

Dear Fulford Falcons,

As I enter my fourth year as principal of Fulford Elementary School, I am filled with an overwhelming sense of gratitude and excitement! It is a privilege to continue serving this wonderful community, alongside our dedicated teachers, staff, supportive parents, and most importantly, our amazing students!

Reflecting on our journey so far, I am delighted to share our achievements in academic excellence. Together, we have celebrated significant advancements in Reading, Math, and Science test scores, marking a testament to our collective efforts and commitment to each child's educational journey. **Our school has earned a “B” from the State of Florida school rankings**, demonstrating our unwavering dedication to continuous improvement and excellence.

At Fulford Elementary, we are not only focused on academic achievement but also on nurturing the holistic development of every child. We are committed to meeting each student's academic, social, and emotional needs, ensuring they thrive in a safe and supportive environment. Our emphasis on STEAM education, participation in competitions and fostering a love of Reading allows our students to explore their creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, preparing them for future success in an ever-changing world.

Safety and security remain paramount priorities at our school. We continue to implement rigorous measures to ensure that Fulford Elementary is a place where students feel safe to learn and grow. Learning happens best in an environment that is both safe and fun, and we strive every day to create such an atmosphere for our students.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and hard work of our exceptional teachers and staff. I am deeply thankful for their passion, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to our students' success. To our students, thank you for your enthusiasm and eagerness to learn each day. Your curiosity and resilience inspire us all!

To our parents and all stakeholders, such as the [I Have a Dream Foundation, Miami](#), the Turken Family for celebrating Random Acts of Kindness through our JBT Kindness Awards, the City of North Miami Beach, and our Fulford PTA, your support and involvement are invaluable! Your partnership in our children's education truly makes a difference. Together, we are building a community where every child can thrive and reach their full potential.

As we embark on this 24-25 school year, we are preparing to celebrate **“100 Years of Brilliance: Be Who We Were Meant to Be!”** Let us renew our commitment to excellence, collaboration, and nurturing the future leaders of tomorrow. I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead and look forward to working closely with each of you to make this year exceptional for every child at Fulford Elementary School!

With heartfelt appreciation and warmest regards,

Dr. Maria T. Rodriguez, Principal Fulford Elementary School