

Dave Thomas Education Center

Broward County School District

Mrs. Tracy L Lockhart-Talley, Principal 4690 Coconut Creek Pkwy 4690 Coconut Creek Parkway Coconut Creek, FL 33063-3902

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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?

Dave Thomas Education Center (DTEC) is located at 4690 Coconut Creek Parkway in the city of Coconut Creek, FL on ten acres of land. Dave Thomas offers alternative and non-traditional programs and operates in a number of locations, with one principal -Tracy Lockhart-Talley - who embodies a common philosophy that all students can learn. Alongside Mrs. Talley at DTEC's west campus is Assistant Principal Celeste Humphrey. Both of these administrators have served at this location for 10 years. DTEC is adjacent Atlantic Technical College which specializes in technical and career studies that includes Architecture & Construction, Automotive & Transportation Technology, Health Sciences, and others. A number of DTEC students participate in dual enrollment at ATC and/or continue their academic career with ATC upon graduation. Other Dave Thomas students transition to college and/or career. DTEC is part of the Ely Innovation Zone. DTEC's start time for students is 7:05 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 for faculty and most of its staff.

Another unique quality of DTEC is our Teen Parent site, i.e. Charles Drew Family Resource Center located just minutes from our west campus in the Collier City community in Pompano Beach. Here Assistant Principal, Glenda Daniels has served this campus for seven years. School hours for the students are from 9:30 to 4:15 and 8:45 to 4:15 for faculty. With a current enrollment of 251 students, this setting provides educational opportunities for pre-school students, teen parents, and adults who are part of the GED program. Charles Drew students are enrolled in parenting and child development courses, as well as high school academic course work as they earn credits toward graduation. Teen parents may bring their child(ren) to school with them and drop them to their assigned classroom, and then report to their own classroom for instruction. The school's curriculum is a fully accredited high school program, which also includes electives that promote job training. Our programs reflect the Florida Frameworks and Broward County Performance Standards. The delivery is competency-based/teacher directed, whereby credits are awarded upon demonstrated mastery of skills.

We currently have 78.8 percent of our total population on Free/Reduce Lunch.

Current enrollment and demographics for both campuses are as follows:

- White 22 percent
- Black/African American 58 percent
- Hispanic 17 percent
- Multi-Racial .0143 percent
- Asian .0083 percent
- Native American or Native Indian .0107 percent

The total number of students - both campuses - are as follows:

West - 610 students, grades 7 through 12 Drew -61 Teen Parents

169 Early Headstart and Headstart

894 Students Grand Total

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Changes over the last three years include a steady increase in our high school graduation rate.

There was a 6.6 percent increase in the 2010-2011 school year, 8.2 percent increase in the 2011-2012 school year, a 12.3 percent increase in 2012-2013 school year, a slight decrease in 2013-2014 - 10.2 percent - and in 2014-2015 there was an increase of 17.6 percent.

Post-secondary degrees for faculty and staff on both campuses include seventeen Bachelor degrees, 27 Master degrees, three Ph.Ds, one Specialist degree, and four National Board Certificates. We also have one educator with a National Board in Medicine and another educator who holds an American Medical Technology Board certificate. Additional strategies that our teachers are involved in are our monthly PLCs where teachers focus on deliberate instruction, collaboration on student data and future game plans that will all lead to student achievement.

The demographics for faculty and staff WEST campus are as follows:

Instructional Non-Instructional

Female Black - 21 Female Black - 9

Male Black - 7 Male Black - 5

Female White - 9 Female White - 3

Male White - 1 Male White - 0

Female Hispanic - 1 Female Hispanic - 0

Male Hispanic - 1 Male Hispanic - 0

The demographics for faculty and staff DREW campus are as follows:

Instructional Non-Instructional

Female Black - 16 Female Black - 18

Male Black - 0 Male Black - 5

Female White - 2 Female White - 0

Male White - 0 Male White - 0

Female Hispanic - 2 Female Hispanic - 3

Male Hispanic - 0 Male Hispanic - 0

Female Indian - 1

Student enrollment projections through the 2020-2021 school-year are 618 students. This projection is based on Fall 2015 data, according to the Planning Toll for School Enrollment and Capacity page.

Our West campus is located in Coconut Creek, known as the "Butterfly Capital of the World". It is a well-planned city with a unique environmental consciousness nestled between Miami and Palm Beach. The five-year outlook for the city has an adjusted growth capacity for year 1 as 208.1 and 1.89 by year 5. Spotlighted as one of the "Best Cities to Live in America" by Money Magazine, and a Top Ten Place to Live in Florida by Movoto and Nerd Wallet, Coconut Creek is home to 55,000 residents and supports a diverse, growing business community. Ninety-eight percent of the city's residents deem Coconut Creek as "Excellent" or "Good" and a positive place to live, to raise a family along with its overall quality according to the City of Coconut Creek's home and demographics page. The businesses that grace the streets of the city include 4,947 with 14.3 percent being Black-owned, and 24 percent that are Hispanic-owned. Additionally, the median income is \$53,543 with the average household size of 2.5 persons. One of the challenges that the Coconut Community faces is that 8.5 percent of the population is below the poverty level.

The Drew location is housed in the Collier City in Pompano Beach area. Some of the features include the median listing price of homes is \$119,000, and approximately 42 percent of the population is below the age of 21, and a little more than 84 percent of the residents are African American. There is a Business Resource Center that is specific to small business owners who seek technical assistance, loans,

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training, legal advice, and more. More than 5,000 business persons have attended workshops and since 2014, 68 loans (totaling more than \$1 million) have been awarded. Furthermore, there is a Job Placement Center that services the community, and since 2000, the community of Collier City has grown 26 percent.

Some of the challenges of the city include 67 percent of the area has a large number of casinos, liquor stores, and adult entertainment per capita in comparison to the state of Florida. Most families in Collier City are considered small, i.e. two or three members. Other challenges that our students face is that approximately 42.3 percent of the community live in low income households where the annual yearly income is less than \$25,000, with 32.4 percent of the residents' annual income falls between \$25,000 and \$50,000 i.e. lower middle class. According to the 2016 Graphiq Inc., 64.95 percent of the Collier City population encompass high school graduates, while 12.99 percent who do not have a high school diploma. The crime index of Pompano Beach rates at a six (6) with 100 deemed as the SAFEST. According to the Pompano Beach Crime Data, the annual violent crime percentage is 8.22 compared to that of Florida which is 5.40. In recent years, there were six murders, 62 rapes, 260 robberies, and 544 assaults. Finally, a large percentage of our students come from poverty stricken homes which play a direct role in the sporadic student attendance, ultimately affecting student success.

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 agenda for all DTEC's locations is that of a fully operated pre-school, middle and high school, and adult education facility which consists of general education and electives that promote college and career and job training. The curriculum reflects the Florida Frameworks and Broward County Performance Standards. The delivery is competency-based/teacher directed, whereby credit is awarded upon demonstrated mastery of skills. Our principal's vision and belief is that while Dave Thomas Education Center is an alternative location, she maintains that we are designed to meet the needs of "at risk" youth (ages 14-21) and teen parents. The program is primarily located on the West Campus. The Middle School Academy is also located on the West Campus where students are offered the opportunity to receive high school credits. We also offer a full-service cafeteria and media center, and bus transportation is available for most students. There is no cost to attend the High School or Middle School Academy. Expectations for our students include working at a steady, academically sound pace as they strive to earn credits toward graduation.

Direct Instruction is delivered for the first 15-20 minutes with the onset of each class. Here students receive instruction of a common lesson. Thereafter, students are free to move on to their contracts (syllabus) while the instructor circulates the classroom to provide one-on-one assistance. Students may work at their own pace, however, the expectation is that they move at a steady and meticulous rate. Upon the completion of required assignments, students submit each for a grade. This routine is a practice of every student who seeks completion of coursework according to their course contract. Upon doing so, students earn credits and may opt to return to their home high school (a traditional setting) after "catching up". Students also have the option to remain with our institution where they can earn their Standard High School Diploma.

Dave Thomas' Vision and Mission statements read as follows:

Vision: Our vision is to Stimulate, Motivate, Educate, and Graduate our students!

Mission: Our mission is to provide a relevant, rigorous curriculum in a safe and conducive learning environment. As well as, empower each student with lifelong skills and academic strategies that prepare them for college or careers in a global society.

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.

Future areas of improvement over the next three years include dissemination of \$100,000 General Obligation Bond under the School Choice Enhancement Program. Project selection will be managed by SAC members and voted upon by faculty, staff, parents, students, and the community. Potential future endeavors include ceiling projectors for classrooms, a marquee, and reconstruction of lab 202 West Campus and Media/Lab for the Drew Campus. Additional and current work orders, totaling 222, include general maintenance, safety, preventive maintenance, and indoor air quality. Several work orders - 78 to date - in these areas have been met and officially closed out for the fiscal year.

We expect the graduation rate to continue to increase over the next three years.

Additional Information

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

Each campus can be proud of the accolades that make us exceptional! In addition to Drew's Headstart and teen parent programs, Drew offers the Adult Basic Education (ABE) program, the General Education Development (GED) program, and services for English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) to the general public. Drew sponsors its Student of the Month recognition ceremony, where students are hailed for their accomplishments in the areas of Reading, Mathematics, Social Studies, Attendance, and the Teen Parent Nursery Awards. Drew was also host to its 'Just Say No!' parade where our Headstart students were the stars! DTEC has had several cultural events, science fairs, senior events, and more. An annual and well attended event that showcases the talent of our students is our very own Dave Thomas Idol Show. This yearly affair features talented singers, dancers, Spoken Word performances, rappers, Steppers, and judges who immolate the panel of judges from the original American Idol show. Performing is not our only juncture of talent. Each year, students take center stage as they match their athletic abilities in our Middle-vs-High School flag football game, our Students- vs -Teachers Basketball games, and our soccer and basketball competitions against teams from other Centers.

Over the last three years, DTEC and Charles Drew Family Resource Center has infused a number of student led incentives to increase attendance, school spirit, student participation and the like. These include

Another feature of Dave Thomas (West campus) is the DTTV in-house news program which airs daily. DTTV Tech Squad is made up of students who troubleshoot minor technical issues (TV) in the classrooms. There are also movie days, public service announcements, and District mandated footage for teachers, staff, and students to view. We have a number of clubs including Human Relations Council (HRC), First Priority Club (religion based), Crime Watch, and Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA). Other activities include field trips, campus dances, motivational and athletic guest speakers, Career Day and Thanksgiving food drives where each recipients are our own students who are in need.

Teachers and students are currently in test preparation mode as we infuse FCAT, ACT, SAT, FSA, EOC, and PERT push in and pull out. Bullying of any kind is strongly prohibited and students have been apprised of Broward Schools' policy regarding this offense. An additional safety step for all registered students was individual photographs which were placed in our schools' database for easy student recognition.

Moreover, parents, students, and faculty recently participated in the District-sponsored school survey. Here participants had the opportunity to 'rate' their level of satisfaction and comfort with the school, teachers, administrators, school climate, policies, procedures, and more. The Leadership Team is busy with a number of projects including collaboration of the School-wide Behavioral Plan, Rtl teamwork, the assembly and review of all AdvancEd notifications, as well as the assimilation of the School Improvement Plan. Dave Thomas holds its monthly School Improvement Council meetings, which is well attended by students, stakeholders, faculty and staff, and its administrators. Other safety measures that are practiced regularly, to ensure the well-being of everyone, are our safety drills. Administered with fidelity - the success of the number of 'code' color warnings are monitored in the event of a true emergency.

In conclusion, Dave Thomas and Charles Drew Resource Center is a force to be reckoned with as we address the 'whole' child. We recognize that our students are our clients, and a proportionate number of them come to us with special circumstances. We know that we must strive to reach every child, and as we maintain this pledge, we understand that this is indeed, what keeps us close. Our students are our most valuable assets!

Together We Can!

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