



## **Executive Summary**

**Davie 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?**

Upon entering Davie Elementary, you will feel a warm and inviting climate which permeates the entire school environment. In earlier days, the Davie School was held in a packing house along the canal until 1910. After that a wooden, two-room schoolhouse was constructed on a one-acre piece of property. By 1916, the Davie settlement had outgrown the small wooden structure, and the need for a larger school was quickly addressed. The Davie School, designed in 1917 by August Geiger, one of South Florida's most prominent early architects, opened its doors in 1918 to roughly 90 students and is now Broward County's oldest existing school building. Davie Elementary School was established to serve as the first permanent school in the Everglades. From the day it opened, the Davie School served as the area's source of education as well as a center for community gatherings. In 1977, the new Davie Elementary School was built and is located in the town of Davie, a family-oriented community with solid parental involvement. Many of our parents and teachers attended Davie Elementary when they were children, and have chosen to remain in the community to ensure that their children can experience and contribute to the academic and social success that the Davie Elementary family offers. Many of our teachers who have been here over 20 years are now teaching their previous students' children. This happens often, as faculty and staff maintain a dedication to the students and the mission of this school. Many of these employees take their personal time to mentor and spend time with our students, even outside of school hours.

Our employees consist of 1 Principal, 1 Intern Principal, 4 clerical staff, 8 Paraprofessionals, 6 cafeteria staff, 4 custodians, 1 part-time SRO, 1 technology specialist, 1 literacy coach, 1 guidance counselor, 1 ESE Specialist, 1 speech pathologist, 1 math coach, a 1 school nurse. Students have access to district staff, including: 1 family counselor, 1 psychologist and 1 social worker. We also have 1 Head Start teacher, 8 kindergarten teachers, 7 first grade teachers, 7 second grade teachers, 9 third grade teachers, 5 fourth grade teachers, and 6 fifth grade teachers, and 4 specials teachers. In addition, we have 1 pool substitute. Davie Elementary school has 14 tutors from McFatter Technical High School, tutors from Nova Southeastern University with America Reads and America Counts, as well as some of their student athletes to work one-on-one with students. We have a very high ESOL population (168) and our entire staff works hard each and every day to help our children reach their highest potential.

With a growing community, Davie Elementary currently has 747 enrolled students, of which 85% participate in the federal free or reduced lunch program. Our school is a diverse community of learners, who are nurtured and guided by innovative teachers in a positive learning environment. Of these students, 483 students are Hispanic, 574 out of 747 students are Caucasian, 121 students are African-American, 28 students are Asian, and 24 students are Multi-Ethnic. Our student to teacher ratio is 18:1 in grades K-3, and 22:1 in grades 4 and 5. In the 2018-2019 school year, Davie Elementary has 85% of students on free and reduced lunch. In addition, our housing area has increased significantly to rental properties. We have a transient population with many students leaving the United States to go to their original countries of birth from January to June each year.

Together, we make sure that all our students are receiving high quality education by working with a growth mindset, in which we are all moving forward to achieve our mission.

### 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 faculty and staff of Davie Elementary believes in the worth and dignity of each individual student. We believe that each student should receive individualized/differentiated instruction. We believe that all students should take ownership of their learning.

We provide an environment where students are exposed to multi-meaningful experiences in various modes of learning, using available technology and teaching strategies.

We believe in an on-going partnership among the school, home and community to help each student acquire a positive self-concept, respect for one's self and others, and the knowledge that each is responsible for his or her own academic and social success.

It is our belief that:

- Quality education results from a partnership that is shared among the home, school and community.
- A safe, orderly and caring environment is necessary for learning.
- Each child needs to learn to be responsible for his/her own actions.
- We should provide each student with an education consistent with his individual differences, needs and interests.
- The teaching environment should provide appropriate activities to meet the child's diverse needs.
- It is important to provide a quality education which focuses on teaching children how to learn while encouraging curiosity, creativity and a love for knowledge.
- The quality of each child's education is greatly determined by the commitment and involvement of the family.
- Each child deserves respect for his/her uniqueness of heritage, ethnicity and beliefs.
- We should prepare students for the future by exposing them to a technology rich learning experience.

#### Davie Elementary School Mission

The Mission of Davie Elementary School is to provide a strong, safe academic setting in which excellence is the standard for all students, through a combined partnership of home, school and the community.

We accomplish these goals by focusing on teacher/student relationships, demanding high performance, holding to high expectations through implementation and monitoring, and by providing opportunities for self-exploration and self-development. We also have a strong community support through our P.T.O. who provides excellent participation by volunteering, fund raising, and staff support.

## **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.**

At Davie Elementary, we pride ourselves on the wonderful opportunities provided to our students as well as the community.

Davie Elementary strives to stay abreast of the current technological trends. We are committed to employing researched based educational strategies and techniques to promote higher order and critical thinking skills. Through a General Obligation bond (SMART) in 2015, our school was provided with 44 teacher laptops, 184 student laptops, 3 clerical computers, and 25 computer workstations for the computer lab. In addition, most instructional classrooms have a Promethean board.

Davie Elementary is committed to preserving our school, community, and the future of our planet. We take great pride in the many awards, grants and sustainability initiatives that are ongoing with our students, teachers and community. Some of our notable projects include:

- School Garden - students, parents & partners created
- Increase Water and energy efficiency
- Reducing Waste

In order to make our campus more sustainable, we were awarded the following grants this year:

Donor Choose Grants

The Davie community is a great part of Davie Elementary School and lends itself to many of our activities and events. Our local Partners in Education help us in a myriad of ways; from donating food for luncheons, to math night, to assisting with behaviors. Our Partners include: Barnes and Noble, Broward Community College Education Club, Costco Wholesale Club, Dairy Queen, Davie Kiwanis, Davie/Cooper City Rotary Club, Delvecchios, Dunkin Donuts, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, , McFatter High., Nova Department of Athletics, Nova Southeastern University's America Counts, PNC Bank, Publix Super Markets, Inc. at Westport Plaza, and Sparez Bowling. In several situations, Nova Southeastern University's America Counts and America Reads have donated time and effort to students with behavioral concerns. Each outcome was a positive influence on the student's school and home life. Our partner, the City of Davie, was awarded Partner of the Year with Broward Schools in 2015. The staff at Davie Elementary believe that "it takes a village", and we surely take advantage of that!

Other accolades awarded to Davie Elementary include the following:

2015- Assistant Principal of the Year Finalist

2014 & 2009- Golden School Award

2013- Student Volunteer of the Year for the District

2011 - Florida Department of Education "A" School Award 6 Years in a Row

2010- Town of Davie Winter Holidays Lighting of the Greens Winner

2009 - Florida School Recognition Award

2007 - Florida School Recognition Award & Golden Seal of Excellence for Pre-K Program

2006 - After School Care Outstanding Quality Child Care Award

### **Areas of Improvement**

Davie Elementary was an A-rated school for 12 years. However, our school dropped from an "A" to a "B" in 2013-2014, from a "B" to a "C" in 2014-2015, back to a "B" in 2016-2017, and finally from a "B" back down to a "C" due to the change in standardized testing and the lack of

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learning gains calculated. According to our three year trend data, Davie Elementary reading proficiency has declined from 58% (2012-13) to 48% (2014-15), in Math we have declined from 55% (2012-13) to 48% (2014-2015), and Science proficiency has increased over the three years from 48% (2013-14) to 56% (2014-15). Results for last year include: ELA Proficiency 52%, Math Proficiency 51%, and Science Proficiency 56%.

We continue daily to increase our test scores and student achievement through the consistent progress monitoring of curriculum, student and teacher data, and staff professional development. Our team of support specialists provide rigorous training to teachers in breaking down the Florida Standards and creating learning goals and scales in order to increase student achievement and instructional practice. As we consider areas of improvement for the next three years, we continue to work on improving student performance and improving technology. Although our Students with Disabilities are continuing to meet expectations, data proves that we must continue to close the achievement gap in certain areas. After much analysis, we discovered that some of our ESE students are not meeting requirements in the areas of reading and math. Support staff, administration, leadership and teachers attended professional development and training in order to improve instructional strategies (thinking maps) into the total classroom. Among them, there will be more push-in vs. pull-out for ESE services. We have two former ESE teachers who have returned to volunteer to provide pull out support for students with special needs. While this is a long-term process, Davie Elementary staff and teachers are positive about the future outcomes.

In the area of technology, we would like to update our classrooms to 21st Century technology standards through the additional purchase of laptop carts and promethean boards. In addition, we would like to increase the use of our Mimeo boards and double the classroom capacity for these devices.

These challenges will increase in the upcoming years, but Davie Elementary is prepared to accept these challenges to help our students discover, think, grow and learn to work independently to become productive members of society and our community.

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## **Additional Information**

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

Davie Elementary School has been fortunate to have received a Bond Referendum to improve our campus, technology, lighting, media center, and HVAC system. We have already received our initial order of \$202,000 to upgrade our technology bridging the gap of one computer to every three students. Within the next few years, our school HVAC system and Media Center will be renovated as well as the lighting fixtures in Building A and within the classrooms. This year, we began our first Computer Science special with the next year plan to infuse robotics. This will assist our students to become college and career ready as well as develop their STEM skills. Professional development will continue in the areas of reading, math, and science with the infusion of the Florida Standards. Our vision within the next year is to once again, propel our school back to "A" status. We are looking forward to our new endeavors with fervor and fidelity.