PLANNING FOR MY CHILD'S FUTURE

Magnet Programs and Accelerated Coursework in Middle and High Schools

Sarasota County Schools is an A-rated school district that works to ensure every student graduates on time, college or career ready.

From magnet programs to accelerated coursework, we empower our students to achieve personal and academic success.

EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

SARASOTA County Schools
An A-Rated School District
Middle School Magnet Programs

**Cambridge AICE Program** The prestigious Cambridge Pre-AICE program is one of the best college preparatory programs in the world. It is designed for advanced students with a commitment to excellence, and provides a more rigorous, faster-paced instruction in the core subjects of math, science, and language arts. Advanced students can obtain high school credits toward acceleration. Admission to the program is competitive, with lofty standards for admission and continuation in the program. Students participate in at least one college visit and each student develops a personalized college preparatory plan. Our Cambridge AICE program prepares our students for the AICE diploma offered at Booker High, Northport High, and Sarasota High.

Where offered: **Booker Middle School** and **Heron Creek Middle School**

General Admission Requirements will include these criteria:

1. Core academic grades/grade point average
2. Level of proficiency on Florida’s Reading/Mathematics/standardized test scores
3. Attendance and discipline records
4. **Hand written essay** on why you want to be in the Cambridge Pre-AICE program.

Deadline for the 2019-2020 school year: April 1, 2019

**International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP)** Students are encouraged to be globally minded inquirers who reflect and look for opportunities to serve others. IB is an approach to education that equally values both the academic and the social-emotional well-being of a student.

Where offered: **Brookside Middle School**

General Admission Requirements: Desire to be part of our IB Community

Deadline: Ongoing

**Marine Science Academy** This tight knit team serves the needs of our wetlands, waterways, and environment through school and field experiences, that include, but are not limited to: learning from Mote Marine scientists, water sampling research and scientific observations in the field, and team building. Students will learn through investigations, hands on experiences and serving their environment.

Where offered: **Brookside Middle School**

General Admission Requirements: Application with Written Response

Deadline: Ongoing
**STEM A2:** Science Technology Engineering Mathematics Agriscience & Arts. The STEM A2 encores provide a three-year in-depth program of study of an area of interest beyond the core courses of mathematics, science, language arts, and social studies. Students will foster a deep curiosity in an area of choice through an intentional exploration of the field.

- **SSTRIDE (Science Students Together Reaching Instructional Diversity and Excellence)** Medical Preparatory Program in conjunction with Florida State University and Sarasota High School
  - Rising 7th grade students must apply to the program. Applications are available through the guidance department.
  - Students must participate in an interview with MMS staff and FSU Staff and meet minimum requirements for acceptance in the program (B Average in Science, and overall courses).
- **Project Lead the Way -Engineering Program** – Students engage in the design process, by designing, building, testing and evaluating mechanism on their Vex robots; developing the computer codes to drive the robots, as well as engaging in rocket propulsion analysis, and technical drawing.

Schools: **McIntosh Middle School**

Deadline: Ongoing

**Visual and Performing Arts Program (VPA)** - This first-class program identifies highly interested and talented students and provides them with an enriched culturally-diverse, technology-infused arts education. The overarching goal of the program is to create lifelong consumers and producers of the arts.

Schools: **Booker Middle School**

General Admission Requirements:
- Complete online application
- Students must exhibit a high level of excellence in academics and behavior
- Sign VPA contract

Deadline to apply: February 16, 2019 (open auditions for Theatre, Art, Orchestra, Band, Guitar, Chorus, Dance, Musical Theatre, Graphic Design, 2D-3D Art, and Creative Writing auditions will occur during shadows). Additional auditions will be offered for students with extenuating circumstances past the Feb 16 deadline, please contact BMSVPA@gmail.com.
**Young Marines Program** The Venice Middle Young Marines is a youth education and service program for boys and girls, grades 6, 7 and 8. The Young Marines promote the mental, moral, and physical development of its members and emphasizes character building, leadership, and promoting a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. The Young Marines is the focal point for the U.S. Marine Corps’ youth Drug Demand Reduction efforts. Our Young Marines program at Venice Middle School is the first of its kind in the nation, with 8 adult staff members and 154 students

Where offered: **Venice Middle School**

General Admission Requirements and Deadline: This is an application process. For the application and deadline see Venice Middle School website.
Middle School Full-Time Gifted Programs

Gifted cluster programs are for students who qualify for full-time gifted services. Pine View is full-time gifted school for grades 2-12. Please refer to the District’s Student Progression Plan at https://sarasotacountyschools.net/departments/curriculum for admission requirements.

North County: Sarasota Middle School (Panther Gifted Academy)

Mid County: Laurel Nokomis School (Gifted Academy)

South County: Woodland Middle School (STREAM Academy: Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, and Math)

District Wide: Pine View School for the Gifted (grades 2-12)
Middle School Acceleration and Advanced Work Programs

Sarasota County Middle Schools are proud to provide multiple opportunities for students to accelerate their learning. Refer to each school’s website for admission requirements and deadlines.

- **Booker Middle School**: Pre-AICE Program and Gifted & Talented
- **Brookside Middle School**: IB Talented and Gifted (TAG)
- **Heron Creek Middle School**: Pre-AICE Program and Gifted & Talented
- **McIntosh Middle School**: Hawks Academy for Gifted & Advanced Studies
- **Venice Middle School**: Gifted Academy
**High School Magnet Programs**

**Law Academy** The Law Academy provides students with a rigorous academic program in conjunction with course work in Law Studies and Criminal Justice. The Sarasota County Bar Association and local law enforcement professionals support this program by providing students with curriculum materials, real world experiences and expertise. A mock courtroom is set up to simulate a real courtroom to allow students to apply their knowledge and skills by conducting mock trials.

Where offered: **Booker High School** (https://www.bookerlaw.net/)

General Admission Requirements:
- Complete online application
- Overall GPA requirement of a 2.0
- Personal Statement
- One letter of recommendation (form is online)
- No disciplinary issues

Deadline: May 1

**Visual Performing Arts (VPA) Program** The Visual and Performing Arts program offers high quality pre-professional arts education for students who exhibit talent and passion in one of its five disciplines: Dance, Digital Film & Motion Design, Music, Theatre and Visual Art. Highly qualified faculty, state-of-the-art studios and facilities and intensive training and performance activities combine to create a unique environment that nurtures young artists for their future.

Where offered: **Booker High School** (https://bookervpa.com/)

General Admission Requirements for grade 9 student (each discipline also carries its own audition requirements):
- Entry into the VPA program is by successful audition only.
- GPA of 2.5 or higher
- Two letters of recommendation from a teacher

Deadlines: February 16, 2019 at 9:00 AM (open auditions for Theatre, Art, DigiMo & Music-dance auditions will occur during shadows) and March 8, 2019 (priority deadline for all application materials)
**MaST Research Institute** The MaST Research Institute (MRI) operates as a school-within-a-school and is intended to provide qualified students with a training and independent STEM research experience to prepare them for entry into Math, Science, Medical or Engineering related careers following high school. The MaST Research Institute offers students a competitive edge when applying to university degree programs.

Where offered: **Sarasota High School** ([http://shsmri.com/](http://shsmri.com/))

Requirements for admission as grade 9 student:
- Completed online application form
- Passion for Science, Math, and/or Engineering
- Test scores in all areas are evaluated by the admissions faculty prior to decisions.
- Strong STEM background and participation in STEM fairs are encouraged.

Deadline: March 16 for early decision, April 20 for last chance for non-districted SHS students.

**Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) – Magnet Program** Cambridge
International Advanced Subsidiary (AS) and Advanced (A) Level programs are designed for advanced academic students. They are available in 55 subjects and can lead to the award of a Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Diploma. The Cambridge AICE Diploma program was successfully piloted for three years in Florida where it continues to receive legislative support and funding.

Cambridge International AS and A Level courses are considered college-level courses of study and are accepted by universities worldwide. Students passing these examinations may receive up to 45 hours of college credit or advanced standing based on their scores on these examinations from universities throughout the US, and all public universities and colleges in Florida. Credit is typically awarded based on each subject and examination grade earned.

Where offered: **Booker High School** ([https://bhsaice.com/](https://bhsaice.com/))

Requirements for admission as grade 9 student:
- Complete online application
- Overall GPA requirement of a 2.5
- Thorough review of the following documents:
  - Middle school coursework
  - State assessment results
  - Attendance record
  - Disciplinary record
Where offered: **North Port High School**  
(https://sarasotacountyschools.net/schools/northporthigh/interior.aspx?id=32901)

Requirements for admission as grade 9 student:
- Completion of Application
- Middle school core academic grades/grade point average
- Middle school curriculum/courses taken
- Level of proficiency on Florida’s Reading/Mathematics/other standardized test scores
- Attendance and discipline records

Where offered: **Sarasota High School** (http://www.shsaice.com/home.html)

Requirements for admission as grade 9 student:
- Proficiency in FCAT Reading, Writing, and Math
- Academic grades from 7th and 8th grade
- Positive attendance record
- Minimal discipline record
- Two 8th grade teacher recommendations
- Writing sample

Deadline for application at all schools: May 1

**International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme (DP) - Grades 11-12**  
Our schools feature a school-created preparatory programme for students in Grades 9-10. A program that includes a comprehensive curriculum of college level courses. Students accepted into the IB program must take exams in six areas to be considered for an IB diploma. IB certificate students may take exams in specific subject areas after they have completed the first and second level of the course. Exams are based on broad general understanding of concepts and fundamental themes. Exams and assessments are both written and oral in format. Students must be enrolled in an authorized IB school to be eligible for an IB diploma or to earn an IB certificate.

Where offered:
- **Riverview High School**  
  (http://riverviewib.com/ib/)
- **Venice High School**  
  (https://www.vhsibprograms.com/)

Requirements for Admission for grade 9 students:
- Completion of application form
- Final grade of A or B for English, Math, Science, and Social Studies in grade 7 and first semester of current grade.
- Teacher Recommendation.
- Grade 11 and grade 12 students are considered on a case by case basis.
**International Baccalaureate Career Programmes (CP)** The CP is a framework of international education addressing the needs of students engaged in career-related education. It leads to further/higher education apprenticeships or employment.


Requirements for Admission:
- Completion of application
- Minimum 3.0 GPA
- Teacher Recommendation

**Suncoast Polytechnical High School (SPHS)** A unique Magnet Technology High School that prepares students for colleges and careers. The learning environment provides opportunities in Math, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies, and CTE to infusing real-world projects in career technology programs ([https://sarasotacountyschools.net/schools/suncoastpolytechnical/](https://sarasotacountyschools.net/schools/suncoastpolytechnical/))

Requirements for Admission:
- Completion of application
- Written Student Statement
High School Full-Time Gifted Programs

Gifted cluster programs are for students who qualify for full-time gifted services. Please refer to the District’s Student Progression Plan at https://sarasotacountyschools.net/departments/curriculum for admission requirements.

Where offered: Pine View School for the Gifted (http://pineviewadmissions.weebly.com)
High School Acceleration Options

**Advanced Placement (AP)** Advanced Placement (AP) is the enrollment of an eligible secondary student in an Advanced Placement course as described by the College Board. State of Florida community colleges or universities may award credit for an AP course to students who score a minimum of 3 on a 5-point scale on the corresponding AP exam. Colleges and universities accept, and award college credit based on the policies of the post-secondary school. While many of our schools offer AP courses not all offerings are the same. Please contact each school or the Curriculum and Instruction department to determine specific course offerings at each school and the following website: [https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home](https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home)

Where offered: Booker High School, North Port High School, Pine View School, Riverview High School, Suncoast Polytechnical High School, and Venice High School

Requirements: GPA, previous coursework, PSAT (grade 10), and motivation are considered.

**Dual Enrollment** Dual Enrollment is defined as the enrollment of an eligible secondary student in a post-secondary course creditable toward a vocational certificate or an associate or baccalaureate degree. The articulation agreement with the post-secondary institution defines the rules for enrollment and participation. Students may earn high school and college credit simultaneously by enrolling in approved Dual Enrollment courses as specified in the articulation agreements between the School Board of Sarasota County and other accredited post-secondary institutions. Students may take Dual Enrollment courses during school hours, after school hours, and during the summer term as defined by the articulation agreement with the post-secondary institution.

Options:

**State College of Florida:** All students at all Sarasota County high schools who meet eligibility requirements can register for DE courses. No courses are offered on high school campuses.

**Enrollment requirements for off campus courses and online courses:**
- Complete application for admission by deadline dates
- Cumulative 3.0 unweighted GPA minimum
- Obtain the required PERT/ACT/SAT score

**University of Florida – Online:** All students at all Sarasota County high schools who meet eligibility requirements can register for DE courses. No courses are offered on high school campuses.

**Enrollment requirements:**
- 3.6 cumulative unweighted GPA
- Minimum PSAT (1130), ACT scores (22) or SAT (1100) scores
**University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee:** All students at all Sarasota County high schools who meet eligibility requirements can register for DE courses. No courses are offered on high school campuses.

**Enrollment requirements:**
- Grade 11 or 12 status
- At least a 3.3 unweighted GPA in social sciences, natural sciences, math, English, and foreign language
- Minimum ACT scores (21 Reading, 21 Math) or SAT (560 Critical Reading, 530 Math) scores
- Submit online application for non-degree seeking student
- Submit approval for DE signed by school administrator

**Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University**

**School:** Offered only at Sarasota High School

**Enrollment requirements:**
- Complete applications for admission (paper and online)
- 2.5 unweighted GPA
- Principal approval