

WAKULLA SWAT NEWSLETTER

COAST CHARTER ✖ RIVERSPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL ✖ WAKULLA MIDDLE SCHOOL ✖ WAKULLA HIGH SCHOOL



Wakulla SWAT 2026

"We show up, speak out, and make change happen."

OTHER EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

✖ It's Fun To Be Tobacco Free Fest

The Tobacco Free Carnival and Fun Day brings families and youth together for interactive booths, creative challenges, and hands-on fun that highlights the benefits of staying tobacco free.

✖ Region 1 SWAT Virtual Training

A virtual training hosted by our Regional Youth Advocacy Board where SWAT youth connect online to strengthen leadership skills, build advocacy confidence, and learn new strategies to support healthier, tobacco free communities. This interactive session helps members grow, collaborate, and return ready to make an impact.



Wakulla SWAT Youth

Wakulla Students Working Against Tobacco Youth Making Waves

Wakulla SWAT had a busy and impactful season!

Youth members participated in community events like the Beach Clean Up, Panacea Fall Festival, Panacea Christmas, and the Wakulla Library Story Walk, where they shared tobacco free information and recruited new members. They led a schoolwide Not A Lab RAT Day encouraging students to "Black-Out Tobacco," hosted an Outdoor Movie Night, and stayed active in well-attended club meetings. SWAT also took part in the Region 1 Virtual Training with 16 counties. The season wrapped up with the annual Chalk the Walk event, spreading positive, tobacco free messages across campus.

Message from SWAT

SWAT gives us the chance to use our voices and make a real impact. Every event we take part in helps build a stronger, healthier, tobacco free future for our community.



Statewide Observance

Not A Lab Rat Day 2025



SWAT Students Lead "Not a Lab Rat Day"
Written by: AJ Golden and Jettsen

Our SWAT team of students at Coast Charter School took a stand against tobacco and vaping during the school's exciting "Not a Lab Rat Day" observance. Students have commented, "We are not lab rats and don't want to be experimented on." Other students have discussed how it brings awareness to not smoke or vape. Some students gave personal insight on family members who smoke needing to quit and live longer.

Our SWAT students encouraged other students and adults to make healthy choices and learn the truth about the dangers of nicotine products. We got to make announcements on being tobacco free. We made posters and created artwork that promotes a tobacco free lifestyle.

Members of the SWAT club also shared facts about how vaping can harm the lungs, heart, and brain, especially in teens. Students signed a pledge wall promising to stay tobacco free and support friends in making healthy decisions.

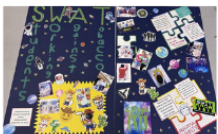
Not a Lab Rat Day was a great success at Coast Charter School, reminding everyone that smart choices today can lead to a healthier tomorrow.

Region 1 SWAT Virtual Meeting

The December 2025 Region 1 Virtual Meeting served as the Quarter 2 Required Training for all counties and brought together youth from across all 18 Region 1 counties for an engaging and interactive session. The four Region 1 YAB members led the training with informative presentations, virtual games, and activities that kept students actively involved from start to finish. Their leadership helped maintain high energy and strong participation throughout the meeting.

In addition to the virtual components, counties enjoyed hands-on activities at their local County Health Departments (CHDs) during breakout times, including crafts, team challenges, and interactive learning experiences. This blend of virtual engagement and in-person creativity made the training both fun and meaningful.

The meeting wrapped up with shared highlights and celebrations of county accomplishments, reinforcing Region 1's commitment to youth leadership, collaboration, and SWAT's mission as we move into 2026.



Wakulla Middle School

Wakulla SWAT Movie Night Under the Stars

Written by: Garr Bradley and Ariel Roe

Wakulla Middle school along with the other schools in the Wakulla SWAT Chapter had a "Movie Night Under the Stars" where we watched Lilo & Stitch, and it was really fun! Students from different schools in the county came together to help host the event and hang out with the community in a tobacco free and vape free space.

We helped by giving out popcorn and water to everyone who came. There were parents, teachers, neighbors, and even some people who were just walking and riding by and wanted to see what was going on.

It was a great night where everyone got to relax, watch a movie, and enjoy the fresh air together. It was awesome to see the community come together and have a good time!

**Proud to represent SWAT
and promote a healthier
Wakulla.**

Why students should join

Being part of SWAT means standing up for our generation and using our voices to create real change. Every event, every conversation, and every action we take helps build a stronger, healthier, tobacco free future for Wakulla. Together, we're proving that students can lead, inspire, and make a lasting impact in our community.



SWAT ADVOCACY

Chalk The Walk 2026

Written by: Isabelle Scott



The main goal of Chalk the walk is to inform people of the harms of vapes, cigarettes, and E-cigarettes with positive messages on the sidewalk. Each club, Riversprings Middle, Wakulla Middle, Coast Charter, and Wakulla High, were all able to deliver several messages through their art, and they were very attention grabbing.

This year's Chalk the Walk event was very fun, informative, and very successful overall. It was fun because the atmosphere was great, with fun music and attitudes. The simplicity of using chalk was also a great part of the experience. There were students who were not a part of SWAT participating, some of which asked how they join SWAT.

Overall it was a fun, informative experience for those who participated or just spectated. We look forward to another successful Chalk the Walk next year.



Parade Season

Wakulla High

Wakulla SWAT enjoyed a lively and engaging parade season, creating student-designed floats for both the Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day parades. Members shared candy and SWAT information at each event, helping raise awareness about the group's mission while connecting with families along the route.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade brought an extra festive touch as students handed out clover-shaped beaded necklaces, featuring a special SWAT message. These unique giveaways were a big hit and helped spark conversations about the positive work SWAT is doing in the community.

Beyond the fun and creativity, parade season gave students the chance to work together, build friendships, and strengthen their sense of teamwork. It was a memorable season that showcased both their spirit and their commitment to making a difference.

"We show up, speak out, and make a difference."

Youth Getting Involved!

Do you know students interested in making a difference and joining a student-led movement? Learn more about Wakulla SWAT by connecting with the SWAT advisor at your school, speaking with a school administrator, or reaching out to the Wakulla County SWAT Coordinator.