R.J. MURRAY MIDDLE SCHOOL

2026-27 School Improvement Plan | School Board Summary

St. Johns County School District | 811 Students | Title I: Yes



DR. ESTHER SEWARD
PRINCIPAL

RYAN VELSOR
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

MARQUEZ JACKSON
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

AT-A-GLANCE

Current School Grade	A
5-Year Grade Trend	A – A – B – B – C
ELA Achievement (Schoolwide)	68%
Math Achievement (Schoolwide)	80%
ELA Learning Gains (Schoolwide)	62%
Math Learning Gains (Schoolwide)	56%

SIP AREAS OF FOCUS

SCIENCE INSTRUCTION & SUBGROUP GROWTH (SWD & BLACK STUDENTS)

Measurable Outcome: Increase overall Science achievement from 66% to 68% while narrowing achievement gaps for SWD and African American students.

Action Steps:

- Use FAST data to identify SWD and African American students needing science support.
- Maximize ESE support and co-teaching in 8th-grade science.
- Analyze CSA data quarterly to guide targeted reteaching.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATHEMATICS ACCELERATION

Measurable Outcome: Increase middle school acceleration participation and completion from 80% to 90% or higher.

Action Steps:

- Identify all students scoring Level 3 or higher on FAST PM3 Reading and Math and automatically place them into advanced/accelerated math coursework.
- PLC teams and district CAST support track student performance on common assessments to deliver targeted tutoring prior to End-of-Course (EOC) exams.

SWD SUBGROUP ELA PROFICIENCY & GROWTH

Measurable Outcome: Increase SWD ELA proficiency from 30% to at least 35% while narrowing the 33-point achievement gap.

Action Steps:

- Maximize ESE support facilitation and co-teaching in ELA.
- Use FAST data to provide targeted small-group literacy interventions.
- Provide ongoing professional development on effective SWD instructional strategies.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE & POSITIVE CULTURE (PBIS)

Measurable Outcome: Reduce chronic absenteeism across Grades 6–8 and decrease out-of-school suspensions.

Action Steps:

- Reinforce positive behavior through the schoolwide Bark Bucks PBIS system.
- Review attendance and discipline data bi-weekly to identify students needing support.
- Provide mentoring and family outreach for chronically absent students.

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CELEBRATIONS & SUCCESSES

Highlight key achievements, recognitions, programs, and milestones.

- Florida PBIS Model School Bronze 2022-2025
- Character Counts Exemplary School 2022-2026
- Consistent Winner of the Art in the Capital Award
- Consistent Winner of the Len Mattice Stop the Bullying Award
- Beginning and Advanced Choirs earned Straight Superior ratings at The Florida Vocal Association
- All-County Show Art winners in Mixed Media, Painting, and Digital Art.
- STEM Fair Winners in Junior Physics, Junior Chemistry/Biomedical/Microbiology Categories
- Jazz Band Music Performance Assessment Straight Superior ratings.
- Basketball Champions for Middle School
- Winner of the FPL Classroom Makeover Grant for STEM
- 2026 Florida Power-Library School Winner

WHAT MAKES OUR SCHOOL UNIQUE

Describe the unique attributes, culture, programs, and opportunities that set our school apart.

- Historical connection to the West Augustine Community leading back to the Civil Rights Movement.
- St. Johns County Center for the Arts for Middle School. We offer band, chorus, guitar, theater, dance, keyboard, visual and digital arts.
- The only middle school with a step team.
- eSports Club
- State of the Art STEM and Lego Robotics Lab

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