

Executive Summary

Hollywood Park 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?

Hollywood Park Elementary is located in Hollywood, Florida and has a diverse student population composed of 6% White, 29% Black/African American, 54% Hispanic, 4% Multi-Racial, 6% Asian, and 1% Native American or Native Indian. Our total enrollment is 525 students of which 268 are boys and 257 are girls. We are a neighborhood school and we make up one of five elementary schools in the McArthur Innovation Zone. The majority of our students live within a two mile radius. Hollywood Park Elementary is a cluster site for children with intellectual disabilities. We have six cluster classrooms for these students and four Pre-K classrooms. The Pre-K program consists of three full-time programs and one part-time program. These students have a range of eligibilities including developmental delay, speech and language disorders, and autism.

Hollywood Park Elementary has 80 staff members. We have 27 classroom teachers and six Exceptional Student Education (ESE) teachers. There are 10 educational support professionals to assist in our ESE program. We have one of each of the following: a Literacy Coach, Guidance Counselor, ESE Specialist, and a Math Resource Teacher. We also have one full-time and one part-time Speech Pathologist, and one full-time and part-time ESE Support Facilitator. In the past year, we have hired one first-year classroom teachers.

Some of the changes experienced over the last three years include an increase in enrollment of Hispanic students, as well as African-American students. One of the challenges with having a large Hispanic population is the language barrier between parents and staff. One of the other challenges is economic hardship within the community. Parents work long hours and have difficulty attending school events.

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.

Hollywood Park Elementary School's purpose is to provide an environment that is conducive to collaboration and reflection in order for all students to thrive in a global society. Students in all grade levels work in groups to practice both connotative and cognitive skills. Students use traditional and electronic resources to research topics and create presentations for their class, as well as to complete project-based inquiry and investigations. Teachers use rubrics to provide student feedback, including group skills. Students are also working on computer science sills such as coding; students take turns being the "driver" and the "navigator".

In keeping with our school mascot of a panther, we use the acronym FAST like a panther. We created a school pledge which includes the school wide expectations:

- Follow directions the first time they are given,
- Always show respect,
- Stay on task, and
- Take responsibility for my actions.

We believe that each child should have every opportunity to make growth, therefore we provide additional instruction in the form of extended learning opportunities to include: a before-school intervention club, after-school Language Enrichment Camps (LEC) for our English Language Learners (ELL), and Reading and Math after-school tutoring. We also offer a Science Club and a Math Club. Our music teacher meets with our school chorus and coordinates several performances each year. Fifth-grade safety patrols act as role models for our students and help maintain safety in the school. In addition, they escort students with special needs to their classrooms. We also have a Student Government club that assists is different drives throughout the year, such as the Harvest Driver for Thanksgiving. We are working towards 21st century skills and have Digital 3-5 classrooms, where every child has a laptop. This allows them to access programs such as Canvas, and programs like Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and OneNote on Office365.

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.

Hollywood Park Elementary School has had many notable achievements over the last three years. Among those is the receiving of several grants such as the Edible Garden grant which includes a butterfly garden. In addition, our teachers are very proactive in applying for Donors Choose grants to help fund special projects in their classroom such as technology equipment and literary materials. We have also been part of the pilot programs for Digital 5, Reflex Math, and i-Ready.

Most recently, as measured by the 2016 Florida Standards Assessment, our school ranked in the 94th percentile for Broward County, as measured by the Value Added Model (VAM). In 2015-2016, our third-grade students scored at 57% proficient in reading. Although we have made learning gains, our intermediate students are still below 50% for grade level proficiency. This is an area that we are working to improve by strengthening Tier 1 instruction. We are concentrating our efforts in the primary grades to achieve proficiency before third grade, thus reducing the number of students requiring Tier 2 and Tier 3 instruction.

In the past two years, Hollywood Park Elementary has had two teachers be selected as a semi-finalist and finalist for the Caliber Teacher of the Year Awards. In addition, our school has partnered with the Hollywood Police department this year to match police mentors with our atrisk students. This partnership has resulted in a reduction of behavioral referrals for these students. The Hollywood Police department was named the mentoring program of the year at the 2015-16 community involvement awards ceremony.

We have a working Discipline Committee that meets once a quarter to create and review the school wide positive behavior plan. Last year, school-wide referrals decreased by 300 percent.

Additional Information

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

Hollywood Park is dedicated to increasing parental involvement and communication within the community. In an effort to reach all parents, we send home all flyers in English and Spanish. Our regular automated messages regarding school events are also sent in the student's home language.

We offer parent meetings at a variety of times throughout the year to accommodate parents' schedules. Translation is available when the presentation is in English. We send home multiple reminders for upcoming events to maximize attendance. We have started to market our school through the website and social media to reach more stakeholders.

Instructional Staff are part of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) that meet once a week and focus on unwrapping standards, creating goals and scales, planning instruction, looking at data, and planning for remediation and enrichment.

Hollywood Park Elementary offers the YMCA program on site as an after care provider to one hundred of our general education and special education students. The YMCA employs our teachers and educational support professionals. The program includes assistance for students with homework, on site field trips, fitness programs, and family involvement opportunities.