

SUMTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
2680 West County Road 476
Bushnell, Florida 33513
352-793-2315

Press Release

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Contact: Jessica Christian, K-12 Curriculum Supervisor

Re: Back to School

Welcome Back

Sumter County School District is looking forward to welcoming students back to school on August 14, 2024. The 2024-2025 school year will be an exciting year with superb administration, faculty, staff, and students.

Students are legally required to attend school in some format. Homeschool or Virtual School is always an available option for parents, but students must register. Call (352) 793-2315, Ext. 50312 for registration information.

Technology

A digital classroom is one of many important tools to help our students be successful in today’s rapidly changing global society. Schools in Sumter County have secured the electronic infrastructure needed for digital learning. Schools will kick off the year with a variety of technology advances, including the *Sumter One-to-One* initiative. “Sumter wants to stay on the cutting edge of technology, career preparation and innovation to help meet the academic needs of our students and meet the future workforce needs of employers who will employ them,” says Superintendent Shirley. “We want all of our students to be successfully enrolled, enlisted, or employed.”

The *Sumter One-to-One* initiative provides student laptops or tablets for every K-12 student. All students at South Sumter Middle, South Sumter High and Wildwood Middle High will receive an individual laptop to travel with the student throughout the day and home. Through *Sumter’s One-to-One* initiative, students have access to academic software, on demand assessments, tutoring, multi-media communication, and coding programs. Every student has a Microsoft 365 account with full access to Microsoft Outlook, Word, Sway, PowerPoint, Excel, and the TEAMS application, which allows for collaboration and communication amongst students and teachers.

SCHOOL-BASED TECH DAYS	
MONDAY, 8/5/24	SOUTH SUMTER HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 10-12 LAST INITIALS: A-M 8:00-5:00

WEDNESDAY, 8/7/24	SOUTH SUMTER HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 10-12 LAST INITIALS: N-Z 8:00-5:00
THURSDAY, 8/8/24	WILDWOOD MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL GRADES - ALL 8:00-5:00
FRIDAY, 8/9/24	SOUTH SUMTER MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES 7-8 8:00-5:00 *SSMS grade 6 students will not attend tech day.*
MONDAY, 8/12/24	SOUTH SUMTER HIGH SCHOOL GRADE 9 (ALL) 8:00-12:00
TUESDAY, 8/13/24	SUMTER P.R.E.P ACADEMY GRADES – ALL 8:00-11:30 WILDWOOD MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL GRADES – ALL 12:00-4:00

Student Meals at No Charge

Student meals are available daily at all schools and will be offered at no charge to all students as all Sumter schools are now designated as Title I. Schools offering meals at no charge to all students will allow more food options, more a la cart choices, and will generate revenue to make changes to cafeterias such as upgrading equipment.

Student Transportation

The school district provides bus transportation for children living beyond walking distance of the schools. Again this year, all students must scan their student ID card as they enter and exit the bus. Student ID cards may be picked up by students at school orientation.

Please register your student for school bus transportation for the 24-25 school year using the following link:
<https://sumter.transfinder.com/formfinder/Survey.html?c=sumter&t=6938f87ce3kp>

- Immediate registration is required to ensure transportation.
- Transportation will not be provided until this form is completed.
- Please submit a separate registration form for each student.

Bus information such as stop location, bus number, and arrival and departure times may be obtained at orientation or by calling the school. It is recommended that all children ride the bus on the morning of the first day of school to assist the driver in locating bus stops. **As a reminder, students attending school out of zone from their normal school will not be provided transportation.** Superintendent Shirley has a recommendation for parents, “On the first day of school, young children in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and first grade should wear identification tags with first and last name, telephone number(s), home address and the correct

bus number. Parents or guardians should insure some family member is waiting for them at the bus stop. It is certainly possible that buses will be late the first few days of school.”

2024-2025 Bell Schedules			
School Name	Start Time	Release Time	Early Dismissal
BES	7:45	2:25	12:30
LPES	7:45	2:25	12:30
WES	7:45	2:25	12:30
WWES	7:45	2:25	12:30
WIS	8:00	2:40	12:45
SSMS	8:55	3:50	1:30
SSHS	8:55	3:50	1:30
WMHS	8:55	3:50	1:30
SPA	7:45	2:00	12:30