



Executive Summary for Parkside Elementary- 2018-2019

The Executive Summary (ES) provides the school an opportunity to describe in narrative form its vision as well as strengths and challenges within the context of continuous improvement. Use this template to complete the responses to the various questions below. The responses should be brief, descriptive, and appropriate for the specific section. Transfer completed narratives into the corresponding sections of the Executive Summary found online in ASSIST.

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?

Parkside Elementary is a Title 1 school in Northwest Broward County Florida. We are home to 870 students and 100 staff members. Our school is situated across from a performing arts center, a community park, and a block away from the fire station, police station, community center, community pool, and a major medical center. All of our students (with the exception of our Autism Cluster students who arrive by bus) live within walking distance of the school. 75% of our population now receives free and reduced lunch. We service students from many different backgrounds. Our ethnic breakdown is as follows: Asian- 6%, Black/African American-29% Hispanic- 39% Multi-racial- 4%, White- 22%. We feel that our diversity is a strength for us. Our student population is truly representative of our community and we focus our support on good teaching strategies and support programs that work for all students. We hold the same high expectations for all students regardless of their background.

We are home to an Autism Cluster, which includes 7 classes. These students present a unique and welcome challenge in that each of them has completely unique learning needs. Our staff seeks to address those specific needs with the help of our full time Autism Coach and ESE Specialist so that all students can reach their fullest potential. This approach is applied to our whole student body as we create an environment of support and a community of friends,

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.

Parkside Elementary's Mission Statement reads as follows:

Our mission is to organize our school around students and the work that they are expected and encouraged to do, the quality of the work provided to students so that they learn and achieve at the highest standards, and to base every decision that we make on the improvement of teaching and learning.

Parkside offers both opportunities for students to develop their individual strengths and a strong support network for struggling students. Our coaching, mentoring, guidance and Exceptional Student Education support help to ensure that teachers are supported and student learning and behavioral challenges are addressed. Our COMPASS Innovative program provides project based learning opportunities and our autism cluster program offers highly differentiated instruction based on the individual needs of these students. One of our goals this year is to incorporate project based learning across all classes and our innovative programs teachers are modelling and providing training for the staff in this area.

We also have a class of gifted and high achieving 4th and 5th graders and a gifted certified teacher at each grade level who are trained in providing enriching experience for high achieving students. Not only do we look at the academic areas as a focus, but more towards developing the WHOLE child. Enriching our students through the our special area programs, Art, Music, Science, Math, and PE as well as encouraging all students to check out just right books in our Media Center are all other ways we continue to develop our students. Our math special is new this year for 4th and 5th grade and the students are receiving math support through hands-on activities tied to their grade level standards.

Parkside utilizes a leveled book room where teachers can find reading materials that are a perfect fit for students. Based on ongoing assessment results, students are instructed at the correct reading level for them with an eye on moving them forward toward grade level and beyond. Parkside also created a demonstration classroom for teachers and students to draw on great literature and for teachers to develop their own skills. Our professional library for teachers also provides many additional development opportunities. Our district has adopted new science materials and we are focused on utilizing these new online tools and hands-on kits to improve our science results.

Each year, Parkside presents a school-wide exhibition where students share their learning, develop collaborative school-wide projects, and bring families together to celebrate student success. This year, our emphasis on project based learning will allow us to showcase a wide variety of student work. This is a great expression of our community pride and our focus on engaging academics. In addition, we conduct student led conferences so that students can highlight and reflect on their own work as part of the exhibition.

Our district's Digital 5 Initiative and SMART technology funding has brought new laptops to our students throughout the school. Our 5th graders continue to have a one-to-one computer to student ratio and they are using their laptops for research, writing, projects, video, and interactive lesson delivery. These students may also take their laptops back and forth to home to assist with school assignments, reading, and research. As of the 2018-2019 school year, our 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders also have a one to one computer to student ratio. We use several software and web based learning tools including iReady and Sum Dog, which offer customized skill practice based on the unique abilities of each child.

Parkside's teachers participate in professional learning communities where they take ownership of their professional development. Grade level teams focus on standards-based instruction, analyzing student data, and areas of study that are uniquely beneficial to their students. This teacher learning allows for greater focus on student results and builds on collaborative planning to make our teachers even better.

Parkside is truly a community of learners. We focus on quality instruction and seek to find improvements in our instructional delivery that will lead to gains for our students. We center our curriculum around meaningful work for students and our collaborative culture of support helps us to keep learning every day.

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.

Parkside has received the prestigious Golden School award for 16 years. We participate in our county's Harvest Drive to feed the hungry, Martin Luther King Art and Literacy Awards, and we recently had a winning entry in our district's Food and Nutrition poster contest. Each year Parkside is asked to represent the District in student art month during the month of March. Our fabulous art teacher is also asked each year to provide artwork to represent the Gifted and Talented Symposium. We have maintained consistent academic performance by focusing on the unique needs of our population and providing individualized support. This year, our ESE support facilitators are using a push-in support model to ensure that struggling students do not

miss critical instructional time and that they receive instruction that is based on grade level standards. Parkside continues to offer after-school academic camps for students in reading and math. We have participated in math competitions and this year we are offering more after school enrichment activities. Parkside also runs a thriving and highly rated before and after care program.

We have also seen a steady increase in parent involvement with a very active PTA who presents many events throughout the year in support of our families. We have also seen improvements in our safety record, improving the security of our building and maintaining a daily presence from our two school resource officers.

Additional Information

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

Parkside is a community school that prides itself in being a family focused, caring, and friendly environment. We welcome each student daily as they enter the building and assure that each child receives a welcoming smile from caring adults each day. Customer service is an area we pride ourselves in. Our theme for 2018-2019 is "Planting Seeds of Kindness" and we are emphasizing kindness throughout the year and every day. When a child feels loved and wanted they strive to be the best they can be and this is one way that we value students and their needs above all.