

**8TH GRADE
PARENT MEETING**

Suncoast Academy 2024-2025



SCHOOL MISSION

“The mission of Sarasota Suncoast Academy is to integrate excellence in education, highly motivated and qualified teachers, deeply concerned and involved parents and a supportive community to provide students a superior learning opportunity. We will develop and reinforce a strong value system and a healthy work ethic that affords children the tools needed to succeed and contribute in the 21st century.”



Introductions



Stacy Homan
Head of Schools



Justin Kamlade
Middle School Principal



Alba Ramos
Middle School
Assistant Principal

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM



Jen Lambright
Registrar



Alba Ramos
ESE Services &
Testing
Coordinator



Dorcas Weaver
Receptionist



Myreli Zamora
Parent/Student
Teacher
Liaison

8TH GRADE TEAM



Denise Piney
Science



Jeremy Taylor
Civics



Dan Cymbal
Math



Lisette Cecil
ELA

ELECTIVE TEAM



Michelle Hill
PE/ Athletic Director



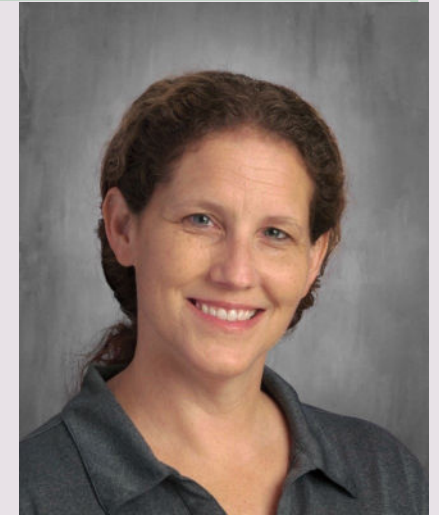
Matt Webb
Band/Orchestra/Music Tech



Deyanira Carey
Spanish



Kat Giguere
STEM/Agricultural
Science



Jenifer Modjeski
Drama/Theater/Dance/
Tech



Nick Conforti
PE



Mihn La
Art



Lisa Termine
Chorus

Natalie Smithers
ILA



SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our school website:
www.suncoastacademy.org

Stay informed about current
and upcoming events,
community partners and
other important information

Be sure to check out the
PT4SO tab



8:30am - 3:15pm |
Grades: K-8

A school where your child is the priority

Sarasota Suncoast Academy stresses the strong link between academic success and social-emotional learning.

[About Us](#)

[Parent Page](#)

[Enrollment](#) >

[Tours](#) >

[Volunteer Portal](#)

[Parent Portal](#)

[Extended Care](#)

[Event Store](#)



[FAQ](#)



[Parent Portal](#)



[Volunteer Portal](#)



[Cafe Volunteer Signup](#)



[Event Store](#)



[Extended Care](#)



[Lunch Menu & Money](#)



[Car Line Information](#)



[Bus Routes](#)



[Supply Lists](#)



[Summer Assignments](#)



[Summer Reading Programs](#)



[Parent Tutorials](#)



[Enrollment Information](#)



[Elementary Tours Sign-up](#)



[Middle Grade Tours Sign-up](#)



[K-5 Dress Code](#)



[6-8th Grade Dress Code](#)



[MS Uniform Store](#)



[County Handbook](#)



Quick find



Parents

Volunteer Portal Tutorial

How to access Google Classroom

FOCUS Parent Portal



SSA Parent Tutorials

FOCUS PORTAL

Make sure you are updating your information in

Focus Portal:

Correct email(s)

Correct address

Correct contacts

Correct phone numbers

Pickup List



FOCUS PORTAL

Check assignment grades

Check progress reports

See report cards



STUDENT & FAMILY HANDBOOK

Parents are responsible for reviewing the handbook and all students are bound by the rules noted in this document and by School Board policy.

their website:

<http://sarasotacountyschools.net/>

You must then click on the “Families” tab. The handbook is listed under the “Other Resources” heading in the middle of the page.





Home > Parents and Students

Parents and Students

Registration	MySCS	Online Payments
Classroom Libraries	Family Portal	Focus Portal

Popular Resources

- [Classroom Libraries >](#)
- [Online Payments >](#)

Other Resources

- [School Map & Directory >](#)
- [Student and Family Handbook >](#)

Technology Resources

- [District Schools Library Catalog Destiny >](#)
- [FortifyFL Information >](#)

Student and Family Handbook

- [Section 1 Getting Started](#)
- [Section 2 – Attendance Activities](#)
- [Section 3 – Student Code of Conduct](#)
- [Section 4 – Academics](#)
- [Section 5 – Health](#)
- [Section 6 – Volunteering and Partnerships](#)
- [Section 7 – Directories](#)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS HANDBOOK

The Student and Family Handbook has been developed to help students, families, and administrators understand the policies and procedures established for students. Topics of interest can be navigated using the menu on this page. Your school may have additional resources like a school-specific handbook that can be found on their website.

LUNCH



- Checks should be payable to “**LAKEVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**” and should be placed in an envelope marked with your child’s name (& pin number if you know it.) Note: You can put any amount of money in your child’s account. It is not necessary to pay on a daily basis. Money can be added to your child’s lunch account online through www.myschoolbucks.com
- **Need Assistance?** Applications for Free & Reduced Lunch need to be completed and turned in to the district for approval. These items are confidential, and we are not informed, nor do we have any control of decisions they make. You can sign up online by going to sarasotacountyschools.net. Click on “popular links” at the top. Click “menus,” and the application is on the right.
- Middle grade students are allowed to purchase available seconds with parent permission
- If parents wish to eat school lunch with their child, they must let the office know first thing in the morning so that Lakeview can be notified to include additional lunches, and they must pay for lunch when they are served. Adult lunches are \$4.00.
- If a student is going to be tardy, be sure to call and let us know if they need lunch.
- Menus are sent home monthly. Students may eat school lunch or bring their own nutritional bag lunch from home. **NO SODAS OR CANDY PLEASE!**

Please Note: Cafeteria staff will not have time to microwave student lunches.



HEALTH INFORMATION

- If your child has allergies, asthma, or any other major health issues, please make sure you complete school paperwork so that we can take care of them properly. (A county health nurse may be contacting you to get further instructions on their care.)
- It is illegal for us to have **ANY** medication on school grounds without a written authorization from their doctor, including over the counter medications. Forms are available from the school office. **Note: It is also illegal for students to transport any medications. You must come to the front desk and sign in/out all medications.**
- Students may not come to school if they have a rash, pink eye, or active head lice. Students will be sent home with active head lice, if they have a fever of 100 degrees or higher, or if they vomit. Please make sure you have correct emergency numbers.
- ******SCHOOL POLICY:* Students may not return to school until they have been fever/upset stomach free (without medication) for 24 hours.**



Attendance Policy

As we begin the school year, we would like to clarify all attendance policies at Suncoast Academy.

School begins **PROMPTLY** at 8:30 a.m.

It's advised that students are dropped off **NO LATER** than 8:20 a.m.

Students will begin "Advisory" at 8:30 a.m.

This is an important part of the Responsive Classroom day; therefore, it is important that your child be in class and ready to begin **BEFORE** 8:30 a.m. daily.

**** Drop off gate will be closing at 8:28 a.m.****

After this time parents will have to sign them in the main office.



Morning Drop-off

- Please do not drop off your child before 8:00 a.m.
Gates to campus will remain locked until that time.
(Before Care is \$12/day and runs from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 a.m.)
- Students arriving between 8:00 and 8:27 go to their grade level designated area. At **8:27**, students go to their advisory classroom.
- Students needing breakfast **must** arrive before 8:10 and go to cafeteria.

If you are late, please follow this procedure:

You MUST park, come inside and sign in your child.

The book is on the counter at the front desk.

If your child will be later than 9:00 a.m., please call if they will need lunch.

We call lunches in to Lakeview Elementary at 9:00am.

****NOTE:** If your child wishes to eat breakfast here in the morning, they should arrive **NO LATER** than 8:10 a.m. In order for them to finish and get to their class on time.



Absences Policy

- **BE ADVISED:** In accordance with the **parent contract** you signed, excessive tardiness directly affects your child's learning and is grounds for dismissal from the school.
- Students that are absent have **three (3)** days to bring in a note to have their absence excused. We do appreciate you calling to let us know that they will be out; however, for audit purposes we still must have a note for their files. Absences past three days requires a doctor note to be excused.



Excessive Absences/Tardies

Automated phone call for each absence



6 unexcused = meeting or call with school



A student that has 15 unexcused absences within 90 calendar days is considered a habitual truant under state law.



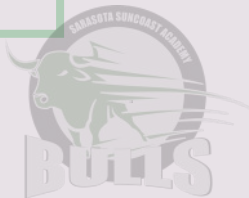
The student may be dealt with as a child in need of services under Chapter 39, Florida Statutes. In addition, the parent/guardian may be subject to criminal prosecution under Chapter 232, Florida Statutes. School Board Policy 5.40 grants authority to the principal to determine excused absences.



Late Pickup

Students must be picked up by 3:30 p.m.

Habitual late pick up will result in dismissal from Suncoast



Early Pickup

- Students need to stay in class through dismissal as learning takes place from the beginning to the end of the day.
- Please attempt to make appointments after school.
- **Middle school students must be signed out in the middle school office!**
- **Please send a note** if you know in advance that you will be taking your child early. It really disrupts the class if the teacher has to stop instruction.



Bus Riders

Sign up for bus – Transportation (941-486-2141)

Bus riders must get off at the same stop every day they ride the bus.

Students may not ride the bus to go hang out at another student's house.

****Please note: Cars must yield to a bus at all times!**



Afternoon Pickup

****Urgent Notice: Please Pull All the Way Forward****

- Pick up begins at 3:02
- Avoid early pick up. (Middle School pick up at MS office)
- Students will be walking out to find your car. Please stay in the car and do not walk up to where students are standing.
- Students with elementary siblings will be picked up by the big tree in the elementary line.



MIDDLE SCHOOL ARRIVAL ROUTE



MIDDLE SCHOOL DISMISSAL ROUTE



Uniforms

- Students are expected to wear school uniforms daily as outlined below:

Monday- Thursday

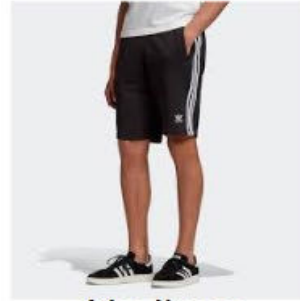
- **Polos:** green, grey, black. Any shade. Small logos
- **Bottoms:** At least fingertip length. Athletic shorts are acceptable. NO sweat pant material. No tights, leggings, yoga pants. Students may wear leggings under appropriate length clothing in school colors.
- **Shoes:** Closed toe shoes required. Crocs allowed when actively raining but must have change of shoes for when stops.
- **Hoodies:** grey, green, or black. No screen prints. Small chest logo is acceptable. Must wear polos under hoodie.
- A Children's World link will be provided on the website to purchase preselected items.

Fridays

- Students may wear their “School Spirit”, school sports team spirit shirts, or Running of the Bulls shirts on **Fridays Only** in place of their polo shirts.



Unacceptable Clothing



No lines
on sides



Sweatpants/or
sweat pant
material



Leggings,
tights, or yoga
pants





Acceptable Clothing

Shorts At least Finger tip in length



Black, Gray or any color green



Pants Solid: Tan, black, navy blue, gray



Joggers (no sweat pant material)



Hoodie with polo underneath



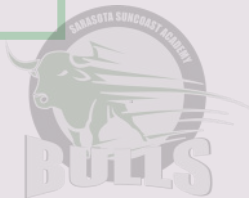
Lost and Found

LOST AND FOUND

Students lose jackets, extra clothing, water bottles, lunch boxes, etc.

Hint: put student's name on items including water bottles and lunch boxes!

**** Every 4 weeks we will send unclaimed lost and found items to Mothers Helping Mothers ***



CELL PHONE POLICY

We have adopted a NO-cell phone policy for the safety of our students, families and staff. We appreciate your cooperation in restricting the use of cell phones in the following areas:

- While in a car in the pick-up / drop-off line
- While driving in the driveway or parking lot at any time
- While walking in the parking area
- In the classrooms while students are present
- Parents should not text or call students on their cell phones.

Please use the school number for correspondence with students while at school.

This policy has been put into effect due to some close calls during arrival and dismissal in order to prevent accidents.



Student Cell Phone Policy



May have in their bags or purses, etc. (Not on their person)



Must remain OFF while on campus at all times



No smartwatches or other devices that can connect to internet



Students may **NOT** have Bluetooth headphones, must be headphones with wires



Students should not text or call from their cell phones during the school day

BREAKFAST/LUNCH

Breakfast and lunch is not longer provided for free by the county. To apply for free or reduced lunch visit Sarasota County Schools website.

<u>2024/2025 Approved Prices</u>	Breakfast	Lunch
Elementary School	1.50	2.75
Middle School	2.00	3.00
High School	2.00	3.25



ACADEMICS AT SSA

- High academic standards exist at Suncoast.
- New this year: Any student receiving a letter grade of an F (59 and below) for a nine-week quarter will be placed on academic probation. The student will have one quarter to bring the grade above an F.
- Any students receiving an F grade will need to take Course Recovery for the next 9 weeks.



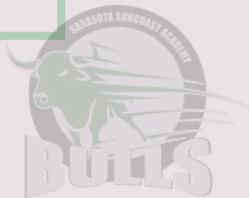
ACADEMICS AT SSA

- Begin the process of looking into high schools
- High schools will visit throughout the year (we will communicate)
- 8th grade is transition year
 - Academics intensify
 - Less hand holding
 - Preparing for HS
- December: human growth and development



PARENT COMMUNICATION

- Step 1: Have your child go to the teacher
- Step 2: Go to the teacher
- Step 3: Hold 8th grade team meeting
- Step 3: Reach out to administration



SPORTS AT SUNCOAST ACADEMY

Athletic Seasons:

Girls Volleyball – August-October

Coed Golf – August-October

Coed Cross Country – September-December

Cheer – September-May

Girls Basketball – October-December

Boys Basketball – October-December

Flag Football - January-March

Pickleball - January-March

Boys Soccer – March-May

Girls Soccer – March-May

Coed Tennis – March-May



Students must maintain at 2.0 GPA to participate in school sponsored sports! Packets available on the website or you can contact Michelle Hill at Michelle.Hill@suncoastacademy.org for more information.



VOLUNTEER HOURS

- Suncoast families are required to give 10 hours of volunteer time.
 - 20 hours for families with both elementary and middle students.
- Hours are awarded for volunteering in the lunchroom, in classrooms, chaperoning field trips, and for attending extra-curricular activities.
- Hours can be logged on the school website
- Suncoastacademy.org -> Parent Info -> Volunteer hours -> "Click Here to Register"





VOLUNTEER HOURS

- Suncoast Academy STRICTLY enforces the volunteer time requirement. In accordance with the parent contract you signed, failure to complete your obligation will result in your child being returned to his/her district school the following school year. Our parental involvement is part of what makes our school special.
- Please start your volunteer time early!
- In accordance with the Jessica Lunsford Act, everyone visiting our campus must come to the front desk and receive an official photo I.D. in order to be on school grounds. In addition, all volunteers must also have completed F.D.L.E. search through the PALS system.

NOTE: YOU MUST PRESENT YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE THE FIRST TIME IN ORDER TO RECEIVE YOUR I.D. BADGE.



Volunteering

Possible volunteer opportunities:

Classroom events
Cafeteria help - daily 11:00-1:15
File books in the library
Running copies/ laminating
PT4SO events

After hours opportunities:

PT4SO Meetings / Events
School Meetings / Events
Sports/Events
Cleaning with the custodian
Yard/lawn work



SCHOOLWIDE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNSPOT SPONSOR: \$100

- * Class Sponsor
- * Certificate of Appreciation for business

SOLAR FLARE SPONSOR: \$300

- * Class Sponsor
- * Advertisement on back of spring fundraiser shirt
- * Web link from school community page for place of business

SUNSHINE SPONSOR: \$200

- * Class Sponsor
- * Advertisement on back of spring fundraiser shirt
- * Certificate of appreciation for business

SOLAR ECLIPSE SPONSOR: \$500

- * Class Sponsor
- * Advertisement on back of spring fundraiser shirt
- * Web link from school community page for place of business
- * Plaque of sponsorship for business
- * Plaque of sponsorship to be displayed in lobby of Suncoast Academy

Fill out the Sponsorship Application at suncoastacademy.org



ATHLETIC SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Field Sign Banners

- \$350 for new sign
- \$300 annual renewal



PT4SO- Parents and Teachers For Students Organization



Welcome to the 2024 - 2025 school year at Sarasota Suncoast Academy. The PT4SO is excited about the many possibilities that each new year brings. Whether your family is returning to Suncoast, or you are new to the school, we look forward to working with you to make this year a success!

The PT4SO's goal is to build a strong community of parents, teachers and administrators. We are committed to enriching the lives of our students and their families through events.

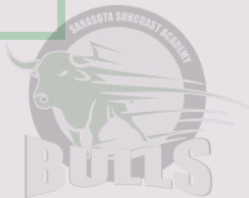


Student Schedule Pick Up

Wednesday, August 7, 2024

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

- Purchase Friday Spirit Shirts (\$12)
- Buy school hoodies (\$30)
- Pick up Before/Aftercare Information
- Pick up Athletic Info
- Sports Physical – Dr. Jason Walsch, DC (\$25 cash/check)
- Walk your schedule
- Meet teachers
- Drop off supplies and/or donations under the tent



Supply Donations

- The supply donation goes to benefit teachers, to help purchase items that are needed but are difficult for parents to provide
- Payment envelopes will be given to students on the first day of school





Sarasota Suncoast Academy

Washington D.C.: The Capital Tour

5 Days



Our travel window

Nuestro rango de fechas para viajar



Earliest possible departure date
Fecha de salida más temprana

Wednesday

March 12th, 2025

Latest possible return date
Fecha límite de regreso

Thursday

March 20th, 2025

Mark your calendars

EF uses an industry standard 5-day date range to ensure we get the best rates and activities. We will confirm our exact dates of travel at least 90 days before we depart.

Marquen sus calendarios

EF utiliza un rango de 5 días estándar en la industria para asegurar las mejores tarifas y actividades. Les confirmaremos las fechas exactas de viaje con al menos 90 días de antelación a la salida del viaje.

Washington, D.C.: The Capital Tour – 5 days

Photo stop at the White House
Lafayette Square and Black Lives Matter Plaza
Photo stop at the Washington Monument
WWII Memorial
Visit a Smithsonian museum of your choice
Guided night tour of Washington, D.C.
Lincoln Memorial
Korean War Veterans Memorial
Vietnam Veterans Memorial
Visit Arlington National Cemetery
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
Kennedy gravesites
Military Women's Memorial
Marine Corps War Memorial
Visit Mount Vernon
Estate, museum, and education center
Mansion (*subject to availability*)
George Washington's tomb

The Slave Memorial
See the U.S. Capitol and Visitor Center
Library of Congress and the U.S. Supreme Court
Explore the Tidal Basin
FDR Memorial
Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial
Jefferson Memorial
Visit the National Archives
Visit a Smithsonian museum of your choice
Visit the Pentagon Memorial
Make a photo stop at Ford's Theatre
Visit U-Street Murals and Memorials
See the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum: Daniel's
Story Exhibit
Visit The Kennedy Center
Visit the International Spy Museum
Depart for home





° New travelers who enroll within the enrollment discount window and paid in full or enrolled in our Automatic Payment Plan can cancel for any reason up to 14 days after enrollment for a full refund of 100% of the money paid to EF.

Let's do this / Hagámoslo **November Deadline**

Travel is for everyone and, by breaking the cost of your trip into manageable payments, our recommended **Automatic Payment Plan** makes it possible for everyone, too. We also have Pay-in-Full and our Manual Payment Plan as well.

El viajar es para todos y, al dividir el costo de su viaje en pago manejables, nuestro recomendado Plan de Pagos Automáticos los hace posible para todos. También tenemos la opción de pagar en total o nuestro plan de pagos manuales.

<p>\$97</p> <p>Bi-weekly Payments</p> <p><i>Pagos Quincenales</i></p> <p>20</p> <hr/> <p>bi-weekly payments, after \$95 deposit*</p> <p><i>pagos quincenales, tras efectuar el depósito de \$95*</i></p>	<p>Automatic!</p>	<p>\$193</p> <p>Monthly Payments</p> <p><i>Pagos Mensuales</i></p> <p>10</p> <hr/> <p>monthly payments, after \$95 deposit*</p> <p><i>pagos mensuales, tras efectuar el depósito de \$95*</i></p>	<p>\$2,022</p> <p>Pay-in-Full upon enrollment</p> <p><i>Pago total durante la inscripción</i></p> <hr/> <p>One-time payment, includes \$95 deposit</p> <p><i>Un solo pago, incluye el depósito de \$95</i></p>	<p>Manual Payments</p> <p><i>Pagos Manuales</i></p> <hr/> <p>Pay in larger, less frequent installments †</p> <p><i>Pagos mayores, menos frecuentes †</i></p>
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














Risk-Free Enrollment Period°/ Periodo de Inscripción sin Riesgo°

* Estimated cost; may vary based on desired date of autopay withdrawal. | † Additional restrictions & fees apply.

* Costo estimado; puede variar en base a la en la fecha de pago automático deseada. | † Se aplican restricciones y cuotas adicionales.



Everything that's included

-  **Airfare**
Boletos aéreos
-  **Full-time Tour Director**
Directo de Recorrido a Tiempo Completo
-  **Hotel accommodations**
Hoteles
-  **Industry leading student-to-chaperone ratio**
Proporción inigualable de estudiante-chaperón
-  **Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily**
Desayuno, almuerzo, y cena diarios
-  **Professional overnight security**
Seguridad profesional nocturna
-  **High School & College Credit Opportunities**
Oportunidades de crédito escolar y universitario
-  **Free Till Debit Card & App**
Tarjeta Till y aplicación gratuita
-  **On-tour transportation**
Transportacion
-  **Guided tours, activities and entries**
Recorridos guiados, actividades, y entradas
-  **Expert local guides**
Guías locales expertos
-  **24-hour emergency assistance**
Asistencia de Emergencia las 24 horas
-  **Illness and Accident coverage**
Cobertura de enfermedad y accidentes
-  **Traveler support team**
Equipo de Apoyo al Viajero
-  **All gratuities**
Todas las propinas
-  **Personalized Giving Page**
Página de donaciones personalizadas

Fundraising / Sponsorship Opportunities

General
Sponsorship

Golf
Tournament
Sept. 28