



Executive Summary

Oakridge Elementary School

Broward County Public Schools

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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?

Oakridge Elementary School was established in 1959 with a current enrollment of 503 students. We are a Title 1 neighborhood school located East of I-95 in the North Central area of Hollywood, Florida. Students who complete 5th grade at Oakridge Elementary School are zoned for Olsen or Attucks Middle Schools. The neighborhood consists of middle to low income single-family homes, duplexes and rental apartments with little commercial activity.

In the last three years, Oakridge Elementary has experienced many changes. Our enrollment has increased by approximately 5%. The increase can be attributed to a change in leadership and improved instructional practices with a focus on customer service. Additionally, the socioeconomic status of the neighborhood has changed. We have increased from 80% free and reduced lunch to 92%. We have a student mobility rate of approximately 45%, which presents a challenge in making gains in student growth. There has also been a substantial increase in parent involvement. We recently reinstated our P.T.A. and are focused on increasing parental involvement in every classroom. Oakridge Elementary recently elected to become a unified dress code school.

Currently, 503 students are enrolled in grades Pre-K through 5th Grade including three ASD classes, Voluntary PreKindergarten funded through Title I, an Intensive PreK, and 2 Pre-K ESE classes. Of these students 9% are White, <1% are Asian, 39% are Black, 0% are American Indian/Alaskan Native, 47% are Hispanic and 5% are Multi-Ethnic. Our students come from single-family homes, duplexes and apartment homes. 26% of our students are in the ESE program, and 15% of our students are English Language Learners.

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 of Oakridge Elementary is to develop an effective learning environment through strong relationships between teachers, staff, students, parents, business partners and members of the community. We believe that all students can learn in a safe, standards-driven, technologically advancing, culturally diverse school.

The vision of Oakridge Elementary is to build a partnership between our parents and school through positive communication. We have a vision that teachers have a responsibility to provide a framework for parents to nurture their child's formal instruction at home. It is also our vision to provide an atmosphere where parents are able to express their views and to assist in problem solving.

We believe that a partnership must exist between our parents and school. We promote positive communication between the school and our students' homes. We provide a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in activities that support our school. We believe teachers have a responsibility to provide a framework for parents to nurture their child's formal instruction at home. We provide materials and strategies that can successfully be used at home to reinforce the academic success of children. It is our goal to provide an atmosphere where parents are able to express their views and to assist in problem solving in an open and positive climate at school. We want parents to understand that we value them as stakeholders and emphasize their roles as advocates.

We are continually looking to build a mutually beneficial partnership with local businesses to enhance our school, community and businesses. Their participation is encouraged in our school by interacting with our students through programs such as Career Day, KAPOW, and the Latinos in Action program. Business leaders are invited to become members of our SAC and attend our monthly SAC meetings. All our partners are listed on our school website and included in our monthly newsletters.

Students share their personal experience, family interests, and culture at the beginning of the school year through ice breaking/getting to know you activities. Throughout the school year teachers participate in monthly cultural awareness programs, such as Hispanic Heritage, and Black History Month. During these times students and teachers can present and share cultural experiences.

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.

Notable achievements that have occurred in the last three years include the addition of an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) special program, which serves students with autism from within the school's boundaries. We have added a Science Coach and maintain a Literacy Coach and Math Coach on staff in order to further the training and development of our teachers, and the academic achievement of our students.

In addition the City of Hollywood has provided us with the periodic services of a School Resource Officer who promotes a positive relationship between students and local law enforcement, as well as an extra layer of security for our school community. He currently services multiple schools in our area.

During the next 3 years we strive to increase parental involvement as well as increasing our enrollment. We are working with the community to also increase their involvement and knowledge of the needs of our school family. Working together with the parents, community and hardworking teachers we also strive to show great gains and progress in all areas of academics.

We have increased the integration and use of technology for instruction by purchasing enough laptops for every single one of our teachers, 1:1 in first through 5th grade, and a Recordex for all teachers in grades 3 through 5. Teachers use technology to provide high quality instruction, assess students, progress monitor, and provide enrichment/remediation opportunities. This affords students 24/7 learning. Teachers participated in professional development, making Oakridge Elementary a 21st Century Learning School in 2016-2017.

Additional Information

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

We are continually looking to build a mutually beneficial partnership with local businesses to enhance our school, community and businesses. Their participation is encouraged in our school by interacting with our students through programs such as Latinos in Action and Hispanic Unity (Family Strengthening Program). Business leaders are invited to become members of our SAC and attend our monthly SAC meetings. All our partners are listed on our school website and included in our monthly newsletters.