



Flagler County Schools Office of Student Services

386-437-7526 x3124 www.flaglerschools.com

Student Services provides a variety of supports and services for Flagler families in an effort to “Raise Student Achievement Every Day, Every Way.” If you have questions regarding any of these items, please contact us. A few of the areas we work with are listed on this flyer; most of these topics are addressed in detail on our website at www.flaglerschools.com.

Attendance-- Attendance is a vital part of student success. Students need to be in school every day in order to keep up with lessons and be successful. Students are expected to miss **no more than 15 school days per year** including all illnesses, doctor appointments, emergency issues, and so forth. After 15 days of absence, the only way to excuse an absence is by doctor- or court- issued note. Prior to missing 15 days, parents can write notes to excuse days when children are home ill. **Parents can write up to 5 notes in the first half of the year and another 5 in the second half of the year, provided the child has not missed a total of 15 days.** For every absence, the parent should send a written note to the school attendance clerk explaining the absence. Family vacations are not considered excused absences. If you are having concerns about your child’s attendance, please contact the attendance clerk or school counselor for assistance.

Bullying-- Flagler County’s Bullying Policy is outlined fully in Board Policy 511.2, but essentially it is that bullying will not be tolerated in our schools. Every report will be investigated, and if the incident is a genuine case of bullying, the student who has done this will have consequences.

Concerns can be reported using the “No Bullying” icon on the district website at www.flaglerschools.com. To report, an individual simply clicks the icon, selects the school where the incident occurred, and gives some basic information about the incident. The notification goes directly to a designee at the school who will investigate the case.

Cyberbullying is a form of harassment that we also have to investigate if it has been done on a school campus *or* has an impact on the school environment. Many students fail to understand that all forms of bullying, including via the internet or phone, are illegal and can have very serious consequences.

Students who are being bullied or who are witnesses to bullying, should always tell an adult at the school. Parents are welcomed to call and speak with a counselor, dean, or administrator about any concerns, or use the computer reporting system if they would rather be anonymous.

Discipline-- Students’ achievement is directly impacted by their behavior at school. Students who disrupt class and the learning environment, or who violate school rules, receive consequences. Please communicate to your child that you have high expectations for their behavior while at school so they can have the best learning experience possible.

Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Intervention-- No student, regardless of age, may possess alcohol or tobacco on a school site. Please check your child’s backpack regularly and reinforce that they should never carry any medications or illegal items to school.

Full Access Services-- Families may apply for food stamps and other benefits at www.myflorida.com/accessflorida. If you need further assistance, you can call (866) 762-2237 or go to the Flagler DCF office at 105 S. Bacher St. in Bunnell. Application assistance can also be arranged by calling our office.

Guidance Support Services-- If your child is difficult to manage or will not abide by the rules of your home, you may be eligible for assistance. The Children in Need of Services (CINS) program is available to students who have no current or pending legal charges. Children who receive Medicaid or have no insurance may be eligible for FREE mental health counseling services through Full Service Schools (FSS). Contact your school counselor for details.

Health and Nurse Services-- Each school has a nurse on site to assist with health concerns and minor issues throughout the day. Students with serious health issues who require assistance throughout the day must have a Medical Care Plan on file at the school. Students who require medication throughout the day must have signed paperwork. Please call your child's school nurse if you have any questions.

Positive Behavioral Supports (PBS)-- Our district uses a behavior modification system which relies on recognizing positive behaviors and rewarding them, while implementing interventions for students displaying negative behaviors. Each school has school-wide expectations which each student should "know by heart". If you have questions about this program, please contact your school dean or administration.

10 Tips for Success:

1. Be sure your child is in school daily. Try to schedule medical and related appointments during school holidays or after school.
2. Be sure your child gets plenty of rest. Cranky kids are hard to teach.
3. Set scheduled homework time. If your child "has no homework," have them read a book for the scheduled time daily.
4. Enroll in Skyward Family Access which allows you to monitor your child's grades and attendance 24 hours a day via the internet. Call your school to find out how to register.
5. Keep in contact with the school! The best way to address any concern that you have with your child is to contact the school directly and speak to a teacher, counselor, dean, or administrator. These individuals are "closest" to the problem and the solution. You can send email any time, day or night.
6. Make school an important part of your day every day. Ask specifically about what was learned and what lessons were done.
7. Monitor your child's friends. Be sure you know the parents/guardians of any friends your child spends time with away from school. Ask lots of questions about the friends they have in school.
8. Check up on your child's internet use and social networking profiles (FaceBook, etc.)
9. Visit the school. Be a part of any activities or parent involvement opportunities.
10. Communicate your expectations to your child regularly. Let them know you expect solid effort daily at school. Reward this. Give consequences (non-physical) when they do not meet your expectations.