

## **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/community the school serves:

Nova Blanche Forman (NBF) has 769 students and is a lottery/choice school located in Davie Florida. Students come from all over Broward County to attend. Nova Blanche Forman's demographics are: 23.1% White, 45.9% African American, 20.9% Hispanic, 5.59% Asian, and .13% Native American/American Indian. The staff demographics are as follows: 60% White, 15% African American, 20% Hispanic, and 5% Asian and Native American/American Indian

Nova Blanche Forman is part of the Nova Zone.

Nova Schools are a K-12 national model which promotes a high quality instruction for all students. The Nova Schools are charged with researching, identifying, and implementing best practices in teaching literacy that promotes maximum student achievement. They embrace continuous progress, authentic assessment, mentoring, and personalization, as well as provide opportunities for all students to succeed by creating a positive learning environment. Each year there is a lottery window to apply to the Nova Schools. Nova applications for the **2016-17 school year** will be accepted from **December 1, 2015 until February 10, 2016**. Applications received after the **February 10, 2016 deadline** will be considered late and will not be processed.

The major change that Nova Blanche Forman has experienced over the past three years was the transition from The Florida New Generation Sunshine State Standards to the more rigorous Florida Standards. Both teachers and students had to learn the new standards.

The Nova student body is unique because it is not a neighborhood school. Students come from throughout Broward County. At times it can be a challenge having families attend after school events.

NBF is a Title 1 school.

### **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.

Nova Blanche Forman's Mission is to teach our culturally diverse student population to become literate, productive citizens who integrate technology into their daily lives. Nova Blanche Forman's Vision is to be an innovative technological center maximizing student potential in a positive learning environment. Nova Blanche Forman embodies its purpose through programs that we offer such as: Digital 5, all grade levels using instructional learning systems, all classrooms having document cameras and SMART Boards, and all grade levels using technology on a daily basis. Students at Nova Blanche Forman are "Digital Natives". Technology is integrated throughout the school day. It is a tool for students and teachers to use in order to learn. Our students are 21<sup>st</sup> century technology learners. Each teacher differentiates instruction to meet the needs of all learners. This is done through project based learning, ability grouping, and providing Tier 1,2, and 3 interventions targeting areas of need. Students are provided additional research based instruction targeting their area of weakness. Their progress is monitored weekly and reviewed every 4-8 weeks in order to make any adjustments. Additionally, Nova Blanche Forman offers extended learning opportunities through our "Primary Reading Camp" to ANY level primary student that would like to attend. We are proactive and believe that early intervention is key to student success. As a result more students perform on or above grade level.

Some of Nova Blanche Forman Elementary school's notable achievements from the past three years are: In 2012-2013 we were awarded as an "Apple Distinguished School". This is a national award given to only 50 schools. We received this award for our innovative use of technology throughout the school setting including but not limited to: students using iPads, iPods, Smart Boards and computers daily, students creating projects and presentations, and students using technology resources for enrichment, and remediation. Nova Blanche Forman has created a partnership with The University of Miami. As a result of this partnership NBF is part of the Robotics /STEM TREES grant from the National Science Foundation. This is part of a grant with the University of Miami for \$300,000.00. This grant enabled Nova Blanche Forman to have their own Robot. Fifth grade students learn coding and program the robot to complete different movements and actions. Areas of improvement that NBF is striving to achieve within the next three years would be to close the achievement gap between different races and socioeconomic groups in the areas of English Language Arts and Mathematics. We chose this area based on state and school data.

### **Additional Information**

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

Nova Blanche Forman Elementary is **in the top 30% of Florida elementary schools** based on how the student body performed on statewide reading and math assessments. Please note that the State Department of Education for Florida sets the standard for what is considered a proficient score on each of these subject area exams.

**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