



Sanford Middle School (SMS)

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A Word From Our Principal

At Sanford Middle School Math, Science, & Technology PreIB Magnet, our students are learning to thrive in a transforming world. 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 Sanford unique. Please reach out to us if you have any questions about our school.

Byron Durias

What Makes Us Special

- Students explore a variety of STEM electives including engineering, pre-medical, gaming, herpetology, coding, web design, biotechnology, architecture, robotics, marine biology, and others.
- As the only middle school in partnership with the Central Florida Zoo, our students regularly attend class at the zoo, interact with keepers and animals, and practice common veterinary procedures.
- We offer 3 courses in aeronautics with in-depth applications of aviation, using interactive flight simulators. Students learn how planes, jets, and spacecraft fly and navigate.

Advanced Academics 2021-2022 Data

32% of Sanford students have participated in high school math courses for credit.

Sanford offers the following high school courses for high school credit: Spanish 1, Spanish 1 IB, Algebra 1, Algebra 1 Honors, Geometry Honors, Environmental Science Honors

Technology and the Future



All middle school students are provided opportunities to earn either a digital tool or industry certification through the completion of the following courses:

- **iJourney:** Students discover educational pathways offered in SCPS and develop a personalized career plan.
- **iChallenge:** This coding and game-based course prepares students to take AP Computer Science Principles in high school. (Semester or year-long options vary by school)
- **iConnect:** Students discover new possibilities and learn about technology applications and communication techniques.

Student Achievement 2021-2022 Data

- All students in 8th grade at Sanford Middle School have an opportunity to take the PSAT 8/9 at no cost.
- Last year, Sanford 8th graders had an average score of 896 out of 1440, higher than the Florida average of 810.

A
Sanford Middle School earned an A grade from the Florida DOE in 2022.

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Board Member

Autumn Garick
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- Sanford Middle School was recognized as a School of Excellence by the Magnet Schools of America Merit Awards Program.
- The highest number of Science Fair winners, including Regional, State, and Broadcom Masters among SCPS middle schools
- Award winning Fine Arts, Performing Arts, and Athletics programs
- Seminole County Public Schools Battle of the Books Champion for the three straight years
- We participate in the Duke University TIP program; We have more Duke TIP students than any other middle school in SCPS.
- SMS is home to award winning competition teams like Mu Alpha Theta, Robotics, We the People, Science Olympiad, and more!

Future High School Pathways for Our Students



Seminole: 88%



Lake Mary: 3%



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 Bree Flanagan with the Sanford Police Department.



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

71% of student respondents would recommend SMS



81% of parent respondents would recommend SMS



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

" My school has many electives and is a great environment for people who want to take their studys to another level. There are many courses to take based on your level of performance. "

8th Grade Student

" The ability to choose unique and interesting electives, such as aeronautics, Herpetology and marine biology. "

6th Grade parent

" I like the teachers. I think the education is great. I like the electives. I think the school has a nice campus. I think the staff is good. "

6th Grade Student

" I like the open campus. Lots of opportunity for my son to get fresh air throughout the day. The teachers are very responsive when you have a question. "

8th Grade Parent

" The teachers are nice and I like the lessons and classes because they are interesting. Classes like ecology let us go outside and do hands on learning which is fun. "

6th Grade Student

" I like that it is like a family. The staff and the principal are very helpful and are involved with all the kids concerns and is always trying to help everyone be successful. "

8th Grade Parent

" What I like about Sanford Middle School is that there is an Pre-IB program, which can help people have a successful future. There is also high school credit courses you can earn from. Also, many types of certified teachers and magnet electives and others too. "

7th Grade Student

" The school offers so many resources to help students thrive. The faculty and staff are very knowledgeable and passionate about teaching students and getting them ready for their life ahead. "

6th Grade Parent