Shorecrest | Be More

Shorecrest Preparatory School - St. Petersburg, FL www.shorecrest.org



About Shorecrest

Founded in 1923, Shorecrest is a coed, nonsectarian, PK3-12 independent school in St. Petersburg, Florida. In a safe, student-centered environment, Shorecrest educates a diverse community of students to become lifelong learners in the pursuit of personal and academic excellence, physical well-being, creative achievement and the development of a commitment to social responsibility. Shorecrest graduates empathetic, independent thinkers who succeed at the university level, pursue their passions, and lead purposeful lives.



Demographics

PK3 - Grade 12

Independent School

964 students

128 faculty members



Vision

The administration and Board of Trustees made technology a priority in Shorecrest's Master Plan back in 1994, and have continued to include technology and innovation as strategic priorities ever since. As lifelong learners, the teachers dedicate countless hours of their time each year engaged in professional learning, both during the school year and summer, to ensure they are up-to-date with the latest tools and best practices. Shorecrest families demonstrate their commitment to this vision through their philanthropic support of the Shorecrest Fund. Through the generosity of the school community, the School has been able to build a robust technology infrastructure and is positioned for continued innovation.

Ages 3-5

Experiential School

2 shared iPad® pods (10 devices/each)

Grades K-4

Lower School

1:1 school-issued iPad grades 1-4. iPad pods for K, Spanish, Art. Innovation Lab with MacBooks & iPad pod Grades 5-8

Middle School

1:1 school-issued iPad program

Grades 9-12

Upper School

1:1 bring your own device iPad and/or Mac laptop

Students who qualify for financial assistance receive a device from the school.

Faculty/Staff: 100% Apple Teacher Certified. MacBook laptop and iPad/Apple Pencil. Apple Classroom/TV+sm.

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under the direction of Dr. Anna Baralt, Director of Educational Technology, with four students enrolled. STEAM students selected a focus from Computer Science, Engineering or Entrepreneurship and Design. In the 2021-2022 academic year, a fourth track - Medical Engineering - will be added.

<u>Entrepreneurial Design Institute</u> - After identifying problems in their community, eighth graders harness the power of design thinking, ideation and action to develop a solution to a real world issue.

Learning

In March 2020 in response to COVID-19, Shorecrest faculty made a swift, 3-day transition to distance learning. From virtual teaching and learning, to socially distanced celebrations, Chargers made the best of a challenging situation. While campus was closed, a media center remained open for families who needed high speed internet access or tech support.

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year, Shorecrest offered both on-campus classes and a Flexible Learning online program to meet students' ever-changing needs.

Tech Enhancements in Response to COVID-19:

- Flexible Learning Program developed for all students (online learning while campus is open.)
- Additional tech staff member hired
- Expanded existing 1:1 program
- Purchase of Swivl cameras for use with iPad devices to support synchronous online students
- Boosted infrastructure of online network, bandwidth capabilities
- Ongoing professional development
- WebEx as enhanced secure portal for online learning and live-streamed events
- Additional technology for financial aid students

Teachers at Shorecrest not only teach their students how to use technology; they use technology to engage students and encourage active participation, foster collaboration, build community, nurture creativity, promote critical thinking and innovation, and strive for educational excellence.

Recently added, tech-centric programs include:

STEAM Signature Program - a pathway for Upper School students to pursue STEAM-related coursework that allows them to apply critical thinking and 21st Century skills while investigating a specialized area of interest. The inaugural program launched in Fall 2020

More Ways Students Use Apple Products:

- MS Robotics heads to International Competition
- Award for Upper School French Project
- JK Creates Stop-Motion Film of the Zoo
- Student Films Screened
- Chargers Participate in Hour of Code
- Performing Arts Presents "Something Rotten!"
- "Women in STEAM" Student Podcast
- Third Graders Lead March for Social Justice

Success

At its peak enrollment, the 2020-2021 Flexible Learning program served 43.8% of Shorecrest students. The school year ended with just 8.1% of students learning virtually. The School surveyed its families and faculty/staff multiple times throughout the school year to continually evaluate the virtual learning program. In a year-end survey, 77.48% of respondents to the parent survey were either somewhat or very satisfied with the effectiveness of technology for the Flexible Learning program.

Shorecrest will survey families in October 2021 as part of an accreditation and strategic planning process. The survey will include questions regarding the current 1:1 program as well as other uses of technology to support teaching and learning.

What's Next?

- Opening the second floor of Shorecrest's newest building - Charger Commons - with a new makerspace, robotics workshop, and Middle/Upper School library
- Virtually Reality added in the Center for Medical Sciences, allowing for in-depth anatomical exploration
- A successful Alumni Career Panel was hosted virtually and there are plans to expand the series and feature alumni twice annually