**Orange County 4-H: Partners in Education**

Orange County 4-H is a positive youth development organization that empowers young people to reach their full potential. There are currently over 900 Orange County youth engaged in 4-H programs, with activities ranging from robotics and public speaking to horseback riding and gardening. 4-H mentorship enables America’s youth to emerge as leaders through hands-on educational programs grounded in University-tested research.

**Contemporary Focus**

The fundamental 4-H ideal of practical, “learn by doing” experiences encourages youth to experiment, innovate and think independently.

4-H has three mission mandates: science, engineering and technology; healthy living; and citizenship. Youth learn leadership, citizenship and life skills through more than 1,000 projects with topics as varied as rocketry, GPS mapping, DNA analysis, public speaking, photography, nutrition and community service.

**Supporting Educators**

4-H works with top University scientists to develop research-based educational curriculum. These curricula were designed for use in a classroom setting and include useful planning tools such as Sunshine State Standards.

**Tropicana Public Speaking**

The 4-H Tropicana Public Speaking program is a public speaking educational program for grades 4-6. Participants learn the process of preparing and giving a speech through engaging in a five part series of lessons. The program culminates in a competition in which youth present a speech on a topic of their choice.

**NEFE High School Financial Planning Program**

This seven unit educational program teaches high school youth basic financial literacy concepts through hands-on activities. Topics addressed include budgeting, banking, credit/debt, insurance and saving/investing.

**Science Curriculum**

4-H offers hands-on programming in gardening, conservation, alternative energy, robotics, and other fields of scientific discovery.

**Educational Partners**

- Cheney Elementary School
- Good Shepherd Catholic School
- Lake Nona Middle School
- Leaders Prep School
- Page Private School
- Park Maitland School
- St. Andrews Catholic School
- Southwest Middle School