

Executive Summary

Charles Drew Elementary Magnet School Broward County School District

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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?

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Community

Charles R. Drew Elementary is located in Collier City which is a suburban neighborhood in Pompano Beach, Florida. This neighborhood is a predominantly African-American neighborhood, and was annexed to the city of Pompano Beach in the 1990s. The neighborhood has an income lower than 91.4% of U.S. neighborhoods, with 44.4% of the children here below the federal poverty line.

School

Charles R. Drew has approximately 600 students. The demographics for the students are as follows: 69% Black, 27% Hispanic, 3% White, and 1% Multi-racial. Ninety-seven percent of the students are on free or reduced lunch. There are 44 staff members at Charles R. Drew Elementary. Charles R. Drew has 32 teachers. Two teachers are not highly qualified. Additionally, there are seven paraprofessionals of which all are highly qualified.

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.

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The Mission of Charles R. Drew Elementary Magnet School is high expectation for all in a safe and nurturing learning environment and to increase the number of students who perform and exceed proficiency levels. Teachers will utilize 21st century strategies and resources to meet the total development needs of each child, preparing them to be college and career ready. Our motto is "Excellence without Excuses". We foster learning in all content areas through the integration of our them in the classroom as well as STEM labs. We strive to promote growth among all stakeholders, improve community relationships, and provide a safe learning environment that develops self-esteem and encourages our students to be responsible, global citizens.

The school accomplishes its purpose by providing all students with a rigorous curriculum aligned to grade-level standards. Through differentiated instruction and additional supports, we believe that all students can achieve and be successful 21st Century learners. To support teachers in accomplishing our goals, we provide comprehensive professional learning opportunities to improve delivery of instruction through a variety of PLC's and workshops designed to improve teacher effectiveness and increase student achievement. Additionally, we host parent nights that provide parents with new skills to support student learning at home. Improving the frequency and quality of family participation and increasing family literacy are also goals of our parental involvement component.

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.

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Charles R. Drew's magnet program is flourishing. We are a Magnet school of Math, Science, and Technology. Being a Magnet school means that students are provided with opportunity to engage and participate in state of the art technology, fully equipped science labs and field trips. Lab activities and field trips are aligned with our school, district and state instructional focus and Sunshine State Standards. The Science, Mathematics, and Technology Program is designed for the inquisitive child who is looking for an adventure in exploring, discovering and learning. Children discover mathematical and physical ideas on their own, using models they can touch and manipulate. Students have daily access to computer terminals and modern mathematics and science laboratories. Working individually and in small groups, they verify the principles studied in the classroom.

Additionally Charles R. Drew is proud to be a participant in the Digital 5 program. This program equips all 5th grade students with their own personal laptop. Through this program teachers are able to use digital resources, online instructional materials and other learning tools to maximize student learning. Students and their teachers have received digital devices, access to a learning management system, professional learning and curriculum resources to maximize student learning and engagement and create personalized learning environments in classrooms. Today's students are growing up in a high-tech, digital savvy world where information is always at their fingertips. D5 incorporates the way many students are getting their information outside of school and teaches them to apply these skills in the classroom.

Charles R. Drew Elementary not only provides a quality educational program for our children, but we also provide many enriching activities for them as well. We have a Robotics Club, 100 Club, WCRDTV, Computer/Tech Club, DREW Cheerleaders/Dancers, DREW G.E.M.S. Mentoring Program, Men of Drew Mentoring Program, Safety Patrols, Mr. & Mrs. Charles R. Drew, Kids of Character / Terrific Kids monthly recognitions and Honor Roll Assemblies.

An area of improvement is transitioning our teachers, students and parents to the Florida Standards and FSA. The school's grade dropped from a letter C in the 2014-15 school year to an F in the 2015-16 school year. Charles R. Drew's staff, plans to meet this challenge head on. We have added a hands-on science component to our specials rotation to help increase science scores. Additionally, to improve the performance of all students, we are implementing a quality Response to Intervention process to put interventions in place for students struggling academically or behaviorally. Lastly, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students have the opportunity to attend Saturday Success camp to assist in strengthening their areas of weakness.

Additional Information

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

Over the last three years, the competition from charter and other magnet schools in the area have affected our enrollment. We are working hard to deliver a dynamic overall school curriculum and magnet program to attract in-boundary as well as out-of-boundary students. Another barrier includes second language acquisition and support for specialized programs to achieve academic success. Charles R. Drew offers an Saturday Success camp to provide additional support to our ELL and struggling students. During the school day, push in groups and small group instruction is taking place to provide individualized instruction and close the achievement gaps for these students.