

School district website gets new look, features

Visitors to Alachua County Public Schools' district and school websites will find brand new sites with a different look and some new features.

The change to the websites is part of the district's overall switch to a new school management system called Skyward that's been implemented over the last year. The new system covers everything from student information to business operations to home-school communications.

One of the primary benefits of the new website system is that it is adaptive for mobile devices, which will mean much better access from phones, tablets and other devices. The new websites will offer targeted navigation depending on the needs of the user and more consistency across sites. They will also offer translation into more languages and will be more accessible for vision-impaired users.

The district site at www.sbac.edu will provide front page links to a wide variety of information aimed at families, students and staff, including information about buses, school meals, and volunteering. There is also a Back to School button that leads to enrollment requirements, school supply lists, meet your teacher/orientation dates and times at each school, and other back to school information.

The Back to School page also links parents to the district's Skyward Family Access system, which allows families to track their students' grades, absences, assignments and other items posted by their child's teachers. Parents who have not yet signed up for Family Access will need to visit their child's school in person with a photo ID to receive a username.

There is also a Family Access app. Parents should search for the 'Skyward' app on either Apple or Android. However parents cannot register for Family Access for the system on the app, but will need to go through their child's school.



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