

## GEAR UP

**BELIEF—Building Engaged Learners to  
Increase Expectations for the Future**



# Parent Newsletter

June 2022

Volume 5, Issue 12

## THE “REAL” TRUTH

### Myth:

Ivy League colleges and other private institutions have better lab and library facilities and offer a wider, more exciting selection of courses. You should only consider applying to these top-notch universities to get the best all-round experience.

### The Real Truth:

It's true that private and Ivy League colleges offer impressive facilities, but that doesn't mean lesser-known or state colleges are lacking in high quality resources of their own.

## Summer Career Experience Come Join Us!

FSCJ hosts a Summer Career Experience for our rising Seniors! We will have five full-day (8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.) sessions in June and five in July. Participants will meet at various FSCJ campuses. Students will eat breakfast, travel to the department or off-campus site and learn about the training, schooling and/or career. They may get a tour of a corporation, have firsthand experiences and hear from folks working in that career. Students will be given lunch and returned to FSCJ for parent pick-up.

- 6/8 Electrical Training Alliance/Miller Electric  
**(FSCJ Downtown Campus)**
- 6/9 Law Enforcement/Corrections with JSO  
**(FSCJ North Campus)**
- 6/14 Logistics/Supply Chain Management  
**(FSCJ Downtown Campus)**
- 6/23 Animal Care-Jax Human Society  
**(FSCJ South Campus)**
- 6/28 Sheet Metal/Welding  
**(FSCJ Kent Campus)**

## SCHOOL'S OUT FOR THE SUMMER!

School might be out, but there are still ways for your student to keep learning over the summer. In addition to local offerings through Boys & Girls Clubs, the library or other organizations, several colleges, and universities have summer camps and programs for middle and high school students. Programs focus on a variety of topics including science, art, or sports, and may be day programs or overnights. Scholarships are usually available for those who qualify.

## A Spotlight on Our Community Partnerships



Our Coordinators provide on-going academic support, mentoring and encouragement to students, in person and virtually. Also, they communicate with parents and school officials about students' progress and/or needs, as well as closely monitor students' attendance and behavior at school.



Our Coordinators monitor students' academic and behavioral progress during the school year. As well, they collaborate with teachers and school support staff to ensure students are given the resources they need to be successful. Additionally, this partnership engages our parents through monthly informative, parent-friendly meetings at various school sites, as well as through virtual experiences.



Select Leaders and Facilitators at FSCJ expose our students to an array of learning opportunities during the school year. Participating students learn about the "real college experience" through college visits, virtual learning activities, and other learning experiences.



UNF Counselors provide mentoring and counseling sessions to our students, face-to-face and virtually. They visit students in the classroom setting and provide whole-group educational learning lessons. These positive interactions foster encouragement and support to our students.

## Upcoming Events:

The events below are subject to change. Thank you for your understanding, as we continue to work hard to provide fluid educational experiences to your son/daughter.

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7/7 Animal Care-Jax Humane Society (repeat of 6/23)  
**(FSCJ Downtown Campus)**

7/13 Physical Therapy Assistant/EMT/Paramedic  
**(FSCJ North Campus)**

7/14 Firefighting with Fire Academy of the South  
**(FSCJ South Campus)**

7/26 Financial Technology (FinTech)  
**(FSCJ Downtown Campus)**

August 8-12<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Pre-planning for Back to School, 8:00-3:00 p.m.

August 15<sup>th</sup> First Day of School – Show up, On time for your classes!

August 31<sup>st</sup> Early Dismissal for students



## SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

### Breakthrough Junior Challenge

**Sponsor:** Breakthrough Prize Foundation; **Amount:** Up to \$250,000; **Closing Date:** June 25, 2022; **Description:** Competition is open to students between the ages of 13 and 18 years of age. Applicant must explain a big scientific idea in fundamental physics, life sciences or mathematics with a short video (three minutes maximum). Click on the link: <https://breakthroughjuniorchallenge.org/>

### Poetry Card Contest

**Sponsor:** Blue Mountain Arts; **Amount:** Up to \$350; **Closing Date:** June 30, 2022; **Description:** Contestant must submit an original poem. Click on the link: <https://www.sps.com/contest-3>

*GEAR UP stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs and is a federally funded program that helps prepare middle and high school students for education after high school. Visit [duvalschools.org/gearup](https://www.duvalschools.org/gearup) to learn more and access resources to help your child succeed.*