

FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF BESSELIEU@GMAIL.COM

From the Tampa Bay Business Journal:

<https://www.bizjournals.com/tampabay/news/2019/08/06/kiran-c-patel-high-school-opens-in-temple-terrace.html>

Kiran C. Patel High School opens in Temple Terrace

Aug 6, 2019, 7:13am EDT

Tampa Bay area philanthropist and entrepreneur Kiran C. Patel has completed a high school in a quicker amount of time than a traditional school year.

After eight months, the Dr. Kiran C. Patel High School for Innovation and Leadership opened Monday, with 300 students enrolled and a 50-student waiting list. The two-story, 57,228-square-foot facility school is based in Temple Terrace, where Patel also resides.



AERIAL INNOVATIONS

Patel consistently has his hands in a few different projects, all with an overarching theme: get them done fast and make them some of the best in the nation.

"You will see the standard, at least of infrastructure, can compete with any high school in the country," he said. "We expect we will be amongst the top few in the state of Florida and the country. That is the standard we are hoping to have." His Nova Southeastern University Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine will also be opening soon, after a 17-month turnaround.

"There was expected to be good response [to the high school], but this was extremely good," Patel said. "And of course, as always, we did it in a timeline they did not believe possible."

While he did not disclose financial details, Patel said the original \$20 million estimated price tag is "in the right range."

The high school stems from Patel's desire to give students in the area opportunities they otherwise might not receive at public schools. Admittance to the school is based on a lottery.

"The passing rate I am expecting to be a lot better [than a traditional public high school] because the students that come here will want to come here," he said. "It's not a school that's filling the space because you have to be there. The motivation of an individual is very, very important."

The school will have a gymnasium that can also serve as an auditorium, a cafeteria, labs and open-style classrooms that allow for more collaboration among students and less of a traditional lecture-style class.

"It's really a tremendous option for kids of every income and that was my goal," he said. "That affording students can go to a high school that may be something that is better than a public school. I hope we will give many opportunities, mentorship programs, things of that type that other schools may not have."

Lauren Coffey

Reporter

Tampa Bay Business Journal

