



MILDRED HELMS ELEMENTARY IB WORLD SCHOOL

561 Clearwater Largo Road Largo, FL 33770
(727)588-3569 www.pcsb.org/mildred-es

Vision: 100% Student Success



August 2025

Principal's Points of Pride

Dear Mildred Helms Families,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! We are coming off one of our most successful years as a Magnet Schools of America TOP Magnet School of Excellence and for the second year in a row we earned an "A" grade from the State of Florida. Congratulations to our entire MHES Community for earning these two amazing distinctions.

Our student achievement on end of the year FAST testing in grades 3-5 propelled us to earning our "A". We are so proud of all our scholars, teachers, and staff that helped us earn this awesome achievement. Congratulations to Pinellas County Schools as our district also earned an "A" rating for the second year in a row as well.

Additionally, our school achieved the Gold Level standard for our PBIS program, providing students with positive behavior supports, and we were named one of the Nation's 2025 America's Healthiest Schools All-Stars!

Thank you to all the parents and students who attended our Meet and Greet and linked up their FOCUS accounts to receive email messages from teachers. Your attendance made opening day run smoother and supported your child's transition to their new classroom. If you are still in need of support with FOCUS, please stop by the front office. Communication between home and school is vital. FOCUS messages are sent out using phone numbers and email addresses entered by parents in the FOCUS parent portal. All changes can be made online by parents. We will also be utilizing FOCUS Messenger for parent updates as well as agendas or folders daily. For additional information, log into our school website to keep apprised of schoolwide information, newsletters, events and calendars. Check out our school newsletters which include our monthly calendar, success stories, flyers for upcoming events and links to sites that support student enrichment through learning.

Our Title I Annual Meeting and Open House will be held on Wednesday, August 27, 2025 beginning at 5:30pm. Times will be staggered to support families with multiple children. Teachers will share grade level expectations and classroom processes. We hope you can join us for this informative meeting.

Throughout the year, we will be sharing our Family Night and PTA events showcasing our amazing scholars and providing opportunities to interact with our staff and school families. Together we can enhance the student experience during the 2025-26 school year and make it the best one ever. Thank you for your continued support of our school community.

Respectfully,
Mrs. Brennan

August Dates

8/27 Open House

Title One Annual Meeting

8/28 Chick-fil-A Day

**9/1 No School -
Labor Day**



Mrs. Schneider's Snapshot

It was a pleasure meeting many of you at Friday's Meet and Greet! Over the past few weeks, I've had the opportunity to work alongside the dedicated staff at Mildred Helms Elementary, and I'm absolutely thrilled to officially join this caring and committed community as your new Assistant Principal for the 2025-2026 school year.

I'm here to support our students, families, and staff in every way I can. Whether it's celebrating classroom successes, working through challenges, or simply being a listening ear, my door is always open. I look forward to partnering with you to make this a fantastic year for everyone at Mildred Helms!



MISSION:

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MHES COMMUNITY



Community Connections

Thanks for supporting our school!



Hair Mechanix
Treasure Island Fun Center
Panda Express
Texas Roadhouse
Lotz of Blessings
Backpack Lady Project

Largo Women's Club
Lutheran Church of
the Good Shephard
Olive Garden
Steven Foster
Plumbing by Paul

Don't Miss Out!

Volunteers!

Sponsor Today!

Mildred Helms Elementary IB World School
Business and Community Sponsorship
2025-2026

Mildred Helms Elementary IB World School believes every child should have the opportunity to reach his or her full potential and we are confident education is at the top of your social concern. Public schools need the support and help of our local community. The often-heard statement, "it takes a village to raise a child," is very true. For this reason, we ask you to kindly consider partnering with Mildred Helms Elementary IB World School as a Dolphin Business Sponsor. Donations will fund a variety of invaluable programs, classroom adoptions, and school needs. Working together, schools, families and communities can prepare for a more promising future.

Yes, I want to make a difference at Mildred Helms Elementary IB World School. My chosen level of sponsorship is:

<p>\$500</p> <p>Car circle Banner Name on Marquee Name on office lobby presentation Mention in newsletter Certificate of Recognition Supporting Education</p>	<p>\$300</p> <p>Name on Marquee Name on office lobby presentation Mention in Newsletter Certificate of Recognition Supporting Education</p>	<p>\$150</p> <p>Name on office lobby presentation Mention in newsletter Certificate of Recognition Supporting Education</p>
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☐ We cannot sponsor at this time but would like to make a donation of: _____

Business Name:

Contact Name:

Address:

City:

Zip:

Telephone:

Email:

Checks made payable to
Mildred Helms Elementary
School

Mail checks with completed
forms to:

Mildred Helms Elementary
561 S. Clearwater/Largo Rd
Largo, FL 33770

Drop off available in the front
office during school hours.



Mildred Helms Elementary



Welcome Families to our 2025-2026 school year!

I am Cheryl Hauburger, Mildred Helms Elementary Family & community Liaison.

Phone: 727-588-3576 Email: haubgerc@pcsb.org

I look forward to working with you as a returning or new volunteer. All volunteers must be registered or activated before volunteering.

Volunteers and community partners make a huge difference throughout the school year. There are lots of Volunteer Opportunities for you to be involved.

Returning Volunteers



Please re-activate your volunteer status in the volunteer system
Please use the Google Chrome browser and go to: <https://focus.pcsb.org/volunteer>
Enter your username and password: User ID: **V.last name, first initial**

Example: **v.smithk**

Password: Your last name (Capitalize the first letter only) followed by the 4-digit
Birth Year Example: **v.Smith1975**

Brand New Volunteers



Please complete the online volunteer registration form. You will need to upload your government issued photo ID. Your applications will be processed through the Office of Strategic Partnerships of Pinellas County Schools. **You will receive an email approval** with a user ID and password. This will be used to log your volunteer hours.

Volunteer Registration: www.pcsb.org/volunteerregistration

Volunteers Opportunities

Walk Your Child to School Day: Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Great American Teach In: Wednesday, November 12, 2025

PTA, Book Fair, Field Trip Chaperone, Media Center, Picture Day, and Lunch Pal Mentor



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PTA News

The 2025-2026 Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Board is excited to welcome everyone to the new school year!

Meet your 2025 - 2026 PTA Board!

President - Alicia Gier president@mildredhelmspta.org

Treasurer - Kelly Hamilton treasurer@mildredhelmspta.org

Secretary - Ashley Sorter secretary@mildredhelmspta.org

PTA is sponsoring a Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A Thursday August 28th from 6:30am-10pm! Please support our school by using code MHE25 for any orders placed at the Largo Chick-fil-A.



Membership is important to our school to help us bring quality events and programs for all of our MHES Students.

Please email the PTA Board for volunteer opportunities. Join the PTA and order Friday Spirit Shirts here!



Check back for PTA General Meeting and Event dates!



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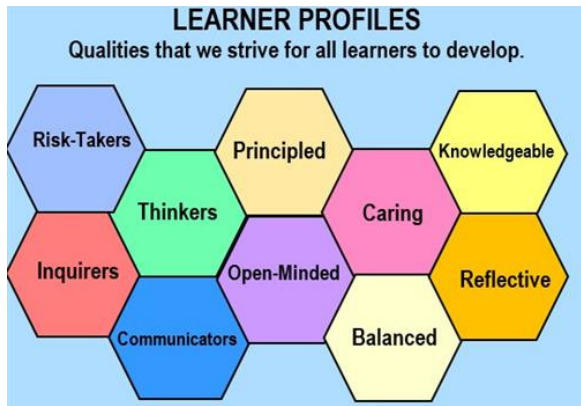
Welcome!



My name is Jenn Kelly and I am the IB PYP Coordinator at Mildred Helms Elementary. I am looking forward to a super great 2025 – 2026 school year! Check out this page of our monthly newsletter for information about IB and what it looks like in our IB World School!

What does it mean to be an IB Learner?

Ever wonder what IB could possibly look like in an elementary classroom? You are not alone! I get this question so much. We all know about the hard classes at the high school level of years past, but for students in the Primary Years Program at our school, it's all about how we approach learning. Our teachers are trained in the IB Framework and how to apply it to our daily lives. We infuse student interest with inquiry based teaching and weave rigorous Florida State Standards into each lesson.



Every student learns about our IB Learner Profile.

These are 10 attributes of an internationally minded learner. Each month, we highlight an attribute to learn about and look for examples in your student's classmates. At the end of each month, students decide who had displayed this attribute and they become our Dolphin of the Month! Dolphins of the Month are celebrated on our morning news show and in our monthly newsletter.

How might you develop these attributes at home?

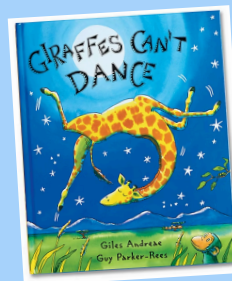
IB Learner Profile of the Month

Risk-Taker

We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.



Learner Profile Books of the Month



In both books, the characters learn a great lesson on how to be a risk-taker – how to be brave!

Click on the book cover to listen to the book.



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Counselor's Connections



Welcome to a New School Year!

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school! My name is Mrs. Stager and I'm thrilled to be part of your child's journey this year. Whether your child is stepping into the halls for the very first time or returning with familiar excitement, this year promises growth, connection, and lots of learning. As your school counselor, my mission is to support every student in developing strong social-emotional skills, navigating challenges, and building positive relationships. I work with students through classroom lessons, small groups, and one-on-one sessions to help them thrive both personally and academically.

How I Support Students:

- Friendship building & conflict resolution
- Self-esteem & emotional wellness
- Stress management & coping strategies
- Career awareness & goal setting

How You Can Connect With Me:

Feel free to reach out if you ever have questions or concerns about your child's well-being at school. I'm here to support both students and families!

☎ Phone: 727-588-3569 ext. 2061 ✉ Email: stagera@pcsb.org

Upcoming Programs & News:

Start with Hello Week: September 15-19

This is a national initiative sponsored by Sandy Hook Promise, dedicated to promoting social connections with students. It encourages students to reach out to their peers and create a more inclusive and welcoming school environment.

Let's make this year full of growth, joy, and meaningful moments. I can't wait to get started!

Coaches Court

Hello and welcome to Physical Education at MHES. The PE staff, Coach Redmon, Coach Curti and Coach Sedely, are looking forward to a successful and fun school year. **In order to provide your child with the most positive PE experience, please be sure they wear closed toe shoes and have a reusable water bottle labeled with their first and last name.** Thank you and we look forward to a great school year.

Ms. Coleman's Book Nook

Welcome back! Hopefully you've had a lovely summer and read some great books!

Fifth and fourth graders who checked out their laptop over the summer are reminded to return their laptop to Ms. Coleman in the Media Center on the first day of school.

Looking forward to a great school year!



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Mrs. Clemens' Musical Notes

Welcome back to the MHES music room!

I'm looking forward to seeing our VPK students and our Kindergarten through 5th graders for music class once a week! Get ready to sing and play!

Remember, Chorus will be offered to all 4th and 5th graders! We meet once a week for rehearsal during the school day and have several performances through the school year. How do you sign up? A flyer and permission slip will be sent home with students interested at the beginning of the year! Keep a look out!

Thanks! -Mrs. Clemens, Music Specialist

Mr. Kiebzak's Artist Loft

Hello new & returning families! My name is Mr. Kiebzak and this will be my 5th year as the Art Teacher at Mildred Helms Elementary School.

Each grade level will be learning about artists from the past and present as well as different periods of art styles that made each era special & unique! All students will be creating artwork in many different mediums like drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, digital art, photography, printmaking & mixed media. There will be 10 different Art exhibitions this year at local museums & galleries. I have the opportunity to submit artwork for each of these, which means your child's artwork could be hanging on the walls of an actual Art museum or gallery!!! Since many of these exhibitions come later in the school year, like our schoolwide Art show, I will be hanging on to some of their artwork they create for these shows!

Lots of fun and creativity will be taking place in my classroom and I'm really looking forward to bringing out the artist in each and every student.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to send me an email at kiebzakj@pcsb.org



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Mrs. Carlson's Café Hola

¡Hola, futuros expertos en español!
(Hello, my future experts in Spanish)

I hope you had an ¡increíble! summer—full of fun, adventure, and maybe a churro or two. 😊 Now it's time to grab your mochilas 🎒 and get ready for a school year filled with learning, laughter, and a little bit of salsa dancing (Olé!).

This year in clase de español, we will:

- ✨ Learn to greet people and introduce ourselves en español
- ✨ Sing canciones (songs) and play juegos (games) that help us learn
- ✨ Explore different países and culturas (countries and cultures)
- ✨ Try yummy comidas (food) from Spanish-speaking countries

Please bring your curiosity, your big smile, and be ready to say “¡Hola!” when you walk in the door.

Estoy súper emocionada (I'm so excited!) to be your Spanish teacher this year. We're going to have an amazing adventure juntos (together).

¡Nos vemos pronto! 🙌 See you soon!!

Señora Carlson
Profesora de Español



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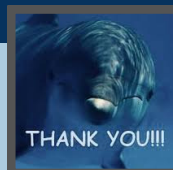
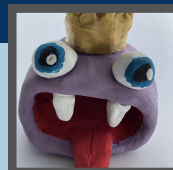
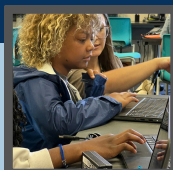
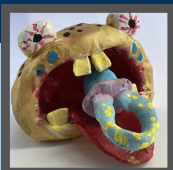
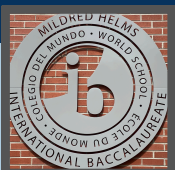
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MHES CALENDAR



August 2025



Sunday

Monday







Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

.	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Meet & Greet 9am	9
10	11 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL	12	13	14	15 Spirit Shirt Friday!  	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Spirit Shirt Friday!  	23
24	25	26	27 Open House Title One Annual Meeting	28 Chick-fil-A Day	29 Spirit Shirt Friday!  	30
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Visit us at <https://www.pcsb.org/mildred-es> for the most up to date information!



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