



Spotlight on Swedish School of Tampa Bay

This article was submitted by Malin Samuelsson, Swedish School teacher/secretary and edited by Cynthia Wentland.



The Swedish School of Tampa Bay was founded on the initiative of two Swea-sisters of SWEA South Florida and opened its doors for the first time in August of 2006. It is funded by member fees and support from Sweden and other sponsors. Today the school meets on Sunday afternoons in a "real school environment", renting facilities of the Family of Christ Christian School in Tampa, FL. Children are divided into age groups according to their grade in the American school system. We also assist students of Sofia Distans and adult beginners Swedish.

The school's common area is open for fika every school day. The community is invited to visit and share a cup of coffee and some Swedish-American company. We also have a library of Swedish books, generously donated by the Swedish community of Central Florida, and other locations in America. We have close to 400 books and are always looking to expand our collection with newer books, games, and media.

We will start off the fall semester with grammar books and acknowledge different themes and holidays as the semester goes on. Themes we have worked with in the past include Swedish immigration now and then, Vikings, Vasaloppet (ski race), Regeringen (government), and Melodifestivalen (pop song competition).

If you are in the area visiting please feel welcome to join us for some fika. If you are moving here we would love to meet you, and if you are thinking about starting a Swedish school where you live, we will gladly share all that we know with you. Please visit our home page at www.svenskaskolanitampabay.org for further information.

Photo: Swedish School of Tampa Bay students play brännboll.