



Executive Summary

College Academy at Broward College

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?

The College Academy @ Broward College (CA) is a full-time Dual Enrollment Broward County public collegiate high school established in the 2001-2002 school year. The College Academy is a joint venture between The School Board of Broward County and Broward College (BC). High school juniors enrolled full-time in our two year program have the opportunity to receive both a high school diploma from The School Board of Broward County and an Associate of the Arts (AA) degree from Broward College. The College Academy and Broward College are accredited by AdvancEd. The College Academy originated on Broward College's Central Campus in Davie, Florida. In 2015-16, College Academy expanded to Broward College's North Campus in Coconut Creek, Florida

Students apply to College Academy in their sophomore year. Students begin their application process with The College Academy in January. Students come from public, private and home school settings, and must reside in Broward County. Applicants must have a 3.25 un-weighted grade point average and meet score requirements on the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT), SAT or ACT. Students receive free tuition and fees, textbooks and transportation. Students have access to all Broward College facilities including computer and science laboratories and state-of-the-art libraries. All courses are taught on a Broward College campuses. Students take approximately 15 college credits Fall and Winter Terms and approximately 6 college credits during Summer Term.

This unique high school attracts the best and the brightest in our county. Over the last five years the average high school graduation rate has been 100% and 100% earning their associate of arts degree. 80% of these AA Degrees are received with Honors. 90% qualify for a Bright Futures Scholarship. The class of 2015 was awarded over \$12,000,000 in scholarships. 100% of College Academy graduates continue on to further their education at both in and out of state colleges and universities.

The College Academy is a small and family like setting. The school population is diverse and reflects the diversity of the community and the county. All of our students are taught by instructors who have Masters or Doctorate degrees, 50% of those instructors are National Board Certified, and all are qualified adjunct college instructors. The instructors also serve as mentors and tutors for students.

What makes the College Academy unique is the location of the school and the many avenues of support provided by the school. Students receive support from dedicated high school professional school counselors and a Broward College Student Success Advisor at each campus. The college instructors employed by the high school are available to students for tutoring and mentoring at a minimum of two hours per day. College Academy students have access to all the Broward College campus resources including the tutoring centers. College Academy encourages students to engage in Broward College Student Life activities and organizations in order to have the total collegiate experience. The College Academy at Broward College - Central and North Campuses - does not have dedicated school buildings on the college campus. On each campus, Broward College allocated space for administrative offices and teacher planning areas. Students have classes in buildings throughout the campuses.

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.

College Academy Vision: All College Academy @ Broward College students will be prepared for the academic rigor of upper division university studies by concurrently earning a high school diploma and an Associate of Arts degree.

College Academy Mission: The College Academy @ Broward College, in collaboration with students, parents, and Broward College, provides an educational bridge from high school to college for accelerated college students who wish to begin the pursuit of their academic goals through dual-enrollment.

The curriculum at the College Academy @ BC offers greater depth, breadth, and rigor than the traditional public high school and additionally provides access to the Broward College Honors Institute. This curriculum affords students the opportunity to enroll in a variety of college courses ranging from organic chemistry, music theory, cost accounting to technical writing, developmental psychology and differential equations, as well as access to expanded experiences in music, dance, visual arts and theater. Students may select from a menu of over 358 college level academic and technical courses to satisfy the high school diploma and associate degree requirements simultaneously. Academic and advisement seminars that are part of the school's innovative bridge of transition and support service are additional distinguishing features. College advisement personnel and high school counselors work collaboratively with the students from the time they enter CA @ BC. Each student receives an individualized two-year educational plan. The educational plans are developed around their area of interest and academic requirements. Students select a college career pathway prior to the second term with elective courses aligned to the career pathway and general education courses chosen from the Broward College course catalog to fulfill the AA degree and remaining high school diploma requirements.

The language arts curriculum offers both structure and choice. Students take English Composition 1 and 2 and Introduction to Literature as part of their required program. Students may also select additional language arts/humanities courses to fulfill elective requirements including Creative Writing, Professional Technical Writing, American Literature and British Literature. Emphasis is on shared inquiry into literature, writing and grammar, and vocabulary development. Students do formal and informal writing including literary critical analysis as well as completing a research paper. They are introduced to MLA documentation as a precursor to the writing requirements for the skills needed in all their college classes. Research skills, including using the library, Internet and electronic databases provide the foundation for public presentations. The pace and depth of study is at the college level and utilizes writing labs provided by the college to remediate and provide enrichment.

The College Academy @ BC social studies sequence begins with juniors taking six credits of United States History. The American History class is distinguished by real time research, examination of primary sources, and team projects on historical and contemporary issues. In the senior year students take dual enrollment courses in National Government and Macroeconomics the course incorporates debate, lecture, and small group projects into their instructional methods.

Placement test scores and pre-requisite requirements guide the mathematics curriculum. Therefore the mathematics sequence is tailored to individual needs and interest of the student. Most students enroll in College Algebra, but may test into an accelerated five-credit dual enrollment class, combining the study of Precalculus and Trigonometry. Students interested in STEM fields may progress through Differential Equations and Calculus III. The instructors of the mathematics curriculum are specialists in their field all having advanced degrees. The instructional methods used by instructors include face-to-face instruction, hands on manipulative used in group activities, available notes from class lectures, and computer aided instruction through online math labs. Students have access to Broward College Math Lab and the Broward College STEM Lab at no cost.

College Academy @ BC students take all of their science classes with Broward College professors. Starting in the second semester students have twenty-four science courses to choose from. Courses available include an incredible diversity of college biological and

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physical science courses generally unavailable in traditional high schools including advanced physics, organic chemistry, astronomy and advanced biology. The rigorous science curriculum offers high school students the use of state-of the art college facilities and the opportunity to use instruments and techniques during the required laboratory component.

Humanities classes including art and foreign language are also taken with Broward College professors. Students select from a variety of courses in fine and performing arts, including pottery, painting, photography, dance, music, and theater. STEM students are encouraged to select a course in philosophy, ethics, or logic. In addition, classes are offered in studio work, students may study music theory, set and costume design, and participate in theatrical productions. A two-year foreign language requirement can be met through Spanish, American Sign Language, or the many language programs offered in the college curriculum. Students may also enroll in the third and fourth year of the same language.

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.

College Academy at Broward College is an "A" School rated by the Florida Department of Education. College Academy received a 10 out of 10 possible stars on Great Schools and is rated as one of the top 5 schools in Florida according to Niche.com.

The College Academy at Broward College is number 1 in Broward County for highest mean SAT and ACT scores. Our students consistently score high on the PSAT and once again this year exceeded district and state averages on the October 2015 administration of the PSAT. For the past three years, several College Academy students have been recognized for their outstanding achievement on the college preparation and entrance exams by the National Merit Scholarship programs including National Merit Finalists and Semi Finalists and the National Hispanic Recognition program.

100% of our students graduate from high school and transition to a college or university or the military. Many of our students receive merit based scholarships to assist with funding their education. Each year, students are awarded national scholarships to assist with funding their education. Past Posse Scholarship recipients were matched with Mount Holyoke and Syracuse University - and each will receive a full scholarship for cost of attendance. Students have utilized the Questbridge scholarship to attend Stanford University and University of Chicago. Most of our students stay in state and attend our State University System schools and will use their Bright Futures scholarship, Florida PrePaid program and merit based scholarships. Over the past three years students attend notable out of state schools such as MIT, Columbia, Stanford, Tufts, Wake Forrest, and many other prestigious Tier I Universities and Colleges. Last school year, 40% of our seniors were admitted to the Top 50 universities. Over the last three years, seniors have received an appointment to the Naval Academy.

Due to the recent legislative changes that increased the Bright Futures eligibility test scores, our targeted area of improvement is our ability to assist our students in meeting the higher test score requirements. Over the past three years, our goal has been to increase the number of Bright Future recipients by 1% each year. Our teachers engage in professional development and have established a professional learning community in order to review the new test format and to discuss how to incorporate test preparation and the teaching of the skills into their curriculum. Our Guidance staff reviews our junior class PSAT scores to identify those students who would benefit from early intervention and remediation.

Additional Information

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

For additional information on the College Academy please visit our website at Collegeacademy@browardschools.com.