



Executive Summary Template School Accreditation

2012-2013

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?

Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) High School is a fully accredited public high school located in the suburban community of Parkland, Florida within the School Board of Broward County. MSD opened its doors in 1991 to serve the city of Parkland and parts of the city of Coral Springs. In the spring of 2015, MSD celebrated 25 years of service to these communities which have a tradition that reflects support for the academics, extra-curricular activities, and community service projects.

MSD has a current enrollment of 3148 students in grades 9-12. The following is the breakdown of our student population: total boys (52.4%), total girls (47.6%), white (60.3%), black/African American (11.0%), Hispanic (19.5%), multi-racial (2.3%), Asian (6.4%), and native American/Indian (0.5%).

MSD has an instructional staff consisting of 124 teachers. Teacher demographics is as follows: white (79.8%), Hispanic (9.7%), black (8.9%), and other (1.6%). Over the past three years, there have been a considerable amount of teachers who have retired. The new hires are predominantly experienced teachers who have relocated from other schools in the district. The New Educator Support Program at MSD has seen some new additions to the faculty, mainly in the areas of English and Social Studies.

The communities of Parkland and Coral Springs consist mainly of high middle-class gated communities, some lower middle-class single family homes, as well as townhomes and lower rental apartments. Over the past three years, our school has also welcomed numerous (100+) students that have been re-assigned from neighborhood schools. In addition, the city of Parkland has completed construction of several single-family home developments and townhomes that have increased the number of students enrolled at our school. Hence, our school has been experiencing a steady increase in student enrollment over the past three years.

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.

Vision Statement: The vision of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School is to promote global awareness in a collaborative learning community of rigor and relevance, emphasizing academic excellence through critical thinking and character development in a technologically-enriched environment.

Mission Statement: MSD is committed to providing rich educational opportunities in a student-centered learning environment to a diverse population of learners.

The development of the current Mission and Vision Statements included the broad participation of all relevant school stakeholders including school leadership, teachers, staff, parents and students as well as community members.

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School embodies its purpose through its program offerings. MSD offers 19 Advanced Placement (AP) college-level and 51 Honors-level courses. MSD is also home to a National Academy of Finance honors program that graduates students with Career and Adult Professional Education (CAPE) industry certification in the fields of business and finance. MSD has been rated as an "A" school by the Florida Department of Education for the past four years.

At MSD High School, we are committed to educating the whole individual. Therefore, our school offers courses and extra-curricular activities in the areas of Fine Arts, Culinary, Engineering, Computer Programming and Athletics. Our school's Marching Band, Color Guard and Drama programs are among the best in the district and state, having won numerous 1st place awards over the past three years. Our school's Culinary, Engineering and Computer Programming programs are expanding each year providing alternate career paths for many of our students. Additionally, our school offers a JROTC program that builds character while promoting discipline and pride in our youth.

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.

Over the past three years, MSD has earned a school grade of “A” from the Florida Department of Education. Our school is rated in the top 2% of high schools in the nation, in the top 3% of high schools in Florida, and one of the top 3 high schools in the district by US News & World Reports. Through our Advanced Placement program offerings, MSD students have the opportunity to earn college credit while in high school; the AP participation rate at our school is 68% with a 72% participant pass/success rate. The percentage of disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged students who are proficient at MSD stands at 63% and 83%, respectively. In addition, students at MSD outperform students in the district by over 30%, demonstrating a Reading proficiency level of 73%, a math proficiency level of 85%, and a college readiness index of 54% as compared to the district’s 33%. Moreover, MSD students enjoy a graduation rate of 94% where graduates at the top of their class consistently make the National Merit Semi-Finalist and Finalist list. Over the past three years, the National Merit Semi-Finalists who have made the Finalist list has increased from one to seven for the 2015-16 graduating class.

The Leadership Team and the Instructional Staff at MSD are committed to providing a plethora of educational opportunities and to emphasizing high expectations and academic excellence for all students. It is for this reason that MSD High School maintains a focus on continuously improving literacy skills (Reading and Writing) as well as student achievement scores on the End-of-Course (EOC) exams in the areas of Biology, Algebra I and II, Geometry and American History. Our school supports its efforts for continuous improvement by offering Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs) in the afore mentioned subject areas through Saturday EOC and SAT/ACT camps and literacy pull-outs. In the next three years, our school will strive to maintain the support of our sponsors for these programs in order to continue moving forward.

In keeping with our commitment to academic excellence and continuous improvement, our school launches new programs each year that span the curriculum. Our school has added Holocaust Studies, AP Capstone, Hospitality and Tourism, Culinary Arts, AP European History, and Yoga over the last three years. The presently offered CTACE program has seen a 20% increase in enrollment over the past year and next year some of our students will be taking Code.org while others will be attending Broward College as dual-enrollment students in the area of English. The dual-enrollment program in partnership with Broward College will expand to include Math for the 2016-17 school year.

Additional Information

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

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School has a very close relationship with its community. This is evident in the number of volunteers at our school and the support that our PTSA and booster clubs have for our students and teachers, and academic and athletic programs. Continued evidence of our school pride and vision include the wealth of opportunity for our students to enhance their academic, physical, social and emotional potential. In addition to the academic data that speaks volumes for students' successes and challenges, the extra curricula options available for students afford a wide variety for the diversity of students' interests within our school community. School sponsored sports such as baseball, basketball, cheerleading, cross-country, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball, water polo and wrestling provide physical outlets and growth for students. Clubs such as Save-What's-Left, Astronomy, Key Club, Best Buddies, Anime, Chess, Asian, International Thespian Society, First Priority, Step Team, Gay-Straight Alliance, SADD, Rowdy Eagles, Model UN, MSD Stands Up to Cancer, Jewish Student Connection, Health and Fitness and HOSA provide awareness, support and opportunities for community service for our students. In addition, our Honor Societies and Competition Teams span the curricular areas of English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. MSD High School also hosts Relay for Life and a Special Olympics each year that brings pride and joy to our school and community while at the same time promoting character values such as respect, tolerance and acceptance among the diverse group of students that our school serves.

The MSD community is very proud of its service projects and high academic achievements. Each year our students participate in the Silver Knights competition and take the PSAT/NMSQT in 10th and 11th grades. We are very proud to share that our school has the honor of having National Merit Semi-Finalists and Finalists, as well as Silver Knight Honorable Mentions and Winners, for many years over the 25+ years of service to our community; each year over the past three years our school has been honored with these meritorious award winners.