



Executive Summary for Oakridge 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?

Oakridge Elementary School was established in 1959. We are a Title 1 neighborhood school located East of I-95 in the North Central area of Hollywood, Florida. The neighborhood consists of middle to low-income single-family homes, duplexes and rental apartments with little commercial activity.

In the last three years, Oakridge Elementary has experienced many changes. Our school has been under SMART Bond construction and many areas are being improved including refurbishing the cafeteria. Our enrollment has shown a slight decrease by approximately 5%. Additionally, the socioeconomic status of the neighborhood has changed. We have increased from 90% free and reduced lunch to 99%. We have a student mobility rate of approximately 45%, which presents a challenge in making gains in student growth.

Currently, 409 students are enrolled in grades Pre-K through 5th Grade including five ASD classes, 1 Voluntary Prekindergarten class, 1 Intensive PreK class, and 1 Specialized Pre-K class. Of these students 52% are Hispanic, 38% are Black, 6% are White, 2% are Multi-racial and 2% are Asian. Thirty-three percent of our students are in the ESE program, and 33% of our students are English Language Learners.

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 Oakridge Elementary is to develop an effective learning environment through strong relationships between teachers, staff, students, parents, business partners and members of the community. We believe that all students can learn in a safe, standards-driven, technologically advancing, culturally diverse school.

The vision of Oakridge Elementary is to build a partnership between our parents and school through positive communication. We have a vision that teachers have a responsibility to provide a framework for parents to nurture their child's formal instruction at home. It is also our vision to provide an atmosphere where parents are able to express their views and to assist in problem solving.

We believe that a partnership must exist between our parents and school. We promote positive communication between the school and our students' homes. We provide a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in activities that support our school. We believe teachers have a responsibility to provide a framework for parents to nurture their child's formal instruction at home. We provide materials and strategies that can successfully be used at home to reinforce the academic success of children. It is our goal to provide an atmosphere where parents are able to express their views and to assist in problem solving in an open and positive climate at school. We want parents to understand that we value them as stakeholders and emphasize their roles as advocates.

We are continually looking to build a mutually beneficial partnership with local businesses to enhance our school, community and businesses. Their participation is encouraged in our school by interacting with our students through programs such as Career Day and the Latinos in Action program. Business leaders are invited to become members of our School Advisory Council and attend our monthly SAC meetings. All our partners are listed on our school website and included in our monthly newsletters.

Students share their personal experience, family interests, and culture at the beginning of the school year through ice breaking/getting to know you activities. Throughout the school year teachers participate in monthly cultural awareness programs, such as Hispanic Heritage, and Black History Month. During these times students and teachers can present and share cultural experiences.

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.

Notable achievements that have occurred within the last three years begin with raising our Math and Science Proficiency scores. In Math, scores improved 7% and in Science, scores improved 11%. Also included is the addition of 21st Century Community Learning Center, which is funded through an acquired grant. The program is run by school staff and tailored to meet the academic needs of our students.

In addition, Broward County Public Schools has provided us with the services of a School Guardian who promotes a positive relationship between students and local law enforcement, as well as an extra layer of security for our school community.

During the next 3 years we strive to increase our school grade to a grade of A. We also aim to increase our parental involvement as well as increasing our enrollment. We are working with the community to also increase their involvement and knowledge of the needs of our school family. Working together with the parents, community and hardworking teachers we also strive to show great gains and progress in all areas of academics.

Additional Information

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