



Executive Summary for **(Silver Trail 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?

Silver Trail Middle School (STMS) is a moderately sized, multi-ethnic school of over 1,138 students. Our school prides itself in its racial and ethnic diversity and has a student population that is 60.15% Hispanic, 16.44% African American, 71.48% White, and 5.62% Asian. The school is in the beautiful and burgeoning city of Pembroke Pines, FL, but borders both Cooper City and Davie. The surrounding neighborhood consists of predominantly middle-class households with a median income of \$81,675. The racial composition of the surrounding community closely mirrors that of the schools, with a slightly higher population of whites than what is enrolled in the school. The community also has a large population of people from a variety of Caribbean nations, including Jamaica, Trinidad, Dominican Republic, and Cuba. Many of our students come from homes in which one or both of their caregivers possess a post-secondary education; a significant portion of whom have earned a bachelor's or graduate degree.

In addition to our students and surrounding community, the school's staff is highly motivated and extremely qualified. Large portions of our teachers hold graduate degrees, while many others have certifications in multiple areas. Most of our teachers have many years of teaching experience and have built a great relationship with students and the community. Pembroke Pines is one of the fastest growing cities in the country, and is home to several prominent businesses, including, Elizabeth Arden, Lexus of Pembroke Pines, Maroone Chevrolet LLC, Professional Course Management II, Ltd., Decorator Industries Inc., Memorial Healthcare System, Holman Automotive, and Grand Palms Resort among others.

Purpose

STMS's mission statement says the purpose of the school is "To create personalized learning environments that support all students and our community." Decisions are driven by our desire to fulfill the goals of our mission statement, which is closely aligned to the mission of Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) as a whole. The most important component to quality instruction in any school is the professional development and continuous growth of its teachers. To accomplish this, STMS has developed a robust and efficient network of professional learning communities, where teachers are educated on the most up-to-date, innovative, and effective teaching strategies available. Teachers are also encouraged to share best practices and model instructional strategies to assist each other in their professional growth, which has had a positive impact on student achievement over the years. Our school promotes innovation and rigor by offering students an array of courses that challenge their intellect, while still providing them with opportunities to demonstrate their creativity and uniqueness.

STMS has an award-winning band and sports teams. Students also have an array of clubs that they can join including National Junior Honor Society (NJHS), Student Government, Democracy in Action, Thespian Club, Book Club, Future Educators of America, Color Guard, First Priority, Campus Connections, Chess Club, Robotics Club, Best Buddies, S.A.V.E., S.P.U.D., S.W.A.T., MTL, and 5000 Role Models of Excellence. Each year, our students participate in science and literary fairs to strengthen their research and nonfiction education by incorporating real world events and problems. The Student Council and NJHS are both responsible for community projects such as Toys for Tots and the Food Harvest Drive. In addition, students can receive high school credits through our Spanish, Speech and Debate, Algebra/Geometry courses, Honors Biology, and Advanced IT courses.

In addition to maintaining high expectations for all students and fostering a school culture and learning environment that enable teachers to deliver effective instruction, the school is active in the surrounding community. We routinely sponsor band concerts that provide community

stakeholders with the opportunity to appreciate the wealth of talent STMS has to offer. We host “Future Mustang Day” and “Mustang Adventure” that equip caregivers with the information they need to make sound decisions regarding their child's academic future. We have formed lasting bonds with community businesses, city officials, school board members, and other prominent members of the community. These relationships have been essential to the success Silver Trail Middle School has experienced since its inception. Parents and students are constantly updated on classroom and school-wide activities, homework assignments and assessments, and upcoming events through our first-rate website. They are also able to access Focus Portal and correspond with members of the faculty and staff through our website. STMS also communicates through regular email, text, calls, and mail, SAC, SAF, and the PTSA, which has contributed to the strong relationship we share with our stakeholders.

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.

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.

STMS has experienced much success around student achievement. Many of our core subjects' student achievement scores are well above district, state, and national averages. Over the last few years, the Science, Mathematics, Language Arts, and Civics scores of students have maintained due to the implementation of school-wide common formative assessments. From 2024 to 2025, our students' overall raw achievement proficiency scores as follows: English Language Arts (73%); Mathematics (73%); Algebra I Honors (91%); Geometry Honors (100%); Science (66%); and Civics/Government (74%).

Three years ago, STMS staff successfully voted to change the student scheduling format from a traditional straight six (6) schedule (53-minutes daily for each period) to an eight (8) period A/B block schedule (87 minutes per class every other day). The increased instructional block of teaching has allowed students increased opportunities to more effectively engage as active learners so that less review time is necessary in subsequent classes. This major area of improvement has also increased double dosing and pull-out opportunities for students who need additional academic support. The increased class time has given students more time to work in learning stations to experience labs, project-based learning, cooperative learning

groups, and teacher-led small groups to receive concentrated support to increase academic skills. Moreover, the A/B block schedule has helped prepare our middle school's students for eventual matriculation to our District high schools, which have all instituted a variation of the block schedule.

During the 2025-2026 school year, students can apply for Cambridge International, G.E.A.R.S, G.E.M., and High School Courses. To support students' academic success, STMS is offering the Cambridge Lower Secondary Program to better prepare students who plan on continuing into a High School AICE Cambridge Program. STMS currently offers Cambridge ELA, Cambridge Social Studies, Global Perspectives, and Cambridge Physical Education. The intention is to increase the number of Cambridge International courses over time. Genuine Explorations, Applications, and Research in Science G.E.A.R.S. include Grade 6 Earth Space Science, Grade 7 Life Science, Grade 8 Physical Science, and Grade 8 Honors Biology. Elective options have increased to include TV Productions, Introduction to Photography, Yearbook, Algebra Support, Environmental STREAM, Ocean Explorations, Math Competition and Games, Intro to Criminal Justice, Life Skills, Latinos in Action, STEAM Exploration, Peer Counseling, Speech and Debate, Band, Drama, Physical Education, Telescope, Forensics, Intro to Business and Entrepreneurship, Start Up Tech and Entrepreneurship, Intro to Business Tools and Career Exploration, and Life Skills to be used for additional academic support.

The STRIDE PRIDE program (Students Taking Responsibility in Demonstrating Excellence) has assisted with decreasing the number of referrals in all grade levels. STRIDE PRIDE includes mini-lessons and activities that review classroom and school procedures. Our PLC's meet weekly to discuss and review student achievement and assessment data. Common Formative Assessments are administered in the core content areas. Teacher made assessments are used for diagnostic and assessment purposes. Core teachers continue to aggressively address developing valid quality test items that are strategically aligned with Florida Assessment of Student Thinking or FAST standards.

Lastly, STMS is proud to support award winning athletic sports and extracurricular clubs including Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Basketball, Cheerleading, Volleyball, Track, and Flag Football. The National Junior Honor Society has been integral in assisting the community with their outreach programs and charitable drives that have had a positive effect on our student population. Lastly, within the last few years we implemented a Best Buddies middle school chapter that has over 50 peer buddies paired with our special needs buddies. The students have created long lasting friendships and supported their buddies academically and emotionally.

Despite our many successes, Silver Trail Middle School is still in need of improvement in the areas of student attendance, parental involvement, and continuing to strive for excellence as a school. To improve student attendance, we have worked diligently on creating, implementing, and monitoring a comprehensive attitude and behavior modification plan. Although we have seen some success from our plan, we are still in need of improvement, especially when it comes to reducing patterns of non-attendance, truancy, and tardiness, which research shows impacts student achievement more than any other variable. We have also been aggressive in our efforts to get parents more involved in the school initiatives. Through the promotion of the SAC, SAF, and PTSA we have provided parents with opportunities to have a voice in the decision making of their school.

Additional Information

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

Silver Trail Middle School is one of the premiere middle schools in Broward County. We offer a wide range of academic programs that challenge students cognitively and help to prepare them for life beyond middle school. Our teachers are extremely nurturing, motivating, and qualified, with a large percentage of them holding a graduate degree and/or national board certification in one or many subject areas. Our diverse population provides our students with a unique opportunity to interact with a plethora of cultures and perspectives, which helps to build tolerance of differences and compassion for others. In addition, Silver Trail has a robust and active School Advisory Council and PTSA, who work closely with the school's administration to improve the school and create opportunities for all stakeholders to be involved in its functioning. Our school is also active in the surrounding community and has built strong relationships with city leaders, school board members, and local businesses. Finally, to reduce the referral rate, the STRIDE (Students Taking Responsibility in Demonstrating Excellence) Pride program was developed. The program was designed to promote positive behavior, be proactive instead of reactive, ensure consistency throughout the campus, educate all students, staff, and administration of the school's mission, vision, goals and expectations.