

III. Abstract

Roland Park K-8 Magnet School for International Studies is the first K-8 program in Hillsborough County Public Schools to offer both the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP) and Middle Years Programme (MYP). Our programmes recognize and strive to educate the whole child—academically, emotionally, socially, and physically. Our goal of creating lifelong learners, as stated in our mission and vision statements, is a main focus of all teachers, faculty, and other stakeholders. Our students are at the center of learning and as we educate our students, we consider the skills and concepts they will need to be successful, not only for their duration at Roland Park, but also continuing into higher education and ultimately to function as part of our global society.

We strive daily to help students learn different content area information through the transdisciplinary model of teaching and learning, placing emphasis on all subject areas including related arts (physical education, music, art, foreign language, and strings). Each classroom supports student collaboration and inquiry-based learning. Using inquiry as methodology, teachers provide learning experiences which encourage students to make connections among concepts in all discipline areas and relate those concepts to issues in the real world thereby encouraging all students to become active learners. Students are engaged in active collaboration with one another; through this collaboration, students are able to acknowledge and celebrate the diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences that our students bring to Roland Park for a culturally diverse and fulfilling education.

Through the immersion of Roland Park’s International Baccalaureate programmes, students obtain a balanced education that encompasses a strong academic rigor, promotes positive character attributes, and instills the importance of service to others.