



Executive Summary for Park Ridge 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?

Park Ridge Elementary has served the Deerfield Beach community since 1972. Over the course of several years, we have maintained a school rating of a "C," demonstrating significant growth from the "F" rating the school held prior to the "Turn-Around" model instituted during the 2015-2016 school year. Park Ridge currently educates approximately 510 scholars. Our current demographics are as follows: about 34% of our population is classified as White, approximately 66% as Black, 34% as Hispanic, and less than 1% of our population is multi-racial. We are a Title 1 school with more than 95% of our scholars qualifying for free or reduced lunch. In addition, approximately 300 of our students in grades K-5 (53%) are classified as English Language Learners (ELL). Our English Language Learners predominantly speak Creole, Spanish, and Portuguese. Many of our parents do not read or speak English, so we ensure communication between home and school is provided in a variety of languages to meet the needs of our families and maintain high levels of engagement.

Of the 510 scholars currently enrolled, 12 students engage in our Pre-K Program. The program consists of: One Specialized Pre-Kindergarten class for students eligible for early intervention programs based of their Special Education status. The three and four-year old students in this program are zoned to our school and have been identified as needing specialized preschool services with a wide range of exceptionalities including "Developmentally Delayed" and "autism spectrum disorder". The pre-kindergarten class has a state certified teacher, as well as, Educational Support Personnel, an aide specially assigned to work with these students. In addition to our specialized Pre-K program, we have 26 students in three Autism Spectrum Disorder Cluster classes, ranging from kindergarten to 5th grade. The autism spectrum disorder cluster is a specialized program that provides instruction and related services to the students in a general education setting. Each class has a state-certified teacher, as well as, Educational Support Personnel, an aide specifically assigned to work with these students. In addition, our full-time Autism Coach, assists with providing an optimal learning environment for our special needs students. The Coach provides professional development for our teachers and supports our teachers and scholars navigate through the Florida State Standards. Housing this program on our campus, allows are Pre-K students with

autism to seamlessly transition to kindergarten in a familiar educational environment.

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.

Our school Mission and Vision focus on creating a positive teaching and learning environment that fosters self-motivated and lifelong learners. Additionally, we recognize that student success often depends on meeting their basic needs. Therefore, providing our families with wrap around services is a vital part of our school purpose. "Park Ridge Elementary School's students, staff, parents, and community will strive to inspire and empower every student to reach their fullest potential. Our goal is to equip our students with the skills, knowledge, and confidence they need to navigate the challenges of today and excel as responsible citizens and leaders of tomorrow." High levels of achievement are accomplished through measurable academic standards aligned with state standards and a rigorous curriculum.

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.

Park Ridge has been recognized for a school on the move, as we are motivated to strive further toward academic success. We have earned numerous awards and have seen growth and achievements in many areas. Our school and teachers have received dozens of grants to fund innovative classroom projects. These projects include gardening and classroom technology. School reading grants have funded class libraries and other grants have brought special programs and speakers to our school. All these grants provided resources to further engage our students in learning. Our parent engagement programs continue to attract hundreds of parents, relatives, and community members. These programs are designed to share relevant information with parents related to curriculum, provide parents with resources to engage their children in learning at home, and includes opportunities to further strengthen the home school connection. Park Ridge is proud of its professional development plan. Our teachers have opportunities to grow and learn biweekly. We embrace the PLC method and have used this model to help steer the course of our academic plan. The root of the PLCs at Park Ridge is a collaborative planning model. Our model is unique as we have a PLC facilitator's group that is the hub for disseminating information and collaboration. This core group of educators meets weekly. Each meeting, a major focus is established. The objectives are centered on Standards Based Instruction, Formative Assessments, Learning Goals and Scales, Feedback, Accountable Talk, and Analyzing Student Work to Plan for Differentiation. Our coaches in English Language Arts, Math, and Science offer engaging workshops where the staff can come and learn best practices in reading, math, or science to increase student growth and development. These sessions enable teachers to walk away with strategies they can use immediately, improving their instructional pedagogy.

Additional Information

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

Park Ridge Elementary is proud to provide a safe and supportive learning environment where every child can learn and thrive. We are committed to preparing students for success through standard based and differentiated instruction, data- driven practices, and a focus on both academic and social and emotional growth. Our dedicated staff works each day to ensure our students feel valued, supported, and inspired to reach their full potential.