### **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Southwest Florida offers educational opportunities throughout the region, with continuing education opportunities to help our workforce develop the latest skills needed to meet employer needs.

## HIGHER EDUCATION

This region has several respected colleges and universities that are continuously producing new graduates who are ready to roll up their sleeves and get to work.

- · Ave Maria University
- Barry University
- · Florida Gulf Coast University
- Florida Southwestern State College
- Hodges University
- Keiser University
- Nova Southeastern University
- · Rasmussen College
- Wolford College

## **VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS**

- Cape Coral Technical College
- Fort Myers Technical College
- · Heritage Institute
- · ITT Technical Institute
- Southwestern Vocational Training

#### ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- CareerSource Southwest Florida
- · Goodwill MicroEnterprise Program
- · Southwest Florida Business Workforce Guide
- · Florida Department of Education
- · Florida Gulf Coast University's Small Business Development Center
- SCORE

# **CAPE CORAL'S K-12 EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM**

Growth momentum in Cape Coral is sustained by continuously expanding public and private school systems with high performance standards. Public schools are operated by the Lee County School District, which is the ninth-largest district in the state. It operates eight elementary, six middle and four high schools in Cape Coral. Find out more at <a href="http://ese.leeschools.net/">http://ese.leeschools.net/</a>

In addition to traditional classroom education, the school district has been offering Lee Virtual School since 2009. Lee Virtual School is Internet-based learning and instruction delivered either solely online or in conjunction with traditional materials, teaching methods and computer-based technology. Courses taught by state-certified professional educators are provided for pre-K through 12th grade. Lee Virtual, as part of the public education system, is free of charge and is held to the same academic standards while providing a flexible, online learning option. For details: <a href="http://lvip.leeschools.net">http://lvip.leeschools.net</a>.

The City of Cape Coral has created a municipal charter school system that is governed by the Cape Coral Charter School Authority. It provides a challenging curricula in a small classroom environment. Beginning with voluntary pre-K at Christa McAuliffe Elementary through to Oasis High School, the four charter schools provide a seamless opportunity for nurturing students during their pre-college years. Because the system is public, there is no tuition. The municipal charter schools are available exclusively to children who live in Cape Coral. Additional information on the Cape Coral Charter School Authority can be found at <a href="https://www.capecharterschools.org">www.capecharterschools.org</a>.