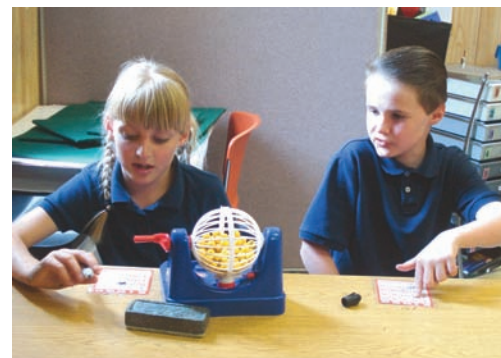


About FACE

The Florida Autism Center of Excellence (FACE) offers successful educational programs for children and young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders. As a public charter school that serves students with moderate to severe autism in pre-K through 12th grade and beyond, FACE provides a comprehensive academic environment to address the unmet needs of the growing number of children in Florida with developmental disabilities. Located in Tampa, the school is available to families in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Polk, Manatee and Sarasota counties.



Education Program

The program at FACE focuses on developing the appropriate paths of learning to meet the specific individual needs of each of its students in all areas of functioning. At FACE, students gain the academic, social and behavioral skills they need to help them become more independent later in life. FACE uses the principles of **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)** – an effective, research-based strategy that has been proven to be effective for teaching students with autism.

Eligibility

FACE serves students ages 3-22 who are on the autism spectrum and have an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

School Information

Teachers: FACE teachers must meet all requirements of Hillsborough County Public Schools. Teachers must also have experience working with children with disabilities.

Cost: As a public school, there is no tuition or fees - students attend free of charge.

Calendar: FACE follows the Hillsborough County Public Schools calendar. *For the 2009-2010 academic year, classes start on August 25, 2009, and end on June 10, 2010. Student hours are from 8:00am to 2:00pm.*

Parent Perspective

"In two years at a public school, my son still had no true skills – he was your basic wild child at his worst and the introverted wanderer at best. After two years at FACE, he has shown success in the classroom that is simply amazing. For our family, we have peace-of-mind each day when we hand him over to his teacher, knowing that he is at the right school for him."

- **Lisa Guthrie, mother of a FACE student**

"I am very appreciative of the efforts of all the teachers, staff and administration to keep this great school open and available to my family. The school's outstanding level of commitment to my son and to our family has been continuous since we first enrolled two years ago."

- **Richard Vander Paauw, father of a FACE student**