



Executive Summary for North Andrews Gardens Elementary

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.

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?

North Andrews Gardens Elementary is a Visual and Performing Arts Magnet located in Oakland Park, Florida. It was built on a former mango farm in 1956 to serve 425 neighborhood students. In 1990, it was designated the first "mirror magnet" in Broward County and students were bussed from all around the county to attend the new Visual and Performing Arts Program. Enrollment increased tremendously. At one-point, North Andrews Gardens educated 1100 students in 22 portables. In 1996, our new Media Center and Visual and Performing Arts Buildings were opened thus completing phase one of construction. By 2005, our new cafeteria, office building, and state-of-the-art classrooms were completed. Changes in population occurred over the next several years, extending our magnet boundaries from the Atlantic Ocean to the Everglades, south of Atlantic Boulevard and north of Oakland Park Boulevard. As a result, North Andrews Gardens added six modular classrooms and six portables to accommodate continual growth in enrollment as well as to meet the statewide class size mandate. Currently, North Andrews Gardens Elementary has 37 K-5 classes. Our Visual and Performing Arts program includes classes in art, band, orchestra, show choir, and drama. Over the past several years, North Andrews Gardens Elementary has seen an increase in the number of students on free and reduced lunch (2005: 51%-present: 100%) designating us as a Title One School. The school has seen a dramatic increase in enrollment over the past three years as well. Demographic data for 2022-2023: 780 students (14.9% White, 23.2% African American, 2.2% Asian, 4.2% Multiracial, 55.4%Hispanic) In addition, 20.1% of our 2022-2023 students are identified as Limited English Proficient (LEP) students. North Andrews Gardens' faculty demographics are as follows: 85% White, 11% African American; and 3% Hispanic. Of these members, 85% of them are female while 15% are Male. Twelve members of our faculty/staff are bilingual. The local community appears to be a cross section of longtime residents whose children have attended the school over multiple generations as well as families from various Hispanic speaking countries who have settled here. A typical school in Fort Lauderdale is made up of 16.8% Hispanic students, so North Andrews Gardens Elementary School has a drastically different ethnic distribution compared to other schools in the city. The demographic breakdown of North Andrews Gardens Elementary School is very different from that of a typical school in the state of Florida, which is made up of 28.6% Hispanic students on average. One challenge that North Andrews Gardens Elementary faces is educating students from a wide, diverse range of socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds, especially those still assimilating to a new country.

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.

North Andrews Gardens Elementary philosophy is based on the idea that the purpose of education is to provide a continuation of essential learning. It is our goal to supply each student with 21st century knowledge and skills to become college and career ready for the global economy of the future. This will aid our youth in becoming self-sufficient individuals mentally, physically, socially, and morally so that they can meet the demands of a rapidly changing society. It is essential to instill in each student the importance of individual worth and to create a positive self-image through personal development of initiative, resourcefulness, and responsibility. It is the intent of the faculty to lead students toward being disciplined, productive, informed, successful, and fulfilled individuals. To achieve these ideals, mutual respect and understanding must be present in the learning process on the part of all participants - the faculty, students, and community. It is the mission of North Andrews Gardens Elementary to provide education in all academic areas ensuring that all students will meet the highest standards while integrating the Visual and Performing Arts. At North Andrews Gardens, the vision is "Setting the standard for excellence in academics as well as the Visual and Performing Arts". The school embodies its purpose through a master schedule, which provides for the integration of the Visual and Performing Arts within every child's daily schedule. In addition to a rigorous academic curriculum based on Florida's Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards, each child receives 45 minutes of Visual and Performing Arts instruction in Drama, Band, Show Choir, Art, or Strings. Students in Kindergarten through Second Grade experience an exposure program in which they experience each discipline on a six- week rotating wheel schedule. Students in Grades 3-5 are assigned a "major" in which they focus on a specific discipline daily. Students with exceptional talents are invited to perform in our advanced classes; Pizzazz, Advanced Band, and Honors Orchestra who conduct rehearsal after school hours. Students' successes in these disciplines are showcased through various performances throughout the year. All students are expected to maintain the highest level of behavior within all classes so that they can get the most out of instruction. The CHAMPS Classroom Management System and through following the Panther Code; 1. follow all rules and staff directions, 2. respect personal space and feelings, and 3. use positive words to communicate, students support a positive school climate that allows learning to flourish. Students are also able to focus their efforts on achieving academically to their fullest potential. Administration highlights various students and classes during the daily morning announcements. By accentuating the positive, we hope to create a learning environment that embodies a standard of excellence that will eventually transcend their elementary school years.

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.

North Andrews Gardens Elementary is proud of our many accomplishments! The results of our 2023 Statewide Assessments scores indicates our school grade is a (B) for the 2022-2023 school year. We demonstrated academic growth in Mathematics achievement growing from 40% in 2021, to 58% in 2022, and to 60% in 2023. Our English Language Arts (ELA) scores went from 49% in 2021 to 55% in 2022. Our science scores went from 30% in 2021 to 44% in 2022. We are also proud to have implemented Digital 4 Blended Learning model along with our Digital 5 Blended Learning. Through the support of various grants and partnerships, we also have our very own school garden, which is producing various spices and vegetables which students have planted and will eventually harvest. Maintaining gardens allows teachers to enhance student STEM skills in life science. Our Visual and Performing Arts Program is highly acclaimed. We are very proud of the various outside performances and art displays our students have participated in over the years including but not limited to: Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood Airport Winterfest, Christmas on Las Olas, the Lauderdale By the Sea Holiday Celebration, Oakland Park Library, Oakland Park Youth Day, and McDonald's. Students have won many art contests around our county and have two bus benches in our hometown that are replications of art created by our students. Our school musical performance of "Shrek" was rehearsed and combined the talents of our drama program, show choir, band, and orchestra. The number of students performing on-stage, in the orchestra pit, and managing the tech component so vast that our performance needed to be moved to a high school auditorium. Through classroom assistance, field trip chaperoning, reading with students and providing support during special events, our volunteers play a special role in supporting our endeavors at our school. Over the next three years, our school is striving to achieve further mastery of Florida's Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards through increasing the rigor of student instruction, implementing strategies that enhance all learning styles and increasing our school grade to an "A.". We will be integrating new technology within the classroom that will assist our teachers in providing instruction that supports collaborative student thinking and production. We will be integrating new technology within the classroom that will assist our teachers in providing instruction that supports collaborative student thinking and production.

Additional Information

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

Our Visual/ Performing Arts program began in 1990 and continues today! School alumni have gone on to perform on Broadway, earn Doctorate Degrees and some have even returned to North Andrews Gardens Elementary to teach! In response to our working families, an afterschool program is located on campus. Our bi-lingual faculty and staff help bridge communication with our families.