**Principal**

Dawson Elementary School

Jesha Womack

**Assistant Principal**

Katherine Arp

August 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome to WARREN HOPE DAWSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HOME OF THE DRAGONS! Thank you for selecting Dawson for the 2023-2024 school year. We are excited to implement the House System in our classrooms adopted from The Ron Clark Academy. The House System is a dynamic way to create a positive climate and culture for students and staff. The Warren Hope Dawson House System features four houses: Integrity, Respect, Determination and Compassion. Please visit our website for more information.

**The First Day of School is Thursday, August 10**

* Student learning begins at 7:40 am. Please have your student at school by 7:35 am.
* Students may come on campus at 7:10 am.
* Dismissal begins at 12:55 pm Mondays and 1:55 pm Tuesday – Friday.
* The front office is open 7:00 am until 3:30 pm Monday-Friday.
* Breakfast and Lunch is free school year ALL Dawson Dragons.
* Please ring the buzzer to enter the office. A photo id is always required.
* No sign-outs after 12:30 pm on Mondays and 1:30 pm Tuesday-Friday.

**MEET THE TEACHER**: Will be Monday, August 7 from 1:00 -3:00 p.m. To assist with parking, we are asking families to come by last name: A-M begins at 1:00 p.m. and N-Z begins at 2:00 p.m. We will conclude at 3:00 p.m. You will find valuable information regarding the upcoming school year on our website: [Warren Hope Dawson Elementary / Homepage (hillsboroughschools.org)](https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/dawson). Your child will bring home a packet on the first Day of school with additional information. Please take time to read over this information. We also utilize email, Facebook and Parent Link to communicate information throughout the year. You can request to join our PTA Facebook page called ‘Dawson Elementary PTA’. The active page has our Dragon logo that matches the one at the top of this page. To receive Parent Link messages, please keep your email and phone numbers up to date with the main office. Prior to August 4, you will receive a postcard in the mail with an important label identifying your child’s teacher. The mailing label on the postcard identifies your child’s homeroom unit number and the physical room number. There will be list of homeroom teachers so you can determine the name of your child’s teacher. For example, if the label reads: KG01-204: KG represents the grade, and the number 204 represents the room number. Your teacher’s name will be found by the corresponding room number and is located on the school website under the “School News” section. Look for “room number and homeroom code”.

**Parents on Campus:** To help us minimize additional people on campus, parents may say goodbye near the black gate by the office and take first day of school pictures. We will have staff available to walk students to their classrooms. Book bag tags will be available at Meet the Teacher. These tags help adults at school ensure your student is in the correct building and classroom.

**On the first day of school:** Parents may park and walk students to the classrooms. Please be mindful parking is limited. On the second day of school ALL Parents must sign in using the RAPTOR safety program to walk their student to the classroom

**Sign Outs and Change of Transportation**: If you are signing your child out early, please be sure to always have your ID on you as we will check it each time for the safety of your child. Any adult picking up a student must be listed on the emergency card and have a valid photo I.D. If they are not on the emergency card, your child will not be released to ensure the safety of all students. Early sign outs must be before 12:30 p.m. on Mondays and 1:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. If you are changing how your student is going home, it must be in writing. This can be written to the teacher by note or in the agenda, or by completing a change of transportation form in the front office. If you have any questions, please contact the office. When possible, please let the teacher know if you are planning on picking up a student early. This allows the student to have their backpack with them if they are at lunch or a special area class. We are unable to retrieve book bags from the classroom during specials or lunch.

**Hillsborough County Dress Code**: Shorts and skirts at fingertip length or longer, secure shoes with a back, shirts need straps of at least two fingers in width and should cover the entire torso. For safety, all shoes must have a back.

Sincerely-Jesha Womack-Principal