



# **Executive Summary**

**Stranahan High School**

**Broward County School District**

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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?**

Stranahan High School is a public urban high school in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. It is the second oldest high school and became fully accredited in 1958. The school serves 1367 students with a demographic of 66% Black, 22% Hispanic, 8% White, 2% Asian/Indian, 2% other, 9% ELL, 15% ESE and 87% FRL. Forty-seven percent of students are female, whereas 51% are male. Thirty-two percent of the students are Engineering and Medical Magnet students. During the 2014-2015 school year, the Urban Teacher Academy Program was the newest addition to the magnet program.

As a magnet school, students residing within the Stranahan High attendance area automatically attend this school, generally graduates from New River Middle School. Students residing south of Sunrise Boulevard who meet the eligibility requirements may apply for admission to the magnet program. Science/Pre-Engineering Program students will be admitted and receive transportation in accordance with the provisions of School Board Policy 5004.1.

The enrollment has declined by 300 students in 6 years due to various reasons including a highly publicized aging facility, innovative programs offered by other schools and their magnet programs, and difficulty with transportation schedules. Other reasons include scattered feeder patterns, budget reductions, and Choice.

There are approximately 75 instructional staff members at Stranahan that are governed by 4 Assistant Principals. Stranahan's teachers are highly qualified instructors: 44% of the instructional staff have a Master's Degree and 5.9% have their doctorate. Eighty-nine percent of teachers are teaching in-field.

Stranahan works hard to enrich the minds of students. Over the last 3 years, the rate of success has risen in more than one genre: in 2012-2013, 40% of students were considered proficient in reading, but that number has since risen to 43% for the 2015-2016 school year. Similarly, scores in math have also increased from 51% (2012-2013) to 56%. The subject with the most growth at Stranahan is US History, soaring from 36% (2015-2106) to 56% proficiency according to state assessments.

The overall graduation rate is consistent, ranging between 85 percent and 87 percent over the last 3 years. This is higher than the state's graduation rate. Stranahan also boasts excellent attendance. The average daily attendance rate increased from 92.4% to 96% in 2015-2016.

## **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.**

The mission statement of Stranahan high school is to empower students with the academic, social, and career decision-making skills to prepare them to become productive, responsible citizens in a global society and to pursue a career plan to meet the challenges of the workplace. Stranahan relies on the active involvement of parents, community members and business partners to promote and enrich the academic success of students. Responsibility, citizenship, kindness, respect, honest, self-control, tolerance and cooperation are character traits that help to produce productive members of society. Through positive reinforcement and an innovative curriculum including quality instruction, Stranahan combines state-of-the-art career training with a rigorous academic foundation. Rich cultural diversity broadens the scope of learning, enhances interpersonal relationships, and better prepares students to assume civic responsibility in a world that is becoming more diverse every day. Graduates will have the necessary knowledge and skills needed to make positive decisions about their future, whether it's in higher education or a career.

## **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.**

Two Gates Scholars were selected from Stranahan during the 2015-2016 school year. Furthermore, students participated in the 2015 American Water Works Competition (Engineering Magnet) and received 1st place. In 2013 and 2015, Stranahan High School earned the Merit School of Distinction (Medical Magnet). Students also excel at their extracurricular activities at Stranahan; the cheerleading squad dominated their competition at the 2015 State BCAA Cheer Competition, coming in second place. Students involved with the Future Educators of America club participated in the South Florida FEA Regionals with a 2nd place win. Stranahan students are also the 2013 Flag Football District Champs. Stranahan also emphasizes the importance of vocational success, reflected by 2015 Broward County GNYATC Competition (Automotive) second place success.

Areas of improvement include to increase passing rate of students taking AP Exams and increase participation in district academic competitions.

## **Additional Information**

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

Stranahan offers many resources to assist students with their academic and personal success. The school offers a wide array of extracurricular activities that range from poetry slams to homework help. Dubbed Dragon Heat, this program keeps students safe at school and gives them the opportunity to receive customized assistance in nearly any subject. Many struggling students, including ELLs and ESE students, benefit from this program that goes above and beyond to ensure success for students: even dinner is served to keep students prepared for the challenges they face during regular, intense study sessions.