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3rd Grade Reading Success Matters

September 2022



## The Attendance Awareness Poster Contest is Back!

The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading is uniting with public elementary schools in our four-county region to host the Attendance Awareness Poster Contest. Why? Great question! To help build awareness for students,

families, and educators about the importance of outstanding attendance.

Starting in kindergarten, missing 10% of school – or just two days a month – can make it harder to learn to read, and that causes children to fall behind. Good attendance, in person or remotely, can help kiddos succeed.

As schools and communities continue to address the academic and social impact of the pandemic, incorporating meaningful ways to engage students, and their families, is critical to addressing the significant absenteeism, enrollment declines, and educational inequities exacerbated by the disaster.

Based on past success, the [Attendance Awareness Poster Contest](#) is back! Since the inaugural Attendance Awareness Poster Contest in 2015, nearly 200,000 posters have been created. Any public elementary school in Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota county can participate on an “opt-in” basis during September 2022.

SCGLR produced a short contest video that can be used at schools during their newscasts. The video highlights the need for superior attendance, gives the rules and time frame of the poster contest, reinforces the tagline “Make Every Day a Learning Day,” and encourages students to enter the poster contest and the photo/video contest.



Attendance messaging helps build a habit and a culture of attendance by helping everyone understand why going to school regularly matters, when missing school is a problem, and what they can do to ensure students are in school.

We know that there’s no such thing as perfect, especially when it comes to attendance. After all, children do get sick or may need to miss school for a number of reasons, including the need to quarantine. We know missing more than 10% of the work covered in class puts children in academic danger. To hit the mark of excellence this year, make every day a learning day!

# An Invitation to join us

SUNCOAST

The Campaign for  
GRADE-LEVEL  
READING

Reading is the key to succeeding



for the  
**Suncoast Campaign  
for Grade-Level  
Reading**

**2022  
Community Update  
Breakfast**

**Tuesday, October 11, 2022  
7:30am-9:00am**

**GROVE**  
10670 Board Walk Loop  
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202



Click **HERE**

or scan this QR code



RSVP by Friday, Sep. 23rd for the  
chance to be entered to win one of the  
10 gift cards!

RSVP Deadline:  
Monday, October 3, 2022



**Keynote Speaker**

**Ralph Smith**  
Managing Director,  
Campaign for  
Grade-Level Reading

• **Share** •

in the accomplishments of the  
past 12 months

• **Learn** •

about the current work  
happening our region.

• **Connect** •

with other community members  
as we strengthen our resolve to  
help children from birth through  
3rd grade, especially those from  
asset-limited families, succeed in  
life by ensuring they read on  
grade level.



Generously funded by



## Just Right: Pop-Up Neighbor Through Laundry

By [Beth Duda](#), director of the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading

"Since 2018, albeit interrupted by COVID, SCGLR has hosted 18 Pop-Up Neighbor Through Laundry events providing 708 families with 7,222 loads of laundry for free as a gift from The Patterson Foundation—averaging ten loads per family—that's a lot of suds!"

– [Debra Jacobs](#), president and CEO of The Patterson Foundation



[total time: 2 minutes 42 seconds]

The Suncoast Campaign and the [Laundry Project](#) assembled a Pop-Up Neighbor event in Charlotte County. There were snacks, drinks, and a colorful book nook with books the children could take home to add to their home libraries. Community partners from [United Way of Charlotte County](#), [Florida Department of Health in Charlotte County](#), [Charlotte County Libraries & History](#), [Kids Thrive!](#), and [Charlotte County Sheriff's Office](#) spent the morning sharing their expertise and hearts with the laundromat patrons.

**CONTINUE READING**

We welcome your thoughts. Contact us at [info@GradeLevelReadingSuncoast.net](mailto:info@GradeLevelReadingSuncoast.net).

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