

# Watch Us Live It!

A Monthly Update from the Hernando School District

April 2021

## Changes to State Assessment Requirements for 2021

In early April, the Florida Department of Education notified school districts that existing requirements for state assessments as a condition for graduation would be adjusted this Spring for certain grade levels. Hernando School District has created informational flyers to help break down the changes for parents. Those flyers are posted on our [Assessment & Accountability](#) webpage.

## Face Coverings for Summer

At the April 27th "informal" meeting of the school board, the superintendent and board members discussed the district's current face-covering policy, approved last July. The requirement for all staff, students and visitors to wear face coverings while on school property is due to expire June 30th in the middle of a busy summer of learning camps and activities. The board agreed to **keep the existing policy in place through June 30th** and to revisit the topic in June.

## School Quality Survey Closes

The 2021 Parent Survey on School Quality closed April 25th with **3,492** responses. Our team is currently reviewing the data to understand how parents view areas of strength and areas in need of improvement for their child's school. We will be creating a dashboard of survey outcomes on the district's webpage soon. Feedback from our parents is a vital part of our annual review. We assure those who completed the survey that school principals will review their survey data as part of their effort to improve the learning experience for all students on their campus.

## College and Career - A Banner Month!

### West Hernando Middle

All 29 students in Megan Woods' *Commercial Arts* class passed their industry certification exam on the first try!

### Hernando High

Students in J.B. Dill's *Future Teacher Academy* finished in the top 5 at the Florida Future Teachers of America State Competition

### Nature Coast Technical

A program first - Students in the Automotive program passed 10 ASE certification exams in a single year and they are not done yet!

Message from the Superintendent, John Stratton

### With Appreciation and Gratitude

This next week is *Teacher Appreciation Week*, though most of our schools include all staff in their celebrations. And, I can think of no other year where the need to express our gratitude to our teachers, support staff and administrators is more important than this one. School staff have stepped up and showed us how to be more patient, to get comfortable with new technologies, to respond creatively to problem-solving and to adjust quickly to new procedures in response to the pandemic. If you can find an opportunity this week to send an email to your child's teachers or leave a positive comment on their social media, they would appreciate your kindness. They've been troopers in keeping the focus on learning during a year where no day was the same.

