

# **Executive Summary 2018**

## **Description of the School**

Mirror Lake Elementary is located at 1200 Northwest 72nd Avenue Plantation, FL 33313. At Mirror Lake, teachers, staff, parents, community, and students have worked together to achieve many great accomplishments. For example, MLE was honored Nationally as a Welcoming School. Drama club, Gardening club, Drumming Line club, Robotics Club and chorus are some of the activities that were established in the past three years.

MLE is an urban school with a diverse population. This year the enrollment is 679 students. There are 47 teachers, 3.65 Speech Pathologists, 4 Support Staff Personnel, and 31 Educational Support Personnel. At MLE, 37% of the population is ESE with various exceptionalities. MLE has an Autism Specialized Program that consists of 5 classrooms. It provides a continuum of services based on the needs of the individual child. Also, there are 4 complex Pre-K classrooms, an AM/PM Speech program, and Head Start Program. At MLE, we assist preschool children in transition from early childhood programs to local elementary school programs. Our Kindergarten orientation is held the Friday before school begins for incoming kindergarteners and other students new to the school. At that time, parents meet their child's teacher and the students go to their classrooms with their teachers to ease the transition. Parents are informed about the Kindergarten curriculum both during tours and during orientation, depending on which event the parents attend. In addition, if there are any Kindergarten parents who did not take a tour or attend the orientation, the Kindergarten curriculum is reviewed again during Open House.

## **School's Purpose**

**Our vision** at Mirror Lake Elementary is to educate today's students to succeed in tomorrow's world.

**Our mission** at Mirror Lake Elementary is to provide a learning environment with purpose and opportunity, in order to advance academic, social and emotional growth for all students to prepare them for college and career readiness.

## **We believe....**

1. All children can learn.
2. Children should have a safe, secure and caring environment.
3. Each child will experience success.
4. We should provide a diverse and creative curriculum, which is flexible and responsive to societal change.
5. Expectations of students should be high yet realistic.
6. Children need to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills.
7. Children should be respected as well as show respect for self and others.
8. Children should learn values, morals and social skills.
9. Children should be encouraged to accept their uniqueness and to understand that it is all right to make mistakes and learn from them.
10. Teachers should be fair and consistent.
11. Teachers should vary teaching styles to meet students' learning styles.
12. The faculty should be supportive of each other.
13. Parental involvement at school and at home is an integral part of the student's Development.
14. Community and business involvement should be greater.

Mirror Lake Elementary serves three major purposes in our society; to give the student a basic foundation for learning the core subjects, to help the student learn about their environment and society, to help foster a student's interest in duty and responsibility within one's own community through various activities.

To warrant that we are on the right track in arriving to our mission we work as team and we ensure student success implementing the new standards resulting in an excellent education and equally high outcomes for all students, we prepare and support the students. We intervene successfully with students who are performing below grade level, English Language Learners (ELLs), students who are attending special education programs and other historically underserved and underrepresented student populations; and to offer high-quality instruction and prepare our students are ready not only for college and career but equipped for life.

We conduct Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs) for different sub groups to ensure students success. This takes place before/after school and on Saturday. Reading, Writing, Math, and/or Science are the targeted subjects. Also, we provide students technology access - before/after school camps.

At MLE, we believe that every child has the potential to learn and make learning gains. Students are encouraged to reach their highest potential and we foster a positive culture and nurturing learning environment. We also set high expectations for all students.

### **Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement**

MLE was recognized as a Model School for Social and Emotional Learning in the year of 2017-2018. We presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> Model Schools Conference in Orlando. MLE is actively and continuously involved in school grounds enhancement and beautification.

#### **Achievement Data:**

MLE is a "B" rated school. In the 2018 school year, the over all proficiency level 59% in the area of Reading, 60% in Math, and 53% in the area of Science. Learning gains were 63% in the area of Reading and 53% in the area of Math. As far as our Lowest Quartile for that same year, we achieved 57% in the area of Reading and 35% in Math.

We have taken steps to reduce the achievement gaps. For example, we are increasing student Tier II vocabulary by introducing a Word of the Day. We are also focusing on building reading and math fluency. In addition, we have a school wide focus on writing and extensive professional development has been offered to all grade levels.

#### **Areas for Improvement:**

- Integrating writing at various times throughout the day
- Parent trainings in Reading, Writing and Testing Strategies
- Parental involvement
- Vocabulary Tier 2 and Tier 3 across content

#### **Additional Information**

We implement the I'm Thumbody Program provided by the Mental Health Department. Volunteers teach lessons on self-esteem and diversity to Kindergarten and second grade students. In addition, a local pediatric ophthalmology office annually provides vision screenings for early detection annually to students in Kindergarten, first and third grades. We follow the county's Anti Bullying Campaign and the Guidance Counselor conducts several student groups including Mediation, Peer Counseling, and School Ambassadors. The Local Police Department participates within the school to provide the Gang Resistance and Drug Education (GRADE) program to our fifth graders. A Plantation Police Officer teaches weekly lessons for ten weeks.

MLE is very special because we are a welcoming school and we cultivate a culture of acceptance and tolerance. When you walk onto MLE, you can immediately feel that interactions between people school's physical environments are welcoming.

Teachers, students, and school leaders are happy to be here and are treat each other with respect. MLE is clean and orderly. In addition, the bulletin board displays are interactive, encouraging, and send out positive messages. Walking around and observing classrooms, you immediately see that the students are actively engaged and enjoying learning. At MLE, we assure instruction alignment with state standards and design instruction for student success. We also develop partnerships with parents and the community, and nurture a culture where each individual feels valued. Administration makes sure to create a culture that empowers and instills confidence in teachers as they prepare their students for achievement testing and life.