

The 2018-2019 school year will begin with the opening of two new K-8 schools in northern St. Johns County. The Superintendent has determined that both schools open as K-6 schools for the 2018-2019 school year (SY), add grade 7 in 2019-2020 SY, and grade 8 in 2020-2021 SY. This will allow all students presently in grades 6 and 7 in rezoned areas to continue at their present middle school assignment. These students will continue to receive the same transportation as currently provided.

This plan will provide educational, social and emotional stability during pivotal transition years for these students. Extracurricular activities for middle school students will be based on the model for activities/programs at other K-8 schools. School district middle school sports of volleyball and basketball will be available although some modifications may need to be made in the first year of the school. The district will work with the St. Johns Middle School Athletic Association with respect to the new school assignments. Performing arts programs such as band and chorus will be developed at an appropriate pace based on the students enrolled. The district will support the new schools to ensure the middle school experiences for students in the first three years of operation meet the range of student needs.

Additionally, present Patriot Oaks Academy (POA) 4<sup>th</sup> grade students who are rezoned for Durbin Creek Elementary will be allowed to stay at POA for 5<sup>th</sup> grade and then move to Fruit Cove Middle School for grade 6.

The District will now begin to determine specific programs such as Pre-k or other specialized exceptional education programs which will be implemented at each school based on student populations.

In the second semester of this school year, the principals (who have not been recommended yet) assigned to the new schools will begin a process of school community building that will focus on such tasks as PTO, SAC, school naming recommendations, colors, mascots, etc.