



Executive Summary

Indian Trace 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?

Indian Trace Elementary is located in a suburban community in Weston, Florida having a total population of 65,333 at the 2010 Census. Established in 1996, Weston is located near the western developmental boundary of Broward County. Weston borders the Florida Everglades and the City maintains over 2,200 acres of wetland preserves, supporting a diverse ecological population. Having a reputation for being a hometown community, Weston has a culturally diverse population consisting of : White/Caucasian (including White Hispanic) 85.8%, Non-Hispanic White 40.3%, Black or African-American 2.37%, Hispanic or Latino 52.2%, Asian 3.21%, 0.13% Pacific Islander, Multiracial 2.4%.

Indian Trace Elementary consists of 73 staff members, including one principal and one assistant principal, and 719 students in grades Pre-K-5. We have two Pre-K classes for our students with exceptional needs: one is a specialized Pre-K class while the other an intensive ESE Pre-K class, six kindergarten classes, six first grade classes, six second grade classes, seven third grade classes, six fourth grade classes, and six fifth grade classes. Additionally, our school has gifted/high-achiever's classes in second through fifth grades. Currently, 28% of our students are Caucasian/White, 3% Black/African-American, 61% Hispanic, 3% Asian, 3% Multiracial. 24.65% of our students qualify for free or reduced lunch.

Indian Trace has 100% qualified, experienced teachers: seven are National Board Certified Teachers, 16 having Master's degrees, and 1 with a Specialist Degree.

A unique feature is that our school is in a community with high-performing schools. We are constantly looking for ways to challenge our students. We do this by utilizing digital and project based learning school-wide.

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.

Broward County's School District vision is to educate students to succeed in tomorrow's world. We support our District's mission to educate all students to reach their highest potential.

Indian Trace Elementary has a vision for our students. We believe the mission of Indian Trace Elementary is to direct all students: to become life-long learners, to achieve self-actualization, to establish harmony in the environment, to pursue global awareness, to play a productive role in society. We believe the total school community should strive to establish a nurturing and stimulating learning environment, which will meet the challenge of a changing society.

At Indian Trace Elementary, we are committed to providing our students with the finest education possible. We strive to have our students maintain their academic achievements by showing growth on the required state assessments given in grades 3-5: ELA Florida Standards Assessment and Math Florida Standards Assessment. When planning curriculum instruction for students, teachers adhere to Florida's Language Arts Florida Standards (LAFS) and Mathematics Florida Standards (MAFS) curriculum standards for English Language Arts and Math.

Our school's theme this year is "ITE Rocks!" which supports our mission statement. In all of our classes, our enthusiastic teachers integrate Project-Based Learning focused around science and social studies units within the curriculum. Our students are researching and presenting technology-based projects every quarter throughout the school year.

We offer our students a unique opportunity to be a part of a Digital 3, Digital 4, and Digital 5 program. All of our third, fourth, and fifth grade students have an individually assigned laptop computer provided for the school year. With the use of the laptop computers, our students are able to go "Digital" and utilize various technological resources available from computer software programs and slideshow presentations. Our students are able to access not only their textbooks online through the school district's Single Sign On network, but they are also able to access a plethora of additional technology support for learning.

Over the last five years, Indian Trace has acquired a Dual Language Program in Kindergarten through fourth grade. Two classes participate in this program in each Kindergarten through 4th grade level. This program allows for its students to become fully immersed in the English and Spanish languages. The future plan is for these students to matriculate through 5th grade within the Dual Language Program.

Additionally, we meet the needs of our ESE students utilizing a push-in as well as a pull-out program depending on the needs. We also have Speech classes for students who require those services.

In grades 2-5, we also have gifted/high-achiever classes to meet the needs of high achieving students and those who have Educational Plans (EP). In 2nd grade, we have one gifted/high-achiever's class. In 3rd-5th grade, we have two classes in each grade level.

At Indian Trace, we have additional curriculum support available to all of our students, such as the computer lab and the science lab where students are able to engage in the 5E Model of the Scientific Process by conducting experiments and recording results. We also have Specials teachers for Art, Music, Physical Education, Media, and Spanish. Students attend a "Specials" class for 30 minutes each day.

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Additionally, we have a full-functioning Media Center that the students are able to utilize before, during, and after school. Students are able to take advantage of their unique Maker Space in the Media Center where they can gather to create, invent, and learn.

Not only does Indian Trace have a solid curricular foundation during the day, but we also offer and have available to our students a variety of after-school enrichment programs including: Robotics Club, Chorus, Spanish Club, Book Club, Green Team, TOTS, Tracer Buddies and ELL Camps which serves to strengthen language acquisition of reading and writing.

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.

Last year, Indian Trace earned an "A" rating based upon students' test scores and maintaining academic achievement. Based upon the 2018 Math FSA Assessment results, we were among the Top scores in the Broward County School District.

For outstanding volunteerism in our school, we continued to earn the Golden School Award for Volunteer Hours in 2018. Our school has amazing parent volunteers who strive to assist our staff and school.

As a "Green School," we pride ourselves in preserving our environment. Once a month, our school participates in a Zero-Waste lunch. Every October, our students and families volunteer for "Green Day," which embodies the beautification of our school. In 2013 and 2014, our school was the recipient of the P-3 Eco Challenge for being a "Green School."

Some students of Indian Trace participate in the Reflections competition highlighting literature, photography, music, and dance. For the last few years, many students were able to advance to the State level for competition, and we have had two state winners and one National Finalist in the Reflections competition. Additionally, we consistently win the Spanish Club competition in Broward County when competing among other elementary schools.

During the last three years, we improved upon our test scores. Although we have been an A school, there was a downward trend in test scores. As a school, we have been implementing new strategies incorporating the new Florida Standards (MAFS and LAFS), which embed rigor throughout the curriculum.

In the upcoming three years, Indian Trace will continue to maintain academic achievement for all of our students. We will work hard to ensure that all students make academic gains and adjust to new assessments while incorporating rigorous standards and fidelity.

Additional Information

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

At Indian Trace Elementary, we strive for excellence in our academic expectations for our students. Our students are involved in Project Based Learning experiences embedded in the curriculum. Teachers participate in Learning Communities in order to collaborate and share "Best Practices" of instructional strategies.

Furthermore, our school is fortunate to be able to offer a Dual Language Program that is expected to continue. This program is unique to our school as it is not a standard program offered in the District.

After school, Indian Trace provides enrichment camps, which are taught by our very own teachers that include, but not limited to: Legos, Spanish Club, Robotics Club, Chorus, Book Club, Math tutoring, ELL Camps, and Green Team.

We are proud Tracers!