Blanche Ely High School

SIP Executive Summary

**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?**

Blanche Ely High School (BEHS) is an urban high school located in the heart of Pompano Beach, Florida. Over the past years, the school has experienced a steady increase in population, with our current school enrollment 1,999 students. The demographics break down of students: 79% Black, 16% Hispanic and 3% White, 4% Asian, 13 % ELL learners, 11 % ESE, 87% FRL. The grade level breakdown is as follows: 9th Grade 558, 10th Grade 484, 11th Grade 516, and 12th Grade 441. The school is comprised of 45% male and 55% female students. The graduation rate is 90%. BEHS currently has 96 teachers, 11 of which are first-year educators. Four (4) teachers hold their doctoral degree, and the school has approximately four (4) National Board Certified teachers.

BEHS has seen ongoing growth in the Magnet and National Academy Foundation (NAF) Academies. The Engineer Magnet students collaborated with Wilton Manors Elementary School. Wilton Manors was named Nationally Certified Magnet School for its International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program. Additionally, BEHS Hospitality and Tourism Management program, in partnership with the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association and the Pompano Beach Marriott, created the Marriott Future–Ready Lab hotel space, which functions like a hotel-space complete with a front desk, bedroom and bathroom to help students receive hands-on experience in customer service and hotel management. Throughout the school year, Marriott offered work-based learning activities for students within the Marriott Future-Ready Lab to prepare students for hotel internships and careers.

The College, Career, & Life Readiness (CCLR) pathway is supported through industry certification paths supporting vocational learning, a rigorous magnet program that supports STEM careers, and numerous honors courses and Advanced Placement offerings for students. Additionally, the school boasts numerous award-winning extracurricular organizations, with the Boys Varsity Basketball Team, band, JROTC, STEM, NAF academies recognitions. Many challenges within the school's community have links to the low socio-economic environment. As a result, students are often compelled to address family need issues, and/or work long hours in addition to their school responsibilities. This can impact attendance, behavior and aspects of student achievement. Other challenges are inequitable access to technology, lack of proper nutrition and minimal access to community support services due to transportation concerns.

BEHS aim to ensure the safety of every student as they prepare for a College, Career, & Life Readiness (CCLR) pathway. BEHS has implemented and executed a PASL, SEL, and Sandy Hook “Start with Hello” Programs. The goal of these programs is to explicitly teach and/or integrate the Broward County Public Schools Social and Emotional Learning Standards in the school and the classroom to ensure students are developing social and emotional skills.