



Executive Summary for Margate 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. 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?

Margate Elementary School celebrated its Golden Anniversary with over 50 years of educating children in the Margate community. As such, it holds itself as the gold standard for education through excellence and caring. Located in the heart of city, it is just blocks away from Margate Boulevard, City Hall, the Margate Police Department, the Margate Library, and the Community Center. Situated amidst the quaint homes and churches of the surrounding area, its location and first view belie the huge campus that exists behind the front door. The historic architecture that welcomes you to the entrance of the school, and its original first buildings, hearken one immediately to the school's birth in the 1960s. Continue on any path through the school and one is taken on a trip to the present, with the most recent additions having come in the last few years; they support the ever continuing interest in the school, which for over a decade has enjoyed a population of above one thousand children. Current enrollment at Margate Elementary, including pre-K students, is 955 students. The ethnic breakdown of these students is approximately: 48% Black/African American; 14% White; 30% Hispanic; 3% Asian; 5% Multi-Racial; and less than 1% Native American/Native Indian or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander. Encouraged by our large enrollment, and our previously cited location in the center of the city, Margate Elementary also figuratively serves as the beating heart of the community at large. Along with partnerships including other schools, churches, and local businesses, Margate regularly hosts community events that boast attendance in the hundreds; including families both current and past, local city dignitaries, and countless other members of the community. The certified teaching staff consists of 64 female teachers and 10 male teachers. These include a Librarian/Media Clerk, a Physical Education Teacher, an Art Teacher, a Technology Resource a 2 Guidance Counselors, a Literacy Curriculum Coach, a Math Curriculum Coach, an ESE Specialist, 2 ESE Support Teachers, 3 Resource Intervention teachers, 3 full time Speech pathologists, seven PreK teachers. Additional staff includes 5 Café staff, 6 Facilities Servicepersons, 6 Office Staff, a Social Worker, a School Psychologist, 20 Student Support Paraprofessionals, a health tech, 1 full time School Resource Officer. We also have 1 full time Campus Monitor. The entire faculty and staff work under the leadership of Principal Thomas J. Schroeder, Assistant Principal Donna Rucker and Assistant Principal William Hartner. Principal Schroeder has led the school for 22 years, first as the Assistant Principal and over the last 16 years as Principal. Assistant Principals, Donna Rucker and William Hartner are an amazing part of our administrative team. Another program is our Interventionalist program. As noted earlier, Margate Elementary is an older school for South Florida, and the campus has expanded to the edges of the surrounding homes of the community. Maintaining and beautifying our large campus, finding locations for new programs, and ensuring efficient space for operational things like arrival and dismissal, are unique challenges. Faculty, staff, parents, students, alumni, community members, and business partners constantly come together to assist in whatever ways they can. From assistance with daily operations, to a campus beautification day, to a community and business led creation and update of a campus butterfly garden; Margate Elementary continues to be held in the care of a very enthusiastic, committed, and loving community of trustees.

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.

Although countless hours of hard work and a half century of dedication is behind our success, the purpose of Margate Elementary School is exemplified by its simple, pure, and beautiful motto: Excellence through Caring. As simple as the Golden Rule, to treat others the way one wishes to be treated, the entire Margate Elementary Family embodies this in all they do. Our mission: to create a nurturing environment so that our students will become independent, successful, lifelong learners by providing a high quality, differentiated, and innovative curriculum based on the Florida State Standards. Our mascot is Marty the Panther, and we believe that all of our panthers will show Panther Pride. The following are the student-generated top ten ways to show appropriate and model behavior at our school. 1. Display all eight character traits. 2. Accept responsibility for your actions and learn from your mistakes. 3. Be kind, respectful to adults and classmates and treat others the way you like to be treated. 4. Show your school spirit. 5. Do your homework and read each night. 6. Wear your school uniform. 7. Be in your classroom ready and prepared to learn by 7:50 a.m. 8. Walk in a Margate line. 9. Always do your best by giving 100%. 10. Follow all cafeteria procedures. Every child at Margate Elementary is educated as an individual, with everyone on our faculty and staff catering to each student's individual needs. Another fantastic program we created at Margate Elementary this year is our Push in model. Support staff, ESE support, the Interventionists teachers push in to provide support to ESE students and identified students. Students attend these small push in groups and utilize the SOR platform as well as UFLI. Margate Elementary School has become a leader of instruction using this program. All of our K-3 teachers have also been trained by the University of Florida and the UFLI initiative. We are continued partners with the University of Florida and collaborate with them using their curriculum as our Tier 1 Phonics instruction in K-2. Our school wide behavior plan is the ROAR acronym. R stands for Respect Others, O stands for Own my behavior, A stands for Act responsibly and the last R stands for Ready to Learn. We are a PBIS school, Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports. This positive behavior incentive program fits perfectly with the Margate Elementary School motto of Excellence through Caring. This is another school wide, historically relevant event, which engages the entire school and surrounding community

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.

At Margate Elementary, there is a history of warmth and happiness that envelops everyone on campus – and it is often noted by visitors. Perhaps this is because as a school, we are always celebrating our many successes. Using funds awarded by a Bond to the county, we were able to update our technology. School wide our students have a one to one ratio with computers. Additionally, all teachers have new and working computers to use for planning and instruction. In order to ensure appropriate and effective use of technology, every faculty member was trained on and passed the coursework and exams making us one of only five schools in the district to be recognized as a 21st Century Certified School, with a 100% passing rate! As highlighted earlier, Margate Elementary engenders such a wonderful feeling of community, encouraging community involvement with a breadth and depth far beyond a school of our size. The volunteer capacity is truly astounding. From simple displays of school spirit like the summertime fourth of July Parade, to the rigors and doldrums of being a testing proctor, to the excitement of the monthly birthday celebrations, to the engagement of one-on-one tutoring of students, the level of volunteerism constantly amazes and inspires all of our school. Such dedication has regularly been part of the Margate Elementary culture, which is why we are again proud of our being a recipient the Golden School Award for volunteer service hours. In conjunction with volunteerism, we have also awarded the District Mentoring Partnership of the Year award with Cokesbury Methodist Church, for our Thumbs-Up Thursday program; a wonderful tutoring program wherein teachers trained church and community volunteers for additional reading practice with any students who were interested in participating. Along with that, our teachers regularly hold tutoring sessions after school, with their own students, to enhance the student learning. This is especially noteworthy, as our teachers work incredibly hard and are constantly putting in extra hours, yet they take their own time, as volunteers to supplement their own instruction after school. The huge amount of community involvement has also been recognized with our academic and community and business partnerships, with the presentation of the Five Star School award. Overall, it stems from the leadership provided by our administrators, who constantly have a finger on the pulse of the community – sensibly, considering, we are the heart of the community. In the last few years, Principal Schroeder was recognized as the North Area Advisory Council Principal of the Year for his leadership in the outreach to the school community and community at large and setting a positive example of relationship building for all stake holders.

School Improvement Goals

- 67% of our third-fifth grade students will score at or above a level 3 on the ELA 2026 PM3 F.A.S.T Assessment.
- 70% of our grades 3-5 students will demonstrate learning gains as measured by the ELA 2026 PM3 F.A.S.T Assessment.
- 67 % of our struggling students in grades 3-5 will demonstrate learning gains as measured by the ELA 2026 PM3 F.A.S.T Assessment.
- 76% of grades 3-5 students will score at or above a level 3 on the MATH 2026 PM3 F.A.S.T Assessment.
- 79% of our grades 3-5 students will demonstrate learning gains as measured by the MATH 2026 F.A.S.T assessment.
- 76% of our struggling students in grades 3-5 will demonstrate learning gains as measured by the MATH 2025 PM3 F.A.S.T Assessment.

- 72% of our fifth grade students will score at or above a level 3 on the 2026 FCAT Science Assessment.
- 100% of parents surveyed will indicate an awareness of the school's goals on the 2026 Customer Survey.

Additional Information

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