



Executive Summary for Charles R. Drew Elementary Magnet School

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. 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?

Charles R. Drew Elementary is a Title I public elementary school (Pre-K–5) with a magnet program, located at 1000 NW 31st Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL 33069, in the heart of Collier City. It serves as the neighborhood school for Collier City, with students feeding into Crystal Lake Middle and then Blanche Ely or Coconut Creek High Schools.

The school enrolls 396–433 students with 23 classroom teachers (97% certified), maintaining a 17:1 student–teacher ratio. Demographically, the student body is ~59–60% Black/African American, 36–38% Hispanic/Latino, 2–4% White, and 0.3–1% Multiracial, with no reported Asian, Native American, or Pacific Islander students. About 73–85% qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, reflecting the community's higher poverty levels.

Recent community investments include major upgrades to McNair Park (new turf field, track, playground, and clubhouse) and streetlight/LED installations through city GO-Bond projects. A BSO substation and expanded patrols have improved safety, positively impacting students and families.

Challenges include high poverty rates requiring extended student support, ongoing needs in community safety, and district enrollment declines leading to budget uncertainties. Despite these, reading and math proficiency has grown significantly, and the school now holds an A grade rating.

This year brought administrative changes with new leadership and support staff, an increase in Hispanic and Haitian students, and more teachers earning ESOL endorsements to support language learners. Community partnerships, like a recent campus beautification project by 37 Eco Shield Pest Solution employees, highlight growing family and community involvement.

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.

Charles R. Drew Elementary Magnet School exists to ensure that every scholar receives a high-quality, equitable education that nurtures academic excellence, personal growth, and lifelong learning within a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment.

The mission of Charles R. Drew Elementary is to cultivate student and faculty growth by delivering rigorous, differentiated instruction aligned to standards, maintaining a safe and nurturing learning environment, preparing students to be college- and career-ready with 21st-century skills, and ensuring all scholars achieve their annual academic growth goals. Guided by the motto, *"Rooted in Excellence, Rising with Purpose,"* the school is committed to promoting academic success while also fostering confidence, responsibility, and community pride among students.

Our vision is to be a high-performing school where every scholar reaches their full potential and becomes a responsible, confident, and productive global citizen. This vision is built on core values and beliefs that include equity in learning opportunities, academic excellence for all, collaboration among families, staff, and the community, innovative teaching practices using technology and 21st-century strategies, and the importance of maintaining a safe, respectful school climate.

Charles R. Drew embodies its mission through multiple program offerings and high expectations for students. The school provides a rigorous, standards-aligned curriculum with differentiated instruction and intervention blocks to meet individual learning needs, along with enrichment opportunities to prepare students for advanced academic pathways. Teachers receive ongoing professional development in instructional strategies, technology integration, and cultural responsiveness, with many pursuing ESOL endorsements to better serve our growing population of Hispanic and Haitian students.

Family and community engagement is also a priority, with parent nights, literacy workshops, and community partnerships such as the Eco Shield Pest Solution campus beautification project and collaboration with McNair Park enhancing both academic and cultural experiences for students. By strengthening home-school partnerships and providing families with resources to support learning at home, Charles R. Drew creates a holistic support system that drives student success. In addition, investments in school safety measures, expanded public safety resources in Collier City, and initiatives that build a culture of respect and responsibility ensure that all students learn in a secure and positive environment.

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.

As of the 2024–2025 school year, Charles R. Drew Elementary is proud to be recognized as an *A-rated* school. As a STEM Magnet school specializing in Math, Science, and Technology, we provide students with access to advanced technology, fully equipped science labs, and enriching field experiences. Over the past three years, our students have shown consistent academic growth, particularly in Reading Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics, as demonstrated by strong performance on progress monitoring assessments.

To enrich learning beyond the classroom, we offer a variety of extracurricular programs, including the Men of Class and Ladies of Class mentoring programs, Safety Patrols, the SAVE Promise Club, and the Debate Club. Monthly recognitions such as Kids of Character, Terrific Kids, and Honor Roll Assemblies celebrate academic excellence, leadership, and positive character development.

Technology integration has also been a major achievement. All students in grades K–5 now have access to individual laptops, and teachers have received digital tools, professional development, and curriculum resources to create personalized learning environments. These devices expand access to online instructional materials, digital assessments, and real-world learning opportunities, preparing students for success in a technology-driven world.

Despite this progress, we continue to identify areas for growth. While ELA proficiency rates have steadily improved, our goal is to achieve 60% proficiency for grades 3–5. To meet this target, we have implemented professional learning communities that focus on lesson planning, pacing, small-group instruction, and explicit vocabulary instruction. These strategies, supported by ongoing progress monitoring, are designed to ensure both student achievement and teacher effectiveness continue to rise.

Looking ahead, Charles R. Drew is committed to sustaining academic excellence, expanding enrichment programs, strengthening family and community engagement, and closing achievement gaps. Through these efforts, we strive to prepare all students to thrive academically, socially, and personally over the next three years.

Additional Information

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

Charles R. Drew Elementary Magnet School is deeply committed to fostering strong partnerships with families, community organizations, and local businesses to enhance student learning and well-being. In recent years, partnerships with organizations such as Eco Shield Pest Solution have contributed to campus beautification efforts, while collaboration with the McNair Recreation Center and the Collier City Public Library has expanded access to recreational, cultural, and academic resources for students and families.

The school also takes pride in its diverse and inclusive learning environment. With a growing population of Hispanic and Haitian students, our faculty continues to pursue professional development in cultural responsiveness and English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) strategies to meet the needs of all learners effectively. These efforts reflect our belief that every student deserves equitable access to a high-quality education and a supportive school climate.

In addition, safety and well-being remain top priorities. Recent city and county investments in park improvements, street lighting, and public safety resources have strengthened the sense of security in the surrounding community, which positively impacts students and families.

Finally, Charles R. Drew remains committed to innovation in teaching and learning. We are dedicated to expanding technology integration, increasing family engagement opportunities, and maintaining high academic standards so that every student can prepare for success in middle school, high school, college, and beyond.