

Lakas Shimizu Memorial 2K

The Hillsborough Schools Foundation Fun Run will commemorate Lakas Shimizu through the 2K Lakas Shimizu Memorial.

Every year, Lakas loved running the HSF Fun Run with his friends and family. Along the 2K course, Lakas sprinted with great spurts of energy, hopped along the road in slow motion, energetically cartwheeled with a huge grin on his face, or simply walked while chatting with his mom and big brother. For Lakas, it was particularly special to run while supporting schools in the community he loved. A second grader at South School, Lakas regularly ran Fitness Friday and encouraged his friends to join him. Running, no matter the distance, was a great opportunity to establish and strengthen friendships. A very big-hearted boy, Lakas shared his joy and happiness for physical movement as he made jokes between each stride. He planned one day to run a 100-mile race with his dad. Meanwhile, the 2K was just the right distance—for now. Healthy and happy, gleeful and generous, Lakas Shimizu died suddenly and unexpectedly on Christmas Day 2013. He was 8 years old. While flashing his bright, beaming smile, Lakas was known for embodying the meaning of his name—strength in Filipino—by making kindness fun, aspiring to include everyone, and learning with passion and determination. Run with Lakas!

Dan, Celine and Bayan Shimizu

