



Exploring Careers & Education in Leadership

at Largo High School

Established in 1993, ExCEL is a county-wide magnet program which is a school-within-a-school at Largo High School. Our students travel from throughout Pinellas County to this unique magnet program. Unlike other magnet and application programs, ExCEL focuses on alternative assessments, career exploration of hundreds of career pathways, and



the building of strong interpersonal skills which propel our students ahead of their peers.

In this college-preparatory program, students take their academic and specialized ExCEL elective with ExCEL teachers* (*unique, higher level classes may be a mixed class).

We seek motivated, academically talented students who want more from school than reading a textbook and taking a test.

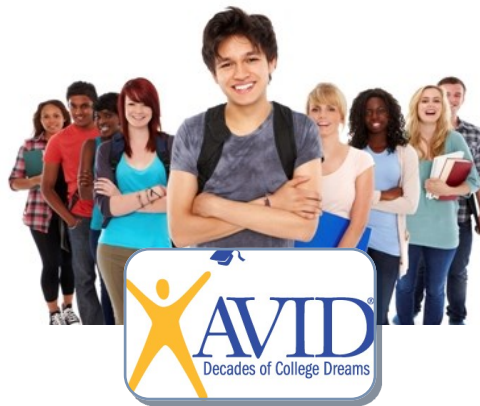
ExCEL DISCOVERY NIGHT

Tuesday, November 14 at 6:30 p.m.



Career Shadowing

- Shadow various professionals during their workday.
- Our students have spent 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 them.
- Inquire about salaries, educational requirements, and working conditions.
- Received employment opportunities; internships; career mentors; received scholarships from the place shadowed



AVID / ExCEL Elective

- Merged with ExCEL's electives of Peer Mediation, Leadership and Career & Scholarship Research into AVID's elective strand
- Teaches skills and behaviors for academic success—even the best students find enrichment
- Promotes escalating academic rigor
- Provides intensive support with tutorials and strong teacher/student relationships
- Builds test taking skills for the SAT/ACT
- Provides college & scholarship support



Camaraderie

- Atmosphere of “family” is created by group activities, workshops and team building skills
- Population of motivated, academically successful, responsible school leaders who represent the entire population at Largo High School in many activities
- ExCEL staff KNOW our students and families which build strong, lasting relationships
- Students feel connection to school
- ExCEL students graduate knowing their entire program graduating class



Who should consider ExCEL?

The ExCEL magnet program at Largo High School is an academically rigorous program in which students participate in honors or Advanced Placement (AP) level courses. In addition, students in ExCEL are required to take the AVID elective and follow AVID's national requirements which include a progressively rigorous academic schedule. ExCEL students are required to career shadow twice a year in 9th through 11th grades and participate in ExCEL school activities.



Students who typically do well in this program earn mostly As and Bs on their report cards, maintaining a 2.5 average and earn a score of 325 or higher on their FSA mathematics and language arts assessments. Students new to Pinellas County Schools who do not have an FSA score, can look at their standardized test scores from their previous school to determine if they have at least a 4 stanine or higher in both reading/language arts and mathematics.

Once enrolled in the program, students must attend all classes regularly, maintain a minimum unweighted GPA of 2.0 in 9th grade, 2.3 in 10th grade and 2.5 in 11th and 12th grades as well as abide by the Code of Student Conduct. Falling below these expectations may result in placement on probation and/or dismissal from the program. Please review the **District Application Program Procedures** available on the Pinellas County Schools website for further information. www.pcsb.org

How to apply?

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Applicant Shadowing starts Nov. 1		Application Period, Jan. 10—Jan. 19	Acceptance Period, Feb. 14—Feb. 21	Call people on waitlist, March 2
District Application Fair Nov. 11 @ Pinellas Park HS 9 a.m. to 12 Noon			Applicant Shadowing ends, Feb. 21	Late Application Period Begins, March 14—Dec. 31
ExCEL Discovery Night, Nov. 14 @ 6:30 p.m.				

Two step process to apply

Step 1: Apply online at <http://reservation.pcsb.org> and look for **District Applications** link on this web page.

- Parents will need their Focus user ID and password to complete this process.
- The system will ask your child's name, birthdate, your address and family information for placement.
- It will then give you choices of applications which you will rank in number order from 1 to 5. Your preferred program should be #1. This reservation program tries to give each student his/her preferred choice. Programs selected as the applicant's preferred program (#1), IF WAITLISTED, will be on the top of the waitlist for that program.

Step 2: Log back into the Reservation System to see your results. Click to accept your preferred program which will remove your name from all other programs. You should receive a confirmation page. If you do not receive a confirmation page, please call student assignment to report the possible error. Students waitlisted will start receiving calls on March 2.



Exploring Careers & Education in Leadership (ExCEL)

410 Missouri Avenue, Largo, Florida 33770

www.excel.pcsb.org

727-588-4622

Fax: 727-588-3705

howardd@pcsb.org



Largo High School

Course Listing

LHS Curriculum Guide with course descriptions
available online at: www.largo-hs.pcsb.org

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

AP Biology
AP Calculus AB
AP Capstone
AP Chemistry
AP Computer Science
AP English Language & Composition
AP English Literature & Composition
AP Environmental Science
AP European History
AP French Language
AP Human Geography
AP Psychology
AP Spanish Language
AP Statistics
AP Studio Art: 2-D Design
AP Studio Art: 3-D Design
AP United States History
AP World History

ART

AP Studio Art: 2D Design
AP Studio Art: 3D Design
Art 2D
Art 3D
Computer Graphics 1-2
Computer Art: Image Processing
Ceramics 1—3
Drawing 1—3
Painting 1—3
Photography 1—4
Portfolio 1
Sculpture 1—4

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Digital Information Technology
TV Production

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Intro to Information Technology
Networking I—IV
PC Support I—III
(opportunity to be Microsoft Certified)

DRAMA

Introduction to Drama
Drama I—IV
Comprehensive Theater I—IV
Musical Theater I—II
Stagecraft I—II

DRIVER EDUCATION

DUAL ENROLLMENT

DE 20th Century History
DE American National Government
DE The College Experience
DE College Algebra
DE Composition I
DE Composition II

DE Executive Internship 1—4
DE Greek Mythology
DE Intermediate Algebra

ENGLISH

AP English Language & Composition
AP English Literature & Composition
DE Composition I & 2
DE Greek Mythology
English I—IV & Honors
Creative Writing I—III
Journalism I—IV
Newspaper
Yearbook
Research 1 (SAT Prep Class)
Speech 1—2

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

Early Childhood Education I—IV
(School based pre-school)
Foods 1—3

HOPE (*Health Opportunities though Physical Ed. — typically taken in 10th grade or online*)

INDUSTRIAL/ TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Drafting
Architectural Drafting & Design 2—3
Mechanical Drafting & Design 1
Automotive Tech
Welding

EXCEL MAGNET ELECTIVES

AVID I & Peer Counseling
AVID II & Leadership Skills Development
AVID III & Career Research & Decision Making
AVID IV & Leadership Techniques
AP Capstone

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I
Algebra II & Honors
Analytic Geometry
AP Calculus AB
AP Statistics
DE College Algebra
Geometry I & Honors
Liberal Arts Mathematics
Mathematics for College Readiness
Mathematical Analysis
Pre-Calculus
Research I (SAT Prep)
Trigonometry

MUSIC

BAND

Blue Band I—III
Gold Band III—V
Guitar 1—3
Instrumental Techniques
Instrumental Ensemble 1—2 (percussion)
Keyboard 1—3
Orchestra I—V

CHORUS

Concert Choir II—V
Mixed Chorus I
Madrigal Singers 1—V

COLOR GUARD

Color Guard—Eurhythmics 1—4

OTHER MUSIC

Guitar I—III
Keyboarding I—IV
Musical Theater I—II
Music Theory II

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Aerobics 1—3
Basketball 1—3
Team Sports 1—2
Tennis 1—5
Volleyball 1—3
Weights 1—5

SCIENCE

AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Environmental Science
Anatomy & Physiology & Honors
Biology I & Honors
Biology II Honors
Chemistry & Honors
Chemistry II Honors
Marine Science
Marine Science II Honors
Physics & Honors
Physics II Honors

SOCIAL STUDIES

AP Human Geography
AP European History
AP Psychology
AP US History
AP World History
American Government/Honors
American History
DE 20th Century History
DE American National Government
Global Studies
Economics/Honors
Law Studies 1
Psychology 1
Sociology 1
World History
World Religions 1

WORLD LANGUAGES

French 1—6 & Advanced Placement
Spanish 1—6 & Advanced Placement



In addition to the courses listed here, students
may take courses during their regular school
day at:

- ◆ PTEC in Clearwater and/or
- ◆ St. Petersburg College (SPC)



Typical course schedule for
ExCEL - Exploring Careers & Education in Leadership
Classic Progression

Freshmen (9)

English I or English I Honors (full year) *	
Physics I or Physics I Honors (full year)	
Algebra I, Geometry Honors or Algebra II Honors (full year)	
AVID I (& Peer Counseling) - ExCEL required elective class	
Global Studies (or AP Human Geography—(full year)	Elective
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective

Sophomores (10)

English II or English II Honors (full year)	
Chemistry I or Chemistry I Honors (full year)	
Geometry, Algebra II, Algebra II Honors or Pre-Calculus (full year)	
World History, World History Honors or AP World History (full year)	
AVID II (& Leadership Skills Development) - ExCEL required elective class	
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective

Juniors (11)

English III, English III Honors or AP English Language/Comp Innov. (full year)	
Biology I Honors (full year)	
Algebra II, Algebra II Honors, Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, or AP Statistics (full year)	
US History, US History Honors or AP United States History (full year)	
AVID III (& Career Research & Decision Making Skills) - ExCEL required elective class	
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective

Seniors (12)

English IV: FL College Prep, English IV Honors or AP English Literature (full year)	
Algebra II, Algebra II Honors, Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, AP Statistics or Math for College Readiness (full year)	
AVID IV (& Leadership Techniques) - ExCEL required elective class	
Economics or Economics Honors	US Government or US Government Honors
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective

AVID has an expectation of increasing rigorous curriculum: (9th grade at least 1 honors course, 10th grade at least 2 honors courses, 11th grade at least 1 Advanced Placement course and 1 honor course)



Typical course schedule for
ExCEL - Exploring Careers & Education in Leadership
Accelerated Progression

Freshmen (9)

English II Honors (full year)	
Physics I or Physics I Honors (full year)	
Algebra I, Geometry Honors or Algebra II Honors (full year)	
AP Human Geography	
AVID I (& Peer Counseling) - <i>ExCEL required elective class</i>	
<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>
<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>

Sophomores (10)

English III Honors or AP English Language/Comp Innov. (full year)	
Chemistry I or Chemistry I Honors (full year)	
Geometry, Geometry Honors, Algebra II, Algebra II Honors or Pre-Calculus (full year)	
World History Honors or AP World History (full year)	
AVID II (& Leadership Skills Development) - <i>ExCEL required elective class</i>	
<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>
<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>

Juniors (11)

English IV: FL Collge Prep, English IV Honors or AP English Literature (full year)	
Biology I Honors (full year)	
Algebra II, Algebra II Honors, Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, or AP Statistics (full year)	
US History, US History Honors or AP US History (full year)	
AVID III (& Career Research & Decision Making Skills) - <i>ExCEL required elective class</i>	
<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>
<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>

Seniors (12)

AP English Literature or Dual Enrollment English here or at SPC (full year)	
Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, AP Statistics or Math for College Readiness (full year)	
AVID IV (& Leadership Techniques) - <i>ExCEL required elective class</i>	
US Government or US Government Honors	Economics or Economics Honors
<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>
<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>
<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>

AVID has an expectation of increasing rigorous curriculum: (9th grade at least 1 honors course, 10th grade at least 2 honors courses, 11th grade at least 1 Advanced Placement course and 1 honor course)



ExCEL – Exploring Careers & Education in Leadership

Career Shadowing

To give our students a career focus, magnet students will shadow various professionals during their workday. Our students have spent 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 them.

Examples of some of our students' experiences are: standing beside a surgeon during delicate open heart surgery, going to a crime scene and watching forensic scientists pick-up possible clues, accompanying Busch Garden's veterinarians care for exotic animals, or developing lesson plans and teaching elementary, middle or high school students. These are just a few of the many activities our students had while shadowing in the magnet program. Not only do our students have once in a lifetime experiences while shadowing, this one-day, twice a year, activity permits students to inquire about salaries, educational requirements and working conditions.

While students spend the day investigating careers they can inquire about salaries, educational requirements, and working conditions. Many of our students have received employment opportunities; internships; career mentors; received scholarships from the place shadowed; and have begun the networking process toward their future careers.



Health Careers

Activities Director
Bio-Chemical Waste
Cardiovascular
Clinical Manager
Chiropractic
Dentist
EMS Technician
Forensics
Gynecology
Helicopter Rescue
Histology
Laboratory Admin.
Medical Assistant
Mental Health
Nuclear Medicine
Nurse
Nurse Practitioner
Nursing Home Asst.
Occupational Therapist
Orthodontist
Optometrist
Paramedic
Physical Therapist
Physician
Physician's Asst.
Radiology
Registered Nurse
Sports Trainer
Surgeon
X-Ray Technologist

Human Services

Children's Services
Foster Care
HRS
Minister

PAR Counselor
Shelter Supervisor
UPARC Director
Youth Minister
Youth Pastor

International Business & Finance

Accountant
Advertising Executive
Attorney-at-Law
Circuit Court Judge
City Manager



City Planning
Communications Management
Community Center Manager
Computer Management
Corp. Relocation Coordinator
Customer Service Representative
Database Management
Financial Consultant
Food Services
Hotel Supervisor
Housing Rehabilitation Manager
Insurance Agent
Internet Development
Investment Rep.
Inventory Analyst
Laser Technician
Market Management
Marketing Analyst
Network Technician
Para-Legal
Patent Attorney
Political Action Advocate
Property Management

Public Relations
Reality
Recreation Supervisor
Restaurant Management
Retail Sales
Retirement Planner
Sales Consultant
Small Business Owner
State Attorney
Store Manager
Tele-messaging Services
Utility Engineer

Industrial Technology

Air Traffic Controller
Auto Repair
Auto Body Technician
Aviation Attendant
Baker
Beautician
Bus Driver
Commercial Artist
Construction
Curator of a Museum
Drafting
Electrician
EMS Technician
Engineer
Equipment Manager
Firefighter
Graphic Artist
Helicopter Rescue
Jet Pilot
Letter Carrier
Lifeguard
Masonry
Mechanical Engineer
Meteorologist
Nail Technician
Navigation
Newspaper Publisher
Newspaper Columnist
Newspaper Photographer
Nursery (plants) Operator

Paramedic
Pilot
Photographer
Playwright
Police Officer
Private Investigator
Professional Golfer
Race Horse Trainer
Radio Announcer



Radio Disc Jockey
Rescue Supervisor
Real Estate Sales Rep.
Remodeling Consultant
Sports Announcer
Theatrics
Transportation Coordinator
TV Announcer
Upholstery/ Antiques

Teaching Arts

Adult Driving Teacher
Alternative Education
Art Teacher
Assistant Principal
Child Care Provider
College Professor
Drama Teacher
Dropout Prevention Specialist
Elementary Teacher



ESOL Teacher
Guidance Counselor
High School Teacher
Middle School Teacher
Music Teacher
Parochial School Teacher
Physical Education Teacher
Principal, Primary Education
Principal, Secondary Education
School Administration
School Counselor
Special Education Teacher
Speech Pathologist

Zoology

Animal Care Management
Biologist
Oceanography
Marine Biologist
Marine Trainer
Primatologist w/Jane Goodall



Stable Operator
Veterinarian
Veterinarian Assistant
Zookeeper

www.excel.pcsb.org

(727) 588-4622

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Endorsements

Parent Endorsements

(Listed by parent's name, student's name and school from which student entered the ExCEL magnet program)

After seeing the success my first two children experienced in the ExCEL program there was no doubt that I wanted the same experience for my third child. My incoming freshman was a MEGSSS student and could have chosen to go to just about any school or program in the county. The tight-knit community of students, teachers, and staff in ExCEL creates a rich, family-like environment which, combined with the excellent academics, makes for the absolute best high school experience I could imagine. Participation in this program was a huge asset for my daughter when applying for college and she is now a successful freshman at USF in Tampa. I feel confident that my two future high school students will follow the their siblings' footsteps.

Lorie Rawe

Maisey (2013 Summa Cum Laude), Taylor (2014) & Jack (2017)

Deciding on a high school for my daughter was a challenge I was not looking to make and the local high school in my community was not an option for us. I had heard so many tales about the various local high schools and the lack of administrators and teacher support and involvement so when I heard about Largo ExCEL Program and what it provides, I felt relieved to hear about a program that fosters a learning career educational environment with support and encouragement at all levels. Not only did the ExCEL program live up to my expectations but it fosters such positive communication that has exceeding anything I could have expected.

As an active involved parent, I have found that there has been no question big or small that has not been answered or funneled to the proper person to help me. My daughter is enjoying the project style learning environment, the challenging courses, the support from the teachers and students within the program and last but not least she is excited about doing her career shadowing and contacting those business herself and being involved in the career partnership for a field she may want to pursue for her future. Thanks ExCEL for helping make our transition from middle school that much easier and fostering such a positive learning environment that we are looking to being apart for the next four years.

Maria A. Price

Dominique, Seminole MS

We are so pleased with the ExCEL program at Largo High School. As a parent, I anticipated the big change in the step between middle and high school with dread. However, the ExCEL program seems to be everything it promised. My daughter is thriving, happy and experiencing so many different opportunities. There are no complaints about homework as she is interested and engaged. Working in Tampa, I feel so distanced from my daughter's school life, but with frequent communication from Ms. Howard, Mr. Wolfenden and Ms. Ward I feel like I am included in my daughter's ExCEL experience. I never have to wonder what's going on today or what's coming up. When they say that the ExCEL program is more like family than school, I was skeptical, but the teachers and staff do a great job of making students and parents alike feel appreciated and included. It really is so much more than just a school.

Maria Klein

Amanda, Oak Grove MS

There are many public and private options for high school students; however, in our opinion, none of them compare to the quality education and service received while attending ExCEL. As a parent whose children had attended private school, I was apprehensive about sending my daughter to a public school. This program is phenomenal. In addition to receiving a valuable education, the assistance principal, the secretary and teachers work closely with the students and the parents. This program incorporates leadership skills throughout the curriculum, such as when the students complete magnet wide projects, but it also emphasizes career readiness skills through their career shadowing days. I am highly impressed with this program, the care and support of the staff, and mostly, I'm thrilled to see my daughter learning, both in the classroom, as well as in the community.

Marcie Buchan

Alexis, Home Schooled

I have four children and we have moved around a lot so we have experienced four elementary schools, three middle schools and three high schools in Pinellas County and the ExCEL program is by far the best school any of my kids have gone to. I rave about it to anyone that will listen to me. I love the small school feel and I have never received such great communication from any of the other schools. Ms. Howard is a blessing to this school with all that she does. She and the teachers go above and beyond to help make sure our kids are a success and I couldn't be more grateful. We have already convinced one friend to send their child there this year. I will be sending my son there in two years when he is ready for high school and have been working on his friends parents already as I can't imagine a better opportunity for them in the county.

Angela Meyers

Alexis, Oak Grove MS

In the ExCEL magnet program, you get a private school experience in a public school setting. The teachers take a vested interest in every student and keep the lines of communication open with you whether it's a call to say your student may need a little extra help in a subject or an email just to let you know that your student is doing a great job. I love the fact that I got an email from my son's chemistry teacher to let me know he had gotten a "A" in the class and how proud of him she was. By giving us a list of their personal phone numbers, teachers make sure they available to both students and parents at anytime. I would give the ExCEL program my highest recommendation.

April Batan

China-Jade (2012) & Sam (2011 Summa Cum Laude) **Osceola MS**

I have been extremely pleased with the ExCEL program. I am in the system and realize communication is critical to student success. The teachers are also extremely caring and responsive to all aspects of their students, not just academics.

Laurie Cottrell, Catherine, John Hopkins MS

As a parent, I absolutely love ExCEL!! It is challenging my son academically. ExCEL is also providing my son with career choices through Job Shadowing and preparing us for his future by providing vital information such as scholarships and testing dates. Plus, Mrs. Howard rocks with her wonderful emails.

Candace Reed,

Curtis, **Osceola MS**

We have been extremely pleased with the ExCEL Program at Largo High School. As promised at the beginning of the program, the faculty have worked together to provide a very comfortable learning environment for the students. The classes work together on projects and encourage the students to express themselves in various ways, preparing them for college and life. I would highly recommend this program.

Vicki Hawhee

Spencer & Lauren (2011 Graduate), *Largo MS*

I have had two children in the ExCEL Magnet Program at Largo High School. One graduated in 2010 and has gone on to college (majoring in music), and the other is a senior. There are a number of reasons why I would recommend the ExCEL program. One reason is that I think the transition from middle school to high school is easier. The ExCEL teachers and staff are there to help the parents and students feel comfortable with the transition and are very informative. In addition the activities and projects that are part of the course curriculum helps the students learn in a hands on learning environment which is a more exciting way to learn than just doing work from a textbook.

Sara Kemker

Chris & Ashley (2010 Summa Cum Laude), *Largo MS*

I think the ExCEL magnet program is the best one in Pinellas. My daughter is a recent graduate and my son is a senior whom I made sure got into the program because of how well my daughter has done. It keeps me up to date with important school info as well as keeps me informed with my child's grades. I also feel it helps the children prepare for any and all careers when having to work with other people as a team. I will continue praising the program after my children graduate and continue on to college.

Mary D'Angelo

Lauren (2012 Cum Laude) & Christopher, *Largo MS*

My husband and I have had the pleasure of having both our daughters complete their high school experience as students in the ExCEL program. We believe they received an excellent education that was both challenging and fun. We highly recommend the program. Our daughters believe the closeness of the magnet students made their classroom experience more enjoyable. Lydia said "*we're like a family because we spend more time together*," (having the same students in the same course sections.) Also, and this is most important from the perspective of a parent, our questions and/or concerns have always been addressed. We don't believe there is a situation that could arise that they wouldn't know how to address. A high school magnet program is only as good as its leadership, ExCEL's is A+++++.

Laura & Dan Alejandro-Heather

Laura (2010 Summa Cum Laude)

& Lydia (2011 Summa Cum Laude), *Largo MS*

As the parent of a senior, I can say I have been extremely pleased with the education my daughter has received through the ExCEL program. The teacher interaction is not something you will get at other schools. The unique teaching avenues allow several classes to criss-cross. These are real world skills being taught.

Karen Coultas

Katie Coultas, *Seminole MS*

I highly recommend the ExCEL program at Largo High School. When searching for a high school for him, I knew that I wanted something that suited his learning style and the type of person he is now and will be in the future. We have always offered a well-rounded approach to learning for him, and I knew that he would need that to continue to excel in his education. Since the ExCEL program offers a well-rounded approach to education, I knew this would be the program for

him. There are rules and structure and yet there is the freedom to let the children be responsible for themselves.

Creativity, exploration, group projects, and high standards in academics are just some of the ways that make this program truly enriching for any student. Whatever the child's strengths, whether one or many, this program meets the needs necessary for all students to excel in whatever area of expertise they lean towards. It allows students to research and develop their strengths, build on relationships with others and their community, investigate future career possibilities, and challenge themselves in all areas of academics and the arts. The staff and administration at LHS's ExCEL program has shown an awesome dedication to the students and the organization of the curriculum, events, and opportunities available to all participants. In the ExCEL program, you will find that there is a great relationship between families, students, and faculty that helps make it a such a success.

Lynn Hicks

Gordon (2013 Cum Laude), *Largo MS*

"ExCEL is great because it makes you part of a family." J

Maggie Kivett, (10th grade transfer into ExCEL), *Largo HS*

I love the ExCEL program. The ability to explore career options is a valuable life tool. My daughter knows what she wants to be when she grows up. I'm almost 40 and still have no clue. Thank you ExCEL!

Jennie Devoe

April (2013 Cum Laude), *Oak Grove MS*

The ExCEL magnet program at Largo High School is proving to be much more than I/my family expected. I honestly held my breath, hoped for the best and watched him leave in the dark for Largo High School. The ExCEL teachers are TRULY there for the kids. My son had a career shadow date and in my heart I know it has given him a sense direction and something to strive for as he continues this new journey in life. I have a 6th grader that will DEFINATELY go to the ExCEL program at Largo High School.

Jennifer Turner

"Jimbo" James, *Pinellas Preparatory Academy*

The ExCEL magnet program is the best kept secret in Pinellas County! It's the best education decision we have made was to enroll our daughter in the ExCEL magnet program at Largo High School. The ExCEL magnet staff are dedicated, always reachable and the communication is flawless! I like the standards of expectation, dress code and focus on attendance. The teachers are accessible and willing to provide extra help. The focus on careers and how to present oneself in the work force is valuable information that will help students in the future. The teachers work together. The ice breaking workshops that Griffen took part in on four Wednesdays were a great tool to help incoming students make friends and deal with typical high school issues. ExCEL has the quality of a private school and in many ways is **better!**

Karen Glover

Griffen, *Home Schooled Student*

Graduates

Finally, we hear from our alumni who frequently visit our offices on how happy and proud they are of their education. We commonly hear anecdotes of college professors calling the graduates aside to praise their skills and to inquire where they received their education. We receive compliments at how well prepared they were for college and how well they are doing at school.