

**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?

Nova High School, located in Davie, Florida, proudly serves 2,182 students from all communities in Broward County. Nova High School is part of the Nova Zone that is made up of a zone of schools ranging from Elementary to High School, which include Nova Blanche Forum Elementary, Nova Eisenhower Elementary, Nova Middle School and Nova High School. Nova High School is a traditional public high school, and like all schools in the Nova Zone, it obtains its student population through a random district lottery. Students accepted into a Nova School may remain within the Nova Zone until graduation. We had about 2,000 applications submitted to the district for the 2017-2018 school year. Nova High School accepted approximately 275 of submitted applications through a random lottery to fill available vacancies for the 2018-2019 school year. One of the most challenging aspects of Nova High School is that we serve an entire county rather than a specific community or neighborhood. About 75% of our student population ride one of the 100 Nova High School busses that transport students to and from school from all over the county. This can range from as far north as Deerfield Beach to as far south as Hollywood and from as far east as the beaches and as far west as Port Everglades. It is possible for students to be on a school bus for over an hour in transit to and from school every day. In the last three years, our school has had an overall increase in the enrollment of minority students. Within the special programs, the ESOL population has decreased and the ESE population has grown from 7% to 12% in 2017-2018 school year. Nova High School’s student population consists of 50% Black, 17% White, 22% Hispanic, 5% Asian and 4% Multi Racial. Nova High School has a total of 66% of students on free or reduced lunch status.

Nova High School’s staff consists of a total of 102 total instructional personnel. There are 4 administrators, 3 females and 1 male, who loop with their students throughout high school until graduation.

**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.

Broward County Public Schools offers a variety of learning opportunities to meet the needs of all students. Exceptional Student Education (ESE) programs meet the needs of gifted and special needs students. ESOL programs (English Speakers of Other Languages) meet the needs of the District’s diverse student population. The Nova School system is unique because two elementary schools, a middle school and a high school work together, on a shared complex, to educate our students. The mission of Nova Schools is to train pre-service and experienced educators to teach our culturally diverse student population to be literate, productive citizens, using a seamless K-12 curriculum, in collaboration with parents, the community, and partners in higher education. At Nova High School, this mission is accomplished through providing a wide variety of rigorous courses, including a combination of over 75 Advanced Placement and Honors courses, as well as offerings in a variety of Career/Technical Education programs. Personalization is at the foundation of any successful high school experience, and Nova High School will continue to embed that culture into our school community. Although we will always value structure and discipline in creating a safe school environment, students need to be viewed as people, not numbers, and providing constant affirmation for them is paramount to their social success. Furthermore, various clubs/organizations and sports teams exist, allowing every student, with any interest, to find a place at Nova High School. At Nova High School, it’s cool to be smart, and a healthy competitiveness exists amongst students. Our students understand the high expectations we place upon them, and we teach them to “raise the bar” for themselves.

**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.

Nova High School has maintained an "A" status for the past eleven years. Our graduation rate is currently at 98%, a three percentage increase from 2016-2017 school year and the highest in the district amongst traditional high schools. We are ranked number five in the Statewide Top Quartile percentages for the Florida Standards Assessment with a 10% increase in proficiency from 2016-2017, of the traditional high schools in the district and had tremendous growth in Mathematics with a 20% overall increase in proficiency and a 29% increase in learning gains and a 28% in learning gains of our lowest 25%. This year we had 93% of our junior class take the PSAT in October. Nova High School's Debate Team is currently #1 in the country. We have ranked in the TOP 5 schools in the country over the past decade. Our debate students have competed at Berkley, Harvard, and in the Bronx, Chicago, Atlanta, and New Orleans. Nova High has a mentoring program called Mentoring Tomorrow’s Leaders that has grown to over 250 students. This is the largest MTL program in the district and continues to provide not only mentorship throughout our minority males, but also provides scholarship opportunities for many of our students.

Nova Band has continued its dominance in the Marching Arts, winning or placing high in every marching competition that they competed in. The Nova Wind Ensemble received its first Superior Rating at FBA in 20 years last year. Nova High School has highly recognized interscholastic programs including Rocketry and Robotics where we have teamed up with Nova Elementary School to facilitate and encourage female participation in the engineering field at an early adolescent age.

[**Additional**](http://www.advanc-ed.org/assist/s/diagnostic/section/view?surveyId=1147697&sectionId=265) **Information**

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

Nova High School is a unique learning environment where it is cool to be smart and students strive to be the best in their class. The teaching staff is dedicated, highly qualified, and strives for continuous improvement within their curriculum. Our staff elected for 8 Professional Study Days, in conjunction with common planning periods, that allows for continuous improvement in developing strategies to help students attain mastery in content area standards. On Professional Study Days, students are released from school at 12:30PM while the staff focusses on professional development until 4:20PM. Teachers create goals within the Professional Learning Communities and common planning that are data driven and continuously monitored. The focus of Professional Study Days includes the CARE process and creating focused and authentic professional learning communities. Some examples of our focus on professional development include common assessments and pacing, vertical teaming, scaling up BEST practices and data analysis. Teachers are assigned to professional development teams. Some team groupings include American History End of Course, Advanced Placement vertical teaming, 9th grade transition, 9th and 10th grade English Language and Reading, Geometry, Algebra I and II, Industry Certification and supporting English Language and Reading in the electives. Continuing to implement Professional Study Days throughout the 2017-2018 school year will provide teachers with the opportunity to continue realigning their curriculum, collaborating on best practices, learning how to apply technology to better suit the needs of their students, and continue creating strategies that will aid in the increase of proficiency levels, based on the state standardized assessments.

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Nova High School prides itself on remedial programs offered to students during the school day as well as after school programs. Nova’s Titans CARE program allows for low level reading and math students to attend remedial pullout programs during their personalization or elective classes throughout the school year. Students are pulled out of their personalization or elective courses one to two times per week to attend this program. Students receive credit in their elective courses for attending and participating successfully. Reading and Math remedial pullout begins in January. The use of several advanced technology based instructional programs have been adopted which assess, monitor and adjust curriculum to meet the needs of each individual student through their instructional growth

In addition, we offer a Saturday Academy program that buses in Nova High School students from all over the district to provide additional support in all areas of assessment: ELA, EOCs, SAT and ACT. This is to support student performance on standardized tests. Saturday Academy is an extended learning preparatory program for all students. In the academy, students will work with our highly qualified teachers who utilize high yield instructional strategies to reinforce the skills needed to be successful on various standardized assessments. We are committed to helping Nova students become college and career ready. Bus transportation is offered to accommodate students who may not have access to transportation on Saturdays. There are several bus depots around the county where students can attend the fifteen Saturday Academy sessions from 8:30AM-12:00PM throughout the school year.

In addition to offering remediation, we have teamed up with Nova Middle School and created a vertical teaming program where we align standards between Math and Science in hopes to better prepare students entering the rigors of high school. Curriculum leaders within each department meet to discuss curriculum and align standard based instruction to meet the needs of the transitional period from middle to high school. During the collaboration sessions, the gaps in learning within each curriculum are identified and curriculum is adjusted.

Nova High School has received recent technology upgrades and has doubled the number of laptops available per student. With these improvements, teachers have been able to modify instruction to infuse technology into the daily classroom instruction. Students are being exposed to an extensive amount of technology driven instructional resources. Each department submits a technology integration plan to administration that focuses on the student growth.