

BIG ARTS HEART

PHILANTHROPY KEEP KIDS
ENGAGED IN THE ARTS

THE SUPERS

BOWDEN AND GREEN ON
EDUCATION TOMORROW

THEN IT WAS US

A MOM, HER OLIVE AND
TYPE 1 DIABETES

Rocket Kids™





BRADENTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



BRADENTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL is a Christ-centered school with over 860 students enrolled ranging from Pre-K to 12th grade. Students from all different backgrounds, ethnicities and cultures attend BCS for a rigorous academic program, including many honors and AP courses, taught from a Christian perspective. Opening its doors in 1960, BCS has always had a strong Christian perspective, incorporating it into every one of their courses. Operating for almost 60 years, they are currently the largest and oldest Christian private school in Manatee County. Their twenty-four acre campus includes an Elementary School Building, Secondary School Building, Gymnasium, Fine Arts and Technology Building, the Mary Jane Spencer Athletic Center and a brand new high tech Middle School Building. At any given point, you are bound to see something different going on around campus. For sports, BCS offers 35 different teams in an array of different options such as

Tennis, Volleyball, Football, Soccer, Softball, Track and Beach Volleyball. They also boast an outstanding Fine Arts program and offer creative options such as jazz band, orchestra, band, pep band, choir, strings, and both performing and studio arts. Students also participate in a weekly Chapel every Thursday, which is one of Superintendent Dan Vande Pol's favorite parts of his week. Along with the abundance of extra-curricular activities, BCS also offers voluntary Spring and Fall retreats where students spend a weekend at a camp where they have devotions, Bible study, praise time and fun games. It is an opportunity for students to bond outside of school and is truly a highlight for all attending. BCS provides multiple opportunities to try new things with a Christian perspective implemented in all that you learn. BCS has a real family feel with many generations of families continue to send their child to BCS due to the experience, academics and support from staff and students alike.

MISSION

The mission of Bradenton Christian School is to provide a quality education rooted in God's Word, and to prepare the hearts and minds of God's children in partnership with the Christian community for service in God's world.



"It is a school that is not just focused on academic work but on your spiritual and whole self."

— Nathaniel Martinez, student

At Bradenton Christian School, the three main points of focus are the Christian perspective, excellent academics and a well-rounded experience. The abundance of extra-curricular activities such as band, choir and basketball gives each student the opportunity to try new things and to be involved in more than just academics. Superintendent Dan Vande Pol highlights how something is always going on around campus and how important these extra-curricular activities are for the students. They are a great way for students to pad their college resumes; looking out for the students' future after BCS and to provide that well-rounded experience. He explains that many three sport athletes are also in band and choir; giving students the ability to try many different varieties of activities. Vande Pol notes that BCS is a great place to have your child known, cared for and taught. One student who has had his life changed by BCS is Nathaniel Martinez. With a decision made by his mother for Nathaniel to start high school as a freshman at BCS, he at first was hesitant. He did not like the idea of going to a private school and had reservations. Throughout the year, Martinez became involved with sports, clubs and focused on his academics. Little by little, BCS started to grow on him and he began embracing the Christian spirit. Now a senior, Martinez is thankful for his mother's decision, "To be honest, I am really thankful and blessed I come here." He also goes on to say his mom now jokes that she will have to build a house at BCS because he is always at school; whether it be for football practice, after school studies or attending a club. "It is a school that is not just focused on academic work but on your spiritual and whole self." Thanks to BCS, Martinez now has a clear and exciting future, planning on attending college and hopefully play soccer and study Mechanical Engineering. Before attending BCS, he never really considered college as an option. We can all hope to have these types of success stories for our ourselves and our children. At BCS, these dreams are becoming a reality for students every day.

Highlight

Bradenton Christian School provides a Christian umbrella that is the primary importance and what everything falls in line under. At BCS, they do not need to sacrifice one thing for another because their excellence in academic, athletics and co-curricular programs can stand together strong under that umbrella. The most important program is the Christian perspective implemented into every class taught. In science classes, implementation of that includes God created, God is creating and God is running the universe. In English classes, students are analyzing characters and looking at the choices they make and the consequences of their choices from a Christian perspective. During math class, students are learning God's order and creation. All families sending their children to BCS are church-attending as it is important that the students are getting the same message from church, home and school. BCS strives to ensure these standards are met and through teaching the Christian perspective in every class, students are able to continuously learn about the Christian faith and apply it to everyday life. BCS strives to grow strong Christian leaders and give them opportunities to learn about the Christian faith every day.



Stats

- **ADMISSIONS DEADLINE**
Rolling deadline until classes are full. 2018-2019 admissions season opens October 1st, 2017.
- **ACCREDITATIONS**
Middle States, Christian Schools of Florida, National Council for Private Schools Accreditation
- **LANGUAGES TAUGHT**
English and Spanish. Our FLVS Lab allows other languages to be taken for credit
- **KEY PROGRAMS**
AP, Honors and College Prep Curriculums, Athletic & Clubs, Band & Strings
- **TEACHING PHILOSOPHY**
Rigorous academics from a Christian perspective
- **NUMBER OF FULL-TIME TEACHERS** 70
- **NUMBER OF STUDENTS** 865



BRADENTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
3304 43RD ST. WEST BRADENTON
941-792-5454 | BCSPANTERS.ORG
PK-12TH GRADE

HERSHORIN SCHIFF COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL



THE MISSION OF THE HERSHORIN SCHIFF COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL is to impact the world by creating a community where children of all faiths demonstrate integrity, academic excellence, and a desire to improve the world. The school's proud, purposeful diversity and project-based curriculum uniquely prepares students to be global citizens who are problem-solvers, who can work cooperatively, and who have empathy for and an understanding of people who may be very different from themselves.

High standards for academics and behavior create a courteous and respectful learning environment that values the beliefs and rights of every member of our community. Community Day School was originally established by Temple Beth Shalom in 1974 as preschool program; the K-8 Goldie Feldman Academy was founded in 1992 as an expansion of the preschool. In 2015, with generous support from the Hershorin Schiff Community Schools Foundation, the school incorporated as an independent community day school and changed its name the following year.

Currently, Community Day is the only independent Jewish day school in southwest Florida. The preschool embraces the Reggio Emilia approach, which establishes that children are capable of constructing their own learning, the environment is a teacher, and children form an understanding of themselves and their place in the world through their interactions with others. By

kindergarten, the school's student-centered, project-based learning curriculum places students in the active role of critical thinkers and problem-solvers. Students of all ages engage in a rigorous, extended process of asking questions, finding resources, and applying information with the purpose of displaying and presenting solutions to challenges that extend far beyond the classroom.

As a small day school with a community focus, the academic program has been designed to take full advantage of the wealth of arts and cultural organizations throughout Sarasota County. Curriculum partnerships provide a robust slate of daily and weekly opportunities for students at all levels. These partnerships might include film production through the Sarasota Film Festival, performance through Florida Studio Theatre, dance through Sarasota Contemporary Dance, music through Sarasota Orchestra, science through Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium, philanthropy through The Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee and Community Foundation of Sarasota County, and intergenerational programming with Aviva: A Campus for Senior Life, among numerous other opportunities.

Since incorporating in 2015, the school's vision of ensuring that tomorrow's leaders have the knowledge, skills and global perspective necessary to create a more peaceful, just, and compassionate world has translated into more than \$1 million of pledged philanthropic support and an unprecedented 150% growth in enrollment. By providing what many forward-thinking families are seeking – cutting-edge education combined with pluralism and a diverse, global outlook – Community Day is quickly becoming the community touchpoint for affiliated and unaffiliated Jewish families as well as families of other faiths seeking an inclusive, values-based education.

"With our small classes and flexible curriculum, every grade level at Community Day is literally a van ride away from all that our community has to offer. When students become engaged in a topic that can be explored more closely – and with greater interest – through a local resource, we are now able to load the kids into the van, with minimal scheduling and coordination, and go."

– Dan Ceaser, Community Day Head of School

The Hershorin Schiff Community Day School prides itself on providing an environment and structure that offers a rigorous curriculum enhanced through the Project-Based Learning approach. Students are encouraged to think outside the box and collaborate for maximum impact.

What distinguishes the school is "the unique diversity of our program and our Project-Based Learning philosophy," says head of school Dan Ceaser. The diversity at Community Day is easily apparent, with 225 students of all faiths, from 26 different countries, coming together under one roof. Ceaser notes, "More than 40% of our student body is composed of families of faiths other than Judaism."

With a 1:9 student to teacher ratio, students receive the attention and care needed to thrive. Additionally, teachers are able to refocus lessons based on individual student strengths and interests. At any given time of day, you will likely find students participating in hands-on projects, which could range from tending to the organic garden or designing a new bunny cage for the school pet to researching recycling companies and renegotiating the school's recycling contract. Instead of limiting learning to textbooks, Community Day teaches students – through doing – to lead as citizens, stewards and scholars.

Ceaser also emphasizes the importance of going outdoors for at least one hour per day in order to create a well-rounded and effective learning environment for the children. "We build our days so that kids are learning inside and outside the walls of a classroom. Kids need sunshine, they need to move, they should be getting dirty." He continues, "It is healthier for the kids and it makes them better students."

With plentiful opportunities for learning beyond the classroom walls, the students at Community Day are excited for each new school day. Once the students graduate, they are well prepared for advanced placement curriculum and poised for future success.

Highlight

Learning Expeditions at Community Day In 2016, thanks to generous donors, the Hershorin Schiff Community Day School purchased a van to serve as a mobile classroom, taking students on the road for real-life educational opportunities. Previously, students enjoyed numerous off-site experiences in the past thanks to parents, who cheerfully carpooled the children to various locations; the vehicle made spontaneous and more frequent learning opportunities possible. The mobile classroom van was put into heavy use soon after purchase. Community Day's unique, expeditionary learning curriculum features deliberately small class sizes, allowing its students to pursue their natural interests by connecting learning to real life experiences – both inside the classroom and beyond the walls of the school. Community Day partners with numerous area organizations and nonprofits to provide students with hands-on, experiential educational opportunities. Partners include All Faiths Food Bank, The Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee, Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium, Florida Studio Theatre, Sarasota Film Festival, Aviva: A Campus for Senior Life, Children First, Visible Men Academy, area synagogues, the Sarasota Y, The Asolo Rep, The Players Centre for Performing Arts, Dynasty Dance Club, the Women's Interfaith Network, and many more.



Stats

• ADMISSIONS DEADLINE

Rolling admissions (if space is available in classroom of interest)

• ACCREDITATIONS

Florida Council of Independent Schools, Florida Kindergarten Council, and PRIZMAH: Center for Jewish Day Schools

• LANGUAGES TAUGHT

Hebrew, Spanish and French

• KEY PROGRAMS

Agricultural Science, Service Learning, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math)

• TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

Reggio Emilia-inspired, Project-

Based Learning that focuses on the whole child - social, emotional, intellectual

• NUMBER OF FULL-TIME

TEACHERS 50

• NUMBER OF

STUDENTS 225



1050 S TUTTLE AVE, SARASOTA

941-552-2770 | COMMUNITYDAY.ORG

14 MONTHS - 8TH GRADE

MANATEE CHARTER SCHOOL



"Manatee Charter School believes that every child can learn, and we provide the differentiated instruction to accommodate all learners." –Principal Bonnie Brett



MANATEE CHARTER SCHOOL (MCS), of Manatee County, Florida is a tuition-free public charter school educating students in grades K-8. Manatee Charter School is governed by the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. which consists of local community leaders: Ken Haiko, Dennis P. Clark, Thomas P. Wheeler, Margaret Wells, John O'Brien and Shane Strum, and is a member of the Charter Schools USA (CSUSA) family of schools. CSUSA is one of the nation's leading charter school management companies, and the first education management company to receive corporation system-wide accreditation through AdvancED. Manatee Charter School is a Leadership Academy, with a proud mission to provide an inspiring and motivating educational environment that delivers real, measurable results and prepares our students to be the next generation of leaders. To help our students achieve this, MCS incorporated Stephen Covey's The Leader in Me program, which instills The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People model into daily curriculum. As a result, our students are able to develop essential life skills needed to thrive in the 21st century.

Manatee Charter School is also a school wide Title I charter school, and has been awarded a U.S. Department of Education grant to become a 21st Century Community Learning Center for students in grades 5 through 8 and their families. This program provides free after-school and summer programs for at-risk students, allowing them to

participate in academically enriching activities that foster academic and social youth development. Manatee Charter School partners with Junior Achievement, the Manatee Technical Institute, Regions Bank and the Boys and Girls Club to assist in this program. Activities for families are also provided in technology, parenting, English classes, financial literacy and college informational workshops. At the core of Manatee Charter School's education model is a guaranteed and viable curriculum, instilled by school leadership and a team dedicated to helping our students to achieve success in academics and in life. Personalized Learning Plans are created for each student based on an assessment of their learning style. At MCS we believe each child is unique and tailor lesson plans to support their individual growth. Community pride at our school is built by the required uniforms our students wear every day, allowing them to focus on their education instead of designer labels and fashion trends. We also believe that children enjoy greater success in school when the adults they admire most take an active part in their education. Our student's parents or guardians are encouraged to dedicate their time through volunteer hours each year for the school. These hours foster closer relationships and our students thrive with this support. Space is still available to have your child join our school family today. To learn more or to apply visit our website at www.manateecharter.org.

MANATEE CHARTER SCHOOL educates students K-8 and is a tuition-free public charter school. Their focus is preparing students to be the next generation of leaders and help them develop relevant, essential life skills needed in the 21st century. At Manatee Charter, each child has a Personalized Learning Plan based on assessment of their learning style to ensure they get the most out of their education and time at school. "Manatee Charter School believes that every child can learn, and we provide the differentiated instruction to accommodate all learners" says Principal Bonnie Brett. "Each grade level follows a curriculum map to maintain and achieve mastery of the Florida state standards." Manatee Charter wants every child to be successful in school and in the future. The passion Brett has for education started when she was able to assist a struggling student and help them achieve their goals. "I found that if I was able to find a way to inspire the students, they would start to believe in themselves. Now as Principal, I am able to work on a much larger scale of inspiring students, and now teachers." Brett describes a recent article where the students were interviewed and could not have better things to say about their school and education. The students loved

what they were learning and they enjoyed their classes. Hearing the words come from the students was a proud moment for Brett and it validated the hard work everyone at Manatee Charter School has put in to making the students' education rewarding. A favorite part of Brett's day is student arrival. "I enjoy greeting all the students and seeing their smiling/or sleepy faces in the morning. They are so proud of how they look in their uniforms and are ready to learn." At Manatee Charter, it goes beyond academics and as Brett describes, they are more than just a school. Students and families are put first. They are a community and when children are happy and excited to learn, it makes both staff and families alike inspired and ecstatic. Parents or guardians are encouraged to volunteer throughout the school year and this helps foster the close relationships between parents, students and the school alike. Manatee Charter provides a space where students can learn leadership skills and help them prepare for their future. They are able to set their own goals and participate in many different school activities and clubs. Manatee Charter cares about each individual child and makes sure their individual needs are focused on, developed and catered to.

Highlight

Manatee Charter Academy is proud to serve as a 21st Century Community Learning Center for students in grades 5 through 8 and their families. This program focuses on technology through our STEM component, in which students build their technology skills through math and science activities. Students also participate in college readiness, health and nutrition, and literary arts. Students are provided with daily homework help and intervention instruction, and are able to participate in activities such as robotics, computers, hands on science projects, anti-bullying awareness, and lifelong skills such as career focus and business skills.



Stats

- **ADMISSIONS DEADLINE**
Students will be accepted throughout the academic year
- **ACCREDITATIONS**
Manatee Charter School is an accredited school by the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools (NWAC)

- **LANGUAGES TAUGHT** Spanish
- **KEY PROGRAMS** Franklin Covey's The Leader In Me, Character Education, STEM
- **TEACHING PHILOSOPHY** (Montessori, Reggio, etc): Guaranteed and viable curriculum including

Personalized Learning Plans to ensure students have the time and opportunity to learn in a manner most effective to their unique needs

- **NUMBER OF FULL-TIME TEACHERS** 30
- **NUMBER OF STUDENTS** 650



LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

MANATEE CHARTER SCHOOL
4550 30TH STREET E, BRADENTON
941-465-4296 | MANATEECHARTER.ORG
INFO@MANATEECHARTER.ORG
SERVES GRADES K-8

MANGROVE SCHOOL OF SARASOTA



WE ARE AN INTENTIONAL SCHOOL COMMUNITY

founded by parents, teachers and friends seeking a unique, progressive education for our children. Serving early childhood through adolescence, Mangrove School of Sarasota honors imagination as the heart of every child's learning foundation to cultivate creativity, courage, confidence and contribution to the world.

Our Vision is to honor childhood; your child only gets one, it should not be rushed! We respect that each child has their own journey and will unfold in their own time, thus we meet children's needs at each stage of their development. We recognize that children are not empty vessels to pour information into – instead – we choose to nurture the child's natural curiosity and sense of wonder that is essential for real, life-long learning. We offer a rigorous yet dynamic academic curriculum, integrating arts, movement, music and meaningful activities into traditional academic subjects. We instill reverence for humanity, animal life, and the earth through frequent service and exploration opportunities and by fostering supportive relationships within the classrooms and community. We promote world peace

and responsibility for one's actions, while challenging children to discover the full range of their capacities. We instill children with the confidence to try new things and take calculated risks, while modelling and valuing creativity, innovation and problem solving. We challenge children to discover the full range of their capacities.

Mangrove School of Sarasota was founded in 2000 by a small group of dedicated parents and Waldorf teachers. What began as a playgroup swiftly expanded into much-needed nursery and kindergarten programs. Our grade school soon followed, as did more families and more exceptional teachers. Today, we offer early childhood programs and a comprehensive grades curriculum. Additionally, parent-child classes, homeschooling enrichment programs, adult practical art classes, free summer programming, and festivals are extended to the greater Sarasota area. We have attracted a community of extraordinary teachers and families, committed to growing a school inspired by the principles of Waldorf education, with a strong connection to nature, experiential learning, and service to those in need.

MISSION

Mangrove School of Sarasota is dedicated to providing a nurturing and calm space in which children can love, learn, and grow. We seek to engage the whole child in their education – head, heart and hands, while also honoring our inherent connection to nature through frequent exploration of and hands-on experience in our majestic natural surroundings.

Mangrove School of Sarasota is inspired by the principles of Waldorf education, serving children from ages three through adolescence. Mangrove School of Sarasota also provides parent child classes for children under the age of three, and offers a homeschool enrichment program, which enables homeschooled children to attend a full day of school at least once a week. Options for this program vary and they work with each family and their schedule to ensure they are getting the full value of this program depending on their motivation and interest. Director Erin Melia describes this program as innovative, as it allows homeschooled children to attend a full school day with their peers, choosing the days that offer the subjects or activities they are most drawn to. They are learning in a group setting with the same people, thus building strong social bonds, while experiencing a diverse curriculum. A typical day for a grades student may include, a main academic lesson, which could be any number of things, such as Zoology, Geometry, Shelter Building, or Ancient Civilizations, for example; singing, meditation class, watercolor painting, handwork, such as student designed cross stitch, crochet or 4 needle knitting, and ukulele or violin. All subjects are taught in a dynamic, creative way, that offers many opportunities for the students to collaborate with one another. At Mangrove School, they focus on the developmental needs of children and treat each child as an individual, customizing their experience. "We really see them for where they're at and who they are rather than fit them into an unrealistic agenda." If the children are enjoying their learning, they're going to learn more, and more deeply and they are going to always have a love of learning, because it doesn't stop once school stops says Melia. The curriculum is taught in academic blocks, ranging from a 3-4 week focus. Younger grades students focus on local topics such as local geography. These topics expand out as they grow older, for example older students then learn about North American geography. As Melia explains, the younger students start with what's right before them; what they can see, taste, touch and feel. Academics then expand from there. "There is a lot of opportunity for creativity. We always want to foster creativity in everything that we do, so it is not just about getting them to know this or that, we want them to be thinking deeply about and making connections between subjects." The community also plays an important role at Mangrove. Families often attend events, volunteer, and chaperone field trips. "The children are doing amazing things, and we want to include parents. We want opportunities for parents to have the experiences as well. It's just as much for them to feel part of something, to feel renewed and enriched as well" says Melia. The importance of each individual child is important at Mangrove and as Melia notes, they are very interested in not just developing one side of the child. "We want to develop their thinking capacities, feeling capacities and their willing capacities. We want to develop self-confident, well-rounded students, that go out into the world, inspired to help others."

"We really see them for where they're at and who they are rather than fit them into an unrealistic agenda."

— Erin Melia,
Director

Highlight

Nature Immersion Program The Nature Immersion Program at Mangrove Sarasota is three years old and thriving. "It is about fostering this love of mother nature, and the connection to our surroundings" says Melia. With more and more people feeling disconnected, anxiety and depression results. This program enables students to learn all about their immediate surroundings, to the vegetation, the wildlife, in a very hands on way, and this practice supports connection. Learning outside has many different benefits, such as developing physical confidence and strengthening the immune system. The more students are outside, the less germ spreading and the more fresh air they take in. In nature, the human eye is designed to re-focus quickly from near to far sight; studies have shown that children who spend more time outdoors are less likely to develop myopia. Students are also learning how to take safe risks, how to be persistent and resilient: They are checking for poison ivy before they head in a new direction, they are creating makeshift bridges across flooded areas to get to the perfect location for building their fort, they are receiving first aid for inevitable small cuts or scrapes, rather than shying away from activities for the fear of getting hurt. With so many benefits of this program, this year they have paired up with Crowley Museum and Nature Center and take a trip there weekly. Teachers and parents are joining as well, volunteering their time and helping the students thrive in nature – it is good for adults to be outside as well. This program helps the students build the desire to be active, to support our planet, and help them become active, interested adults. "This is their childhood. School is where they're going to be spending most of their time" says Melia. With this program, it helps the students get outside, learn to not be afraid of the outdoors and to become one with nature and the lifelong benefits it provides.



Stats

- **ADMISSIONS DEADLINE**
Rolling Admissions
- **LANGUAGES TAUGHT**
Spanish, French
- **KEY PROGRAMS**
Forest Kindergarten, Grades Program, Homeschool Enrichment Program
- **TEACHING PHILOSOPHY**
Inspired by the principles of Waldorf Education and Nature Immersion
- **NUMBER OF FULL-TIME TEACHERS** 10
- **NUMBER OF STUDENTS** 63



MANGROVE
SCHOOL OF
SARASOTA

MANGROVE SCHOOL OF SARASOTA

6210 CRESTWOOD AVE
SARASOTA | 941-927-3711
MANGROVESARASOTA.COM
MANGROVESARASOTA@GMAIL.COM
SERVING AGES NEWBORN
THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

THE MONTESSORI FOUNDATION AND NEWGATE SCHOOL



NewGate School—Upper School in Lakewood Ranch for grades 7 to 12.

FOUNDED IN 1907 BY DR. MARIA MONTESSORI, the Montessori Method is considered the gold standard for early childhood education and is recognized for excellence in its programs up through high school.

The Montessori Foundation is based here in Sarasota and is an international non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of Montessori education and school reform worldwide. It is a primary resource of assistance, encouragement, and support for the international Montessori community. It was established in 1992 by some of the top leaders in Montessori education, with offices originally in the nation's capital. Today, The Montessori Foundation works with 5000 Montessori schools in 50 countries, regardless of affiliation, as well as parents, educators, schools, and school systems interested in the approach pioneered by Dr. Maria Montessori. In addition to working with public and charter schools across the United States, The Montessori Foundation also helps to establish schools and prepare Montessori teachers and leaders worldwide, including

the Middle East, Africa and Asia. It also works with Montessori schools, which implement an International Baccalaureate (IB) program at the diploma level for grades 11 and 12. "One of the reasons The Montessori Foundation is doing this work is to create an internationally replicable model of Montessori middle and high school programs that are a successful marriage of the two," says President of The Montessori Foundation and Co-Head of NewGate School Tim Seldin.

In 2002, The Montessori Foundation sought to relocate and considered many options. The Foundation chose Sarasota because it is a city which represents the very best of Montessori's commitment to the arts, to intellectual life, to natural beauty and it is home to New College—the undergraduate honors college that is most aligned with Montessori's core values. Since 1993, our community has looked to the NewGate school as an exemplary educational model in which there is a strong, supportive daily connection between teachers, children, and parents.



"We believe education should be a journey, not a race."

— Tim Seldin,
Head of School

THE NEWGATE SCHOOL IN SARASOTA,

which has been supported by The Montessori Foundation since the early 1990s, is an international university-preparatory school with IB Diploma Program designation. Montessori students are taught to think independently

and every child is treated as gifted in order to cultivate and expand their talents and minds. "For years we have felt (IB) was an excellent match as an international school with approximately 40% of our student body coming to Sarasota from around the world. Being a Montessori IB program allows our students the option to enter into almost any university around the world. We believe education should be a journey, not a race," says Seldin. "It isn't huge buildings and a huge campus that make success happen, but rather the cultivation of curiosity, creativity, imagination, self-confidence and self-discipline."

With the support of The Montessori Foundation, the NewGate lab school has grown to include an internationally-recognized high school at the large upper school campus in Lakewood Ranch. NewGate is an established, triple-accredited school in a region that is becoming increasingly more international every year. It is also known as a school for entrepreneurs. Students at every age at NewGate are taught and encouraged to think independently and learn self-reliance. NewGate provides many different programs to help ignite the minds of their students and help them understand the world of professionalism at a very young age. Programs at NewGate include annual internships for grades 7-12, an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program and summer camp which is designed to enlighten and challenge children ages 3-12 with memorable experiences. They also are one of the only schools to still teach cursive which begins at a very young age. NewGate School works with each individual child to ensure they are learning at their best potential.

Highlight

What distinguishes NewGate's Montessori IB program is its focus on a balanced middle and high school life. It encourages deep learning, building strong friendships among students and teachers. It does so in a relaxed, warm and supportive learning community. The Montessori IB program helps students become more culturally aware and also develops a second language. Students become globally invested which in turn provides high school graduates many more opportunities as they prepare for universities both in the United States and in other parts of the world. NewGate prepares their students at every level to graduate with tools for success and professionalism as they enter university and the workforce. Typically students are admitted to NewGate from other Montessori schools or may come from rigorous schools in which the student is no longer inspired to learn. Gifted students who feel burned out at large, highly-competitive and impersonal schools tend to find a community of thoughtful learners and brilliant teachers. NewGate, for most families and students, feels like a second home. This is an incredible statment that makes our school an extraordinary jewel in Sarasota and Manatee. The work of The Montessori Foundation inspires a revolutionary change in education that is based on decades of brain research and the time-tested, world-wide success of more than 22,000 Montessori schools. Supporting The Montessori Foundation allows them to continue their work with schools such as NewGate, and supporting The Angel Fund which works to provides this education to children who would not otherwise have the opportunity to flourish.

Stats

• ADMISSIONS

Rolling, competitive

• ACCREDITATIONS

AdvancEd/SACS;
International Montessori
Council, International
Baccalaureate
Organization

• LANGUAGES TAUGHT

Spanish and German

• KEY PROGRAMS

Fully implemented

Montessori—we are
an international university
preparatory school—
strong arts—IB Diploma
grades 11 and 12

• TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

Montessori

• NUMBER OF FULL-TIME

TEACHERS 22

• NUMBER OF

STUDENTS 175



NEWGATE
MONTESSORI IB

NEWGATE.EDU

The Montessori Foundation
MONTESSORI.ORG

SARASOTA CAMPUS, LOWER SCHOOL
5237 ASHTON RD., SARASOTA
TODDLERS THROUGH 6TH GRADE
941-922-4949

LAKEWOOD RANCH CAMPUS, UPPER SCHOOL
5481 COMMUNICATIONS PKWY., SARASOTA
GRADES 7 TO 12
941-222-0763

TIMSELDIN@MONTESSORI.ORG

AGES ACCEPTED: 18 MONTHS TO 12TH GRADE

SARASOTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



FOR 59 YEARS, THE SARASOTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL (SCS) experience has focused on cultivating Christian values and a heart for Christ through exceptional academics for Pre-K – 12th grade students. Biblical truth and values of honor, character, integrity, self-discipline, and kindness are seamlessly integrated into classrooms, extracurriculars and athletics.

SCS provides an accredited, faith-based education focused on student achievement. Learners are equipped to develop critical thinking and communication skills and to collaborate with others through varied learning opportunities. In high school, advanced academic offerings include Honors, Advanced Placement (AP) and on-site College Dual Enrollment courses where students can earn college credit while remaining in SCS's safe, Christian environment. SCS is also the only private school in Sarasota County to offer students the option to graduate with an Associate of Arts Degree in Business from Southeastern University.

Sarasota Christian School provides students with many opportunities to discover their passions, develop their talents, and to seek God's direction in life. In addition to rigorous academics, the innovative curriculum includes athletics, arts, Bible, character education, global world view, technology, foreign language, community service and leadership development. Student-led chapel services provide time

for worship through music and motivational speakers. Creative expression and artistic talents are developed through a nationally recognized fine and performing arts program. Sarasota Christian offers an impressive 11 competitive athletic sports for both middle and high school students. For almost a decade, SCS students have advanced to the World Competition for Odyssey of the Mind, a program that focuses on developing critical thinking and problem solving skills; the school recently placed fourth in the world.

At the heart of the SCS experience, you'll find a team of caring, highly qualified, passionate faculty and staff. Committed to Christ and dedicated to each student's academic, emotional and spiritual growth, they teach both in class and by example, expressing their faith on a daily basis. Low student to teacher ratios enable teachers to give students plenty of individual attention. These mentoring student-teacher relationships provide an invaluable continuum of communication and are a hallmark of the SCS experience.

From the moment you step onto Sarasota Christian's inviting 25-acre campus, you're welcomed into an exceptional learning community. Family, Christ-centered, and friendly are the words used to describe what makes SCS such a nurturing and positive learning environment. We invite you to experience the SCS difference for yourself by scheduling a campus visit.

AT SARASOTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, your child's spiritual development and academic excellence are both top priority. The faculty continually monitors each student to ensure their needs are being met and each student achieves their maximum potential. Through rigorous curriculum and differentiated instruction each student has the opportunity to excel and explore their passions. Superintendent Ryan Lehman notes that to develop the whole child, it's not just about academics, but providing spiritual, social and emotional growth as well. Students benefit from a unique W.I.N. period during their school day that provides enrichment opportunities or academic assistance as needed. In addition, after school enrichment classes in STEM, fine arts, athletics, and more help students explore new areas of interest. "It cannot be a one size fits all

"It's faith in action that is a hallmark of the SCS experience."

— Ryan Lehman,
Superintendent

approach," says Lehman. At SCS, students have the opportunity to take on leadership roles in a variety of programs, including ministry. Students have developed a high school ministry team, worship bands, and prayer groups. "It's inspiring to watch our students grow in their faith, minister to each other, and commit their lives to Christ," notes Lehman. SCS's commitment to Christ goes beyond the classroom. Students are actively engaged in service and mission opportunities such as an annual middle school mission trip to Miami, a high school community service day and partnerships with schools around the world. Recently, a group of students and faculty spent their fall break helping a 92 year-old LaBelle resident rebuild her home after it was damaged during Hurricane Irma. "It's faith in action that is a hallmark of the SCS experience."

Highlight

Southeastern University Dual Enrollment Program Sarasota Christian School announces an exciting new program in partnership with Southeastern University. Expanding their already-abundant college course offerings, this new partnership provides students the opportunity to take additional college courses on their campus with Christian faculty for only \$25 per course plus a \$50 book fee. This program will allow students to earn an Associate of Arts (AA) Degree in Business from the Southeastern University upon graduating from SCS, a value as much as \$60,000 in college tuition. This not only is an incredible opportunity but also cost-efficient, providing parents a savings of approximately \$900 per credit hour. There are many students whose parents own businesses says Superintendent Ryan Lehman. SCS wanted to find a way to help students accelerate their career and listened to the desires of parents and students. The skills developed while taking these classes will help family businesses continue their legacy and give students the best education and opportunities possible. He notes, "What is exciting for them is to leave ahead of the game, only needing two years for a BA after high school. We want to provide these opportunities for our students." With this AA degree in business, students can explore additional educational opportunities in college such as declaring dual majors, studying abroad or pursuing a master's degree early. Lehman reiterates just how important it is to listen to the needs of the community and what is needed in educational institutes today. "Faith, education, community and willingness to be responsive to the needs of our community, such as with this AA degree in business" says Lehman. Paving the way for Southwest Florida, Sarasota Christian School is one of the first schools to offer this advanced program.

Stats

- **ADMISSIONS DEADLINE**
Rolling admissions
- **ACCREDITATIONS**
FCIS, FKC, SACS, & MEA
- **LANGUAGES TAUGHT**
Spanish
- **KEY PROGRAMS** Associate of Arts Degree in Business through

Southeastern University, Honors, Dual Enrollment and Advanced Placements Courses, World-ranked Odyssey of the Mind Program, and International School Partnership Global Education Program

- **TEACHING PHILOSOPHY** (Montessori, Reggio, etc) -

Exceptional and Academically Challenging, Biblically-Infused Education from Pre-K through 12th Grade

- **NUMBER OF FULL-TIME TEACHERS** 38
- **NUMBER OF STUDENTS** 440




SARASOTA
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

SARASOTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
5415 BAHIA VISTA STREET SARASOTA
941-371-6481 | SARASOTACHRISTIAN.ORG
PK-12TH GRADE