



Executive Summary for Falcon Cove 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?

Falcon Cove Middle School is a neighborhood school located in Weston, Florida. Weston, with its culturally diverse residents, enjoys a vibrant community spread across 27 square miles. The community is comprised of 70,614 residents. Falcon Cove itself is comprised of 2,176 students, with 1,102 males and 1,074 females. The population breakdown is as follows: Hispanic Ethnicity: 1,370 students, 62.7%; White: 415 students, 19%; Black/African American: 83 students, 3.8%; Multi-racial: 63 students, 2.6%; Asian: 241 students, 11.07%; Native American or Native Indian: 4 students, 0.40%. Falcon Cove is currently operating at 99% capacity with 2,176 students. In January 2022, sixth grade students transitioned from 48 portables to a new building. Currently, there are 171 students who have been reassigned. Despite the growing number of charter schools in the area, such as Imagine Charter and Franklin Academy, Falcon Cove has maintained its operations at 99% capacity. Over the next five years, enrollment projections indicate a slight increase, potentially reaching 2,500 students by 2025-2026. Our school and community continue to grow, and we take pride in our diverse and welcoming environment. Our school has a very diverse student population, with the majority of students in our ESOL program coming from South America (90%). However, we also have students from every corner of the world. While many of our students have been in the BCPS system since their early elementary school years, a portion of our community experiences transient enrollment and withdrawals throughout the year. Another notable aspect of Falcon Cove Middle School is that we are home to a large Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Program, serving 747 students. We currently employ a staff of highly qualified ESE teachers, including ESE facilitators, assistants, specialists, and speech pathologists, who provide support to our special population of Autistic students, as well as those with Learning Disabilities and academic/emotional disorders. Additionally, Falcon Cove includes a Guidance Director and two Guidance Counselors who provide hands-on support and guidance, as well as monthly tours for new incoming parents and students.

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.

Falcon Cove sets high expectations for students through academic programs such as our Cambridge program and multiple high school credit classes, including Journalism, Debate, Film, Biology, Law Studies, French, and Spanish, among others. With these various programs in place, we aim to assist students in making the right choices for their educational experiences here at Falcon Cove. With over 90% of our students continuing their education at Cypress Bay High School, it is important to provide students with an easy transition from Middle School to High School. Therefore, our Cambridge program and other High School courses have been successful Executive Summary for Falcon Cove Middle School Principal: Steven Carruth because middle school students receive high school credit, and they can continue their rigorous coursework when enrolled in the Cambridge program in High school. Additionally, FCMS offers a wide range of electives so that students can gain a variety of educational experiences to help them choose the path they wish to pursue for their career and college readiness. Our electives are designed to further enhance their educational journey.

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.

Falcon Cove Middle School has consistently earned an "A" school grade since the transition to the grading of schools in the 1998-1999 school year. In the 2022-2023 academic year, we achieved impressive results: 98% of our biology students were proficient on the EOC, 66% of our 8th graders demonstrated proficiency in the Science SSA, and 90% of our 7th graders were proficient on the Civics EOC. Furthermore, 79% of all students in grades 6-8 demonstrated reading proficiency as measured by the 2022 FSA ELA. In June 2023, 71% of all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students demonstrated proficiency as measured on the Math FAST. In Algebra, 96% of our students were proficient, and in Geometry, an impressive 99% of our student's achieved proficiency. Athletics play an integral role in our school's educational program. While we encourage our students to strive for victory and excellence, our primary focus lies in instilling principles of self-discipline, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Our sports program consistently maintains high expectations, with all the boys' teams winning the overall top team title in

Broward County for the 2022-2023 academic year. Our boys' soccer team also secured a county championship, demonstrating their dedication and skill. In addition to our athletic achievements, our academic clubs, such as Math, Debate, and Theatre, continue to excel at the County, State, and National levels. Our Math Club qualified for the State competition in Math Counts and Nationals for MathCON. Our Algebra and Geometry teams consistently perform well in Mu Alpha Theta Competitions. Our Thespian troupe (88554) consistently ranks in the upper quartile of top honors at the Florida State Junior Thespian Festival, an event recognized and approved by the National Association of Secondary School Principals as having academic value. Even during the pandemic, when competitions went virtual, our theatre students maintained their high rankings. Additionally, our students have had the privilege of training with Broadway professionals in New York City and participating in Disney Performing Arts programs in both Orlando and Anaheim. During a visit to Los Angeles, our Theatre and Film students had the opportunity to tour UCLA's School of Theatre, Film, & Television and explore the world-famous Warner Brothers Studio lot in Burbank, where they observed professionals in the film and television industries.

Executive Summary for Falcon Cove Middle School Principal: Steven Carruth Falcon Cove's Speech and Debate team has been actively participating in numerous after-school and Saturday tournaments for the past nine years. The team has consistently competed in the NSDA's National Tournament for the past eight years, with various students qualifying for semifinals and finals. FCMS has consistently ranked in the top three middle schools, earning awards and having students rank in the top six positions in various events at county-offered tournaments. Due to the competitive nature of the FCMS speech and debate program, we have earned first-place team trophies at competitions such as the Glades Invitational tournament for having the most first-place winners

Additional Information

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

Falcon Cove Middle School teachers collaborate in subject/grade-based groups known as cadres. These professional learning communities convene twice a week, allowing teachers to share best practices, incorporate Common Core standards into their lessons, and find ways to seamlessly integrate these standards into daily classroom activities. Cadres work together to implement the CARE cycle, utilizing formative assessments and common lessons/assessments. Falcon Cove takes pride in its teachers' collaborative efforts, both inside and outside the classroom, to meet the diverse needs of all students and ensure equitable education across all classes. Peer Counseling is an elective course that offers a comprehensive range of services to students, the school, and the local community through structured in-school and outreach activities. Peer Counselors, representing a cross-section of students, act as helpers and active listeners for their peers. The curriculum of this course emphasizes prevention and addresses various social, individual, school, and family concerns, with a particular focus on preventing violence and substance abuse. In addition to assisting peers with individual concerns, peer counselors provide a variety of other services, including peer tutoring, welcoming new students, and promoting violence prevention, including anti-bullying programs. They also offer services such as tutoring for over 100 students per week, escorting 5th-grade visitors, serving as ELL assistants and tutors, participating in the Best Buddies Club,

and acting as Falcon Cove ambassadors to neighboring elementary schools. Latinos In Action (LIA) is a Peer Counseling class dedicated to excellence. LIA's mission is to empower Latino youth to lead and strengthen their community through college and careers. The curriculum places strong emphasis on the path to college. Students in LIA work diligently to incorporate cultural awareness into Falcon Cove, hosting a Hispanic Heritage festival every school year to showcase various Latin American countries. Additionally, students have organized fundraisers that enabled the purchase of flags representing all students at Falcon Cove. Furthermore, LIA second-year students provide tutoring in reading and math to elementary students at Sawgrass Elementary on a weekly basis. Executive Summary for Falcon Cove Middle School Principal: Steven Carruth Our technology courses play a pivotal role in helping students make informed decisions about their future academic and occupational goals. Falcon Cove's technology courses cover college and career-based content, including computer applications, problem-solving skills, team building, computer programming, robotics, AR/VR, and virtual business enterprise. Students enrolled in these courses also have the opportunity to earn Industry Certifications in software applications and computer programming languages.