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**Executive Summary Template School Accreditation**

**2018-2019**

The Executive Summary (ES) provides the school an opportunity to describe in narrative form its vision as well as strengths and challenges within the context of continuous improvement. Use this template to complete the responses to the various questions below. The responses should be brief, descriptive, and appropriate for the specific section. Transfer completed narratives into the corresponding sections of the Executive Summary found online in ASSIST.

**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?

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Montessori Academy student enrollment is 502. There are four Head Start classes, and three combined Specialized, and regular VPK classes and twenty-one classes in grades K-5. The school is located in the central area of Broward County in the city of Lauderhill. The demographics consist of 94% Black, 1% White, and 3% Hispanic, and1% Multi-Race student. 99% are provided with Free and Reduced Lunch. As a result, the school is a Title I school. Title I, Part A (Title I) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended (ESEA) provides financial assistance to local educational agencies (LEA’s) and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards (USDOE). In addition, another unique feature presented to our school is the fact that through the SSOS, Student Success Opportunity School, a strategic initiative by Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) to review the performance of schools utilizing a variety of criteria such as student academic performance, school enrollment, climate, facilities and other local factors.

SSOS provides an opportunity for the District to work with parents, students, staff and community members to discuss the potential educational options available for students that are sustainable and promote increased student achievement. As a result, the community selected a Montessori model for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy. As a result, our school utilizes a Montessori Philosophy as a component to adhere to teaching our students’ life skills, peace education, student choice and the Four C’s in relation to Twenty First Century Learning Skills (communication, collaboration, creativity and critical-thinking). Our Montessori model of education, developed by Dr. Maria Montessori, is a child-centered educational approach based on scientific observations of children from birth to adulthood. It is a view of the child as one who is naturally eager for knowledge and capable of initiating learning in a supportive, thoughtfully prepared learning environment. It is an approach that values the human spirit and the development of the whole child—physical, social, emotional, cognitive.

**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 school’s vision is to educate students to achieve their maximum potential through the interdependent methods of the Montessori Philosophy. The mission is to create an atmosphere where certified Montessori teachers demonstrate, monitor, encourage, and model the characteristics (grace, courtesy, perseverance, respect, responsibility, friendship, effort, flexibility, problem-solving and initiative) that prepare students for high academic achievement and positive peaceful relationships that impact their homes, peers, community and the world. Our school’s core value of standards-based instruction for our K-5 student population that embodies our Montessori model results in students meeting high expectations. Ultimately, resulting in increased student achievement in 3rd grade literacy rates. The 2015-2016 3rd grade FSA LEA was 12%; 2016-2017, we increased to 29% and 2017-2018, we increased to 35%.

**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.

Our school is improving student achievement every year through 3rd grade literacy. We jumped two letter grades from 2016-2017 to 2017-2018 earning the letter grade of a “C”. The data shows that we performed phenomenally in math. MLK is also among the Top 1% (ranked #2 out of 1,635 traditional elementary schools) for its (2018 vs. 2017) FSA Math Components Percentage Point Change of +42. This placed MLK Montessori Academy in the #1 spot in Broward County.

2016-2017 current Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) data:

* 22% ELA
* 26% Math
* 17% Science

2017-2018 current Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) data:

* 27% ELA
* 50% Math
* 11% Science

2018-2019 Projected Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) data:

* 38% ELA
* 55% Math
* 25% Science

Additionally, the school continues to make mark improvements towards a positive climate with the community/stakeholders, the staff and the students. Some examples of this are Montessori Magnet promotion; Open House, Family Fun events, running an effective School Advisory Council; provide resources and support to staff; enhance safety and security; updated and added extra technology; Business Partner events; and updated Media Center Books/technology to promote literacy, Monthly Food Pantry Distribution with Mobile Food Pantry Organization.

[**Additional**](http://www.advanc-ed.org/assist/s/diagnostic/section/view?surveyId=1147697&sectionId=265) **Information**

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