

Survival Guide

Samuel Wolfson School for
Advanced Studies

2022-2023



7000 Powers Ave
Jacksonville, FL. 32217

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SAMUEL W. WOLFSON HIGH SCHOOL

GENERAL INFORMATION

Administration

Principal	Christopher Begley begleyc@duvalschools.org
Assistant Principal of Curriculum	Janetta Jones lucasj@duvalschools.org
Assistant Principal	Khalifa Dieye dieyek@duvalschools.org

Support Staff

Dean	Dr. Moore Moores3@duvalschools.org
Testing Coordinator	Coach Talley tinsleyc@duvalschools.org
Athletic Director	Coach Talley tinsleyc@duvalschools.org
Student Activities Director	Mr. Fiore fiorea@duvalschools.org
AP and IB Coordinator	Ms. Benga farwellb@duvalschools.org
Band	Ms. Ledford ledfordc@duvalschools.org
Chorus	Mr. Adjevi Adjevi-Neglokpea@duvalschools.org
Theater	Ms. Holley holleyk@duvalschools.org
Front Office	Ms. Jones Jonesv3@duvalschools.org
Bookkeeper	Mr. Martin martinj@duvalschools.org
Exception Student Education	Ms. Devoe devoes@duvalschools.org
Principal's Secretary	Ms. Fuller fullert@duvalschools.org
Records	Ms. Starn starnd@duvalschools.org
JROTC	Lt. Col Washington washingtont@duvalschools.org
Yearbook	Ms. Fessenden fessendenj@duvalschools.org
School Counselor	Ms. Jolly jollyj@duvalschools.org
College Counselor	Ms. Davis Davisj19@duvalschools.org
Attendance/Early check out	Ms. Jones wolfsonattendance@duvalschools.org

School Information

School Colors	Royal Blue and Scarlett
Mascot	Wolfpack
School Hours	8:10-2:55
Telephone Number	739-5265
Fax Number	739-5272
Address	7000 Powers Ave. 32217

6 Digit Number for PSAT, SAT, ACT, AP	100799
School Website	http://duvalschools.org/wolfson
Facebook	@WolfsonHighSchool
Instagram	@WolfsonHighSchool
Twitter	@Wolfson

Welcome!

The Wolfson High School Freshman Survival Guide is designed to help students become acquainted with the organization of the school. The teachers and staff are here to help you obtain the best education; however, it is up to you to work diligently and do your best. The Principal, Assistant Principals, School Counselors, and your teachers are here to assist you if you or your parents have any concerns.

The Wolfson Way

Pursuit of excellence through valor, integrity and perseverance

The Honor Code

I will be respectful, truthful, and civil.

I will not plagiarize, nor receive unauthorized aid on any assignment.

I will report any violation of this honor code.

PACK Principles

These values reflect the foundations of our guiding principles.

P-Present and balanced, persevering over obstacles

A-Ambitious and open-minded, life-long learners

C-Critical thinkers who pursue knowledge above all

K-Kind and courageous community leaders who are always ready to *Back the Pack*

Mission Statement

Samuel Wolfson for Advanced Studies fosters academic excellence through comprehensive curricula and rigorous studies.

Beliefs

- ❖ All students can learn and student learning is the main priority of the school.
- ❖ Students' learning needs are the primary focus of all decisions affecting the work of the school.
- ❖ Students learn in different ways and should be provided with a variety of opportunities for meaningful applications of what they have learned.
- ❖ Students demonstrate their understanding of essential knowledge and skills by being actively involved in solving problems and producing quality work through critical, creative, and independent thinking.
- ❖ Well-rounded students are presented with opportunities for physical and creative as well as intellectual challenges.
- ❖ Students are fostered to become citizens who are globally aware, civically engaged, and fluent in information, media, and technology skills.
- ❖ Assessments of student learning provide students with a variety of opportunities to demonstrate their achievement.
- ❖ Students, teachers, administrators, parents, and the community share the responsibility for advancing the school's mission.
- ❖ Cultural diversity increases students' understanding and awareness of different people and cultures.
- ❖ A student's self-esteem is enhanced by positive relationships and mutual respect among and between students and staff.
- ❖ A safe environment promotes student learning.
- ❖ Students demonstrate high standards of personal and academic integrity.

Goal Statements

- ❖ Student's gather and use information effectively to gain new information and knowledge, classify and organize information, support inferences, and justify conclusions.
- ❖ Students utilize, evaluate, and refine the use of multiple strategies to solve a variety of types of problems.

- ❖ Students generate new and creative ideas by taking considered risks in a variety of contexts.
- ❖ Students connect knowledge and experience from different subject areas.
- ❖ Students use what they already know to acquire new knowledge, develop new skills, and expand understanding.
- ❖ Students demonstrate integrated knowledge and skills in applying multidisciplinary approaches to solving problems or completing tasks.
- ❖ Students communicate with clarity, purpose, and understanding of audience.
- ❖ Students integrate the use of a variety of communication forms (e.g., oral, written, artistic, graphic), and use a wide range of communication skills.
- ❖ Students recognize, analyze, and evaluate various forms of communication.

STUDENT STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

I understand that Wolfson is a school for the college-bound and that the expectations of the staff and students are for the highest performance in both academics and behavior. I am committed to the attainment of these high standards, as elaborated in the Duval County Code of Student Conduct and the Wolfson Student Handbook.

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ACADEMIC MAGNET SCHOOLS

Duval County School Board approved performance standards for academic magnet schools. The standards apply to student articulation from grades 9 to 10 and 10 to 11, and are as follows: maintain an overall unweighted 2.0 GPA and pass ALL courses.

The standards shall be used to identify students who are making adequate academic progress for continued enrollment, but shall not supersede the lottery process for initial admission to the schools. (Participation in an academic improvement plan, to include a period of probation for no less than 90 days, shall be required for students at risk of not meeting the performance standards.) The academic improvement plan shall include, but not be limited to the following: peer tutoring, after-school help sessions, weekly progress reports, and other strategies designed to assist the student. An academic review committee (ARC) will be established at each school at the beginning of each school year. This committee will review the progress of all students at the end of each grading period. A conference will be held with each student at risk of not meeting the standards AND his/her parent in order to develop the academic improvement plan. Notification of the conference shall be the responsibility of the principal's designee. Upon the recommendation of the ARC, a student who achieves a grade point average above 2.0 for each of the last two grading periods, but whose overall grade point average for the year is below 2.0, may have the probationary period extended for up to one year.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Personal pride and integrity are essential to Wolfson's dedication to academic excellence and are fundamental elements of the Student Statement of Commitment. Cheating, to include plagiarism, will NOT be tolerated. A Wolfson student does not give, receive, or use unauthorized assistance on any assignment, nor does he/she tolerate such action by others. Any student with reason to believe that such a violation has occurred or will occur is obligated to report it to a teacher or an administrator.

What constitutes cheating? Cheating is defined as:

- a student receives or provides advance information such as questions on a test or other prohibited material;
- a student copies another student's work or answers
- a student is in possession of test questions or the tests themselves
- student uses material from a source not credited (footnoted). This is plagiarism and it includes using websites and not crediting the source.

What are the consequences?

- no credit (0) on the assignment
- an Integrity Referral written by the teacher, filed in the school counseling office with a copy home and phone or personal conference with parents.

WOLFSON STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

In addition to the Duval County Student Code of Conduct, expectations for you as a Wolfson student include:

- You are expected to study and be prepared for classes.
- Cheating will NOT be tolerated. An academic integrity referral will be written and placed in the Guidance Department Chair/Honor Review Committee Chair's office.
- You may not purchase and consume soft drinks in the gym area at all times.
- Food may be eaten on campus only in the cafeteria and courtyard areas during lunch periods.
- Fighting is prohibited.
- Students should be in assigned locations and on time for each period of the school day unless properly signed out. Students may not leave the campus without permission.
- Wolfson's equipment, including computers available for use by students, must be used in a manner consistent with laws pertaining to copyright protection. Unauthorized copying in violation of such laws, as well as tampering with computers in any way, will be a matter for disciplinary action.
- State law prohibits games played for money. No gambling is permitted on school premises.
- Freedom of expression is a basic right of all. As such, it is to be respected within the school community. Expressions that are obscene, offensive, degrading, or insulting will not be allowed. This shall include the use of expressions or statements, which are offensive to the sensibilities of any racial, religious or ethnic group. Students who fail to exercise care over their choice of language or who downgrade the dignity of others through their use of language will be disciplined.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

What happens if I am late for a class?

- You must receive a tardy from the front office. Your teacher will not allow you into class without one.

How many tardies can I receive before a consequence will be assigned?

- The first four tardies each quarter are free. Starting with the fifth tardy detention will be assigned. The consequence increases with the number of tardies. The tardies are reset every 9 weeks.

Do I have to wear my identification badge?

- You must have your ID badge with you at all times. You might be asked for it.

What happens if I do not have my ID badge?

- A temporary ID will be provided for the day from the Media Center.

What do I do if I lose my ID badge?

- A replacement ID can be purchased in the Media Center for a cost of \$1.00.

What do I do if I have to leave school early for an appointment?

- You must provide the Main Office with a note from a parent/guardian with a phone number BEFORE the school day starts, so the note can be verified. Notes can also be emailed to wolfsonattendance@duvalschools.org. You will be called out of class when it is time for you to leave.

What do I do if I am absent?

- Upon returning to school you must report to the Main Office with a note from a parent/guardian or a doctor's note explaining your absence. Notes can also be emailed to wolfsonattendance@duvalschools.org

What constitutes an excused absence?

- Injury, illness, serious illness or death in the family, religious holiday, doctors appointment, death, court appearance, or field trip.

What constitutes an unexcused absence?

- Discipline, skipping, missed bus, car trouble, overslept, and no note from a parent/guardian stating an excused reason.

What is the school policy regarding after school supervision?

- Students must be picked up by 2:55 p.m. Students can stay after school only if they are participating in an organized activity. After the activity ALL students must have an arranged ride home or must wait for a parent or the activity bus in our Cafeteria. Students are NOT allowed to roam around the building unsupervised after school. Activity buses leave at 5:30 p.m. Mon - Thurs. There are no activity buses on Friday.

What is the procedure for riding the school busses?

- Upon leaving school to the bus loading area, be sure to look at the bus board for your bus location. Busses are listed as they arrive and are in both lanes at the side of the school. Remember, this is a courtesy of Wolfson High School and does not release students from their responsibility to locate their busses.

What is the procedure if I become ill at school?

- Report to the Main Office to call a parent to check you out of school.

What do I do if I lose something at school?

- Check the Main Office for lost and found items. Lost textbooks are usually turned in to the textbook room, so check with a clerk in the main office.

What is the dress code at Wolfson?

- The wearing of overly tight, very loose, extreme, or inappropriate apparel is not permitted.
- The length of slacks, shorts, and skirts shall be at least mid-thigh.
- Dress appropriately for school. Shirts or blouses must be worn at all times. No undershirts, tank tops, mesh, or net shirts may be worn alone. The waistband of shorts, slacks, skirts, and similar garments shall not be worn below the hips. If belts, suspenders, and straps are worn, they shall be worn in place and fastened.
- Shirts with writing may be worn provided that the writing is not objectionable. No clothes with suggestive slogans, drawings, or reference to drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products will be permitted.
- Shoes or sandals must be worn at all times.
- Sunglasses and head coverings, including hats, caps, sweatbands, bandanas, and scarves, may not be worn inside the buildings.
- Curlers may not be worn in hair.
- Safety pins, spiked inappropriate chains, spiked jewelry, and excessive chains will not be permitted due to safety considerations.
- Halter tops, tank tops, shoulder-baring tops, backless tops, tops with thin or no straps, tops that show midriffs at any time (while standing, walking, reaching, sitting, etc), or tops that overexpose the body are prohibited.

What happens if I get caught skipping class?

- A parent will be called and you will receive detention based on the Duval Schools Code of Conduct.

GENERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING LUNCH**How are the lunches set up?**

- There are three lunch sessions during an extended third period. Your lunch will be based on your 3rd and 7th period teacher. You will find that out on the first day of school. Lunch and breakfast are free for all student; however, your ID must be presented at checkout.

May I eat outside?

- Yes, students are encouraged to eat at tables located in the courtyard.

May I leave campus for lunch?

- No, Wolfson is a closed campus. Students are not permitted to leave for lunch.

What is sold for lunch?

- There are 3 lines in the cafeteria including a hot food line (traditional cafeteria style lunch), a snack line (chips, drinks, cookies), and a deli line (prepackaged sandwiches, chicken wings, nachos, fries, hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, etc).

Can a parent or a friend bring me food from a fast-food restaurant?

- No, food cannot be delivered to school; however, a parent can bring food to the front office. Students nor parents are allowed to have food delivered by anyone other than the parent.

GENERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING LOCKERS

Note: Each student is financially liable for all books and computer received. If a friend loses your book, computer or charger, it is up to you to pay for the lost item. **You are** responsible for lost computer, charger or books. **Additional Note:** All lockers are subject to search without prior notice.

What do I do if I can't remember my locker combination?

- Go to Ms. Starn's office located in the School Counseling Office.

What do I do if someone takes my lock?

- You must purchase a new lock from Ms. Starn.

What if I have told a few friends my locker combination so they can share my locker and now things are missing that I am responsible for?

- Go to Ms. Starn's office and ask them to trade your lock for a new one and then do NOT give out your combination.

If I am ill and a parent needs to get books out of my locker, how can he or she get my locker number and combination?

- Ms. Starn will retrieve the items for you. Please remember students should not share lockers with their friends. If students do not clean out their locker at the end of the year, they will be charged a \$5.00 cleaning fee.

GENERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING ACADEMICS

How many students are in the average class?

- Academic classes average 25 students.

Am I allowed to bring recorders instead of taking notes?

- No.

Will I get a lot of homework?

- Yes, more than has been expected of you in middle school. The amount of homework will depend on your classes. Every student should spend a minimum of 1 ½ hours each night. If you don't have any assignments, you should review your notes from the day.

What is the grading scale?

- 90 - 100 A
- 80 - 89 B
- 70 - 79 C
- 60 - 69 D
- 0 - 59 F

How long are my classes?

- You will attend 4 classes a day on an A-Day and B-Day schedule. Each class is 90 minutes in length.

What is the difference between session, & A/B courses?

- Session courses meet one-half of the school year and earn 1/2 credit. Most session courses meet every other day for an 18 week period (90 days). Final course grade will be determined by two report card grades and the final exam grade. Examples include: Health, PE, and Computer Applications.
- A/B courses meet year-long and are made up of two half credit courses. These courses meet every other day, 90 days each, over the entire school year, and the two courses are scheduled together (part 2 follows immediately after part 1), so that a student spends the year (180 days) taking A/B courses. Your final course grade in each course will be determined by two report card grades and final exam grades.
 - (Examples: English Honors I, English I Pre-IB, Geometry Honors, World History, and some electives). See **CAUTIONARY NOTE** below.

How is the final grade determined?

Courses with a district-EOC
For a .50 credit course with a district EOC:
$(Q1 + Q2)/2 \times .8 + (EOC [converted to 0-4] \times .2) = \text{final grade}$ $(A + B)/2 \times .8 + (B \times .2) = \text{final grade}$ $(4 + 3)/2 \times .8 + (3 \times .2) = \text{final grade}$ $3.5 \times .8 + .6 = \text{final grade}$ $2.8 + .6 = 3.4 = B$
Courses with no district or state EOC (applies to the first semester of a two semester high school course)
For a .50 credit course with no district EOC
$(Q1 + Q2)/2 \times .8 + (\text{final exam} [converted to 0-4] \times .2) = \text{final grade}$ $(A + C)/2 \times .8 + C \times .2 = \text{final grade}$ $(4 + 2)/2 \times .8 + (2 \times .2) = \text{final grade}$ $(3 \times .8) + .4 = \text{final grade}$ $2.4 + .4 = 2.8 = B$
State mandated re-averaging of a course grade
When a student fails one half of a full credit course and the averaging of the two halves would result in a passing grade for a full credit the grades obtained in each half :
$(Q1 + Q2 + Q3 + Q4)/4 \times .8 + (EOC [converted to 0-4] \times .2) = \text{final grade}$ $(F + D + C + B)/4 \times .8 + (C \times .2) = \text{final grade}$ $(0 + 1 + 2 + 3)/4 \times .8 + (2 \times .2) = \text{final grade}$ $(1.5 \times .8) + .4 = \text{final grade}$ $1.2 + .4 = 1.6 = C$
Note: per State Board Rule this only applies to the first attempt at the courses. Subsequent retakes of the courses fall under the grade forgiveness policy.

CAUTIONARY NOTE: It is very important that you are always aware of your academic standing within every course. At times, students experience disappointment in their final grades because they are unaware of how the final grade will be calculated. If for example you earn a “D” on the first report card and a “D” on the second report card, if you fail the final exam, you fail the entire course. Your academic record is just that – **YOUR** academic record, so assume responsibility for it early in your high school career to assure the best possible academic experience at Wolfson.

What will happen if I make Ds and Fs on my report card?

- Your teacher and/or counselor will meet with you and your parent/guardian to create a Progress Monitoring Plan.

What happens if I fail a course?

- Remember that Duval County policy states that to remain at Wolfson ALL courses must be passed and you must have an unweighted GPA of 2.0 or higher.

Will there be summer school next summer if I fail a course?

- Students can retake the course through Florida Virtual School Academy. (FLVS)

What should I do if I do not understand the content covered in class?

- Stay for tutoring. Do not wait until you are too far behind to get caught up.

What is the policy for make-up work?

- Missed work should be made up for all absences. Students are allowed one day to make up work for every day of school missed. (Example: three days of school were missed - the student has three days to turn in make-up work.)

Is full credit given for make-up work?

- For excused & unexcused absences full credit is earned, if it is turned in on time.

I left my homework or an assignment at home that is due today. Does the teacher have to accept it late?

- NO! Each teacher has his or her own policy regarding this situation. The teacher does not have to accept any work after the due date.

Are grades weighted at Wolfson?

- Yes, Honors, Pre-IB, IB, and Advanced Placement courses carry weighted credit.

After school begins, will I get to switch out of classes I do not enjoy?

- No.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Where are the restrooms located?

- Restrooms are located in the middle of Brewster hallway. Also, there are restrooms located at each end of Duke hallway.

May I purchase a yearbook?

- Yes, yearbooks are ordered early in the school year. Please see Mrs. Fessenden in room 10.

Is there a prom? Who can attend?

- The Junior-Senior prom is a highlight of the school year. Freshman and Sophomore students may only attend as a date of a Junior or Senior.

Does an activity bus run in the afternoon?

- Yes, it leaves at 5:30pm Monday through Thursday.

GENERAL QUESTIONS FROM THE STUDENT COUNSELOR'S OFFICE

Is there anyone to talk to if I have a personal problem?

- Yes, school counselors, teachers, and administrators.

Where is the School Counselor's office located?

- On Iowa Hallway

How do I get an appointment with my school counselor?

- You can sign up online at our school website.

Will each report card grade for a course be seen on my transcript?

- No. Only the final course grade will appear on your high school transcript.

The next several pages consist of a newsletter that the school counseling office created to help explain to you and your parents that you will start the application process for college your freshman year.

Please read the following pages very carefully and make an appointment with your school counselor if you have any questions.

COLLEGE PLANNING: ACTION PLAN FOR FRESHMEN AT WOLFSON

ACTIVITY (To-Do)	RESOURCE (Where to get help)	DATE (when to do it)
Improve study skills		Fall or Spring semester
Strive for a high level of performance in each class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self • Teachers • Extra help - tutoring • Daily planner • Good attendance 	All year
Develop your interest in extracurricular activities	See the attached list of all school organizations and sponsors	On going
Begin working on 75 hours of community service required for the 100% award level of the bright futures scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community service: get the facts (available in guidance or http://cyberguidance.net) • See great ideas in the ASAP Newsletter for 9th&10th • Volunteer Jacksonville 398-7777 	Start: summer after promotion to grade 9. Continue through first semester of grade 12.
Become familiar with college admissions criteria at different types of colleges	ASAP Newsletter for 9 th and 10 th graders www.facts.org – follow links to college admissions http://cyberguidance.net	Grades 9-11
Take the PSAT	October every year.	Grades 9-11
Begin discussing college with your parents (include financial planning)	Attend the National College Fair in Jacksonville	
Become familiar with college resources in guidance office, media center& internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance office and media center staff • Home or school computers 	On going
Improve reading comprehension	Read more	Daily
Develop college prep awareness	Guidance presentations in classroom Visit http://cyberguidance.net	As scheduled

Graduation Requirement for Students		Graduation Requirement For Students in the IB Program	
English	4 credits (include writing requirements appropriately rigorous – not just a literature course)	English ¹	4
Mathematics	4 high school math credits taken in middle or high school in 2007-2008 or thereafter 1 Algebra I – required (MS/HS) 1 geometry – required (MS/HS)	Mathematics ²	4
Science	3 credits Biology Physical sciences (chemistry, physics, earth space) [two must have lab component] 1 additional science	Science ³	4
Social Studies	3 credits 1 World History 1 American history ½ American government ½ economics	Social Studies ⁴	4
World Language*	2 high school credits taken in middle or high school from 2007-2008 or thereafter which include two courses in the same language Students who have been required to take 3 years of Intensive Reading in high school may be exempt from this requirement through a waiver process (See Section 8: World Languages for waiver form.)	World Language ⁵	2
Practical Career Education and/or Visual/Performing Fine Arts	1 credit performing fine arts or a state-approved practical arts	Theory of Knowledge	1
Physical Education	1 credit H.O.P.E.	The Arts / Electives ⁶	9
Electives**	6 credits	Total	28 credits
Total	24 credits	<p>1 Any level three course with a least one IB or Advanced Placement (AP) English course which demonstrates a major concentration in composition and literature.</p> <p>2 Any level three course (geometry or higher) with at least one IB or AP course. NOTE: Beginning with students entering 9th grade for the first time in 2010-2011 state EOC requirements will apply to specific math courses.</p> <p>3 Any three course (biology I or higher) with at least one IB or Advanced Placement (AP) laboratory science. NOTE: Beginning with students entering 9th grade for the first time in 2011-2012 state EOC requirements will apply to specific science courses.</p> <p>4 Any level three course with at least one IB or AP course.</p> <p>5 Four credits are recommended, 2 shall be required in the same world language.</p> <p>6 May include visual arts, theatre arts, music, film, computer science, a second world language, a second science, a second social studies, a school-based syllabus approved by IBO, or any course listed in the State Course Code Directory for which high school credit is granted.</p> <p>* An IB Diploma will be awarded upon successful completion of IB exams, theory of knowledge, extended essay, and CAS. Students who complete the IB curriculum shall have satisfied the district and state graduation requirements. If a student withdraws from the IB program after ninth or tenth grade, he/she shall be required to complete all district and state requirements for graduation. If a student withdraws after the eleventh grade, he/she shall be required to complete all state requirements for graduation.</p> <p>Additional requirements for the IB Program of Study include the completion of an extended essay and 150-hour creative action, and service (CAS) project.</p>	
Grade Point Average Requirements (GPA)	Earn a cumulative, unweighted GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale		