

# Fact sheet

## Innovation



### One Vision: Preparing Students for Life

Hillsborough County Public Schools is a statewide leader in Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education—with 21st century learning being a key component of preparing students for life. We equip our students to make informed decisions about future college and career pathways. Our CTE program offers students the opportunity to earn highly valued industry certifications and to develop a multitude of skills while experiencing rigorous curriculum with real world applications. In our district, it is all about empowering students with relatable skills that will support the competitive and rapidly changing world. Together, we are helping students grow the confidence to practice those skills. Through networking and partnerships, we receive funds to implement powerful programs that fuel STEM learning and high-demand career preparation to build a better Tampa Bay and Florida.

#### EDUCATE HILLSBOROUGH'S MISSION

To educate, connect, and inspire the next generation of Tampa Bay's leaders through the infinite experiences in Hillsborough County Public Schools.

In 2018 – 2019...

7,299

industry certifications earned by middle and high school students.

26

Magnet and CTE program STEM schools.

120

elementary schools competed at the Math Bowl.

500+

students attended the Build Tampa Bay Event.

### Highlights

- In 2018-2019, middle and high school students earned 7,299 industry certifications from 79 different industries, including Information Technology, Health Sciences, Hospitality & Tourism, and Agribusiness. As a result of student-earned certifications, our district expects to generate over **\$4,000,000 in additional revenue**. The funding pays for test vouchers for certifications, teacher bonuses, and enhances the programs earned with the funds.
- **Fernando Guillen**, Electrical Instructor at Plant City High School was just named the 2019 Klein Tools Electrician of the Year—Head of Class.
- Hillsborough County Public Schools has over **400 unique middle and high school courses in CTE**, which range across 17 career clusters. These courses occur in a wide variety of environments, from the agricultural field to the professional kitchen, and from the computer lab to the health science site.



# Fact sheet

Innovation



## Workforce Connections

- In 2019-2020, there are over 500 teachers of career and technical courses. Teachers must be either state certified, district certified or industry certified.
- Our district has a [Return on Investment document](#) to describe the value of CTE.
- Hillsborough Technical Colleges are accredited institutions, with an average completion rate of 85% and average employment rate of 86%. Many of our programs can be completed in a year or less.
- Our Technical programs present a positive economic impact of over \$173M dollars.
- Hillsborough Technical Colleges offer over 30 different full time training programs along with short term career development, GED and ESOL programs. Pell Grants, as well as other funding sources, are offered to potential students who qualify and upon successful completion of their chosen program leave with little to no debt.
- Each program at the Hillsborough Technical Colleges has an advisory committee that meets with the instructor at least twice a year to offer industry updates and program support.
- Erwin's Welding program is an accredited American Welding Society (AWS) testing center.



## STEM

- Hillsborough County Public Schools leads the Tampa Bay STEM Network, which is one of 89 international STEM Learning Ecosystems.
- Our district has 4 hubs and 28 schools providing students an integrated K-12 STEM experience. Through a collaborative approach between schools, the central district office, and community teams, the "STEM Innovation Hub" concept allows schools to take advantage of district and community resources through the Tampa Bay STEM Network to positively impact culture within a school, collaboration across schools, STEM innovative identity, and, ultimately, student achievement in all subject areas.
- Educators from Hillsborough County Public Schools lead Code.org computer science in 9 counties. All students begin to learn crucial computer skills as early as kindergarten.
- Far more than the "science fair" you know from childhood, Hillsborough's STEM Fair is the largest in the Southeastern U.S., with over 2,000 students each year.
- Addressing gender disparities in STEM fields, *Mission: Tampa Bay* provides girls an opportunity to build an underwater ROV at MOSI, test it at The Florida Aquarium, and deploy it in area waterways all with the guidance of a female underwater submarine pilot.
- STEM Goes 2 Work connects students and families with real-world STEM workplaces in fields like manufacturing, engineering & technology.
- Through partners of the Tampa Bay STEM Network, we have hosted over 70 STEM Family Nights, providing over 15,000 students & parents an opportunity to enjoy learning about STEM-focused fields.
- Tampa's Air Force base hosts thousands of students to see live demos & STEM careers in action at MacDill A.F.B. STEM Day.
- Saturdays with STEM engages K-12 students with STEM professionals working in real STEM careers.

