



## Executive Summary for **Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School**

### **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?

**Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) High School** is a fully accredited public high school located in the suburban community of Parkland, Florida, and is part of the School Board of Broward County. Since opening its doors in 1991, MSD has served the city of Parkland and portions of the city of Coral Springs. In the spring of 2021, the school celebrated 30 years of service to these communities, which have a strong tradition of supporting academics, extracurricular activities, and community service.

Currently, MSD enrolls 3,108 students in grades 9–12. The student body is composed of 49% boys and 51% girls. The school's racial and ethnic makeup includes 46% White, 10% Black/African American, 10% Asian, and 30% Hispanic/Latino students.

Teacher demographics is as follows: white (70.0%), Hispanic (16%), black (8.7%), and other (5.3%). Over the past five years, there have been a considerable number of teachers who have retired or have left the profession/district. The new hires are a mix of experienced teachers who have relocated from other schools in the district and others who are new to the profession or have transferred from outside of Broward Schools – also, with the enrollment dropping because of a recent boundary change, we only hired two teachers last year, both teach Social Studies and replaced longtime MSD teachers who retired at the end of last school year. The two new MSD educators are being trained on all facets of education and pedagogy with a book study around “Teach Like a Champion”.

The surrounding communities of Parkland and Coral Springs are primarily upper-middle-class neighborhoods, with a mix of gated communities, single-family homes, townhomes, and rental apartments. Enrollment has increased this year due to the reassignment window being open for our school.

The community also continues to grapple with the lasting impact of the tragic February 2018 school shooting, which claimed 17 lives. As a result, many students continue to face trauma, anxiety, and other emotional challenges that the school works diligently to support.

## 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.

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School strives to foster global awareness within a collaborative learning community built on rigor, relevance, and academic excellence through critical thinking, character development, and technology. Guided by input from school leadership, staff, students, parents, and community members, MSD's mission is to provide rich educational opportunities in a student-centered environment that serves a diverse population of learners. The school offers nearly 100 sections of college-level courses, including an expanding number of Cambridge classes, and has earned some of the highest district scores in English General Papers. MSD is also home to the National Academy of Finance honors program, which provides Career and Adult Professional Education (CAPE) certifications in business and finance. Consistently recognized for academic excellence, MSD has not received lower than an "A" grade from the Florida Department of Education since 2011 (with the exception of years when no grade was issued due to the pandemic or new assessments). Dedicated to educating the whole student, MSD provides a wide range of opportunities in Fine Arts, Culinary Arts, Engineering, Computer Programming, and Athletics, with award-winning programs such as Marching Band, JROTC, Color Guard, and Drama, all of which have achieved top state and district honors. Expanding career and technical programs in Culinary, Engineering, and Computer Programming further prepare students with the skills and experiences needed for future success.:

## 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.

For the past five years, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School has earned an "A" grade from the Florida Department of Education every year a grade was awarded. Recognized as one of the top schools in the nation, MSD has been ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* among the top 100 high schools in Florida and is rated in the top 4% of high schools nationwide by Niche.com. Through a wide range of Advanced Placement (AP) offerings, students have the opportunity to earn college credit while in high school, with an AP pass rate of approximately 88% and 72% of graduates earning college credit and/or an industry certification. MSD students consistently outperform district

peers, most recently achieving a 77% proficiency rating in both ELA and Reading. The school maintains a graduation rate of 99%, and its top graduates regularly earn recognition as National Merit Semi-Finalists and Finalists, with MSD producing more of these honorees than any other school in the district. The Leadership Team and instructional staff remain committed to providing diverse educational opportunities, maintaining high expectations, and driving academic excellence. As part of this effort, MSD continues to emphasize literacy development and achievement in End-of-Course (EOC) exams in Biology, Algebra I, Geometry, and American History. Support for these areas includes Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs) such as Saturday EOC and SAT/ACT camps, peer tutoring, and targeted literacy pull-outs, all sustained through the ongoing support of school sponsors. This year, a major focus is on supporting English Language Learners, with professional development opportunities provided to teachers to help close achievement gaps. Enrollment in MSD's CTACE program has steadily grown, while many students also pursue dual-enrollment courses at Broward College across various disciplines. Additionally, MSD's award-winning journalism program has received national recognition for five consecutive years. The *Eagle Eye* newspaper, *Aerie* yearbook, and TV production program have consistently earned top awards, with the *Eagle Eye* earning mention by the Pulitzer Prize committee.

### **Additional Information**

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

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School has a strong and supportive relationship with its community, demonstrated through the many volunteers who dedicate their time and the consistent support provided by our PTSO, booster clubs, and local partners for both academic and athletic programs. Evidence of our school's pride and vision can be seen in the wide range of opportunities offered to students to enhance their academic, physical, social, and emotional development. Beyond our strong academic performance, MSD provides an extensive selection of extracurricular activities to meet the diverse interests of our students. Athletics such as baseball, basketball, cheerleading, cross-country, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball, water polo, and wrestling allow students to grow and thrive physically, while clubs including Astronomy, Key Club, Best Buddies, Anime, Chess, Asian Student Association, First Priority, Step Team, Gay-Straight Alliance, SADD, Model UN, MSD Stands Up to Cancer, Jewish Student Connection, Health and Fitness, and HOSA promote leadership, service, and community engagement. Our Honor Societies and Competition Teams extend across all core academic areas—English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages—further supporting excellence. Each year, MSD students participate in the prestigious Silver Knights competition, and 10th and 11th graders take the PSAT/NMSQT, resulting in a proud tradition of producing National Merit Semi-Finalists, Finalists, and Silver Knight honorees throughout our school's 25+ years of service. While MSD has consistently earned an "A" grade, we recognize the need to provide additional academic support for struggling students, particularly our English Language Learners, to ensure equity and access for all. In the years following the pandemic, we have also prioritized rebuilding both academic growth and student well-being, addressing the ongoing impacts on learning and mental health. Six years after the tremendous tragedy our school endured, the MSD community has continued to rebuild, fostering resilience and renewed focus. Our recent academic results demonstrate this progress, and we remain committed

not only to improving student achievement but also to expanding post-secondary opportunities for all learners. This is evident in our success in Advanced Placement (AP) classes, where students maintain a pass rate of roughly 85%, and in Cambridge courses, where students continue to perform at high levels.