

## **Executive Summary**

# **Bair Middle School**

### **Broward County Public Schools**

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Document Generated On September 26, 2017

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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?

Bair Middle School first opened its doors for the 1974-1975. Named after teacher, truant officer and textbook coordinator Russell O. Bair. He retired in 1966 after 36 years with Broward County Schools. For years he provided free theater tickets to students with perfect attendance the current principal, Mr. James McDermott in his third year at the school. He is the 8th principal since the school opened 40 years ago.

Bair Middle School is located at 9100 NW 21st Manor Sunrise, FL 33322. Since opening the school's population has changed over time to match the community demographics. As of 2000 the City of Sunrise was 84,439. As of 2000, speakers of English as a first language accounted for 71.92%, while Spanish was 16.75%, French Creole was at 2.53%, Yiddish at 1.14%, Portugese at 1.01%, Italian at 0.84%, French at 0.83%, Hebrew at 0.61%, and Chinese at 0.59% of the population. To meet the diversity of the community Bair is continually monitoring the educational needs and providing curriculum that is diverse and challenging. Currently, the school has a student population of 885 students of varying backgrounds, needs, and abilities.

Bair Middle School is comprised of 281 6th graders, 277 7th graders and 327 8th graders (15-16). We are a Title 1 school with a minority rate of 71% and FRL rate of 79%. The current population breakdown of Bair Middle School consists of 50% male students, 50% female students, 62 % of students Black and/or African American, 9% Hispanic, 2% Asian, and 29% White. Twenty nine percent of the student population are monitored through the ESE program.

The staff at Bair Middle School are from diverse backgrounds. There are a total 0f 63 staff members and consists of 32% male, 68% female, 44% of Black and/or African American decent and 55% white.

#### 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 Bair Middle School is to provide rigorous academic instruction in a safe environment that embraces and meets the needs of our diverse population and enables our students to become productive, responsible citizens.

Bair Middle School will commit to academic excellence that supports mental rigor, encourages critical thinking, and teaches technological skills necessary to equip our diverse student population with tools to compete and succeed in the global economy of the 21st century. In addition to advanced course offerings, Bair Middle School has expansive innovative programs including JADA, LEEO, and STEM. These programs help prepare students for the rigor of College and Careers by providing accelerated educational opportunities.

Students are offered electives in Art, PE, Spanish, Band, Chorus, Peer Counseling, and Cadet Corps. Bair Middle School has successful volleyball, flag football, basketball, track, and soccer sports offerings for boys and girls. In addition, the school has a plethora of afterschool activities and clubs. The award winning Bair Friends Forever (BFF) Club gives students the opportunity to participate in community service projects that have included Relay for Life, nursing home visits, Kids in Distress, and ALS Walk. Other clubs include Chess Club, First Priority, Art, Future Teachers of America, Junior Honor Society, Academic Games, and Science Club (SECME).

#### 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.

In the 2013-2016 school years, Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) were implemented in science, writing, reading, and math. Students were selected for ELO based on Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) and Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) data and emerging benchmark data. Reading and math proficiency and learning gains for both the lowest quartile and all students increased. Additionally, the staff has developed a deeper understanding of the PLC process, data analysis, in designing instruction, remediation, and enrichment. This has resulted in increased student achievement on internal assessments.

Bair Middle School raised it school grade from a D grade to a B grade from 2013 to 2014. The success of Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) will continue to be implemented in the upcoming years. High risk students are given additional academic doses in math, reading, and/or science remediation. Their progress is monitored.

During the 2015-2016 school year, the school implemented scheduled Common Formative Assessments (CFAs) to monitor school's progress in a timely manner. These "CFAs" are put into effect to ensure fidelity with the FSA standards.

Bair Middle school was approved to be have a Montessori Magnet program beginning in the 2016-2017 school year. Over the next three years this program is intended to grow to provide Montessori education to all grade levels. This program will be committed to diversity in an educational environment of responsibility, mutual respect, and empathy. The program values individuals whose differences include, but are not limited to, age, ethnicity, family structure, gender, learning style, physical ability, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status. Fulfilling this mission is an ongoing process requiring active participation and frequent dialogue. In order to become intellectually curious and self-reliant, Montessori students must develop a strong academic foundation and critical thinking skills. The academic program is a classical liberal arts curriculum, adapted to the modern world, which emphasizes in-depth study within the daily context of Montessori tenets and values.

The LEEO program has been very successful at Bair Middle School and is attracting interested students. During the 2014-2015 school year the LEEO students had a 95% passing rate.

School guidance counselor, Evy Lenoff was nominated for the 2015/16 national LifeChanger of the Year award. Sponsored by the National Life Group Foundation, the LifeChanger of the Year program recognizes and rewards the very best K- 12 public and private school educators and employees across the United States, who are making a difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership. Each school year, the LifeChanger of the Year program receives hundreds of nominations. This year, a total of 16 winners will be chosen by the selection committee to receive cash awards that are split between the individual winner and their school. The national Grand Prize award is \$10,000. The top five winners will also be honored at a national awards ceremony. Winners will be announced in spring 2016. Nominated by a parent, Lenoff is a leader among her peers, encouraging those around her to strive for the best each day. She is supportive, understanding and sympathetic to the needs of the school and the community. Lenoff also makes it a top priority to stay informed about the latest trends, methodologies and strategies in education.

The BFF Club was originated by a teacher at Bair Middle School in 2014. In addition to the philanthropist activities listed above the club received a Certification of Recognition from the City of Sunrise in 2015. The Broward County School Board also recognized the club for its contribution to the City of Sunrise in 2015. In addition, it lead the way to Bair Middle School being the Top Fundraising Middle School to the 2014 Life and awarded the Bronze Fundraising award in 2015 for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. The BFF Club is the only school in Broward County to participate in the City of Sunrise Fire Department's Certified Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) with 18 students graduating and receiving Federal Emergency Management Agency certification.

The Art Club at Bair Middle School is a commitment to improving your personal artistic skills as well as participating in our schools art

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projects. The members represent the student body and work together on all projects that will enhance our school and talents. Club members have entered and won the "Lunch Poster" contest 1st, 2nd, 3rd place in the last years as well as the Sunrise "Chess" calendar contest. They also placed in the "Environmental conservation" poster contest as well as the "Drop Savers" calendar contest. In addition, the Art Club helped in creating the "Dare to Care" posters that adorn our hallways as well as the Peace Week posters, and Literacy Posters. Most recently they won the "Beautify the door" contest here at BAIR! They also attended a field trip to the NSU Museum of Art this year. During the last three years, the Bair Boys Soccer Team has steadily improved in their skills and performance. It has been especially exciting to see the student interest and turnouts, which has culminated in this year producing a superior soccer team for Bair Middle School. During the 2015-2016 school year, Bair played exceptionally well. In Fact, Bair Middle School Boys Soccer Team was the dominant team in the league this year. Bair Boys Soccer completed the season by winning the North area finals. Bair Boys Soccer Team played the South finalist, but unfortunately lost the district title. We are extremely proud and appreciative of the parental support that made this Bair Boys Soccer Team such a memorable year for our students. Kudos also goes to the coaches and students raised the spirit and encouraged the Bair Boys Soccer Team to achieving what has for so many years alluded our school.

With the addition of the Montessori program, course offerings, and rich extracurricular activities Bair has improved the opportunities for all students including population growth for the school. These offerings will be used to work towards learning gains for the student population.

#### **Additional Information**

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

The population's diverse needs (feeder elementary schools at extremely varied ends of the proficiency/demographic spectrum) make it continually challenging to maintain all needs of all students at all times. Due to the district's enhanced choice boundaries, Bair is also challenged with maintaining a substantial student enrollment with expansive district programs offered at nearby middle schools.

With internal innovative programs flourishing, and the addition of the Montessori Magnet, Bair's outlook is bright in the future.