



Executive Summary for Walter C. Young Middle

The Executive Summary (ES) provides the school with an opportunity to describe in narrative form its vision as well as strengths and challenges within the context of continuous improvement.

Walter C. Young Middle stands as a vibrant educational institution with a deep connection to its diverse community. Over the past several years, the school has embraced significant growth and development, enhancing both its academic offerings and its support services. Its commitment to inclusivity and excellence is evident in every facet of school life, from its rigorous academic standards to its robust extracurricular programs. Through a collaborative and caring environment, Walter C. Young Middle fosters an atmosphere where students are encouraged to challenge themselves, support one another, and strive for success both in and out of the classroom.

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?

Walter C. Young (WCY) is an A-rated school with about 650 students in Pembroke Pines. The city has a median age of 39.5 and household income of \$61,539. WCY's student population is 51% Hispanic, 33% African American, 9% White, 6% Asian, 4% Multiracial, and 2% Indian, with 52% receiving free or reduced lunch. The staff reflects this diversity, and all teachers are certified in their subjects; the Literacy Coach also holds full district credentials.

Walter C. Young is home to a large Exceptional Student Education (ESE) population. We currently house a staff of highly qualified ESE teachers Support Facilitators, Paraprofessionals, and a full-time Speech Pathologist that provide support to our ESE population. Walter C. Young staff also includes a Guidance Director and two School Counselors, who provide hands-on support to students, assist teachers and staff with students' concerns, and conduct tours for incoming parents and students. We also have a full-time family counselor, and a part-time Psychologists and Social Worker.

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.

Walter C. Young (WCY) Middle empowers students to achieve academic and character excellence through a supportive learning community. By eighth grade, students are expected to become independent thinkers and responsible citizens with the skills and knowledge for future success. Teachers use data-driven approaches to shape curriculum and instruction. WCY also provides a wide range of enrichment and elective courses aligned with current standards to build real-life skills. Students can join organizations such as Student Government, Orchestra, Band, Physical Education, Florida Future Educators, First Priority, Jazz Band, National Junior Honor Society, and Yearbook Club. Sports offerings include boys' and girls' teams for soccer, volleyball, basketball, flag football, cheerleading, and track. WCY combines rigor, remediation, and enrichment to prepare all students for high school and active citizenship.

We offer an introduction to Microsoft Office course, which trains students in PowerPoint Presentations, Excel, Word, and mastering real life technology skills. WCY also offers multiple advanced/Honors courses, GEM Math, Pre-Advanced Placement, Gifted Education, English Language Learners support, and industry certifications. Our electives include Spanish, Peer Counseling, Chorus, Band, PE, Robotics, Media, Law Studies, Environmental Science, Photography and Aeronautics.

Walter C. Young has a variety of partners including the American Heart Association, Memorial Hospital Youth Force, Gentle Teeth, Jason's Deli, Lime Fresh Mexican Grill, Publix Supermarket, Sal's Italian Restaurant, and Tijuana Flats. Our most prominent partner is the YMCA, who runs an after-care program for students with special needs in the afternoons, as well as other programs throughout the year. We are also continuing our partnerships with Firewall and Embry-Riddle University.

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.

Walter C. Young earned a school grade of "A" for the 2024-2025 school year, achieving 70% of the available for end of year testing. We also finished #1 in the district for ELA learning gains and learning gains for the lowest 25%.

Through a partnership with Flanagan High School (Falcon Flyers), we provide students with the opportunity to earn high school credits while still enrolled in middle school. For those students who need more direct instruction to improve their reading and math skills, they can enroll in intensive classes to build the foundation they need to achieve academic success.

Walter C. Young offers High School credit courses such as Biology, Geometry, Algebra and Spanish, and over a dozen other electives.

Walter C. Young's areas of improvement are achievement in Math testing data. Revamped progress monitoring has been implemented to closely monitor data through each instructional cycle to ensure improved student achievement. With that, we have created FSA camps and remediation sessions for

struggling students to provide additional support on state assessments. Additional ELO's will also be implemented throughout the year.

Another area of focus is marketing and connecting more with local feeder schools to address declining enrollment.

Additional Information

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

Walter C. Young Middle is the only BCPS with a unique partnership with the City of Pembroke Pines, and Broward County. Our media center doubles as a Broward County public library and is fully staffed with a full-time Media Specialist. This allows us to offer community school for adult learners in the evenings. The City of Pembroke Pines also runs a Cultural Arts center for the community.