



## Executive Summary for Croissant Park Elementary School

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?

Croissant Park Elementary is a school rich in history and tradition. It is located at 1800 SW 4th Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33315 in the Croissant Park community of southern central Ft. Lauderdale, north of State Road 84, south of Davie Boulevard, east of I-95 and west of Andrews Avenue. Frank Croissant developed the neighboring community in the early 1920's. Croissant Park Elementary serves the Croissant Park community, as well as the surrounding communities of Stranahan and Edgewood. The original facility was built in 1951 to serve the post war expansion of the southern part of downtown Ft. Lauderdale. The present two-story facility was built in 1993 that serves approx. 800 students. Then later addition of 8 modular classrooms have expanded the school's capacity. As of September, the total population of Croissant Park Elementary was 653.

Demography Breakdown Hispanic – 52% Black- 28% White – 14% Multi-racial – 5% India - <1%

Of the 653 students, 87% of the total school population is on Free and Reduced lunch. In addition, 214 students, or 30.5% of the total school population are classified as ESOL. 19% (132) are identified as Students with Disabilities.

Faculty Education Levels:

5 th grade: 4 teachers Bachelor's -1 Master's Degree- 2 Doctorate- 1

4 th grade: 4 teachers Masters Degree- 3 Bachelors Degree- 1

3 rd grade: 5 teachers Masters Degree- 2 Bachelors Degree- 3

2 nd grade: 6 teachers Masters Degree- 2 Bachelors Degree- 4

1 st Grade: 5 teachers Masters Degree- 1 Bachelors Degree- 4

Kindergarten- 5 teachers Masters Degree- 2 Bachelors Degree- 3

ESE- 7 teachers Masters Degree- 4 Bachelors Degree- 3

Croissant Park Elementary is faced with high student mobility. The large ESOL population has presented the unique challenge of English language acquisition along with instruction of grade level curriculum. Additionally, we house a preschool ESE and Autism cluster K-5 classes increasing the number of ESE students on campus. Parent involvement has significantly increased as the PTSO, SAC and SAF have collaborated in joint family events (Day and Night

activities).

We provide student mentoring through The United Way Reading Pals Program that is a non-profit organization that has provided over 20 volunteers to Croissant Park Elementary to read, one-on-one, with our struggling students in grades one and two. Twenty-five students in grades one and two are positively impacted once per week for one hour each to bridge the gaps in Reading. Data is collected and is used as a progress- monitoring tool for student growth.

Additionally, every two weeks the United Way provides a new book to the students.

The following activities/programs have been added to school's curriculum - Robotics Club (after school) - Spelling Bee - World Language Spanish (K-5) Specials - Spanish Club (after school) - Debate Club (after school) - Peer to Peer mentoring Gr5/ASD 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 statement of the staff and community of Croissant Park Elementary is to provide a safe, success-oriented environment for each of our students in which excellence in teaching is evidenced and lifelong learning is promoted. Every student, parent, staff member, and community member of Croissant Park Elementary treat each other with respect. Our core attitude to learning and growing is built on the framework of a growth mindset. All stakeholders' work as a team to ensure each student reaches his/her full potential. We believe in the partnership between the school and its families. This is wholly expressed in our vision statement, to be a school with highly effective instructional practices that fuels a growth mindset among all learners.

Our teaching philosophy is grounded in Carol Dweck's theory - Growth Mindset. The values and beliefs of our school have stemmed from the Tribes Learning Communities. The Mission of Tribes is to assure the healthy development of every child so that each has the knowledge, competency, and resilience to be successful in today's changing world. We have developed inclusion, a sense of value and community for all students in every classroom. Tribes are a step-by-step process to achieve specific learning goals. Five agreements are honored: attentive listening, appreciations, no put downs, mutual respect, and participation with the right to pass.

To encourage school wide behavior, we have adopted "Brag Tags." This is a way to recognize and reward our students throughout the school. Students collect tags on chains for the school year. The chains are kept in the classroom and worn for special occasions. At the end of the year, students take the chains home as a memento of their achievements.

Awards Assemblies are held to recognize academic, attendance and social successes. Students are given awards for Sun- Sentinel Kids of Character, teacher made awards, and attendance awards. Parents attend award assemblies to

celebrate student success.

We have a school partnership through the Kiwanis Club Organization of Ft. Lauderdale. Volunteers come monthly to highlight students exhibiting good character and good citizenship. In addition, they provide books and dictionaries for students to take home.

We have an After-School Program (ASP), which offers academic and recreational programs for children after school. It also offers programs for early release and no-school days, as well as programs for the summer. They draw on the most effective academic enrichment, physical fitness, nutritional and life skill programs to challenge children and make learning fun. They provide a healthy snack, along with dinner.

We teach the students in and out of the classroom. We offer Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) camps, which are held after school to reinforce skills taught leading up to the FSA. We offer Title 1 Family Nights to encourage a strong home school connection. The Family Nights provide parents with resources that can be utilized at home to ensure academic success.

Ongoing Professional Development is offered to teachers. Breakout sessions provide teachers with grade level specific strategies and effective teacher practices. Teacher Directed Improvement Grants are awarded to teachers to attend conferences.

### **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.

Croissant Park Elementary School's attained a 'B' school rating.

### **Additional Information**

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

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