

September 2019

# Hamilton Innovator

Mr. Pfeiffer, Principal

Mr. Fuller, Assistant Principal

Mrs. MacDonald, School Administration Manager, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Site Coordinator



## Here's What's Happening Around Hamilton...

**Kindergarten** - We are off to a great start in Kindergarten! We are making new friends and learning how to work together. We are learning how to think and work like engineers. We finished our first engineering project where we made picture frames! We are excited about our first APTT night, Sept. 12th. We hope to see everyone here!

**First Grade**- First grade is off to an exciting year of learning! We are getting ready to start our first engineering unit where students will use the Engineering Design Process to plan and build a shelter for a dog that's getting too warm in the sunlight. We hope to see you at APTT night on Sept. 12th to learn ways you can support your child's learning at home!

**Second Grade**- Second grade has been a blast so far! Students have been following the Engineering Design Process to create an artificial elephant trunk. Students researched the functions of an elephant trunk and used their research to design and create an elephant trunk with the ability to carry out one of the functions (breathing, playing, washing, eating, fighting for defense, and smelling). They were very excited to be engineers! Please have students read every night and complete homework. We are looking forward to a wonderful year!

**Third Grade**- Third grade is off to a great start! Students have been following the Engineering Design Process to create a business for their class's model town. Each class decided on a town name and identified businesses their town would need to thrive. Each group took the time to research a business, then designed and created a 3D model of the building. At the end of the unit, students presented their business to the class. Ask your child about this project! Students were very excited to be business owners and start a model Boom Town!

**Fourth Grade**- Fourth grade has been working hard on our integrated unit designing Totem Poles. Students read about totem poles and their purposes. In math class, students determined equal sizes for each piece of team totem pole. Students used the Engineering Design Process to work collaboratively to construct a 3D totem pole. You can see them at APTT night. Please check your students' planners every night. It is a great communication tool. Fourth grade has homework Monday through Thursday. Please make sure homework is returned the next day.

**Fifth Grade**- 5<sup>th</sup> grade has been learning about civil engineers and bridge design. In ELA, we read articles that gave information about types of bridges and how they are constructed. In Math, we reviewed the math concepts that play a major role in bridge design as well as budgeting for their design. Students worked together to design and create a bridge that spanned 10 inches and could support as much weight as possible. We are impressed with all of our students' bridge designs. Come see them at APTT.

## Upcoming Events

### September 2

No School, Labor Day

### September 12

SAC Meeting 5:00 p.m.

APTT Grades PreK-2, 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
ESE, Primary and Intermediate

### September 19

Dividend's Orientation, 8:45 a.m.

Progress Reports

PTA General Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

APTT Grades 3-5, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

### September 20

Picture Day—Say Cheese!

### September 23 & September 24

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Mud Walk-get your permission slips turned in ASAP!

### September 26

SHS Homecoming Parade, 4 p.m.

### October 1

Dads and Donuts, Grades K-2,  
8:45-9:00 a.m.

Title I Meeting, 9:00 a.m.

**BOOK FAIR OPEN ALL WEEK!**

### October 3

Dads and Donuts, Grades 3-5,  
8:45-9:00 a.m.

Title I Meeting, 9:00 a.m.

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## News and Notes

### A Message from our Principal

Hamilton Elementary is continuing its transformation and is showing tremendous growth reflected in our FSA test scores, student learning gains, and our engineering and technology magnet focus! We are proud to announce once again we have been recognized as a "Magnet School of Distinction" at the national level. We thank teachers and staff for their professionalism and dedication our parents for their support, and our students for working so hard this past year. We are proud of Hamilton's success and we know "This is our year!"

### School Hours

School starts at 8:35 a.m. and ends at 3:05 p.m. **Breakfast is ONLY served from 8:00 – 8:30 a.m.** Any late student must be accompanied by an adult, get a tardy slip and report directly to class. Please make sure students are here on time if you want them to have breakfast. There is no student supervision prior to 8:00 a.m. Parents- also please note there is **no early checkout** after 2:30 p.m. (1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays). Students repeatedly being checked out early are missing critical content as well as important information given by teachers at the end of the day.

### Dress Code Reminder

Hamilton reminds all parents and students to follow the SCPS dress code: no sleeveless shirts, tank tops, slides, midriiffs, flip flops, or "low rider" pants. Hats are not permitted inside the building. See the [Student Code of Conduct](#) for details.

## Title I Information

### Academic Parent Teacher Team Nights, 9/12 and 9/19

Parents are invited to APTT nights where teachers deliver in-depth coaching sessions on how to understand your child's data based on overall classroom performance, school benchmarks, and state standards. Parents are given strategies and tools to help support learning at home. Students that attend will participate in STEM activities, featuring our StarLab (grades 3-5). Pizza will be served prior to APTT (5:45-6:00 p.m.) Kona Ice will also be available.

## Magnet News

Science and Math Standards are coming alive in the Robotics Lab this month!

**5th Graders** are enjoying enriching what was learned in math about coordinate grids by using their computer skills to code ordered pairs. **4th Graders** are exploring Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality to enhance our learning as they design their very own 3-D printed totem pole using a design program on the computer. 4th Grade Parents-be on the lookout for totem poles coming home next month. **3rd Graders** are applying all of their knowledge about coding to travel through their BoomTowns. **2nd Graders** are learning how pulleys work and will build a rover using a pulley system to make it move. **1st Graders** are learning all about a pulley system, and will begin building an alligator that can open and close its jaw while making a crunching sound. **Kindergarteners** are discovering how to become computer coders.

## Parent's Corner

**Skyward**--All families new to Seminole County are asked to sign up for their online Skyward account which enables live access to grades and various school information. Forms can be picked up and turned in to the front office.

**PTA**—We are still looking for caring parents who want to support Hamilton by getting involved. PTA members work closely with school administration, teachers, staff and students. Yearly dues are \$5.00. We have set up a signup genius <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0e44aaaf29a4f49-1920> for volunteer opportunities. Hamilton PTA's Facebook page is also a great way to stay "in the know." [www.facebook.com/Hamilton-Elementary-PTA](http://www.facebook.com/Hamilton-Elementary-PTA)

**Dividends**— Volunteers truly make a difference in the quality of education at Hamilton Elementary. Children receive a powerful message when parents are involved. We will be having a Dividend Coffee for all interested volunteers on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 a.m. All Dividends must renew their registration **EACH YEAR** online: <https://dvd.scps.k12.fl.us/>

**SAC** —Parents, we need you! We are still accepting applications for this year's School Advisory Committee. If interested contact Mr. Pfeiffer: michael\_pfeiffer@scps.us



## Recent Highlights

**Engineers in action!** 4<sup>th</sup> grade Innovators utilized the Engineering Design Process to create team totem poles using the knowledge learned in this integrated unit of study.

### Want to see more highlights?

Have you "liked us" on Facebook?

<https://www.facebook.com/hamiltonelem/>

Are you "following us" on Twitter? @hamiltonengtech

Have you checked out our website lately?

[www.hamilton.scps.k12.fl.us](http://www.hamilton.scps.k12.fl.us)