

Educational Choices and **INNOVATION**



Osceola County
SCHOOL DISTRICT



NEW THIS MONTH

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK: Jan. 21 - 27, 2024

CHOICE WINDOW DEADLINE: January 26, 2024

Welcome Back From Winter Break

Important Dates

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK - Raising Awareness

Since 2011, The National School Choice Awareness Foundation has been helping families learn about School Choice and discover the options available for their children at traditional public, public charter, public magnet, private, and online schools, as well as home education. This year, National School Choice Week will take place January 21-27, 2024.

We want to thank The National School Choice Awareness Foundation for sponsoring the 2023 CHOICE FAIR on November 16, 2023, where more than 5,100 attendees were able to learn about the offerings available at Osceola's traditional public schools.

We understand that selecting which learning environment is best for your child is a personal and important decision that every parent needs to think about for the benefit of their child's education, and we encourage families to ask questions and seek guidance when searching for their child's best fit.

If you don't know where to start, visit <https://schoolchoiceweek.com/Florida> for an overview of choices available to you, and then visit <https://schoolchoiceweek.com/tips/> to learn about the *7 Steps to Finding the Right School for your Child, Questions to Ask During a School Tour, and What You Should be Looking for During a School Tour.*

Remember, it is never too early to talk with your child about their interests and goals. If your child attends a traditional public school in Osceola, use their Xello account to help them explore interests. Have questions about one of Osceola's traditional schools, magnet schools or programs?

Visit <https://myosceolachoice.school> to learn more.



"Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in education. The human mind is our fundamental resource." - John F. Kennedy



The CHOICE is Yours! The deadline to complete an on-time Choice Application for the 2024-2025 school year is fast approaching. We encourage families that would like the opportunity to have their child attend one of our district-managed schools to apply on or before the **window closes on January 26, 2024**. Our magnet schools: Osceola County School for the Performing Arts, NeoCity Academy, Professional and Technical High School, and the International Baccalaureate Programs at Celebration and Gateway High School require additional applications and recommendations as part of the Choice process to be considered for admission. If you have already applied to one of these schools, please note that the school will notify families of their decision.

Unsure of which school is a good fit for your child? **Visit www.myosceolachoice.school** and Explore Your Options, Find Your Match, Choose Your School, and Apply Now. *Your Choice Now, Determines Your Child's Future.*

If you require assistance to complete a Choice application, call us at 407-870-4847 and we will be happy to assist you.

WELCOME BACK FROM WINTER BREAK

We hope you enjoyed a wonderful winter break with your children and had an opportunity to rest, relax, rejuvenate and create fun-filled memories that will bring smiles and laughter for years to come.

As we begin this semester, we are excited for the academic and social growth that awaits your child. Your child may have made academic, friendship, or wellness resolutions for the second semester during their winter break and now the time has come to begin to take small steps towards achieving those resolutions.

As parents, prioritize making time to talk with your child about their goals and how you can support them to reach their goals. Encourage them to strive to do their best daily and remind them that every day is "Day One" as Dr. Mark Shanoff, Osceola's Superintendent, says to all his staff.

If your child attends an Osceola School, take time to check your parent portal and reach out to your child's teachers to ensure that your child is off to a good start and on track with all of their classes. Remember to share any concerns you might have with your child's teachers so that they can communicate any concerns. Your child's education and overall well-being is a partnership. It takes working together to help your child excel and achieve their goals.

Our best wishes for a successful second semester!

"EVERY CHILD, EVERY CHANCE, EVERY DAY"

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

January 3rd - Students return to school

January 15th - Martin L. King, Jr. Day - Holiday - No School

January 26th - ON-TIME CHOICE APPLICATION WINDOW CLOSES

January 21st - January 27th - National School Choice Week

January 22nd - January 26th - Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida 2024!

"Believe in Your Shelf" - Building Resiliency Through Reading