

Accomplishments

- Teachers have won Disney Teacheriffic Awards ranging from \$2,000 to \$15,000
- Bright House Teaching Awards
- Awarded National Magnet School Assistance Program STEM Grant
- VH1 Save the Music Award
- CEMEX outdoor classrooms and land reclamation
- National Wildlife Habitat
- Disney Dreamers and Doers district winner for elementary schools
- District, state and national award-winning student artwork



BETHUNE ACADEMY

Exciting, Quality-enhanced Curriculum
is Integrated with Traditional Values
and Contemporary Needs

900 Avenue F
Haines City, FL 33844
Phone: 863-421-3334
Fax: 863-421-3243
schools.polk-fl.net/bethune



Bethune Academy
is a **ZONE C** School



BETHUNE ACADEMY



A Polk County Public STEM School
Science, Technology, Engineering, Math

Our Mission Statement

Bethune Academy values the unique qualities of each person and believes that everyone has the capacity to learn. We expect all learners to:

- Attend and show effort
- Meet the required curriculum
- Develop responsibility, citizenship and leadership

We Dedicate Ourselves to the Success of this Mission

Bethune Academy prepares elementary students for successful personal and academic achievement through a traditional academic program focusing on science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Students choosing Bethune Academy are held to rigorous academic and behavior expectations. The school culture inspires students to set and achieve academic and personal goals as they prepare to make appropriate life choices.

Our Vision

It is our vision to be a leader in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education by inspiring and preparing generations of critical and creative thinkers to meet the challenges of a global society through innovation and collaboration.



Our Curriculum

STEM – We believe that a STEM school should ...

- teach all students to ask questions using higher level thinking skills to seek answers that will provide them a purposeful, productive future
- engage all students in meaningful learning
- cultivate successful students through the assistance of a teacher who serves as a facilitator
- enable all students to retain valuable information, work with others and think and communicate with self-confidence
- embrace an effective faculty and staff who will provide a positive environment for all students, model critical thinking skills and encourage risk taking as well as provide support and resources to all stakeholders.

Science is a major focus at Bethune Academy. The students are involved in hands-on laboratory experiments and field experiences in outdoor classrooms throughout Central Florida. Student activities include off-site outdoor classroom field trips studying wetlands and pinewoods. In addition, each science and math classroom reflects a laboratory atmosphere.

Technology is integrated in our curriculum through the use of:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| ■ Power Point presentation | ■ Word processing |
| ■ Pixie Creativity Software | ■ Video & digital cameras |
| ■ Keyboarding | ■ Document cameras |
| ■ Video projectors | ■ Smart Board |
| ■ Lightspeed Sound Enhancement systems | ■ Interactive Whiteboards |

Students use desktop computers, laptops and iPads in the classrooms as well as several computer labs throughout the school.

Engineering is a new focus in our curriculum which provides opportunities for enhanced critical thinking, problem solving, collaborative learning and hands-on activities that center on Environmental Education.

Mathematics is another focus area offering exciting learning opportunities for students. A math lab enriches problem solving with “hands-on” activities replicating real-world situations. Our students also participate in mathematics clubs (before and after school).

Arts are an important aspect in the development of children, and we offer multiple musical and visual arts programs.



Music classes focus on skill development both vocally and on specific instruments including ukuleles, drums, recorders, xylophones and electric guitars. Primary students (grades K - 2) participate in the Uke Troop Ensemble while intermediate students (grades 3 - 5) participate in the BA Sound Ensemble, Stage Band and Recorders. We also host three major music festivals

annually which spotlight numerous other district music programs ... Uke Day, Recorder Day and Music Festival.

The Visual Arts Program

is available to all students in the areas of clubs, journaling, art shows and field experiences.

Family Involvement

Bethune Academy families are an important part of the success of our mission and vision. We depend on the full support and participation from our families. Upon acceptance into Bethune Academy, our parents must sign a contract which explains their responsibility to support our academic behavior, uniform dress code and attendance policies. In addition, it is vital to our success that the Bethune Academy families participate in all required meetings and special events.

