



Dr. Denyse Riveiro, Principal  
Angela Hartle, IB Programme Coordinator  
Dan Driscoll, Guidance

Welcome to MacFarlane Park IB Elementary Magnet. It is truly an honor to receive an offer to attend the International Baccalaureate Programme – **Primary Years Programme**. This is a highly sought-after educational opportunity. Your child will benefit from rigorous and enriching academic, social, and creative experiences only available in this type of educational setting. Our success is determined by the dedication of families, staff, and community members who work together with a mutual goal of providing the absolute best educational experience possible for our children.

**A message from Dr. Riveiro:** My vision as the instructional leader of MacFarlane Park International Baccalaureate School is to promote a sense of mutual care and responsibility to students, teachers, and parents. As my moral and social responsibilities are deeply rooted in my leadership skills, I exemplify these values in the context of a professional learning community by advancing a shared mission, vision, values, and goals. I envision students becoming responsible for their learning, with a solid foundation for academic development that extends what they learn in the classroom to the arena of the larger community.

**Administration:** Dr. Denyse Riveiro, Principal has extensive experience with the International Baccalaureate Programme. She is devoted to staying abreast of current educational research to ensure that we retain exceptional instructional staff, design optimum instructional environments, and challenging academic experiences to all students.

**Curriculum:** Our core content is the Florida Standards and BEST Sunshine State Standards, delivered via student-centered inquiry lessons that align with the IB Program Philosophy of teaching the whole child. We extend this learning by making connections across the disciplines through integrated units of inquiry culminating in action projects that take learning beyond the classroom walls and into real-world experiences and international partnerships. We use an inquiry-based teaching and learning environment which consists of:

- exploring
- wondering and questioning
- experimenting and playing with possibilities
- making connections between previous learning and current learning
- making predictions and acting purposefully to see what happens
- collecting data and reporting findings
- clarifying existing ideas and reappraising perceptions of events
- deepening understanding through the application of a concept
- making and testing theories
- researching and seeking information
- taking and defending a position
- solving problems in a variety of ways.

**Arrival & Dismissal:** Students may be dropped off beginning at 8:15am. Car Rider Drop off is located on the Main Street side of the campus. No students may be dropped off on the Chestnut Street side of the campus.

Students walking through the staff parking lot create a safety hazard. If you choose to walk your child into the building, you may park in the visitor parking lot on the north side of Chestnut Street or along the street and walk them into the cafeteria for free breakfast, beginning at 7:45am or to their classroom, beginning at 8:15 am. There is no parent parking in the faculty parking lot.

Dismissal procedures begin at 1:45pm on Mondays and 2:45pm Tuesdays through Fridays with parent car pick up on Main Street and walkers exiting the campus on the Chestnut Street side with parent escort.

Bus drop off and pick up is on the east side of the campus along New Jersey Avenue. **THERE IS NO PARKING ALONG THIS STREET DURING ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL.**

**Meal Options:** All Hillsborough County Public Schools offer breakfast to students at no charge. Lunch is available for purchase through the cafeteria or your child may bring a lunch from home. Each student is assigned a student number. They use this student number to purchase meals in the cafeteria. You may deposit money into an account (recommended) or send money as needed.

**Transportation:** Students living within the MacFarlane Park Elementary School zone, but outside a 2-mile radius of the school, qualify for district transportation. Kindergarten students without an older sibling are not permitted to ride the bus by themselves. If you qualify and would like to use a busing option, you must submit a transportation request via <https://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/transportation/magnetform/>

**Before/After School Opportunities:** We offer the district HOST program, which is open at 7:00am in the morning and until 6:00pm in the afternoon. This is a fee-based program and you must register your child in order for them to attend. You can register through the district website or directly at the site during 'Meet the Teacher' prior to the start of the upcoming school year.

PTA also sponsors onsite clubs that run until 4:00pm each afternoon and until 3:00pm on early release days. A list of clubs will be distributed after the beginning of the school year with registration instructions and information.

**Additional information, Parent Resources, School Calendar, Parent Handbook** may be located on the school website [MacFarlane Park Elementary / Homepage \(hillsboroughschools.org\)](http://MacFarlane Park Elementary / Homepage (hillsboroughschools.org))