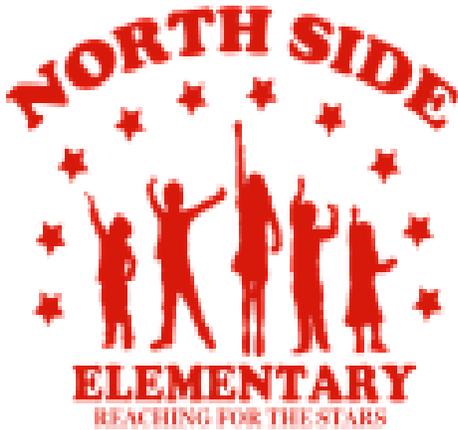


# Executive Summary



## North Side Elementary

Mrs. Heilange Porcena, Principal

120 NE 11<sup>th</sup> Street

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33304

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## **Executive Summary Template School Accreditation**

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?

*North Side Elementary is a historical site that was built in 1927 and located in an urban lower-working class community in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The principal of North Side Elementary School is Heilange Porcena and the assistant principal Kaia Qaiyim. North Side strives to make a positive difference along with a strong commitment to students and their excellence, academically and socially to improve their quality of life. North Side's school-wide theme "Reach For The Stars" provides opportunity to launch ideas and activities to improve literacy in our diverse and global society. North Side Elementary is a Title I school with grades beginning at Pre-Kindergarten to grade 5. North Side Elementary provides education to a total of 370 students PreK-5<sup>th</sup> and 336 grades K-5<sup>th</sup> (159 boys and 177 girls) in grades pre-kindergarten through fifth grade. There are 30 white students, 297 African American students, 4 Hispanic students and 5 Multi-Racial students. 97% of the 336 students receive subsidized lunches. North Side has a total of 45 staff members (2 administration, 26 certified teacher, 7 teacher's assistant, 2 academic coaches, 1 guidance counselor, 1 ESE specialist, 3 custodial staff, 4 clerical staff, 1 community liaison). There are six National Board-Certified teachers and 27 teachers have been teaching for 10 or more years at North Side Elementary. North Side is a relatively small public school, which allows for a low student teacher ratio, as well as more student lead and hands on instruction. The focus on improving academics and providing quality instruction remains a constant at North Side. Staff members at North Side Elementary work diligently to provide opportunities for students to develop into college and career bound stars.*

*North Side Elementary School's PTA is dedicated to making every child's potential a reality. They work closely with the community to provide resources for many families. At North Side students are encouraged to express their creativity and explore leadership opportunities as members of clubs and extra-curricular activities such as Garden Club, Camera/Yearbook Club, Safety Patrols, STEM Club, Percussion Club Chess Club, and the Debate Team. North Side has integrated technology into daily instruction with Distance Learning, Internet access, a Recordex in each classroom, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms with a 1:1 student/laptop ratio, several mobile laptop carts in rotation to service primary grades for class projects and assessments.*

*North Side Elementary School has the support and participation from wonderful business and community partners. These businesses include United Way, Make A Miracle Foundation, Share-A-Pet, YMCA, Literacy Connection, Mass Mutual, Nova Southeastern University, Home Depot, Fort Lauderdale Police Department.*

*At North Side students are recognized for their hard work through quarterly award ceremonies, good citizenship and character in the Terrific Kids Program. North Side has established high standards and performance for academic rigor in the classroom, strong home-school relationships, and quality of instruction. The emphasis at North Side continues to be to develop the whole person through collaboration and teamwork for the utmost success. We work to develop and meet the needs of our scholars' social and emotional needs through the school-wide implementation of the program Leader in Me. The Leader in Me promotes the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People; students and teachers participate in Tier 1 instructional activities.*

### **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.

*Our vision at North Side is "Educating all learners to succeed in tomorrow's world". North Side thrives to make a positive difference and strong commitment to students and their excellence academically and socially to improve their quality of life. North Side's school-wide motto "Reach for The Stars" provides opportunity to launch ideas and activities to improve literacy in our diverse and global society. This year we are also teaching our students and teachers to "Focus, Fight, Forward, as we work to develop a culture of high-expectations all stakeholders. At North Side Elementary our mission is "NSE is committed to delivering a high-quality learning experience in a safe, equitable environment. Our priority is to ensure all students are learning to their maximum potential in a safe and secure learning environment and continue to grow to be successful during their elementary years and beyond. At North Side the focus on academic excellence never stops, we will ensure that Our Students are College and Career Bound Stars! We encourage our students to become both critical and creative thinkers through the usages of Thinking Maps, small group instruction, hands-on instruction and student-centered learning. Our staff participates in biweekly data driven professional learning communities, implementing the CARE cycle to ensure our student receive the best education.*

*To help close the achievement gaps at North Side we provide high-quality instruction, continuous improvement and effective communication. At North Side, all our students are unique individuals, with equal potential to make a positive contribution to the school and society. While we have established high standards and performance for academic rigor in the classroom, strong home-school relationships, and quality of instruction, our emphasis continues to be to develop the whole person through collaboration and teamwork for the utmost success.*

## **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.

*Our RTI process has become more consistent through RTI meetings in which students' weaknesses are identified and a plan of action is put in place. Our teachers are better equipped to identify students that need extra support beyond the classroom instruction.*

*As a school we are thriving to improve proficiency levels in all academic areas. The needs we will address are implementing effective best practices in teaching reading for information in all grade levels that will build proficiency in science and social studies. We are also, implementing specific comprehension strategies in differentiated learning groups and incorporating more informational texts and non-fiction reading. In math, computation fluency and problem solving will be improved through analysis of formative assessments and benchmarks.*

*Our teachers meet weekly to analyze data, share best practices, and complete lesson plans. Whole day planning sessions are scheduled quarterly for teachers to have an extended amount of time to plan collaboratively. Teachers monitor student progress through small group instruction in math and reading on a regular basis using BAS, iREADY, LAFS, leveled text, Go Math, Acaletics (support), and STEM Scopes using both summative and formative assessments.*

## **Additional Information**

Provide any additional information you would like to share with the public and community

*Schools and families have essential roles to play in promoting children's positive development and academic performance. At North Side we continue to work and build relationships with our parents as partners so, we can better create opportunities for children to develop social, emotional, and academic competencies. There are a variety of partnerships that assist our students with academics and social emotional learning such as Reading Pals, Counseling Mediation Education Treatment (CMET), Nova Southeastern University (NSU), Literacy Connection, and Elite Stars.*

*We will continue to implement the current core curriculum with various professional development based on teacher needs to improve the use of differentiation practices, assessments, comprehension strategies, writing, and problem solving. North Side Elementary will continue to be consistent in using evidence-based strategies to address identified student learning needs and content.*