



Joseph G. Joyner, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

40 Orange Street  
St. Augustine, Florida 32084  
(904) 547-7500  
[www.stjohns.k12.fl.us](http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us)

August 10, 2016

SCHOOL BOARD

Beverly Slough  
District 1

Tommy Allen  
District 2

Bill Mignon  
District 3

Kelly Barrera  
District 4

Patrick Canan  
District 5

Dear Middle/High School Parent or Guardian,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year! I hope you had a wonderful summer spent with loved ones and friends. As we look forward to a new school year filled with success and a continued focus on the high achievement of our students, I want to ensure that you are aware of the many programs of choice and acceleration options St. Johns County Schools have to offer. Programs of choice include Career Academies at each of our high schools, advanced academic programs such as International Baccalaureate (IB) and Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), St. Johns Virtual School (SJVS), Florida Virtual School (FLVS) and Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC).

There is a process to register and/or apply to many of these programs, especially if a student plans to attend a school other than their zoned school. The timelines and requirements can be found on the district website. Parents and students are encouraged to consult with their school counselor when considering a program of choice. More information about Career Academy programs is available at <http://academies.stjohns.k12.fl.us/info/>. It is never too early to talk to your child and plan educational goals.

School and district based communications including scheduled informational meetings, newsletters, automated phone messaging and direct emailing may be used to ensure that students and parents understand their options, deadlines for application, and other vital information needed for academic planning. For most programs the application process will start January 19, 2017 and end February 10, 2017 for the 2017-2018 school year.

Part-time virtual school options are available either during the regular school day or after school and in the summer. The next open enrollment periods to apply for SJVS as a full-time student are November 18, 2016 - January 3, 2017, and in the spring, April 13 to 30 days before the start of the school year; exceptions can be made for good cause.

After school begins, requests for part-time virtual courses taken within the regular school day will be addressed through the normal drop/add policy of a school with the principal having final authority for all schedule changes. All virtual course requests must be reviewed and approved by a guidance counselor to ensure the course is an appropriate placement for the student. To learn about all virtual options, please go to <http://www-sjvs.stjohns.k12.fl.us> or call 904-547-8080.

Regular high school graduation requirements now include the successful completion of one high school level online course. This course could be taken at any time during the student's academic career as long as the student successfully completes the entire course (year-long or semester) prior to graduation. Many high schools are offering blended courses that meet this requirement. In a blended course, the instruction is at least 50% digital and the remainder through direct teacher instruction. St.

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in all students, creating educated and caring contributors to the world.*

Johns Virtual School and FLVS courses also meet this requirement. The online course requirement may also be met by earning a nationally recognized industry certification in information technology that is identified by the state.

In addition to programs of choice and virtual courses, all St. Johns County schools offer Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) options, which looks different at each level. Options include but are not limited to:

- Middle – take high school courses in middle school; virtual instruction in a higher grade-level course; ACCEL options do not supersede the core course requirements for promotion to high school (three English language arts, three math, three science, and three social studies) but courses taken in middle school may earn high school credit
- High – earn college credit by completing the coursework and passing the examination for Advanced Placement (AP), and/or IB/AICE courses; successful completion of a Dual Enrollment course; earn high school credit without taking the course by passing the state End-of-Course (EOC) assessment; virtual instruction in advanced courses; early graduation; earn college credit by passing the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) assessment for a college course or an AP exam without actually being enrolled in the course

Finally, there are also several diploma options with different requirements that are associated with a specific program of choice. Even the standard diploma type has designations that are dependent upon a student's course of study. For example, a student may qualify for the Scholar, Merit and/or Florida Seal of Biliteracy designation along with their standard diploma depending upon the courses and assessments they completed. Details regarding the criteria for each option and graduation requirements by cohort year can be found at <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/cs/> or <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/graduation-requirements>.

I am proud that our schools offer so many academic choices for our students. With so many good options to consider, I hope that you will work with your school's guidance department to develop the best customized learning path for your child. Thank you for your consideration of this information and my best wishes to you and your family for an outstanding school year!

Sincerely,

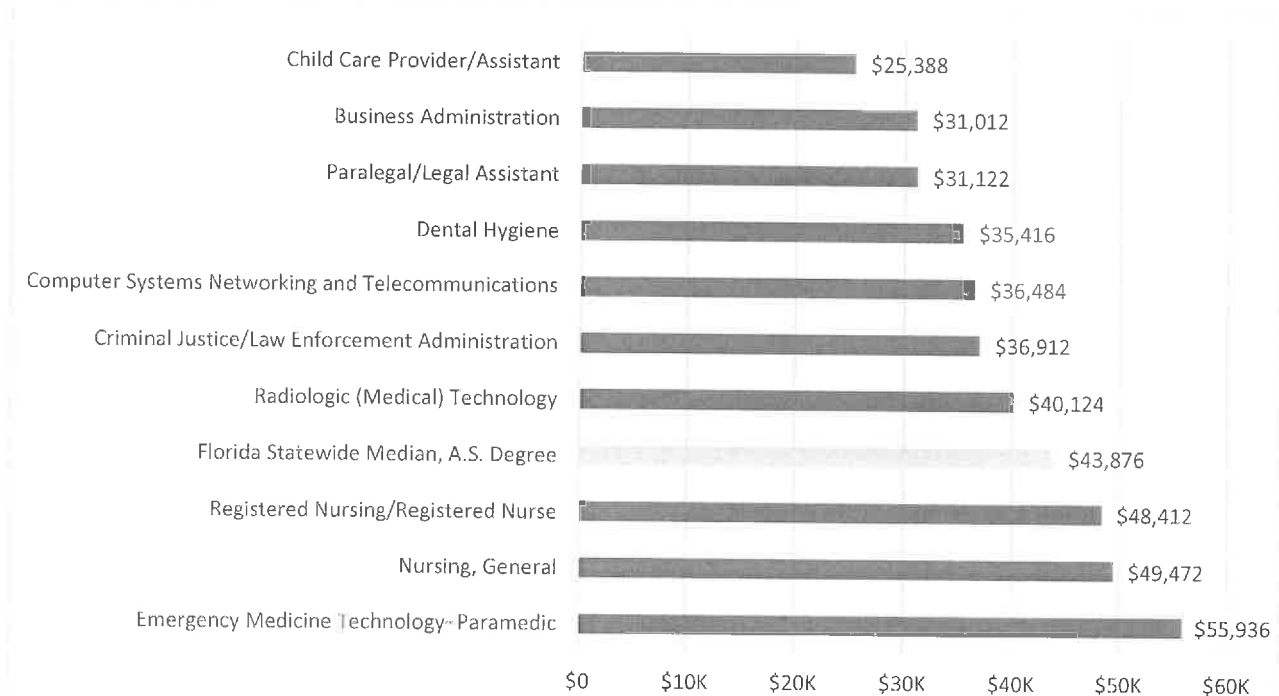
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph G. Joyner". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

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Superintendent of Schools

## Economic Security Report of Employment and Earnings Outcomes From Florida’s Public Postsecondary Educational Institutions Summary December 2015

Florida’s Economic Security Report focuses on the median first-year earnings of recent graduates and completers<sup>1</sup> from Florida’s public postsecondary educational institutions – State University System of Florida (SUS), Florida College System (FCS), and District Technical Centers (DTCs). The report documents the variation in first-year earnings among completers who earned degrees or certificates from these postsecondary institutions. Additionally, it presents data on the percentage of completers from various institutions who are receiving public assistance and the percentage enrolled in continuing education programs, as well as debt accumulated by all students, not just graduates. The results show that the types of postsecondary credentials completers earn and where they earn them, matter.

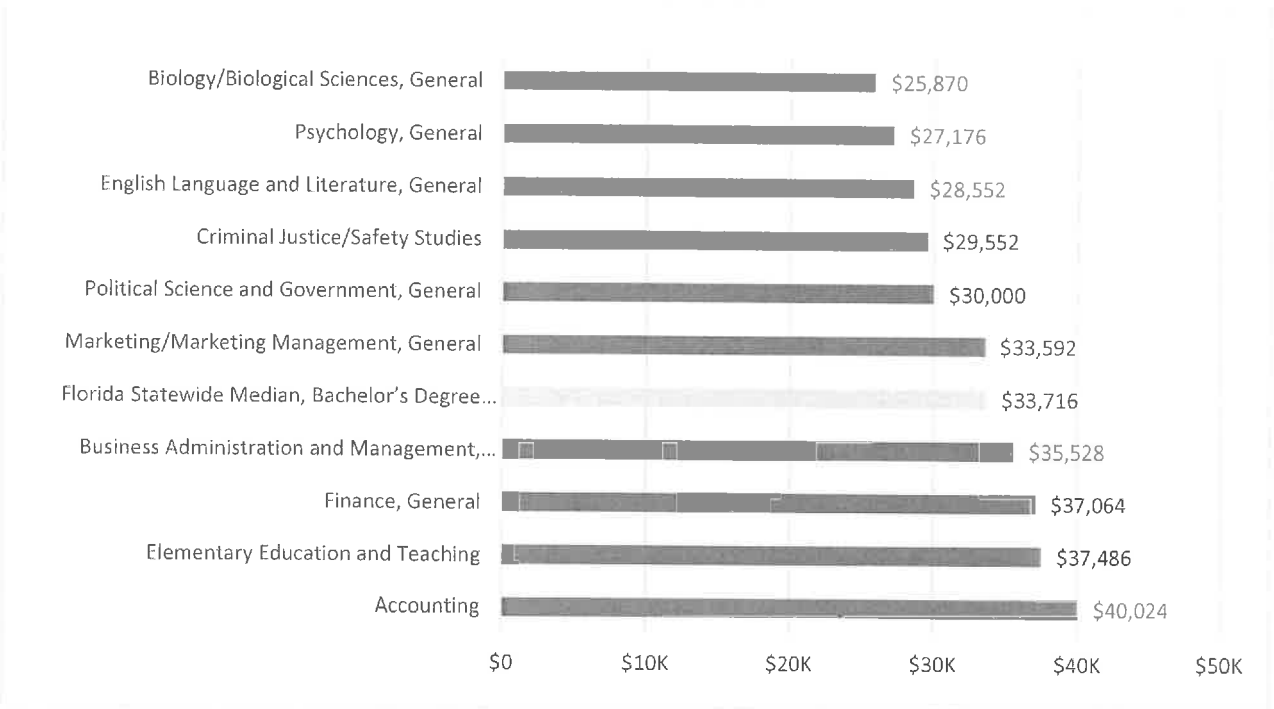
Increased levels of educational achievement provide a boost in earnings power – the more you learn, the more you earn. However, there is often wide variation in the average earnings of graduates with the same level credential depending on what they studied. The following chart shows some of the most popular fields of study of graduates with an Associate of Science (A.S.) Degree. The median first-year earnings of a graduate with an A.S. degree in Child Care Provider/Assistant were around \$25,000. In contrast, a graduate with an A.S. degree in Nursing earned almost twice that amount, while a graduate who earned an A.S. degree in Emergency Medical Technology-Paramedic earned more than \$55,000.



This is also true for graduates with a bachelor’s degree. The figure below shows the variation in the earnings of graduates in the most popular bachelor’s degree programs in Florida. The range is from less than \$30,000 per year (Biology, Psychology, English, and Criminal Justice) to more than \$40,000 (Accounting). Elementary

<sup>1</sup> In this report, “graduates” is a specific term used to identify any person who has earned a degree (e.g., associate’s, bachelor’s, or master’s). “Completers” is a more general term used to identify any person who has completed any level of postsecondary education (e.g., certificates, diplomas, bachelor’s degrees, etc.).

Education and Teaching and Finance graduates earn, on average, more than \$37,000 the first year after graduation.



As reflected in this summary, there are many factors to consider when exploring education and career choices. We encourage you to visit [Beyond Education](#) to review the full Economic Security Report and obtain valuable information for you to consider as you research the many postsecondary learning opportunities available to you in the State of Florida.



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Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Student Code of Conduct is based on the School Board's rules governing student conduct and discipline. The Code is updated annually, and distributed either manually or electronically by every school principal in the school district. It is important that you review the Code in its entirety and return the required signature forms. In addition to containing the required forms for signature, the Code includes important information relative to:

- Students Rights and Responsibilities
- Student Attendance
- Student Discipline and Rules of Conduct
- Specific grounds for disciplinary action
- Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

The Code also contains the following forms for signature which must be signed and returned within 5 days of receiving the Student Code of Conduct, where applicable:

- The Parent/Student Acknowledgement of Student's Rules and Regulations must be signed and returned by all students and parents.
- The Student Acceptable Use Procedures Agreement must be signed and returned in order for students to use school computers and/or digital devices.
- The Release of Student Directory Information Options form **must be signed and returned IF parents do not want a student's name, address and other directory information released to the Armed Forces, Military Recruiters, Military Schools, or for other purposes listed on the form.**
- The Pursuing Victory with Honor Parent and Student -- Athlete Agreement must be signed and returned **IF** a student is planning to participate in interscholastic athletics.

If you have any questions, regarding the Student Code of Conduct or the information highlighted above, please contact your principal.

Sincerely,

Joseph G. Joyner, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

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The St. Johns County School District is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for your child. Each St. Johns County school has an Emergency Operations Plan with incident specific procedures that is reviewed and practiced regularly. These plans have been formulated using Federal Emergency Operations Agency and Department of Education guidelines that conform to federal, state and local guidelines. They have been coordinated with St. Johns County Emergency Services including law enforcement, fire and rescue, and the Emergency Operations Center. All principals are linked to the District's Crisis Management Team through telephone landlines, cellular phones and/or two way radios. St. Johns County School District recognizes **The Incident Command System (ICS)**, a nationally recognized organization structure that provides for role assignment and decision-making while planning for and responding to critical incidents of all types.

Our school district works closely with local public safety officials using their expertise and input. Regular safety, health, security and fire inspections take place each year in all district schools. All district schools have been designated as shelters to be used in the event of a hurricane or other emergency requiring temporary shelter. Each school has a Safety Committee that meets a minimum of four times per year to discuss issues of safety and security. Fire drills are conducted each month beginning with two in August. We also practice tornado, lockdown and AED Response Drills and instruct students in procedures used for bomb threats and shelter in place drills. Bus evacuation drills are held once each semester.

Visitor and volunteer sign in procedures are required in each school. All district schools use the Keep N Track sign in system. We require all visitors and volunteers to sign in and wear name tags when visiting the school. All volunteers must complete a St. Johns County School Volunteer Application. A background check will be completed by the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office for security approval before applicants can volunteer.

All St. Johns County high school and middle schools are assigned full time Youth Resource Deputies and provide support to all our elementary schools. These resource officers are St. Johns County Deputies and have received extensive training in working with students and local schools.

**THE OFFICE OF SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS' PRACTICAL INFORMATION ON CRISIS PLANNING SUGGESTS THAT SCHOOLS CLEARLY LET FAMILIES KNOW THEY SHOULD NOT CALL THE SCHOOL'S DIRECT LINE OR COME TO THE CAMPUS DURING AN EMERGENCY. IF THE SCHOOL HAS NOT BEEN EVACUATED, CALLS COULD TIE UP DESPERATELY NEEDED COMMUNICATION LINES IN AND OUT OF THE SCHOOL AND PARENTS' CARS COULD PHYSICALLY BLOCK LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRE/RESCUE AND OTHER FIRST RESPONDERS. THEREFORE, IN THE EVENT OF A CRISIS, WE WILL COMMUNICATE THAT:**

- **A CRISIS HAS OCCURRED.**
- **SPECIFIC DIRECTIONS ON WHAT TO DO AND WHAT NOT TO DO WILL BE GIVEN.**
- **ALL POSSIBLE STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO SEE TO THE SAFETY OF YOUR CHILDREN.**
- **ASSURANCE THAT YOU WILL BE REUNIFIED WITH YOUR CHILD AS SOON AS IT IS SAFE TO DO SO WILL BE PROVIDED.**

Every school has specific plans for the reunification of parents and their children in the event of a major emergency. Under certain circumstances, students may be evacuated to another site. In the event our school is evacuated, our primary relocation site is \_\_\_\_\_. To communicate with parents and families in a crisis, our primary mass communication system will be Blackboard Connect. This system provides instant telephone and email communication accepting up to five phone numbers and email addresses per student. Our system can be used for emergency calls, community outreach, special events, and other school/district messages.

School psychologists, social workers, and counselors, trained in crisis intervention, are available to students and their families in all emergencies. A district counseling team is available for school support. All high schools, middle schools, and elementary schools are equipped with AEDs (Automated External Defibrillator). Each school has CPR/AED certified faculty and staff and an AED Response team.

If at any time you have concerns about the safety of your child or issues concerning safety or security, please call the school.

Sincerely,

Principal

/rb

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