Education Complex
 Mariposa Elementary School
 Windmill Point Elementary School

BRONZE

Fairlawn Elementary School
 Palm Pointe K-8 School
 Forest Grove Middle School
 Frances K. Sweet Elementary School
 Manatee K-8 School
 Oak Hammock K-8 School
 Savanna Ridge Elementary School

Southern Oaks Middle School
 Southport Middle School
 St. Lucie West K8 School
 Village Green Environmental Studies School
 Allapattah Flats K8
 Lawnwood Elementary School
 Morningside Elementary School
 Rivers Edge Elementary School
 West Gate K8 School
 Creative Arts Academy of St. Lucie
 Northport K8 School
 Samuel S. Gaines Academy of
 Emerging Technologies
 Weatherbee Elementary School



*St. Lucie Public Schools receives the distinct honor of having **25 schools** recognized as Florida PBIS Model Schools.*

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is an integral part of education and human development. SEL is the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions. SEL advances educational

equity and excellence through authentic school-family-community partnerships to establish learning environments and experiences that feature trusting and collaborative relationships, rigorous and meaningful curriculum and instruction, and ongoing evaluation. SEL can help address various forms of inequity and empower young people and adults to co-create thriving schools and contribute to safe, healthy, and just communities.



The five SEL Competencies of self-awareness, social awareness, relationship skills, responsible decision-making and self-management are vital for school, work, and life success. People with strong-social-emotional skills are better able to cope with everyday challenges and benefit academically, professionally, and socially. Social and emotional competency leads to positive and long-term impact on student outcomes both in and out of school.

Research shows that SEL not only improves achievement by an average of 11 percentile points and increases prosocial behaviors such as kindness, sharing, and empathy and improves student attitudes toward school. The SEL Department is proud of the strides schools have made in implementing the adopted SEL curriculum and embedding SEL into their school cultures.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Some of the major accomplishments of the SEL Department this year are listed below:

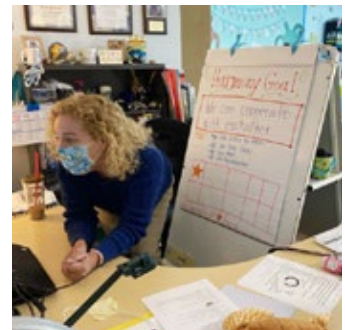
- 6,061 trainings provided to teachers and staff through Canvas or TEAMS about SEL for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Panorama Student Survey and associated trainings with administrators, counselors, Student Services and ESE Specialists for fall and spring administration.
- 24 Elementary School sites are in varying stages of implementing Harmony SEL Curriculum.
- 9 middle school sites are implementing Lions Quest SEL Curriculum.
- 7 Secondary sites implementing School Connect.
- 3 Magnet Schools implementing Leader in Me.
- SEL Monthly Cohort Meetings with school representatives.
- Ripple Effects added to Behavior Intervention Classrooms (BIC) and Alternatives to Out-of-School Suspension Programs and expansion to Elementary grades 3-5 in all schools, while Bouncy is in 7 schools in grades Pre-k through 2nd.
- S.E.L.F. Newsletter—Over 5,890 views this year; Featured on the Florida Department of Education District Collaborative Website for Social and Emotional Learning.
- S.E.L.F. Newsletter posted on the district Facebook page is being viewed Nationally and Internationally. This newsletter is also disseminated to all employees as well as many community agencies and has a wide following.
- Initiated and Facilitate Monthly SEL Convening of Florida Districts.



◀ Read the S.E.L.F. Newsletter here



◀ Watch a video about the SEL Department



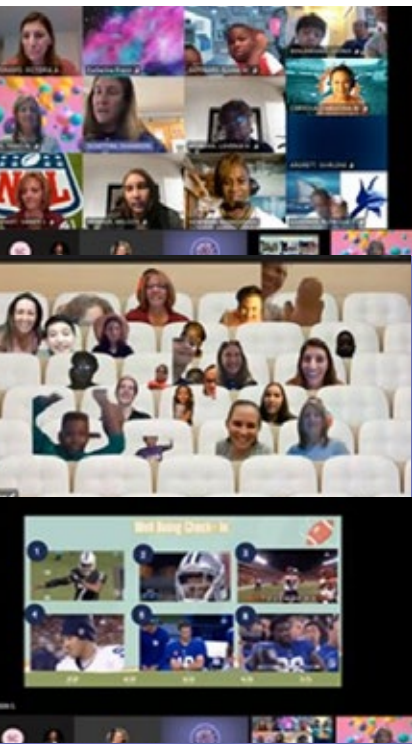
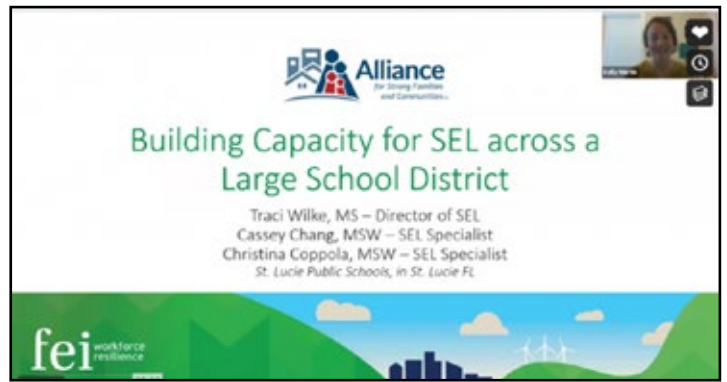
TOP RIGHT Mrs. Hartman at Palm Pointe checks in on the class Harmony Goal with her virtual Kindergarten students.

BOTTOM RIGHT Lauren Furtah at Allapattah Flats K8 takes time to engage in an emotional check-in with her students during their daily Meet Up to increase their self-awareness.

SEL TEAM PRESENTS AT THE ALLIANCE FOR STRONG FAMILIES

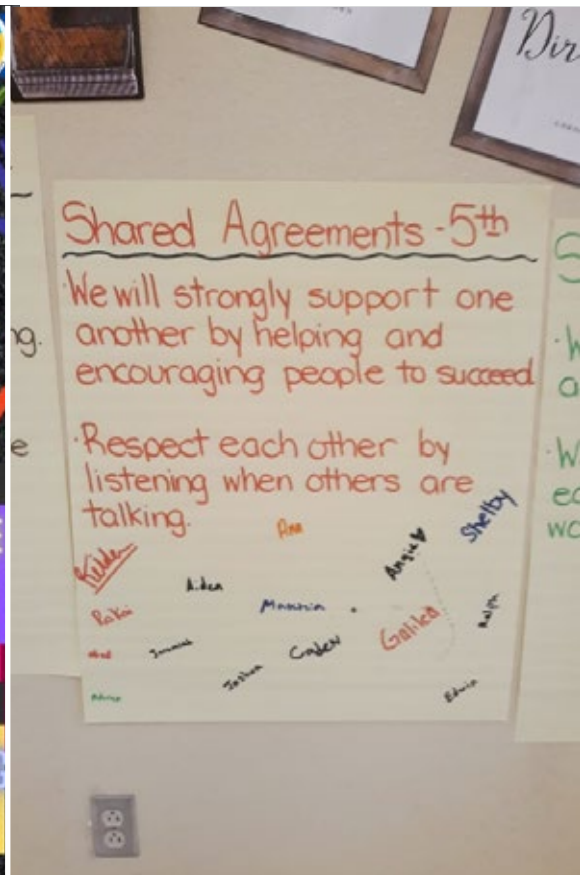
The SEL Department's presentation at the Excelsior Virtual Conference sponsored by the national organization, Alliance for Strong Families

and Communities was well received. Traci Wilke, Director of SEL and the district's SEL Specialists' Cassey Chang and Christina Coppola shared St. Lucie Public Schools' journey in *Building Capacity for SEL Across a Large District*.



SEL NIGHTS OF FAMILY LEARNING

The SEL Department collaborated with several schools this school year to sponsor virtual Nights of Family Learning. Families joined the SEL Team on Teams to learn about the importance of social emotional learning. Parents along with their children experienced activities similar to those found each day in classrooms.



▲ Schools across the District bring SEL to life through activities focused on the monthly SEL themes. The monthly theme skills are reinforced in daily circles and the weekly classroom SEL lessons.



▲ In March, the SEL Department presented at the National Youth Advocacy and Resilience Conference.

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

The exceptional Student Education Department (ESE) oversees the assurances outlined in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to ensure that all students with disabilities receive a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. The district currently has

over 6,000 students identified with a disability enrolled in our traditional public, charter and private schools. The Exceptional Student Education Department also monitors Gifted Education and establishes protocols and processes for gifted education to over 1,000 students identified with this exceptionality in the district.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Carried out all assurances under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act related to Free Appropriate Public Education for students with disabilities.
- Ensured that over 6,000 students with disabilities enrolled in SLPS, public, charter and private schools received their entitlement to FAPE.
- Ensured that over 900 students identified as Gifted received the specialized instruction guaranteed through their Educational Plans.
- 76% of all SWDs spent more than 80% of their school week in general education classes with their non-disabled peers.
- The graduation rate for students with disabilities for the 19/20 SY for SLPS was 91.6%. A 3.3% increase over the previous year and the seventh highest graduation rate in the state for students with disabilities.
- Students with disabilities in any Employment or Continuing Education Program continue to exceed the state percentage.
- 98.86% of students referred for an evaluation of suspected disability were evaluated within a 60-day timeline.
- Entered into the third year of the nationally recognized Project Search Program for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The program

operates through a cooperative agreement with Cleveland Clinic at Tradition. The program is also supported by the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

- Completed Desk Top Monitoring Process successfully with no audit findings. 100% compliant finding issued.
- No significant disproportionate representation of SWD in any category such as Intellectual Disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disabilities or Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities.
- No significant disproportionate discipline findings.
- Worked collaboratively with the University of South Florida Discretionary Projects to address the use of Restraint with SWD and to continue to implement strategies for overall reduction of any physical management of students with disabilities or non-disabled students.
- 91 staff working in ASD and EBD classrooms along with staff from PRIDE and Dale Cassens were trained in Ukeru System.
- CLPs were created for all Teachers of Students with an intellectual disability or autism overseen by ESE Program Specialists.
- No due process hearings or state complaints related to the education of students with disabilities.



SLPS RECEIVED 100% COMPLIANT RATING FOR THE MEDICAID SCHOOL MATCH PROGRAM

The Medicaid in Schools program is overseen by the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) which also performs routine audits to verify compliance with the program. St. Lucie County has been declared a model District here as past audits have seen SLPS remain in the realm of 98% to 100% compliant in the Medicaid program. The most recent Medicaid audit resulted in a 100% compliant rating.

SLPS RECEIVED HIGHEST DESIGNATION FOR IDEA

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004 (Section 616 (d)) requires states to make annual determinations on each location educational agency's (LEA) performance in meeting the requirements and purposes of the IDEA. At a minimum, states are required to implement a determination process that considers performance on State Performance Plan compliance indicators, data integrity, uncorrected noncompliance issues and relevant state audit findings.

SLPS received the highest designation for the 19/20 school year. This is a testament to the wonderful work of administrators, teachers, support staff and district personnel who work continuously to ensure quality programming and services for students with disabilities.

SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS



GIFTED EDUCATION

The Exceptional Student Education Department is responsible for overseeing Gifted Education throughout the district. There are 1,000 students in the district who are identified as Gifted and receiving specialized instruction in gifted education. Focus this year was on the goal of increasing enrollment of underrepresented populations in gifted. Schools with students in first and second grade identified as Limited English Proficient participated in the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test Screening which resulted in more than

100 students being referred for further evaluation for the Gifted Program

Teachers and administrators worked diligently and creatively to ensure the provision of gifted services were provided to students attending MySchool Online and traditional school settings. The program specialist for gifted education attended eligibility meetings at schools across the district to support the school-based teams and provide parents with information about gifted services for students who were found eligible.

PROJECT ELEVATE

The Project Elevate program is a way to assist middle school students with disabilities for transition from middle school to high school. The program helps students learn about and realize the need for self-advocacy skills as they move forward with their high school

experiences. This year, 12 students from Dan McCarty Middle School participated in the program.

Speakers from St. Lucie Public Schools, Vocational Rehabilitation and Keiser University Multidisciplinary Center presented on various topics through a

small group setting. The discussions helped the students to identify who could help with decisions and choices; in addition, they allowed students the opportunity to explore their role based on each choice made as they move forward through high school.

PROJECT SEARCH: CLEVELAND CLINIC TRADITION

Project SEARCH is a program that began at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. The program has grown to over 40 programs across 45 states and six countries.

The Project SEARCH program in SLC is a team that includes Cleveland Clinic Tradition, St. Lucie Public Schools, Vocational Rehabilitation, Agency for Persons with Disabilities employU and Keiser University. The program has been in operation for three years. Students who participate in the program are from all high schools in St. Lucie County. The program provides real-life work experiences combined with training in employability and independent living skills to help young adults with disabilities make successful

transitions from school to productive adult life.

As part of the program the students complete three rotations in the hospital in several different departments to include, Bio-Medical, Materials Resource, Nutritional Services, Central Sterilization, Environmental Services and Primary Care.

At the conclusion of the program, students are given a certificate of completion of the Project SEARCH program. Job Coaches through employU work with students to help them find employment. Some students are employed at the hospital while others are employed in the community in related jobs of the student's interest area. All students participating in the program for the last three years have been supported in finding employment.



DISTRICT WIDE CAMPAIGNS

NATIONAL SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH SEPTEMBER, 2020

The Social-Emotional and Mental Health of students is a top priority for St Lucie Public Schools. Through support from Jason Foundation, a national organization dedicated to raising awareness and preventing the “Silent Epidemic” of youth suicide, Student Services created a publication disseminated to each school and posted on social media with educational tools and resources to support youth.

NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS WEEK OCTOBER, 2020

Student Services took the lead on bringing attention to Breast Cancer Awareness and provided Pink Masks for

district employees during the month of October.

NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH OCTOBER, 2020

In the United States, one in five students ages 12 to 18 report that they have experienced bullying at least one time throughout their schooling. Bullying and cyber-bullying can have long-lasting impacts on students’ ability to perform in school and their social-emotional and mental health. For these reasons, St. Lucie Public Schools launched a campaign to raise awareness to put an end to bullying and cyber-bullying. During the month of October, SLPS focused efforts on the prevention and intervention of all forms of bullying and recognized October as National Bullying Prevention Month.



UNITY DAY OCTOBER 21, 2020

Unity Day - Kindness, Acceptance, and Inclusion. Staff and students wore the vibrant color orange as a symbol to promote kindness, acceptance, and inclusion for students who have experienced bullying.

NATIONAL SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY WEEK NOVEMBER 9-13, 2020

This week is designated to highlight the important work School Psychologists and other educators do to help all students thrive and benefit from school.

NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELORS WEEK FEBRUARY 1-5, 2021

This week highlights the essential contribution of school counselors and the

tremendous impact they have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

NATIONAL SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS WEEK MARCH 8-12, 2021

School Social Workers play a vital role in the schools. Social Workers serve as mental health professionals on school campuses, supporting families and students and linking them to services within their schools and community. They follow-up on all attendance matters to ensure that students are in school receiving their maximum educational benefit.



NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

APRIL, 2021

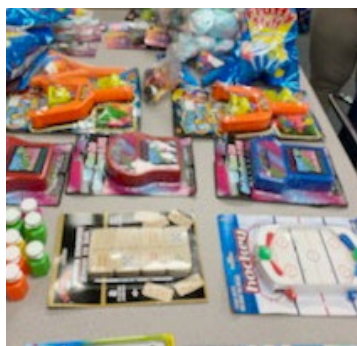
April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to celebrate the good things our communities do to promote healthy child development, support families, and help prevent child abuse and neglect.



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MONTH

APRIL, 2021

Occupational Therapy addresses the physical, cognitive, psychosocial and sensory components of performances. Occupational therapists focus on fine motor development and its impact on academics, play and leisure, social participation, self-care skills, and transition work skills. Occupational Therapists provided direct services to almost 1,000 students with disabilities.



AUTISM AWARENESS & ACCEPTANCE

APRIL, 2021

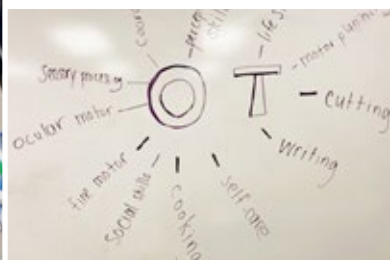
Ann Marie Miserocchi, Program Specialist for Autism Spectrum Disorder, read a proclamation that was accepted by the School Board recognizing Autism Awareness Month. The district personnel were encouraged to wear blue each Friday during the month of April to help bring awareness and show support for students with autism in the district. Currently the district has 780+ students with Autism.

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

MAY, 2021

St. Lucie Public Schools recognized the need to combat the stigma surrounding mental health concerns. The district recognized Mental Health Month and highlighted #Tools2Thrive which provided tools for individuals to prioritize their mental health and to build resiliency.

The district aired a Facebook Live event, broadcast from the district studio, which included questions and answers on mental health. In addition, the Hope Ambassadors at Fort Pierce Central High School designed a t-shirt to go along with the theme #Tools2Thrive. The students also created a public service announcement for their fellow students. Mental Health Awareness resources were also provided to schools.





SUPPORT SERVICES

39 Safety & Security

40 Transportation

42 Child Nutrition Services

44 Legal

SAFETY & SECURITY

All personnel of the Safety & Security Department are committed to creating and maintaining a safe environment for staff, students, and visitors. As law

enforcement safety officers, the staff serves as the liaison between St. Lucie Public Schools and the St. Lucie Sheriff's Office, the City of Fort Pierce Police Department and the City of Port St. Lucie

Police Department. They work with schools and district staff, in conjunction with these agencies, to provide safety and security to staff, students, and visitors, and to protect district-owned property.

The department is comprised of ten certified law enforcement officers, two mail couriers, and an administrative assistant.




Due to the voters supporting the referendum, there is a school resource officer on every campus.

- **The Building Numbering Project** was completed at all schools for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. The project was undertaken to designate and identify each school building with numbers for first responders and staff in the event of an emergency on campus.
- **FSSAT School Safety Assessments** (security surveys) were completed on each school by Safety/Security Officers and School Staff, as

mandated by the Florida Department of Education. Each assessment contained 424 questions. 43 FSSAT School Assessments were submitted to FDOE.

- Florida Department of Education awarded \$130,000 in the FDOE School Facilities Grant to install Bi-Directional Amplifiers (radio signal amplifiers) to improve public safety/ first responder portable radio communications

at the schools on the 800 Mhz Public Safety Radio System. The Bi-Directional Amplifier (BDA) Project was completed in July 2020. A total of thirteen Bi-Directional Amplifiers were installed at 7 school sites.



\$173,680

Total amount awarded by the Florida Department of Education

- Improved school based radio communications through the purchase and programming of 149 new or replacement radios for 20 schools.
- The Emergency Management Plan was updated, which included new and updated procedures on Reunification, Bomb Threat, Suspicious Letters and Packages, Code Red and Code Yellow, and Lost/Missing Child.
- Provided "Refresher" Threat Assessment Team training for one Threat Assessment Team member from each Elementary, Middle, K-8, and High School. Coordinated the training with the Florida

Department of Education Office of Safe Schools.

- Florida Department of Education awarded \$43,680 in the FDOE School Facilities Grant to install Repeaters (radio signal amplifiers for school based radio systems) at nine schools to improve radio communications with the school based radios systems. The Repeater Project, funded by a FDOE School Facilities Grant and based on the Safe School Security Risk Assessments, was completed in April.



TRANSPORTATION

Driving students to academic success is the mission of the St. Lucie Public Schools Transportation Department. During the 2020-21 school year, transportation faced many challenges from the pandemic such as training and reinforcing measures that protect and serve the community in the mission of mitigating risk to students and employee populations.

Transportation understood the challenges of not only the school district, but also the

community it serves. Starting in March of 2020 until now, SLPS has minimized transportation disruptions through strategic scheduling while continuing to transport students in a safe, efficient and courteous manner.



ENHANCED TRAINING & SAFETY

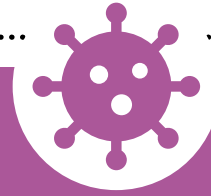
The entire New-Hire Bus Driver Training course has been upgraded. The bus driver training course consists of 1 week of classroom training and 2-3 weeks behind the wheel with hands-on training.

- A new training manual was created and implemented. This manual consists of 88 pages complete with diagrams, scenarios and student management techniques. Transportation also created several PowerPoint presentations Partners in the Communications Department collaborated to create training videos specific to St. Lucie Public Schools.

The ESE Bus Driver/Bus Aide training class has also been updated. This is a refresher class that is held to remind and reiterate the expectations of transporting special needs students.

- A new PowerPoint has been created along with a trainee work book. New training videos were created that demonstrate the proper way to load and unload students with special needs.
- Every bus driver, bus aide, area manager and additional support staff has been certified in both CPR and First Aid Response.
- These certification classes are held monthly to ensure everyone remains compliant with state regulations.
- 78 buses are equipped with wheelchair lifts to ensure every child is granted access to free and appropriate public education.

SLPS Transportation Bus Technicians are Certified School Bus Inspectors through the Department of Education.



COMBATING COVID-19

There is no question that the 2020-2021 School Year has been a different experience and the transportation department faced many new and unheard of challenges.

Transportation is on the front line for St. Lucie Public School Students and as a team they have worked diligently to help combat COVID-19 and reduce the spread.



51,240

Face masks distributed



56,700

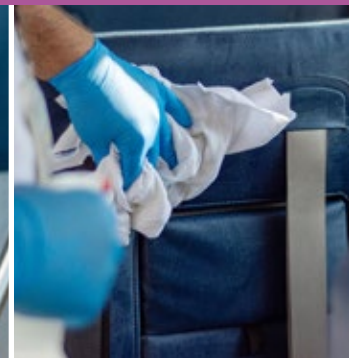
Fluid ounces of hand sanitizer used



1,050

Gallons of disinfectant used

- All passengers were required to wear face masks. This includes drivers, aides, students and teachers.
- Each bus was stocked with extra face masks to ensure every passenger that boards has one.
- A stationary Purell hand sanitizer has been installed at the front door of each bus.
- Drivers are trained to complete the disinfecting process before the start of each route tier.
- Drivers are required to update Bus Seating charts as new students are added to their routes. Seating charts are uploaded on MS Teams as they are completed. This is necessary for contact tracing to determine quarantines.
- A thorough cleaning is completed if there is a suspected positive case.

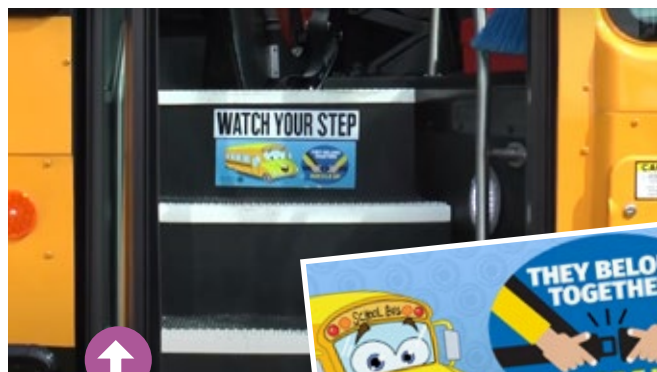




GET ONBOARD & GET TO KNOW TRANSPORTATION

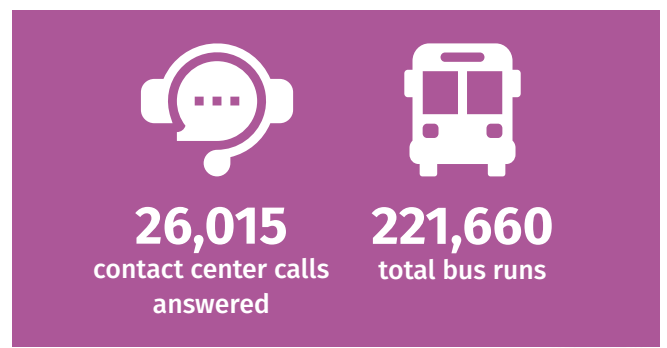
In the 2020-2021 school year, Transportation added 26 new buses to the fleet. School buses are advancing and St. Lucie Public Schools Transportation Department leads the industry in technology and safety. There are currently 378 buses in the fleet. Each equipped with:

- A seatbelt for every rider to enhance student safety, 152 of which are 3-point lap shoulder combination seatbelts and integrated child seats.
- Up to 8 state of the art security cameras with drivers windshield view.
- Newer buses are equipped with back-up cameras.
- GPS Software to track live location and history. This also records every mechanical event that occurs (including the speed traveled).
- “Here Comes The Bus” is a parent-used application to track bus stop pick-ups and drop-offs.
- Driver interface tablets with the most up-to-date ridership information. This also provides map navigation & routed directions for the drivers.
- Buses have air conditioning units installed to help keep the riders cool in the hot Florida weather.
- 78 buses are equipped with wheelchair lifts to ensure every child is granted access to free and appropriate public education.
- Transportation Bus Technicians are Certified School Bus Inspectors through the Department of Education.



SEATBELT SAFETY CAMPAIGN

In an effort to increase the use of seatbelts by riders, transportation partnered with the communications department to develop the “They Belong Together, Buckle Up” campaign.



Here Comes the Bus®

9,132 parents using the Here Comes The Bus app to track their students bus

CHILD NUTRITION SERVICES



To **SERVE** is the philosophy of the St. Lucie Public School Child Nutrition Services Department. Finishing the 2019-2020 school year and heading into the 2020-2021 school year brought uncertainty and change for everyone. When schools were ordered closed, Food Service immediately changed how they approached feeding students. Child Nutrition Services staff understood that families were struggling with financial hardship. Their goal was to make sure that children would not go hungry.

Many students rely on Child Nutrition Services throughout the year. St. Lucie County has the largest number of food insecure individuals on the Treasure Coast and ranks at the top for food insecurity levels within our area. *Seventeen percent of the St. Lucie County population is food*

insecure, with more than 50,000 individuals not knowing where their next meal is coming from. Over 30% of the food insecure population in St. Lucie County do NOT qualify for federal nutrition programs and often rely on charitable food assistance programs.

The CNS Program is committed to helping with community hunger by providing free meals to all students within St. Lucie County.

Starting in March of 2020 through the summer months and into this school year, CNS staff has been on the front lines serving Grab-N-Go meals under new COVID guidelines. Through this adversity, the Child Nutrition staff has shown what it means to truly **SERVE**.

TO SERVE MEANS:

- SETTING THE BAR HIGH
- EVERYONE EVERYTIME
- RELATIONSHIP BUILDING
- VALUES DRIVEN
- EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCE



RESPONSE TO COVID

Child Nutrition Services department switched gears quickly on March 13, 2020, in response to COVID-19. Following CDC and the Department of Health guidelines, SLPS was the first district up and running with Grab-N-Go meals within the state. *CNS safely served nearly 500,000 meals during the covid-19 crisis.*

PRECAUTIONS IN THE KITCHENS

Along with the normal protocol, CNS trained the kitchen staff on new health and safety standard operating procedures, including:

- Working in individual workstations, at least 6FT apart.
- Washing and sanitizing hands after every glove change.
- Wearing a mask at all times while working with food and when in contact with customers.
- Sanitizing work stations every hour including frequently used touch points such as equipment handles, sink faucet handles, utensils and computers.
- Allowing a small group to enter the serving space at a time.
- Mark spaced lines to enter the cafeteria and serving lines; designated entrance and exit flow paths; stagger use of paths.
- Hand sanitizing stations in the entryway of each serving area.
- Staggered meal times to keep the capacity of the cafeterias at or below 50%.
- Increasing meal times to allow for students to get through the serving areas safely while having enough time to eat their meal.

MEAL SERVICE SAFETY

- Protective barriers in serving and dining areas to enforce social distancing.





\$191,410

COVID Equipment Costs
(breakfast carts & lunch kiosks)



224,770

Breakfasts



224,514

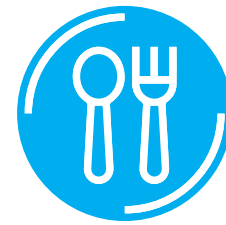
Lunches

MySchool Online Meals



\$149,425

2020 National School Lunch Program
Equipment Assistance Grant
(Coolers & Freezers at Bayshore Elementary
& St. Lucie West K8)



35,000+

Meals Served Daily

PROGRAMS AT THEIR BEST

- Largest restaurant chain in St. Lucie County.
- Students are educated about and exposed to how food is grown locally.
- Farm to school Garden program.
- After-school meals for all tutorial programs.
- Mobile feeding through Bright Bites Bus.
- Top notch catering for the community.



DID YOU KNOW?

All of our kitchens receive locally grown Farm to School food products that are served to our students within 48 hrs of being harvested.

LEGAL

The Legal Department provided timely counsel to the Superintendent and District staff as the District navigated the many Covid-19 legal issues that arose on a daily basis. This advice continued throughout the school year as new federal, state and local mandates changed.

- The Legal Department continued to promptly answer daily questions from schools, staff and parents that ranged from the routine to the unique (especially given the unique circumstances of this school year).
- Staff proactively worked with the Human Resources Department to ensure that employee investigations were thorough and complete.
- Since the Quality of Department Services survey (completed by Principals) was instituted, the Legal Department has increased its rating each survey period. For the Winter 2020-2021 survey, the Department earned a satisfaction rating of 4.78 out of 5 which was the 4th highest rating out of 24 departments.





TODAY'S LEARNERS

TOMORROW'S LEADERS





INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

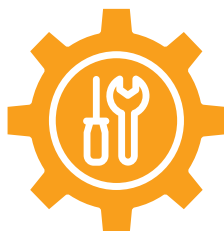
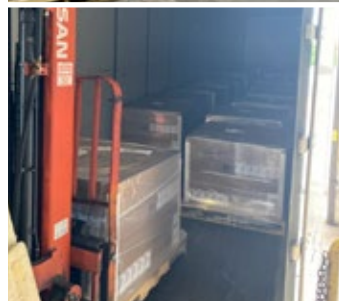
St. Lucie Public Schools Information Technology department provides innovative, secure, and reliable technology solutions in collaboration with stakeholders that enhance teaching and learning, enable cutting-edge research, and enrich the core business and infrastructure of the district.

IT operates as a knowledgeable, professional, and responsive team, and promotes a culture of trust, transparency, and respect. They are committed to providing first-class solutions through the utilization of models of measurable and continuous improvement, best practices, and proven methodologies.



DID YOU KNOW?

In April of 2020, Cares 2 funds were used to order an additional **5,000 devices** for employees and **10,000 devices** for students, ensuring 1 to 1 laptop devices for all SLPS students.



2,600

MySchool Online students/parents who received service through the broke/fix laptop program



12,000

phone calls answered by the Technical Service Desk over the past 12 months



40,000 laptops have been relocated, imaged and deployed for students in grades 7-12.

20,000 new devices were purchased and deployed to K-6 students.

DESTINY RESOURCE MANAGER

- Purchased and implemented at all sites to facilitate equipment inventory, including laptops, at each site. Media Specialists have been trained to use the application.

SYLINT SECURITY ANALYSIS

- A network security audit was completed to ensure that the existing infrastructure is secure from potential attacks.
- Additional recommended enhancements are being implemented.

MICROSOFT 365

- Moved from device based activation to device based subscription implementation.
- Upgraded all employees to Microsoft A5 license to enhance features for Teams calling as well as added advanced threat protection security.

LAPTOP CARTS & CHARGING STATIONS

Laptop carts & charging stations have been purchased for each site to better facilitate charging of devices as well as secure storage of laptops.

DISTRICT OFFICE PHONES

- New AVAYA phone system at district office with redundancy at Treasure Coast High School.

EMAIL/EXCHANGE

- Upgrading on-premise Exchange 2010 environment to Exchange 2019 to maintain proper network & security standards with supported Microsoft platforms.

SKYWARD UPGRADE

- Skyward physical and virtual servers upgraded for student, business and training environments, which ensure that student information and business systems are updated and hosted on reliable and secure servers.



LAPTOP MANAGEMENT & DEPLOYMENT

- An InTune environment was set up to allow end users to provision and reset devices without the need for imaging. Currently there have been 20,306 devices provisioned.

BUSES

- Outfitted 20 school district buses with wireless to support remote learning, with buses deployed strategically in neighborhoods around the county.

MARQUEES AT SCHOOLS

Seven new marquees:

- Southern Oaks Middle School
- Southport Middle School
- Oak Hammock K8
- Forest Grove Middle School
- White City Elementary School
- Creative Arts Academy
- District Office



SECURITY CAMERA UPGRADES

Since July 2020, 8 sites have been completed

- Northport K8 School
- Southport Middle School
- Southern Oaks Middle School
- St. Lucie West Centennial High School

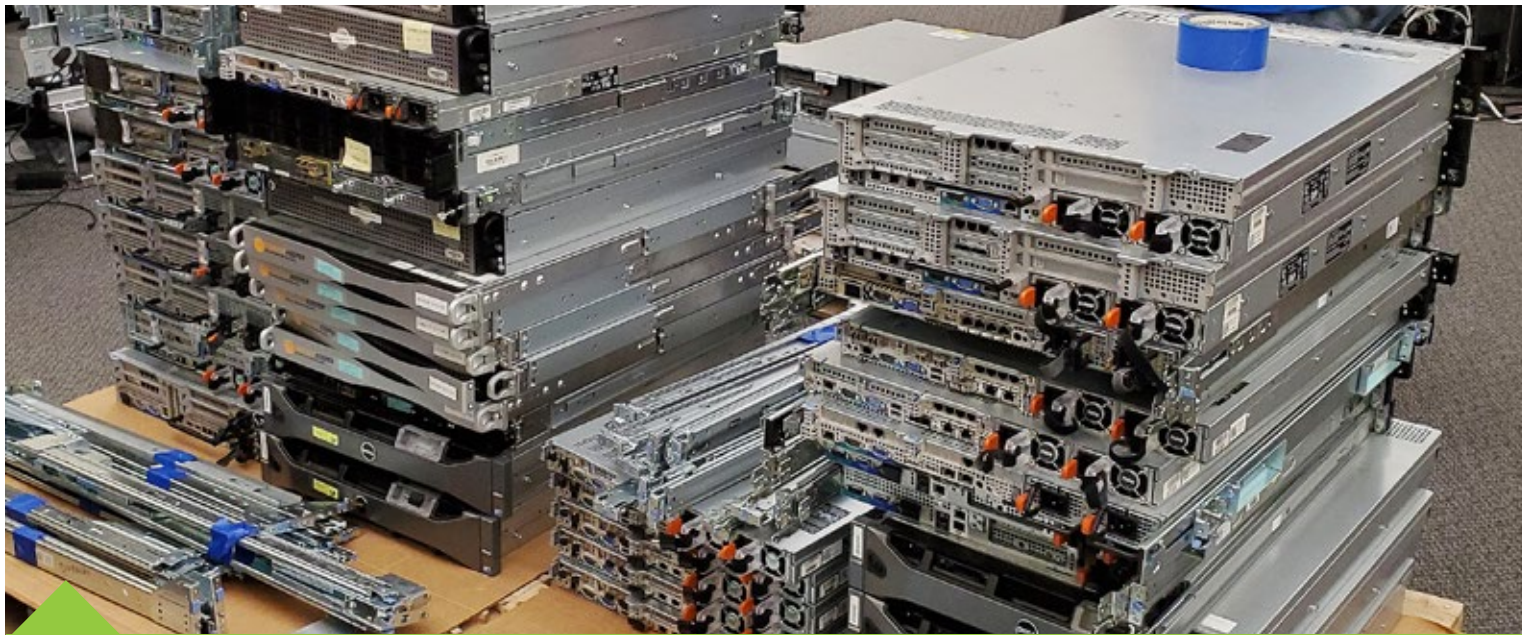
- St. Lucie West K8 School
- Fort Pierce Westwood Academy
- Dan McCarty Middle School
- Weatherbee Elementary School

Currently upgrading 3 sites:

- Bayshore Elementary School
- Savanna Ridge Elementary School
- St. Lucie Elementary School

New intercom cameras at 45 sites, 15 lobby & 25 office cameras completed.





SERVER UPGRADES

In order to ensure SLPS is running the latest security updates on the servers, IT has a project in place to upgrade or decommission all outdated servers (94) from 2008 OS to the new supported 2019 version.

NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE

- Cisco ISE implementation (replacing Cisco ACS)
- District Wireless Controller upgrade to accommodate existing & newer Cisco 9117AX access points, along with Cisco DNA licensing for 4,000+ AP transition.
- Upgrade of district core & outside/edge switch.
 - ◆ HA pair units will provide support for up to 100 GB network backbone to address future needs.
 - ◆ Core provides consolidation of current DMZ 4500 switch into a virtual role within the 9600 architecture.
 - ◆ 100GB SFP optics allows for 20GB+ committed bandwidth throughput with additional critical network infrastructure applications including Harris 20GB ISP circuit.
- Replaced current Firewall with next generation SD-WAN firewall that will provide enhanced security awareness and protection against zero-day malware threats.



- Total of 5 mobile filters to support distance learning.
- Upgraded internet bandwidth to 20GB Harris/Comcast and additional 10GB Windstream connection. ISP diversity with Harris (My Florida Network) and Windstream (ATT).
- Moved DNS from self hosted to cloud hosted via Azure.
- Emergency website moved to Azure.

E-RATE SWITCHES & CABLING

- Upgraded to 10GB AT&T ASE circuits at all high school and K-8 sites and 1GB at all middle and elementary sites.
- Complete MDF/IDF WiFi switch upgrades to support 40 instructional sites.

STORAGE AREA NETWORK

- NetApp storage addition to expand virtual environment.
- Implemented NetApp AFF 200/220 cluster node environment.

VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT

- VCenter 6.5 upgrade to support new virtualization technology and to be in compliance with support.
- Installed 7 new ESXi Hosts to expand capacity/redundancy, replacing 9 obsolete servers.



COMMUNICATIONS

51 Communications

53 Media Services

54 Publications

COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Department is comprised of the Communications Office, Publications and Media Services. The primary goals of the department is to communicate accurate, relevant and timely information to the community and to support the mission of St. Lucie Public Schools.



COMMUNICATIONS BY THE NUMBERS



FACEBOOK

1,788,631
posts to newsfeeds

2,012,826
shares

1,695,283
unique views

10,312,282
times accessed

556,002
google searches



DISTRICT WEBSITE



LUCIELINK
NEWSLETTER

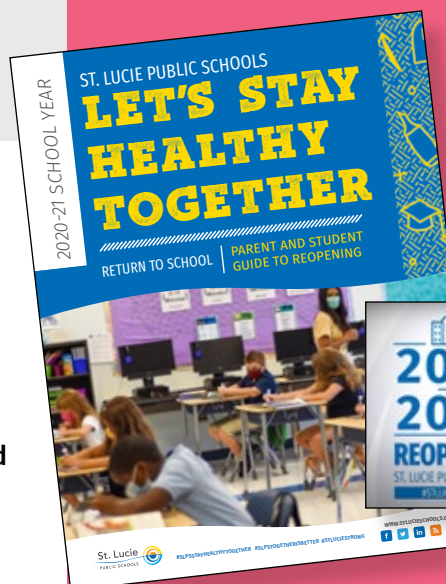
30,073
subscribers

585
articles published

RESPONSE TO COVID-19

All divisions of the Communications Department had to quickly shift gears to ensure a smooth transition to virtual learning in March 2020 and then once again in August 2020 when school buildings re-opened. It was the task of the Communications Department to make sure that families, staff and community members had a clear understanding of what to expect and how to navigate the “new normal.”

Through the use of social media, the SLPS Education Channel WLX-TV, district website, School Messenger, press conferences and direct messaging from the Superintendent and his leadership team, the team set out to clearly communicate what school would look like when it re-opened, how we were implementing the novel health and safety guidelines in the work place and at school and the various changes being implemented across the District.





SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!

The positive relationships that have been developed with local media have opened the door for the Communications Department to proactively pitch “Good News” stories, resulting in an increase in positive media coverage. Events that were covered include:

- Treasure Coast Business Summit
- 1.6 Million S.W.E.L.L. Grant
- Kindergarten Round-Up
- Fort Pierce Westwood Academy Veterinary Assistant Program

COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

Routinely, staff from the Communications Office and other district departments attends community-wide events. The purpose is to share the great things happening in the district as well as to make connections with community members, local businesses and organizations.

- Kid Mania Drive-Thru Event
- Safety Festival
- Treasure Coast Business Summit

MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

When the need arises, the Communication Department launches full-fledged campaigns utilizing a variety of tools. Examples include the Kindergarten Round-Up campaign,

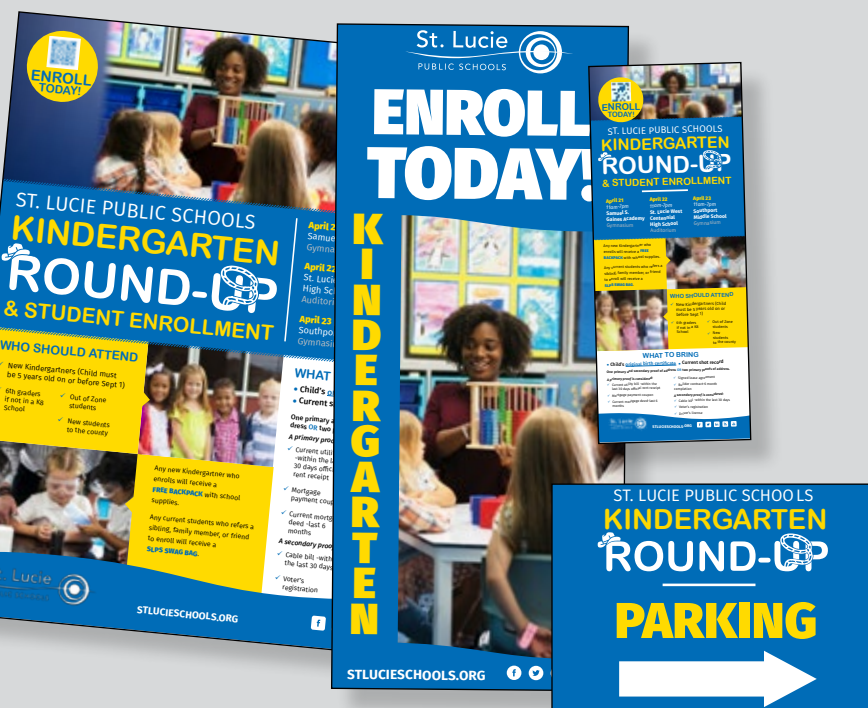
a program launched to increase Kindergarten registration and the Promise Is A Promise Campaign, a program offering employment to SLPS high school graduates who enroll and complete education degrees.

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

Collateral included fliers, school messenger, newspaper ads, radio PSA, banners, video and additional signage

Promise Is A Promise

Collateral included brochures, web sliders, TV news story and posters



MEDIA SERVICES

The media services department produces 15 monthly shows that air on the SLPS Education Channel, WLX-TV. In addition to running a TV channel, media services supports initiatives and events from across district departments and schools.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Completed 35 separate multi-media projects including:
 - ◆ Return to school videos covering newly implemented COVID-19 procedures in schools
 - ◆ Virtual Graduations for all schools, which includes kindergarten through high school
 - ◆ Virtual Night of the Stars event
 - ◆ Virtual Education Foundation Scholarship Night
 - ◆ Virtual open houses for schools
- Implemented Facebook Live as a new interactive platform to communicate relevant and important information to the community.
- Live broadcasts of all school board meetings and workshops.
- Live broadcasts of high school graduations.
- Completed service of 1,973 viper tickets to schools.
- Created over 100+ videos for the Motivation Station project, a teacher driven initiative to improve reading and math proficiency to prevent summer slide.



▲ Scan to watch our COVID-19 safety video series



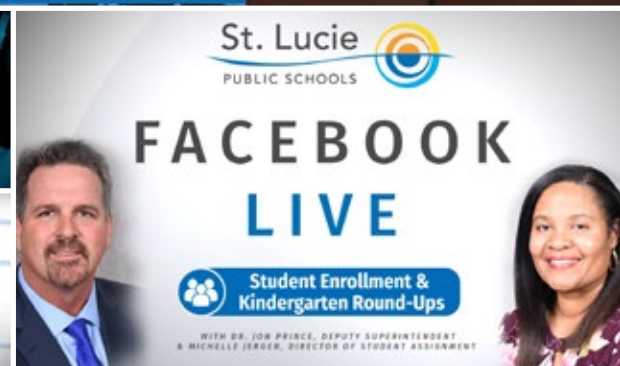
182,733
YouTube views



13,814
videos played on the Education Channel



1,050,905
minutes watched on YouTube



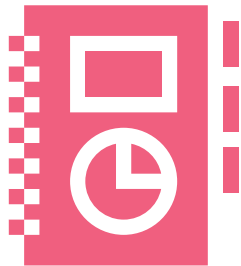
PUBLICATIONS

SLPS has a fully functioning print shop that is outfitted with state of the art, high volume production printers, binders, laminators and other specialized equipment. The print shop provides a wide array of services to the district, schools, and outside agencies.



PUBLICATIONS BY THE NUMBERS

20,802
planners printed



- 14,765 Student Planners
- 2,107 District Planners
- 3,930 Custom Planners
- 2,071,943 Sheets of Paper
- 18,695 Plastic Coils

16,645,976
print impressions



PUBLICATIONS HAS BILLED \$559,872.30



DID YOU KNOW?

The Publications Department has printed over 12,000 COVID-19 signs for schools and district offices.



**GREAT
TEACHERS**

**GREAT
LEARNING**

St. Lucie
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



LEARN MORE AT [STLUCIEPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG](https://www.stluciepublicschools.org)



ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES/ HISPANIC SERVING INSTITUTIONS (HBCU/HSI) COLLEGE FAIR

The annual HBCU/HSI college fair was moved to a virtual platform this year due to COVID-19. Despite the transition to a new virtual format, a record-breaking twenty-nine colleges and universities participated along with 325 graduating seniors.

This annual college fair provides an opportunity for students and colleges to connect one-on-one, resulting in on the spot enrollment and scholarship offers. This is a win-win for everyone involved.



NIGHT OF THE STARS

This year the annual Night of the Stars Gala was held online. There were 155 professionals recognized in six categories, with the winners being announced in real-time.



TEACHER
OF THE
YEAR

LAUREN KAPPLER



OUTSTANDING
FIRST YEAR
TEACHER

JEWEL EDWARDS



DISTINGUISHED
MINORITY
EDUCATOR

MILDRED BROWN



SCHOOL RELATED
EMPLOYEE
OF THE YEAR

MARIA CARLEY



PRINCIPAL
OF THE
YEAR

ANA RODRIGUEZ-
ORONOZ



ASSISTANT
PRINCIPAL
OF THE YEAR

LATRICIA STUBBS



2021 GRADUATION

Graduation is the culminating event of a student's academic journey and the highlight of the year for the school district. Approximately 3,000 students walked across the stage to receive their diploma. This year's graduating class earned over 25.4 million dollars in scholarships, 244 Associates degrees as well as 58 military enlistments and 60 students signed the Promise Is A Promise Pledge and will return to SLPS as teachers once they earn their college degree. SLPS proudly boasts a graduation rate of 98.3% at the six comprehensive high schools, ranking the district 10th in the state.



UNITED WAY

The United Way Tools for Schools Teacher Resource Center provides materials for teachers to assist students with daily instruction. Items included paper, pencils, crayons and flash drives. This program is very helpful as it assists with students who may be without supplies as well as helps teachers who may need additional instructional items. As a result of COVID-19, there was an increase in the number of items provided to teachers, ultimately benefiting students.

August-March 19/20

43,754 Items Provided | \$67,551

August-May 20/21

62,484 Items Provided | \$106,000



HUMAN RESOURCES

HUMAN RESOURCES



The SLPS Human Resources department is a fully innovative, strategic, and modern functioning Human Resources Department. In 2016, a technology and paperless initiative was implemented and prior to the pandemic,

the department was already 100% paperless. Technology was also put in place that allowed HR staff to work remotely prior to the start of the pandemic. This allowed staff to work from home and provide full HR services to the district during the pandemic without any interruption.

COVID POINTS OF PRIDE

- Created the COVID-19 flowchart to show the process for employees to use COVID-19 leave.
- Tracked COVID-19 leave and evaluated if employees meet the criteria for COVID-19 leave.
- Determined how to continue COVID-19 leave for employees after the Federal mandate ended.
- Identified employees to assist with the COVID-19 screenings at the front of the district office.



OPERATIONS

- Best Places to Work 2020 - Four years in a row.
- Transitioned unemployment processing to Hiretech with dashboard functionality for real-time monitoring of claims.
- Transitioned AESOP to RED ROVER to provide yearly savings of \$13,500 and enhanced substitute management service to schools.
- Added a reading certification table in Power BI for principals to easily locate teachers eligible to provide Tier 3 supports.



170 first-year teacher visits completed to date

96 second-year teacher visits completed to date

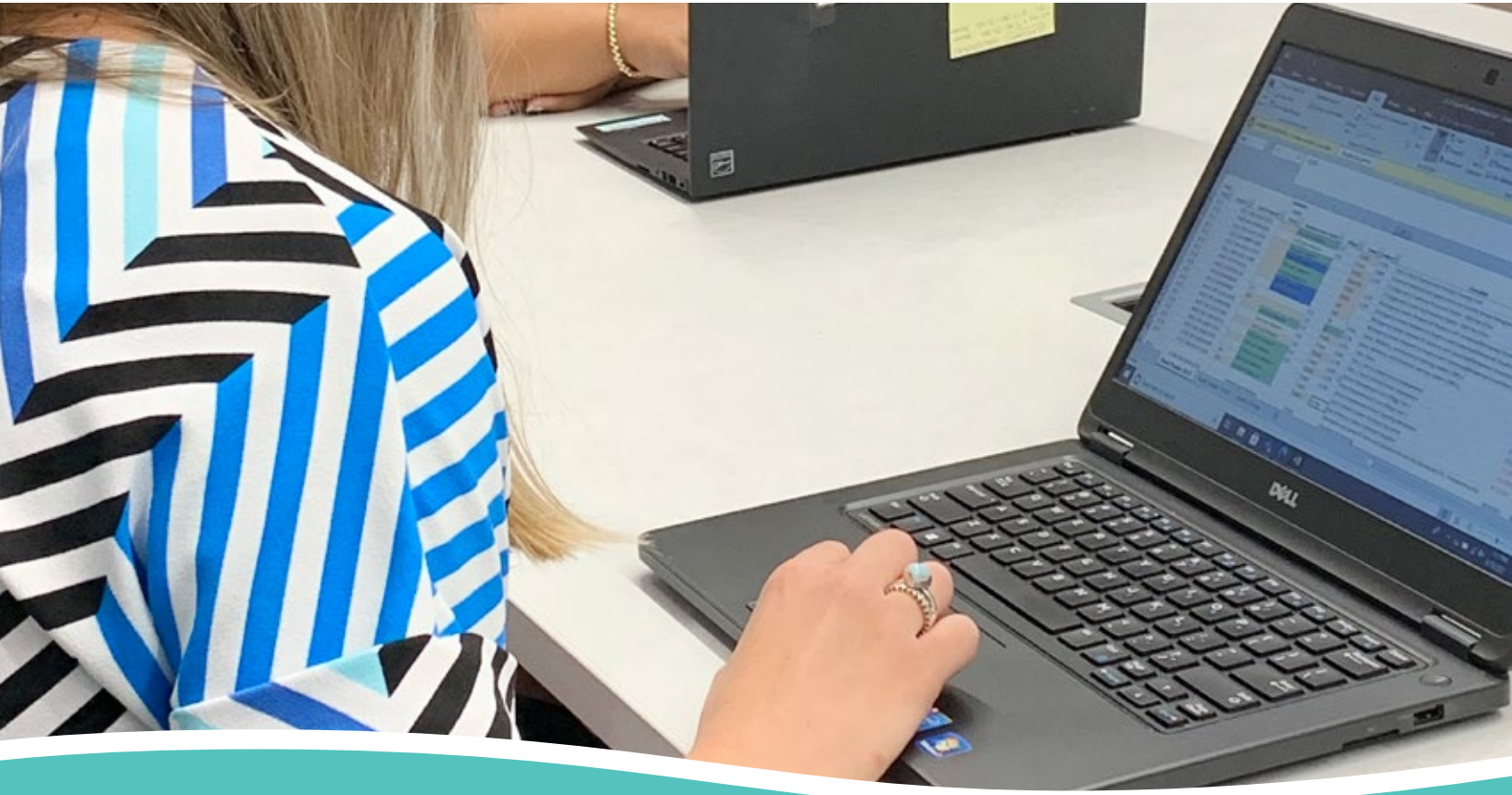
338 new teachers hired to date

97% retention



RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT

- SLPS has one of the most innovative and modern retention and recruitment strategies used in the industry.
- Fully integrated digital marketing and recruitment campaigns for over three years.
- Recruitment is similar to tourism and consumer marketing campaigns using our SLPS achievements as our "Brand."
- Virtual job fairs have been conducted for two years prior to the pandemic and at the start of the pandemic the HR department easily transitioned to 100% virtual job fairs.
- While other school districts struggled to recruit and hire, SLPS did not.
- 4 years in a row SLPS started the first day of school with zero vacancies with a certified teacher or long-term sub.



BUSINESS SERVICES

61 Departments & Accomplishments

62 Financial Breakdowns

BUSINESS SERVICES

The Business Services Department is made up of 5 divisions: Accounting, Purchasing, Payroll, Accounts Payable & Risk Management. The business services department provides district wide support to other departments as well as the schools, doing their part to ensure that all students graduate from safe and caring schools, equipped with the knowledge, skills and desire to succeed.

ACCOUNTING

This division manages the budget for specific funds and works on day to day requests from schools and departments.

PURCHASING

This division manages the procurement of goods and services as well as managing inventory.

PAYROLL

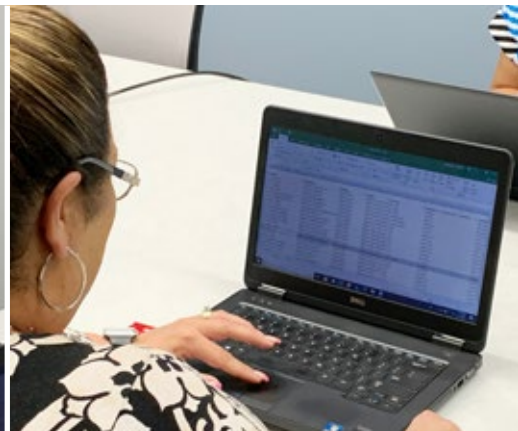
This division manages all employee compensation for over 4,000 employees, occurring 2 times each month.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

This division manages all vendor disbursements for district wide funds. Accounts Payable staff process thousands of payments 2 times a month and manage the entire process from receiving the invoice to verifying the goods/ services have been received and are in compliance with the associated PO in order to finalize the payment.

RISK MANAGEMENT

This division manages all employee benefits (health, dental, life, etc.), district wide safety issues, wellness, property/casualty insurance, and workers comp.



2020-2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



The district earned an **A+ rating** for its outstanding Certificates of Participation and an **A rating** for its outstanding Sales Tax Revenue Bonds and has a stable outlook as reported by Fitch Ratings issued 4/23/2001.



The district received a **perfect no finding audit** for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

- Medical Claims were down by \$3 million from 2019 to 2020, our medical loss ratio went from 84.3% in 2019 to 72.8% in 2020, there was a 49% reduction in workers comp claims and a decrease in light duty assignments.

by 186 which includes COVID, and increased participation in district wide health challenges.

as well as review and score for awarding purpose.



- The wellness program saw a 16.2% increase in participation over the previous year, increased cancer screenings by 294, increased vaccines

- Purchasing implemented a complete online procurement process allowing us to accept all proposals electronically,

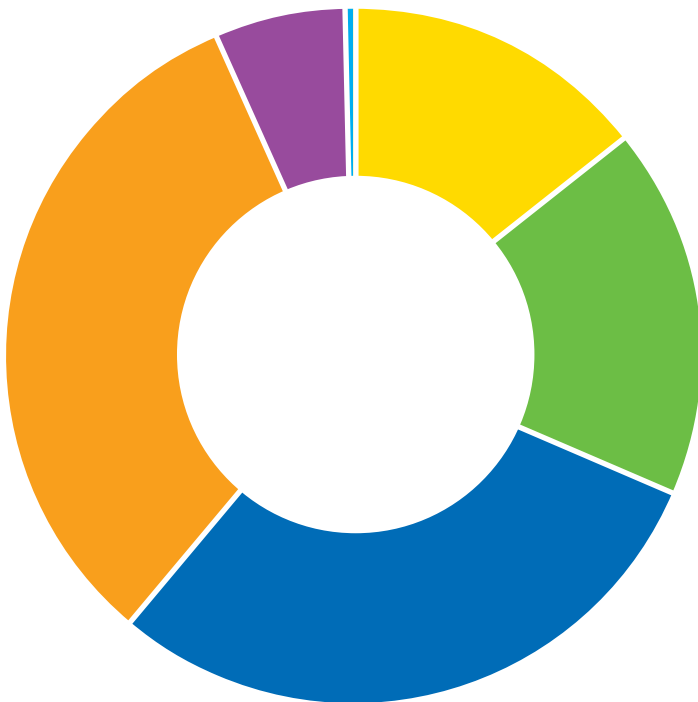
- Accounts Payable implemented electronic processing of travel forms allowing employees to enter travel in skyward and have it all approved and

submitted for payment electronically, thus allowing the department to process the payments in a timely fashion.

FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

\$
\$703,773,767

Total of All Funds Fiscal Year 2020-2021
 (as of 5/3/2021)



- Long Term Debt/Sale of Capital Assets
- Inter-Fund Transfers
- Fund Balance
- Federal Sources
- State Sources
- Local Sources

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

LONG TERM DEBT/SALE OF CAPITAL ASSETS: \$1,039,434

Represents funds from issuance of long-term debt and sale of capital assets.

INTER-FUND TRANSFERS: \$43,401,203

Represents transfers from school district funds to other school district funds.

FUND BALANCE: \$100,424,913

Represents the excess of fund assets over liabilities from the previous year.

FEDERAL SOURCES: \$120,553,087

Represents funds received from Federal Sources, through direct funding as well as through state and local. (Title I, CARES, IDEA, Child Nutrition Services).

STATE SOURCES: \$209,472,267

Represents funds received from State sources (FEFP, State categorical funding, lottery funds).

LOCAL SOURCES: \$228,882,863

Represents funds received from local sources. (Property tax, millage levies, Sales taxes, Investments, Charges for services, Indirect Cost).

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

ENERGY SERVICES: \$9,638,792

Represents expenditures for various types of energy used by the School Board.

TRANSFERS: \$43,075,895

Represents transfers to other school district funds.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: \$49,344,757

Represents expenditures for the acquisition of capital assets or additions to capital assets (land, building, equipment, remodeling, motor vehicles and software).

OTHER EXPENSES: \$50,609,258

Represents expenditures paid for goods/services not included in any other category (dues/fees, principal and interest, litigation).

MATERIALS & SUPPLIES: \$62,522,964

Represents expenditures for items that are expendable in nature (consumed, worn out, deteriorated in use, or lost identity).

PURCHASED SERVICES: \$68,074,456

Represents amounts paid for services rendered by personnel who are not on the payroll of the school board.

ESTIMATED ENDING FUND BALANCE: \$89,406,251

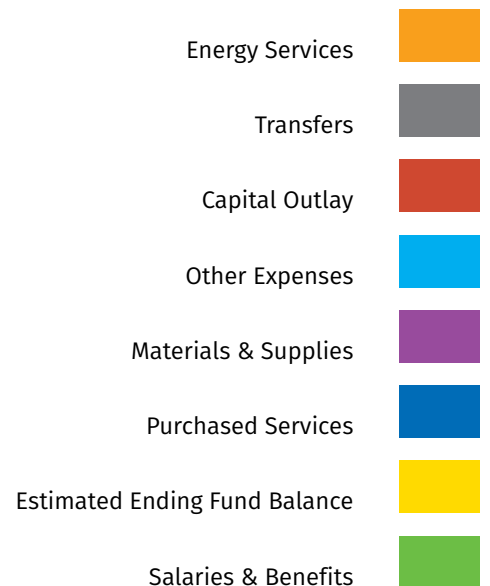
The excess of fund assets over liabilities from the current year.

SALARIES & BENEFITS: \$331,101,394

Represents amounts paid to employees of the school system who are in permanent positions and associated benefits such as FRS, FICA, Medicare, and Health.

\$
\$703,773,767

Total Expenditure Budget Fiscal Year 2020-2021
(as of 5/3/2021)





BUILDING SERVICES

60 Facilities & Maintenance

66 Custodial Services

67 Growth Management

FACILITIES & MAINTENANCE

Facilities plans, schedules and oversees construction and major renovations of district buildings. The department also reviews and maintains records for the DOE and local

municipalities concerning local, state, and federal codes. Maintenance is responsible for maintaining district buildings and schools which included repairs and upgrades to systems.

HVAC UPGRADES

- Starting in 2008, Facilities changed out end of life chillers to Thermal Energy Ice Plants and all new construction was built with this technology. The Ice Plants give the district rebates which help to build more ice plants and conserve energy by as much as 45%.

COST SAVINGS FOR UPGRADES TO BUILDING AUTOMATION AND ICE PLANTS

- In 2008 Facilities & Maintenance started implementing an aggressive energy conservation program that included high technical controls systems to monitor temperature, humidity, carbon dioxide, and efficiency. In 2008 the district consumed 83,236,788 kilowatts of electrical energy. By 2011 the district had reduced those numbers to 46,035,085 kilowatts. In addition, SLPS has continued to upgrade control systems, install LED lighting, and use energy efficient replacement HVAC systems.

BUILDING RENOVATIONS

- In the past 2 years the team completed a new 3 story District Office building and a major renovation to an empty wing at CAST for added classrooms. This project maintained the historical integrity of the site while also adding classrooms.



KEYS AND LOCKS

- Re-keyed several schools to the master key for schools: St. Lucie West Centennial High School, Fort Pierce Central High School, Treasure Coast High School, Fort Pierce Westwood Academy, Lincoln Park Academy, Samuel Gaines Academy, Oak Hammock K8, Westgate K8, Palm Pointe K8, Allapattah Flats K8, Manatee K8, St. Lucie West K8, CAST, Northport K8, Dan McCarty Middle School, Southern Oaks Middle School, Forest Green Middle School, Lakewood Park Elementary, C.A. Moore Elementary, Floresta Elementary, St. Lucie Elementary, and Weatherbee Elementary
- Received a grant to put Port St. Lucie High School on new keyway system as part of summer project.



HVAC SYSTEM UPGRADES

- Mariposa, Manatee and Forest Grove will receive new HVAC systems in the coming months.
- All schools will be outfitted with Bi-Polar Ionization.
- Bi-Polar Ionization (BPI) generates negatively and positively charged ions which directly attack the DNA of bacteria and viruses, protecting people from illness and disease.

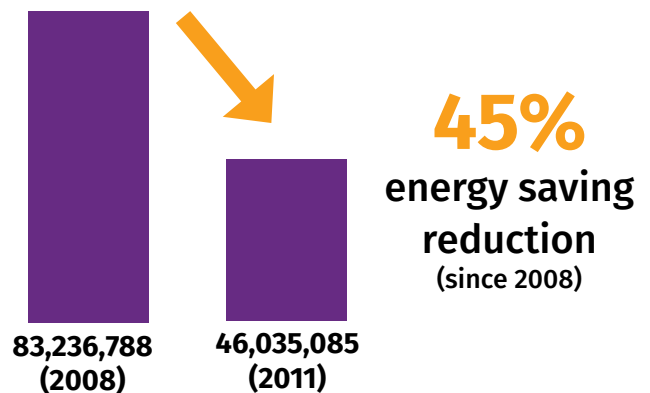
COVID UPGRADES

- All schools and the district office were outfitted with plexiglass panels to provide an extra layer of separation from visitors to provide a healthy and safe work place.



13,580
work orders
completed

ENERGY CONSUMED (IN KILOWATTS)



CUSTODIAL SERVICES

The Custodial Services department is responsible for the cleaning of school buildings, district offices and ground maintenance. Daily responsibilities include sanitizing and disinfecting classrooms and restrooms, mowing grass, maintaining athletic fields and trimming of bushes and trees outside of district buildings.



CLEANING ADJUSTMENTS MADE FOR COVID 19

COVID-19

COVID-19 required the Custodial Services department to quickly adjust their practices to meet CDC guidelines and recommendations. Their commitment to maintaining a safe and healthy environment was a key factor in the mitigation of COVID-19 spread in the schools and district offices.

- A forward thinking and proactive approach ensured that SLPS had the equipment and supplies (PPE) needed to meet the demand.

- Ordering of supplies started in February 2020 to ensure SLPS had enough hand sanitizer to supply every classroom with a one-gallon refillable pump and 55 gallon sanitizer drums for refills at every school. Disinfectant wipes have also been supplied to every school and classroom.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & STAFFING

In April 2020 all staff completed 29 courses on the Safe Schools website during the quarantine. These courses included Coronavirus-Managing

Stress and Anxiety, Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Prevention, Pandemic Flu, PPE and Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Workplace.

Last summer, Custodial Services staff worked with bus drivers to assist with summer cleaning (stripping & waxing floors, pressure cleaning, etc.), and also to disinfect all schools prior to students and staff returning in August.

GROUNDS

Four Grounds teams of four team members mow and maintain the grounds at the schools. The Grounds team is responsible for mowing, trimming, weed removal and edging at 42 sites along with maintaining athletic fields. Each team is assigned a zone that includes 9-12 schools.

In addition, athletic field specialists (5 in the high schools) and one athletic field painter are also part of the custodial team.

- Daily cleaning of high-touch services, laptops and restrooms using hospital grade disinfectant.
- Deep cleaning of impacted areas when a COVID-19 case is reported.
- 360 electrostatic roll around machine used for deep cleaning which was purchased for each school site.
- All CDC recommendations are followed and staff is supplied with PPE including face masks, gloves, disinfectant wipes, and hand sanitizer. Custodial staff leave notes on teacher's desks to let them know their room and table tops have been cleaned and disinfected.



▲ CLEANING AT PALM POINTE RESEARCH SCHOOL

GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Growth management is primarily responsible for intergovernmental coordination, ensuring sites for future growth and to serve as the liaison to the emergency operations center.

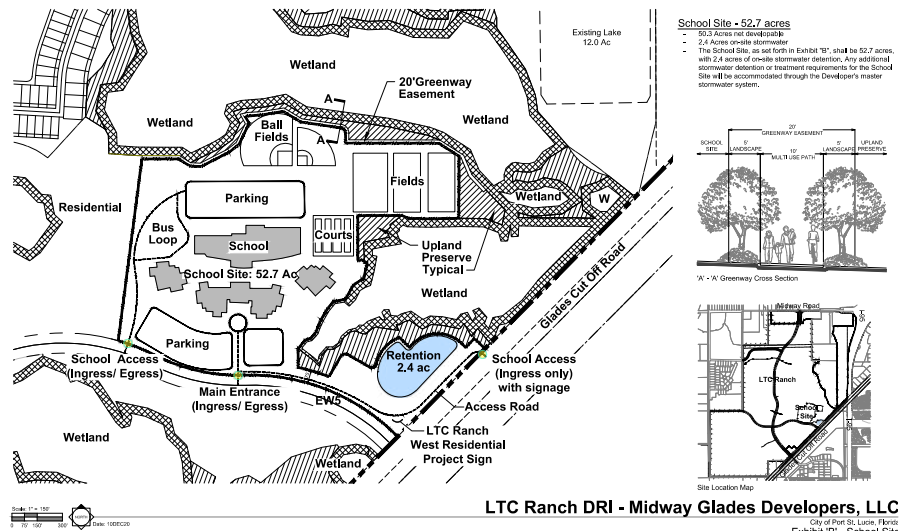
EMERGENCY PLANNING

- SLPS provides emergency support for St. Lucie County by participating in hurricane and radiological exercises; providing hurricane shelters for the residents of St. Lucie County and others seeking shelter in cooperation with the St. Lucie County Public Safety.
- Staff serves as Vice Chair of the St. Lucie County Local Hazard Mitigation (LMS) working group that develops, ranks and approves hazard mitigation plans, assists in grant ranking of all projects in the LMS process.
- Worked closely with the EOC on COVID-19 pandemic response. Personal protective equipment was resourced along with supplies for SLPS.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

SLPS routinely cooperates with local government and the development community.

- SLPS participated in the review of proposed land development site plans at the local government review committee, Local Planning Board (port St. Lucie, Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County, and provided relevant comments relating to school capacity, impact to student pedestrians, bus stop placement and school facilities, resulting in joint planning by the school district and local government.
- Staff serves as Chairman for the St. Lucie County Transportation Planning organization as Technical Advisory Council and Board member and provides input and review on local long-range transportation plans and impact on access to/from schools transporting students and facilities.
- Monitors residential building permit growth in the county and tracks it in relation to county wide school planning needs for residential development buildout.



- Worked with Developers to update development of Regional impact (DRI) to amend their site plan and update the educational impact fee agreements to accommodate changes in their development plans and schedules and assure proper school planning.
- Provides support to developers to provide direction and approval of age restricted development that provide an impact fee exemption for the homes. Resulted in timely impact fee exemption for developments in the community to not impact the development schedule.
- Assures proper review with local government with student safety roadway hazards identified to reduce the hazard by installing of crosswalks, school zone, signage, etc. Also assures review by law enforcement and engineering

departments of both cities and the county to review crossing guards and hazards associated with schools and bus stops.

ACQUISITION & RELINQUISHMENT

- Coordinated and negotiated leases for the former Port St. Lucie Elementary School site with Agricultural & Labor Program (ALPI) and Boys & Girls Club extension through 2026.
- Coordinated with city of Fort Pierce for the transfer of the Means Court facility to the city.
- Served as a member of the TCERDA Board representing the School District. Worked with the county on new direction of the research park and the school district on 60-acre school site located in the research park.



EDUCATION FOUNDATION

EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The entire school year was shaped by the response to the pandemic. Late in the 2019-2020 fiscal year (April) the Fun Run was canceled at the last moment as COVID-19 spread throughout the county.

Anticipated grant dollars from Impact 100 and United way never materialized, which also placed a strain on cash flow and jeopardized future program funding.

In May and June the focus was switched from programming to helping with the immediate needs brought on by COVID-19. The goal was to enhance relevancy to the district and the community.

The transition to distance learning created a need for laptop computers and the Education Foundation initially raised \$50,000 (including a \$20,000 grant from Children’s Service Council-CSC) for an additional donation of 80 iPads from FPL that was also received.

The Education Foundation donated an emergency \$10,000 to the school district for the K-4 summer SPARK program packets that were mailed to students, which was enhanced due to COVID-19. This program was funded by \$5000 from CSC and then expenses were reimbursed under the Cares Act from the County.

JULY–AUGUST–SEPTEMBER

- The **Fun Run** was revamped into the CrossFit Challenge, a virtual fitness fundraiser, which launched in October. At that time the school district was heavily focused on the impacts of COVID-19 and the program was a moderate success for participating schools.
- The foundation applied for and received funding from St. Lucie County for \$30,000 to create **hygiene kits** for homeless students, laptops for a needy school and to fund the Play with Purpose program.
- The foundation also received a donation from the FP Rotary Club to **feed homeless students** in partnership with the FP Women’s Club. 2,000 meals were provided to those most in need.
- A Drop-off Drive in partnership with **Habitat for Humanity** raised a net

of \$1,500. Several board members donated and helped with the event.

- The **Annual Dinner** was changed to a virtual online auction with the soliciting of auction items.



- The foundation sponsored the annual **New Teacher Symposium** on 8/4.
- **Teacher Grants** were funded from the laptop match program, and funds from the county for a total of \$73,000, a record for this program. \$50,000 went for iPads, and \$23,000 went for early literacy programs, including Play with Purpose. Also, no discretionary funds were used to fund Teacher Grants.

OCTOBER–NOVEMBER–DECEMBER

- **Annual Dinner**—\$68,750 was raised with significant board support.
- Total sponsorships of \$57,535 was equal to last

year despite COVID-19. Due to \$8,000 in reduced costs (no dinner) and a great auction (\$13,375), the net profit was greater than last year.

JANUARY–FEB 2021

- Planning for **Night of the Stars** concluded with the live televised event taking place on Saturday 2/6. The Foundation provided all the awards, program book and studio props for the event.
- **MARCH–JUNE, 2021**
- The foundation worked with the auditors for the annual audit and IRS 990 filing. The audit was completed with **no negative findings**.

- The foundation worked with the school district on the **Annual Scholarship Program** which concluded on May 3. 110 applications were judged and 51 scholarships from 19 unique donors were awarded.



The Education Foundation Donated to SLPS:



75,000
Facemasks



110
Gallons of Hand Sanitizer

Thank You
Voters!

A PROMISE
MADE
A PROMISE
KEPT

4

OUR CHILDREN
OUR TEACHERS
OUR SAFETY
OUR FUTURE



YOUR REFERENDUM
DOLLARS AT WORK

- Raising Teacher Pay
- Improving School Safety
- Expanding Mental Health Services
- Preserving Important School Programs



REFERENDUM ALLOCATIONS

*An overwhelming majority of voters, 66%,
supported this ballot item.*

REFERENDUM ALLOCATIONS

BALLOT LANGUAGE - APRIL 19, 2019

Referendum To Approve Levying One Mill For Teachers, Safety, Mental Health, And Operational Needs

In order to raise the salaries of teachers and educational support staff, recruit and retain highly qualified teachers, improve school security, improve mental health services, and fund other essential

operations that preserve important school programs, shall the St. Lucie County School District levy an ad valorem annual operating millage of one mill for four years, with all funds reviewed by a citizens advisory committee?

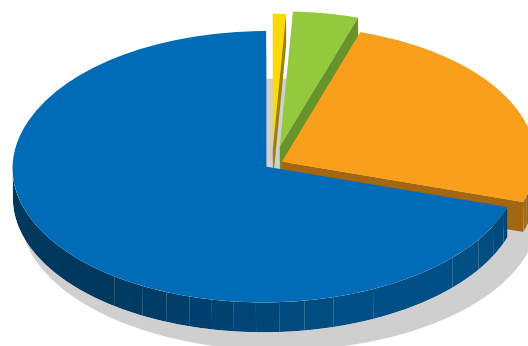
YES = FOR additional one mill for School District for four years

NO = AGAINST additional one mill for School District for four years

COMMITTEE APPOINTEES

Chairman	Lynette Marraffa
Doug Baber	Jennifer Richardson Appointee
Jack Kelly Appointee	
Committee Members	Gwen Morris
Deb Mock	Donna Mills Appointee
Troy Ingersoll Appointee	Felicia Bruce
Brian Garcia	EASL Appointee
Debbie Hawley Appointee	Candice Loupe
	At-large Appointee

■ RECRUITMENT/RETENTION	■ SCHOOL SECURITY	■ MENTAL HEALTH	■ SPECIAL PROGRAMS
70% \$17,146,160	25% \$6,123,628	4% \$1,177,060	1% \$293,704



Scan below to find more detailed financial breakdowns.



TEACHER SALARIES

The District and the Education Association of St. Lucie Negotiations Teams collaboratively reached an agreement for the utilization of referendum funds earmarked for teacher salaries. In this agreement, the Board and the Education Association of St. Lucie agreed to a four-year provision for all eligible teachers (including new hires) to receive a Referendum Recruitment and Retention Annual Supplement beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.



Negotiated 2020-21 amounts are as follows:

- 0-4 years eligible experience *
- 5 years eligible experience = \$2000
- 6-9 years eligible experience = \$5000
- 10 years + eligible experience = \$7800

* Received salary increase through the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation per House Bill 641.

SCHOOL SECURITY

Funds a School Resource Officer on every campus, two on each high school campus.



MENTAL HEALTH

Supports additional efforts by the district to address the mental health needs of children.

- Funds 6 additional social workers bringing the district total to 20.
- Funds 4 behavior specialists.
- Funds 10 behavior technicians
- Funds 3 Certified School Counselors.



FINE ARTS

Schools were allocated dollars based on enrollment in the various programs.

Examples of items purchased include band uniforms, instruments, stage props, costumes, risers, art supplies, and specialized equipment.



St. Lucie 
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

9461 BRANDYWINE LANE, PORT ST. LUCIE, FL 34986

(772) 429-3600 | STLUCIESCHOOLS.ORG

