



# LEOPARD LEDGER

**Lopez Elementary**

200 North Kingsway Road

Seffner, FL 33584

813-744-8000

May 2022

<https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/lopez>



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## A Message from Our Principal, Mrs. Harris...

As we bring the 2021-2022 school year to a close, I want to take a moment to thank our parents and students for choosing Lopez Elementary. We are truly blessed to have you as students and parents, and we value the partnership that we have formed with you. Our school is a special community, and we look forward to improving, enhancing, and building on the great things we have done together.

I also want to thank our staff for their dedication and passion to Lopez. Our staff truly change lives, and we see it every day. Thank you for your professionalism and for helping to build a community of which we can all be proud.

As our students and teachers leave for the summer, the administrative team and staff will be busily preparing for the 2022-2023 school year. We look forward to welcoming everyone in August. Our goal this summer is to work hard to prepare and ensure a seamless start to the school year in August.

I want to take a moment to especially thank Mrs. Carter and Dr. Gay for their tireless work and dedication to Lopez. We appreciate the time and effort they both have put into this profession for over 30 years. We thank you so much for going above and beyond and bringing out the best in us. We promise that we will remember the lessons you've thought us and pass them on to the next generation. We wish you a happy retirement! Relax and enjoy life to the fullest...we wish you both the best!!!

## A Message from Assistant Principal, Dr. Gay...

We're approaching that time of the year with TESTING during this final month of the 2021-2022 school year! Mark your calendars with the following dates:

May 3rd, May 4th, May 10th, May 11th, May 17th, and May 18th

The primary purpose of state standardized testing, better known as the Florida Standards Assessment Test (FSA), is to assess student achievement of the high order thinking skills represented in the Florida's BEST Standards for Reading, Writing, Mathematics, and Science. We are encouraging children to be prepared by attending each day, being on time, getting a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast for each testing day!

2022 Summer Learning Program is in the works! The district has provided Eligibility Criteria for those K-5 students that'll be invited to participate. Select Lopez students will receive pertinent information along with registration documentation in the early weeks of May.

AND on a personal note: It was 1984 when I started here at Lopez as a fledgling teacher, serving 15 years. I was then called back in 2019...once again. What an amazing career I've experienced! AND to end my career in the building I started is a historically memorable way to step aside and let youth take over. Farewell Lopez Family and Community.

### Upcoming Dates:

- Monday Early Release @ 12:55
- May 3rd- FSA 4th and 5th grade
- May 4th- FSA 4th and 5th grade
- May 10th- FSA 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade
- May 11th- FSA 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade
- May 17th- FSA 5th grade
- May 18th-FSA 5th grade
- May 20th- 5th grade field trip
- May 24th- Kindergarten Performance
- May 26th- 5th grade Awards and Banquet
- May 27th- 5th grade clap out
- May 27th- Last day dismissal 11:35



Sign up to receive the newsletters online through peachjar. Go to [www.peachjar.com](http://www.peachjar.com) and create an account.



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## News from Student Services

Less than a month to go... we can do this! Our leopards can finish strong. We have been focusing on the character trait, perseverance, "refusing to give up when life gets hard." When we try to do something difficult, we have two choices: 1) to give up or 2) to learn from our mistakes and persevere until we succeed. Walt Disney, Oprah Winfrey, Albert Einstein, J.K. Rowling, Thomas Edison, and Michael Jordan are just a few examples of famous people who refused to give up when things got difficult. Can you imagine a world without Disney movies, Harry Potter, or light bulbs? Who knows what our leopards can accomplish if they choose to learn from their mistakes and persevere? With testing around the corner, let's do what we can to help our students persevere. Please make sure students are getting a good night's sleep, eating a good breakfast, and are present and on time.

The University of South Florida will be offering summer reading and writing skills programs for preschoolers through entering 11th graders. If you are interested, flyers will be available in the front office. For more information or to register, please call 1-800-715-1498.

Lastly, we'd like to make our families aware of First Hug. First Hug is a program specially designed for families struggling with homelessness with children birth through middle school. This program provides many resources to our families, such as screenings, referrals, tutoring, etc. If you are interested, please complete online referral form found at [metromin.org/firsthug](http://metromin.org/firsthug). If you need more information, please call 813-209-1006 or email [first.hug@metromin.org](mailto:first.hug@metromin.org).



**NOW is the time**  
TO REGISTER FOR  
**Kindergarten**

## Kindergarten and VPK Registration for Next Year

**Kindergarten Registration** - Bring your child's birth certificate and social security card, most recent shot records and physical. Also, 2 proofs of residence (i.e. electric or water bill, mortgage or lease agreement). Even if your student has attended Lopez for

**VPK Registration**- VPK spots are limited and will fill up quickly. Documents you will need at registration include - VPK Certificate, birth certificate and social security card, most recent shot records and physical, 2 proofs of residence (i.e. electric or water bill, mortgage or lease agreement).

Lopez will be a closed campus this summer. Registration will take place at Limona Elementary. Mon-Thurs 8-12, except the week of 7/4 (Tues-Fri) through 7/14. After that, they will have to hold paperwork until the first week of August when we will be back on campus.

## Media News

It was great seeing all of your faces Thursday night at our STEM with Grimm Science Night and Spring Book Fair. This was our most successful Book Fair to date! We sold over \$7000! Our library will receive 25% back to use to purchase more books for the library and reading incentives. Thank you so much for supporting the Lopez Library.

Be on the look out for Summer Reading information. This will be coming home in your child's communication folder the last week of school.

Students can read during the summer by using their student lunch number to check out books from the Seffner Public Library next door, myOn ([www.myon.com](http://www.myon.com)) or Axis360 (<https://sdhclope.axis360.baker-taylor.com/>)

Students can also get a head start on next year's SLAM books. A list will be sent home with students the last week of school and will be posted on our school website.

**SUMMER  
READING**



Lopez PTA is having a general assembly meeting on May 10th at 6PM in the Lopez Cafeteria. PTA is looking for parents who want to get involved in their child's school and join PTA and become a member of next year's board. Can you help?