



## Executive Summary for Central Park ES

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?

Central Park Elementary is located in Plantation, Florida and is part of Broward County Schools, the sixth largest school district in the country. The current enrollment of 790 students spans Kindergarten through Grade 5, with all classes being self-contained with one teacher. This year we added a Kindergarten Autism Cluster and a pre-Kindergarten Intensive class. demographic composition of the students consists of 33% White, 38% Hispanic, 14% Black / African American, 9% Asian, and 6% Multiracial. Of the instructional classroom staff at Central Park 100% have met the federal standard for highly qualified status. Of either full-time or part time personnel, the instructional staff consists of two administrators, one curriculum support teacher, one guidance counselor, one exceptional educational specialist, one special education teacher, one part-time social worker, one parttime school psychologist, one speech therapist, one technology specialist, one data entry specialist, one media clerk, one art teacher, one music teacher, one Spanish teacher, ten paraprofessionals, and thirty-eight classroom teachers (K through 5). The school is in zip code 33324 where, according to the U.S. Census, the median age of 40.2 years is significantly above the State average, the foreign-born population percentage is above the State average, and the renting percentage of 18% is below the State average. The median household income is approximately \$74,903. The largest ethnic population in this zip code is white, followed by Hispanic and then African American. Regarding the educational background of adults, 41.4% of the population hold a bachelor's degree or higher. The community is extremely supportive of educational programs, fund raising, and volunteering their time as well as providing donations for resources and supplemental materials to assure student achievement. Central Park Elementary runs and maintains its own Before & After School program as well as Summer Camp. School-based teachers, or supervisors hired directly from the school's administration, supervise these programs.

### 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.

The mission of Central Park Elementary is to make a significant difference in the lives of young children by providing learning experiences and opportunities designed for the development of the total child. All children are screened in the beginning of each school year by the classroom teacher to determine the most effective intervention or enrichment that can be provided with the goal of allowing each child to reach his or her full academic potential. Frequent monitoring of academic gains, as well as quarterly data chats both between the administration and teachers, and teachers with their students, allow for effective adjustments in instruction



and goal setting for the students. In addition, Central Park offers various clubs that the students can join, including Student Council, Safety Patrol, Art Club, Music Club, Spanish Club, Speech & Debate Club, Everglades Student Ambassador Club, Promise Club, and Drama Club leading to competitions. All clubs are under the leadership of the school's instructional staff. In recent years, a District Spanish Club competition resulted in Central Park's students earning 1<sup>st</sup> place, and the Everglades Ambassadors have beaten middle and high school students to earn Gold Medal recognition for 3 consecutive years. Planned grade level field trips allow the students to experience educational opportunities outside of the classroom. Upper grades plan field trips outside of the County to broaden students' experiences. Some trips that have been planned include, but are not limited to, the Everglades Experience, Beach Experience, Flamingo Gardens, Metro Zoo, Universal Studios, shows at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, and the Museum of Science and Discovery. We also host in-house trips designed to give all students exposure to hands-on learning activities. Grade levels collaborate on student expectations and look at student achievement gaps of those entering each grade with the goal of decreasing academic achievement gaps. The administration continually communicates with all stakeholders through parent link, mobile app, school web site, school-wide emails, student agendas, newsletters, and flyers. We have an abundance of active parent and community volunteers who support the school financially through fundraisers and assist with student achievement. Students' learning includes a one-to-one technology component which provides access to Scholastic Pro, iReady programs, and Progress Learning for Science at school and at home. All students in grades K-5 have their own Lenovo computers. To sustain student achievement and academic growth, collaborative team planning is regularly scheduled, as well as data chats, gifted screening, and weekly Response-to-Intervention (RTI) meetings attended by the Principal, Assistant Principal, Curriculum Coach, ESE Specialist, Guidance Counselor, School Psychologist, and the classroom teacher. These meetings are held to discuss children needing additional intervention to maximize their learning gains. There are many school-wide events that highlight the diverse backgrounds and talents of our students. Central Park Elementary, with the efforts of all our classrooms highlight school-related events. There are school/family events planned throughout the school year. All families and stakeholders come together each Fall for Batty for Bingo which afford money for the school. There is also Lime Night where our school families gather for dinner at the Lime restaurant in Plantation. Lime restaurant also donates a portion of the evenings proceed back to the school. Central Park provides parent information nights to further promote the home/school connection. We have a school resource officer on campus who not only patrols the school campus every day but also regularly visits 5th grade classrooms to teach the children drug abuse resistance. This program culminates in a formal 5th Grade promotion ceremony in the Spring where parents are invited to attend. For additional campus security, CPE employs a full-time campus monitor to also patrol the campus and check on all locked doors and entrances. Our community's cultural heritage is introduced to the students through parental involvement in our annual Multicultural Fair which showcases the great diversity of the community and of our students' heritages. In addition, there are numerous student-led shows: second grade performs a Patriotic Show in the Spring, fourth grade has an annual Spelling Bee, third grade through fifth grades participate in Continental Math-which is a rigorous award program, fourth and fifth grades perform a Winter and Spring Chorus Concert where they also play various musical instrument that they have learned in their weekly music classes and sing seasonal songs.



## **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.

We have continued to consistently maintain an “A” grade from the State of Florida in educational achievement. We have been awarded the Golden School Award. This award is given to schools that have twice the number of volunteer hours as they have students. Central Park has earned this award for twenty-seven years. We are very proud of our volunteers and their commitment to our school. We also have been awarded the Five Star School Award. This award is presented by the Florida Department of Education to schools who show excellence in five criteria: business partnerships, family involvement, school improvement, student community service, and volunteers. The application is extensive for this honor, and we are proud to have received this recognition every year for thirteen consecutive years. We have been given SACS Accreditation. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (formerly SACS-now Cognia) establishes standards for accreditation of schools based on indicators in all areas of the school program. Examples would include class size, number, and age of books in the media center, certifications of staff, amount of support staff, curriculum design, early childhood requirements, etc. Not all districts accredit their elementary schools as Broward County does. Central Park has earned its accreditation each year. We previously received the Florida School Report High Performing School Award. Central Park Elementary was selected as one of 20 high performing schools in Florida. Identified through the Florida School Report, Central Park's standardized test results were compared to Florida schools with similar characteristics. Data studied for a three-year period substantiated sustained high achievements. Central Park was chosen as a Distinguished Leadership School in Florida. The school earned this distinction for demonstrating a commitment to increased student achievement and school improvement through leadership. Central Park focuses on results of mastery of Florida Standards for all and believes every child can succeed.

## **Additional Information**

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

Central Park ES recently won the Miami Heat “How Low Can You Go Challenge. We saved over \$18,000 in energy. The “How Low Can You Go” challenge, partnered with the Miami Heat, is an initiative by Broward County Public Schools that encourages schools to reduce their energy, water, and food waste consumption. It's a friendly competition where schools strive to lower their environmental impact compared to previous years.

As a means of giving back to the community, and teaching the children the joy of giving, there are many regularly scheduled charitable fundraisers during the year that students and parents participate in. One of the projects is the Harvest Drive, organized by our Guidance Counselor in the Fall, whereby students bring in food items, and supplies, with the purpose of compiling Thanksgiving baskets for needy families in our community. Another project organized by the gifted classes each year is called Pops for Pets. These students, along with their parents, spend a week selling lollipops in the lunchroom to raise money for animals in shelters. At the same time, they collect donations of animal food, beds, and toys as well. Another big event that Central Park staff, as well as students and their parents participate in, is Relay for Life. Proceeds from this event go to cancer research.