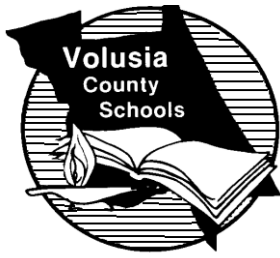


VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOLS  
SEABREEZE HIGH SCHOOL

SUPERINTENDENT'S  
DIPLOMA  
OF  
DISTINCTION



2012-2013  
APPLICATIONS  
DUE BY THE END OF  
FEBRUARY , 2012



**VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOLS  
SUPERINTENDENT'S DIPLOMA OF DISTINCTION  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Superintendent's Diploma of Distinction program is to recognize and honor students that have successfully completed a series of rigorous Advanced Placement® (AP) courses and are well prepared for their college experience. The Superintendent's Diploma of Distinction program is designed to provide a challenging academic experience recognized by colleges and universities throughout the country. Students who complete the program will have demonstrated the commitment and ability necessary for success in college.

**To meet these expectations, the school faculty and administration are committed to the following:**

- Provide support and assistance to students beyond the school day
- Communicate regularly with parents and students
- Plan instruction according to the standards and philosophy of the College Board's Advanced Placement Program®
- Meet regularly and work collaboratively to coordinate lesson plans, activities and projects
- Follow district guidelines in designing a sequence of courses that best prepare students for AP® work
- Receive appropriate training to keep AP® teacher certification current
- Pay the cost of all AP® exams for courses in which the student is enrolled

**In order for your child to be successful, parents must commit to the following:**

- Promptly communicate concerns to teachers and our guidance counselors
- Ensure that students attend tutoring and review sessions as needed for success
- Assist students with planning and meeting deadlines
- Assist students in committing to a discipline of nightly study and assignment completion
- Accept that critiquing student performance is an important process
- Participate in Superintendent's Diploma of Distinction activities
- Maintain ongoing discussion with their student regarding progress and goals
- Encourage students to participate in extracurricular activities related to their academic and career goals

**Agreeing to the following terms of acceptance into the Superintendent's Diploma of Distinction program, the student will:**

- Work towards successful completion of the diploma requirements
  - ❑ Successfully complete a minimum of 4 Advanced Placement® courses in 2 or more subject areas
  - ❑ Earn a score of 3 or higher in a minimum of 3 Advanced Placement courses
  - ❑ Maintain an overall AP® GPA of 3.0
  - ❑ Maintain an overall weighted GPA of 3.0
  - ❑ Participate in the SAT or ACT program in the junior and senior year ( the senior year requirement may be waived based on an acceptable junior year score as determined by the district curriculum and program accountability office)
- Seek extra help whenever necessary to maintain an acceptable level of achievement
- Complete up to ten hours of outside reading/study per week
- Maintain good attendance
- Attend test review sessions
- Consistently demonstrate acceptable behavior
- Sit for the AP® exam for all AP® courses taken
- Make up all work missed in a timely manner
- Prepare for and participate in class every day
- Communicate concerns to teachers and guidance counselors in a timely manner
- Participate in Superintendent's Diploma of Distinction activities

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ ALPHA Code \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Designee  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

SUPERINTENDENT'S DIPLOMA OF DISTINCTION  
VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOLS  
CURRENT TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_  
(when course was taken)

Please use the following rating scale in completing the descriptors for this student. Consider the student with reference to their performance in class and in relation to the full spectrum of students in your school.

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 5 = Exhibits this trait to an exceptional degree | 2 = Exhibits this trait occasionally |
| 4 = Exhibits this trait consistently             | 1 = Exhibits this trait rarely       |
| 3 = Exhibits this trait frequently               | 0 = Not observed                     |

Learns quickly with good retention	
Demonstrates higher order thinking skills	
Is a keen and alert observer	
Quickly recognizes and understands conceptual relationships	
Applies concepts to new materials	
Is sensitive to clock and calendar deadlines	
Works well in group settings	
Demonstrates ability to communicate	
Demonstrates strong skills in: Math	
Reading	
Writing	
Problem Solving	
(total)	
Demonstrates initiative and intellectual curiosity	
Is a self starter	
Works independently	
Generates a large number of ideas or solutions to problems	
Is a risk taker	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	

Comments:

Teachers – please place recommendation in a sealed envelope and affix your signature across the seal.  
Note: Teacher recommendations may be reviewed by the student's parent. Deadline: end of February, 2012.

SUPERINTENDENT'S DIPLOMA OF DISTINCTION  
VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOLS  
CURRENT TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_  
(when course was taken)

Please use the following rating scale in completing the descriptors for this student. Consider the student with reference to their performance in class and in relation to the full spectrum of students in your school.

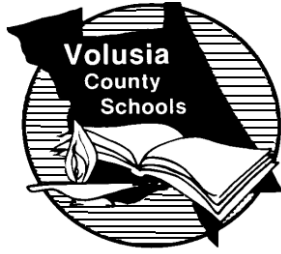
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VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOLS  
Superintendent's Diploma of Distinction Program  
Application

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ALPHA ID \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the following information and return it to Kathy Gibbons at Seabreeze High School by the end of February, 2012.

- *Write a two-page essay on one of the following topics:*
  - *The effect of technology on our lives in the next ten years*
  - *If you could change one thing in your life or the world, what would it be and why.*
  - *React to this statement: All children can learn*
  
- *Please attach three teacher recommendations (must include two (2) from among Language Arts, Reading, Math, Science, or Social Studies teachers)*
  - *Recommendations must be in a sealed envelope with the signature of the person writing the recommendation across the seal.*
  
- *Ask your guidance counselor to attach a copy of your student academic evaluation form.*