



## Anderson Elementary School

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Tampa, FL 33611

(813) 272-3075

Website: <http://anderson.mysdhc.org>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/Anderson\\_Eagles](https://twitter.com/Anderson_Eagles)

A Hillsborough County Public School

Dear Anderson Families,

HCPS is experiencing a substitute teacher shortage across our district. In the event a teacher absence without coverage of a substitute teacher, students may be divided among multiple grade levels.

Trunk or Treat was so much fun for our families! November 3 is our Awards Assembly. We have many students making progress and we are proud of their growth. We would like to recognize all students. Let's keep working hard and meet our goals. Please continue to have open communication between school and home. November 3 is CEOs in Schools. We welcome Ben Burgess, Burgess Civil, LLC to our school. November 16 is the Great American Teach In. We encourage our parents, family and community members to share their careers or hobbies with our students.

Just a few reminders, please have a valid photo ID when visiting our campus, as this is a HCPS Policy. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. Follow Anderson Elementary on Twitter and Anderson Elementary PTA on Facebook. The school lab is open from 7:10-7:40 am for K-5 students that arrive early to school.

Have a safe Thanksgiving Holiday! We are thankful for our students and families.

Lydia G. Sierra  
Principal

Dear Anderson Eagles,

I cannot believe we are already a few weeks into the 2<sup>nd</sup> nine weeks. It has been a wonderful start of the year. Students are working hard to meet individual goals, and we are celebrating achievements, big and small. Teachers use data every day to guide instruction and strive to help every child reach their potential. We encourage families to ask your child what they are learning in school, and to continue to have open communication with your child's teachers.

On November 16<sup>th</sup> Anderson will host the Annual Great American Teach In. Students love learning about the careers and hobbies of parents, family, and community members. Please consider sharing your chosen profession or hobby with our Anderson Eagles. Please let your child's teacher know if you are able to participate on this day.

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

Catherine Kim  
Assistant Principal



### Upcoming Events\* .....

Oct. 5-Conference Night  
Oct. 9-13-Grandparents' Breakfast  
Oct. 12-End of 1st 9 Weeks  
Oct. 13-First day of 2nd 9 Weeks  
Oct. 17-No School  
Oct. 20-Freestyle Friday  
Oct. 23-27-Red Ribbon Week  
Oct. 24th-4th Annual Trunk or Treat  
Oct. 27-Student of the Month  
Nov. 1-Report Cards posted online  
Nov. 3-Awards Assembly & CEOs in Schools  
Nov. 6-Progress Alerts  
Nov. 9-Picture Retakes  
Nov. 10-No School Veteran's Day  
Nov. 16-Great American Teach-In  
Nov. 17-Student of the Month & Freestyle Friday  
Nov. 20-24-Thanksgiving Holidays  
Dec. 12-Winter Concert  
Dec. 22-End of 2nd Quarter, Student of the Month, Freestyle Friday  
Dec. 25-Jan 5-Winter Holidays  
Jan. 8-Students return

\*tentative and subject to change\*

### Anderson Elementary School



### Kindergarten

Kindergarten students are learning so much in reading! We are learning about Text Features, Key Details, Characters in stories, the Setting and how it can change in stories & retelling the story in order. We are still working on beginning letter sounds, rhyming words and syllables. Some students are already learning to blend sounds together to make words. We will be focusing on Vowels in November. Continue to read each night with your child, and help them learn their sight words.

In Math, we are learning their teen numbers and comparing them and counting them up no matter what number we start at. Make sure your child can count to 20 and recognize and write their numbers 0-20.

Congrats to Renae Brown & Denver Baldwin. They were the Engineer winners for the Kindergarten Skyscraper challenge! They will be competing at MOSI on October 28. We wish them all the best. Go Ms. Dougherty's Science Winners!!

In Science, we have just ended our 5 Senses unit and will be moving on to learning about Physical Science- The properties of matter and how scientists observe matter. It's getting cooler now, please send a jacket with your child. We don't want anyone missing school due to catching a cold.

Hope you have a safe and Happy Halloween! Happy Fall!

Ms. James, Ms. Dougherty & Mrs. Parks

### First Grade

First Grade Families,

We cannot believe it is already the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter. The students have been working so hard and growing academically!

In Reading, we are using text features to understand stories. In Writing, we are working on Expository writing pieces. In Math, we are solving real world problems within 20. We are learning about symbols that represent the United States of America in Social Studies. We want to congratulate Mason Zackery in Ms. DiGangi's class. He is our First Grade Science Olympic winner and will represent Anderson Elementary at MOSI on October 28<sup>th</sup>. The First Grade team would like to thank you for all your support!!

Mrs. Zaritsky, Mrs. Corr and Ms. DiGangi



### Staff Spotlight

Ms. Hope, H.O.P.E.-Happy, Open-Minded, Problem Solver & Energetic, My name is Maryam Hope.

This is my first full school year at Anderson. I am the teacher of the academically gifted program. Since 1996, I have been an educator. Times flies when you're having FUN! I earned my Master of Administration and Supervision from Kean University in 2006 and my Bachelor of Arts in English Communication with Teacher Certification Program from Bloomfield College in 1998.

I have one son, Matthew, who is a fourth grader at Anderson. Matthew is my daily motivation and source of inspiration! I am so excited to be an EAGLE! Teaching is my passion! I am thrilled to have this opportunity to enrich our gifted students with engaging science, math, writing and STEM projects! Remember, we are a T.E.A.M.- Together Everyone Achieves, MORE!



## Second Grade

Happy Fall to our Second-Grade families! We are still so excited after visiting the Florida Aquarium. We can't wait to use everything that we saw and learned in our further learning. Phonics is a big part of our learning in second grade. We are using UFLI to help us with this learning. Please chat with your child about the sounds and spelling patterns that they are learning about in class. See your teacher if you have questions about how to support your child at home. In Math, we are working with money. Please have coins available to identify and practice adding together. Also, it will really help our kids to have a clock available at home that is not digital. In Second Grade, students need to read time to the 5 minutes using an analog clock. We can't wait for the holiday season to come and all the fun activities that we have planned!

Mr. Behrens, Ms. Holtrup & Ms. Vadala



## Third Grade

Hi all you terrific Third Graders and families! We are doing a lot of learning this school year already! In Reading, we are learning about the author's claim, character development, comparing/contrasting texts, and text features/structures! In Writing, we are really focusing on the Writer's Workshop model and learning many different writing crafts that we can use in our fictional narratives! In Math, we are learning our multiplication/division strategies and building our fact fluency with facts 0-12s! In Science, we have been leaning about heat energy and learned how closely related this is to light energy. We have been looking for real examples in our classroom and at school too. After, we took a look into friction, temperature, and mass. Next, we will explore how to compare liquid volume and volume of 3D shapes. As well as physical properties of objects. **Reminder: Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> is a FULL DAY of school (hurricane make up day)!** If you haven't already, it is not too late to join PTA! Be sure and join today!

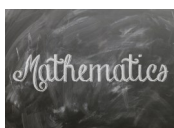
Ms. Schulz, Mrs. Gray-Flint & Ms. Embry



## Fourth Grade

In 4th Grade, students are working hard in all subject areas! In Math, students finished their unit on multiplication strategies Students ALSO took a district 1st quarter assessment and KNOCKED IT OUT OF THE PARK. I am happy to report that BOTH groups are 16 points above the district average. Which is INCREDIBLE! This tells me that what we are doing in class is working and they are rising to the challenge of the 4th Grade Math! I am so proud of them. They are working so hard. We are now working with division and learning different strategies that will help us have success in Math! Things to do at home with your child: PRACITCE THEIR MULTIPLICATION FACTS!!!! In Science, we just finished a unit on how moving air and moving water help generate electricity and movement. Next unit we will be doing will be on sound energy. There were a lot of different activities involved and yes, unfortunately your child will have to hear Mr. Forsythe sing. So, if your child says that they didn't hear you when you ask them to do chores, they are fibbing because ALL of them told me not to try out for American Idol. Coming up in science, we will be exploring heat energy. This coming unit is a very hard unit for students to understand, but we are going to try our best to work through it! In Reading, students worked on reading and planning an argumentative text. In addition they learned how to locate the central idea and relevant details in an informational text. We finished our novel study of the book. We also are doing poetry and addressing theme and central idea (main) in literature. Students are also working on writing their expository essay with the B,M,M,E format and using sources to fuel their writing and to support their position. Students are expected to be completing their iReady minutes (45 minutes a week in both Math and Reading). iReady can be accessed on at home.

Mr. Forsythe



## PTA

The PTA works hard to support the staff and all Anderson students, but we can't do it without your help. Please join our Facebook page at Anderson PTA to keep up-to-date with relevant school information!

### 2023-2024 PTA Board:

President - Valerie DiVecchio  
Vice President of Ways and Means - Michael Ulsh  
Vice President of Membership - Paige Darrigo  
Treasurer - Megan Jacobs  
Recording Secretary - Crissy Troutman



Please support our PTA by becoming a member for only \$7 per individual or \$12.00 per family (2 adults). You can join on-line at: <https://anderson.memberhub.com/store>.

**Make sure your child arrives to school on time.**



Students look great in their school uniforms!

## PTA/SCHOOL EVENTS TO THE END OF DECEMBER

Below is a tentative list of event dates for fall semester (subject to change):

October 3-BOO Grams Sale Begins  
October 20-Freestyle Friday & Sno-Cones  
October 31-BOO Grams Distributed  
November 17-Freestyle Friday & Sno-Cones  
December 1-Movie Night & Gingerbread Workshop  
December 4 to 8-Gingerbread Workshop  
December 12-Winter Concert & Silent Auction  
December 22-Freestyle Friday & Sno-Cones



Please Like Us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/AndersonPTA>. Keep up to date on all the details throughout the year, including changes to the calendar, upcoming events and shoutouts to our staff and students on doing great things!

**Anderson Elementary.....  
Growing & Soaring Together!**



  
**Hillsborough County**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
*Excellence in Education*

### **School Board**

**School Board**  
Nadia T. Combs, Chair  
Henry Washington, Vice Chair  
Lynn L. Gray  
Stacy A. Hahn, Ph.D.  
Karen Perez  
Patricia Rendon  
Jessica Vaughn

**Interim Superintendent of Schools**  
Van Ayers

Visit our Website: <http://anderson.mysdhc.org/>

Follow us on Twitter: [https://twitter.com/Anderson\\_Eagles](https://twitter.com/Anderson_Eagles)



## Media Center Corner

Thank you for your support with our Fall BookFair. A percentage of purchases help support the Media Center's programs. MyOnMyOn is an amazing reading program provided by the district. This online tool has books at various interests and reading levels. Stayed tuned for upcoming reading challenges.

Axis360 (Boundless)Axis360 is now Boundless. This is another online tool to have access to digital copies of books to checkout and read. It can be accessed through the virtual library as well as downloaded through the app. The students can check out the books using their student number.

Read for the Record October 26th is Read for the Record. On this day children across the nation share one book to promote literacy. Visit [www.jstart.org](http://www.jstart.org) for more details. This year's book is With Lots of LOVE by Jenny Torres Sanchez. Virtual Library Library Media Services / Welcome to Library Media Services ([hillsboroughschools.org](http://hillsboroughschools.org))

Mrs. Dingle  
Media Specialist



We welcome the following new employees to our Anderson Staff:



Anahy Gutierrez-Guidance Counselor (Point of Contact)  
Christina Morisi-School Psychologist (Point of Contact)

Let's MAKE it GIFTED!!!

Congratulations to Ms. Hope and her AGP Students. Students wrote proposals about a classroom pet. They applied for a grant and were awarded funding for their Pets in the Classroom Project! Way to go AGP! From Ms. Sierra

It's Official! I have the signed permission slips returned by ALL parents and we HOPE to purchase our guinea pig soon! This is an excellent opportunity that will increase the learning, engagement and FUN in the gifted program!

Ms. Hope  
AGP Teacher



Thank you to the following business partners for supporting our school:

Erald Mulla-Lowe's

Greg Dee, Meteorologist-ABC News

American Legion Post 139

Paul Van Osdell

Paula Underberg-Abboud

Betty (Gigi) Smith







Dear Anderson Community,

We are thankful for you! As we prepare to take time off from school from November 20 to November 24 for the Thanksgiving break, we are grateful for everyone who has helped to restore a routine for showing up to school while supporting students and families. Daily routines are essential for reducing stress and creating a sense of security, especially after the chaotic transitions experienced over the last few years. As long as your child is healthy, please encourage showing up to class when school is in session. Every day of school is an important opportunity for students to learn as well as connect to peers and their teachers.

We thank:

- Our students and their families who do their best to show up to class every day even when it isn't easy.
- Our teachers who have gone above and beyond to help make school a welcoming learning environment where students can thrive.
- Our administrators who help us work together to ensure we are healthy and safe, feel a sense of community, and experience the excitement of an engaging learning environment.
- Our many, many healers and helpers - the support staff and community volunteers who provide the extra hands and attention our children need.
- May these days off be restful and healing.
- If your family or your child needs support, please reach out to me or your student's teacher for help.
- We look forward to seeing you again when school resumes on November 27.

I have also included two flyers on page 7 and 8 about attendance to serve as a resource for our families. Thank you for partnering with us!

Sincerely,  
Glissette Gonzalez  
School Social Worker

#### **Guidance Events**

##### Upcoming Events for August, September and October

Students of the Month Assemblies: October 27 and November 17

Students will be recognized at an assembly in our Reading Courtyard.

Character Trait of the Month (October): 100% Accountability

Character Trait of the Month (November): Live to Give

The Great American Teach In (GATI) is an opportunity for parents and our community to share their careers, hobbies and/or interests with students. The Great American Teach In is Thursday, November 16. Please let your child's teacher know if interested in participating.



## Help Your Child Succeed in Elementary School: *Build the Habit of Good Attendance During Remote Learning*

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Participation in early education programs, like preschool and Head Start, lead to better attendance in kindergarten.
- Starting in kindergarten, missing 10% of school (or just 2 days every month) can make it harder to learn to read and cause children to fall behind in school.
- Good attendance, whether class is held in person or remotely, can help children do well in school, and eventually in the workplace.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

#### Communicate with the School

- Contact your child's teacher(s) and let them know how to reach you.
- Practice logging in to virtual classes and make a plan for supporting your child's learning. Contact the school if you need help logging in.
- Ask about the school's attendance policy. Ask your child's teacher about your child's attendance and tell the teacher any concerns you have.
- Consider asking the teacher if your child can switch to in-person learning if remote learning doesn't engage your child.

#### Make School Attendance a Priority

- Monitor your child's attendance and participation and contact the teacher to address any concerns.
- Get and post your child's class schedule and log in information on the refrigerator or your child's desk.
- Make sure your child gets the flu vaccine and other required shots.
- Find out if your child feels safe. Make sure that school discipline policies don't lead to your child becoming disengaged or pushed out of school. If these are problems, work with your school to find a solution.
- If your child seems bored or anxious about school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make your child feel safe and excited about learning.
- Ask for help when you need it. School staff, after-school program providers, and other parents or community agencies are available to help families access online learning, obtain food or housing and address other experiences that make it difficult to attend and participate.

#### Help Your Child Stay Healthy and Engaged

- Establish routines for bedtime, waking up and showing up for class.
- Identify a quiet place for your child to do school work. If you have more than one child, make a schedule. Or ask your school or community agencies if they have created places for distance learning, or if noise-canceling headsets are available for students.
- Develop back-up plans for logging in to the computer if you can't be there. Find a family member, neighbor or older child who can help. Community-based organizations might also be able to help.
- Avoid extended family trips and non-urgent medical appointments when school is in session.

Updated November 2022

Developed in partnership with ConnectEd, Families in Schools, and Parent Institute for Quality Education.  
Visit [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org) for more downloadable resources.



## Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-Covid-19 related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness or quarantine, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

Revised October 2021

### When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

Visit Attendance Works at [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org) for free downloadable resources and tools!