

The 1980 Boys Basketball Team had great expectations but didn't measure up finishing with a five hundred record for the season. The preseason polls in 1980-81 had the Tornadoes favored to do great things. There were key seniors returning and upcoming juniors to fill the roster with great potential. The Tornadoes went undefeated at home that season. During the winter break the Tornadoes won the four day Kingdom of the Sun Tournament in Ocala. The momentum of those victories carried over for the rest of season. The Tornadoes were the Pinellas County Conference Champions, and won the first round District Title. The Tornadoes were ranked #1 in the state. The Tornadoes edged Plant City in the Regional by one point and beat Edgewater by two points in overtime at the Sectional. The Tornadoes then went to Lakeland Civic Center for the final four. The Tornadoes struggled against Jacksonville Ribault, but came out on top with a 55-52 victory. The Tornadoes saved the best for last. Led by center Mike Brittain's 32 points the Tornadoes beat Miami Central 79-53. Every player on the team played in the game and scored. The Tornadoes record for the season was 31-3. It has been the lone State Championship that the Boys Basketball Team has won. Carl Elliott sums up that season "The team had its ups and downs and tragic events over the years, but the memories will last a lifetime!"

Team members are:  
Coach Jack Wilson  
Ass.t Coach Rudy Coffin  
Carl Elliott Co- Captain  
Jeff Parks Co-Captain  
Mike Brittain  
Terry Griggley  
Hassan Jones  
Harry Katica  
Mark Lelekacs  
Dan Long  
Marcus Parker  
Scott Preising  
Scott Quarterson  
David Stewart