



## **Executive Summary**

**Blanche Ely High School  
Broward County School District**

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## Executive Summary for Schools

The Executive Summary (ES) provides the school an opportunity to describe in the 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 of the School

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?

**Note: The 2020-2021 Executive Summary did not change drastically due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. No assessment data for the 2019-2020 year. Blanche Ely will continue with the same data.**

Blanche Ely High School (BEHS) is an urban high school located in the heart of Pompano Beach, Florida. Over the past years, the school has experienced a steady increase in population, with our current school enrollment at 2,060 students. The demographic breakdown of students is as follows: 81% Black, 14% Hispanic, 2% White, and 1% multi-racial; 13.4 % ELL learners, 9.8 % SWD, and 85.3% FRL. The grade level breakdown is as follows: 9th Grade with 967 students, 10th Grade with 498 students, 11th Grade with 532 students, and 12th Grade with 439 students. The school is comprised of 45.1% male and 54.9% female students. The graduation rate is 94%. BEHS currently has ninety-seven (97) teachers, eleven (11) of whom are first-year educators. Four (4) teachers hold their doctoral degrees, and the school has approximately four (4) National Board Certified teachers.

## School's 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.

Vision Statement: The vision of Blanche Ely High School is to provide opportunities that will help students reach Destination Excellence.

Mission Statement: The mission of Blanche Ely High School is to provide opportunities that will meet the educational needs of all its students in a safe learning environment.

Blanche Ely High School embodies its purpose through its program offerings. BEHS offers Advanced Placement (AP) college-level and Honors-level courses that challenge students as they prepare for life after high school. BEHS is also home to a National Academy Foundation (NAF) program that graduates students with Career and Adult Professional Education (CAPE) industry certification in the fields of information technology, nursing medical sciences, hospitality and tourism, and finance. These programs incorporate project-based learning, paid internships, and entrepreneurship. Also, BEHS offers Magnet programs in the areas of Medical Sciences and STEM/Science Engineering, providing real-life experience and certification to high school students.

At BEHS High School, we are committed to educating the whole individual. Therefore, our school offers courses in the areas of Hospitality, Culinary, Nursing, Engineering, Aviation, Emergency Medical Response (EMR), Computer Programming, and other traditional core subjects. BEHS also offers extracurricular activities encompassing Band and Athletic programs. Our school's Marching Band and Basketball programs are among the best in the district and state, having won numerous 1<sup>st</sup> place awards over the past three years. Our school's Culinary, Medical [Nursing, Emergency Medical Response (EMR)], Engineering, Hospitality, and Computer Programming programs are expanding each year providing alternate career paths for many of our students. Additionally, our school offers a JROTC program that builds character while promoting discipline and pride in our youth.

## 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.

BEHS has seen ongoing *growth* in the Magnet and National Academy Foundation (NAF) Academies over the past three years. The Engineer Magnet students collaborated with Wilton Manors Elementary School which was named Nationally Certified Magnet School for its International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program. Additionally, BEHS Hospitality and Tourism Management program, in partnership with the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association and the Pompano Beach Marriott, created the Marriott Future-Ready Lab hotel space, which functions like a hotel-space complete with a front desk, bedroom, and bathroom to help students receive hands-on experience in customer service and hotel management. Throughout the school year, Marriott offered work-based learning activities for students within the Marriott Future-Ready Lab to prepare students for hotel internships and careers. As of the 2019-2020 school years, Blanche Ely High School has TWO NEW DISTINGUISHED NAF ACADEMIES! The NAF Academy of Hospitality and Tourism and The NAF Academy of Health Science has joined The NAF Academy of Informational Technology in earning the coveted status of distinguished! This makes Blanche Ely High School the ONLY school in the district with 3 Distinguished Academies!

College, Career, & Life Readiness (CCLR) is supported through industry certification paths incorporating vocational learning, a rigorous magnet program that supports STEM careers, and numerous honors courses, Advanced Placement offerings, and on-site dual-enrollment for students. Additionally, the school boasts numerous award-winning extracurricular organizations, with the Boys Varsity Basketball Team, band, JROTC, STEM, and NAF academies recognitions. Moreover, BEHS students enjoy a graduation rate of 94% where graduates at the top of their class consistently receive scholarships to colleges and universities.

In 2019, we implemented the iCAN Program which will be the main focus for the next three years. This program brings with it a unique opportunity to create a personalized learning environment that transforms the traditional school setting into a hub for student engagement and student achievement. New this year is the addition of the EMR program with a future-ready lab in the form of a real-world ambulance giving students hands-on experience in the field of medical rescue. Utilizing a project-based learning approach to integrating college, career, and life ready competencies into academic content areas, teachers engage and empower students with the technical knowledge and skills needed for 21st-century competitiveness.

The Leadership Team and the Instructional Staff at BEHS are committed to providing a plethora of educational opportunities and to emphasizing high expectations and academic excellence for all students. It is for this reason that BEHS High School maintains a focus on continuously improving literacy skills (Reading and Writing) as well as student achievement scores on the End-of-Course (EOC) exams in the areas of Biology, Algebra I, Geometry, and American History, which improved 10% for the 2018-19 school year. Our school supports its efforts for continuous improvement by offering Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs) in the aforementioned subject areas through EOC and SAT/ACT camps and literacy



push-ins. In the next three years, our school will strive to maintain the support of our sponsors for these programs to continue moving forward.

Continuous improvement efforts face the many challenges within the school's community low socio-economic environment. As a result, students are often compelled to address family needs issues, and/or work long hours in addition to their school responsibilities. Other challenges are inequitable access to technology, lack of proper nutrition, and minimal access to community support services due to transportation concerns. All of these factors can impact attendance, behavior, and aspects of student achievement. Hence, attendance and behavior are also areas for improvement that the school is striving to achieve in 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.

BEHS aims to ensure the safety of every student as they prepare for a College, Career, & Life Readiness (CCLR) pathway. BEHS has implemented and executed PASL, SEL, and Sandy Hook “Start with Hello” and “Be Strong” Programs, as well as a community partnership for monthly health-screenings. Additionally, our school participates in programs reflecting and supporting our school demographics and gender equity to include Peer Counseling, Latinos in Action, Diversity and Equity Ambassadors, Women of Tomorrow, and 100 Black Men. The goal of these programs is to explicitly teach and/or integrate the Broward County Public Schools Social and Emotional Learning Standards and Character Education traits in the school and the classroom to ensure students are developing life skills along with social and emotional skills.

In keeping with our commitment to academic excellence and continuous improvement, our school launches new programs each year that span the curriculum. Our school has added Hospitality and Tourism, Advanced Placement courses, Aviation, Journalism, Career Medical Assistant, Virtual Reality, and EMR over the last three years. The presently offered CTACE program has seen an increase in enrollment over the past year with students taking Code.org, attending Broward College and FIU as dual-enrollment students. Also, BEHS offers on-site dual enrollment through Broward College, FIU, and Embry Riddle, and an Upward-Bound program in partnership with FAU.