

Executive Summary

Indian Ridge Middle School

Broward County School District

Mr. Ian Murray 1355 Nob Hill Road Davie, FL 33324 Document Generated On September 21, 2016

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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 Ridge Middle School is centrally located in Broward County Florida in the heart of Davie Florida. Indian Ridge is the only public middle school in Davie. Silver Ridge, Fox Trail and Flamingo are the primary elementary schools in our feeder pattern. Approximately 90 students annually feed into Indian Ridge Middle School from Country Isles Elementary School, which is located in Weston Florida. Indian Ridge Middle School and our primary elementary schools along with Weston High School comprise the Western Zone. Approximately 93 % of our eighth grade students articulate into Western High School annually.

Currently our school has 1789 students. In the past 10 years our total enrollment has declined from over 2100 students. Our community ranges in income from low socio-economic to high socio-economic. . Our School's demographic: 47% white, 37% Hispanic, 7% black and 9% other. Our community's demographic configuration is 75% white, 14% Hispanic, 6% black and 2% other. The median income is 46K, 36% have a college degree and 43% are listed as professionals. We have 53% of community listed as married.

Our ethnic student population has grown significantly in Hispanics. Our free and reduced percentage has also increased steadily in the past five years. The unique challenges faced by our school community are the increase of single language non-English speaking parents. The increased number of charter schools and the demands that parents face with respect to responsibilities beyond their child's education, The elevated FSA standards that require students to achieve mastery of highly complex and specialized skills and to perform them with proficiency has increased the level of rigor in instruction and precision with regard to teaching and learning.

The Indian Ridge staff demographics as of April 2016 consists of 67% White/Non-Hispanic, 16% African American, and 15% Hispanic. We will continue to endeavor to provide the most diverse staff to properly reflect our changing community and assist in its needs. Here at Indian Ridge we continue to expect the highest quality teachers to educate our students. 45 teachers have Master's Degree and 2 have Doctoral Degree or Specialist Degree. This makes up over 55% of our staff with advanced Degrees.

Indian Ridge Middle School is fortunate to have a parent and business community that is extremely supportive of our school. Our PTO formally PTA is one of the largest in the state of Florida. During our final years as a PTA, we held the accolade of being the largest PTA in the state for five consecutive years. Our PTO funds and sponsors a wide range of activities for teachers and students. Our only annual school-wide fundraiser the "Jaguar Jog" raises a significant amount of revenue that is cycled back to our school and students. This year's event raised over fifty thousand dollars. These funds have been allocated to purchase technology and instructional materials for the school. Last years fundraiser generated fifty-five thousand dollars that was used to purchase items identified by our teachers on their "wish lists". Our PTO also sponsors three grade level dances, the eighth grade end of the year dance, a staff appreciation luncheon, Grandparent's Day and provides volunteers and donates to a plethora of school activities and events.

Indian Ridge Middle School provides a wealth of opportunities for students to join and participate in a multitude of in school and afterschool clubs and organizations. FFEA, NJHS, Student Council, Chess Club, Debate Club, STEM Club and the STEP Team are among these opportunities. Our students are engaged in many fundraising activities and events throughout the year that provide substantial revenues for charitable, community and research based projects and organizations. A prime example is that our school is the largest middle school

contributor to the "Harvest Drive". The Harvest Drive is a grassroots effort in Broward County to provide targeted Broward County families with generous donations of food, clothing, toys and other necessities and amenities.

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.

We, the staff and faculty of Indian Ridge Middle School, are committed to the premise that educators, as agents of change, in conjunction with parents, businesses, and community members, will collaborate to foster the well-being of our students and develop technologically informed self-directed, lifelong learners each with unique talents who actively participate in their own educational process. The ultimate goal is to develop well-rounded students that can become productive citizens in technologically advanced and democratic society. The school embodies its purpose through the expansion in depth and breadth of curricular and extracurricular offerings e.g. After School Clubs, Elective Courses offerings and High School credit bearing courses.

As important as it is to provide exemplary opportunities to foster academic development and increase student performance, it is equally imperative that the school facility is safe and secure and that the climate of the school encourages and promotes and expands the social and emotional development and growth of all students. The facility allows for a single point of entry into the main building. The campus is fully gated and the video security system has been recently upgraded. The school also employs a School Resource Officer, a Security Specialist and two Campus Monitors. Our school adheres strictly to a unified dress code policy and all students are issued photo identification badges. This allows staff to easily identify any student who is not in membership. All visitors and volunteers are required to wear and display badges at all times.

We strive to provide opportunities for students to benefit from the experience of mentors. Many of our at risk students are assigned mentors that meet with them on a regular basis. Indian Ridge Middle School also has a cooperative arrangement with McFatter Technical School to provide opportunities for High School Student Interns to volunteer in our classrooms to tutor and assist our students and teachers. At Indian Ridge Middle School we strive to aggressively promote opportunities to increase students' academic skills, interests and proficiencies. We continuously add courses to provide opportunities for students to earn High School credit. Biology, Spanish, Algebra One, Geometry and Debate are offered for High School credit. There are many clubs and student organizations that provide opportunities for students to pursue interests and expand their abilities. FFEA, SGA,GSA NJHS, Chess, Debate, SWAT and STEM are examples of the many opportunities that all students are afforded.

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.

In previous School Improvement Plans the following barriers were presented:

Lack of enrichment materials for high achieving students. We have added an after school STEM program, Debate club and Debate classes, and Chess Club. Lack of after school tutoring program. Our national junior honor society students now perform morning tutoring for those who wish to attend at least once per week. Our Peer counseling programs arranges for tutoring during school hours for students identified as in need. Individual teachers also provide tutoring for students before or after school. The district has grouped schools by their respective socio-economic status (SES). We are in constant communication with these schools to review English/language Arts and Mathematics programs in each of our schools in an attempt to reduce the achievement gap across similar socio-economic schools. Our PLC's meet weekly to discuss and review student achievement and assessment data. Common Formative Assessments are

administered in the core content areas. USA Test Prep is used for diagnostic and assessment purposes. Core teachers continue to aggressively address developing valid quality test items that are strategically aligned with FSA standards.

Our school administered the BSA mid-year assessment this year. The test and item analysis aligns closely with FSA standards. Providing staff development and training in analysis of this data was provided for all teachers.

Additional Information

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

We have focused on staff development over the last couple of years addressing quality instruction, rigor in the classrooms, scales and rubrics, shifts; all in an effort to align our teaching to FSA standards. We ensure that all instruction is measured and assessed. To increase student performance and academic achievement we have committed our resources and staff development to aligning classroom instruction with FSA standards. All Indian Ridge Middle School faculty were trained on "Goals and Scales". Teachers continue to work in their departments to develop scales that are consistent with their respective goals and unwrapped standards. This coupled with training on analysis of FSA and BSA data along with common formative assessment data will insure that instruction, targets with precision specific standards that are identified in these assessments.

The composition of our community and student population has changed dramatically and consistently over the past several years. Primarily, there has been a significant increase in our free and reduced lunch recipients and our Hispanic population. In response to meeting the needs of our Hispanic subgroup, we have instituted and expanded several programs, activities and services. The school maintains an alliance with business members and community service organizations that serve and represent the Hispanic community. These organizations provide volunteer mentor for our Hispanic female students. This year, Indian Ridge Middle School held its first annual Hispanic Fair. Thirty community organizations, vendors and service agencies were represented. Parents of Hispanic students were provided a wealth of information presented in their native language. The school also offers a program entitled "Miss Empowerment". This program is offered through our Guidance Department. The program targets at risk female students. The curriculum focuses on improving social skills and increasing acceptance and self-esteem.