



Maritime Academy at Blake High School - Tampa FL

With tremendous support from the community, including the International Propeller Club – Port of Tampa, Marine Engineers Beneficial Association and businesses in the Port of Tampa, the Blake High School Maritime program offers a holistic curriculum anchored to 16 instructional units related to maritime-industry careers. The program is open to maritime students moving up from the Maritime Academy at Stewart Middle School as well as to new, incoming students.

Students in Maritime work together in the Maritime class and a Biology class as a cohort. This cohort approach allows the program to use a Career Academy model, following a rigorous process resulting in a Maritime Industry Certification. For Blake High School, that certification is the Basic Safety Training Certificate. With expanded cohort scheduling and strengthening industry relations, students are provided an authentic learning experience in preparation for Maritime post-secondary education and Maritime careers.

The Maritime curriculum touches on major aspects of the industry and is a one-of-a-kind model that has been approved by the State of Florida, and is expected to be replicated nationwide. The curriculum was developed by industry partners and written by contextual-learning trained teachers. This approach allowed for the development of a truly industry-driven, problem-based, rigorous curriculum. The curriculum is organized around 16 instructional units. These units include: Careers, Ships, Engineering, Oceanography, Admiralty Law, Port Operations, Marine Biology, and others. The variety of scope in this curriculum utilized tremendous resources to create a Maritime library for student use. The curriculum is easily transferable, and ready to implement at sites across the nation. An internship program for students over their Junior year summer break will include career exploratory on-the-job training opportunities during their Senior year.

The curriculum standards meet state requirements used in all Florida Middle and High Schools. The program meets the demands of a growing industry, for high-skilled, motivated workers in all areas of the Maritime industry. Maritime is a growing industry, and offers high-paying, stable careers to those students who participate in the program.

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