



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.

Jodi Farbstein

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

Rigorous Accelerated Math Pathways for Elementary Students (RAMP) is available for mathematically talented students in grades 4 through 5.

Family Engagement

2021-2022 Data



Dividends is the volunteer program for SCPS. Our incredible Highlands volunteers gave **6,095** 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

2021-2022 Data

- All students in grades K-5 participate in English and Language Arts (ELA) and Math iReady progress monitoring. **70%** of K-5 students were on or above grade level in ELA and **70%** 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. **71%** of students demonstrated kindergarten readiness compared to the state average of 57%.

B
Highlands Elementary School earned a B grade from the Florida DOE in 2022

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Future Middle School Pathways for Our Students

- Before and after school activities include: Robotics, Runners Club, Safety Patrol, Art Club, Chorus/ORFF and News Crew.
- 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.
- Highlands strives to be an inclusive school and provide our students access to learning.
- Students work toward a Wildly Important Goal each year and are awarded a celebration of their choosing when achieved.



South Seminole: 36%



Greenwood Lakes: 27%



Milwee: 16%



Indian Trails: 13%



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 C. Rojas with the SCSO.



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

82% of student respondents would recommend HLES



97% of parent respondents would recommend HLES



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

" Wonderful teachers and staff. They teach good life long lessons. Very positive atmosphere. "

Kindergarten Parent

" When people ask him where he goes to school, he proudly says that he is a Highlands Husky! "

1st Grade Parent

" I love the teachers, staff and administration. They are attentive. They all truly care about the best interests of each child. "

4th Grade Parent

" Wonderful teachers! Positive environment. Lots of opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities to develop their social-personal and leadership skills. "

5th Grade Parent

" I like that I get to learn new things that I have never learned before. "

4th Grade Student

" What I love about my school is how safe you feel. "

4th Grade Student

" Everything! I've been at this school for 6 years. I love everyone here and I feel like I want to never leave here, but since I'm in 5th grade I have to go to middle school, but honestly I don't want to leave. I've made a lot of memories here and met my best friend in this school! "

5th Grade Student

