

Heritage High School

2016-2017 Academic Profile

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School and Community

Heritage High School is located in Palm Bay, Florida in Brevard County. Palm Bay is an emerging city and was named “America’s 15th Fastest-Growing City in 2014” and in 2010 was listed as “Most Innovative City” and “Best Bang for the Buck”. The city’s heritage is rich in high-tech research, development, and manufacturing. As of 2015, the population of Palm Bay was approximately 106,000 residents and it is the 18th most populous city in Florida. It is strategically located midway between Jacksonville and Miami, approximately 60 miles southeast of Orlando on Florida’s East Coast.

Heritage High School is located in the southern part of the county on 65 acres, and resides within Area I of the Brevard County School District. Heritage is a comprehensive 4-year high school with an enrollment of 1,857 students. The school opened in the fall of 2009 with 9th and 10th grades. Heritage graduated its first class in 2012. At Heritage High School, the student body is comprised of 49% male and 51% female; the total minority enrollment is 57%. Heritage High School is 1 of 17 high schools in the Brevard Public Schools. Brevard Public Schools are accredited by the Southern Associations of Colleges and Schools and holds membership in The College Board.

Curriculum

The school year is divided into two semesters of 18 weeks each. One-half (.50) credit may be earned per course each semester. Seven (7) credits per year is the maximum course load; all classes meet approximately 47 minutes each day, 5 days per week. Academic courses are offered in both Honors and regular levels. This multi-phased structure allows placement based on standardized test scores, teacher recommendations, Certified School Counselor recommendations, and student/parent input. Students have the following advanced academic courses available to them: Cambridge University - Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) courses (on-site) and Dual Enrollment courses offered through Eastern Florida State College (EFSC) (off-site).

Special Programs

Cambridge Program

Steven Schleicher

Cambridge Coordinator

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The Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) is an advanced academic pre-university curriculum for students who are working towards Advanced (A) and Advanced Subsidiary (AS) College Level qualifications. The Cambridge AICE Diploma requires students to study and pass exams in at least six courses drawn from 3 different curriculum areas: Mathematics and Sciences; Languages; Arts and Humanities.

There are currently 6 Pre-Cambridge courses and 21 Cambridge (AICE) courses offered at Heritage High School:

AICE General Paper AS Level
AICE US History AS Level
AICE European History AS Level
AICE Thinking Skills AS/A Level
AICE English Language AS/A Level
AICE English Literature AS Level
AICE Biology AS/A Level
AICE Mathematics A/AS Level

AICE Psychology AS Level
AICE PE Anatomy/Physiology AS Level
AICE Music AS Level
AICE Sociology AS Level
AICE Spanish Language AS Level
AICE Marine Science AS/A Level
AICE Global Perspectives AS Level

An AICE Diploma is a prestigious award that is recognized and valued by colleges and universities worldwide, many of which are now offering advanced standing and academic credit for AICE examinations passed.

Sports Medicine Academy

Dr. Colin Turey

Director

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Heritage High School offers a special Academy for students with career interests in the Health Sciences. This school within-a-school integrates Language Arts, Social Studies, Health, and Physical Education into a comprehensive academic program. This Academy is dedicated to providing the students of Heritage with educational and vocational experiences in the fields of athletic training, sports administration, and strength and conditioning. By focusing on the integration of the related disciplines, this will prepare students for entrance into college programs in those fields. It is the goal of this program to provide the instruction that will give the students a strong foundation in the sports sciences. Students who graduate from this Academy will be prepared to enter college fields in their specific areas, will have a Health and Wellness Certification, and will have an exceptional introduction to careers in medical and allied health fields.

Academy of Environmental Studies – Water Resource Technology

Blake Vahlsing

Director

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Heritage High School offers the Academy of Environmental Studies – Water Resources Technology (AESWRT). AESWRT is a 3 to 4 year sequential program leading to graduates sitting for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Level C Examination for Water and/or Wastewater, a requirement for state licensure. Students have the opportunity for real-time research and field experiences in the Indian River Lagoon and neighboring waterways, as well as mentoring, student internships, and collaborating with postsecondary students and faculty.

Automotive Service Technology
Michael Broud
Director
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The purpose of this program is to prepare students for employment and/or specialized training in the automotive industry. This program focuses on broad, transferable skills and stresses understanding and demonstration of the following elements of the automotive industry: planning, management, finance, technical and product skills, underlying principles of technology, labor issues, community issues, and health, safety, and environmental issues.

Graduation Requirements

Students entering 9th grade beginning in school year 2016 (and beyond) are required to have 26 credits:

4 credits in English

4 credits in Mathematics

4 credits in a Science sequence (Biology, Chemistry, and Physics OR Integrated Science 1, 2, and 3)

4 credits in Social Studies

1 credit HOPE (Health Opportunities through Physical Education)

1 credit in a Performing Fine Art

0.50 credit in Career Research

7.5 Electives

Additional requirements: Students must earn a cumulative unweighted 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale, pass the Florida Standards Assessment English Language Arts (FSA ELA), pass the Algebra 1 EOC, and successfully complete an online course. Brevard County students must also complete 3 credits in accelerated courses such as Honors, AICE, or Dual Enrollment OR 3 credits in an approved Career and Technical (CTE) sequence.

Optional Graduation Programs: Florida offers two additional graduation options, to be selected in 9th grade, which allow a student to graduate in 3 years with 18 credits: The College Preparatory Graduation Option or the Career Preparatory Graduation Option. Students qualify to attend college and earn scholarships.

Grading and Ranking

Heritage High School assigns letter grades using an unweighted 4.0 system. Below please find the standard grading policy:

A=90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% F=59% and below

Beginning with 9th grade, all subjects, whether passed or failed, are included in the Grade Point Average (GPA) computation. Weighted grades are used for Honors/AICE/Dual Enrollment courses. Honors classes are weighted by an additional .50 point; AICE and Dual Enrollment courses are weighted by 1.0 additional point. Ranking is computed based on a cumulative unweighted grade point average (GPA). Weighted GPA is available directly from a Certified School Counselor. GPA's are calculated in January and May.