



**From Dr. Jessica Patella:**

"Our cadets have the incredible opportunity to spend a semester rotating in the oncology department at Sarasota Memorial Hospital. They work intimately with doctors, nurses, researchers and staff learning about different careers in the medical field and what strikes their passion most for the future. The highlight for all the students is in being able to observe a surgery, they are the only high school students allowed in the surgical suite for this once in a lifetime experience.

One of the many joys of being located in beautiful downtown Sarasota is the ability to have unique learning experiences within walking distance. I love being able to add walking trips into my curriculum. For example, in nutrition we take a trip to Whole Foods and in AP Psychology we enjoy a day of Embracing our Differences on the Bayfront along and experiencing nature therapy at Selby. Another favorite trip for IB Seniors is having lunch at a nearby restaurant for a book club discussion. Being located downtown allows for a wonderful incorporation of real life experiences that enhance the classroom learning." - Dr. Jessica Patella