

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 2017-2018

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 8th consecutive year for highest number of **National Merit Scholars**
(National Merit Scholars are the top 1% of students throughout the United States.)
- **#11 out of 22,000** high schools in the **nation** for National Merit Scholars
 - **48** National Merit Scholar Semifinalists (highest number in the state)
 - **31** National Merit Commended Scholars
- **\$83 million** in college scholarships offered to the Class of 2017
- **92%** passing rate on all Advanced Placement exams (52% passing rate in Florida; 60% passing rate globally); AP average test score: 4
- **#1 high school** in the **U.S.** in national **Math** competition
- **#1 high school** in **Florida** at state **Science Fair** competition
- **Qualifiers** at the 2017 **Robotics** World Championship
- **#1 private school** in the **U.S.** in **Model U.N.**
- **#1 Mock Trial** team in **Florida**; **#6 Mock Trial** team in the **U.S.**
- **Top 1%** in the nation in **Speech & Debate** competition
- **14 Emmy Awards** for **WAHS News** student television network from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Suncoast Chapter
- **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
- **National Visual Arts Award** in 2D3D National Art & Design Competition
- **3 national photography awards** at Drexel University Photography Contest & Exhibition
- **FHSAA 2016-17 State Titles:** Football, Boys Golf; State Runners-up: Boys Track, Girls Track, Softball, Girls Golf

Our School

American Heritage School is an independent, non-sectarian, co-educational day school for grades PK3 through 12 with approximately 2,800 students. The high school, grades 9-12, has a student population of 1,600 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, 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 80 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-CESS)
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 the sports season.

Nationally Recognized Scholars

Class of 2018 - Total students: 336

National Merit Scholar Semifinalists	48
National Merit Commended Scholars	31
Presidential Scholar Candidates	3

AP Scholar Awards

AP Scholars	62
AP Scholars with Honor	32
AP Scholars with Distinction	174
National AP Scholars	74

AP Test Scores

Average AP Exam score: 4

Passing Rate: 94% with scores of 3 or higher

American Heritage Passing Rate	92%
Florida Passing Rate	52%
Global Passing Rate	60%

ACT Score Distribution

Top 5%	36
Top 10%	36
Top 20%	35
Top 30%	32
Mean	31

SAT Score Distribution

RANKING	EBRW - Evidence Based Reading & Writing	M - Math
Top 5%	785	800
Top 10%	780	799
Top 20%	766	789
Top 30%	710	730
Median	650	660

SAT Subject Test Scores

Subject	Mean
Biology-Ecology	727
Biology-Molecular	738
Chemistry	751
English Literature	680
French	645
Math Level I	709
Math Level II	744
Physics	716
Spanish	721
U.S. History	682
World History	680

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.

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

Curriculum & Course Offerings

In addition to the standard college preparatory curriculum, we offer 29 Advanced Placement and 132 Honors courses.

English Department

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

Honors: English I, II, III, IV, Newspaper, Yearbook, Literary Magazine, College Writing

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

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

Mathematics Department

Advanced Placement: Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics

Honors: Algebra I, II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Multivariable Calculus, Number Theory/Discrete Math

Competitive/Honors: Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics

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, Environmental Science

Honors: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Research I, II, III, IV, Environmental Health, Marine Biology

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

Pre-Medical Honors Program: Medical Terminology, 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: 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, Art History, Comparative Government & Politics, American Government, Macroeconomics, Psychology

Honors: Human Geography, World Geography, World History, American History, American Government, Economics, Sociology, Psychology, World Religions

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)

Foreign Language Department

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

Honors: Spanish II, III, IV, French II, III, IV, Mandarin Chinese I, II, III, IV

College Preparatory: Spanish I, French I

Computer Department

Advanced Placement: Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles

Honors: Intro to Coding, Coding with Java, Multimedia Production, Production/Broadcasting, Sports Broadcasting & Production, Broadcast & Graphics Media, Web Page Design, Virtual Animation, Broadcast Journalism Internship

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 Art, Studio Art 2D Design AP, Photography I, II, III, IV*, V*, Computer Graphics, Graphic Design, Architectural Design I, II, III, IV, V", VI*, Art Composition*, Art Portfolio*

Theatre: Intro to Drama, Acting I, II, III, IV*, V*, VI* VII*, 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*, 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