



DUVAL COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

11th & 12th Grade Parent Night Presentation Sept. 4, 2025



Sign in here!

Paxon School For Advanced Studies

Who Is My School Counselor?

Mrs. Hodges

AP Students with last
names beginning with A-K
mertone2@duvalschools.org
Ext. 1075999922

Mrs. Mullen

AP Students with last
names beginning with L-Z
mullenm@duvalschools.org
Ext. 1075999924

TO MEET WITH YOUR ASSIGNED COUNSELOR:

- STUDENTS: Email or message your counselor through the Paxon School Counseling Team.
- PARENTS: Call or email your counselor and allow at least 48 hours to respond.

Paxon School Counseling Department Support Staff

Ms. Bouie

bouies@duvalschools.org
(904)693-7583,
Ext. 1075999930

- Scheduling parent/teacher conferences
- FOCUS portal information
- Attendance clerk- remember to report upcoming absences to classroom teachers and Ms. Bouie

Ms. Belk

belka@duvalschools.org
(904)693-7583,
Ext. 1075999925

- Student Records
- Enrollment



PSAS Counseling Department Website



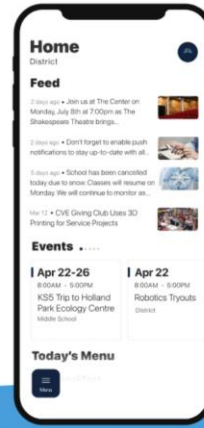
Many questions can be answered by visiting our website

- Calendar of events
- Community service info
- College/career planning
- Scholarships and financial aid

paxonsas3075.wixsite.com/psasschoolcounselors



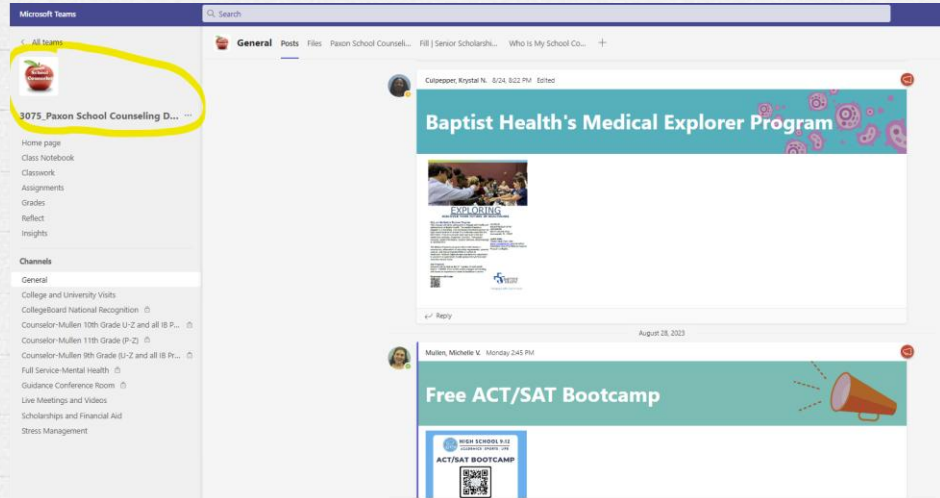
New Duval Schools App! Have you downloaded it yet?



***PARENTS –
Make sure to
download the
DCPS App!***

PSAS Counseling Department Team

- ✓ General announcements, live meetings, college visits, scholarship and financial aid information, community service opportunities, and more!
- ✓ STUDENTS- Be sure to email your counselor if you have not been added to the Team!



Graduation Requirements


- X **English:** 4 credits
- X **Math:** 4 credits (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra 2, and 1 more equally rigorous math)
- X **Science:** 3 credits (Biology and 2 additional equally rigorous science classes)
- X **Social Science:** 3 credits (1 World History, 1 US History, .5 US Gov't, .5 Economics)
- X **World Language:** 2 consecutive credits (must be in the same language)
- X **Visual/Performing Art:** 1 credit
- X **HOPE:** 1 credit
- X **Additional Electives:** 6 credits
- X **Passing score on the FAST ELA** (Grade 10)
- X **Passing score on the Algebra 1 End of Course Exam**
- X **Cumulative unweighted 2.0 GPA**



Class of 2026

Resources at Paxon

- ✓ Individual classroom teacher tutoring- varies by teacher
- ✓ Varsity Tutors – virtual homework help and tutoring
- ✓ Paxon is a Full-Service School
 - Referrals: Self (student), parent, counselor
 - **FREE** Services Provided at Paxon or Virtually (Private/Confidential)
 - As of Aug. 2022, we have a full-time mental health therapist on campus daily.



Welcome to Your Personal Learning Journey!


Duval Public Schools is partnering with Varsity Tutors for Schools to provide students with homework help, study support, and engaging instruction from live tutors in an online learning environment.

How It Works

1. To access Varsity Tutors, login through your Blended Learning Platform. Click the Varsity Tutors App, and sign-in via [Clever](#).
2. To start your tutoring session, click **Schedule** to see your upcoming sessions. A link to access a session will be displayed 15 minutes prior to the scheduled time.
3. Use the **shared whiteboard** and **collaborative tools** to work with your tutor.
4. To complete an assessment, click **Assessments** and see which assessments have been assigned to you.
5. To view past sessions, click **Session Recaps** and view recordings of all your tutoring sessions.

Need help?

☎ (855) 496-5378
✉ schools@varsitytutors.com
🌐 [LOGIN HERE TO ACCESS CLEVER](#)



- TWO YEARS OF **FREE** TUITION THROUGH FLORIDA PRE-PAID
- APPLICANTS MUST:
 - **BE A 9TH – 11TH GRADE STUDENT**
 - QUALIFY FOR FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH
 - HAVE A 2.0 GPA (UNWEIGHTED)
 - HAVE NO CONDUCT OFFENCES OR ATTENDANCE ISSUES
- PARTICIPANTS WILL BE EXPOSED TO:
 - A MENTOR THROUGHOUT HIGH SCHOOL
 - COLLEGE/FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOPS
 - NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR
 - COLLEGE TOURS
- MENTORS AND MENTEES ARE **NEEDED!**
- CONTACT MRS. MONIKA STEBEL AT
(904) 717-0509 OR MSTEBEL@GOODWILLNORTHFL.ORG



Community Service

- ✓ Paxon SAS highly recommends that all students perform a minimum of 75 hours (service/work hours – 40 hours community service minimum)
- ✓ Community Service should be meaningful.
- ✓ Check our website, Rooms, and Teams channel for ideas and opportunities.
- ✓ For each different service activity that is completed, 3 forms must be completed:
 - ☐ Community Service Pre-Approval Form
 - ☐ Community Service Log Form
 - ☐ Student Reflections Form

**Seniors- The latest community service hours can be submitted to your school counselor is March 2026.



On October 8, 2025, Juniors will take the PSAT at Paxon

- ✓ Please remember to bring your laptop fully charged!
- ✓ National Merit Scholarship Program is based on 11th grade PSAT scores.
- ✓ PSAT scores can be used to create a personalized SAT study plan on Khan Academy.

College Entrance Exams

2025-2026 SAT/ACT/CLT TEST DATES

SAT

Cost: \$68.00 www.collegeboard.com

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Deadline
August 23, 2025	August 8, 2025	August 12, 2025
September 13, 2025	August 29, 2025	September 2, 2025
October 4, 2025	September 19, 2025	September 23, 2025
November 8, 2025	October 24, 2025	October 28, 2025
December 6, 2025	November 21, 2025	November 25, 2025
March 14, 2026	February 27, 2026	March 3, 2026
May 2, 2026	April 17, 2026	April 21, 2026
June 6, 2026	May 22, 2026	May 26, 2026

ACT

Cost: \$68.00 (no writing), \$93.00 (w/writing), \$4.00 (Science add-on) www.actstudents.org

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Deadline
September 6, 2025	August 19, 2025	August 29, 2025
October 18, 2025	September 30, 2025	October 10, 2025
December 13, 2025	November 24, 2025	December 5, 2025
February 14, 2026	January 23, 2026	February 6, 2026
April 11, 2026	March 24, 2026	April 3, 2026
June 13, 2026	May 29, 2026	June 5, 2026
July 11, 2026	June 24, 2026	July 3, 2026

CLT

Cost: \$59.00 www.cltexam.com (Check website for additional test dates)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Available Test Mode
August 16, 2025	August 7, 2025	Remotely Proctored
September 18, 2025	September 11, 2025	Remotely Proctored
October 11, 2025	October 2, 2025	Remotely Proctored
November 8, 2025	October 30, 2025	Remotely Proctored
December 3, 2025	November 20, 2025	Remotely Proctored
January 24, 2026	December 17, 2025	Remotely Proctored
February 19, 2026	January 21, 2026	Remotely Proctored
March 21, 2026	February 18, 2026	Remotely Proctored
April 16, 2026	March 18, 2026	Remotely Proctored
May 16, 2026	April 15, 2026	Remotely Proctored
June 11, 2026	May 13, 2026	Remotely Proctored

Check website for additional fees

2025 - 2026 PSAS Saturday SAT Test Dates



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

23 August
13 September
4 October
8 November
6 December
14 March
2 May
6 June

Do not delay completing college applications because you are waiting for the 'perfect' test score. Most schools have test score deadlines that are different from the application deadline.

Fee waivers are available for all these exams.

Please check the Paxon School Counseling website and Teams for free test prep opportunities.

Bright Futures Scholarship Requirements

Type	16 High School College-Preparatory Course Credits ¹	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT®/CLT®/SAT®)	Volunteer Service Hours ²	Paid Work Hours ²
FAS	4 - English (three must include substantial writing) 4 - Mathematics (at or above the Algebra I level) 3 - Natural Science (two must have substantial laboratory)	3.50	2024-25 Graduates: 29/96/1340 2025-26 Graduates: 29/95/1330	100 hours	100 hours
FMS	3 - Social Science 2 - World Language (sequential, in same language)	3.00	2024-25 Graduates: 25/84/1210 2025-26 Graduates: 24/82/1190	75 hours	100 hours

Bright Futures Scholarship



Application Opens: Oct. 1, 2025

Test scores, G. P. A. , and community service are **reviewed** by the State **three times a year** (September, January, and July).

If you want to qualify prior to graduation, your community service hours, test scores and GPA must meet the requirements for the Academic or Medallion level prior to January 1st.

- **The best grades in each subject area will be used to calculate the Bright Futures GPA** *(2 additional credits from courses in the academic areas listed above as well as AP or IB fine arts courses may be used to raise the GPA).*
- **Course grades are weighted for BF GPA calculation BUT are given different weighting than DCPS GPA calculation.**



COLLEGE PLANNING



CHOOSING THE RIGHT COLLEGE

FIT AND ALIGNMENT

Look for colleges that align with your academic interests, career goals, and personal values.

CAMPUS CULTURE

Consider the campus environment: Diversity of the student body, Extracurricular activities, Overall community vibe.



Colleges and Universities Visit Paxon Throughout the Academic Year

College visits are scheduled during both lunch periods:

- ❖ **Schedule posted outside of the school counseling office, on the Paxon School Counseling website and Team, linked on the Paxon school website, and during morning announcements**

Students must have teacher permission to miss class to attend the visit if it is scheduled during a lunch when they have class or during class time.

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES VISITING PAXON SO FAR THIS YEAR...

August/September

Paxon SAS College Visits 2025-2026

Date	College	College Location		Time*	Meeting Location
08/19/2025	Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD)	Savannah	GA	1 st Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
08/27/2025	Bryant University	Smithfield	RI	1 st Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
08/29/2025	Florida State University	Tallahassee	FL	2 nd Lunch (A-day)	Media Center
09/02/2025	United States Naval Academy	Naval Academy	MD	1 st Lunch (B-day)	Guidance
	University at Albany (SUNY)	Albany	NY	2 nd Lunch (B-day)	Guidance
09/03/2025	Hampden-Sydney College	Hampden Sydney	VA	1 st Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
	Binghamton University	Binghamton	NY	2 nd Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
	University of Glasgow	Glasgow, Scotland		2 nd Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
09/04/2025	Eckerd College	St. Petersburg	FL	1 st Lunch (B-day)	Guidance
	Long Island University	Brooklyn	NY	2 nd Lunch (B-day)	Guidance
09/05/2025	Amherst College	Amherst	MA	1 st Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
	Rutgers University	New Brunswick	NJ	1 st Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
	New College of Florida	Sarasota	FL	2 nd Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
	University of Notre Dame	Notre Dame	IN	2 nd Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
	University of Alabama	Huntsville	AL	2 nd Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
09/08/2025	Syracuse University	Syracuse	NY	1 st Lunch (B-day)	Guidance
	Yale University	New Haven	CT	1 st Lunch (B-day)	Media Center (by invitation only)
	Hofstra University	Hempstead	NY	2 nd Lunch (B-day)	Guidance
	Rice University	Houston	TX	2 nd Lunch (B-day)	Guidance
09/09/2025	Tulane University	New Orleans	LA	1 st Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
	Washington University in St. Louis	St. Louis	WA	2 nd Lunch (A-day)	Guidance
09/10/2025	Purdue University	West Lafayette	IN	1 st Lunch (B-day)	Guidance

NORTHEAST FLORIDA COLLEGE FAIR 2025

**NACAC College Fair: Sept. 6, 2025
at the Prime Osborne Center**



Scan here to register!

Informative workshops presented and college reps will be available to answer admissions and financial aid questions



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1

ACADEMIC RECORD

Colleges look at your GPA, course rigor, and academic achievements to assess your readiness for college-level work.

2

STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES

Most colleges require SAT, ACT or CLT scores as part of the admission process to evaluate your academic abilities.

3

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Colleges seek well-rounded students who demonstrate leadership, community involvement, and passions outside the classroom.

4

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Strong letters from teachers, counselors, or mentors can provide valuable insights into your character and potential (if required)

How Do I Apply?



Partnership Details

Common App is a program that simplifies the college application process. It saves time and effort by consolidating the tasks and documents into one workflow. Over 1000 American post-secondary institutions use Common App.

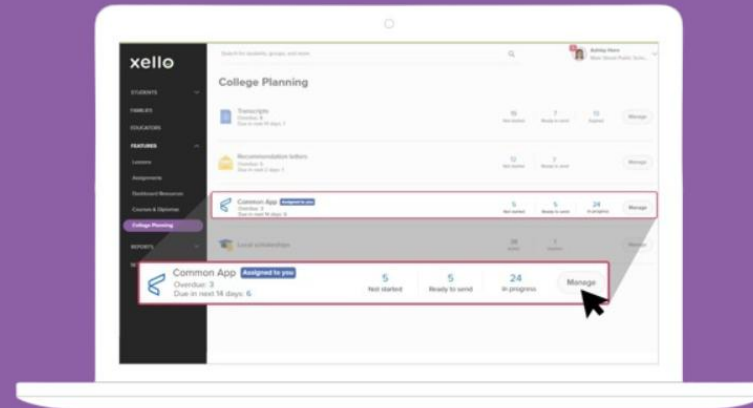
All done through your Common Application:

- Transcripts
- Letters of Recommendation (if needed)

PARTNERSHIPS

Xello & Common App

Xello and Common App have teamed up to make the college application process easier. For students and educators it means being able to request, gather, and send all application materials from one place — within Xello.



CHECK TO SEE IF YOU NEED TO COMPLETE THE STARS

▼ Participating Colleges and Universities

View a list of [participating colleges and universities](#) or reference your **My Colleges and Universities** dashboard on the STARS **Home** page.

<https://ssar.selfreportedtranscript.com>



SELF-REPORTED TRANSCRIPT AND ACADEMIC RECORD SYSTEM (STARS)

Welcome to STARS!

Formerly known as SRAR/SSAR

SRAR/SSAR is now STARS. You can still log in with the same email address and password.

STARS allows students to self-report courses and grades to participating colleges and universities.

Accuracy is important, so please refer to an unofficial transcript or grade report (e.g., your online report card) while completing your STARS Record.

► **Participating Colleges and Universities**

TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS



- Your counselor will send your transcript to your preferred college/university electronically (Xello).
- **PLEASE NOTE!** Most in-state, public colleges/universities) will additionally have students **complete the STARS.**
- **Information and forms for requesting a hard copy of your transcript are on our website.** Requests are electronically sent to our data clerks. You will be able to pick them up in the Counseling Office a few days after you submit the request.
- Please submit transcript requests at least 2 weeks prior to when it is needed.
- **Final transcripts** will be sent to colleges/universities once the district has cleared seniors (usually mid to late June).

THINGS TO REMEMBER...

- Double check deadlines
 - Don't wait for the last minute (early applications=scholarships)
 - Check testing requirements/deadlines
- Ask for recommendations early...but only if you *really* need them
 - Counselor recommendation
 - Teacher recommendations
- Check essay prompts
 - Let the *real* you shine through
 - SAVE THE DATE:
Virtual College Essay Workshop,
Tue., Sep. 30th @6pm





FAFSA INFORMATION

- ✓ The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA) opens on **Oct. 1st**
- ✓ Apply whether there is a need or not. It matches students with other scholarship opportunities
- ✓ **FINANCIAL AID NIGHT AT PAXON :
THURSDAY, JAN. 15, 2025 AT 6:00 PM**



REQUESTING A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

- ☐ **COMPLETE THE PAXON LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION INFORMATION FORM ON THE PAXON SCHOOL COUNSELING WEBSITE/TEAM.**
 - **PLEASE BE THOROUGH AND DESCRIPTIVE IN YOUR RESPONSES!**

- ☐ **ASK YOUR COUNSELOR AT LEAST 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO WHEN YOU NEED YOUR COMPLETED LETTER.**
 - **IF 2 WEEKS NOTICE IS NOT GIVEN, YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO RECEIVE A COMPLETED LETTER.**

QUESTIONS?

EMAIL YOUR COUNSELOR:

✉ MERTONE2@DUVALSCHOOLS.ORG

✉ MULLENM@DUVALSCHOOLS.ORG



DON'T FORGET TO SIGN-IN!