



# The School District of Osceola County, Florida

## Horizon Middle School

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Phone: 407-943-7240 • Fax: 407-343-8661 • [www.hzms.osceolaschools.net](http://www.hzms.osceolaschools.net)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

### Principal

Michael Ballone

### Assistant Principal

Rolando Casado  
Keith Anakotta

### Superintendent

Dr. Debra P. Pace

### Mission Statement

Horizon Middle School strives to develop self-confident and creative students willing to take risks within a challenging and innovative environment.

### SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

#### Teresa "Terry" Castillo Vice Chair

District 1 – Kissimmee  
407-577-5022

#### Julius Melendez

District 2 – Kissimmee  
321-442-2862

#### Jon Arguello

District 3 – Kissimmee  
407-433-9082

#### Clarence Thacker Chair

District 4 – Kissimmee  
407-870-4009

#### Robert Bass

District 5 – St. Cloud  
407-870-4009

With the successful restart of the second semester well underway, let us continue to support your student's learning. During this time of year, students are provided the opportunity to participate in the Florida's Statewide Assessment program and share with us their achievement. The results from participation in the Florida Statewide Program help determine whether we have equipped our students with the knowledge and skills they need to be ready for careers and college-level course work.

Depending on your student's grade-level and course enrollment, schools will notify you on which specific assessment(s) your student(s) will need to take. The Florida Department of Education requires that all assessments be administered face-to-face and on campus. This ensures consistency and equal opportunity. Parents with students participating in digital and virtual instruction should be reassured, all schools continue to elevate safety as the highest priority and follow CDC guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID.

Please remember:

- Kids appear to be safer at school than almost anywhere.
- Face masks and handwashing make a difference, when social distancing is not practical.
- The vast majority of quarantining of students and employees up to this point has been because of community spread of COVID outside of school and not on our campuses.

For information on Osceola School's safety protocols, please reference the "RESTART!" webpage link at <http://osceolaschools.net>

The Florida Statewide Assessments are vital when making future academic decisions for your student(s). These assessments guide educational experts in the decision-making process on the level of coursework and/or remediation your student(s) need for the upcoming 2021-22 school year. Depending on grade-level and course enrollment, these assessments are required for students to progress through their academic career. Below are the required assessments for this school year.

- ACCESS for ELLs (English Language Learners Grades KG-12)
- English Language Arts (Writing & Reading, Grades 3-10)
- Math (Grades 3-8)
- Science (Grades 5 & 8)
- End of Course Exams (Civics, U.S. History, Biology, Algebra 1 and Geometry)

If you have any questions related to these assessments, you may contact Sherlene Woodall at [sherlene.woodall@osceolaschool.net](mailto:sherlene.woodall@osceolaschool.net) for more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program and ACCESS for ELLs, please visit the Florida Department of Education Assessments website at <https://fldoe.org/accountability/assessments>.

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging their participation in these upcoming spring Florida Statewide Assessments.

Sincerely,

Michael Ballone



**Student Achievement – Our Number One Priority**

Districtwide Accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

School District Main Office: 817 Bill Beck Boulevard • Kissimmee • Florida • 34744-4492 • Phone: 407-870-4600 • [www.osceola.k12.fl.us](http://www.osceola.k12.fl.us)

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