



# **Executive Summary**

**Cypress Bay 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 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?**

Cypress Bay High School is a typical public high school of the Broward County Public School system with approximately 4,600 students. The school, which opened in 2002, is located in the City of Weston, Florida. Our multicultural school is 54% Hispanic with many families from Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, Mexico, and other countries. Weston is a suburban community located in Broward County, Florida that was established in 1996. The city is part of the Miami/Ft. Lauderdale/Pompano Beach area and has a population of over 65,000 people. Because of the enormous growth of the city in the past 20 years, the schools in Weston are critically overcrowded, which is one of the biggest challenges associated with the community. Being the only high school servicing the city of Weston, Cypress Bay teachers and administration have formed a strong partnership with the Weston community and with many of the companies in the city including Rick Case Automotive Group, Office Depot, Publix, Cleveland Clinic and many others.

## **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.**

Cypress Bay High School's mission is delivering personalized quality education in a professional, safe and caring environment. Our stakeholders are committed to developing individuals who are academically proficient, technologically capable, and socially prepared to be productive, conscientious, and responsible citizens. Cypress Bay High School achieves this mission through offering a variety of athletics and clubs and a full portfolio of Honors, AICE, and AP classes. Despite our size and the capacity issues, we pride ourselves in offering the highest level of excellence through our dedicated teachers, numerous extracurricular programs, and have overwhelming support from our community. Our students are involved and continue to place at the highest levels in numerous national competitions, including Debate, DECA, Band, Chorus, Newspaper, Television Production, Mu Alpha Theta and HOSA. This year, we had 10 National Merit Finalists and a U.S. Presidential Scholar Nominee in addition to 10 Top of the Nation and Top of the World Cambridge winners. We encourage our students to work to their full potential while striving to push themselves and experience new challenges. Our students graduate Cypress Bay High School confident and capable as evidenced by their continued success at the next level in their post-secondary education. Our vision at Cypress Bay High School is to help all students achieve their full potential and graduate from high school being fully college and career ready. Every year, we continue to be extremely proud of fulfilling this purpose with our students.

## **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.**

Cypress Bay High School has a 99% graduation rate with a 98% attending a two or four-year university. We send students to the top universities in the country including Harvard, Stanford, Yale, University of Chicago, Duke, Princeton, and many more. We are projecting more than \$12 million in academic and athletic scholarships this year. This year, we had more than 13 students accepted to one Ivy League School and multiple students accepted to over 40 of the top schools in the country. In the past couple of years, our school has been recognized on a national level for our debate, robotics, DECA, and Mu Alpha Theta competitions. Our television production show, Aftershock, has been named Best Weekly Show in the Southeast region. Aftershock was also awarded the Excellence Award for Broadcasting and named the Best Weekly Show in the nation. This year our Debate team won numerous state championships and nine students will be competing in the National Tournament in Salt Lake City this summer. Last year, we administered 1400 AICE/Cambridge exams and over 3800 AP exams. 2015-16 is the first year we will have students graduate with a Cambridge diploma. We have an 87% AICE passing rate and 81% AP passing rate. We have earned an A rating for eleven years. The school continues to improve in all aspects of student achievement and will strive to achieve these results for the years to come.

## **Additional Information**

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

Cypress Bay High School looks and feels like a college campus. Our Media Center, now called "The Wave", was recently redesigned to reflect the vibe of the campus with Wi-Fi and state of the art equipment. As a result, Cypress Bay High School is the only high school in Broward County to have a media center where resources are located "in the cloud" in addition to having physical copies available on campus. Students are encouraged to spend time before, during and after school collaborating and working on their assignments in "The Wave".

We have an extensive after school program with free tutoring offered in almost every subject. Cypress Bay also partners with many other schools in the community including Parkway Middle School and the local feeder schools, Falcon Cove Middle, and Tequesta Middle by providing after school tutoring and mentoring to their students. Our 55 clubs include one of the largest National Honor Societies with over 300 members. The members are involved in community functions such as the Harvest Drive, Weston Rotary Run, and the Relay for Life. Our PRIDE club also has over 200 members and is active in promoting diversity on and off campus by hosting International Nights, Talent Shows, and a Fashion Show.

In addition to the after school programs, there are numerous evening programs that offer our parents, students and community the opportunity to feel more informed including: Advanced Academic Night, College Fairs, College Nights, Middle School Articulation Night and many more. These events are offered in many languages to accommodate our diverse community. Our parents and community members are also involved in SAC, PTSA and SAF. These organizations meet with students, teachers, parents and community members on a monthly basis and also host informational programs on a variety of interesting topics.

Most recently, the school launched a Latinos in Action class for students who are interested in promoting diversity, leadership and self-efficacy. The students travel to the local elementary schools in an effort to not only increase literacy and math rates of those struggling, but to act as role models. Our UNICEF club has 700 members and has collected \$80,000 in donations. The club was selected "Best Club" by the students in 2016, and the two presidents were chosen for the Cypress Bay Humanitarian award. In addition, the vice-president of the club was chosen by UNICEF-NY to participate in the 16-member National Council. Superintendent Runcie, the School Board of Broward County, and UNICEF-NY will recognize the club on April 21 for their outstanding achievements in the past three years.