Principal News

November 9, 2026

Principal Message



Dear Dalmatian Families,
We are off to a wonderful start to November at Anne Sullivan Elementary. It is hard to believe how quickly the school year is moving along. Our students continue to work hard, grow academically, and demonstrate kindness and leadership throughout our campus. As we move further into November, we are reminded of how much we have to be thankful for, especially our amazing students, dedicated teachers and staff, and supportive families who make ASE such a special place.

We would like to wish all of our Dalmatian families celebrating Diwali a very Happy Diwali. Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is a beautiful celebration that symbolizes the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. It is a time for families and friends to come together, share traditions, enjoy special meals, and celebrate hope, happiness, and new beginnings. We hope all of our families celebrating this special holiday enjoy a wonderful time filled with love, joy, and special memories. One of the things that makes Anne Sullivan Elementary so special is the rich diversity of cultures and traditions represented in our school community. We are grateful for the opportunity to celebrate and appreciate the many traditions that make our Dalmatian family unique.

As we continue through November, our teachers and students remain focused on learning and academic growth. Our classrooms are filled with engaging lessons, meaningful discussions, and opportunities for students to collaborate, think critically, and demonstrate their learning. Thank you for continuing to support your child's education at home by encouraging reading, practicing skills, and having conversations about their school day. Your partnership truly makes a difference.

A special thank you once again to our wonderful Watch D.O.G.S. dads who continue to volunteer their time helping with morning car rider duty. Your smiling faces, helping hands, and positive attitudes help our mornings run smoothly. We appreciate your commitment to our students and the difference you make each day.

As a reminder, parent lunch visits are welcome on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Wednesdays remain our designated non-visitor lunch days. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we continue to follow our campus procedures.

As we approach the Thanksgiving season, I encourage our students to think about the importance of gratitude and kindness. Sometimes the smallest acts of kindness can make the biggest difference in someone's day. Whether it is helping a classmate, thanking a teacher, or showing appreciation to a friend, we hope our Dalmatians continue to spread kindness throughout our school and community.

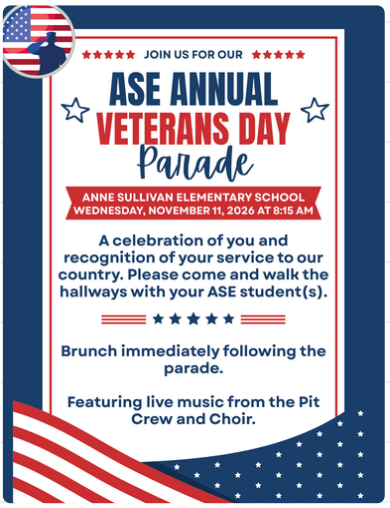
Thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership. I am truly grateful to serve as the principal of such an incredible school. We look forward to another wonderful week of learning, growing, and making special memories together.

ASE students will Learn...Inspire...and Lead...We are ASE!

Calling All Veterans

On November 11th @ 8:15 a.m. we will hold our annual Veterans Day parade and brunch honoring those who have served our country. This *student-only* parade has been a long-standing ASE tradition and well embraced by all.

Please access the Sign-Up Genius link in the attached flyer so that we will have an accurate count of how many Veterans may be joining us for the parade and brunch afterward.
Additionally, see the below information about the Honor Wall that we will create to honor their service as well.



PDF **Veterans Day Parade 2026 (2).pdf** Download 197.9 KB

Book Drive



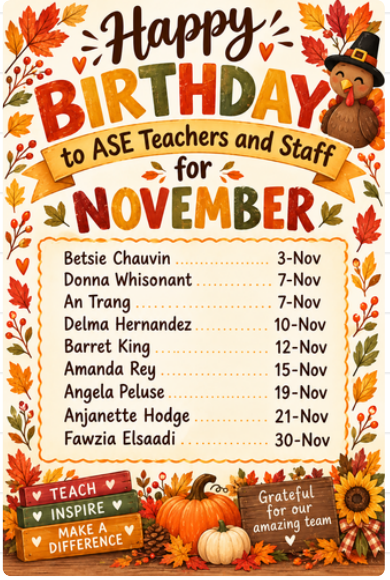
The ASE Student Council is having a children's book donation drive from November 5 to November 18.

Please donate new or gently used (good working condition with no markings in the pages) children's books in any language from Pre-K to 5th grade level by dropping off the books in the collection box at the entrance of each grade level hallway.

The last day of the children's book donation drive will be on Wednesday, November 18. The books will be donated to the Fort Bend County Libraries. Thank you for your generosity to help out the community!

Staff Birthdays

Happy November Birthday to the following staff members.



Holiday Cheer Drive

Please consideration a donation this holiday season to the less fortunate. Attached is our flyer with items noted for consideration. We appreciate the spirit of generosity that ASE shows every year.

Collecting items: November 9th- December 4th



Holiday Parties

All parents are invited to join their child(ren) for the December Holiday classroom party. Due to space constraints, we ask that siblings remain at home and we thank you for understanding.



Cafeteria

Beginning November 30th, grapes will only be served to 1st-5th graders. We will also take this opportunity to remind families to please help us by making sure large fruit and food items are cut into smaller pieces for your child to eat during lunch time when you pack their lunch.



PE Corner

Please see the Action for Happiness November calendar below.



PDF **Wellness AFHappiness_November 2026.pdf** Download 503.0 KB

National Kids Day Event

Please consider participating with your children. Registration link: https://runsignup.com/Race/TX/SugarLand/NationalKidsDaySuperstars



Science Fair

1st-5th grade students are encouraged to participate in the Science Fair. Please see the attached handbook and communicate with your child's science teacher.

Project are due 2/18/27.

3rd-5th grade will advance two projects to compete in the district science fair.



Science_and_Engineering_Fair_Handbook 26.27.pdf

Download
585.7 KB

Spelling Bee 2026-2027



Students in grades 3-5 have the opportunity to participate in the Anne Sullivan Elementary Spelling Bee this school year.

Classroom Qualifying Round
The qualifying round will take place during students' ELA classes on Tuesday, November 10, 2026. No sign-up is required. Students who choose to participate will complete a written spelling test consisting of 20 words. The test will include a combination of words from the Scripps study list as well as words not found on the list.

School-Wide Spelling Bee
The top spellers from each grade level will advance to the school-wide Spelling Bee, which will be held on Tuesday, December 1, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
To support student preparation:

- The Scripps study word list is available in each student's Schoology Library Course.
- Students can download the free Scripps Word Club app for additional practice and interactive spelling games.
- Parents, please see the below resources.
- Scripps National Spelling Bee for Families: https://www.spellingbee.com/parents
- Word Club App: https://www.spellingbee.com/word-club

Participation
Participation is completely optional, but we encourage all interested students to take part in the event. The Spelling Bee is a wonderful opportunity for students to strengthen their spelling skills, expand their vocabulary, and build confidence in their academic abilities. Thank you for your support in promoting this event and encouraging student participation!

Fittest School Challenge



Please mark your calendar for this district sponsored race. Last year ASE won the Fittest School Challenge as we had the most participants from all FBISD schools. Let's do it again!

FITTEST SCHOOL CHALLENGE 2027.pdf

Download
230.9 KB

GT Testing

Fall Testing Window:
Universal Screener (2nd graders)
10/26-10/30

Fall GT Testing
11/2-11/13

https://www.fortbendisd.gov/departments/gifted-talented

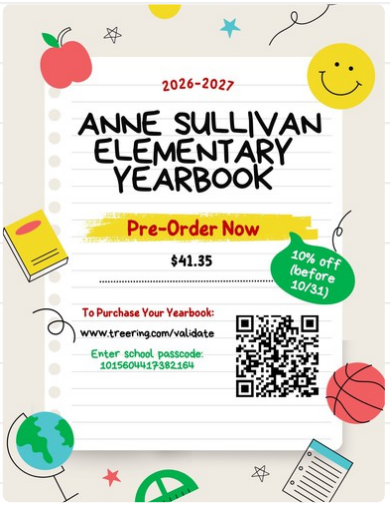


Yearbook Information

The 2026–2027 yearbook is now available for purchase.

Families can save 10% by ordering by October 31.

This Early Bird Special will be the only yearbook discount offered this school year, so we encourage families to take advantage of the savings and reserve their copy early!



Counselor Corner

5 Gratitude Tips for Parents 💛

Practice Acts of Kindness: Encourage your child to show gratitude through simple acts of kindness. Help them create thank-you cards for teachers, family members, or friends who have made a positive difference in their lives. You can also encourage them to share toys, help with household chores, or offer assistance to someone who needs it. Explain that gratitude is not only about saying “thank you” but also about showing others that we appreciate them through our words and actions.



School Bus Safety Contest

National School Bus Safety Poster Contest 2026-2027:
From our State to the National Stage! The National School Bus Safety Poster Contest gives students across North America an opportunity to use their creativity to promote an important message: school bus safety.



Every safe mile makes a difference — and every student has a story to tell! The National School Bus Safety Poster Contest invites students to bring this year's theme to life through original artwork that promotes positive school bus safety practices.
This year's theme is
Safe Miles = Big Smiles

All posters must be completed by March 3, 2026, and the Lake Olympia Transportation Department should be informed to arrange pick-up or drop-off.

Last year, Alston Lai, one of our own ASE students, won Division 1 and Best of Show! We are very proud of this achievement and hope to see more of our students participate and do well this year.

PDF **NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY POSTER CONTEST GUIDELINES.pdf** Download 3.4 MB

Monthly Writing Challenge



In an effort to grow future authors and develop the love of writing in our students, each month we will pose a writing topic for our PreK-5 Dalmatians to respond to as an optional activity. A child who completes the Challenge can submit his/her work to Ms. Roach electronically or in the yellow bus located near the front office. stefanie.roach@fortbendisd.gov

Pieces submitted will be displayed on our Writing Challenge hallway bulletin board, along with recognition in this Smore. Creativity is encouraged and grammatical errors are forgiven!

November submissions:
5th: Sahara John
4th: Misha Sayani
3rd: William John
2nd: Caroline Xu
1st: Vetri Narendran
1st: Yalini Narendran
1st: Isaac John
1st: Athena Halageri-Rao (multiple submissions)
Kindergarten: Milan Prakash

Please refer to the November Challenge Menu.

PDF **November Writing Menu.pdf** Download 16.2 MB

Spirit Night

Spirit Night at Magpie's Gifts, November 13, 10AM - 6PM
4837 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479
Shop and give back! Shop in store or online at Magpie's and mention ASE PTA so we can get 15% back for our school!



Spirit Night

Spirit Night - Mia's Table, November 10, 11am-9pm
15908 Lexington Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479
Join us for our next Spirit Night at Mia's Table! You don't have to cook and 20% of your sales goes back to our school when you mention ASE PTA! It's a win win!



Lights, Camera, Create



The 2026–27 Film Fest Competition is OPEN!
You can begin to get your students involved by sharing the flyer and website below with your school community. This is an enrichment opportunity which celebrates and showcases the creative talents of our students, fostering a passion of storytelling through a variety of digital media, including film and photography.
Submissions are due Tuesday, February 16, 2027, at 4:00 P.M.
Student finalists from each category will be celebrated at the Film Fest Awards Show on Thursday, April 1, 2027, from 6:00–7:30 P.M. at Dulles High School's Rodgers Auditorium.
Link: Film Fest Competition and Awards Show

Dance Opportunity

Please see the flyer if interested in a dance opportunity for your child in December.



Support the FBEF

Save the date and support the Education Foundation.

In addition, please see all upcoming FBEF events noted below.



PDF **November News from Fort Bend Education Foundation.pdf** Download 3.9 MB

Student Event

On behalf of Dulles High School's Science National Honor Society, we are excited to invite your students and families to our annual Math & Science Night (MSN) on Friday, November 20, 2026, at Dulles High School!



Math and Science Night (MSN) is a long-standing community STEM outreach tradition. Each year hundreds of high school and college volunteers come together to transform our campus into an exciting, interactive STEM experience, designed to incite curiosity and promote early exposure to fields in the mathematics and sciences.

The event features hands-on chemistry experiments, robotics demonstrations, engineering challenges, interactive activities, and much more. With over 200 student volunteers, as well as 60+ booths including Rice University, HCC, AOPS, University of Houston, and American Chemical Society, attendance offers students a chance to experience the vastness of the world of STEM. It's

a fun and engaging team activity outside of practice/competition involving direct interaction with community organizations, and exposure to a wide range of fields.

Our proceeds go entirely to charity, and after raising thousands last year, we hope to do even more this year with your help.

Student Event



For the Love of Music is dedicated to helping youth gain confidence with vocal performances by giving them opportunities to sing at different events in front of an audience.

For the Love of Music will:

- Host performances at retirement homes, churches, and community events
- Educate youth about vocal health and performance preparation
- Help youth gain confidence with singing
- Give youth a chance to connect with new audiences
-

For the Love of Music is hosting an event on Saturday, December 19th from 2 PM- 3 PM and Monday, December 28th from 10 AM to 11 AM.

If your student is interesting in performing, please fill out the Google form using the sign up link given in the flyer.

PDF **OFFICIAL For the Love of Music Brochure.pdf** Download 1.5 MB

Rainy Day Dismissal



Rainy Day dismissal pertains only to those families whose children walk or ride a bike to school each day. Each parent of a child who walks or rides a bike is required to notify the homeroom teacher of a Rainy-Day alternative plan. At 2:45 p.m. a Blackboard Connect notice will be sent to parents informing the community of a Rainy-Day Dismissal.

Walkers/bikers will either become a car rider or remain a walker. If your child remains a walker, he/she will meet you at the normal pick-up location. Parents are not permitted to come to the building doors or encroach on the campus sidewalks to get their children in the rain. This can lead to an unsafe dismissal. All other students going home on buses, in cars, or daycare vans will not have a change in dismissal.

Tutors

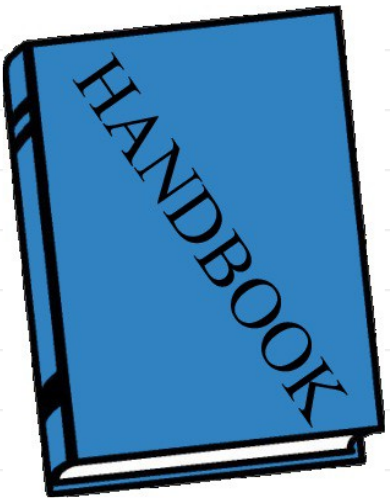
Here is a list of both current and former ASE staff members who privately tutor students throughout the year. Please reach out to them if you desire extra academic support for your child.



XLSX **Tutor List ASE 11.1.26.xlsx** Download 14.3 KB

ASE Parent Handbook

This handbook is full of information for ASE families to reference throughout the year. Changes or updates to the document will be noted here in the Smore.



DOCX **Parent Handbook 10.19.26.docx** Download 307.6 KB

Staff



Principal: Donna Whisonant
Donna.Whisonant@fortbendisd.gov
Assistant Principal: Stefanie Roach (K,2,4)
Stefanie.Roach@fortbendisd.gov
Assistant Principal: Dr. Veronica Roberson (PK, 1,3,5)
Veronica.Roberson@fortbendisd.gov
Executive Assistant: Michelle Mitchell
Michelle.Mitchell@fortbendisd.gov
Registrar: Ashley King
Ashley.King@fortbendisd.gov
Front Office Receptionist: Donna Allotta
Donna.AltamuraAllott@fortbendisd.gov
Counselor: Kimberly Omanukwue
Kimberly.Omanukwue@fortbendisd.gov
Campus Compliance Coordinator: Ginger Humphreys-Garza (Special Education, 504, STAAR)

Ginger.HumphreysGarz@fortbendisd.gov

Save the Date



11/11: *Veterans Parade for students and Veterans, 8:15 a.m.*
11/23-11/27: *Thanksgiving Holiday, No school for all*
12/17: *Holiday parties, PK-4th (see times above)*
12/18: *Holiday party, 5th & Early dismissal for all students, 12:10 p.m.*
12/21-1/5 *Winter Break, no school for students*
1/6 *Classes resume for students*

Donna Whisonant
Donna is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters