

AMERICAN HERITAGE SCHOOL

KNOWLEDGE | INTEGRITY | COMPASSION

William R. Laurie, M.Ed.
President/Founder

Douglas R. Laurie, M.Ed., D.C.
Vice President



Elise Blum, M.Ed.
High School Principal

Kelly Bennett, M.S. Ed.
Director of Guidance

School Code: 101422

School Profile 2016-2017

Highlights of Recognitions

The students at American Heritage School are uniquely prepared to be leaders of the 21st century who embody knowledge, integrity, and compassion. Each year, students attend prestigious competitions and earn exceptional awards. Here are some of the recent achievements of our students:

- **#1 private school** in the **nation** and **#1 high school** in **Florida** for 7th consecutive year for highest number of **National Merit Scholars**
(National Merit Scholars are the top 1% of students throughout the United States.)
- **#9 out of 22,000** high schools in the **nation** for National Merit Scholars
 - **50** National Merit Scholar Semifinalists (highest number in the state)
 - **39** National Merit Commended Scholars
 - **25** National Hispanic Scholars
- **\$78 million** in college scholarships offered to the Class of 2016
- **94%** passing rate on all Advanced Placement exams (52% passing rate in the state of Florida; 60% passing rate globally); AP average test score: 4
- **8 U.S. Presidential Scholar** candidates (more than any other high school in Florida)
- **#1 private school** in the **U.S.** in national **Math** Competitions
- **#16 in the U.S.** at the national **Science Bowl** and **#1** in the **South Florida** region
- **Semifinalist** at the 2016 **Robotics** World Championship
- **#1 private school** in the **U.S.** in **Model U.N.**
- Nationally ranked in the **top 1%** of all high school **Speech & Debate** programs
- **2 Emmy Awards** for WAHS News from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Suncoast Chapter - News Story and Public Service Announcement
- **First place** for the *Patriot Post* newspaper, *Expressions* literary art magazine, and *Spotlight* yearbook from the National Scholastic Press Association, the American Scholastic Press Association, and the Florida Scholastic Press Association
- **5 Critics' Choice** Awards at District and **1 Critics' Choice** at State Thespian Festivals
- **Featured Choir** at the National Youth Choir at Carnegie Hall in New York, NY
- **2 national art award** winners from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards
- **FHSAA 2015-16 State Titles:** Boys Swimming, Girls Soccer, Softball, Boys Track & Field

Our School

American Heritage School is an independent, non-sectarian, co-educational day school for Grades PK3 through 12 with approximately 2,700 students. The high school, Grades 9-12, has a student population of 1,200 students. Our student to faculty ratio is 8:1. American Heritage School is a tuition-only school where, in an effort to make all families equal, we do not ask for nor accept donations. We are completely managed by veteran educators, and we have no governing board. It is paramount that all our staff have a vested interest in American Heritage, therefore, faculty and staff children receive full tuition to our school.

A College Prep Experience

Our school resembles a small college in size and design with facilities and labs similar to those on a college campus. American Heritage School gives its students a rigorous, traditional education in a forward-thinking, technologically advanced, well-rounded environment. Our elite students, over 100% of whom are accepted into 4-year universities, are uniquely prepared to be leaders of the 21st century, who embody knowledge, integrity, and compassion. To this end, we strive to offer a challenging college preparatory curriculum serving students of bright average to gifted intelligence and aim to develop critical thinking skills, problem solving abilities, and lifelong learning. American Heritage offers financial aid and academic and fine arts scholarships.

School Community

We believe that in addition to academics, arts, and athletics, students should develop a strong sense of social responsibility. In order to provide students with that opportunity, we offer over 70 student clubs and organizations created and headed by students and each supervised by a faculty adviser. We celebrate diversity and welcome students of all religions, nationalities, ethnicities, and races. Our focus is to create a community of scholars who respect individual and group differences and who seek to become responsible citizens.

Ethnic & International Diversity

Caucasian (non-Hispanic)	48%
Latin/Hispanic	23%
African American	10%
Native American	4%
Asian American	10%
Other	5%
Foreign Born	33%

Accreditations and Memberships

Association of Independent Schools of Florida (AISF)
 Middle States Association (MSA-CES)
 National Council for Private Schools Association (NCPSA)
 Accreditation International (Ai)
 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools/AdvancED (SACS)
 National Association of College Admissions Counseling (NACAC)
 Southern Association of College Admissions Counseling (SACAC)
 College Board

Weighting of Classes

Grade	College Prep	Honors	AP	
A+	97-100	4.67	5.67	6.67
A	93-96	4.33	5.33	6.33
A-	90-92	4	5	6
B+	87-89	3.67	4.67	5.67
B	83-86	3.33	4.33	5.33
B-	80-82	3	4	5
C+	77-79	2.67	3.67	4.67
C	73-76	2.33	3.33	4.33
C-	70-72	2	3	4
D+	67-69	1.67	2.67	3.67
D	63-66	1.33	2.33	3.33
D-	60-62	1	2	3
F	0-59	0	0	0
WP	withdrawn with passing grade			
WF	withdrawn with failing grade			

We do not rank students based on GPA

Faculty

The students of American Heritage School are served by 157 instructors, counselors, and administrators, of which 60% hold Masters or Doctoral degrees. In addition to having AP readers on our staff, our pre-professional courses are taught by prominent doctors, judges, attorneys, and engineers, who are currently practicing in their fields and dedicated to the students and their success. Faculty turnover is minimal. To foster educational best practices and a love of learning, all of our teachers participate in professional development throughout the year. Parents and students respect our dedicated, professional, competent, and caring faculty.

Fine Arts

Our Fine Arts Department is recognized internationally. We welcome students with all abilities in the arts, and our low student to teacher ratio gives each student the chance to develop skills at his/her own pace. We feel a student should be well-rounded, so we teach performance techniques and hands-on application, combined with theory in all disciplines of study. We give all students various opportunities to display their talents, both on campus and throughout the region, country, and world. We are also proud to host, in our state of the art Fine Arts Building, the Junior and Senior Thespians District Festivals and the High School Choral State Festival.

Athletics

American Heritage offers a complete competitive sports program for boys and girls, with teams in all major sports. We have a "no cut" policy that allows every student who wants to participate an opportunity to play on the Patriot team of his or her choice. Our coaches provide a high-quality level of instruction enabling students to further develop their skills and build good character, leadership, and respect for others. Awards evenings are held for athletes and parents at the conclusion of each sports season.

Curriculum & Course Offerings

In addition to the standard college preparatory curriculum, we offer 29 Advanced Placement and 94 Honors courses.

English Department

Advanced Placement: English Language & Composition, English Literature & Composition

Honors: English I, II, III, IV, Newspaper, Yearbook, Literary Magazine, College Writing, Argument & Debate, Advanced Public Forum Debate, Advanced Congressional Debate

College Preparatory: English I, II, III, IV, Journalism, Newspaper, Yearbook, Creative Writing, Literary Magazine, College Writing, Argument & Debate

Mathematics Department

Advanced Placement: Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics

Honors: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Multivariable Calculus

Competitive: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus

College Preparatory: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, College Algebra with Trig, Pre-Calculus, Analysis of Functions, Calculus, Advanced Topics in Algebra, Statistics

Science Department

Advanced Placement: Biology, Chemistry, Physics 1, Physics 2, Physics C: Mechanics, Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism, Environment

Honors: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Research I, Environmental Health, Marine Biology

College Preparatory: Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environment, Marine Biology

Pre-Medical Honors Program: Medical Terminology, Molecular Biology, Embryology, Anatomy & Physiology, Pathology, Forensic Science, Organic Chemistry, Medical Internship (Requirements: advanced math and science, high reading comprehension, interview)

Pre-Engineering Honors Program: Introduction to Engineering Design, Principles of Engineering, Digital Electronics, Engineering Design and Development, Engineering Internship

Biomedical Engineering Honors Program: Biotechnical Engineering, Biomedical Engineering Internship, and courses offered in the pre-medical and pre-engineering programs

Social Studies Department

Advanced Placement: Human Geography, World History, American History, European History, Comparative Government, American Government, Macro Economics, Psychology

Honors: Human Geography, World Geography, World History, American History, American Government, Economics, Sociology, Psychology, Public Policy Forum, World Religion

College Preparatory: World Geography, World History, American History, American Government, Economics, Sociology, Psychology

Pre-Law Honors Program: Business Law, Trial Advocacy, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Homicide, Family Law, Juvenile Law, Tort Law, Law Internship, (Requirements: high grades in English, interview)

Speech & Debate Honors Program: Introduction to Speech & Debate, Public Forum Speaking, Individual Events, Lincoln Douglas Debate, Congressional Debate

Foreign Language Department

Advanced Placement: Spanish Language, Spanish Literature, French Language, Chinese Language

Honors: Spanish III-V, French II-IV, Mandarin Chinese II & III

College Preparatory: Spanish I-III, French I & II, Mandarin Chinese I

Computer Department

Advanced Placement: Computer Science

Honors: Coding with Java, Multimedia Production, Production/Broadcasting, Broadcast & Graphics Media, Web Page Design, Virtual Animation

College Preparatory: Introduction to Coding, Productivity Suite, Introduction to Multimedia, Layout Design, e-Commerce, 2D Animation, Studio Production, Film Production

Fine Arts Department

Visual Art: Intro to Visual Concepts, Drawing I, Drawing II, Figure Drawing I, Figure Drawing II, Painting I, Painting II, Ceramics I, II, III, IV*, Sculpture I, Sculpture II, Studio 2D Art AP, Studio Drawing AP, Photography I, II, III, IV, V*, Computer Graphics, Graphic Design, Architectural Design I, II, III, IV*, Art Composition Honors

Theatre: Intro to Drama, Acting I, II, III, IV, V*, Technical Theatre I, II, III, IV*, Stagecraft for the Theatre, Stage Management, Stage Makeup I, II, III, Playwriting*, Publicity for Theatre, Scenic Art for Theatre, Scenic Design, Sound Design, Movement/Voice for Actors, Film as Literature, Music Theatre Technique, Play Script Analysis, Lighting Design

Music: Mixed Chorus*, Women's Chorus*, A Capella Chorus*, Music Theory*, Guitar I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, Piano & Keyboard, Orchestra*, Music Technology I, Music Technology II, Music Theory*, Music Theory AP

Band: Band*, Percussion Ensemble*

Dance: Dance Techniques I, II, III, IV, V, VI, Dance Company*

* Honors sections also available

Graduation Requirements

There are two (2) semesters per year, and credits are granted at the end of each semester. In addition, all students are required to complete 120 hours of community service. All classes are 49 minutes long and meet five (5) times each week. To graduate, a student must have earned a total of 24 credits (Carnegie units). The graduation requirements are as follows:

English	4 credits
Math	4 credits (one year beyond Algebra II)
Science	3 credits including Biology, Chemistry or Physics (4 recommended)
Social Studies	3 credits including World History, American History, Economics, American Government (4 recommended)
Foreign Language	2 credits (in grades 9-12) (3 recommended)
Fine Arts	0.5 credit
Physical Education	0.5 credit
Additional courses of student's choice	7 credits
TOTAL	24 credits

Nationally Recognized Scholars
Class of 2017 - Total students: 367

National Merit Scholar Semifinalists	50
National Merit Commended Scholars	39
National Hispanic Scholars	25
Presidential Scholar Candidates	8

AP Scholar Awards

AP Scholars	84
AP Scholars with Honor	38
AP Scholars with Distinction	153
National AP Scholars	51

AP Test Scores

Average AP Exam score: 4

Passing Rate: 94% with scores of 3 or higher

American Heritage Passing Rate	94%
Florida Passing Rate	52%
Global Passing Rate	60%

ACT Score Distribution

Top 5%	35
Top 10%	34.95
Top 20%	34.47
Median	28

SAT Score Distribution

RANKING	EBRW - Evidence Based Reading & Writing	M - Math
Top 5%	782	800
Top 10%	771	795
Top 20%	755	782
Median	650	670

SAT Subject Test Scores

Subject	Mean
Biology-Ecology	714
Biology-Molecular	775
Chemistry	743
English Literature	699
Japanese with Listening	790
Math Level I	698
Math Level II	741
Physics	671
Spanish	730
U.S. History	664
World History	668

GUIDANCE AND COLLEGE PLANNING DEPARTMENT (954) 472-0022, extension 3092

Director of Guidance Kelly Bennett, M.S.Ed.

Director of College Planning Luciana Mandal, M.Ed.

College Advisors - Grades 11-12

Sharon Bikoundou, M.S. Erik McLeod, M.Ed.
 Tammy Kowitt, M.H.S., L.M.H.C. Kara Morreale, M.S.
 Orley Malloy, M.S., L.M.H.C. Beth Taubman, M.S., C.A.S.
 Luciana Mandal, M.Ed.

Guidance Counselors - Grades 9-10

Vladimir Basta, M.S. Jody Schiller, M.S.
 Ludy Joseph, M.A., L.M.H.C. Nelsy Villalobos, M.S., M.S.W.

Guidance Counselors - Grades 7-8

Robin Behar, M.S., L.M.H.C.
 Tamara Stein, M.Ed.

College Acceptances

100% of American Heritage graduates were accepted to four-year colleges and attend a wide variety of selective colleges and universities. In the past three years, here are some of the out-of-state schools that have accepted our graduates.

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| American University | Georgia Institute of Technology | Tufts University |
| Amherst College | Harvard University | Tulane University |
| Bates College | Harvey Mudd College | University of California, Berkeley |
| Boston College | Johns Hopkins University | University of California, Los Angeles |
| Boston Conservatory at Berklee | Juilliard School | University of Chicago |
| Boston University | King's College (London) | University of Michigan |
| Bowdoin College | Massachusetts Institute of Technology | University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill |
| Brown University | Middlebury College | University of Notre Dame |
| California Institute of Technology | New York University | University of Pennsylvania |
| Carnegie Mellon | Northeastern University | University of Southern California |
| Case Western Reserve | Northwestern University | University of St. Andrews in Scotland |
| Colgate University | Princeton University | University of Texas at Austin |
| Columbia University | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | University of Virginia |
| Cornell University | Rhode Island School of Design | Vanderbilt University |
| Dartmouth College | Rice University | Vassar College |
| Duke University | Savannah College of Art & Design | Washington University in St. Louis |
| Emory University | Stanford University | Wellesley College |
| George Washington University | Swarthmore College | Williams College |
| Georgetown University | Syracuse University | Yale University |