

# DANIA ELEMENTARY

Title I School

Lewis Jackson, Principal

Galina Markevich, Assistant Principal

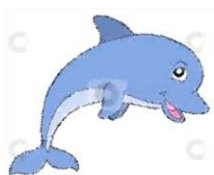
Summer 2020

Main Office: (754) 323-5350

Attendance Hotline (754) 323-5352

ASP (954) 261-8779

Website: <http://dania.browardschools.com>



## Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Community Members:

Another school year is coming to an end. The Dania staff and I are honored to have been a part of your child(ren)'s life. It has been our pleasure to provide a world-class education to the students who have walked our hallways this year. Although walking the hallways was brought to an abrupt stop due to the pandemic, our teachers continued to provide valuable instruction online, and our staff continued to provide services either virtually or on campus when we were able to do so.

This has certainly proven to be a unique school year that we will all remember for a lifetime. Although it brought challenges, we also witnessed the Dania community coming together to remove any barriers that were placed in our way. Parents and students quickly learned to navigate the online learning platforms and continued to be academically engaged from their homes.

Plans of reopening schools in August have begun. Still, I'm quite confident in predicting that school will look much different than it did before mid-March 2020. Lessening of financial assistance, uncertainty about what school will look like, and still dealing with the effects of recent events are issues to be concerned about, but I am confident that our staff, students, and stakeholders will continue to rise to the occasion and overcome any hurdles placed before us. We are a school with a

rich history of excellence, and our pledge to each parent and student is that we will continue to strive for excellence. Our mission will continue to be focused on providing an education that involves the "whole" child. Although they may look different, we plan to continue to offer Music, Art, and Physical Education classes next year. Many of the student-centered programs that make Dania such a special place to learn will be continued.

Dania Elementary was involved in many initiatives this year. Following are a few samples of the many accomplishments and/or activities that we've been involved in this year:

- Participated in Community Events such as the Hollywood Education Advisory Committees, Pennies for Patients, and Gardening Projects
- Free After School Dolphin Tutoring for Intermediate Students
- Added Several Flower and Vegetable Gardens Around the School
- Fully Accredited for Over 50 Years
- Celebrating 106 Years of Learning at Dania Elementary School
- Anticipate receiving the *Golden School Award* for Outstanding Volunteerism for the 20<sup>th</sup> Year
- Participated in Monthly Family Nights
- School Clubs included Violin Classes, DEN Morning Announcements, Lighthouse Mentoring, Global Patrol, Student Council, and Safety Patrol
- School-wide Music Performances
- Numerous Educational and Fun Field Trips
- Dr. Seuss Day Activities (online)

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- Hosted the Annual *Jingle Jog Fund Raiser*
- Several Teachers Applied and Received Grants for Special Projects that Directly Impact Student Achievement totaling around \$8,000

**This is an exciting place to work and learn!** I look forward to leading Dania Elementary into its 107<sup>th</sup> year of providing a high-quality education to thousands of students! We will build on a past of rich traditions while exploring new and innovative teaching strategies to foster the world's future leaders and environmental caretakers.

Please encourage your child(ren) to continue to read through the summer months. Reading is an excellent academic bridge between the end of one school year and the beginning of another. The District is collaborating with Broward County to promote reading. Online programs such as iReady and Moby Max will be available over the summer. Further information may be coming regarding other online opportunities for our students, also.

I hope you have a safe, healthy, and rejuvenating summer break. To those leaving us, I hope you leave with a sense that Dania Elementary has provided a solid foundation for future growth. For those coming back, I look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

Dr. Jackson



***Pre-K and Kindergarten Updates***

Ms. Rocha, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Newsome, Ms. Hall, Ms. Harmer, Ms. Fishkin

This has been quite a year! When we left school on Friday, March 13, we had no idea that we would not return this year. We scrambled to help each of our students and families get what they needed. We tried to focus on the emotional well-being of our students and parents through our check-ins on Zoom, ClassDojo and Canvas.

Teachers tried to make things as normal as possible by posting our daily songs and videos. Most of us were forced out of our comfort zones and learned new computer platforms to teach and learn. It was so great to see everyone helping each other grow.

A huge thank you to all the parents! It has been a very different school year for everyone. Many of you were working full time, either at home or at your regular workplace. You figured out how to assist your children with their online schoolwork. What matters most is we all did our best. Teamwork between parents and teachers is always important in Kindergarten, but more so than ever this year! We would like to thank all of you who reached out to us with love, pictures and poems during Teacher Appreciation Week. Please continue to read with your children and continue with I-ready and Moby Max, as they will be available over the summer. Don't forget to discuss what you are reading, and have your child write about it. This will help your children be prepared for first grade.

We miss you all and can't wait to see you again! Remember, you are awesome!



***First Grade Flash***

Ms. Gonzalez, Ms. Smith, Ms. Washington  
Ms. Fleming, Ms. DeCardenas, Ms. Schwartz,  
Ms. Shvank

First Grade has been busy building their "school smarts" at home. We are very proud of our students and families for all the time, effort and dedication we have seen to embracing "Learning Never Closes" from home. As we wrap up the school year, In Reading/Language Arts, we are reading grade level passages and answering comprehension questions, with a focus on story structure. In writing, we are working on opinion writing with the expectations of writing a five (5) sentence paragraph on a topic, drawing an illustration that corresponds and then labeling


the picture. In Math, we are working on a Geometry Unit. Lastly, in Science topics included patterns, the sun, materials on earth and fast and slow changes. We celebrated Earth Day with recycling projects.

A highlight of this year was our field trip the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Our students had an incredible opportunity of attending a live performance of Pete the Cat



This was sponsored through the Student Enrichment in the Arts (SEAS) Program). We had a great theater experience and thoroughly enjoyed the show.

iReady  , MobyMax  on-

line Journey and GoMath e-books  and



Imagine Learning for ESOL

Students are some of our favorite resources to strengthen our academic skills. Please use these apps over the summer to continue learning and growing. Check out the Virtual Field Trips to Flamingo Gardens with activities A-Z with integration of Science and Language. Please continue to read books at home with your child to model reading behaviors and instill the love of reading for pleasure.

We love getting your assignments, letters and pictures of our smiling kiddos! Please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher(s) through email, phone calls and Canvas inbox to maintain the home-school connection.

We are thinking of you and are here for you. Be safe and well!

Educationally yours, the First Grade Team



## **Hungry Second Grade Capers**

Ms. Bohlen, Mr. Reveron,  
Ms. Garcia, Ms. Quinn,  
Ms. Tersigni, Ms. Persac

Wow! What a unique fourth quarter and end-of-the-year we have all experienced! The second-grade team would like to thank you for all that you have done during this transitional period from a traditional classroom setting to distance learning. Hopefully, we are all able to find some silver lining through this last quarter. Our staff and parents have all come together, regardless of circumstances, to continue academically and emotionally supporting our children and students. Through all the craziness, the second-grade team was unable to properly announce some wonderful news! We would like to announce that on January 28<sup>th</sup> our team member, Melanie Quinn, welcomed her second little girl, Jasmine Teresa Quinn.

As we approach summer and the end of our formal distance learning lessons, we would like to encourage our families to continue reading and challenging your children as they prepare for the upcoming school year. Thank you for all you do!



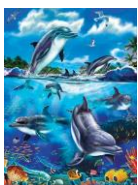
## **Third Grade News!**

Mr. Daley, Ms. Edwards,  
Ms. Hengge, Ms. Fortoul, Ms. Rudnick

What an unusual end to what was a great year in third grade! We are proud of all the hard work the students have shown both in the classroom and virtually. This summer, students will still have access to Mobymax, Newsela, iReady reading and math. IReady math will only be available until July 24 so take advantage of this

while we have it. These programs, as well as many of the ones on Clever are great for reinforcing what they learned and for teaching new skills. It is important that they practice both subjects. In fourth grade, students will need to get a level 2 or higher in reading AND in math in order to be promoted. We would also like to take this opportunity to recognize the retirement of Ms. Rudnick. Congratulations to Ms. Rudnick as she embarks upon retirement! Ms. Rudnick provided education to Dania's students grades 2-4 since 2001. While it is with great sadness that we say good-bye, we can only imagine Ms. Rudnick's excitement by the new adventures awaiting in the future. We will forever remember her dedication, passion, and love for all learners. Educators like Ms. Rudnick truly make teaching a joy. We wish Ms. Rudnick all the best for her future endeavors! Have a safe and relaxing summer! We will see you in August!!!

Mr. Daley, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Hengge,  
Ms. Persac, Ms. Rudnick, Ms. Fortoul



#### ***Fourth Grade Features***

Ms. Little, Ms. Schweinfurth,  
Ms. Podesta, Mr. Tomlinson,

We can't believe another year has come and gone already! What a year it has been! So many changes, but SO much learning as well. Not only did students keep learning the curriculum online, but they also learned more about technology, problem-solving, and hopefully about caring for one another. 😊

We would like to thank the students for the hard work they put in all year long and the parents for working alongside of us to help each child reach their goals. As students go into the summer break, we would like to remind both parents and students to make sure their child is reading for at

least 30 minutes a day. This will help them with their reading fluency and their vocabulary. Make sure you are asking questions about what they are reading and talking to your children to help improve their comprehension as well. If possible, children should join the Broward County Library or a similar book club for the summer! Students should also continue to practice their multiplication skills-at this time they should KNOW their facts and be able to recite them quickly. Students should also continue to write throughout the summer in a journal; they have worked very hard on their writing skills and will be assessed in writing again next year.

It is extremely sad for us not to be able to say a physical "good-bye" to each student and celebrate the accomplishments they worked so hard to achieve throughout the year. Know that we miss you and hope that you are all safe and healthy. We hope you all have a very relaxing, fun and safe summer and we look forward to SEEING your children in the hallways next year! 😊



#### ***Fifth Grade News***

Ms. Deegan, Ms. Horton,  
Mr. Palenchar, Ms. Magliocca

We can't believe it's already the end of the year and we are preparing to send the students to middle school. What an ending to the school year! Looking back, so many exciting things have happened throughout the year including many wonderful musical performances, running our businesses at Biz Town, a Valentine's Day dance, and a field trip to the Museum of Discovery and Science to name a few. As we say goodbye to this wonderful group of students, we also wish to remind that their success is and always will be a combination of hard work and dedication.



We commend the students for their hard work and effort put forth this year. We also could not have done it without the support from the parents. As we begin to turn your thoughts and efforts towards future success; the work of middle school will require more thought and more challenging performance tasks from students. The students can best be prepared for these challenges by continuing to work during the summer to avoid the “Summer Slide.” They can do this by reading each day and by continuing to work on the many online educational programs utilized in the classroom.

While this year is not a typical ending for the Fifth Grade Class of 2020, we need to celebrate the accomplishments of the hard work put forth this year. The Fifth Grade Team applauds the successes and achievements of each student. We thank you all for working together to make this a great year, and we wish you a healthy and safe summer. Congratulations and best of luck in middle school!

### ***Reading Corner***

Mr. Ricketts



We are excited to be able to use using I-Ready.com for reading practice this summer. It is an amazing online program which is available to all our students and highly recommended for daily use.

For extra support in Language Arts and Writing standards the following sites. Noreadink.com,

- Spellingcity.com
- Newsela.com
- Myon.com

### **Ways parents can promote Reading at home during the summer**

- Establish a quiet, comfortable place to read.

- Keep reading time enjoyable and relaxed. Be enthusiastic when approaching reading.

- Read aloud to your child daily.

- Read your child’s book over and over.

- Select a high-interest book or magazine at your child’s independent reading level and read with him/her in the evenings.

- To increase interest in reading activities, play computer games that require reading to progress from one stage to another.

- Stop and ask about the pictures and about what is happening in the story.

- Read from a variety of children’s books, including fairy tales, song books, poems, and information books.

- Listen to your child read, daily.

- Be a “reading model” for your child. Let your child see you reading magazines, newspapers, and books.

- Schedule regular trips to the library.

- Talk with your child frequently so that he/she will connect the spoken with the written word.



### ***Special Teachers***

Mr. Dix, Ms. Laden,  
Coach Selvitella

To Dania Parents and Students, I hope that everyone is safe. It is regrettable that we could not be together to have a great closing 4th quarter of the year, however, there is a silver lining. I have missed being in class and putting together an end of the year celebration. That being said. Distance makes the heart grow fonder.

I can't wait for the beginning of the next school year to forge ahead on some of the new things we did not get a chance to do or experience. Once again stay safe and hopefully if it is God's will, I will see you all In August.

Mr. Dix

It has been both a challenge and a learning experience for parents, students and teachers with our new system for online learning! A true motivation and testament that we all can persevere in spite of any unexpected curves that life throws at us. Not in a million years did I think that we would have such a life-threatening epidemic affecting all our lives, be forced to close the schools, have a stay at home order, and learning would occur online. WE DID IT!

I miss my students with the everyday learning, interaction and fun we shared in class and look forward to seeing you again in the next school year, hopefully in school and not online!

Please stay safe, continue practicing social distancing, WASH your hands frequently and DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE! Wear GLOVES and MASK when you venture outside of your home to be safe!

Stay healthy, have a fun and active summer with your family and friends.

Coach Selvitella

During these unprecedented and challenging times... nothing can replace being at school in our "Beautiful" Art Room.

I miss seeing our students each day for a "hands-on" Art Class. Although, the students did not have the supplies and materials... I am so pleased to say that our "Dania Dolphins Artists Extraordinaire" rose to the occasion. I have received so many "Master Works of Art" and developed a great exchange of dialogue with the students about their artwork.

Here is a list of the Art Lessons and Activities:

K-2: Leaf Rubbing, Rainbow Drawing, Still-Life, Landscape and Perspective, and Friendly Pet

3-5: Leaf Rubbing, VA Author & Illustrator, Make A Robot, Portrait & Self-Portrait, One-Point-Perspective

For Enrichment Activities (Optional):

I used the Nearpod Website...

Vincent Van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol, and The Elements of Art

Here are some great websites for Summer Enrichment Activities:

1. Cassie Stephen's Favorite Lessons
2. Visual Art Home Learning
3. 365 Day Drawing Challenge

Please continue to "Make Great Art!"

Stay Safe and Be Well

Thank you,

Ms. Laden

### *Counselor's Corner*

**Ms. Zotter**



Hello Caregivers!

As the school year ends, I want to let you know that I have enjoyed working with you and your students, and I want to thank all of you for a great year. Through the transition to online learning, many of us have struggled with balancing the demands of home, school and work simultaneously. I encourage you to routinely schedule and prioritize time for your child's, as well as your own, self-care. Self-care involves taking an active role in maintaining

your physical and psychological health and well-being. If you have not done so already, you may access my canvas course (all students received an invitation) in order to discover (or re-discover) mind-body skills related to breathwork, mindfulness, artwork, music and movement. I will plan to leave the course practices open throughout the summer. You may also access the resources section for any relevant family or community needs.

For those of you with rising middle schoolers, I recommend you plan a family meeting to discuss any excitement, fears, rumors or expectations they/ you might have about the upcoming transition. Many middle schools have traditionally held open-house or orientation days throughout the summer. These visits are designed to ease your child's adjustment and are helpful for addressing any questions or concerns prior to the start of school. Due to the ongoing restrictions on social gatherings, it is likely that many of these opportunities will be provided virtually and/or later in the summer.

As the school year ends, please do not forget that summer break continues to be an opportunity for students to learn, to grow and to show what they know! Summer learning programs and opportunities have traditionally been available through Broward County Parks and Recreation, the Humane Society, and the Broward County Public Library System (not just for students, but adults as well!). Again, due to the ongoing restrictions on social gatherings, it is likely that many of these opportunities will be provided virtually and/or later in the summer. Please encourage your child to continue reading and practicing math, connect with friends and family, and demonstrate good character in all that he or she chooses to do! I hope you have a safe and relaxing summer.

Thank you for your continued partnership!



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## *Title 1 News*

**Ms. Schwartz**

Until further notice, Title 1 activities have been suspended due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is the concern of Dania Elementary School and the Title 1, Migrant and Special Programs Department that everyone remains safe and healthy during these challenging times. We look forward to obtaining a sense of normalcy, once future notification of clearance has been received via Broward County Public Schools.

I am happy to report that Dania Elementary School has met our responsibility for the completion of the 2019-2020 Title I eBinder compliance documentation up through the February 28, 2020 Checklist. Therefore, our school has reached 100% compliance.

There are several Title 1 Parent Information items that may be of interest to you.

The **2020-2021 Title 1 School-Parent Compact** was finalized in March. The School-Parent Compact is a written agreement between the school and the parents of children participating in Title 1, Part A programs. It identifies the activities that the parents, school staff, and students will undertake to share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. Please click on the pdf below to review.



G5- FINAL  
School-Parent Compa

The **2020-2021 School Parent and Family Engagement (PFEP) Plan** has been drafted. This plan involves the School's administration, faculty and families to work cooperatively to outline the parental activities to be held during the 2020-2021 school year. We would like your participation in the development, evaluation, and revisions of the 2020 -2021 School-level Parent and Family Engagement Plan. Please click on the pdf below to review and send your

thoughts, comments and suggestions to  
Susan.R.Schwartz@browardschools.com.



E5- DRAFT  
School-Level PFEP 202

If you have any questions regarding Title 1  
please feel free to contact me at 754-323-5350  
Or by email at  
Susan.R.Schwartz@browardschools.com.

Educationally yours,  
Susan R. Schwartz



### *A Message from our Assistant Principal*

It had been a great pleasure working with my  
Dania Family. For the past year, I had a fabulous  
experience partaking in great school events,  
watching various accomplishments, and  
observing superior education that takes place at  
our school.

A huge THANK YOU to all our volunteers for  
your time, effort and dedication. You are greatly  
appreciated. Congratulations to our  
**Outstanding Adult Volunteer of the Year –  
Ms. Villanueva** and our **Outstanding Senior  
Volunteer of the Year – Ms. Hillebrand.**

I special **CONGRATULATIONS** to  
Mr. Ricketts as the new Assistant Principal at  
Watkins Elementary School.  
**CONGRATULATIONS** to Ms. Carazas for  
following her dream and starting a new career in  
the technology world. And, very special  
**CONGRATULATIONS** to Ms. Rudnick,  
Ms. Bohlen and Ms. Fleming who are ending  
their long educational careers and are entering  
into new chapters in their lives.

I wish everyone a happy and healthy summer.  
Have fun, read, enjoy family, friends, and  
people you love. And see you in August, ready  
to S.W.I.M. into a very successful 2020-2021  
School Year!!!

**Ms. Galina Markevich**



### **Additional Information**

Summer Office Hours  
Monday – Thursday – 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Office (754) 323-5350

### **Planning Ahead**

Meet and Greet - TBA

First day of School for Students – TBA

Open House – TBA

Volunteer Orientation - TBA

### **Additional Resources**

For upcoming events, supply list, updates  
regarding school re-opening, and additional  
information please visit our website at  
**[www.browardschools1.com/dania](http://www.browardschools1.com/dania)**

If you would like to become a volunteer visit  
[webapp.browardschools.com/sbbc\\_volunteer/VolunteerForm.aspx](http://webapp.browardschools.com/sbbc_volunteer/VolunteerForm.aspx)

To apply/re-apply for free or reduced lunch visit  
[www.myschoolapps.com](http://www.myschoolapps.com)