



## **Executive Summary for Nova High 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?

Nova High School, located in Davie, Florida, proudly serves 2,500 students from all communities in Broward County. Nova High School is part of the Nova Zone which is made up of a zone of schools ranging from elementary to high school including Nova Blanche Forum Elementary, Nova Eisenhower Elementary, Nova Middle School and Nova High School. Nova High School is a traditional public high school, however, like all schools in the Nova Zone, we obtain our student population through a random district lottery. Students accepted into a Nova School may remain within the Nova Zone until graduation.

One of the most challenging aspects of Nova High School is that we serve an entire county rather than a specific community or neighborhood. About 75% of our student population rides one of the 110 Nova High School buses that transport students countywide. This can range from as far north as Deerfield Beach to as far south as Hallandale and from as far east as the beaches and as far west as the Everglades. It is possible for students to be on a school bus for over an hour in transit to and from school every day. Our student population consists of 63% Black, 29% White, 6% Asian and 2% Other. In addition, 22% of students are Hispanic. Within our special programs, there are currently 65 LY ESOL students, 294 students with disabilities, 106 students with a 504 plan, and 152 gifted students. Our school's staff consists of a total of 107 instructional personnel. There are 5 assistant principals, 4 females and 1 male, who matriculate with their students throughout high school until graduation.

### **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.

Broward County Public Schools offers a variety of learning opportunities to meet the needs of all students. Exceptional Student Education (ESE) programs meet the needs of gifted and special needs students. ESOL programs (English Speakers of Other Languages) meet the needs of the district's diverse student population. The Nova School system is unique because two elementary schools, a middle school, and a high school work together, on a shared complex, to educate our students. The mission of Nova Schools is

for experienced educators to teach our culturally diverse student population to be literate, productive citizens, using a seamless K-12 curriculum, in collaboration with parents, the community, and partners in higher education. At Nova High School, this mission is accomplished through providing a wide variety of rigorous courses, including a combination of Advanced Placement (AP), Cambridge International (AICE) and Honors courses, as well as offerings in a variety of Career/Technical Education programs.

In our effort to continuously provide our students with a quality education and prepare them with 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, we offer two innovative programs to our students: Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) through Cambridge International, and Nova Law & Public Policy. The AICE program will prepare students with the needed skills to be confident and reflective learners who are able to solve tomorrow's problems through global awareness and understanding. Performance outcomes are based on application of these skills in courses that develop a wholistic learner. In addition, students can earn the AICE Diploma, which is internationally recognized.

To further prepare our students for the twenty-first century, we feel that it is important to create community and global awareness and to be proactive in community solutions. Through the Law & Public Policy program, students can address community issues at a grassroots level and develop an understanding of the relationship between the governmental processes and community outreach. Additionally, by implementing these programs within our current framework, many of the educational opportunities require students to participate in after school or extended learning activities that incorporate collaboration and problem solving. Since Nova High School has students attending from all communities of the county, the students rely heavily on Broward Schools transportation system.

Personalization is at the foundation of any successful high school experience; hence Nova High School will continue to embed that culture into our school community. Although we will always value structure and discipline in creating a safe school environment, students need to feel a sense of personalization, and building relationships with students is paramount to their social and emotional success. We offer a variety of clubs/organizations and sports teams, allowing every student, with any interest, to find a place at Nova High School. At Nova High School, it's "cool" to be smart, and a healthy competitiveness exists amongst students. Our students understand that the high expectations we place upon them is to encourage and teach them, encouraging them to "raise the bar" for themselves.

## **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 2025, Nova High School was awarded a grade of "A" from the Florida Department of Education and ranked in the top 40% of America's best high schools by U.S. News & World Report. During the 2023-2024 school year, 101 students earned the Cambridge Advanced Certificate of Education (AICE) Diploma, and 24 students earned the Advanced Placement (AP) Capstone Diploma.

Nova High School's Titan Speech and Debate is a nationally ranked competitive Speech and Debate Team representing Nova High School in Davie, FL. We are currently ranked ninety-eighth in the country, and sixth in the state of Florida by the National Speech and Debate Association. The team ended the 2024-2025 school year, ranked second in the Manatee District and first in Broward County Public Schools.

Titan Speech & Debate found tremendous success during the 2024-2025 school year. The team traveled to over thirty local and national tournaments across six different states to compete with the Nation's very best public speakers and debaters. Throughout the team's journey, many students took home countless awards and recognitions. At the NSDA National Tournament, students placed in the top 60 of the Senate, International Extemporaneous Speaking, and Impromptu Speaking events, and one student place in the top 30 in Informative Speaking. The team was also recognized at this year's 100th NSDA National Tournament in Des Moines, Iowa for the outstanding achievement of attending its 50th national tournament. Nova High School continues its run of excellence as the number one BCPS school in the Mantee District for the second straight year, and the number one public school in the entire state of Florida! Titan Speech and Debate

looks forward to continuing its legacy of excellence in interscholastic and academic competition during the 2025-2026 season.

Nova High School's Theater Department offers students an introduction and appreciation of Theatre arts including classes in Acting, Musical Theatre, Directing, and Technical Theatre. Students can see as well as perform/work in plays which help students in Oral Presentations and Speaking. The program also provides Students with Scholarship Opportunities, Internships, and Volunteer Hours.

In addition to the wonderful productions that Nova Titan Drama has presented over the years, we are the home of Thespian Troupe 4611 which holds a number of Awards: 2019-2020 District and State Level Superior scores in Monologue, Duet Acting, Solo Musical, Ensemble Acting, Small Group Musical, Make-up Design and Costume Design; 2019 District Critiques Choice in Solo Musical and Make-up design; 2019 District Honorable Critiques Choice in Pantomime and Choreography (Highest District Accolades); 2020-2024 District and State Level Superior scores in Monologue, Solo Musical, Duet Musical, Makeup Design, and Costume Design. 2023 District Critiques Choice in Group Acting and Costume Design; and in 2023, Nova's Thespian Senior received the Cinnamon Scholarship, granted to only one performing arts per year. Nova High School's Thespian Troupe 4611 wowed audiences at the 2025 State Thespian Festival with an outstanding performance, earning three Superior Ratings in Small Group Musical, Solo Monologue, and Makeup Design and three Excellent Ratings in Solo Musical, Costume Design, and Duet Acting. In May, the troupe proudly inducted 22 new members into the International Thespian Society and is already preparing for another unforgettable season ahead.

Nova High is also the home of the Weight of Words Musical Production. This incredible stage play speaks on the message of Anti-Bullying and is performed to over 6,000 students each year (over 110,000 to date) which includes its annual production at Broward Center for the Performing Arts.

### **Additional Information**

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

Nova High School is a unique learning environment where it is "cool" to be smart, and students strive to be the best in their class. The teaching staff is dedicated, highly qualified, and strives for continuous improvement within their curriculum. Our staff elected for Professional Study Days that allows for continuous improvement in developing strategies to help students attain mastery in content area standards. On Professional Study Days, students are released from school at 12:35 p.m. while the staff focuses on professional development in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) until 4:20 p.m. Some of our PLCs include Artificial Intelligence, Positive Classroom Environment, Advanced Technologies, Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics. Continuing to implement Professional Study Days throughout the 2025-2026 school year will provide teachers with the opportunity to continuously realign their curriculum, collaborate on best practices, learn how to apply technology to better suit the needs of their students, and continue to implement strategies that will aid in the increase of proficiency levels.

Nova High School also prides itself on providing Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs) to students during the school day as well as after school. Nova's Titan CARE program allows students to attend pullout programs during their study hall throughout the school year. Teachers use several advanced technology-based instructional programs that assess, monitor, and adjust curriculum to meet the needs of each individual student. Our after-school programs provide additional support in all areas of assessment: ELA, EOCs, SAT and ACT. Our ELOs are geared towards supporting student performance on standardized tests and end of course exams. Students work with our highly qualified teachers who utilize high yield instructional strategies to reinforce the skills needed to be successful on various standardized assessments and end of course exams. We are committed to helping Nova students become college or career ready.