

AMERICAN HERITAGE SCHOOL

KNOWLEDGE | INTEGRITY | COMPASSION



Lower School Profile 2019-2020

American Heritage School
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Delray Beach, FL 33484
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www.ahschool.com

Highlights of Recognitions

The students at American Heritage School are uniquely prepared to be leaders of the 21st century who embody knowledge, integrity, and compassion. We guide students to be independent, productive, and accomplished when they progress into our Upper School. Here are some of the recent achievements of our Lower School students and notable facts about our school:

- #1 elementary school in Palm Beach County in math competition; qualifiers for state and national math competitions
- #1 private elementary school in Palm Beach County at science fair
- One out of three students in 5th grade qualified for National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS)
- One out of four students in 4th and 5th grades qualified for Duke University's Talent Identification Program
- Stanford University's math program for elite math students in 4th and 5th grades
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) initiatives in new state-of-the-art Science Lab and Innovation Lab
- Project Lead The Way (PLTW) curriculum enhances computer science instruction focusing on programming, creative thinking, student collaboration, and communication
- Over 15 elective classes supplement core curriculum in all students' daily schedules.
- "Green School of Excellence" certified by the Palm Beach County Green Recognition Program for two consecutive years
- Yearly participant in Presidential Education Academic Award program
- Yearly Broadway-style musical performed in state-of-the-art Black Box Theatre
- Average tenure of teachers exceeds ten years
- Enrichment classes offered after school, such as Lego League, robotics, math enrichment, chess, Fun Chefs, musical theater, yoga, Zumba, and athletics

CEO & Founder

William R. Laurie, M.Ed.

President

Douglas R. Laurie, M.Ed., D.C.

Vice President

Leslie Laurie Wood, Ed.S.

Headmaster

Robert Stone, J.D., M.Ed.

Lower School Principal

Patricia Cobos, M.Ed.

Lower & Middle School Counselor

Michelle Sukenik, Psy, D., LMHC

Our School

Our 40-acre lush, tropical campus resembles a small college in size and design. Our Boca Raton style buildings house classrooms; offices; complete Internet coverage; Science, Engineering, and Innovation Labs; a state-of-the-art library and media center with a reading cave and computer labs; courtroom; fine arts complex; butterfly garden with an Aquaponics growing system and tortoise habitat; dining hall with an outdoor seating area; aquatics center; tennis courts; sports fields; and quiet courtyard areas.

A College Prep Experience

American Heritage School gives its students a rigorous education in a forward-thinking, technologically advanced, and well-rounded environment. Our mission is to graduate students who are prepared in mind, body, and spirit to meet the requirements of the colleges of their choice. We offer a challenging college preparatory curriculum that serves students of bright average to gifted intelligence and aims to develop critical thinking skills and lifelong learning. At American Heritage, students find their passion and uncover hidden talents.

American Heritage School of Boca/Delray is an independent, non-sectarian, and co-educational day school for PK3 through 12th grades with approximately 1,650 students. Our **Lower School** serves PK3 through 5th grade and has a student population of 330 students. Our student to faculty ratio is 5:1.

What Makes Our School Unique

While our campus resembles a small college in size and design, the feeling of an intimate, nurturing, well-rounded, and family-oriented school community is quite evident. We celebrate diversity and welcome students of all religions, nationalities, ethnicities, and races. Here are some of the unique aspects of our Lower School:

- Every classroom has a certified teacher and full-time assistant, state-of-the-art technology with a 1-to-1 iPad program with the latest technology, interactive Epson boards, and audio enhancement systems.
- Stanford University's Education Program for Gifted Youth curriculum is offered for high achieving math students in 4th and 5th grades. After-school math enrichment is also available for elite math students.
- Honors and accelerated classes are offered beginning in 2nd grade for math, 4th grade for language arts, and 5th grade for science.
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) hands-on learning is integrated into new Science & Engineering Lab and Innovation Lab.
- Lessons are enhanced through use of our Upper School facilities, such as the mock courtroom and Robotics Lab.
- Elective classes are incorporated into each student's weekly schedule, including: Foreign Language (Spanish and Chinese), computer lab, science lab, library and media center, art, music, orchestra, band, chorus, dance, drama, TV production, and physical education.
- Our outdoor Aquaponics System, with multiple growing beds and 450-gallon fish tank, provides an interactive classroom instructing students on self-sustaining, eco-friendly food practices.
- Our student broadcast network enables students to produce the *Stallion Today* morning announcements each day.

Community Service

Lower School students at American Heritage learn how to become leaders at a young age. They help their peers halfway around the world, as well as people in their own community. Each year, we participate in Education Rocks, where students raise funds to help children in Bali attend school. Students also support the American Heart Association through *Jumprope for Heart*, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through *Pennies for Patients*, and they assist our high school Pre-Med students in supporting pediatric cancer patients

Faculty

The Lower School faculty includes 45 degreed and certified instructors, two administrators, a full-time school counselor, 29 teacher assistants, three registered nurses, and two office professionals. More than half of the instructional staff hold a post-graduate degree. Our highly qualified, talented, and committed teachers guide our students to develop intellectually, emotionally, and socially, while preparing them for a lifelong journey of learning. To foster educational best practices, all of our teachers participate in professional development throughout the year. Parents and students respect our professional, competent, and caring faculty.

Student Clubs & Organizations

We believe that students should develop a strong sense of social responsibility with a respect for individual and group differences. We offer student clubs and organizations supervised by faculty advisers to foster a community of scholars and responsible citizens. Following is a sampling of the extracurricular activities available to our students:

Math Competition Team offers students in our Stanford University Math Program the opportunity to compete in national, state, and regional mathematical contests.

Robotics Club attracts students interested in the fundamentals of engineering. Students work together to build and program an autonomous (no remote control) robot that performs mission tasks within a set time frame.

Chess Club gives students in grades K-5 the chance to train with a Chess Grandmaster and acquire skills to foster logic, critical thinking, and creativity.

National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS) is a prominent national organization for which students are selected based on GPA and citizenship. NEHS provides a springboard to higher level learning and encourages hard work and reaching each student's full potential.

Student Council represents 4th and 5th graders who are elected officers or general members. The Council promotes leadership as students support local, national, and international causes.

Safety Patrol is an on-campus service organization that provides a safe environment for pedestrians and motorists. Patrol members assist at morning drop-off.

Drama Enrichment culminates in a Broadway-style theatrical production at the end of the Spring Semester as students with all different learning styles grow through this experience.

Lower School Choral Group, known as the Heritage Harmonizers, is a select group of 3rd-5th graders who show great promise or enthusiasm for choral singing.

Environmental Awards

American Heritage School was named a Bronze-Level Everglades Champion School as a model of environmental stewardship and Everglades conservation. American Heritage also has maintained its status as a "Green School of Excellence," awarded through the Green Schools Recognition Program. We have a program on campus with environmental initiatives that encourage the conservation of energy, water, and recyclables throughout our campus and enhance our school grounds as a learning environment with ecological integrity.

Accreditations and Memberships

- Association of Independent Schools of Florida (AISF)
- Middle States Association (MSA-CESS)
- National Council for Private Schools Association (NCPA)
- Accreditation International (Ai)
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools/ AdvancED (SACS)