



Executive Summary for Hollywood Central Preparatory K-8

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.

Description

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?

Hollywood Central Preparatory K-8, the oldest school in Hollywood, FL, serves 360 students from Pre-K to 6th Grade, representing a diverse linguistic background including Spanish, Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, and Portuguese. Our robust ESE program includes specialized teachers, speech pathologists, an ESE Specialist, autism programs, and two Pre-K ESE classes, as well as gifted student support. Now a Cambridge School, focused in developing a student-centered experience fostering responsibility, innovation, confidence, engagement, and reflection. Additionally, we have enhanced our curriculum with performing arts like drama, chorus, art, and band.

Our student body is 16% Caucasian, 46% Hispanic, 28% African American, 4% Multiracial, and 4% Asian, with a gender split of 54% male and 46% female. We serve a multicultural community and often host international visitors. Competition from nearby charter schools has impacted enrollment.

We benefit from an active PTA that organizes events such as Volunteer Breakfasts, Field Day, Heart Run, Book Fairs, and fall festivals, also sponsoring field trips. Community partners include local clubs, churches, hospitals, and the Hollywood Police Department, which offers mentoring, tutoring, reading initiatives, and donation drives to support our students.

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 mission of Hollywood Central Preparatory K-8 is to provide education for all students within a safe, structured environment. The school's instructional model includes planned learning opportunities with individualized expectations embedded in the Cambridge philosophy. Students in all grade levels from Pre-K through 6th Grade are encouraged to believe that they can accomplish anything. As a Cambridge School, we are committed to developing a student-centered experience fostering responsibility, innovation, confidence, engagement, and reflection. Currently, we are in Year 1 of a three-year implementation plan. Next year, we will be incorporating Marine Science and Integrated Technology including Artificial Intelligence. Year three will be full implementation as we will be a full Kindergarten to Eighth Grade School. The faculty consists of qualified teachers, many with advanced degrees and certifications. Classrooms use a differentiated curriculum to address various learning styles, aiming to align instruction with state standards.

The school delivers standards-based instruction at each grade level. Teachers collaborate in teams to design learning cycles, including team planning, formative assessments, and project-based activities. Students utilize learning goals and scales to personalize their progress and monitor achievements. Interventions and enrichment options are available through differentiated instruction to support student outcomes. Hollywood Central offers students the opportunity to showcase their talents in Art, Chorus, World Language competitions, Band, Theater, Spanish, Technology, Coding, Debate, and WHCP K-8 TV, Journalism, and Yearbook. Additional programs include Safety Patrols, Student Council/Student Government, focus on skill development and engagement in learning. These activities aim to build confidence and collaboration among students.

Non-academic areas, such as life skills and wellness, are supported through mentoring, guidance groups, and Student of the Month recognition centered on character education. Technology is integrated into instruction, with classrooms equipped with laptops, projectors, and document cameras and new Promethean Boards. A Technology Support Specialist manages and updates equipment to support college and career readiness.

Staff members work to maintain a positive learning environment that supports student success. Instructional methods include project-based learning, structured learning cycles, and higher-order thinking activities. The school states that students have access to education tailored to individual pacing and learning preferences. Creating an orderly environment is presented as essential to learning, and the school expresses a commitment to treating students respectfully. Hollywood Central Preparatory K-8 links its educational quality to collaboration between home, school, and community, and emphasizes preparing

students to learn independently. Change and growth are addressed by encouraging resilience when facing challenges. The school also highlights the importance of interpersonal skills and respect for diversity to foster an inclusive environment.

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.

Hollywood Central Preparatory K-8 has earned the Five Star School designation twelve times, recognizing its strengths in volunteerism, family engagement, advisory groups, business collaborations, and student services. The school also holds the Golden School Award from the Department of Education for exceptional volunteer work, along with multiple Little Red Schoolhouse awards for its comprehensive programs.

Other past honors include the Model Physical Education School Award, recognition from the Sunshine State School Public Relations Association, Title 1 Math Challenge accolades, top finishes in the Broward County Spanish Competition, and the Broward School of Distinction Award. Most recently, the school won the Broward County Public Schools Partnership of the Year Award for its joint initiatives with the Hollywood Police Department, which support mentorship, literacy programs, and student assistance efforts.

In the last three years, the school has received numerous distinctions. To promote achievement, students are grouped with peers from schools sharing similar socioeconomic backgrounds, encouraging collaboration and strategy exchange.

Baseline scores from the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) show third graders with 41% proficiency in English Language Arts, fourth graders at 53%, and fifth graders at 58%. In math, proficiency rates are 47% for third grade, 62% for fourth grade, and 56% for fifth grade.

The latest FAST data highlights English Language Arts as the primary focus for improvement this year. Over the next three years, the school will continue using the Response to Intervention (RTI) framework, analyzing academic and behavioral information to identify student needs and offer targeted support.

Additional Information

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

This year, our theme is “Red Carpet Ready...Lights, Camera, Action, Learn!” And what better way to describe our scholars? Every day, they step onto the stage of learning, filled with talent, curiosity, and potential. Each classroom is a spotlight, and every teacher is a director guiding students toward success. Together, we are preparing them not just for a role—but for a lifetime performance of achievement and growth.

We encourage every student to pursue excellence in all endeavors. A key asset of our campus is a 500-seat auditorium, which serves as an ideal venue for presenting students' talents and achievements. The Hollywood Central Performing Arts Center accommodates numerous events throughout the year, including student showcases, in-house field trips, grade-level presentations, special events, and award ceremonies. Through collaboration with the Arts and Culture Center of Hollywood, this facility is also accessible for community use.

As a Title 1 school, we are committed to providing additional support for our students and their families. We offer parent training sessions on essential topics such as literacy and numeracy skills, online safety, and B.E.S.T. Standards Assessment preparation. Title 1 funding enables us to employ a dedicated Reading Intensive Teacher to assist students in enhancing their reading proficiency.

Hollywood Central Preparatory K-8 has introduced an Aftercare program designed to provide comprehensive services to families. Based on the customer service survey results, this initiative addresses a significant need within our community.