



ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS

While enrolled in this magnet program, students have the opportunity to participate in the following activities and clubs:

- Academic team
- All sports teams: baseball (boys), basketball, cheerleading, cross country, flag football (girls), football, golf, soccer, softball (girls), swimming, tennis, track, volleyball (girls) and wrestling
- Drama Club
- ExCEL Board of Student Advisors
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Florida Future Educators of America
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
- Interact Club
- Junior Achievement
- Key Club
- National Honor Society
- Packer Press
- Principal's Advisory Committee
- Principal's Multicultural Club
- Science Club
- Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE)
- Student Council
- Subject Area Honor Societies
- Yearbook
- AVID Site Team

POINTS OF PRIDE

- Internationally recognized innovative learning environment
- National Education Association top 20 school programs in the United States
- Nine valedictorians and seven salutatorians representing the entire graduating class in our 14-year history
- Pinellas County Economics Expo top winners for ten years
- Students are active in the promotion of the magnet program
- Students selected to serve on school board, city and county committees
- Students' input is a key component of continuous improvement of the magnet program
- Magnet program is part of a great community-based high school with strong academic and extracurricular programs
- 100% ExCEL staff have completed AVID training in their content area

HOW TO APPLY

Students living anywhere in the county can apply to this school during the designated application period. Please check the district website at www.pcsb.org for more information. There are entrance criteria to apply for this magnet school.

TRANSPORTATION

Arterial bus transportation (buses that operate on main roads with a limited number of stops) is provided to students who live more than two miles from the school. Magnet bus stop locations may require that parents drive their children to and from the stop.



OUR MISSION

The mission of the ExCEL magnet program is to develop confident and articulate leaders who explore opportunities that will inspire them to pursue postsecondary education and to excel in a global society.



Largo High School

Exploring Careers & Education in Leadership
ExCEL

410 Missouri Ave.
Largo, FL 33770
www.excel.pcsb.org
Phone: (727) 588-4622



Vision: 100% Student Success

Mission: "Educate and prepare each student for college, career and life."

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, prohibits any and all forms of discrimination and harassment based on race, color, sex, religion, national origin, marital status, age, sexual orientation or disability in any of its programs, services or activities.

www.pcsb.org

Brochure information is subject to change.

ExCEL

Exploring Careers & Education in Leadership

LARGO HIGH SCHOOL



MAGNET SCHOOLS & PROGRAMS

LOOK • EXPLORE • DISCOVER

look · explore · discover

ABOUT US

ExCEL offers a philosophical change to education – it's not what we teach, it is how we teach. The program offers students a "student-centered" learning environment that prepares them for various careers and colleges. In addition to the traditional ways of explaining a subject – lectures, books, classwork – students learn by doing. The Exploring Careers & Education in Leadership (ExCEL) magnet program promotes hands-on activities and projects. Students retain more because they become active learners. Magnet students shadow various professionals during their work day in order to gain a career focus. Students have the opportunity to spend the day with judges, firefighters, jet pilots, morticians, veterinarians, chefs, doctors – think of a career, and the chances are one of our students has spent the day discovering if that career is suited for him or her.

areas of study

LEADERSHIP, CAREER DEVELOPMENT, INTERNSHIPS AND INTERDISCIPLINARY CLASS PROJECTS

This college preparatory program has enhanced curriculum with a greater reading and writing requirement. We are project and activity oriented to allow students to make connections between their high school classes and their future endeavors. Students who will be successful in the ExCEL magnet program want more than doing the questions at the end of the chapter in a book. They want to discuss, debate, and delve deeper while being challenged to think for themselves.

Our students are interested in learning about the array of opportunities available to them after graduation before specializing in one field of study. The program offers them this opportunity through a number of hands-on learning experiences including college field trips, career shadowing experiences and public speaking opportunities.

The ExCEL magnet program is built on the philosophy of continuous inquiry and improvement. As a result, we seek

what is a magnet?

Magnet programs focus on a certain theme with specialized curriculum in areas such as arts, communication, science and technology, and gifted studies. Some programs have eligibility requirements. Students living anywhere in the county may apply.

to support the student and family as post-graduation opportunities are explored. Our magnet faculty members are selected by committees that include parents, students and faculty members based on the candidate's educational background and philosophy of teaching. ExCEL is a learning community that is dedicated to helping students take responsibility for their educational program.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

- Reading & Math stanines ≥ 4 **OR** FCAT 2.0 Reading score ≥ 220 AND FCAT 2.0 Math score ≥ 228
- GPA of 2.5 or higher for grades 6-8.
- Satisfactory discipline history and attendance records.

EXCEL MAGNET REQUIREMENTS

ExCEL uses unique content as the core curriculum for the AVID elective. Students hone their skills in the areas of time management, organization, public speaking, self-advocacy and team dynamics throughout each year. Those students that have previously been a part of the AVID elective will be familiar with the structure of the course. As an ExCEL student they will experience some key enhancements and requirements as outlined below.

Grade 9

- Peer Counseling – students develop the tools necessary to resolve conflicts and become certified peer mediators
- 2 career shadowing experiences during the year
- Minimum of 1 weighted credit course

Grade 10

- Study of parliamentary procedure and ethical practices
- 2 career shadowing experiences during the year
- Minimum of 2 weighted credit courses

Grade 11

- SAT Preparation – students are given instruction and practice on how to prepare for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) for college admission
- College/Career Research & Decision Making – students are taught self-assessment skills and decision-making skills to enable them to make college/career choices
- Students will visit an out-of-county University
- 2 career shadowing experiences during the year
- Minimum of 2 weighted credit courses, including 1 for college credit (AP/Dual Enrollment)

Grade 12

- Leadership Techniques – students learn the role of leadership in a democratic society, motivational strategies, team building, group dynamics and group conflict resolution
- Completion of College and Scholarship Applications
- Minimum of 2 college credit courses (AP/Dual Enrollment)
- Additional Opportunities for:
 - Senior Special Project
 - Internship
 - Exploratory Teaching
 - Research Project
 - Vocational Program/Industry Certifications



ExCEL

HIGHLIGHTS

- Continuous growth of leadership and communication skills through class, school and county presentations
- Exploration of careers through on-the-job shadowing and internships
- Curricular design promotes increasingly rigorous courses over time
- Cross-curricular learning and activities
- Personal and academic expression through various models – i.e. creating videos, acting out skits and developing web pages
- Camaraderie and enthusiasm for learning cultivated through planned activities involving teamwork
- Opportunities to graduate with college credit
- Academic skill-building and support provided through the AVID elective

largo high school