Executive Summary

Horizon Elementary School

Broward County Public Schools

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2102 Pine Island Road Sunrise, Florida 33434

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Description of the School

Horizon Elementary School has 592 children in grades Pre-K-5. Additionally we have 5 autistic clusters serving children in grades K-5 and 4 Pre-K classes with 3-4 old who have behavior and developmental needs. Horizon also has a VPK program servicing 20 students.

Our ELL population for the 2018-2019 is 106 students.

Our student population receiving free or reduced lunch has increased to 80% for the 2018-2019 school year.

Our 2018-2019 student demographics include:

# **Black**

Pre-K 5% Kindergarten - Grade I – 7% Grade 2- 9% Grade 3 — 8% Grade 4- 11% Grade 5 -9% with a total 55%

**Hispanic**

Pre-K - 3% Kindergarten – 3% Grade I -4% Grade 2 - 4% Grade 3 - 3% Grade 4 - 4% Grade 5- 4% with a total of 27%

**White**

Pre-K - 1% Kindergarten - 1% Grade I - 2% Grade 2 - 1% Grade 3 - 2% Grade 4 - 2% Grade 5 - 1% for a total of 9%

45% of the school Pre-K to 5th grade is female and 55% is male.

Teacher demographics include 47 instructional personnel and 33 non-instructional personnel, with a total number of 80 staff members. We have very little turnover in staff. 42% of our instructional staff have advanced degrees and 58% have bachelor degrees. 89% of our teachers are infield.

The school is located at 2101 Pine Island Road in Sunrise, Florida. Children attend from the communities of Sunrise and Plantation unless on reassignment. Our community is primarily 85% single family/parent homes and 15% multi - family community complexes.

Horizon is a neighborhood school, with all of our students walking to school with the exception of our ESE students and their general education siblings who are eligible for buses.

We are a school of choice with a majority of our choice students taking advantage of this opportunity from the schools in Lauderhill, Florida.

We have an active city Mayor who is the chief supporter and leader in the First Move Chess Program. Sunrise, Florida is the Chess City of America, with all of our second and third graders actively learning and playing chess. This has now spring boarded to the rest of Broward County Public Schools. Our school has an active chess club and twice a month competes with middle school students through our after - care program. We also have a chorus for third through fifth grades who meet twice weekly. We provide an after - care program for Horizon students. After - care provides several programs such as hula hoopers and a Diva dance team. Since Horizon began its own after - care program in 2013, it has grown from 70 students to 120 students. Horizon's safety patrol consists of responsible 5th graders and our Student Council is facilitated by one of our classroom teachers.

McDonalds is an active partner that supports our monthly Character Education and Student of the Month Programs. Cluster students are mainstreamed and included in all school wide activities.

Unique challenges of the school include the rise in free and reduced lunch students, our ever - increasing Al and A2 population of ELL students, limited parental involvement in education beyond the classroom, and a transient population. Horizon has 25% of all incoming kindergarten students who are not ready for the rigors of school, based on the FLKRS. This state test assesses personal & social development, language & literacy backgrounds, mathematical & scientific thinking, physical development, and health & safety.

In addition, other challenges we face as a school is the lack of adequate updated technology to meet the changing needs of our school and the community to affordably put the internet into every child's hands.

**School's Purpose**

Our Horizon Mission statement is: Every Child, Every Day, No Matter What It Takes. Horizon's vision is to: Encourage, Educate, and Excel.

The philosophy at Horizon is: We, the faculty of Horizon believe in the worth and the dignity of each individual. Each child should have the opportunity to obtain the best education that can be provided. We value the uniqueness of each child.

Learning is a personal and continuous experience. Therefore, it is the responsibility and duty of every faculty and staff member at our school to accomplish the following objectives:

1. To prepare all students for college and career to compete in a global society. 2. To develop a closer relationship between home and school, so that parents and teachers cooperate and help facilitate the growth of the child.

1. To promote the continual development of the basic tools and skills necessary for functioning in today's society.
2. To promote intellectual curiosity and critical thinking in each child.
3. To help each child establish positive habits and attitudes that result in good health and growth.
4. To promote good citizenship, develop pride and loyalty in our community and school.

Horizon boasts a high achieving/gifted class at every grade level including kindergarten. We have 7 certified gifted teachers on staff. Horizon created an assessment that helps identify and place incoming kindergarten students.

In 2010 Horizon added I intensive Pre-K class that met the needs of 2 students. Our Pre-K program currently has 34 students that are grouped according to their IEP to serve their needs in specialized intensive and behavior classes. The growth is due to the commitment and expertise of the teachers who serve these students. It is also due to our Administrators focus and commitment to our most challenging of students. In 2015, Horizon showed the greatest growth of any cluster program available in Broward County. Other elementary school programs were terminated and one was relocated to Horizon. This includes the YMCA after - care program, servicing autistic students. The commitment continues as our program flourishes and student needs are met. Our success is also measured by the continuous collaboration between ESE teachers and general education teachers. This helps us maintain and enhance the inclusion model where our cluster students are integrated into the general education classes on a continual basis.

A rare opportunity for high achieving Horizon 4th and 5th graders in the area of math is to attend Bair Middle School, once a week for the school year to receive additional advanced math education. The course is taught by a 6th grade GEM Math teacher.

Horizon has high expectations for our student achievement as evidenced by our outstanding RTI team. Our principal's philosophy reflects that a student who does not maintain a C or better average is automatically referred to the RTI process. Parents are invited to RTI meetings to provide updates, modifications and changes. Our RTI team has been showcased as a model for the County.

Horizon utilizes our diverse community to help us lead the way to provide a variety of outreach programs for our students and families. This includes: Free Piper High School counseling

Chrysalis Counseling

Volunteer listeners

Anti-bullying program

SEL, Harmony and LEAPS Lessons

In-house classroom, small group and individual counseling

Horizon Elementary faculty, staff, and administrators are dedicated to the well being of students and their families. Outside agencies are recommended when needed and we provide parents with many avenues of assistance beyond education.

**Areas of Achievement and Areas of Improvement**

The Lowest Quartile in ELA and Math is an area we would like to improve for the 2018-2019 school year. Only 43% students who fell in the lowest quartile in ELA and 45% of students who fell in the lowest quartile in math demonstrated a learning gain as measured on the 2017-2018 FSA.

Teachers at Horizon promote a love of reading and enhance our reading scores by incorporating the use of our reading resource room, trade books and novels to supplement the basal series. Most of the trade books, novels and periodicals used are informational text and have a social studies or science theme. All grade levels use the Lucy Calkins writing program that aligns with the Florida State Standards. Our Oasis reading room also supports our endeavors to promote a haven for increasing literacy through family involvement in a cozy setting. To increase student achievement our teachers are provided ancillary materials in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency and comprehension to include LAFS, Road to the Code, Great Leaps, Quick Reads and Super QAR and LLI that are critical intervention programs to the RTI process to help fill academic gaps identified by the data shared at RTI meetings.

All primary students in grades K-3rd are progress monitored quarterly using the BAS-Benchmark Assessment System. Our 4th and 5th grade students that are struggling are progress monitored frequently so that academic remediation programs can be discussed, individualized and initiated.

Horizon has analyzed and customized our approach to student achievement by carefully reviewing and examining data, involving stakeholders and students to implement inclusion of the following programs: science rotations occur in grades K5 on a quarterly basis by providing a hands on approach to science. Our PLCs are evolving to focus on student work and data with meetings attended by our administrators. Teachers are encouraged to create a classroom environment that functions with a fluid like setting that acknowledges flexibility while monitoring progress.

Our goals for growth during the next three years include:

•All classrooms will have a computer cart

•Increase parental involvement in school activities and academics

•Increase after - care enrollment to 150 students

•Increase teacher and staff effectiveness through vertical and horizontal dialogue and teaming

•Decrease the number of RTI referrals and enrollment in pullout ESE classes through the implementation of tier 2 programs for struggling students

•To continue purchasing the most researched based resources available for our students in all academic areas

•To increase our outreach for community resources to help our students and their families

•To continue to attract and hire the most professional, competent, committed teachers and staff for our school

•Teachers will become more competent and comfortable with the Florida Standards rigor and text complexity for their students

•Decrease the number of students who are habitually (5 days or more) tardy or absent

•Increase FSA achievement levels 3 and above for students in grades 3-5 to reflect the following:

**Additional Information**

The administrators meet and greet all incoming students. The IMT reviews the "L" panel to investigate student demographics and school records before a student enters. If there are any concerns the student is immediately referred to the RTI team. The literacy coach and administrators discuss the placement of all incoming students. If testing is required the literacy coach will evaluate the student data to ensure a compatible environment. Incoming autistic, pull out ESE and Pre-K students are brought to the ESE specialist's attention immediately and class placement is dependent upon the review of pertinent student records.

Our ESE Support Facilitator facilitates a morning math group for all 5th graders in need of additional assistance. The 5th grade teachers provide the FSA questions for their daily sessions. Our Kindergarten - 4th graders spend the morning prior to school working on morning academics to include reading and math in the hallways of our school.

In our goal to meet the ever - changing needs of our community. We continue to encourage and support the efforts of a PTA that is dedicated to Horizon. Our PTA has created incentive programs that build character and a sense of community.

They provide:

Prizes for students that are box top winners

Collect soda tabs to benefit the Ronald McDonald House

Collect for the Fall Harvest Drive

Pennies for Patients

Jump Rope for Heart

Book drives through Book Fairs that create expanded classroom libraries Participation and support of national and local fundraisers that promote the acquisition of additional materials and incentives for Horizon

Our physical location is adjacent to Bair Middle School and that creates opportunities to continue to scaffold our students and their families long after they leave Horizon. Several Bair students in grades 6 - 8 assist in the mornings by helping teachers and students in the classroom. Through volunteering the Bair students are eligible for Junior Honors Society membership at their school.

We participate in the America Reads and Counts programs. These are federally funded and provide college students with income affording them the opportunity to tutor one on one Horizon students in grades 1 -5 with reading and math.

Horizon's special area teachers have been trained by our literacy coach and are included in our goal to provide additional small group interventions for our Kindergarten students.

Administrators at Horizon have created a "lunch bunch" to support students who will benefit from the recognition and personal attention to succeed in a relaxed informal setting.

We hope that we have created a living montage for you to feel the culture of caring and support we have built at Horizon. Our teachers, staff, and administrators team with our community to create a safety net where we embody our mission statement:

"Every Child, Every Day, Whatever It Takes"