



Executive Summary

Monarch High 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 receives 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?

Monarch High School is composed of **2446** students from the community of Coconut Creek, Florida. Students are **69%** white, **38%** Hispanic, **20%** African American, **4%** Asian, and **<5%** multi-ethnic; this year Monarch registered a percentage of American Indian attendees at **<0.5%**. Monarch staff has grown slightly, to 111 instructional staff, from 107 two years ago. Coconut Creek is growing at an excess of 10% per year for the last 5 years, with a changing demographic breakdown differing from that of Monarch in that almost 21% is Hispanic (only 2/3 of the 33% of Monarch's population), a larger (older) white population which is 60% versus 38% of our students; foreign born/foreign speakers continue to represent the same 27% of the population of the city. It is famous for being the "Butterfly Capitol": the MHS Marching Band, Winterguard, and JROTC Colors presentation performances are much enjoyed by all citizenry at the Butterfly Festival held at MHS. Students also have presented Rhetorical interchanges with the elderly residents of local Wynmoor Village and assisted the Women's Club in its activities (students are awarded community service hours, a requirement for graduation, for their effort.) Our school is proud to once again be fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and approved by the Florida Department of Education.

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.

The MHS Mission Statement: Monarch High is committed to providing educational opportunities that will prepare and empower students for an ever-changing global society. Students are provided leadership opportunities through co-curricular and extracurricular activities such as Student Government; Chorus, Colorguard, Band (all award winners); the Mu Alpha Theta and National Honor Societies, which participate and win in various academic games (Quarter Finals in School Duel Mathematics); other certifiable activities such as Early Childhood Development and DECA (allowing students to develop connections to the school and the community.) Foreign Languages community: 23 students won a total of 37 Awards in the Broward County World Language Competition in February! JROTC is exceedingly proud of being an "Honor Unit with Distinction", the highest honor achievable for the program: one that MHS has earned for each of the 15 years of its history! The MHS Athletic Department boasts of several Regional, District, and State Championship participants. Monarch High is equipped with the latest technology -- networking, desktop and laptop computers, projection devices, smart boards, telecommunications, servers, and digital cameras. Monarch boasts of having over 50% of our students taking the Career & Technical students earn the CTACE Industry Certification. Students are wholeheartedly encouraged to find an area of interest for themselves, in which to thrive.

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.

Monarch proudly raised its graduation rate almost 5% percentage points, from 92% to 95% as of the 2017-2018 school year. MHS received a "B" grade for the 2016-2017 school year and a "C" grade for the 2017-2018 school year. Thirty-four seniors took the PERT College Readiness Test; all juniors will again be taking the SAT College Entrance Test in April (Broward District financially supporting this endeavor for the second consecutive successful year); all sophomores took the PSAT or Practice SAT test in October in preparation to take the junior SAT test; and, seniors at risk for graduation will have the opportunity to take the SAT and ACT Test throughout the school year, in hopes of reaching concordant scores in reading and math in order to graduate. MHS can boast of having 175 students Dual Enrolled in local colleges as well as here on the MHS campus, and approximately 750 students preparing for Advanced Placement Tests in AP Courses in Computer Science, English, mathematics, science, social studies, Spanish, French, art and philosophy.

Improvement needs include increasing the test scores for Reading and Mathematics though MHS is proud that our geometry testers matched the District's with a 53% passing rate (testers with a Level 3 or above). MHS is also proud that our ELA testers matched the District's with a 55% passing rate (testers with a Level 3 or above). With that in mind, the Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society sponsors Math tutoring twice weekly, with over 50 members volunteering their help. Monarch's Reading Department uses programs such as, Achieve3000, UST Test Prep., Khan Academy, WriteScore programs for students who need to improve skills.

Monarch has continued its Response to Intervention (RTI) program to include designation of approximately 100 students most at risk to graduate, who demonstrate persistent tardiness, absenteeism, and multiple FSA test failures. These will be monitored by an Administrator and his or her team to assist each student with all that is available to achieve graduate status, including monthly meetings, weekly tutoring, and social and emotional assistance. MHS is continuing to participate in the PASL District Initiative, the Personalization

through Academic and Social Learning program, designed for teachers to mentor students in school, aimed at increasing students' educational success. The District is also providing the school with data to assist in helping the whole child.

Additional Information

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

With Monarch's mission of preparing students for college, our BRACE Advisor (Broward Advisor for Continuing Education) arranged two "College Night" gatherings for parents and seniors interested in learning about financial aid. It was possible to meet and greet and learn from the various college representatives who take this opportunity to visit Monarch and avail themselves to our parents and students. Underclassmen in the tenth and eleventh grades continue to actively participate in the Kahn Academy website, a college preparatory site managed by CollegeBoard. The site imports test scores (PSAT and SAT) for each student and then personalizes a practice program that address gaps in their testing skills. Additionally, free after- school test study is being offered this semester for ACT and SAT tests.

All students have been introduced to the Naviance software program, the goal of which is to allow students to learn about prospective careers and to assess which careers each student user might be most suited for, as well as to provide college and vocation planning and scholarships information. This software was available to Monarch seniors previously, and now is available to all students. Monarch's teachers approved to continue the modified block schedule for the 2017-18 school year which affords students with a "personalization period" (study hall), an eighth period, in addition to the regular seven.

Mr. Neer continues to disseminate information via Monarch's Twitter account through which he informs about all academic and extra-curricular achievements in our Monarch community. Very importantly, Monarch High School is equipped with the latest technology including networking capability, desktop and laptop computers (new in all computer labs and the Media Center), projection devices, smart boards, telecommunications, servers, and digital cameras. "Community support is critical to the success of Monarch High School" (MHS webpage). Monarch staff and students much appreciate the Coconut Creek community's participation and attendance in all MHS events, in the MHS School Advisory Forum, the School Advisory Council, in Innovation Zone events, and in mentoring and tutoring our students, supporting everything MHS, and spreading the proud Monarch Spirit!