

# HCPS National Certified Magnet Schools of Excellence

Hillsborough County Public Schools is home to 11 of the top Magnet Schools in the country who have earned the designation: **National Certified Magnet School of Excellence**. This designation goes beyond earning *National Merit Awards of Excellence or Distinction*.

This is one of the largest concentrations of National Certified Magnet Schools in the United States. The award comes from the organization that prioritizes diversity efforts in education, Magnet Schools of America.

These Magnet Schools made a decision, with the support, resources, and assistance of the Magnet Office, to take a close look at their practices and identify areas of strength and areas where challenges exist over a nearly 2-year time period. They took on this time-intensive and comprehensive reflective process with one thought in mind: become a stronger Magnet School for students.

They analyzed their programs through the lens of the 5 pillars of Magnet Education:

- successful desegregation / diversity efforts,
- high academic standards,
- innovative curriculum and professional development,
- specialized teaching staffs,
- and parent and community involvement.

After this period of application, reflection, and program analysis, these schools joined a cadre of just over 100 Magnet Schools nationwide—out of a possible 4,300 Magnet Schools in the country.

Those Magnet Schools who exceed expectations to a superlative level are designated as National Demonstration Schools—in other words, Magnet Schools that the country looks to when they want to learn what being a Magnet School is supposed to look like. HCPS boasts 3 such schools: **Macfarlane Park Magnet, Riverhills Magnet, and Shore Magnet. Only 5 other districts nationwide have more National Demonstration Schools than HCPS.**

These efforts not only lead to a greater awareness of what happens on campus each and every day, but also provide a direction for strengthening what these Magnet Schools can do for students and the community moving forward.

## Current HCPS National Certified Magnet Schools of Excellence

Jefferson High School

Lincoln Elementary Magnet School

MacFarlane Park Elementary Magnet School—a **National Demonstration School**

Middleton High School

Muller Elementary Magnet School

Riverhills Elementary Magnet School—a **National Demonstration School**

Shore Elementary Magnet School—a **National Demonstration School**

Sligh Middle Magnet School

Stewart Middle Magnet School

Tampa Bay Technical High School

Tampa Heights Elementary Magnet School

