



For the Parents, Staff & Community
of Tuskawilla Middle School
Home of the Golden Falcons!

Principal's Letter

Hello Falcon Families,

Tuskawilla Middle School held its First Annual Literacy and Fine Arts Night. Much like STEM Night, teachers had a variety of fun and engaging activities for the entire family including some wonderful performances by Band, Chorus, Drama, and Orchestra.

As you may have heard our schoolwide dance has been rescheduled for February 28th from 3:00pm-5:00pm. Students that stayed out of trouble and did not earn an In-School or Out-of School Suspension are invited to attend. This is a relaxed event, there is no need for formal attire or excessive time spent on hair and make-up. We look forward to seeing your student there.

The FSA is right around the corner. Please encourage students to do the following on the test days:

- Put forth their best effort.
- Review their work if they finish early.
- Get plenty of sleep the night before each test.
- Eat a good breakfast each morning.
- Be prepared and on time to school.
- Leave cell phones and electronics at home if at all possible.

The students and teachers have worked very hard to prepare for these assessments. I know that they will do an outstanding job.

Sincerely,

Randy Shuler

Principal

Mission Statement

The mission of the Seminole County Public Schools is to ensure that all Early Childhood Program and PreK - Grade 12 students acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be productive citizens in our great country and in the global economy.

1801 Tuskawilla Road
Oviedo, FL 32765

Main Phone Number
407-746-8550

Fax Number
407-746-8526

Office Hours
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Student Snapshot Survey Questions

Students in grades 4-12 participating in the Snapshot Survey will be asked to respond to the questions below. Surveys are customized to include the name of the student's school.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS – Seminole High School

SCPS has retained Datanautix to develop a snap shot report that will capture parent, student and school staff perceptions through participation in a very short survey about your experiences with our schools. The survey results will be collected and analyzed by Datanautix. All responses are collected anonymously - no personally identifiable information will be included as a part of the survey.

The data from the surveys will be used create a transparent and easy to understand district and school snap shot.

Students

* 1. How likely are you to recommend Seminole High School to a friend or family member as a place to attend school?

Not at all likely (0)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Extremely Likely (10)
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. What do you like about Seminole High School?


3. What could be improved at Seminole High School?

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Student - Optional Questions

Student Snapshot Survey Questions

4. What is your current grade level?

5. Are you male or female?

- Male
 Female

6. Please select your race/ethnicity (please check all that apply)

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
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Surveys

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Beginning on Tuesday, January 23rd, students will have the opportunity to participate in two important feedback surveys.

- Students will participate in the 5Essentials Survey. This survey, developed by the University of Chicago Consortium on Chicago School Research, asks students about their experiences in school. Having direct information from students is critical for developing plans to improve schools. This is the third year SCPS students have participated in this survey.
- Students will also have the opportunity to take part in a short perception survey called the Snapshot Survey. The results of the Snapshot Survey will be collected and analyzed by a local data analytics firm and utilized to create a new more transparent, school report card that will feature student perceptions as well as other school data points. Students will rate how likely they are to recommend their school to other students and describe in their own words what they like most about their schools and what they would like to improve about their schools.

Students' identities on both surveys will be completely confidential. Teachers or administrators will never see individual responses to survey questions. To review the survey questions, please go to <https://www.scps.k12.fl.us/district/departments/assessment-accountability/5essentials/>

If you **DO NOT** want your student to participate, fill out the information below and ask your student to return this sheet to his or her teacher.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Mr. Shuler

School Name: _____ Room # _____
(Please Print)

I **DO NOT** want my child, _____
(PRINT STUDENT'S NAME) to take part in the (check all that apply)

____ 5Essentials Survey

____ Snapshot Survey

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Future Falcon Registration for 2018-2019

Our elementary feeder schools will be receiving registration paperwork by February 1. The 2018-2019 Curriculum Guide will be available on the TWMS website at www.tuskawilla.scps.k12.fl.us Our Future Falcon Showcase & Parent Night is Thursday, February 15. At this event, parents will see performances by all of our Performing Arts groups as well as get a chance to tour the 6th grade classrooms. All registration paperwork will be due to the elementary schools by Wednesday, February 21. Melissa Laudani and Cori Frye, the Assistant Principal and Guidance Counselor over registration will be visiting the elementary schools to talk with students regarding the registration process and to assist with inputting course requests in Skyward. Should you have any questions about registration, please contact Melissa Laudani at Melissa_Laudani@scps.k12.fl.us or 407-746-8511.

Current Student Registration for 2018-2019

Guidance counselors will be visiting current 6th & 7th grade student classes in early February to discuss the registration and class options. Students will be inputting their course selection options the week of February 20. Should you have any questions about registration, please contact Melissa Laudani at Melissa_Laudani@scps.k12.fl.us or 407-746-8511.

Guidance Change

We are sad to announce that Ms. Arnita Washington has left Tuskawilla MS to follow her dream of assisting students with college preparation at the high school level. We wish her the best of luck! Our new counselor, Ms. Cori Frye, will be taking over her caseload for all students with last names A-L. Welcome Ms. Frye!



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8th Grade ELA

Eighth graders are continuing to work on analyzing elements in literature, looking at stories, articles, and poems with the theme of "Growing Up." Students are practicing the skill of finding how stories have common archetype or character patterns that stretch across time and culture.

We are continuing to work on improving our writing style with focused lessons to develop organizational strategies for students to use in their writing. Students will be analyzing articles on the topic of school lunches and school start times. Students will be explaining how a school's start time affects student achievement and focus, specifically in high school, in our up-coming writing sessions.

Students are utilizing our Learning Management System eCampus to complete portions of their coursework. We encourage you to check your student's eCampus site for information relating to your student's language arts coursework.

6th ELA

Wow! It is hard to believe that the school year is halfway over. During the third quarter our 6th grade students will focus on a balance of literary and informational texts. They read about Greek Mythology and Ancient Greece. Students will have an opportunity read and preform the play Prince and the Pauper.

Students will be determining the central idea or theme of the text, describing the plot, analyzing text structure and evaluating specific arguments within a text.

Students will also be practicing their evidence-based writing skills throughout January and February. Students will use stimulus texts to write a four paragraph essay. These essays may be either explanatory or argumentative depending on the writing prompt provided.

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MATH

The focus this quarter for our Algebra students is quadratics. Students will be learning the characteristics of quadratics, factoring polynomials, and solving quadratic functions by various methods.

Pre-Algebra 8th grade students began their geometry unit for quarter 3. Students will translate, reflect, rotate and dilate figures in the coordinate plane. Students will also experience parallel lines cut by a transversal with discovery of all the angles. Last but not least, students will meet Pythagoras and understand the special relationship sides of a right triangle have.

Seventh grade Advanced Math will be focusing on linear functions. Students will be graphing and writing linear functions in slope-intercept form, standard form, and point-slope form.

Sixth grade Advanced Math will work with integers, geometry and statistics during 3rd quarter.

Sixth grade Standard Math will continue their algebra unit with equations and inequalities. Students in both Advanced Math and Standard Math will experience area, surface area, volume and graphing on the coordinate plane for 3rd quarter.

Our Math Counts team will compete in the Math Counts festival on Saturday, February 17th at Lyman High School. The Seminole County Middle School Math Festival will be Saturday, April 14th also at Lyman High School.

Geometry students just finished a unit on the characteristics of Quadrilaterals and are now expanding their knowledge of Triangles, first with Similar Triangle, then with Right Triangles and Trigonometry.

SCIENCE

6th Grade Science

Between discovering that Atoms make up everything in the first quarter to learning about how energy flows through ecosystems in the second quarter; 6th Graders in Science this 3rd quarter will get to explore the wonders of what's inside Planet Earth. We will be learning about the Rock Cycle, plate tectonics, and how earthquakes and volcanoes work! The 6th Grade Science Team is looking forward to a new year in 2018 and for what's in store! Make sure to sign up for your child's science class on the Remind App for important announcements sent straight to your phone. It is also important for students and their parents to check grades regularly in Skyward, our district's online gradebook program. The 6th grade science team welcomes your comments and questions via Remind messages, e-mails, and phone calls throughout the year!

SOCIAL STUDIES

The New Year has arrived, and the Social Studies Department has hit the ground running with several new opportunities for learning with our students. The Sixth Graders will continue their tour of the ancient world by making discoveries in Ancient Egypt, and Ancient Greece. The students will compare the Athenian and Roman systems of citizenship with a D.B.Q. The Seventh Graders will continue their journey through American Civics by exploring the intricacies of the U. S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the process of Amending the Constitution. They will also learn how the U.S. Constitution guards us against tyranny in a D.B.Q. The Eighth Grade Pre A.P. students have been preparing their History Day Projects, which are being judged in January. These projects will be displayed at the History Fair on February 24th, and Jackson Heights Middle School. All Eighth Graders have been studying the forming of the U.S. Government under the first U.S. Presidents, and will be learning about America's westward expansion on the 1800's. This is always an exciting time of year for Social Studies, as our students are presented with new opportunities for discovery each day.

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