

# Soaring on the Wings of Cultural Discovery

## *The International Education Program*

Air Base K-8 Center for International Education is located in Homestead, Florida. This hidden treasure has an ethnically diverse faculty which reflects the international student population, from Kindergarten through Eighth Grade. As a thirteen time recipient of the Magnet Schools of America Award, the objectives include educating the total child through rigorous academics, interdisciplinary research, authentic assessment of international themes, world language immersion, and appreciation of cultural diversity while developing habits of life-long learning.



### *Mission*

Air Base K-8 (ABK-8) is a leader as an International Education Magnet Program. Our mission is integrating academic rigor with cultural competency, intensive language immersion, and globally responsive ecological studies.

### *Vision*

Air Base K-8 provides a relevant, data-driven curriculum which fortifies the investment in cultural sensitivity, character education, and eco-literacy. The primary goal of our challenging academic magnet program is for students to become bilingual (listeners and speakers) and bi-literate (readers and writers). Our primary objective is to deliver a fully integrated international program; one that facilitates innovative curricular design. The Common Core alignment with global magnet themes strengthens the valuation of universal exchanges thus promoting reflective learners empowered with skills to engage in 21st Century.

## *Foreign Language*

The Foreign Language Education Program includes English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Spanish for Spanish Speakers, as well as Spanish and French as Second Languages.

Kindergarten through eighth grade classes receive an hour a day of foreign language instruction. Once a parent selects a language course for a child, he/she will remain in the same language for the duration of his/her enrollment at Air Base K-8. Exceptions will only be made for ESOL students.



## *The Cambridge Program*

The Cambridge Program provides an engaging, accelerated, academic experience for motivated learners. Students are challenged to work at the highest level of international standards in Mathematics, Science, and English. In all Cambridge programs, high expectations encourage outstanding performance. As students master the fundamentals in the core curriculum areas, they grow more confident and capable of exploring the arts and humanities. By emphasizing student initiative and creativity, Cambridge programs foster growth at all levels.

## *Ronald M. Nickerson Media Center*



This modern media center was dedicated in November, 2005 to former Principal Ronald M. Nickerson who was a major impetus behind the formation of the Magnet program in 1995. This program has remained committed to excellence since its development. The facility is a state of the art media center which has computer stations for student use, a wide selection of library books that support our international curriculum and our own news station WABE, operated by our students and staff.

## *General Information*

All applicants, Kindergarten through Eighth Grade, may apply between October 1st through January 15th. Students applying for first grade through eighth grade will be assessed through the use of a basic skills test in order to determine current academic levels. Additionally, prior school records including state assessment measures will provide objective data regarding past performance. All of this information directly impacts the likelihood of success this student may have at Air Base K-8 and will be used in determining acceptance to the program.

All Pre-Kindergarten students interested in Kindergarten at Air Base K-8 are required to complete and submit an application for Random Selection, regardless of where the student attends Pre-Kindergarten.



*Home of the Falcons*



## *Air Base K-8's Highlights*

- ◆ An "A" school for thirteen consecutive years
- ◆ Five Star Award—Florida Dept. of Education for six consecutive years
- ◆ A National Merit Award Recipient for multiple years
- ◆ Go Green Challenge Honorable Mention
- ◆ Fairchild Garden Challenge First Place Winner
- ◆ Comprehensive Character Education Program
- ◆ International Theme Based Curriculum
- ◆ One hour of daily foreign language immersion in Spanish or French
- ◆ Home based Gifted and ESE Programs
- ◆ Before and After School Care programs mainly supported by Certified Teachers including one full hour of intensive homework support
- ◆ Quarterly Oriented Family Expos

## *International Events*

- ◆ Science and Math Activities that Connect Kids
- ◆ Fiesta Latina
- ◆ Reading Around the World
- ◆ Career Symposium
- ◆ Theodore Gibson Oratorical Contest
- ◆ Evening Under the Stars
- ◆ Go Green Initiatives
- ◆ Bi-Annual Dramatic Performances



*Mr. Alonza Pendergrass  
Principal*



*Air Base K-8  
Center for International Education*

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## *Air Base K-8 Center for International Education*



*A Cambridge School*

*National Award  
Winning Magnet Program*

*"A" School for  
Eighteen consecutive years*