



We are a Tuition-Free Public Charter School serving students in Kindergarten through Eighth Grade

#### Publication of HIVE Preparatory School





## HIVE RECEIVES A GOLD MEDAL FROM THE US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT!

For the first time in history, the US News and World Report has included K-8 schools in its reporting. HIVE Prep's stats have recently been released and have shown excellence on multiple levels! Not only did HIVE earn a "Gold Medal" for elementary and for middle school, but HIVE also earned "Well Above Expectations" in every category (elementary and middle school reading and math)!

With an amazing student-teacher ratio of 17:1 and minority students representing 99% of the school, HIVE is exceptionally proud that 88% of students scored at or above the proficient level for math, and 81% scored at or above that level for reading. HIVE students did significantly better in both reading and math compared with both the district and the state.

# APPLY FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR SOON!

Whether you are new to the school or have been a part of the HIVE family for years, it's already time to start looking toward the next school year. The application window opens Jan. 1, 2022. To apply, visit hiveprep.org/enroll. A lottery is conducted for all available positions.

If HIVE interests you, we highly encourage tours during the school day to see the culture in action. Tours are available Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm, with no appointment necessary. For further information regarding HIVE Prep and its enrollment process, please contact Dr. Evelyn Falcon at efalcon@hiveprep.com or at (305) 231-4888.



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# POSTAL CUSTOMER

#### LAUNCHING HIVE'S ESPORTS LEAGUE

This year, HIVE has launched its very own esports program. "Esports" describes the world of competitive, organized video gaming. At HIVE, it is the mission of the esports team to:

- connect competitive gamers with each other
- provide a social avenue to discuss competitive gaming
- field school teams in the Middle School Esports League (MSEL)
- foster personal skills through gaming such as critical/strategic thinking, problem-solving, reflection, communication, teamwork, and leadership

The team provides opportunities for students to use esports as a platform to develop STEAM-based skills and social-emotional attributes such as communication, collaboration and problem-solving abilities needed to thrive in work and in life.

Esports has been steadily gaining popularity over the years, even broadcasting various matches on ESPN. Jose Gonzalez, Computer Science Teacher at HIVE, says he's wanted to start an esports league at HIVE for years and is thrilled about the prospects. He says, "So far, our students are very excited. We're designing the team from the ground up, including a name, logo, branding and uniforms. By completing these other tasks students not only have an enjoyable after school activity to participate in, but they can also gain valuable skills and experiences."

HIVE students will be competing in the following games: Rocket League, Minecraft and 10 Minute Chess. They are currently training for their first tournament which will be the Middle School Esports League 2022 Spring Major that starts in early January.

At HIVE, esports is open to any middle school student. Gonzalez says, "We're looking for talented chess players or people interested in learning to play." If your student is interested in joining, contact Jose Gonzalez in room 23B or email jggonzalez@hiveprep.com. Spaces are limited, so please don't wait.





### MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVISING PROGRAM

Once a week, the middle school classes use a 30-minute block called "advising" to focus on topics related to mental health. This began a few years ago when HIVE began implementing "Start with Hello" with the sixth grade classes. "Start with Hello" is a program designed by Sandy Hook Promise, a nonprofit organization, following the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School. The program is focused on reducing social isolation and creating more inclusive environments.

This year, HIVE has expanded the advising program to all middle school students. The material covered in each grade level varies so that students are exposed to new material each year. Below is a description of the topics covered in each grade:

- Sixth grade: Sixth grade implements Starts with Hello. The primary focus is on teaching students about social isolation, the effects and how to reduce isolation in schools and the community. Lessons about empathy and social media have also been built into this program.
- Seventh grade: Seventh grade covers many topics related to mental health and well-being. Students learn about the different dimensions of health (physical, social, intellectual, etc.), self-esteem, and the power of their words.
- Eighth grade: The lessons for eighth grade are focused on leadership, the qualities of a good leader and why leadership skills are important.
  Students then discuss their passions and values and how to turn these passions into community change. Students are then asked to work together as a class to complete a community service project.

The Advising Program has been receiving positive feedback from staff, students and families. HIVE Counselor Jennifer Novick says, "I believe implementing these programs has been very helpful for our students, particularly in helping them recognize when other students are in need. Our students know when and how to reach out to an adult for help."