



Executive Summary for Deerfield Beach Middle 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?

Deerfield Beach Middle is located on a 32-acre campus in the middle of Deerfield Beach. Our campus features two large class buildings, which house our sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students, as well as a series of modules, and smaller buildings including a Cafeteria, Chorus Room, Band Room, Aerobics Room, Physical Fitness Room, and Gymnasium. Our current enrollment is 1,060 students. Our demographics are as follows; 58.5% African American/Black, 42% White, 36.8% Hispanic, 2.1% Asian, 19% of the student population are Students with Disabilities, and 18.5% of the student population are active LY English Language Learners. Approximately 82% of our students are on Free or Reduced Lunch. The population for the city is 88,801 people; of which 40.1% are White, and 24.3 African American. The median household income is \$59,219. The median house value is \$274,400. Our staff consists of the following demographics: 63% African American, 31% White and 7% Hispanic. During the past nine years, our school has gone through a drastic change in terms of leadership. Our Principal, Dr. Latori Fulton became the principal in 2018, one of our Assistant Principals is in her sixth year as an Assistant Principal, one of our Assistant Principals is in their fifth year as an Assistant Principal and one of our Assistant Principals is in their fourth year as an Assistant Principal. One unique feature that is associated with the community that we serve is that we truly are a "community school." We are a community school because a high number of adults in our community attended Deerfield Beach Middle School years ago and now their children attend the same school. Because of this, there is a great sense of pride in DBMS and our school plays a pivotal role in the city. One unique challenge we face is finding ways to involve our community who are not DMBS Alumni in our afterschool and community events. To create a bond with these community members, we participate in city sponsored events that are available to show our Jr. Buck pride.

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.

VISION: Deerfield Beach Middle School is an inclusive International Baccalaureate school that meets the needs of each student.

MISSION: We aim to develop balanced, global thinkers who respect diversity to create a better tomorrow.

At DBMS, we are an International Baccalaureate (IB) school, which is designed for students in grades 6 through 8. It provides a framework of learning that encourages students to become creative, critical and reflective thinkers. The Middle Years Program (MYP) emphasizes intellectual challenge, encouraging students to make connections between their studies in traditional subjects and the real world. It fosters the development of skills for communication, intercultural understanding and global engagement-essential qualities for young people who are becoming global leaders. Our school embodies our vision of preparing our students for college and career readiness by offering a wide variety of high school courses to challenge our students and tailoring our elective schedule to meet the expectations and interests of our students. These opportunities allow our students to excel and become well-rounded individuals who are college and career focused. In every classroom, our students are pushed academically. We continually assess our students for academic mastery, then we create remediation and enrichment activities that specifically address the needs presented by the data.

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.

In the past three years, we have seen significant gains in the amount of rigor that our students are exposed to in the classroom. Additionally, our teachers participate in weekly Professional Learning Communities where they share instructional practices and focus on research-based teaching strategies and data driven discussions. Several of our teachers facilitate professional development throughout the school for New Educators, CANVAS, Life Skills and Wellness, Learning Stations, Reading Across the Curriculum and Curriculum Instructions and Academics. Teachers also engage in grade level meetings with an emphasis on Reading Across the Curriculum Strategies and International Baccalaureate Philosophy incorporation into the classroom. In the 2022 – 2023 school year our students showed gains from PM 1, PM 2 and PM 3 in both reading and math. Ninety-five percent of the students who took the Biology EOC passed the exam; in the 2023-2024 school year 98% of the students who took the Biology

EOC passed. In the 2023-2024 school year data shows more than 50% of the students showing learning gains in math and reading. In the 2024-2025 school year data showed an increase in science from 43% student proficiency to 54% student proficiency and our middle school acceleration courses data showed an increase from 74% student proficiency to 85% student proficiency. We have great partnerships with non-profit organizations to provide programs for our students that equip them with learning skills and wellness strategies/teachings, peer mentoring, adult mentoring, and field trips. We have partnerships with Big Brother Big sister, Urban League, Jim Moran Foundation, JM Family, and Young Believers, which are all non-profit community-based organizations. We have implemented additional technology courses and enhanced our elective course offers to increase student achievement, opportunities, and enrichment.

Over the next three years, we would like to continue expanding our course offerings. Our goal is to add additional courses, programs and clubs to give all our students an opportunity to apply what they are learning to authentic scenarios where they think critically and are challenged to be innovative. In the 2024-2025 school year a cooking elective class was added, and this course continues to be scheduled into the “26” school year, renovations to the media center have been completed, and a STEM room has been added to campus with the implementation of STEM elective courses added to the 2025-2026 schedule. We feel that it is vital for students to feel a sense of belonging at their school, which will foster growth academically as well as socially and emotionally. We will add more advanced coursework and high school course options have increased through technology courses, which will help our advanced students to begin high school with some of the courses completed and provide them with the option of taking Advanced Placement courses and/or college level courses while attending high school. We would also like to offer our non-advanced students the opportunity to earn high-school credits while ensuring that they do not jeopardize their high-school GPA before they are ready to take on high school courses.

Additional Information

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