



Executive Summary for Pine Ridge Education Center

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

Pine Ridge Education Center stands out within Broward County Public Schools due to its unique approach in addressing the social emotional needs of students through five specialized programs. These programs aim to equip students with the necessary social emotional strategies to thrive in their traditional schools. The five distinctive programs at Pine Ridge include K-6 Behavior Change, K-6 A.E.S. (Alternative to External Suspension), K-6 Behavior Intervention Program, R.I.S.E. (Responsibility Increases Student Equity), and IMPAC (Interventions Making Positive Adjustment Change). Students enrolled in the K-6 Behavior Change program remain at Pine Ridge Education Center until the Transition Team confirms that the required number of days has been completed and the student has successfully finished the program. The R.I.S.E. program provides an accelerated course that students finish within one calendar school year. After completing the program, students transition back to their homeschool once the Transition Team confirms their successful completion. IMPAC and A.E.S. students attend for up to 10 days before returning to their homeschools.

Pine Ridge Education Center serves over 150 students daily, with a diverse demographic composition: 80% Black, 15% Hispanic, 4% White, and 2% Other. Due to the unique nature of our school and programs, we cater to students from across the district. Our school Social Workers collaborate with families to offer additional services as needed. We have school Family Therapists who provide essential therapeutic support for students. Our Behavior Specialist works with students and staff to develop and implement individualized behavior plans. Additionally, we have an ESE Specialist, ESE Support Facilitator, and ESE Guidance Counselor who provide necessary ESE supports to students and teachers. Teachers also receive support from our Guidance Counselor, who works with students and parents to guide their academic, behavioral, and social growth.

Our Math and ELA Academic Coaches offer teachers weekly collaborative planning sessions and professional learning opportunities to enhance their professional growth. Teachers are also encouraged to participate in professional development opportunities provided by the district. Our students receive personalized instruction tailored to their academic and behavioral needs. We implement positive behavioral interventions such as the "Reward Cart," "Lunch Bunch," and "Bulldog Bash."

The "Reward Cart" allows students who have had 3 out of 5 successful days, based on our point system, to choose a snack or prize every Friday. "Lunch Bunch" is a special luncheon with the principal for students who have achieved 4 successful weeks within the month according to the point system. "Bulldog Bash" is a special activity, such as a field day, field trip, or picnic, that students who have ever earned "Lunch Bunch" can attend quarterly.

Over the past three years, Pine Ridge Education Center has undergone significant changes. We have expanded our staff to include Behavior Technicians and Teacher Assistants. Behavior Technicians are assigned to individual students, ensuring that interventions are specific, focused, and tailored according to each student's Positive Behavior Plan. Teacher Assistants (TAs) are assigned to homeroom classes, providing individualized support to students in need.

Additionally, we have introduced a Parenting Program to help parents effectively support and implement identified interventions. This program offers parenting skills, community resources, food assistance, and more. As a behavior center with a strong emphasis on academics, we have certified elementary teachers who utilize research-based interventions in life skills, behavior, and academics for students in grades K-6. Our life skills-based curriculum empowers educators to understand, appreciate, and embrace the impact of life and wellness. Through these programs, we are improving attendance, enhancing classroom performance, and reducing negative behavioral incidents.

unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the school serves?

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

Pine Ridge Education Center is dedicated to providing a second chance for students who are at risk of dropping out or falling behind academically and behaviorally. Our vision is to challenge students to achieve their highest potential in a safe and nurturing learning environment. Our mission is to provide each child a supportive learning experience because "Every Child Deserves a Champion." Guided by our vision and mission, our programs aim to equip students with the skills to manage their emotions, build healthy relationships, and navigate social situations effectively for success in their traditional schools. We offer five unique programs: K-6 Behavior Change, K-6 Behavior Intervention Program, R.I.S.E. (Responsibility Increases Student Equity), K-6 A.E.S. (Alternate to External Suspension), and IMPAC (Interventions Making Positive Adjustment Change).

We have a K-6 Behavior Change Program for students whose behavior rises to a level of concern at their traditional school. A behavior intervention committee administratively places those students at Pine Ridge. Students that are here for behavior change are with us for a minimum of 90 days. Each student receives a point sheet that has six goals, three of which are individualized for each student depending on their needs. Students must meet a minimum percentage each day to have a successful day. That percentage increases as the student moves up a level on the behavior system. Each level requires 18 successful days. Once students complete 90 successful days, our school based Transitional Team meets to determine (based on the data) if the student is ready to return to their home school.

In addition to their traditional academics based on Florida standards, students at Pine Ridge Education Center also receive Life Skills and Wellness (LSW) education. This research-based platform empowers educators to fully understand, appreciate, and embrace the impact of LSW. Through our programs, we are increasing attendance, improving classroom performance, and reducing negative behavioral incidents. Within the behavior change population, we also have K-6 Behavior Intervention Program students who are sent to Pine Ridge due to concerning behaviors in a traditional school setting. These students stay at Pine Ridge for a specified number of days based on their infraction. Once they complete the program, they are permitted to return to their traditional school following a transition meeting.

R.I.S.E. (Responsibility Increases Student Equity) is an accelerated course of study designed to improve graduation rates, decrease dropout rates, and enhance the social development of students. This program targets students who are at least two grade levels behind their peers and require intensive curricular support, as well as social-emotional assistance in a supportive and encouraging environment. Upon completion of the program, students receive continued support from the R.I.S.E. Coordinator through visits to their home middle school and coordinated conferences with teachers and other school personnel. The R.I.S.E. program implements an instructional plan aimed at closing the academic achievement gap for over-aged students, empowering them with sustainable lifelong strategies to rise to their appropriate grade level and achieve educational equality.

The IMPAC (Interventions Making Positive Adjustment Change) program is designed to address the unique needs of K-12 students who have committed specific non-violent behavioral infractions, including bullying and harassment. Depending on the infraction, students are sent to IMPAC for 3, 6, or 9 days. Each morning, students are taught behavioral strategies based on the Florida Health Standards to improve their behavior. In the afternoon, they participate in breakout sessions tailored to their infractions, helping them understand the consequences of their actions and improve their decision-making skills.

IMPAC represents a comprehensive approach to addressing socially unacceptable or illegal behavior, targeting both short and long-term academic success. It aligns best practices with the development of pro-social and resiliency skills. While addressing the specific behaviors of the youth, IMPAC also considers family and community circumstances that serve as both strengths and challenges for the youth's resiliency. This intervention-based program is designed to correct student behavior that violates district student code of conduct policies, utilizing a comprehensive set of supports and education. The intent of IMPAC is to safeguard students from continued concerning behaviors.

In addition to IMPAC, we offer a K-6 A.E.S. (Alternate to External Suspension) program for students who commit infractions that would otherwise result in external suspension from their home schools

students.

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.

Pine Ridge Education Center has successfully evolved to a center that truly supports the whole child including their academic, and behavioral needs of students throughout Broward County Public Schools. Our IMPAC and A.E.S. programs have been successful in reducing the number of student suspensions and arrests, further reducing the school to prison pipeline in Broward County. Our R.I.S.E. students consistently and successfully transition to their appropriate grade (from 5th to 7th grade) at their home boundary middle schools. Our K-6 Behavior Change and Behavior Intervention Programs, have implemented a solid behavior data-based level system individualized based on student need. Each student has three customized goals and three school-wide behavioral goals which they earn points for each class period daily. This program has been successful in providing our school stakeholders with a purposeful behavior change progression plan for students to successfully transition back to their home schools. Finally, behavior change students receive ongoing counseling services at our school. This counseling service allow students to learn and practice new coping skills that they can apply in traditional and non-traditional classroom settings. Our plan over the next three years is to further strengthen our social emotional learning focus and behavioral focus while strengthening our academic focus.

Additional Information

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

Pine Ridge Education Center is proud to host several innovative district programs aimed at addressing concerning behaviors among Broward County Public School students. Our goal is for the IMPAC program to serve as a model for other school systems nationwide.

In the 2024-2025 school year, Pine Ridge Education Center partnered with the Jack Brewer Foundation to provide weekly groceries to our students and their families. Additional free services included, free online afterschool tutoring, which included academic support in reading and mathematics.

This year, we are also excited to continue culinary arts and music to enhancing our students' learning experiences and fostering a diverse educational environment. Our commitment remains steadfast in improving the lives of at-risk students and opening doors of opportunity for them.