



Annie Lucy Williams Elementary School

3404 Fort Hamer Road Parrish, FL 34219

Phone (941) 776-4040

Fax (941) 776-4080

August 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Several years ago, our school was able to generate funds, on average of \$80k a year, through our aftercare program. Our aftercare income became a District revenue leaving schools needing to go to fundraisers in order to continue to generate site-based funding. Williams does still receive a small amount aftercare money, approximately \$5k a year. Since this change, we have had to increase the number of fundraisers conducted as a school. Thanks to our generous parents, community members, and business partners, our students, teachers, and staff have benefited from the results of these successful fundraisers. For example, over the last five years, more than 80% of our staff have attended research-based professional development training in cooperative structures to increase student engagement; 100% have had state-of-the-art Promethean boards installed in their classrooms to impact student engagement; 100% have been supported with research-based curricular resources for students, such as classroom libraries and enrichment-based materials and curriculum resources, such as Acaletics, a math curriculum resources. Additionally, students have enjoyed new recess equipment, PE equipment, spirit wear, books, and multiple celebrations for positive reinforcement of grades and behavior. These are just a few of the things we can do as a school, thanks in large part, to the fundraising dollars raised each year in partnership with YOU!

Williams Elementary hosts five major fundraisers a year. Two are hosted by the school and three are hosted by the PTO. Please mark your calendars for our 2019 – 2020 fundraisers.

Hosted by:	Fundraiser Name:	Fundraiser Type:	Beginning Date of Fundraising:	End Date of Fundraising:	Date of Event:
PTO	"Signs" of Love	Product-based	8/8/19 @ Open House	8/12/19	8/12/19
School	Cookie Dough	Product-based	9/3/19	9/18/19	Distribution day to be announced.
PTO	Trunk or Treat	Experience-based	10/25/19	10/25/19	10/25/19
School	Color Run	Experience-based	1/22/20	2/5/20	3/5/20
PTO	Annual Gala and Auction	Product-based	Presale tickets will be available prior to event.	4/17/20	4/17/20

The school and PTO do host other events throughout the year which may be free to attend or have a nominal cost associated with it, such as our BINGO nights, or curricular nights. This small cost is simply to cover the cost of the event and does not yield a profit for the school. Additionally, PTO sells Poinsettias prior to the holidays as a small fundraiser.

We hope that by communicating our events early enough you will consider how you can best contribute—whether through time, talents or treasures, should you choose to do so. Our fundraising efforts for the 19 – 20 school year will focus on raising money for continued professional development for staff as needed, student incentives, teacher and staff incentives and supplies, curriculum resources to support student achievement, such as IXL, Acaletics, and SRA and technology—namely a new, electronic (LED) sign for our school, teacher tablets for instruction and up to five student tablets per class to be used in small group instruction.

In lieu of fundraising, if it is more convenient to support the school by writing a check to the school, we will gladly arrange for a donation to be used for the purposes stated above. Please feel free to contact the school.

Thank you in advance for your support for our school. YOU, through those treasures, talents, and time shared with our school truly make a difference!

Best,

Mrs. Connie Dixon, Principal Mrs. Laura Stephenson, PTO President

"Williams Elementary—Where the answer to our 'why' will always be the student!"



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No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted! ~Aesop

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Dear Williams' Families,

Kindness and compassion are qualities all parents hope to instill in their kids. But achieving this goal requires more than simply asking your child to do nice things for other people. In fact, authentically kind people are motivated by feelings of empathy. They can see things from another person's perspective and understand how they might be feeling. They also can anticipate what might make a person feel better. When they can do these things, they are truly empathetic.

Empathy is the central component of emotional intelligence. And if taught correctly, empathy can go a long way in preventing bullying. Studies show that kids who are empathetic have better relationships and perform better in school.

Each year we work hard to grow empathy through the following tenants and expectations in our school. In fact, these tenants are a part of our daily school pledge: honesty, responsibility, respect, kindness and safety. Not only are these our school expectations, they are the foundation of good citizenship that will carry students well into their adult years! Additionally, as we work to impart these core components of citizenship, our students also participate in grade level outreach projects yearly.

Each grade level chooses an outreach program. For the 2019 – 2020 school year, the following service projects were chosen by each grade level for students to participate:

Grade Level	Service Project	Items Collected	Month of Collection
PreK	Salvation Army	Unused Toiletries	All year long
Kindergarten	Nate's Animal Rescue	Pet Supplies, Toys, Food	February—"Puppy Love"
First	Nate's Animal Rescue	Pet Supplies, Toys, Food	February—"Puppy Love"
Second	Safe Children's Coalition	New Socks	September
Third	Ronald McDonald House	Aluminum Soda Tabs	All year long
Fourth	Socks for the Homeless	New Socks	October
Fifth	Salvation Army Canned Food Drive	Can Food	End of October Beginning of November

We wanted to share these projects with you should you choose to have your child participate. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Connie Dixon
Principal

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