



Tiger Talk

A publication of Grady Elementary PTA
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From PTA President, Damaris Allen

Dear Members of the Grady Elementary Community,

I'm proud to serve as President of Grady Elementary PTA for a second year. Last year was an amazing year for Grady Elementary. Our school won Math Bowl and Battle of the Books Championships; our school scored extremely well on the FCAT and Stanford Achievement Test; and of course, our school's Principal, Kristine Dosal was awarded the Hillsborough County PTA Principal of the Year. In talking to teachers and administrators during the opening weeks of school, I have learned that Grady teachers and administrators have set their sights even higher this year. I hope you are excited to be a part of a PTA that supports their mission.



This year we are supporting the school by **funding academic enrichment programs including afterschool tutoring** (we have budgeted \$8,000.00 toward academic enrichment this year), **funding teacher grants** of up to \$1,000.00 per grade/project and by supporting school safety by raising money to **replace the existing perimeter fence** with a wrought-iron style spear-topped fence. The school has obtained quotes and is moving forward with the first phase of this fence, and this year we intend to raise enough money to pay for the remainder of the fence.

We have also funded multiple teacher grants in the first few weeks of the year. We have funded \$1,000 to Kindergarten for interactive reading materials, \$500 to Fourth Grade for additional books, and \$450 to Third Grade for classical literature reading materials. We are delighted that Grady teachers have come up with such great ideas for the mini-grants.

We plan many fun activities for Grady students and their families. To help you plan for these events, we've attached a calendar of school and PTA events that goes through the end of the year. Some dates are subject to change, but you can get a sense of what this year will be like for your family.

We appreciate that in the first month of school, Grady PTA already has 304 members. 100% of Grady teachers have joined the PTA – thank you, teachers! We need just a few more members to obtain what the PTA describes as 100% membership (which translates to the number of members equal to 75% of the number of students at a school – this percentage is used because some PTA members have more than one student at a school). We will continue to promote PTA membership at our upcoming events.

Because we have the email addresses of so many participants, we are saving trees and communicating with members of our community via email blasts. Whether you belong to the PTA or not, you can sign up for Tiger Talk emails by sending an email to Communications@gradytigers.org or using this link: <https://grady.mysdhc.org/tigertalk>. Please sign up today so that you can be up to date on all of the happenings at our wonderful school.

Thank you for all that you do for Grady Elementary.

Sincerely,
Damaris Allen, President (email: President@gradytigers.org)



Go Grady Tigers!

Grady Elementary PTA is an Award-Winning Parent Teacher Association. The Mission of the Grady Elementary PTA is to provide programs and activities to support our students, teachers and parents in order to enhance the educational experience at Grady Elementary School.

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www.gradytigers.org

Follow us on Twitter! @gradytigers

Tiger Talk is the communication system for Grady Elementary PTA. It is published on the school's website as needed and sent to Tiger Talk subscribers via email. Any questions, please email communications@gradytigers.org

Sign Up To Receive Tiger Talk Updates Via Email:
<https://grady.mysdhc.org/tigertalk>



Grady Elementary Important Dates

(Testing Dates Subject to Change by SDHC)

September, 2014

9/17	Yogurtology Family Night, 2:15 to 8 pm
9/17	School Tour for prospective students and families, 9:30 am front office
9/22 to 9/30	Grady Book Fair in Kathryn Hance Media Center
9/23	Fall Individual Pictures

October, 2014

10/2	Conference Night
10/2	PTA Board Meeting 12 pm to 1 pm, Guidance Suite
10/3	Fifth Grade Doughnut Sale in front of school, 7:30 am to 8:00 am
10/15	School Tour for prospective students and families, 9:30 am front office
10/15	First Box Tops Submission Deadline
10/17	End of First Grading Period
10/20	Non-Student Day, No School
10/24	Fall Festival, on campus from 5 pm to 7:30 pm
10/28	Picture Retakes
10/31	Storybook Parade, in front of school (PTA serves coffee), 8:30 am

November, 2014

11/3 to 11/7	Pasta for Pennies
11/6	PTA Board Meeting 12 pm to 1 pm, Guidance Suite
11/7	Fifth Grade Doughnut Sale in front of school, 7:30 am to 8:00 am
11/11	Veteran's Day, No School
11/18	Thanksgiving Lunch (occurs during your child's lunch period)
11/19	School Tour for prospective students and families, 9:30 am front office
11/20	Great American Teach-In
11/24 to 11/28	Fall Break, No School

December, 2014

12/4	PTA Board Meeting 12 pm to 1 pm, Guidance Suite
12/5	Fifth Grade Doughnut Sale in front of school, 7:30 am to 8:00 am
12/5	Fourth Grade students take a day trip to St. Augustine, Florida
12/5 and 12/6	Barnes and Noble Book Fair, Dad's Reading Time and Gift Wrap Fundraiser
12/11	Winter Concert and Science Fair projects 5:30 pm, on campus
12/17	School Tour for prospective students and families, 9:30 am front office
12/19	Last day of school before Winter Break
12/22 to 1/4	Winter Break, No School

January, 2015

1/5	Return to school after Winter Break
1/8	PTA Board Meeting 12 pm to 1 pm, Guidance Suite
1/16	End of the second grading Period
1/16	Tentative Date for Kindergarten Round Up, 8:30 am, K. Hance Media Center
1/19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No School
1/20	Non-student Day, No School
1/21	School Tour for prospective students and families, 9:30 am front office
1/22	Unlock the Treasures of Reading – Pirate Reading Night, 6 pm to 7 pm
1/27	Class Pictures
1/30	Tiger Trek Walkathon

February, 2015

2/5	PTA Board Meeting 12 pm to 1 pm, Guidance Suite
2/6	Fair Day, No School
2/13	Kindergarten Valentine's Day Program, 8:30 am, Cafeteria
2/18	Second Box Tops Submission Deadline
2/20	Battle of the Books Fair, K. Hance Media Center
2/26	Conference Night
2/27	Jump Rope for Heart

March, 2015

3/2 to 3/13	Testing Window: 4th grade Writing and English language arts (writing in response to reading) (paper-based test)
3/2 to 3/13	Testing Window: 5 th grade writing (computer-based test)
3/5	PTA Board Meeting 12 pm to 1 pm, Guidance Suite
3/6	Fifth Grade Doughnut Sale in front of school, 7:30 am to 8:00 am
3/9-3/13	Spring Break, No School
3/18	Spring Individual Pictures
3/18	School Tour for prospective students and families, 9:30 am front office
3/20	Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast, K. Hance Media Center, 8:30 am
3/23	Florida Standards Assessment for grades 3 and 4: English Language Arts and Math (paper-based test)
3/23	Stanford Achievement Test, Tenth Edition for Grades 1 and 2
3/27	End of Third Grading Period
3/30	Stanford Achievement Test, Tenth Edition for Grade 5 (reading comprehension test)

April, 2015

4/2	PTA Board Meeting 12 pm to 1 pm, Guidance Suite
4/3	Non-student Day, No School
4/13 to 5/8	Testing Window for Florida Standards Assessment, Grade 5 English Language Arts and Math (computer-based); as well as FCAT Science (paper-based test)
4/13 to 4/16	Testing Window for SAT-10 (reading comprehension)
4/15	School Tour for prospective students and families, 9:30 am front office

May, 2015

5/1	Pasta and Poetry for 4 th Grade, 7:15 am
5/1	Fifth Grade Doughnut Sale in front of school, 7:30 am to 8:00 am
5/4 to 5/8	Teacher Appreciation Week
5/7	PTA Board Meeting 12 pm to 1 pm, Guidance Suite
5/14	Spring Musical, PTA General Meeting and Food Trucks, Pavilion, 5:30 pm to 7 pm
5/15	Planned date for Patrol End of Year Field Trip
5/22	5 th Grade Trip to Busch Gardens
5/25	Memorial Day, No School
5/26 to 5/29	Spirit Week (each day has a theme)
TBA	Math Bowl and Battle of the Books

June, 2015

6/1	Yearbook Signing and 5 th Grade v. Faculty Volleyball Game
6/2	5th Grade Awards Ceremony, 8:30 am to 9:30 am
6/2	Pre-K Graduation, 9:45 am to 10:30 am
6/3	K to 4 th Grade Awards Ceremony, 9 am to 10 am
6/4	5 th Grade Banquet, 11:30 am to 2 pm
6/5	Last Day of School, 5 th Grade Clap Out at 11:30 am

To join the PTA, please contact Membership@gradytigers.org or sign up online at: <https://grady.mysdhc.org/membership-form>

GRADY ELEMENTARY, ROARING WITH PRIDE

Points of Pride





 Highest FCAT Points Of All Area 1 Elementary Schools, 2014

 Highest First Grade Reading Scores in Hillsborough County, as measured by the Stanford Achievement Test, 2014


 Highest First Grade Math Scores in Hillsborough County, as measured by the Stanford Achievement Test, 2014


 Third Highest Overall FCAT Points in Hillsborough County, third out of 142 schools, 2014

 Fourth Grade Area 1 Battle of the Books Champions, 2014

 Second Grade Area 1 Math Bowl Champions, 2014


 Grady Elementary Principal, Kristine Dosal, awarded Hillsborough County PTA Elementary Principal of the Year, 2014

 An "A" School as Determined by the Florida Department of Education for Five Consecutive Years

 Active, Award-Winning PTA: Awards For Excellence in Volunteer Involvement, Grandparent Involvement, Member Participation and the Number of Families Belonging to the PTA, all in 2014

 100% Teacher Participation in the Grady Elementary PTA, Near 100% Parent Participation in the PTA

 A Red Carpet School, awarded by the Florida Department of Education for Outstanding Achievement

 Winner of the Golden School Award, awarded by the Florida Department of Education to public schools with exemplary volunteer programs