



## Executive Summary for Park Lakes Elementary

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?

Park Lakes Elementary School is a Title 1 school and is rated as a 'B school' and is in the City of Lauderdale, Lakes, Florida, and is within the Broward County Public Schools, which is the 6<sup>th</sup>-largest district in the United States. Park Lakes Elementary School was one of the seven schools which opened for the 2002-2003 school year due to a drastic increase in student enrollment in the district (Broward County Public Schools Centennial, 2004). In the City of Lauderdale Lakes, Florida, the community continued to grow with a population of over 32,000 (About Us, 2018). The population is diverse which consists of low to middle-class families from various ethnic backgrounds such as African Americans, Asians, Haitians, Jamaicans, and Hispanics. Currently the school serves 882 students from a large diverse community. The demographic breakdown is as follows: For the 2025-2026 school year we have an enrollment of approximately 882 which primarily comprised of 1.5% White students; 83% students Black/African American students; 14.3% Hispanic students and 1.4% other race5.

Co-teaching is not the only relatively new Park Lakes Elementary School endeavor. As previously mentioned, unique to our school is the fact that we have developed a partnership with Florida Atlantic University College of Education. We facilitate FAU students directly on our campus. These teachers work closely with trained veteran teachers during the last two years of their college experience. Then they have an opportunity to remain at Park Lakes Elementary School should a vacancy present itself. Each mentor teacher is trained by FAU as well.

## 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.

The Mission of Park Lakes Elementary School is to create classrooms infused with technology and inquiry-based opportunities. Through these opportunities, students will collaborate and learn to be effective communicators through researched based learning. The Vision Statement for Park Lakes Elementary School "Is to provide a quality education through collaboration with all stakeholders that will increase student achievement".

The school decided to move from a teacher-centered approach to more student-centered learning. The goal is to engage all students in the learning process regardless of ability levels by engaging students through inquiry, investigations, and hands-on experiences. Student-centered learning allows students to think critically and in the long run, be able to complete higher-order research-based activities whether on paper or the computer. The school has maintained specific focus areas to enhance academic rigor. The school provides instruction to students in grades pre-kindergarten to fifth grade. The primary grades (preK- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) are all self-contained classes while the intermediate grades (3<sup>rd</sup> grade- 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are both self-contained and departmentalized. Based on the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) data, BCPS expectations, and individual student needs, many students receive push in or pull out services to assist with their academic progress.

Park Lakes Elementary School has not only been recognized for the outstanding afterschool camps, but also for continuously involving the parents and community to take part in the school's events. Events such as Mother and Daughter Tea, Father and Son Luncheons, and Career Day are held every year. The school also strives to engage students in extracurricular activities which include a debate club, soccer club, Get Fit club, chorus, Drama Club, and a girl's mentoring group called PINK (Positive Influence Nurtures Knowledge). These afterschool clubs allow students to work together outside of the classroom. All in all, Park Lakes Elementary School represents a diverse demographic population, which is evident on campus and in the community.

Our school recently became a Lighthouse Technology School. We are also committed to improving the social emotional learning opportunities provided to staff members. It is our goal to address the "whole" child. In order to give our teachers an increased understanding of the five core competencies related to social emotional learning self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making.

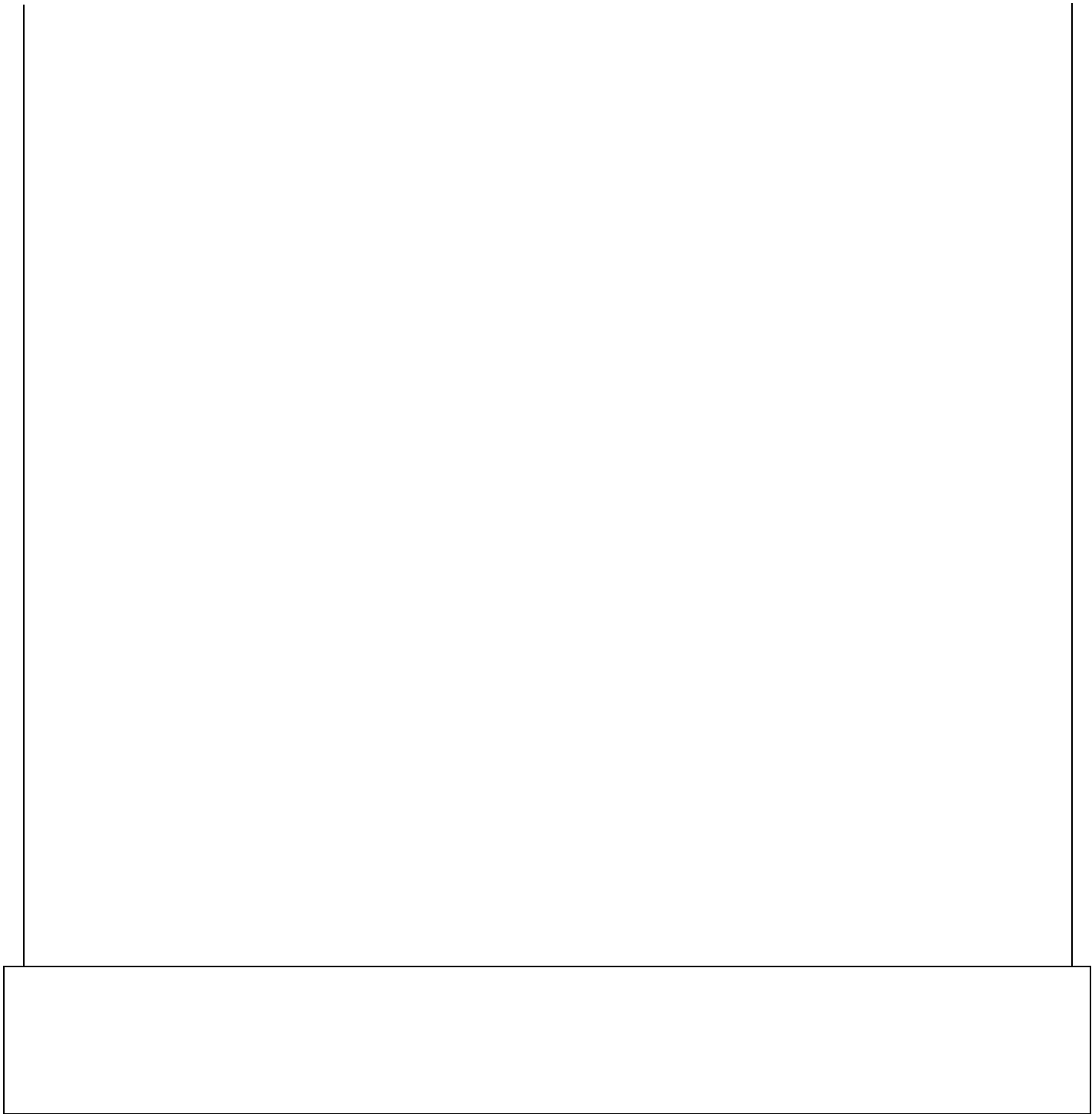
Within the first two years under the new administration (2017-2019), the school made significant improvements resulting in an increase in student achievement proficiency in ELA from 34% to 53%; the number of students in the lowest 25% made learning gains from 47% to 64%. Improvements were also made in the subject area of Math. Student achievement proficiency increased from 41% to 61% and the number of students making learning gains increased from 54% to 73%. The ELA 3<sup>rd</sup> grade proficiency data showed an increase from 29% to 51%. The school was also successful in decreasing the number of Level I students in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade from 51% to 22%. These accomplishments are because of a reduction in staff turnover and teachers performing at an effective or highly effective level.

Park Lakes continued with this projected plan since then and by the end of the 2021-2022 school year, Park Lakes managed to increase the students' achievement proficiency in both ELA and Mathematics. The disaggregated data showed that the ELA 3<sup>rd</sup> grade achievement proficiency was 47%; 4<sup>th</sup> grade made a 55% in student achievement, while 5<sup>th</sup> grade obtained a 46% in student achievement, resulting in an overall achievement proficiency of 49% at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Overall, there was a 63% learning gains for the intermediate grades. The number of students in the lowest quartile made a total of 57% in learning gains. For Math, the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student achievement proficiency was 58%; with both 4<sup>th</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup> grade obtaining student achievement proficiency levels of 54% each. This resulted in the school having an overall achievement proficiency of 55% in comparison to the previous school year. The overall learning gains for these grades was 75%. The number of students in the lowest quartile made a total of 72% in learning gains. For Science, the overall student achievement proficiency was 36%. Park Lakes remains focused on improving student achievement levels for all grade levels as well as reducing the percentage of students in the lowest quartile.

For the 2022-2023 school year, Park Lakes attained an overall rating of 48% for ELA, 51% for Math and 39% in Science, resulting in the school acquiring a "B" rating as the school grade. As this was the first year that all Broward County Public Schools participated in the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST), learning gains were not calculated.

At the end of 2023-2024 school year, Park Lakes' ELA proficiency was as follows: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade proficiency 49%, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency 52% with 61% learning gains, and our lowest quartile showed a 63% gain. For Math, the overall proficiency was 55%, overall learning gains for the intermediate grades was 59% with the lowest quartile making a total of 58% in learning gains. For Science, student proficiency was 46%. Our goal for the 2024-2025 school year is to increase our ELA proficiency 60%, increase proficiency in Math to 65% and leaning gains to 70% and lastly, for Science to increase proficiency to 65%.

At the end of 2024-2025 school year, Park Lakes' ELA proficiency was as follows: the overall proficiency was 56%, with overall learnings gains being at 64%, and our lowest quartile gaining a 65%. For Math, the overall proficiency was 60%, overall learning gains for the intermediate grades was 65%, and with the lowest quartile making a total of 68% in learning gains. For Science, student proficiency was 56%. Our goal for the 2025-2026 school year is to increase our overall score by 80% across the board for ELA, Math, and Science.



## 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.

The most notable achievement Park Lakes Elementary has made over the past three years is the shift from teacher-centered learning environments to student-centered environments. Teachers are challenged to work collaboratively as teams to develop innovative lesson plans that engage students in inquiry-based, project-based activities. Apart of this shift involves our recent acceptance as a Science Technology Robotics Engineering, and Consistent academic growth for our students will always serve as an area in which Park Lakes would like to show growth.

However, there are other areas that we would like to demonstrate growth. At Park Lakes, we strive to decrease the amount of classroom referrals. We plan to do this by infusing the concepts of social emotional learning (SEL) into our teachers' daily practices. Social and emotional learning (SEL) involves the processes through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. The five core competencies of SEL center on developing the following abilities in our students:

- Self-awareness: The ability to accurately recognize one's emotions and thoughts and their influence on behavior.
- Self-management: The ability to regulate one's emotions, thoughts and behavior effectively in different situations.
- Social awareness: The ability to take the perspective of and empathize with others from diverse individuals and groups.
- Responsible decision-making: The ability to make constructive and respectful choices about behavior.

We plan to provide training for teachers on these competences in hopes of decreasing the number of referrals for the following incidents. This information represents the top five type and number of incidents to date that we have encountered. Our goal over the next three years is to decrease the percentage of each incident by ten. (SB) Simply Battery (6), Low Level Battery (3), Unruly/Disruptive Behavior (8), and Defiance of Authority (10). The total number of incidents were 30.

## Additional Information

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

Finally, the low socioeconomic demographic of our student population necessitates a strong partnership with stakeholders. We seek to further develop the relationships with partners that will assist the school in its vision to provide quality education through sustained partnerships with all stakeholders. It is our belief that building relationships with outside organizations is the cornerstone to the success of our students. We seek to establish relationships with business partners at the local and national level. Over the next three years. We desire to strengthen the bonds with our 52 local business partners and form new partnerships while at the same time building relationships at the national level.