



Executive Summary for Tequesta Trace Middle 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?

Tequesta Trace Middle School, located in the vibrant and master-planned community of Weston, Florida, is a public middle school serving students in grades 6 through 8. Nestled at 1800 Indian Trace and adjacent to Tequesta Trace Park, the school is part of Broward County Public Schools district and has consistently maintained an "A" rating from the Florida Department of Education, most recently reaffirmed in July 2025.

Over the past three years, Tequesta Trace has experienced a gradual decline in enrollment, from approximately 1,480 students in 2022 to about 1,343 in 2024 to a little over 1,200 in 2025. Despite the slight drop in enrollment, the school remains a cornerstone of the Weston educational landscape, known for its rigorous academic offerings, including the Cambridge International Program, Dual Language Program, and Gifted curriculum.

The student body at Tequesta Trace reflects the shifting demographics of Weston itself. The school has seen an increase in racial and ethnic diversity, with about 81% of its students identifying themselves as minorities. While 18% of the student population is classified as non-Hispanic white, a significant portion of the white population—approximately 64%—identifies as Hispanic. This mirrors Weston's broader demographic trends, where the Hispanic/Latino population has grown significantly, now comprising over half the city's residents. Weston remains a family-oriented and affluent community, with a median household income of around \$123,000 and a reputation for safety and high-quality amenities.

The staff at Tequesta Trace is composed of seasoned educators who bring stability and expertise to the classroom. As of recent data, nearly 30% of teachers have more than 20 years of experience, while an additional 44% have taught for between 6 and 20 years.

One of the school's greatest assets is its strong connection to the community. The campus's proximity to Tequesta Trace Park fosters outdoor learning opportunities and community events. The school's active PTA and family engagement efforts contribute to a vibrant school culture, celebrating both academic achievement and staff dedication.

However, Tequesta Trace also faces several challenges. As the student population becomes more diverse, the need for culturally responsive instruction, bilingual support services, and targeted outreach has grown. The rising class sizes and enrollment fluctuations may also impact resource allocation and individualized student support. Additionally, serving a community that blends long-term residents with international and transient families requires flexible, inclusive approaches to education and communication.

Despite these challenges, Tequesta Trace continues to thrive by leveraging its experienced staff, high-performing programs, and strong community ties. The school's commitment to academic excellence and student growth remains unwavering, even as it adapts to the evolving needs of the Weston community.

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.

At the core of its mission is a commitment to providing educational excellence, promoting lifelong learning, and nurturing the self-worth and competence of every student. This purpose is supported by a belief in setting high expectations within a secure and creative environment—one that values diversity and thrives through community-wide involvement.

The school lives out this mission in meaningful ways. Academically, Tequesta Trace offers a wide range of rigorous programs that reflect its commitment to excellence. Students have access to the prestigious Cambridge International curriculum, as well as Gifted and Talented programs, and high school credit courses in subjects like Algebra I, Geometry, Spanish, Speech & Debate, and Biology. These offerings allow students to challenge themselves, pursue academic growth, and prepare for future success starting in middle school.

But academic rigor is only one part of how the school fulfills its mission. Tequesta Trace also prioritizes equity and support by offering small-group instruction, literacy workshops, peer tutoring, and data-driven interventions—especially for students who may be just below proficiency. These supports are designed to ensure that every child has the opportunity to grow, build confidence, and reach their potential.

The school also emphasizes character development and community connection. Recognized for multiple years as a “No Place for Hate” school, Tequesta Trace fosters a respectful and inclusive climate where students are encouraged to take on leadership roles and engage in service-learning projects. Through clubs such as Latinos in Action, Student Council, and Choose Peace/Stop Violence, students develop empathy, civic responsibility, and a strong sense of purpose.

Beyond the classroom, students are encouraged to explore their interests and talents through a robust selection of electives and extracurricular activities. Tequesta Trace's athletic teams regularly bring home county and district championships, while students in the arts contribute to the school's vibrant culture.

The school's reach extends even further as a designated Community School, offering adult education programs such as English and GED classes for parents and community members. This unique feature reinforces the school's role as a hub for lifelong learning and strengthens ties between the school and the broader Weston community.

Through its diverse programming, high expectations, and unwavering commitment to student growth and inclusion, Tequesta Trace Middle School truly embodies its mission. It is a place where students are challenged, supported, and inspired to become not only successful learners, but also compassionate, capable individuals prepared to lead and serve in an ever-changing world.

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.

Over the past three years, Tequesta Trace Middle School has solidified its reputation as a high-performing and well-rounded educational institution. The school has consistently earned an "A" rating from the Florida Department of Education and continues to rank among the top-performing middle schools in Broward County. Its academic track record is impressive—students regularly outperform district and state averages, with 100% of Algebra and Geometry students passing their End-of-Course exams year after year.

Beyond standardized testing, the school shines in a wide array of student programs. The speech and debate team, music programs, and various academic clubs have earned accolades at local and national levels. Notably, students took first place at National History Day and launched a fully student-produced newspaper and a sold-out 192-page yearbook. The school's athletic program is equally strong, with girls' volleyball claiming four consecutive district championships and teams in track, cross country, and golf consistently finishing at the top of county rankings.

Tequesta Trace is also proud of its commitment to character education and community service. It has been recognized multiple times as a "No Place for Hate" school, with peer-led initiatives in bullying prevention, service learning, and student leadership. Clubs like Latinos in Action and Choose Peace/Stop Violence are active in community outreach, organizing food drives, beach clean-ups, and projects supporting veterans and local families in need.

While these accomplishments are notable, the school remains focused on continuous improvement. Over the last three years, it has worked diligently to refine instructional practices and academic interventions. Leadership teams and teachers meet regularly in Professional Learning Communities to analyze student data, collaborate on lesson planning, and monitor the effectiveness of teaching strategies. One key area of focus has been enhancing literacy and math interventions, particularly for students performing just below proficiency—through targeted small group instruction and extended learning opportunities. The school is also in its fourth year of implementing a block schedule model.

Looking ahead, Tequesta Trace is committed to building on its successes while addressing areas for growth. Over the next three years, the school aims to increase student proficiency across all tested subjects, with a special emphasis on state assessments in science, civics, and biology. Efforts are underway to strengthen the double-period reading and math interventions to ensure they are both impactful and sustainable. There is also a continued push to enhance teacher effectiveness under the block schedule through targeted professional development and instructional coaching.

In summary, Tequesta Trace Middle School is a model of academic excellence and student-centered growth. Its achievements over the past three years a testament to the dedication of its staff, students, and community. With a clear vision for the future, the school is well-positioned to continue climbing higher and roaring louder in all areas of student success.

Additional Information

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

Tequesta Trace Middle School is more than just a place for academic learning—it is a vibrant, student-centered community where every child is known, supported, and inspired to thrive. While academic achievement is a cornerstone of our success, what truly sets Tequesta Trace apart is our unwavering commitment to the whole child. We believe that students should feel safe, seen, and valued, and we foster a culture where strong relationships, character development, and personal growth are just as important as test scores.

Our theme, “Climb Higher, Roar Louder,” is not just a slogan—it’s a daily reminder that our students are capable of reaching great heights and using their voices to make a difference. Whether through leadership roles, service projects, creative arts, athletics, or academic excellence, our students are encouraged to push beyond their limits and embrace challenges with courage and resilience.

We also take great pride in our strong partnerships with parents, families, and the greater Weston community. Through our active PTA, community events, and volunteer opportunities, we work together to create a supportive environment where all stakeholders are engaged in the success of our students.