



Highlands Elementary School (HLES)

1600 Shepard Road Winter Springs, FL 32708
www.highlands.scps.k12.fl.us • 407-746-6650



An "A" Rated School District

A Word From Our Principal

Highlands Elementary is proud to be a Leader In Me school. Our students are taught and use the 8 Habits of Happy Kids so they may be healthy, engaged, responsible and caring people. This school report outlines the key characteristics of our school from both an academic and non-academic perspective. I hope it helps you understand what makes Highlands unique. Please reach out to us if you have any questions about our school.

Robert Navarro

What Makes Us Special

- Leading allows our students to become active, engaged partners in their learning while building their self-confidence, responsibility and personal initiative.
- Highlands Elementary takes pride in building relationships with our families and offering a variety of events to engage parents with their children.
- Students are provided opportunities to Find their Voice by participating in Leadership Clubs and completing service projects.

Advanced Academics

Program of Rigorous Integrated Mathematics for Elementary Students (PRIMES) is available for mathematically talented students in grades 4 through 5.

Family Engagement

2019-2020 Data



Dividends is the volunteer program for SCPS.

Our incredible Highlands volunteers gave **4,805** hours of their time to support students.

Technology and the Future



- Students are introduced to new technologies and activities designed to build their problemsolving, logical thinking, and collaboration skills.
- Students are exposed to Coding at all grade levels and are able to utilize our Makerspace in the media center.
- Computer Science 2020 - Our students participate in at least 10 hours of computer science learning each school year.

Student Achievement

2019-2020 Data

- All students in grades K-5 participate in English and Language Arts (ELA) and Math iReady progress monitoring. **65%** of K-5 students were on or above grade level in ELA and **57%** of K-5 students were on or above grade level in Math.
- The Star Early Literacy Assessment is administered to kindergarten students at the beginning of each school year. **29%** of students demonstrated kindergarten readiness compared to the state average of 54%.

B
Highlands Elementary School earned a B grade from the Florida DOE in 2019

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Tina Calderone, Ed. D.
Chairman

Karen Almond
Vice-Chairman

Kristine Kraus
Board Member

Amy Pennock
Board Member

Abby Sanchez
Board Member

Walt Griffin, Ed. D.
Superintendent

- Before and after school activities include: Robotics, Runners Club, Safety Patrol, Art Club, Chorus/ORFF and News Crew.
- 4th & 5th Grade students have an opportunity to be inducted into the National Elementary Honor Society.
- Students participate in community events like the WSHS parade, singing at retirement homes, & Casselberry Tree Lighting.
- Students are recognized for being a Pawsitive Leader weekly and have an opportunity to go on our news show.
- Pawsitive Leaders are selected twice a month to have lunch with administration.
- Highlands is supported by a strong PTA and many events are offered like Science Night, Trunk or Treat, and Movie Nights.

Future Middle School Pathways for Our Students



South Seminole: 46%

Greenwood Lakes: 27%

For additional pathways see [Student Assignment and Program Access](#)

School Health and Safety

The health, safety and security of staff and students is our top priority. We follow CDC COVID mitigation strategies and work closely with local, state, and federal agencies to ensure a sanitized and safe environment for your child's learning. Our School Resource Officer is JoAnn Jackson with the Seminole County Sheriffs Department.



The SpeakOut program provides three 24-hour monitored services that allows students, parents, or community members to anonymously report concerns. www.speakouthotline.org

89% of student respondents would recommend HLES



100% of parent respondents would recommend HLES



Here's what students and parents say they like about Highlands:

" They got a wide variety of books for you to chose and the clubs are enjoyable. "

5th Grade Student

" I love the safety, the dynamics they use in class, and the great communication with parents. "

4th Grade Parent

" I love all the teachers and staff. I also love the way they do stuff at this school. "

5th Grade Student

" Staff is very personable and helpful. Feels like family when you go to events. "

2nd Grade Parent

" In my experience it is a really good place for learning and fun!!!!!! "

4th Grade Student

" Communication with parents, school activities and large administrative involvement with the students. "

1st Grade Parent

" It is a really cool and safe school it makes me feel safe and I like my friends here and I like my teachers "

4th Grade Student

" Staff and administration are kind, invested in my child and our family. Love the leader in me program. "

5th Grade Parent