



Executive Summary for **PINES LAKES 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?

Pines Lakes Elementary (PLE) is a neighborhood school established in 1978 as a Broward County Public School located in the city of Pembroke Pines. The school serves approximately 450 students in grades PreK through Fifth Grade, including over 50 students in PreK ESE and/or VPK. Our current demographics are: Asian-3%, Black-39%, Hispanic-47%, Multiracial-2%, Native-0%, and White-8%. 69% of students are on free and reduced lunch, which is an increase from previous years.

Post-Covid, our school has struggled returning to our high levels of student performance as measured on the state assessments. Since the new State Standards were implemented, our students are closing the gap, but not at the same rate as our counterparts in the District and State. In particular, SWD and Black subgroups of students are just below the identified acceptable proficiency rate.

Our school has built a strong relationship with the community and business partners. Many of our staff members live in our school community. The school community encourages parents to be active participants in their child's education, through School Advisory Council and the Parent Teacher Association. We are often commended for the high quality of customer service provided by all our staff. Many families attend our school after asking for and being awarded a school choice reassignment.

Teachers genuinely encourage and provide high interest lessons to the students of Pines Lakes. Teachers meet regularly in professional learning communities to focus on individual student data and next steps for curriculum and instruction. Results indicate the explicit training related to implementation of standards instruction will continue to yield results. All students receive an additional dose of reading instruction daily. During this time students are grouped based on data and instruction targets students' specific area of weakness.

Instruction is delivered in alignment with our District's Scope and Sequence and students' progress is monitored through assessments embedded within this guide. Select students also receive Tier 2 and Tier 3 support through intensive interventions. Collaboration among team members enhances the

academic program by focusing on standards-driven instruction.

Additionally, select students are invited to attend an Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) camp each year. ELOs groups are generated using student assessment data and instruction focuses on targeting areas of weakness. ELOs focus both on Math and English Language Arts.

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 Pines Lakes Elementary School (PLE) is to prepare the next generation to be problem solvers and innovative thinkers through STEM project-based learning. Our vision is to provide a happy, caring and stimulating environment where children will recognize and achieve their fullest potential. At PLE we value student focus, teaching excellence, accountability, respect and safety. Pines Lakes Elementary is a place where: everybody is welcomed and you are not alone, we work, learn and achieve together, we respect and care for everyone and everything around us. PLE sets high standards of learning and celebrates the achievements of each child. We are a place where everyone is different and has importance.

Our STEM program engages all students in Project Based Learning centered around hands on engineering applications. This program is designed as a student-centered environment with a spiral of content knowledge in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics as the student progresses from K-5. All students in all grades participate in foundational programs introducing computer science, self-directed passion-driven inquiry through Tinker Spaces/creation stations and hands-on innovation within the classroom. Our academic program incorporates Florida Standards through interdisciplinary units of study with a STEM focus. Teachers utilize State Adopted Materials as a teaching resource.

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.

Our student achievement results for Spring 2025 showed improvement from the previous year by 10 total points, falling just 1 point but still shy of earning a School Accountability Grade of a B. We exceeded our last year's results in four of the eight categories: ELA Achievement, 3rd Grade ELA Achievement, Learning Gains for ELA and Math Achievement.

Prior to Covid closure, our school earned a third consecutive B. By continuing to focus on providing high quality-standards based instruction targeted to individual student needs, we will meet our goal of making PLE a premier A-rated school. Improving these student achievement results will help us experience a major increase in student enrollment.

The PTA at Pines Lakes Elementary was recognized as a National School of Excellence in 2023-2024 for their Excellence Action Plan which strengthens our school-family partnership. We are continuing to find ways to connect to all families, especially those whose first language is not English. In 2024, the PTA President's Program was awarded to Pines Lakes' PTA for our "Spring Fling Science Thing" family outreach program.

Additional Information

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

Pines Lakes Elementary is a place for your child to flourish, both academically and in social development. Our school has an on-site after school program that provides homework assistance, enrichment, and hands-on activities for those students who sign up. We strive to involve our families in their child's education through parent-student events as well as parent trainings. We also have the International Welcome Center on our campus, whose staff provides support for ELL families, not just for Pines Lakes but for all District locations.