



Scholar Program 2018 – 2019

Sawgrass Springs Middle School

Scholar Program Vision

The background features a central torch icon with a yellow flame and a green handle, surrounded by several green stars of varying sizes. The overall theme is educational and aspirational.

- ▶ Program for academically talented / gifted students
- ▶ Accelerated and rigorous academic program
- ▶ Prepares students for Advanced Placement / Dual Enrollment classes in high school
- ▶ Offers the opportunity to complete up to 8 high school credits in middle school

Student Requirements

- ▶ Achieve high proficiency levels on Florida Standards Assessment (FSA)
- ▶ Enroll in at least 4 high school credits by the start of the 8th grade year
- ▶ Maintain high grades (A or B) in all high school credit classes
- ▶ Optional Health Opportunities and Physical Education (HOPE) Online by end of 8th grade year
- ▶ Acceptance into National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) = 15 hours of service
- ▶ Must be socially and emotionally mature
- ▶ Regular attendance
- ▶ Positive behavior
- ▶ Punctual
- ▶ Organized
- ▶ Intrinsically Motivated

Academic

Social / Behavioral

Benefits


The background features a central lightbulb with a yellow glow and a brown base, surrounded by several green stars of varying sizes. The bottom left corner has a green and black diagonal gradient.

- ▶ Students can leave middle school with up to 8 high school credits
- ▶ Meeting with guidance counselor for progress check each semester
- ▶ Yearly college visitation field trips
- ▶ Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) in October of 8th grade
- ▶ Leads to accelerated high school programs and dual enrollment
- ▶ Saves money on college credits
- ▶ Exposes students to rigorous coursework to prepare them for college and career

High School Preparedness

- ▶ Students can earn up to 9 high school credits at SSMS
 - Core Subject Areas
 - Honors Algebra
 - Honors Geometry
 - Honors Physical Science
 - Honors Biology
 - Spanish 1,2, and Honors 3
 - Italian 1 (Based on student interest)

Electives

- Introduction to Engineering
 - Health Opportunities through Physical Education (HOPE) Online
 - Band, Orchestra, and Chorus
 - Debate
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Great Explorations in Math (GEM)



▶ District –Wide Curriculum

- Extremely rigorous
- Accelerates math by two grade levels
 - 6th Grade: All middle school math plus Pre- Algebra
 - 7th Grade: Algebra Honors
 - 8th Grade: Geometry Honors

Genuine Explorations, Applications, and Research in Science (GEARS)

- ▶ District -Wide Curriculum
 - Extremely rigorous
 - Accelerates science by two grade levels
 - 6th Grade: 6th, 7th 8th Grade Science Coverage
 - 7th Grade: High School Credit Honors Physical Science
 - 8th Grade: High School Credit Biology Honors

Foreign Languages

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- ▶ High School Credit Spanish
 - Spanish 1
 - Spanish 2
 - Spanish 3 Honors

- ▶ High School Credit Italian 1
 - Based on student interest

Introduction to Engineering



- ▶ High School Credit in 8th Grade
- ▶ Industry Certification
 - Microsoft PowerPoint
 - Microsoft Word
 - Microsoft Excel
- ▶ Leads to Microsoft Office Certification
- ▶ CODE.org Program Participant

Debate



- ▶ High School Credit
- ▶ Sawgrass Springs Students attended the National Middle School Debate in:
 - Salt Lake City, Utah in June 2016
 - Birmingham, Alabama in June 2017
 - Ft. Lauderdale in June of 2018

Sample Grade 6 Schedule

- ▶ Advanced / Gifted Language Arts
- ▶ Advanced / Gifted Science or GEARS 6
- ▶ Advanced / Gifted World History
- ▶ Advanced / Gifted Math 6 or GEM Math 6
- ▶ Choice of 2 Electives:
 - Spanish 1
 - Band 1
 - Chorus 1
 - Orchestra 1
 - Drama
 - Physical Education (PE)
 - Technology
 - Computer Programming
 - Engineering
 - TV Broadcasting
 - Debate

Core Subject Courses

Elective Courses

Sample Grade 7 Schedule

- ▶ Advanced / Gifted Language Arts
- ▶ Advanced / Gifted Science or **Honors Physical Science (GEARS)**
- ▶ Advanced / Gifted Civics
- ▶ Advanced / Gifted Math 7 or **Algebra Honors (GEM)**
- ▶ Choice of 2 Electives:
 - **Spanish 1 or 2**

Core Subject Courses

Elective Courses

Health Opportunities through Physical Education (HOPE)

- ▶ Complete on-line program through Florida Virtual School
- ▶ Recommended during the summer before 8th grade year
- ▶ Satisfies high school online course requirement and health / PE requirement

Sample Grade 8 Schedule

- ▶ Advanced / Gifted Language Arts
- ▶ Advanced / Gifted Science or **Biology Honors**
- ▶ Advanced / Gifted American History
- ▶ Advanced Pre-Algebra, **Honors Algebra** or **Geometry Honors (GEM)**
- ▶ Choice of 2 Electives:
 - **Spanish 2 or 3 Honors**
 - **Debate**
 - **Introduction to Engineering Design**
 - **Introduction to Computer Science**
 - **Band, Chorus, and Orchestra**

Core Subject Courses

Elective Courses

Introducing AP Capstone™

Developed in response to feedback from Higher Education, AP Capstone will launch in fall 2014 in 139 schools worldwide. An additional 220 schools will join in fall 2015.

AP Capstone™ is an innovative program that equips students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills valued by colleges. The Program is based on two new AP courses:

AP Seminar and AP Research

Emphasizes Critical Skills Needed for College & Beyond

Complements the in-depth subject-matter study in AP

The AP Capstone program empower students to:

- synthesize information from multiple perspectives
- apply skills in new situations and cross-curricular contexts
- collect and analyze information with accuracy and precision
- craft, communicate, and defend evidence-based arguments
- practice disciplined and scholarly research skills while exploring relevant topics that appeal to their interests and curiosity.

Benefits of Cambridge



- International High School Diploma
- College Credit & Weighted GPA
- Rigorous course work
- Bright Futures Scholarship Automatic Qualifier (in Florida)

Tips

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- ▶ Students: Know Yourself!
- ▶ Parents: Know Your Children!
- ▶ Colleges are looking for well rounded students
- ▶ Time management (ie. appropriate course load)
- ▶ Colleges are looking for extra-curricular activities
- ▶ Don't forget to smell the roses!!!

Questions / Concerns



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