



Executive Summary

Palm Cove 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?

Palm Cove Elementary was built in 1992 and is located in Pembroke Pines, FL east of I75, based on the United States Census Bureau (area code 33025), our neighborhood population is about 59,000. The neighborhood demographics are 51 % black, 32 % Hispanic and 13 % white. Our current enrollment is 735, with 21% of our students being ELL and 115 being ESE, the schools demographics models the neighborhoods demographic. Palm Cove Elementary is a Title 1 school with 76% of our students on Free and reduced lunch. We currently have a specialized pre-K along with a K-1 Autism Spectrum Disorder cluster. There are 48 instruction staff members with 13 teachers having 0-5 years of experience, 13 teachers having 6-10 years of experience, 17 teachers having 11-15 years of experience, and 5 teachers having 15 years or more years of experience.

Some changes that Palm Cove has experienced would be the high mobility rate of our students as well as local Charter Schools opening near our boundary. The biggest challenge Palm Cove currently faces would be the lack of parental and stakeholder support.

A unique feature Palm Cove Elem is facing would be the current influx of ELL students from South American countries.

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.

At Palm Cove we strive to educate all children and develop meaningful relationships between our staff and our stakeholders.

Schools Mission:

This goal will be accomplished through the efforts of a dedicated staff and the support of our parents and community. Beliefs....

- Learning should be fun and exploratory.
- Collegiality is a key ingredient for a successful school.
- Sharing must be a way of life.
- Risk taking must be supported.
- Learning is a process.
- Parents, Teachers, and Administration must have open lines of communication.
- The school must be "user friendly."
- Children must come first.
- The school is a community of learners.
- Students must be responsible for choices.
- Teachers must have high expectations and be committed to excellence.

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 Palm Cove Elementary we strive to maintain excellent customer service along with developing partnerships with our community businesses. As a school wide initiative we use the CHAMPS program. Common CHAMPS language is used throughout PreK-5 and teachers have posters in the classrooms. The program has helped reduce referrals by 22% to date from last year. Our monthly Kid of Character Education program highlights good traits and our Character Ed bracelets reinforce behaviors. The students are given a new bracelet every month to represent each character trait. At the end of the month Palm Cove has an assembly to acknowledge all the students who wore their bracelets and demonstrated the trait throughout the month.

Palm Cove Elementary offers digital classes, all of our 4th and 5th grade classes as well as our 3rd grade gifted/high achieving classroom are suited with their own laptop, which enhances our education and prepares our students to be College and Career Ready. Palm Cove also has a morning reading program "Rise and Shine Readers". As students wait to go into class they read their books and are awarded a ticket to be placed for a raffle.

Additional Information

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

In the last three years Palm Cove Elementary has strengthened their RTI Process (Response To Intervention). We have trained our teachers through several professional developments, grade level training, and one to one training when needed. Our Response to Intervention team works hand in hand with teachers, students, and parents to keep them informed through the process.

Palm Cove has worked to strengthen its relationships with its stakeholders. Our Title1 Program has hosted several Parental Involvement events. Each event focused on teaching parents helpful strategies in order to assist students outside the traditional classroom.

Teachers are currently developing learning scales and goals for all standards. Our teachers are also focusing on the standards and developing activities and lessons based on the standards. As a result, our students are doing a better job at grasping the information. It also makes it easier to explain to our parents how they can help our students. As a school all of our classrooms incorporate centers in reading and in math. Centers are differentiated and reinforce the standards being taught by the teacher.

Professional Learning Communities are held every Wednesday and they focus on reading or math standards, grades K-3 PLC's focuses on reading and grade 4-5 focuses on Math. During PLC's grade levels discuss, plan, and analyze data based on checkpoints.

Palm Cove Elementary has a vast amount of technology. Our 5th, 3rd, and some 2nd grade classrooms are outfitted with Promethean Boards. We have multiple carts with iPod Touch for reading purposes. All classrooms have document cameras and most of our teachers have iPads. We have an updated distance learning room. Palm Cove currently uses the iReady online Program, Accelerated Reader, and Reflex math to strengthen their academic skills.

Palm Cove is also in the process of initiating Social and Emotional Learning standards, these will guide students and adults to acquire and apply skills to help them navigate their own emotions and prepare them to establish positive relationships with others.