**  
Five Stars Academy as a Community School**

Five Stars Academy believes that when families are are involved in student learning, students improve their academic performance and gain advocates that promote their success, helping them feel more confident at school and in taking on more rigorous classwork. In addition, we place much emphasis on students giving back to the local and, when possible, the international community. Through our partnership with JLM Christian Foundation, our students, led by **Student Council**, are provided many opportunities and encouragement to participate in giving back and supporting those in need.   
  
As part of our Purpose, Objectives, and Core Values (1.1), we work hard to build relationships between the school, families, and community.

**Community Service**  
Experiencing different cultures changes and deepens students’ views of their surroundings and of the world. Our students are provided the opportunity to participate in community service through our partnership with JLM Foundation.  Activities include building homes and offering camps for economically disadvantaged children throughout Panama and Latin America and Caribbean nations.

**Community School and Personalization**  
Five Stars Academy is a community school that offers a personalized education to empower students as partners in their learning. A crucial early step is knowing every child well. Caring, connected instructors guide students through all stages of their academic and extracurricular lives.  We work closely with families, and encourage their active participation in Five Stars Academy, to bring the best out of each of our students.  
  
**2017-2020**Below are some of the activities in and out of school that FSA has had the opportunity in which to participate. This list is not complete and many of our parent volunteers have not been listed below. Thank you to all of our parent to make our school a success!  
 **Community Service Trips**  
Dec-17: (1 day) Repainting and repairing the House of Hope – a girls home in Penonome, Panama  
Dec-17: (1 week) Mission trip to Nicaragua to feed the poor and run a camp for kids  
Mar-18: (weekend) Building a home in the hills of Penonome, Panama for a family  
Apr-18: (1 day) Earth Day! Santa Clara beach and town clean up   
May-18: JLM House of Hope for Girls, Dress Distribution in partnership with Kirkwood High School, Missouri  
Oct-18: (weekend) Building a home and working with children; Tranquilla, Anton, Panama  
Oct-18: Beach/Town Cleanup, Santa Clara, Panama  
Dec-18: (1 day) Toy and Clothing Xmas donations to a local community  
Dec-18: (weekend) Camp for kids in Santa Cruz, Panama  
Mar-19: (1 day) Fundraiser with local organization for kids  
Aug-19: (weekend) Building a home for a family of 6 living in a 1-room house, Vaquilla, Panama  
Oct-19: (1 day) Kids camp in Vaquilla, Panama   
Dec-10: (Overnight) Christmas donation and gift/food handout to local village, Pajonal, Panama   
  
**Educational Trips**  
Apr-17: All School/Visit to a gold mine in Tonosi, Panama   
May-17: All School/Visit to Finca la Maya – a self-sustainable farm  
May-17: Grade 8 Graduation Trip to Panama City   
Sep-17: High School College Fair at Balboa Academy, Panama City  
Oct-17: High School College Fair at ISP, Panama City  
Dec-17: Grades 5-12, Paintball Fundraiser  
Jan-18: All School weekend trip/Marine Biology, watching sea turtles, Morillo, Panama   
Sep-18: All School weekend trip/Whale Watching, Pedasi, Panama     
Oct-18: Elementary/Day visit to Buenaventura Zoo  
Oct-18: High School College Fair at the Met, Panama City  
Dec-18: Grades 5-12, Paintball Fundraiser  
Oct-19: High School College Fair at the ISP, Panama City  
Oct-19: Grades 5-12, Paintball Fundraiser  
Mar-20: Grades 3-4: Overnight camping, exploration and stargazing

**Examples of Visitors or Parent Volunteers at FSA**Jan-17: Parent Volunteer: Chris Hale, CPR and First Aid trainingSep-17: Parent Volunteer: Sarah Gordon, taught a lesson in our Life Skills course on cookingSep-17: Parent Volunteers: Denise Delany, Marla Diaz, and Shannon Frame, Organizing and running our libraryOct-17: Guest Lydia Fenwick, LYFE Illustrations and Tyler Carroll, Trek with Tech!, Social media and Entrepreneurship Sep-18: Parent Volunteer: Mike Sedgwick, Taught a lesson on the progression of music during the 20th century  
Oct-18: Leonardo Gonzales and APJJJ Hector Vasquez, Lift Studio Coronado Jiu-Jitsu School demonstration   
Mar-19: Canadian Embassy and Memorial University – Newfoundland, Visit to provide information on university options in Canada.   
Apr-19: Elementary, [Color Day](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.2221840461263052&type=3&__cft__%5B0%5D=AZUuc1opDtYi8__KeHIt28wSXa04ovVntb5HyVC0ytba6wZeC0cR2nDnEavv4Ut1K5tUPtpzfF4PAKbAoabpwzeIDZeKu_w5zqN1LAQD7osKk23mmtnjvEI1EskjbFZCb89FJkjHQDyrmLiREBFuuLmuq44bvDBhdCuHf76sASeG8cNcsNMdp361IGMfqtpZXz0&__tn__=-UC%2CP-R)  
Apr-19: Student Council, Spirit Week Fundraiser  
Apr-19: [Twin Day! Dress up](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.2218720154908416&type=3&__cft__%5B0%5D=AZUS5yy1-UHjzNTg4wuSFce-fLRz46ZjA_0FoQGANYQjO1Z-PXDS7kg35RsyYGDEkS3KVcp_CM8M1UPPtYTBq604bMBuL5hnZD6qQVN4NQ72n8-8Tvn1fBXiD2QGI7EoIVjQYel-rUK0rOku8cHNDiXX6uBnkDG3Ice5--06TRO3cC9gpOYMleYJOAgRk5kGJig&__tn__=-UC%2CP-R)  
Apr-19: Parent Volunteer Roberto Diaz, shared his authored books and tips on ocean safety  
Sep-19: Student Council Fundraiser , Parents' Night Out sleepover  
Oct-19: Guest Charlie at Reef-Keepers, Marine biologist focused on restoring native giant clam populations in our oceans.   
Oct-19: Guest Edward Donofrio, Olympic Fencing Team Member 1976  
Nov-19: Parent Volunteers Maudy Boom And Marguerite Van Zyl, Creating a butterfly garden at school   
Dec-19: Parent Volunteers, Recycling program  
Dec-19: Computer Science Education Week  
Jan-20: Guest Mike Petersen, providing chess classes   
Feb-20: Student Council Fundraiser, Parents' Night Out sleepover  
Feb-20: Guest Vet from Clinica Vet "Benji"and Maudy Bom, brought 10 puppies and discussed puppy care  
Nov-20: Wendy Gillette, Journalist for CBS News via Zoom  
  
Other:  
2019-2020: Parent Volunteer Andrea Solis, Grade 4 Art  
2019-2020 and 2020-2021: Parent Volunteer Marguerite Van Zyl, Grade 3 Art  
2019-2020: Parent Volunteer Ximena Fabiani, Kinder and Grade 1 Spanish reading  
2019-202: Parent Volunteer Maria Jose Ferrer, Kinder and Grade 1 Spanish reading **Yearly Events at FSA**August: Open House  
October: Parent/Teacher Conferences  
October: Parent-led Halloween afternoon to evening event  
December: School-wide performance and open house with pot luck dinner  
March: Middle School, Mid-Day Play at Five Stars Academy. "How Tom Beat Captain Najork" by Russell Hoban.  
March: Parent/Teacher Conferences  
March/April: School-wide Easter Egg Hunt  
April: Earth Day  
May: Graduation Grade Kinder, 8, 12  
May: School-wide performance and open house with pot luck dinner