



Executive Summary for Quiet Waters Elementary School

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?

Quiet Waters Elementary School is located in Deerfield Beach, Florida and is one of the 132 elementary schools in the Broward County Public School District. A state-rated "B" elementary school, Quiet Waters Elementary School serves roughly 981 students in grades pre-kindergarten to fifth grade. Deerfield Beach is home to over 90,000 residents, with about 3.3% of them being unemployed. Over 64% of the residents own their homes and more than half of the population are married. About 48% of the population speaks a language other than English at home.

Quiet Waters Elementary School is a Title 1 school with more than 61% receiving free or reduced lunch. Title I funds provide additional teachers to assist low performing students and staff development funds to provide comprehensive staff trainings. Parental involvement funds are also provided through Title I and are used to fund academic parent trainings. Title I funds are also used to provide agendas as communication tools to students in grades 1-5. With a large diverse population, there are currently roughly 450 students that participate in the ELL (English Language Learners) program. The school has a wide-ranging ESE program that meets the needs of roughly 210 students. There are three full-time ESE support facilitators that work with students with disabilities as well as two full-time Speech Language Pathologist and half of a district contracted speech language pathologist. Students receive services according to their Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

Services offered at the school include reading, math, speech, and language. While some students receive services from the ESE teachers, others are on a consultation plan and receive all initial direct instruction from their classroom teacher. The school currently has a Kindergarten, First Grade, Second Grade, & Third Grade Autism cluster. There are currently about 213 referrals to the Collaborative Problem Solving Team (CPST) receiving active tier 2 and tier 3 intervention services. The staff at Quiet Waters Elementary School includes 68 full-time teachers as well as 31 other staff members including clerical, facilities, and paraprofessionals. About 80% of the instructional staff at Quiet Waters Elementary School

have 10 or more years of professional teaching experience and 53% of staff have advanced degrees. Quiet Waters Elementary is led by a principal and 1.5 assistant principals. The school has a full-time ESE specialist, two guidance counselors, ELL contact, Math Coach, Literacy Coach, and a micro tech specialist. The school also has two full-time intervention teachers that support struggling students in kindergarten-grade 5 with literacy skills and strategies. Quiet Waters Elementary offers families an aftercare program. Nearly 300 students in grades K-5 participate in the aftercare program. Various clubs and activities are offered to students through after care including Zumba and soccer.

Quiet Waters Elementary has many organizations that involve parents and community members. A very active PTA, plans and organizes fundraisers and events to support the school. The School Advisory Council (SAC) meets once a month and brings together parents, staff, and community members to develop, implement, and monitor the school's improvement plan. Quiet Waters Elementary school proudly operates under governance and leadership that promotes and supports student performance and school effectiveness. The school's curriculum, instructional design and assessment practices guide and ensure teacher effectiveness and student learning.

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.

Quiet Waters Elementary has a clear purpose and direction that the leadership and staff communicate to all stakeholders. This shared culture and commitment is evident through communication modes such as the parent links, the school marquee, the school website, and school survey results.

Quiet Waters Elementary School's vision is to create a positive teaching and learning environment that fosters self-motivated and lifelong learners. Quiet Waters Elementary School students, staff, parents, and community will strive to ensure all students reach their maximum potential in a safe and nurturing learning environment. School leadership and staff share high expectations for students and are committed to implementing effective instructional practices that include active student participation and application of knowledge and skills.

All stakeholders are involved in the continuous improvement of the school. School staff and leadership gather current and comprehensive data and collaborate to analyze this data to drive differentiated instruction and to increase student achievement. The leadership and staff at Quiet Waters communicate the purpose and direction to all stakeholders and provide specific feedback that enhances strategies and practices to increase student achievement. It is the goal of the school to implement challenging educational programs with measurable goals, so that all learners can be successful.

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.

Quiet Waters Elementary School has been awarded the Golden School Award for the past 30 school years. This award is presented to schools in which volunteer hours equal to at least twice the school's student enrollment. The Florida Commissioner of Education presents this award to schools with an exemplary citizen volunteer program.

VEX Robotics hosts the world's largest robotics competition for students all over the world to compete against one another using a robot of their own design. In the VEX IQ Competition teams of students are tasked with designing and building a robot to play with other teams in a game-based engineering challenge. Classroom STEM concepts are put to the test as students learn lifelong skills in teamwork, leadership, communications, and more. Students build, code, and manipulate their own technological designs to apply innovative ideas that improve existing processes. Robots are tangible examples of how technology is used to meet the needs of its users and the needs of society. Educational robotics allows students to practice the engineering design process. The study of educational robotics affords a wide variety of learning opportunities because it has STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) as its prerequisites. Robotics is always interdisciplinary in ways that are tangible and applicable to students. Students gain an understanding and knowledge through the connecting of concepts from each of the STEM domains. Activities involving robotics necessitate students collaborate, think computationally, troubleshoot, and innovate - all fundamental skills for 21st-century learners and, eventually, 21st-century professionals. Tournaments to determine the best teams are held year-round at the regional, state, and national levels and culminate at the VEX Robotics World Championship each April. The Quiet Waters Elementary School Robotics team has won several top prizes at local and district competitions.

Additional Information

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

Collaboration amongst school leadership and staff is part of the school culture and helps share best practices, solicit new ideas, and shape decisions. The curriculum at Quiet Waters Elementary is

individualized and provides students with opportunities to develop and apply skills. Learning goals and scales are developed and posted to guide classroom instruction. Staff and school leadership are frequently collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data to adjust curriculum to meet the needs of students as well as to achieve school goals. All instructional staff participate in collaborative learning communities that address content areas. These weekly meetings allow teachers to learn together and enhance their practice. Technology is used on a regular basis in all aspects of the school. The technology is current, functional, and used to support and enhance the curriculum. Teachers have well-developed Canvas courses and blend these resources to provide high quality instruction.