

The Parent Liaison Project

Est. 1999

**Building Bridges,
Connecting Families,
Schools & the Community**



Hillsborough County
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Excellence in Education

Department of Exceptional Student Education
<http://ese.mysdhc.org/>

Florida Diagnostic & Learning
Resources System
<http://fdlrs.mysdhc.org/>



Parent Liaisons

Area 1

Carolina Beltran, 813-837-7740
Carolina.Beltran@sdhc.k12.fl.us
Blake, Jefferson, Plant, Robinson
High Schools and feeder schools

Area 2

Mary Merryday, 813-406-8683
Mary.Merryday@sdhc.k12.fl.us
Alonso, Leto, Sickles, Steinbrenner
High Schools and feeder schools

Area 3

Corinne Smith, 813-558-1412
Corinne.Smith@sdhc.k12.fl.us
Freedom, Gaither, King, Wharton
High Schools and feeder schools

Area 4

Paula Thomas, 813-837-7734
Paula.Thomas@sdhc.k12.fl.us
Chamberlain, Hillsborough, Middleton
High Schools and feeder schools

Area 5

Amy Smith, 813-740-7585
Amy.Smith@sdhc.k12.fl.us
Bloomingdale, Newsome, Spoto High Schools
and feeder schools

Area 6

LaKeesha Shipman-Hines, 813-707-7436
Lakeesha.Shipman-Hines@sdhc.k12.fl.us
Durant, Plant City, Strawberry Crest
High Schools and feeder schools

Area 7

Beth Jenner, 813-740-3717 X228
Beth.Jenner@sdhc.k12.fl.us
Armwood, Brandon, Tampa Bay Tech
High Schools and feeder schools

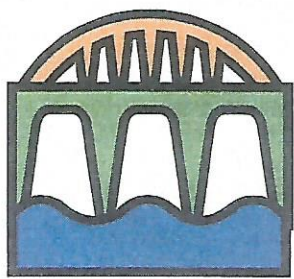
Area 8

Doris Jeffries, 813-837-7732
Doris.Jeffries@sdhc.k12.fl.us
East Bay, Lennard, Riverview High Schools
and feeder schools

FDLRS-Parent Services

Debbie Valdes, Program Manager
813-837-7733~Debbie.Valdes@sdhc.k12.fl.us
Phyllis Guthman, Communications & Resources
813-837-7735~Phyllis.Guthman@sdhc.k12.fl.us
Parent Services Voicemail:
813-837-7732 (English)
813-837-7728 (Español)

Building Bridges



Building Bridges between families of children with special needs and available support services...

...Parent Liaisons are there to lend a supportive ear, answer questions and refer parents to appropriate school personnel or other community agency for further help...

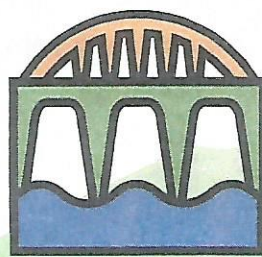
...Parent Liaisons are there to help teachers, administrators and all support staff build a more effective relationship with families.

— Who We Are —

The Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Parent Liaison Project

provides support and information to all parents of students with disabilities or special needs. The level of service is relative to the student's educational setting (regular public school, Charter School, Virtual School, Private School, or Home Schooled).

Liaisons are all parents of students who are (or have been) enrolled in exceptional student education programs in Hillsborough County. The eight Area Offices of Hillsborough County Public Schools in collaboration with Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System (FDLRS), coordinate this project.



The Goal of the Parent Liaison Project

To provide information and guidance for parents navigating the Exceptional Student Education (ESE) process, as well as information about community resources for families by:

- Emphasizing and strengthening family roles and responsibilities in the education process.
- Enhancing partnerships between schools and community support services.
- Strengthening home-school relationships by facilitating positive pro-active communication between families and educators.
- Increasing awareness of family issues and concerns in schools and communities.



...And Some Things We Do...

- Provide families with information and guidance on how to access educational and community services via printed and electronic newsletters.
- Provide individual assistance to parents regarding Individual Education Plan (IEP) process.
- Offer workshops/training and materials on educationally relevant topics.
- Participate in district/agency committees to provide parent of exceptional student perspective.
- Provide assistance to schools implementing parent involvement strategies for parents of exceptional students.
- Promote and participate in monthly FDLRS/Early Childhood Council Developmental screenings.
- Participate in weekly Early Steps, Part C transition meetings.