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**Executive Summary School Accreditation 2016**

The Executive Summary (ES) provides the school an opportunity to describe in narrative form its vision as well as strengths and challenges within the context of continuous improvement. Use this template to complete the responses to the various questions below. The responses should be brief, descriptive, and appropriate for the specific section. Transfer completed narratives into the corresponding sections of the Executive Summary found online in ASSIST.

**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?**

Walter C. Young (WCY) consists of approximately 1100 students and is located in the heart of Pembroke Pines. We entail home school boundary and choice for kids seating. Walter C. Young Middle School has many unique features such as an outstanding partnership with the City of Pembroke Pines, which serves an entire community. The City of Pembroke Pines has a median age of 39.8 and a median household income of $63,357. To start with, we share an Early Childhood Center/Day Care named Bright Beginnings, we are a Community School at night, we share a Public Library, and we offer High School credit courses to our students. Furthermore, in lieu of a cafeteria we have a beautiful state of the art Dinner Theatre, which is used for many different City events/activities, including our very own extracurricular events. Additionally, our demographics are 46% Hispanic, 27% African American, 15% White, 6% Asian, 4% Multiracial, and 2% Indian. Our free students and reduce lunch rate has increased from 49% to 54% in the last three years. Our female enrollment is 530 females and our male enrollment is 552. The staff at WCY Middle School mirrors the demographics of our school. The staff consists of a diverse population of highly qualified teachers and support professionals. We currently have 100% of our teachers “Highly Qualified” per the Department of Education (DOE). In addition, twenty-four of our teachers have advance degrees; five teachers are National Board Certified. One hundred percent of our teachers are certified in the areas they teach, including nine of them who have dual certifications. Our literacy coach is credentialed. Moreover, our teachers are published on CPALMS. Another aspect of Walter C. Young Middle School is that we are home to a large Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Program. We currently house a staff of 10 highly qualified ESE teachers, including ESE facilitators, assistants, specialists and speech pathologist that provide support to our special population of Autistic students, as well as those with a Learning Disability and academic/emotional disorders. Lastly, We encompass a Guidance Director and two Guidance Counselors, which provide hands-on support, a complete guidance program as well as monthly tours for new incoming parents and students.

**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.**

Walter C. Young (WCY) Middle abides by empowering students to succeed in a changing world, which will be accomplished by creating a community of learners where all students exit performing at their highest potential in academic and character achievement. Our program embodies students completing eighth grade will become independent thinkers and responsible citizens with skills and knowledge to make informed decisions ensuring future success. Our educators are data informed, which is used to drive our curriculum to challenge students academically as well as offer enriching experiences that will prepare students for future studies. We are preparing the high school ready and college bound students. In addition, Walter C Young Middle School offers a plethora of enrichment academic and elective courses. These courses are based on the current academic standard, as well as guides, which are created to prepare students for real-life skills. Beyond the enrichment classes’ students have the ability to take part in organizations, such as Student Government, Orchestra (string instruments), Band (wind instruments), Physical Education, Chess Club, Florida Future Educators, First Priority, Finance Club, Jazz Band, Environmental Club, National Junior Honor Society, Science Club, Scrabble Club, S.E.C.M.E, SWAT & Ignitus, and Yearbook Club. As for sports, we entail an amazing boys and girls team of Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, Flag Football, Cheerleading, and Track. Overall, WCY depicts a combination of rigor, remediation, and enrichment to help prepare all students to become productive citizens and outstanding members of their school and community, as well as prepare them for their high school years.

WCY offers an introduction to Microsoft Office course, which trains students in PowerPoint Presentations, Excel, Word, and mastering real life technology skills. In addition, students design their own blog, as well as a travel document that depicts a history of the student’s own travel experiences in order to create their own animated movie through a software called, “Moovty” of their own travel history. To conclude, WCY offers multiple advanced/Honors courses, GEM Math, Pre Advanced Placement, Gifted Education, English Language Learners, support facilitation and electives like Spanish, Peer Counseling, and Chorus. Moreover, students participate in yearly competitions, such as Science Project (E-cybermission) and Band Assessment. Walter C Young had a state Semi-Finalist in the Geography Bee, County Winners for the Knowledge Bowl, State Math Competition Qualifiers, 1st Place Countywide Spanish competition, and S.E.C.M.E State Qualifiers Science Competition. Our unique partnerships set us aside from the rest of the schools in Broward County. We have outstanding partnerships with Bright Star Credit Union that hosts banking days for students in the Finance Club. We also have community ties with Memorial Hospital Youth Force, which allot for academic counseling to help students at risk. In addition, we have others partners that include AnyLab Test Now, American Heart Association, BJ’s Restaurant, Bushido Karate, Chick-Fil-A, Chili’s, Galaxy Skateway, Gentle Teeth, Jason’s Deli, Lime Fresh Mexican Grill, Menchie’s Frozen Yogurt, Publix Supermarket, Sal’s Italian Restaurant, and Tijuana Flats.

**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.**

We are a school that has maintained an “A” status since 2004, because our teacher and student expectations correlate and are aligned with our school’s Vision, Mission Statement. Our girls and boys sports team exceed in many areas earning us consecutive championships across the District. Our average achievement levels in Reading and Math exceeds level 3 and above. Our accomplishments range from test scores to outstanding academic and social programs. Through a partnership with Flannigan High School we are providing students with the opportunity to earn high school credits while still enrolled in middle school. For those students who need more direct instruction in order to improve their reading and math skills, they are enrolled in intensive classes to build the foundation they need so they can obtain academic success.

As a result of our high level expectations and effective teaching methods, 65% of our students were proficient in the FSA Writing Assessment. On the DOE ELA \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*and Math, 68% of students were proficient. Next, on the Science FCAT 62% of students tested at a level 3 or higher. Furthermore, on the Civics End-of-the-year Assessments 73% of our students earned a level 3 or above.

Our students have excelled in academic competitions including state level Math, E-Cyber mission, Geography Bee, Science Fair, and S.E.C.M.E. We also encompass vertical teaming for our innovation zone members to discuss strengths/ barriers of incoming/outgoing students. In addition, we offer High School credit courses such as Biology, Geometry, Algebra and Spanish. Lastly, our band accomplishments include All State and All County Band in addition to, Band, Orchestra and Chorus performances at Disney, and Music Performance Assessments (MPA).

Walter C. Young’s areas of improvement have been supported by closely monitoring data through out each instructional CARE cycle in order to ensure improved student achievement. With that, we have created an FSA camp and remediation for struggling students to provide additional support on state assessments. We also implemented computer practice to improve technology skills. In order to address our lower performing students we have incorporated software instructional programs, a writing focus calendar, as well as pull outs.

[**Additional**](http://www.advanc-ed.org/assist/s/diagnostic/section/view?surveyId=1147697&sectionId=265) **Information**

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

Walter C. Young Middle is the only school that has a unique partnership with the City of Pembroke Pines, which allows us to offer community school as well as Early Childhood services. In addition, we have a highly dedicated staff that embraces high-level student expectations and fosters parent involvement to achieve the utmost of student success. We have a vigorous business partner program and active parent organizations such as School Advisory Council (SAC), School Advisory Forum (SAF), Parent- Teacher-Student Association (PTSA), Boosters and ESE parent advisory that strongly support our school.

To conclude, our school accomplishments entail “A” School for plus 13 years, as well as faculty participation at National and State Conferences. In addition, we have been the recipient of National, State and Local Grants, and National, State, and local recognition. Our faculty has participated in Local and State Writing Teams, Relay For Life and teachers chosen to attend the Community Leaders Conference at the White House. Lastly, our faculty members have been awarded state Research Scholarships, including participating in summer as well as teachers have published study lessons on CPALMS website interface.   
Lastly, WCY implements parent night to ensure student accomplishments help build a true sense of community between school and home. Our Parent nights provide a great avenue for students to take pride in their work and share that pride with other teachers, students and parents.