

Executive Summary

North Andrews Gardens Elementary School of the Arts

Broward County Public Schools

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Introduction

Every school has its own story to tell. The context in which teaching, and learning takes place influences the processes and procedures by which the school makes decisions around curriculum, instruction, and assessment. The context also impacts the way a school stays faithful to its vision. Many factors contribute to the overall narrative such as an identification of stakeholders, a description of stakeholder engagement, the trends and issues affecting the school, and the kinds of programs and services that a school implements to support student learning.

The purpose of the Executive Summary (ES) is to provide a school with an opportunity to describe in narrative form the strengths and challenges it encounters. By doing so, the public and members of the school community will have a more complete picture of how the school perceives itself and the process of self-reflection for continuous improvement. This summary is structured for the school to reflect on how it provides teaching and learning on a day to day basis.

Description of the School

Describe the school's size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the school serves?

North Andrews Gardens Elementary is proud of our many accomplishments! The results of our 2018 FSA demonstrated academic growth in ELA Learning gains, Mathematics achievement, and Science across multiple demographics. Science profiency rose by 13% and Math learning gains increased by 10%, just to name a few. Utilizing iReady for progress monitoring and remediation, Reflex Math for fluency, and administering BAS three times a year for identified students helped raise our school grade from a 57 to a 59 percent points.

We are also proud to have implemented Digital 4 Blended Learning model along with our Digital 5 Blended Learning, in which all fourth and fifth grade students experience their curriculum through a personal laptop assigned to them. Students access their textbooks, complete assignments and some maintain a digital notebook. Various teachers were also trained to use Canvas, a learning management system. Five classrooms are also utilizing the Recordex Boards to deliver instruction. Through the support of various grants and partnerships, we also have our very own school garden, which is producing various spices and vegetables which students have planted and will eventually harvest. Maintaining gardens allows teachers to enhance student STEM skills in life science. In addition, 10 teachers have received grants from the Broward Education Foundation to support their curriculum in the classroom.

Our Visual and Performing Arts Program is highly acclaimed. We are very proud of the various outside performances and art displays our students have participated in over the years including: Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood Airport Winterfest, Christmas on Las Olas, the Lauderdale By the Sea Holiday Celebration, Oakland Park Library, Oakland Park Youth Day and McDonald's. Students have won many art contests around our county and have two bus benches in our hometown that are replications of art created by our students. Last spring's musical performance of "Annie, Junior" combined the talents of our drama program, show choir, band and orchestra. The number of students performing on-stage, in the orchestra pit, and managing the tech component so vast that our performance needed to be moved to aa high school auditorium.

North Andrews Gardens Elementary has won the Golden School Award for outstanding volunteer service 18 out of the last 19 years. Through classroom assistance, field trip chaperoning, reading with students and providing support during special events, our volunteers play a special role in supporting our endeavors at our school. Over the next three years, our school is striving to achieve further mastery of the Florida Standards through increasing the rigor of student instruction, implementing strategies that enhance all learning styles and increasing our school grade to an "A." . We will be integrating new technology within the classroom that will assist our teachers in providing instruction that supports collaborative student thinking and production.

School's Purpose

Provide the school's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs. Describe how the school embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students.

North Andrews Gardens Elementary philosophy is based on the idea that the purpose of education is to provide a continuation of essential learning. It is our goal to supply each student with 21st century knowledge and skills to become college and career ready for the global economy of the future. This will aid our youth in becoming self-sufficient individuals mentally, physically, socially, and morally so that they can meet the demands of a rapidly changing society. It is essential to instill in each student the importance of individual worth and to create a positive self image through personal development of initiative, resourcefulness, and responsibility. It is the intent of the faculty to lead students toward being disciplined, productive, informed, successful, and fulfilled individuals. To achieve these ideals, mutual respect and understanding must be present in the learning process on the part of all participants - the faculty, students and community.

It is the mission of North Andrews Gardens Elementary to provide education in all academic areas ensuring that all students will meet the highest standards while integrating the Visual and Performing Arts. At North Andrews Gardens, the vision is "Setting the standard for excellence in academics as well as the Visual and Performing Arts". The school embodies its purpose through a master schedule, which provides for the integration of the Visual and Performing Arts within every child's daily schedule. In addition to a rigorous academic curriculum based on the Florida Standards, each child receives 45 minutes of Visual and Performing Arts instruction in Drama, Band, Show Choir, Art or Strings. Students in Kindergarten through Second Grade experience an exposure program in which they experience each discipline on a six-week rotating wheel schedule. Students in Grades 3-5 are assigned a "major" in which they focus on a specific discipline daily. Students with exceptional talents are invited to perform in our advanced classes; Pizzazz, Advanced Band, and Honors Orchestra who conduct rehearsal after school hours. Students' successes in these disciplines are showcased through various performances throughout the year.

All students are expected to maintain the highest level of behavior within all classes so that they can get the most out of instruction. Through following the Panther Code; 1. follow all rules and staff directions, 2. respect personal space and feelings, and, 3. use positive words to communicate, students support a positive school climate that allows learning to flourish. Students are also able to focus their efforts on achieving academically to their fullest potential. Administration highlights various students and classes during the daily morning announcements. "Panther Roars" are given to individuals or classes that demonstrate our Panther Code. Students may nominate each other, or teachers may identify students for this accolade. Classes may also earn "Panther Paws" through appropriate hallway, cafeteria or classroom behavior. By accentuating the positive, we hope to create a learning environment that embodies a standard of excellence that will eventually transcend their elementary school years.

Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement

Describe the school's notable achievements and areas of improvement in the last three years. Additionally, describe areas for improvement that the school is striving to achieve in the next three years.

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We are also proud to have implemented Digital 4 Blended Learning model along with our Digital 5 Blended Learning, in which all fourth and fifth grade students experience their curriculum through a personal laptop assigned to them. Students access their textbooks, complete assignments and some maintain a digital notebook. Various teachers were also trained to use Canvas, a learning management system. Five classrooms are also utilizing the Recordex Boards to deliver instruction. Through the support of various grants and partnerships, we also have our very own school garden, which is producing various spices and vegetables which students have planted and will eventually harvest. Maintaining gardens allows teachers to enhance student STEM skills in life science. In addition, 10 teachers have received grants from the Broward Education Foundation to support their curriculum in the classroom.

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Additional Information

Provide any additional information you would like to share with the public and community that were not prompted in the previous sections.

Our Visual/ Performing Arts program began in 1990 and continues today! School alumni have gone on to perform on Broadway, earn Doctorates and some have even returned to North Andrews to teach!

In response to our working families, an after school program is located on campus.

Our bi-lingual faculty and staff help bridge communication with our families.