

FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT 3

A PREMIER DISTRICT OF CHOICE



*Ensuring Our Students Are College and/or Career Ready and
Are Productive and Responsible Members of Society*



FSD3 Alternative Education Programs Update

Innovate, Virtual and Panther Academy

Panther CHOICE

School of Innovation

Mission

The **Mission** of the CHOICE School of Innovation is to accelerate and ensure the educational success of over-age and under credited scholars.



Goals

- Decrease the number of students dropping out of high school
 - Chronic Absenteeism
- Empower scholars to graduate on time
- Ensure College and/or Career Readiness
- Provide opportunities for internships that leads to employment
- Reinforce the social and emotional well-being of enrolled scholars
- Obtain certification in various career cluster areas

Strategies

- Allow scholars to work at their own pace in state-approved Edgenuity courses
- Provide content-specific tutors for every scholar in the program as needed
- Align scholars' career goals with CTE courses where applicable
- Build partnerships with local businesses to provide work based learning opportunities for scholars
- Secure a personal advocate for each scholar enrolled in the program
- Provide social emotional support services for each enrolled scholar
 - Each student will receive counseling services through partnerships with Stepping Stones, Hope Health and/or Pee Dee Mental Health

Highlights

- Continued Support
 - Administration, Counseling Services, Transition Support Specialist
- Tutoring
 - Certified Teachers - One on One or Small Group
- Student Incentives for Progress Made
 - Semester and Monthly
 - Grades, Attendance, Strivers, Class Completion (Bell Ringing Ceremony)
- Transition to Two (2nd Semester)
 - Enroll in 2 face to face high school courses
- Continue Career Exploration and Field Trips



Innovate Data Updates

Current Enrollment

- Middle School Students Onsite – **7**
- High School Students – **25**

Recent Graduates 2025

- Students – 13 Graduates earned their High School Diploma

Panther PRIDE and RESET Academies

Panther PRIDE and RESET Academies are designed to provide students an opportunity to rebound from previous negative incidents. The academy will focus on social emotional learning, community service involvement, field trip experiences, mentoring programs, soft skills development, and self-resilience, in addition to academics.

- **PRIDE** (Grades K-6)
 - Current Enrollment
 - K-3 – 0 Students
 - 4-6 – 11 Students
 - Counseling Service – All students receive counseling service through one of our current partners
 - (Stepping Stones or Pee Dee Mental Health)
 - Transition Support Follow-up
 - Weekly



Panther PRIDE and RESET Academies

Reaching Educational Successes by Engaging Transformations

RESET (Grades 7 -12)

Current Enrollment

- Grades 7-8 – (4 Students)
- Grades 9-12 (6 Students)

Transition Support Follow-up

- Weekly

Virtual Program

Current Enrollment

- Assigned During Administrative Hearings
 - Grades 7-8 (11 Students)
 - Grades 9-12 (12 Students)
- Approved through Applications (15 Students)

Measurable Goals

Goal 1

- ✓ To improve student academic achievement.

Goal 1: Measurable Objectives

- Improvement in academic achievement will be measured by use of report cards, interim reports. MAPs results and Carnegie Units earned.
- Students in grades K - 6th will show improvement in reading and math skills as measured by MAP's assessments, DRA's, and district level benchmarks.
- Students in grades 7th - 8th will show improvement in reading and math skills as measured by MAPs assessments. Results will be compared to prior scores in order to show gains and/or to determine critical areas of further instruction needed.
- Successful academic achievement for students in grades 9 — 12 will be measured by their earning Carnegie units. Students should complete a minimum of 6 units for the SY

Measurable Goals cont...

Goal 2

- ✓ To be able to identify and reduce barriers that inhibit their educational and social/behavioral development as measured by receiving less discipline referrals.
- ✓ To reduce the incidences of disciplinary referrals and improve student behavior as compared with their conduct at their home school.

Goal 2 Measurable Objective

- Students' performance will be measured as a reduction in disciplinary infractions and completing hearing requirements that will allow their return to regular placement in their home schools. Seventy-five percent (75%) of students placed by administrative hearings will return to regular placement.

Goal 3

- ✓ To improve attendance for students assigned for truancy.

Goal 3 Measurable Objective

- Students assigned to the alternative academy for truancy will improve their attendance by at least 75% during enrollment



Proposal

There is a need to relocate the middle and high school level program to one campus to improve efficiency and cohesiveness. The proposed change would allow both middle and high school students as well as the virtual program to be housed in one central location.

Currently

Middle School Panther Academy and the Virtual Office is housed at the Tutoring Center adjacent to J. Paul Truluck Magnet School

Proposal

Middle School Panther Academy and the Virtual Office will relocate to the campus of Lake City High School. They would be housed in the mobile classrooms closest to the gymnasium. Both Innovate and High School Panther Academy are currently housed in mobile classrooms closest to the gymnasium. All programs will be housed in the same area.

Benefits

- One campus of cohesive procedures, protocols and expectations being implemented.
 - PBIS, Guest Speakers, Community Service, Restore Community Partnerships, Reinvigorate Parenting Events
- Alternative/Virtual Administrator will be housed at one location with all students
 - Able to provide more support for staff members
 - Staff will be able to assist and support each other as needed
- Hold weekly meetings with the entire student body of alternative placement to address academics, attendance and grades
 - Communicating Outcomes Favorable For Educational Excellence (COFFEE Meetings)
- Registration/Orientation will be held at one location
- High School Students Maintaining Course Credits
 - Partnership with LCHS and CTE (JROTC, Masonry, Auto Tech, Building Construction, Health Science, & Culinary Arts)
- One SRO to Support Students
 - Educate Students
- All 3 programs will work together to strengthen students overall well-being



Logistics

Location Moves

Administrator– Move 12

Teacher– Mobile 13

Office Staff – Mobile 20

Teacher – Mobile 14

Middle School Students – Mobile 10

High School Students – Mobile 6

Transition Support Specialist– Mobile 9

Teacher– Mobile 11

	Mobile 9 – Transition Support Office
	Mobile 10 – Middle School Students Classroom
Mobile 6 - High School Students Classroom	Mobile 11 – Innovate Classroom
JROTC Storage	Mobile 12 – Administrator Office

Logistics cont...

Morning Arrival

- Innovate, Middle and High School alternative students
 - All Bus and Car-Rider students will enter the back 200 hallway beginning at 7:15am
- Alternative Students will be escorted (Staff) to Mobile 23 after being searched which is in close proximity to the Carrider and Bus rider drop off area
- Innovate students will report directly to M11 after being searched

Restroom – Students will alternate times to have access to restrooms. Students will be escorted by staff.

- High School
 - 8:15am(GYM Lobby)
 - 12:00pm(GYM Lobby)
 - 2:30pm (Hallway Restroom) Commons Area
 - Emergency – Will be escorted by staff
- Middle School and Innovate
 - 8:30am(GYM Lobby)
 - 11:45am(GYM Lobby)
 - 2:15pm (Hallway Restroom) Commons Area
 - Emergency – Will be escorted by staff

Logistics cont...

Breakfast (8:00 - 8:15) – Staff will pick-up breakfast for all programs. Staff will be back-ups in the event that Lenora is absent or running late.

Lunch (10:50am-11:15am) – Alternative Middle, High School and Innovate will attend lunch at the same time. They will be escorted by staff members. Students will be separated by grade bands while in the cafeteria. (middle, high and Innovate).

Student Sign-Out

- Parents will pick up students from the main office at Lake City High School. Students will be escorted to the main office by a staff member at the alternative program.





Enrollment Update 2025

Schools	Enrollment
LCECC	374
MSE	256
JCLES	378
SES	387
OMS	164
REMJB	240
JPT	336
LCHS	498
District Total	2633

2024-2025 135th day report = 2747

Request to Move Board Meeting

- JPTMS Graduation is May 21 @ 6:00PM
- FDTC Graduation is May 14.
- Requesting to move May Board Meeting from May 21 to May 28.



Funding Model – State Aid to Classrooms

- Enacted in the FY 2022-23 budget and is outlined in Proviso 1.3 of the Appropriations Act.
 - Funded based on teacher ratio and not based on student cost
 - Currently 11.2 students to 1 teacher
 - Based on the minimum salary scale for a teacher with Masters plus 12 years experience
 - **\$77,879** salary & fringe

Legislative Preview

- **K12 state funding revisions to State Aid to Classrooms (SAC)**

- Recommendations made by the Office of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (RFA) for the new year in mid October

- <https://scsba.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/251104-leg-pre-webinar-handout.pdf>

Weightings Recommendations

1. Reduce the number of weighting categories for easier reporting.
 - Base K-12 (Currently 1.0, purposed 1.1)
 - Students with Disabilities (2.6)
 - Poverty (+0.5)
2. Fund equipment of Career & Technology (CTE) on a separate budget line item and distribute the current 0.2 weighting for a CTE student to districts based on the average Daily Membership (ADM) of CTE students.

Legislative Preview Conti.

3. Consolidate funding by increasing the K-12 Base Weight

- Limited English Proficiency weighting (+0.2)
- Gifted & Talented weighting (+0.15)
- Academic Assistance weighting (+0.15)

4. Allocate funding for the charter school brick and mortar weighting and virtual charter school weighting separately from the total SAC appropriation.

- No longer pits traditional & charter districts against each other for SAC funding tied to teacher salary increases.

Legislative Updated Conti.

5. Continue to fund the 25% local match for charter schools through the SAC formula but note that as charter enrollment grows, so does the state's funding responsibilities for the 25% local match.

- Not a change

Improve Funding Alignment and Consistency

1. Distribute all funding through the SAC formula
 - to improve the equity by taking into consideration the local property tax wealth of a district in allocating resources
 - Changing the student-teacher ratio component from 11.2 to 10.95
 - Makes allocations more stable year-over-year
2. Distribute state health insurance funding to districts through the SAC formula.
 - The current formula does not capture health insurance funding in the cost of a teacher.
 - Moving health insurance to the formula as a component of fringe benefits would apply the Index of Taxpaying Ability (ITA) to this allocation.
3. Allocate SAC funding based on prior year's student counts to improve consistency and predictability for districts to budget
 - SCDE would have some flexibility to consider adjustments for new schools and/or fast-growing districts.

Improve Funding Alignment and Consistency

4. Update the Hold Harmless Year from 2021-22 to FY 25 or FY26

- Hold harmless is a policy that guarantees a minimum level of funding to school districts, protecting them from funding decreases that would result from declining enrollment or other changes

5. Request the SCDE to review district's processes and/or identify standards to help ensure consistency in assignment and reporting of weights by each district.

Other Legislation to be Considered

- State health plan option for school board members
- **House bill 3645** -Paid parental leave expansion
 - Expanding from 6 weeks to 12 weeks
- School immunization
- **House bill 3974** – Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) providers can deliver medically necessary services to students with autism during school hours
- **House bill 3802** – Expands and standardizes the rights of home school, charter school and Governor's school students to participate in interscholastic (sports), co-curricular, extracurricular and CTE.
- **Senate bill 416** – Modifies the automatic, one year expulsion of students who bring a firearm to schools to include “knowingly.”
- **House bill 3258** – All schools to implement certain mobile panic alert systems before July 1, 2026
- **House bill 3831** – All schools must develop a cardiac emergency response plan

Employee Bonus SY 24-25

Requested information concerning bonuses

- **Christmas Bonus – December 2024**
 - Total for December 2024 Bonus = \$786,213.52
(includes Purchased Services)
- **Retention Bonus – May 2025**
 - Total amount for returning employees =
\$411,581.37
- **Total for bonuses = \$1,197,794.89**



FSD3 Facilities Update

Board of Trustees Meeting
November 20, 2025

Lake City Early Childhood

- Installation of new mechanical equipment is continuing.
- Schneider's controls team is on site pulling cable for building automation systems.
- Phase 1B is expected to be completed December-January

Fire Alarm Upgrades

- Purchase orders have been entered for fire alarm upgrades at LCHS, JPTMS, DREM and LCECC. These should be completed by June 30. The remaining fire alarms will be installed after July 1, 2026.

Funds Awarded

- FSD3 has been awarded \$500,000 in School Safety Priority Funds from the SC Department of Education. We have not received official notification from SDE, but a list of approved allocations was linked to the State Board of Education's November 4 meeting agenda. These funds will be applied to the cost of fire alarm upgrades throughout the district.

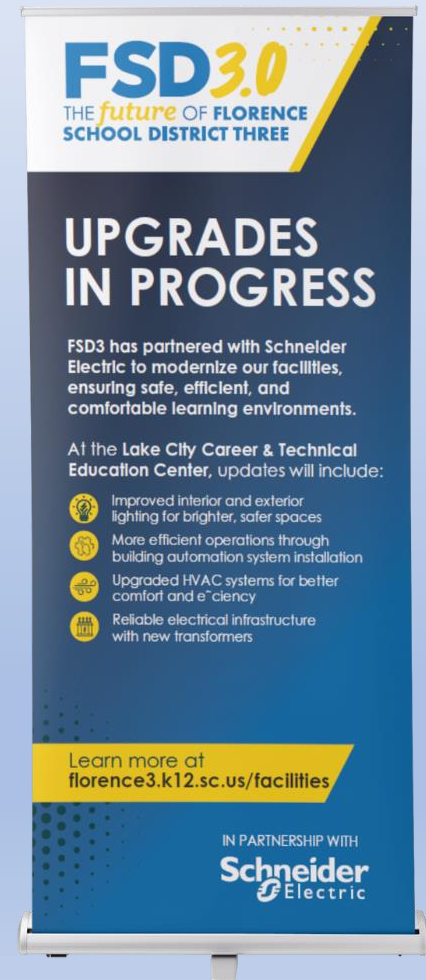
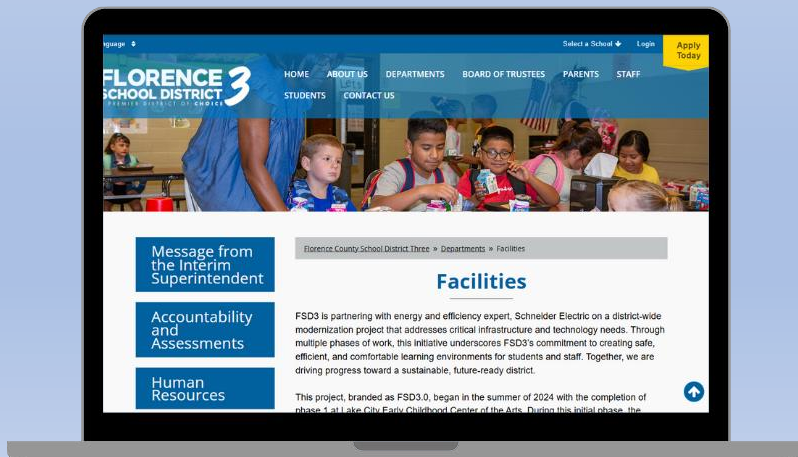
Playground Equipment

- Purchase orders have been entered for playground equipment at J.C. Lynch, Olanta and Scranton. Purchase orders have been entered for playground equipment at J.C. Lynch, Olanta and Scranton. Installation at Scranton began today and should be completed by the time students return from the Thanksgiving break.

FSD3 Facilities Modernization Project

Phase 2

- Construction kickoff on November 13 with Schneider Electric team
- Schneider Electric is mobilizing; subcontracts were issued for mechanical, electrical, lighting and roofing.
- Monthly project updates via webpage, social media, signage and emails.



Invitations for Bids

- Two bids were received in response to the district's Invitation for Bids for the Stadium Scoreboard and JC Lynch Marquee. The contract was awarded to Signs Ltd. of Lake City. The combined cost for the stadium scoreboard (\$258,974) and the JC Lynch marquee (\$25,054) totals \$284,028 - nearly \$1,000 less than the original estimate for the scoreboard alone (\$285,000). Because of the cost savings, both projects will move forward and be purchased at the same time.
- Four bids were received in response to the Invitations for Bids for HVAC service and repairs. The bid was awarded to Cayce Mechanical Contractors of Florence.



Projects Tracking

Project	PO #	Safety Grant Funds (970)	Capital Improvement Funds (972)	General Funds (100)	Special Obligation Bond Funds (555)	GO/8% Bond Funds (523)	Project Total
		<i>Grant period ends 6/30/25</i>	<i>Grant period ends 6/30/25</i>		<i>SOB funds end 3/2028</i>		
Budget		\$332,346.62	\$545,266.08	\$3,000,000.00	\$13,343,157.87	\$495,808.60	
Fire Alarms (In District project)	51663 (LCHS, JPT, REM, LCECC)				\$2,307,314.95		\$2,307,314.95
Playground Equipment (In District project)	51213				\$200,936.83		\$200,986.83
Stadium Renovations							
3rd Party Inspections				\$4,470.00			\$4,470.00
Asbestos Assessment - Fieldhouse				\$2,500.00			\$2,500.00
FW Architect Fees							\$0.00
Modular Concessions/Restrooms	51474				\$354,498.00		\$354,498.00
Fieldhouse/Ticket Booths							\$0.00
Scoreboard (Bid out by District)					\$258,974.00		\$258,974.00
Contractor (SOB)							\$0.00
Contractor (General)							\$0.00
Schneider Phase 2	51664						\$9,762,653.00
Lighting, HVAC, BAS	51664				\$9,148,758.00		\$9,148,758.00
Windows, Window Film	51664	\$299,948.00					\$299,948.00
MSE Gym Roof	51664		\$313,947.00				\$313,947.00
MSE Gym Painting (In District project)			\$28,166.00				\$28,166.00
LCH Gym Roof/Wall Repair (In District project)	51509		\$49,766.00				\$49,766.00
JC Lynch Marquee (In District project)					\$25,054.00		
Total		\$299,948.00	\$391,879.00	\$6,970.00	\$12,295,535.78	\$0.00	

ANY
QUESTIONS

