

The background features abstract watercolor-style shapes in shades of blue, teal, and light green. Scattered throughout are small, dark blue dots of varying sizes. At the bottom center, there are faint, stylized line drawings of fingers.

Welcome to Sarasota Suncoast Academy

Elementary New Parent Meeting
Monday, August 4, 2025

Administration

**Stacy
Homan**
Head of
Schools



**Karla
Reynolds**
Elementary
Principal



**Lindsey
Breon**
Admin
Assistant



**Kara
Albritton**
Registrar



**Tina
Oaxaca**
Admin
Support



**Dana
Starck**
ESE
Liaison



Administration

**Rosa
Garcia**
Aftercare
Director



**Karina
Ralsten**
Communications



**Jaclyn
Van Fleet**
Reception



**Lynn
Kruse**
Lunch
Director



**TJ
Pierce**
Technology
Director



**Michelle
Pearson**
Library





School Website

<http://www.suncoastacademy.org>

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

Don't forget to visit your teacher's websites, our Facebook page and the PT4SO's page.

STUDENT & FAMILY HANDBOOK

Sarasota County School Board is encouraging parents to use the online version of the Student and Family Handbook instead of hard copies. You can find this PDF file in all languages on their website:

<http://sarasotacountyschools.net/>

You must then click on the “Students & Parents” tab. The handbook is listed under the “Featured Resources” heading in the middle of the page.

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

CELL PHONE POLICY

We have adopted a 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
- Near the front desk
- In the classrooms while students are present

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

Supply Donations

- The supply donation goes to benefit teachers and to help purchase additional supplies & items that are needed in the classroom.
- To simplify the process, we provided payment envelopes in your packet.

Attendance Information

As we begin the school year, we would like to clarify all attendance policies at Suncoast Academy. School begins at 8:30 a.m.

“Morning Meeting” is the first priority of the day. This is an important part of the Responsive Classroom day; therefore, it is important that your child be in class and ready to begin by 8:30 a.m.

Absences

- In accordance with the parent contract you signed, excessive tardies or absences directly affects your child's learning and is grounds for dismissal from the school.
- You do not have to call if your student will be absent; however, you need to send a note or email to get it excused. Reception@suncoastacademy.org

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.

Let your child go into the classroom alone after they receive their late pass. This is less disruptive to the class.

* **If your child will be later than 9:00 a.m., please call if they will need lunch.** We call lunches in to Skye Ranch School around 9:00 a.m.

• ****NOTE:** If your child wishes to eat breakfast here in the morning, they should arrive early in order for them to finish and get to their class on time (8:20).

Excessive Tardies/Absences

If a student receives more than 6 unexcused tardies or unexcused absences in a quarter, they will be sent a probationary letter. Any further unexcused tardies or unexcused absences will put your child at risk of dismissal from Suncoast Academy.

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

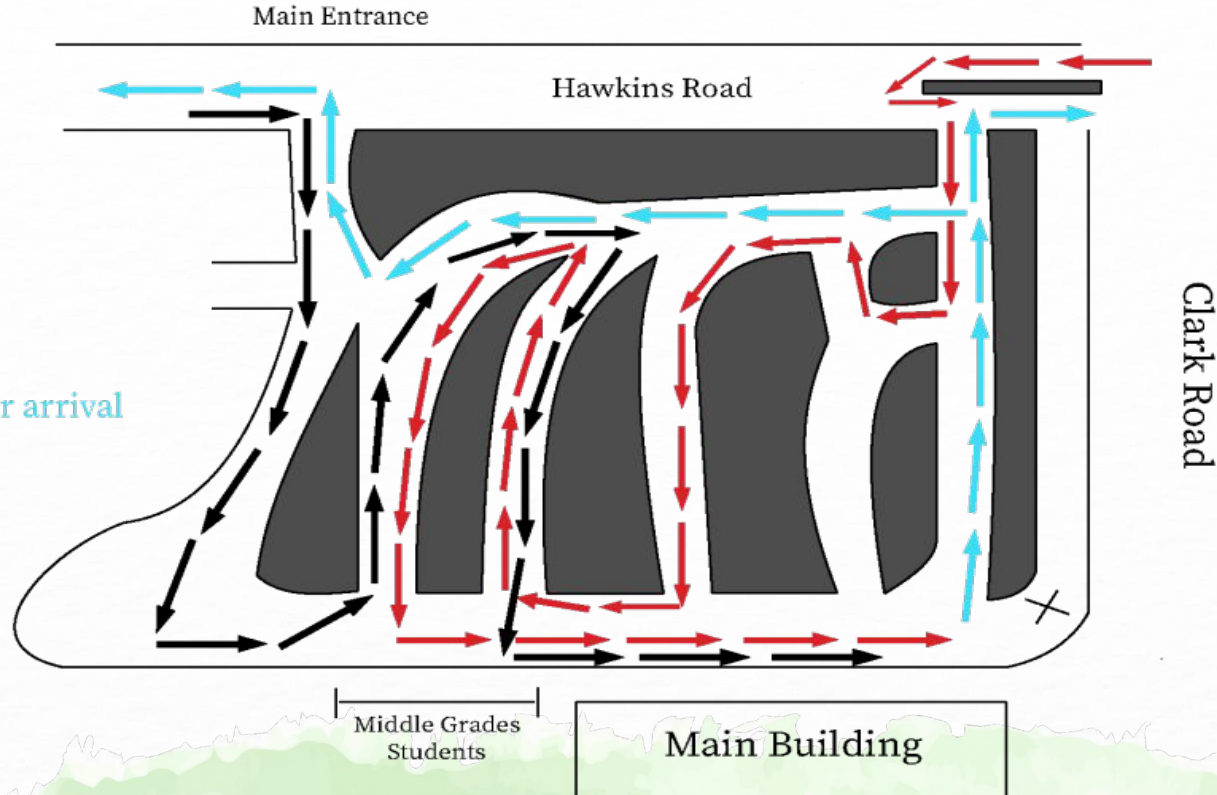
The student may be dealt with as a child in need of services under Chapter 39, Florida Statutes. In addition, the parent/guardian may be subject to criminal prosecution under Chapter 232, Florida Statutes. School Board Policy 5.40 grants authority to the principal to determine excused absences.

MORNING DROP-OFF

****Urgent Notice: Stay to right of cones at all times****

- 1) Please do not drop off your child before 8:00 a.m. Doors will remain locked until that time.
- 2) If you wish to park, stay on right side of cones until you get past drop off area.
- 3) Students arriving between 8:00 and 8:30 go straight to class or the cafeteria if eating breakfast, then to class.
- 4) Students needing breakfast must arrive early and go to cafeteria.
- 5) You can walk your Kindergarten student the first week & first day for new students of 1st-5th

Arrival/Dismissal Map



AFTERNOON PICK-UP

Pick up begins at 3:15.

Avoid early pick up. (**Mandatory to have advance note for early pick up - Middle School pick up at MS office.**)

In order to help us identify you, please put the hanging name sign identifying your child in the windshield of your car when you come to pick them up.

AFTERNOON PICK-UP

Students need to stay in class through dismissal as learning takes place until the end of the day. Please attempt to make appointments after school.

Send any pick-up / bus changes in writing or call. This includes if someone different is picking up your child.

If you are walking anywhere around the property, please stay on the sidewalks for safety.

If you are carpooling with another parent, please request additional car tags. Parents should display tags for all children they are picking up.

EARLY PICK-UP

Please send a note if you know in advance that you will be taking your child early. It disrupts the class if the teacher has to stop and get someone ready to leave. If you need to pick up your child early or change bus/after school care plans, **please call before 2:00 p.m.** (to office AND teacher by email, phone or call)

****MANDATORY: Notes or a call must be received before 2:00 p.m. for early dismissal! Otherwise, students will be released at 3:15 p.m.****

LATE PICK-UP

- Students must be picked up by 3:40 p.m.
- After the first 2 weeks, students will be sent to the office.
- Habitual late pick up will result in dismissal from Suncoast.

BUS RIDERS

- 1) Sign up for bus with teacher AND the county – while they don't need to ride the bus daily, the days must be consistent.
- 2) Bus riders must get off at their scheduled stop every day. However, they may ride a different morning bus and afternoon bus.
- 3) Students may not ride the bus for “play dates”.
- 4) Any changes must be made in writing or a phone call.

Buses move through the parking area in a different manner. Students will be loaded and unloaded from the overhang.

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

DISCIPLINE POLICY

• PROACTIVE STRATEGY: Creating, Modeling and Practicing the Rules
(PROACTIVE DISCIPLINE)

INTERVENTION 1: Reminding and Redirecting

INTERVENTION 2: Logical Consequences – Take a Break

INTERVENTION 3: “Take a Break” in a Buddy Teacher’s Classroom

INTERVENTION 4: Accessing Additional Intervention Take a break
in office/communication home)

INTERVENTION 5: Behavior Contract

Health Information

If your child has allergies, asthma, or any other major health issues, please make sure to 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 against policy 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 against policy 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 be sure to 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.**

UNIFORMS

- Students are expected to wear school uniforms daily as outlined below unless otherwise instructed by their classroom teacher for special events or for picture days:

MONDAY – THURSDAY

- Shirts should be any color of solid blue or white collared polo shirts.
- Pants, shorts, skorts or skirts (with shorts underneath) should be solid khaki or navy blue colored – no stripes or designs. Shorts must be of modest length. Plaid shorts, shorts with stripes, & jeans are not appropriate for students. Solid athletic shorts are permitted if best for child. Belts not required.
- Students should wear closed toe/closed heel sneakers daily.
- Students may **NOT** wear boots, sandals, crocs or shoes with wheels. Student safety makes this extremely important.
- All items may be purchased anywhere you can reasonably find them.

FRIDAYS

- Students may wear their “School Spirit” or jog-a-thon shirts on **Fridays Only** in place of their polo shirts.

UNIFORMS

NOTE: All students need to have a complete, labeled change of clothes (shorts, shirt, underwear, socks) in Ziploc bag to keep in their classrooms for accidents. This will keep us from disturbing you in the event your child needs a change of clothing. These clothes do not have to be a uniform. (If your child borrows clothing from the clinic, please launder and return.)

LOST AND FOUND

Students lose jackets, extra clothing, water bottles, lunch boxes, etc. We will donate lost items two to three times a year.

PLEASE make sure that everything that belongs to your child is marked with their name.

Lunch

- Checks should be payable to “**Skye Ranch School**” and should be placed in an envelope marked with your child’s name. 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**
- Lunches are \$3.25 (middle is \$3.75) and breakfast is \$2.25. 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.
- Fifth grade students are allowed to purchase available seconds with parent permission.

Lunch

- If parents wish to order and eat school lunch with their child, they must let the office know by 8:50 am so that Skye Ranch can be notified to include additional lunches, and they must pay for lunch when they are served. ****NOTE:** Parents are not permitted to have lunch **the first 2 weeks of school**, unless it's child's birthday.
- If a student is going to be tardy, be sure to call by 8:50 am and let us know if they need lunch.
- Menus are on the county website. Students may eat school lunch or bring their own lunch from home.

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

VOLUNTEERING

Parents of Sarasota Suncoast Academy students have signed a contract agreeing to perform 20 hrs. of volunteer time per family each year as follows:

- 1) Ten hours should be performed before the end of the second quarter. The remaining ten can be performed during the third and fourth quarters.
- 2) Parents may perform ten hours of their time at home; however, parents or persons important to the child must perform the remaining ten hours at school.
- 3) The last date to complete the volunteer hours in order for your child to be enrolled the following year is May 2026.

Parents are given credit for volunteer time any time they take time out of their day to show their child that their school is important to them. Children need this parental involvement in order to thrive. Volunteers are needed in the classrooms, lunchroom, PT4SO activities, clerical help, field trips, and other opportunities.

We use an in house system for logging volunteer hours. Directions for registering will be sent out. It is your responsibility to enter your volunteer time.

VOLUNTEERING

Suncoast Academy enforces the volunteer time requirement. In accordance with the parent contract you signed, failure to complete your obligation may 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!

*NOTE: Parents may not volunteer in the classrooms until after the first 6 weeks of school.

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.

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

VOLUNTEERING

• Possible volunteer opportunities:

Classroom Help (After the first 6 weeks)

Classroom events- ex. Parties and Field Trips

Cafeteria help - daily 11:00-1:00

File books in the library

Running copies

PT4SO events- Fall Festival, Father/Daughter Dance, Mother/Son Night, PJ Bingo, Jog-a-Thon, etc.

After hours opportunities:

PT4SO Events

School Meetings / Events

Cleaning with the custodian

Yard/lawn work

CLASSROOM SPONSORS

SUNSHINE SPONSOR: \$200

- * Certificate of Appreciation

SOLAR FLARE SPONSOR: \$350

- * Certificate of Appreciation
 - * 1/8 Yearbook AD
- * Web link from school community page for place of business

SOLAR ECLIPSE SPONSOR: \$500

- * Plaque for Business
 - * 1/8 Yearbook AD
- * Business link on website
- * Social media shout out

PT4SO

Parents and Teachers For Students Organization

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.

Upcoming Events:

September 22-26 - Unfundraiser

October - Mother/Son Night (Date-TBD)

November 14 – Fall Festival

December 8-11 – Holiday Shop

February 19 – Father Daughter Dance

March 13 – Jog a Thon/Little Bull Run

April 9 – PJ Bingo

April 27-May 1 - Teacher Appreciation Week

Check out the Suncoast Academy Facebook page to keep up with what's happening at school. If you would like to get involved, **send us an email at PT4SO@suncoastacademy.org**, join a general meeting or email us anytime.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Thursday, August 7, 2024

5:30 to 7:00 pm

PT4SO will be selling School Spirit shirts
and before/aftercare will be doing
registrations.



BOO HOO WOO HOO
Breakfast

8AM-8:45AM

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Any Questions?