



Executive Summary

Deerfield Beach 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?

Deerfield Beach High School is located in the diverse community of Deerfield Beach, Florida. We are proud to be a school that has something for everyone, and our extremely diverse student population is a clear indication that we draw students from all walks of life. Our school has 2,380 students, of which 72% qualify for free and reduced lunch. Our racial demographics are 49% Black/African American, 23% Hispanic, 22% White, 3% Asian, and 3% multi-racial. Our school has the second highest high school English language learner population in Broward County, with over 240 ESOL students. Our community is home to a vibrant and growing Haitian and Brazilian immigrant population. We serve a variety of international students who represent more than 12 nationalities and languages. Our school also serves a large population of students with disabilities, with 252 students with varying exceptionalities.

The staff at Deerfield Beach High School is also diverse and international. We have teachers, custodians, clerical, security, cafeteria, and maintenance staff from many countries. DBHS staff members work together as a team to support the growth and development of our student body. Several of our support staff also serve as coaches for sports teams including soccer and swimming, as well as serving as mentors for students needing additional guidance. We have a number of nationally board certified teachers, and many teachers with advanced degrees and certifications.

Deerfield Beach High School works diligently to maintain excellent working relationships with the community and our business partners in order to provide our students with a high school experience that meets all of their academic and social needs. Local businesses make donations that help us offer incentive programs for increased student achievement. Community members have worked to beautify the area around the school, adding landscaping and a memorial to the school. They also collaborated with city officials to re-name the street that the school sits on to "Buck Pride Way" as a celebration of our school mascot, the Deerfield Beach Bucks, and to increase school spirit. Partners from the community also offer mentorship through programs such as "Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders".

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 Deerfield Beach High School is to provide our students the best education in a safe and positive environment, conducive to their social, emotional, and academic growth. We believe that educating students is teaching students HOW to learn. In providing students with thinking and learning skills, we enable them to become productive, self-sufficient, and responsible citizens. Deerfield Beach High School is fortunate to have students diverse in ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds. We believe that composition of our student body provides an excellent resource to teach an appreciation for differences of people within a spirit of cooperation. We believe that education must address the "whole person", that the social, intellectual, and physical needs cannot be separated. This holistic approach to education results in an integrated curriculum rich in knowledge and experiences.

Deerfield Beach offers many programs and activities that embody the mission of providing for the "whole child". We have 3 magnet programs drawing students from all over Northern Broward County. The International Baccalaureate program is a rigorous college preparatory curriculum with high standards, and is designed to promote international awareness and understanding, tolerance, and compassion, making IB students responsible citizens and leaders. Our IB students become engaged critical thinkers and lifelong learners. 100% of our students who graduate with an IB diploma go on to attend a 4 -year university, and many earn scholarships to do so.

Our Communications and Broadcasting Magnet program focuses on the many methods employed in the communications of ideas including text, graphics, audio, and video. Students enjoy the use of a professional on-campus television studio, state of the art recording studios, remote cameras, nonlinear video editing, digital video and still cameras, and a comprehensive computer graphics and web design lab to complete academic and extracurricular projects.

Our Urban Teacher and Leadership Academy provides a rigorous curriculum and extensive field experience to prepare highly qualified candidates to enter the teaching profession. Students are given actual "hands-on" opportunities to teach primary or secondary school students under the leadership of experienced teachers. Students also participate in Big Brothers, Big Sisters program, and learn how to give back to the community.

Deerfield's extensive AP Program offers 24 AP courses, and has just added the prestigious AP capstone program to our offerings. Students also take Dual enrollment courses through our partnerships with local colleges and technical schools.

In addition to our magnet and AP courses, we also offer 9 Cape Academies through which students can earn industry certifications. We have award-winning programs in TV Production, Digital Media/Multimedia Design, Marketing Management, Allied Health Assisting, Culinary Arts, Finance, Digital Design, Digital Video Production, and Electronic Business Enterprise. Through our Linking Education & Employment Outcomes (L.E.E.O.) Program, students practice soft skills in a project based learning environment through the CAPE academies. They earn industry certifications and work with faculty mentors from Broward College. Experiences are designed to prepare them for internships, college, and careers in the real world.

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.

Deerfield Beach High School has been an "A" for the last 2 out of 3 years. We are particularly proud of our Biology EOC scores, as they improved from 52% to 61% proficiency over the last 3 years. We attribute this performance increase to implementing the CARE cycle, where teachers met to analyze trend data regarding student performance on specific biology standards on common formative assessments, and then work together to design and implement curriculum intended to provide remediation of skills and enrichment of content.

We also do very well in the area of accelerated coursework performance. 70% of our graduating seniors last year took and passed an AP course, dual enrollment course, IB exam, and/or an industry certification exam. These rigorous courses enable our students to be competitive in a global job market.

Our Urban Teacher academy increased its enrollment from 30 students to 100 students this year, and added an additional teacher to the program. The plans for growth over the next 3 years for the magnet program include increasing the enrollment further to 200 students. We are in the application stage of being able to incorporate a CAPE academy into this series of courses, where students will also be earning industry certifications in the Microsoft Office Suite, which will help them further their careers in education and leadership. Finally, this dynamic program will be expanding to offer dual enrollment university level courses in education. Student will earn college level credit for these courses, further preparing them for success in college and beyond.

Our school is investing considerable resources into our literacy programs as well in order to foster greater achievement in that area. We have purchased the Achieve 3000 program for all students in the reading department. We have also worked to align curriculum in literacy and content areas so that students receive reading strategy instruction, critical thinking skills, and enrichment opportunities throughout the day that support their literacy growth.

Additional Information

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

Deerfield Beach High School not only offers a rigorous academic program, but our extracurricular program is dynamic as well. We are particularly proud of the diversity and accomplishments of our athletics department. DBHS is committed to the values taught by athletic competition. Sportsmanship, self-discipline, and perseverance are learned through interscholastic sports. Most importantly, Deerfield Beach's athletic teams provide an opportunity for students from diverse backgrounds to learn the value of teamwork, cooperation, and mutual respect. We offer 25 sports teams throughout the year. We have had many athlete alumni sign acceptance letters with major colleges, and go on to play college sports, and even go on to play sports professionally.

Mentoring programs at our school are also a key component of teaching the whole child. At DBHS, personalizing the high school experience is paramount. We know that students thrive when they have a caring, supportive relationship with an adult on our campus. Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders (MTL) and Investing in Women of the Future (IWF) are important facets of our mentoring program. Through MTL and IWF, our young men and women have an opportunity to bond with at least one caring and consistent adult, and develop older students as leaders and peer mentors who become role models on our campus.

Through our partnership with the 21st Century YMCA Afterschool and summer program, our students are able to participate in more than 15 academic and enrichment components Monday through Friday from 2:30 to 5:00. Free daily dinner and transportation is provided for students in the program. The program also serves more than 200 students during the summer months as well, providing academic enrichment, course recovery, and physical recreation throughout the program.

DBHS has also more than 50 Clubs & Extra Curricular Programs that meet after school each week. Ranging from Crochet club, Yu-Gi-Oh club, & Chess club to JROTC, Debate club, and Coding Club. Our SECME club is an award winning science and technology group. They won first place in the state's drone competition last year. Many members of our talented and diverse student body have won awards through their clubs and activities. We are also the only school in the county that offers a 4-year Japanese language program in addition to Spanish and French. Our students earn top awards each year at the county's language competitions as well.