



CITRUS COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
Summer
Communication

*A Message from
 Superintendent
 Sandra "Sam"
 Himmel*

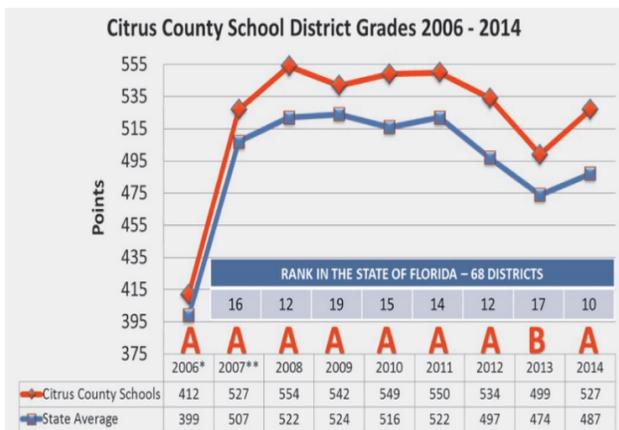


**HIGHLIGHTS OF
 OUR SUCCESSES –
 2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR**

We are fortunate to be part of a community that values education, supports education, and is firmly committed to helping students succeed. The accomplishments and achievements featured in this special publication are the result of the combined efforts of talented teachers, excellent instructional leaders, quality staff, hardworking students, and involved parents and families. In addition, we have many community volunteers and business partners who never stop giving! Just this year our graduating students in the Class of 2015 received over \$550,000.00 in scholarships from local clubs, groups and affiliations.

We plan to provide information to our community three times a year to celebrate and to better understand Citrus County Schools and our mission – *to educate ALL students through relevant curriculum and experiences for life in an ever-changing world.* This may include district goals, curriculum, instructional practices, assessments, technology, resources, and achievements that contribute to the successes of Citrus County Schools. This inaugural publication spotlights outstanding accomplishments throughout the school year and additional information for this summer and next school year.

It is an honor to serve as superintendent of a school district that is distinguished as a "High Performing" school district by the State of Florida for eight years in a row and is rated as an "A School District" for seven of those eight years. We are so proud of the work and successes that our team achieves every day and we are delighted to showcase them in detail for our community.



*2006: 600 point scale – 410 and higher = A
 **2007 to 2014: 800 point scale: 525 and higher = A

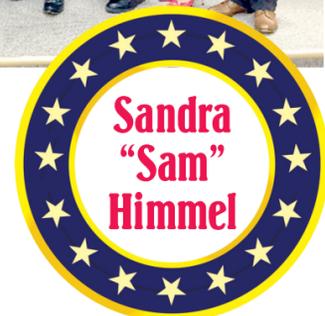
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Top Honors



DATA LEADER OF THE YEAR

2014 Lavan Dukes District



Superintendent Himmel was selected as the 2014 Lavan Dukes District Data Leader of the Year based on the accomplishments Citrus County has made through her leadership over the past 10 years. As superintendent, she has established a shared vision and clearly defined beliefs and practices that recognize the importance of data to improve student achievement and to guide the decisions and actions of all who influence the lives of Citrus County students. This mission and culture, a centerpiece of the district's strategic plan and processes, have contributed greatly to the success of the students, teachers, schools and district. Citrus County Schools, a small rural community of 15,000 students with approximately 63 percent of these students identified as economically disadvantaged, has been honored as a "High Performing School District" for eight years in a row and has been rated an "A" school district for seven of these eight years. These achievements are directly related to Himmel's focus on the importance of quality data, quality practices and quality staff to enhance learning.



TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Hernando Elementary School



Ashlynn is one of five finalists for State Teacher of the Year. The Florida Teacher of the Year program recognizes and honors the contributions of outstanding classroom teachers who have demonstrated a superior capacity to inspire a love of learning in students of all backgrounds and abilities. Through the use of engaging technology, Ms. Ramirez's students have an opportunity to experience a world that far exceeds the boundaries of her classroom.

SCHOOL RELATED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



Educational Services

Shaunda Burdette was among the five finalists for School Related Employee of the Year. Mrs. Burdette is our District Parent Liaison and SuccessMaker support person in our Educational Services Department. Additionally, Ms. Burdette serves as Chairperson of the Citrus Springs Middle School Advisory Council, Board of Directors for the Citrus County Education Foundation, and is a board member of the Citrus County Harvest and Citrus County Blessings.

Educator Excellence



Megan Jones INVERNESS PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER WINS TECHNOLOGY GRANT

Megan Jones, 5th grade teacher at Inverness Primary School won a \$5,000 Classroom Technology grant from Century Link! Her "STEAM in 3D" program teaches coding and uses 3D printing to allow students to solve a real world problem. Mrs. Jones will be one of only a few elementary classrooms in the state with a 3D printer thanks to the generosity of Century Link!

Dan Koch CITRUS SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER NAMED APPLE DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

Dan Koch, who calls the iPad a Swiss Army knife, began harnessing the technological capabilities of the device to save time, encourage creativity and prepare his students for life in the 21st century. For that innovation, Mr. Koch, a language arts teacher at Citrus Springs Middle School, was recently named an Apple Distinguished Educator (ADE), a select group of educators picked from a worldwide pool of applicants for their efforts in the classroom using Apple technologies in innovative ways. The selection process also recognizes the teachers' collaborative efforts with their colleagues.

"Apple may not have designed the iPad or the iPhone with the expectation that we'd be using them in the classroom, but they seamlessly integrate into every aspect of learning and discovery," Mr. Koch said.



Shine Awards

Governor Rick Scott recognized eight outstanding educators from around the state for their contributions to learning with the Governor's Shine Awards. The Governor's Shine Award is presented to educators and administrators in Florida who make significant contributions to the field of education.



Allison Gamblin CRYSTAL RIVER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Allison has been teaching for five years, and is currently teaching fifth grade in Crystal River. Allison believes that teaching is her calling and she works hard to create lessons that match each child's learning styles and interests. She strives to make a difference in all of her students' lives, and helps students succeed through classroom management and small groups. Allison sets high expectations for her students and enjoys seeing them succeed each day.

Karen Wright FLORAL CITY ELEMENTARY

Karen has worked for more than 20 years in Citrus County helping students reach their full potential. As a combination 4th and 5th grade teacher at Floral City Elementary, she has high expectations for her students to succeed both inside and outside of the classroom. Karen utilizes technology to teach and assess students' progress. She often collaborates with fellow educators in order to maximize self and student improvement.



Washington Post: Citrus is **AGAIN** among America's Most Challenging High Schools 2015

For the last 17 years the *Washington Post* has been ranking the most challenging high schools in America. *Post* reporter, Jay Mathews, identifies and recognizes the top 2,300 out of the 26,400 high schools in the country that include both public and private schools.

Lecanto High School, Citrus High School, and Crystal River High School are included on the 2015 *America's Most Challenging High Schools* list. Lecanto High School is 574 out of the noted 2,300 awarded schools, Citrus High School is 1,546, and Crystal River High School is 1,572. America's Most Challenging High Schools ranks schools through an index formula that's a simple ratio: the number of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and Advanced International Certificate of Education tests given at a school each year, divided by the number of seniors who graduated that year. A ratio of 1.000 means the school had as many tests as graduates.

US News and World Report Ranks Citrus County High Schools as Best in the US

U.S. News & World Report has released the national and state rankings of the *2015 Best High Schools in the U.S.* and has awarded gold, silver, or bronze medals to high-performing public high schools across the country. Citrus High School, Crystal River High School, Lecanto High School, and the Academy of Environmental Science are recognized nationally out of 29,000 schools in the U.S. Citrus High and Lecanto High are Silver Medal Award winners with Crystal River High and the Academy of Environmental Science honored as Bronze Medal Award winners. The rankings are based on scoring near or above the state average in Reading and Math proficiency and earning a college readiness index value near the state average.

**CITRUS COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
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Meet Your Teacher / Orientation Dates 2015-2016

ELEMENTARY

Central Ridge Elementary
Thursday, August 6th 4:30 - 6:30 pm
Citrus Springs Elementary
Pre-K through Grade 5
Thursday, August 6th 4:00 - 6:00 pm
Crystal River Primary
Thursday, August 6th
Pre-K and Kindergarten meet in the cafeteria at 3:00 pm
1st - 5th grades 4:00-6:00 pm
Safety Patrol and Parents - 6:00 pm in the Cafeteria
Floral City Elementary
Thursday, August 6th
Pre-K & Kindergarten-and New Students 9:30-10:00 am
Pre-K through 5th 10:00 - 12 noon

Forest Ridge Elementary
Thursday, August 6th
Grades: Pre-K through Grade 5 4:00 - 6:00 pm
Hernando Elementary
Thursday August 6th
Pre-K & Kindergarten 3:00 - 4:00 pm
1st through 5th 4:00 - 6pm
Homosassa Elementary
Thursday, August 6th 4:00 - 6:00 pm
Inverness Primary
Thursday, August 6th
Pre-K & Kindergarten 3:00-4:00 pm
1st through 5th 4:00-6pm

Lecanto Primary
Thursday, August 6th
Grades: Pre-K through 5th Grade 4:30-6:00 pm
Pleasant Grove Elementary
Thursday, August 6th
New to PGE 3:30-4:00 pm
All others 4:00 pm-6:00 pm
Rock Crusher Elementary
Thursday, August 6th 4:30 - 6:30 pm

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Citrus Springs Middle
Friday, August 7th 3:00 - 6:00pm

Crystal River Middle
Friday, August 7th 2:30 -5:30 pm

Inverness Middle
Friday, August 7th 3:00 - 6:00 pm

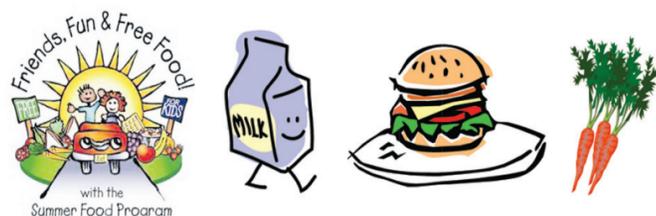
Lecanto Middle
Friday, August 7th 3:00 - 6:00 pm

HIGH SCHOOL

Citrus High
Friday, August 7th, 8:30 – 12:00 am FRESHMAN only
Fall Open House: Thursday August 20th 6:00 pm-7:00 pm
Informational session at 5:30 pm anyone pursuing AP Courses
Crystal River High
Friday, August 7th 8:00-11:30am FRESHMAN only
Fall Open House: Thursday, August 27th 6:00-7:00pm
Advanced Placement Informational Session
5:30-6:00 pm Aug 27th

Lecanto High
All students all grades Thursday, August 20th
6:00-7:00 pm
Freshman and new students only Friday, August 7th
8:00-11:00 am in the gym

Academy of Environmental Science
Thursday August 6th 6:00-8:00pm
College of Central Florida
Lecanto Campus Building 1A
CREST
Thursday, August 6th 3:00 to 6:00 pm
Renaissance Center
Tuesday August 4th 10:00 am-2:00 pm



SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM

Citrus County School's Food and Nutrition Services will be participating in the Summer Feeding Program during the months of May, June, and July.

Nutritionally balanced meals will be provided to all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability during Summer vacation when school breakfasts and lunches are not available. **All children 18 years old and younger are eligible for meals at no charge at an Open Site** and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. The programs are only approved for geographical areas of need where 50 percent or more of the children qualify for free and reduced price meals during the school year. The goal is to make sure no child goes hungry.

The sites that are offering meals are as follows:

Site	Serving Dates	Serving Times
Lecanto Middle School	June 1st—July 24th (Open Monday thru Friday)	Breakfast: 8:00 am—8:30am Lunch: 8:00am 11:00am—12:00pm
Inverness Primary School	June 1st—July 24th (Open Monday thru Friday)	Breakfast: 8:00 am—8:30am Lunch: 8:00am 11:00am—12:00pm
Hernando Elementary	June 1st—July 23rd (Open Monday thru Thurs.)	Breakfast: 8:00 am—8:30am Lunch: 8:00am 11:00am—12:00pm
Crystal River Middle	June 1st—July 24th (Open Monday thru Friday)	Breakfast: 8:00 am—8:30am Lunch: 8:00am 11:00am—12:00pm

NOTE: ALL SITES WILL BE CLOSED ON JULY 3rd



For more information, please contact Ms. Fredrikson at 726-1931 X 2451



In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 645-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

2015-2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR CITRUS COUNTY

JULY 4 Independence Day S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	JANUARY 1 Christmas Vacation 4 Teacher Workday 5 Professional Development Day 6 Students Return to School 18 Martin Luther King Day 29 Professional Development Day / Early Dismissal S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
AUGUST 3-7 Pro. Dev. / Teacher Work Day 10 First Day of School 26 Professional Development Day / Early Dismissal S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	FEBRUARY 8-12 FTE Week - Survey 3 12 Professional Development Day - Student Holiday 15 President's Day S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
SEPTEMBER 7 Labor Day S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	MARCH 10-11 Early Dismissal for Exams / Teacher Workday - End of Reporting 21-25 Spring Break S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
OCTOBER 2 High School Professional Development Day / Parent Conference Elementary & Middle - Student Holiday 8-9 Early Dismissal for Exams; Teacher Workday - End of Reporting 12-16 FTE Week - Survey 2 28 Professional Development Day / Early Dismissal S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	APRIL S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
NOVEMBER 11 Veterans Day 23-27 Thanksgiving Holidays S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	MAY 18 Last Day for Seniors 19 CREST Graduation 20 WTI Graduation 23 Crystal River High School Graduation 24-15 Early Dismissal for Exams / Teacher Workday - End of Reporting 25 Last Day of School 26 Teacher Work Day 30 Memorial Day S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
DECEMBER 17-18 Early Dismissal for Exams / Teacher Workday - End of Reporting 21-31 Christmas Vacation S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	JUNE S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

Legend	
	Holiday: Schools closed, students and teachers do not report.
	Teacher Workdays/Professional Development Days - Students do not report
	Important Dates
	Parent Conference Elementary & Middle

Just Read, Florida!

2015 Recommended Summer Reading List



GRADES K-3

- A Day in the Life of Murphy**, Alice Provensen
- A Drop of Water: A Book of Science and Wonder**, Walter Wick
- Actual Size**, Steve Jenkins
- Ants**, Melissa Stewart
- Aunt Flossie's Hats**, Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard
- Benny and Penny in the Big No-No!**, Geoffrey Hayes
- Big Wolf and Little Wolf**, Nadine Brun-Cosme
- Buffy the Burrowing Owl**, Betty Gilbert
- Buster**, Denise Fleming

GRADES 4-5

- A Faraway Island**, Annika Thor
- A History of US**, Joy Hakim
- A Nest for Celeste: A Story About Art, Inspiration, and the Meaning of Home**, Henry Cole
- A Snicker of Magic**, Natalie Lloyd
- Alice's Adventures in Wonderland**, Lewis Carroll

GRADES 6-8

- A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story**, Linda Sue Park
- A Long Way from Chicago**, Richard Peck
- Any Which Wall**, Laurel Snyder
- Artemis Fowl: the Arctic Incident**, Eoin Colfer
- Brave New World**, Aldous Huxley
- Breaking Stalin's Nose**, Eugene Yelchin
- Bridge to Terabithia**, Katherine Paterson
- Brown Girl Dreaming**, Jacqueline Woodson

GRADES 9-12

- A Separate Peace**, John Knowles
- Adventurer's Against Their Will**, Joanie Schirm
- All Quiet on the Western Front**, Erich Maria Remarque
- Allegiant**, Veronica Roth
- Bunheads**, Sophie Flack
- Cloaked**, Alex Flinn
- Darius & Twig**, Walter Dean Myers
- Divergent**, Veronica Roth