



Executive Summary

Royal Palm Elementary School

Broward County Public Schools

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Introduction

Every school has its own story to tell. The context in which teaching and learning takes place influences the processes and procedures by which the school makes decisions around curriculum, instruction, and assessment. The context also impacts the way a school stays faithful to its vision. Many factors contribute to the overall narrative such as an identification of stakeholders, a description of stakeholder engagement, the trends and issues affecting the school, and the kinds of programs and services that a school implements to support student learning.

The purpose of the Executive Summary (ES) is to provide a school with an opportunity to describe in narrative form the strengths and challenges it encounters. By doing so, the public and members of the school community will have a more complete picture of how the school perceives itself and the process of self-reflection for continuous improvement. This summary is structured for the school to reflect on how it provides teaching and learning on a day to day basis.

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?

Location

RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet School is located in Lauderhill, Florida and is part of the Broward County School District. We currently serve students in prekindergarten through fifth grade. We are in the heart of Lauderhill part of Broward County in between Oakland Park Boulevard and Sunrise Boulevard. We are part of the Boyd Anderson Zone. The zone includes eight elementary schools, one middle school, one high school, and one combination middle/high school. We are also a Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet School and have been for the past three years.

Student Population

RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet's current enrollment is 879 students. We are a Title 1 school. 97% of our students qualify for free/reduced lunch. RPE STEM's ethnic breakdown includes 92% Black/African American, 4.16% Hispanic, 2.34% Multi-Racial, 1.04% White, and 0.39% Asian. 127 of our students are English Language Learners and 118 students receive Special Education Services.

Staff Information

RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet has 2 administrators, 1 Principal and 1 Assistant principal, 46 Classroom teachers, 3 ESE staff members, 1 ELL staff member, 3 Curriculum Coaches, 9 Teacher Assistants, 4 Specials Teachers that teach PE, Music and Art, and Media, 1 Guidance Counselor, 1 Magnet Coordinator, 1 STEM Instructional Facilitator, 3 Office staff, 5 Facility Service workers, and 7 Cafeteria Staff.

Changes

For the past three years, we have been turned into a Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet School where we incorporate within our school's curriculum a challenging and rigorous EIE curriculum that would allow for equitable experiences for all students across the curriculum with a rich background knowledge in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet provides all students with an additional hour of extended learning daily, which extends student's school day from 8am to 3pm and teachers to 4pm. In 2014-2015, we became a Digital 5 School in the 5th grade and for the 2015-2016 school year we included grades 3 and 4. All of our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students receive a laptop and are able to access learning both at home and school. Our teachers prepare their lessons and for the most part deliver their instruction through Schoology, iReady, Reflex, Gizmo, and more. With the passing of the district SMART Bond in 2014, we received approximately \$119,000 of technology money. With these funds, we were able to purchase student laptops for all classrooms. Our students are now able to participate in practically a one to one ratio in individualized computer-based learning activities on a daily basis. Lastly, for the past two years all students in grades K-2 has had the opportunity to receive personalized instruction using the reading mastery program a direct instruction program where students work on remediating their reading deficiencies.

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.

Purpose

The purpose of RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet School is to build a foundation for the future.

Mission

RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet School's mission is to develop students to have a strong work ethic and build a network of higher-level critical thinkers. The purpose is to prepare and empower generations of leaders to compete and collaborate in our global society through motivation, mentoring, hands on inquiry, and creative problem solving.

Vision

RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet will strive to be a leader in STEM education by preparing students with integrated content that is rigorous and relevant for college and career readiness.

RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet is implementing Florida Standards throughout all grade levels. Florida Standards must be taught with fidelity for students to be prepared to enter college and workforce training programs ready to succeed. We are now a STEM Magnet School which also has a challenging and rigorous EIE curriculum and will allow for equitable experiences for all students across the curriculum with a rich background knowledge in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. RPE STEM Museum Magnet provides all students with an additional hour of extended learning daily. Students are systematically placed into small remediation and enrichment groups based on results from multiple assessments, which includes, biweekly grade-level assessments, Rigby/DRA running records, and MAP assessments. Students are taught critical thinking skills across all curriculum. Technology is infused in all subject areas to motivate and enhance student learning strategies and student learning through daily walk-throughs in grades PK-5. Teachers are provided immediate feedback on how to improve instruction. We believe that all students can learn through the implementation of appropriate and effective instruction and intervention.

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.

Notable Achievements

RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet School is extremely proud of our accomplishments. We were ecstatic about being one of six recipients of a \$11.9 million federal grant to create and expand six elementary magnet schools that will specialize in STEM - science, technology, engineering and mathematics in 2013-2014 school year. The three-year Magnet Schools Assistance Grant, awarded from the U.S. Department of Education, will be used to expand choice options for students, increase student achievement, and prepare students for jobs and careers in these fields. As a result of receiving this prestigious grant, RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet School has benefited from an overwhelming expansion of choice options for students within our school district. This expansion of choice options for students has led to an increase in our student enrollment from 740 students in 2014-2015 to 879 students in 2015-2016.

RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet classrooms have been redesigned to parallel the museum process of researching, exploring, experimenting, explaining and exhibiting. We believe that the creative and inquisitive nature of students will expand, as they perceive science, technology, engineering and mathematics through the mind and eyes of a museum curator. Our school has been able to optimize our resources by partnering with museums across the globe, STEM-related businesses, colleges and universities, parents and community members.

RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet School serves as part of the U.S.-Taiwan Eco-Campus Partnership Program. We hosted a delegation of educators, school administrators and Taiwan Environmental Protection Administration (EPA) officials on Thursday, October 1, 2015. The U.S.-Taiwan Eco-Campus Partnership Program is coordinated through the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) with its Eco-Schools USA program. It unites schools in the United States and sister schools in Taiwan to implement sustainability within their school practices and curriculum, while sharing experiences with one another throughout the process. In Florida, NWF's partner on this project is Naturescape Broward, a program of Broward County's Natural Resource Planning and Management Division.

The U.S.-Taiwan Eco-Campus Partnership Program is one of the major projects of the International Environmental Partnership launched by Taiwan EPA under the Administrator Kao-Yen Wei and U.S. EPA administrator Gina McCarthy. The partnership will focus on environmental and sustainability themes within partnering schools. This three-year program aims to match 85 pairs of schools between U.S. and Taiwan, which brings the education communities in both countries together.

RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet School was also recognized as one of three elementary schools across the Broward County School District, who was awarded a "Flying Classroom" Grant. This grant provided students an opportunity to meet Renowned Pilot Captain Barrington Irving and learn about his adventures in his "Flying Classroom." Irving spoke to students about his global journey in his "Flying Classroom" - a Hawker XP jet and shared STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) lessons from around the world. School Board Members Heather P. Brinkworth and Dr. Rosalind Osgood, and Superintendent Robert W. Runcie accompanied Captain Irving during his helicopter ride to our school.

Areas of Improvement

Long Term Outcome 1: Increase Science achievement on FCAT 2.0 Science Assessment

We are continuing to work on the academic performance of our students in science. All master schedules reflect a minimum of thirty minutes of daily science instruction. Grade level teams meet in weekly Professional Learning Communities and plan high quality science lessons aligned to grade level science standards. Students also receive time in the new designed STEM lab biweekly. Students are able to expand their knowledge, creativity and design through project-based learning. They are challenged to think critically throughout the rigorous

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engineering design process of The Engineering is Elementary (EIE) program. This program aims to enhance our students' knowledge of engineering and technology, as well as, inspire them as the next generation of engineers, inventors, and innovators.

Long Term Outcome 2: Improve to a letter grade of a D from Florida Department of Education.

In 2014-2015, RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet School received a grade of F from the Florida Department of Education 6 percentage points away from a D. The 2014-2015 school grade did not include the learning gains components of the school grade. To improve the performance of all students, we are implementing a quality Response to Intervention (RTI) process to put interventions in place for students struggling academically or behaviorally. We put into place programs and people to increase the math fluency of our students and also spiral grade level math standards throughout the school year. In weekly Professional Learning Communities, grade level teams discuss and share complex texts in a variety of genres to use with students to increase rigor in reading.

Long Term Outcome 3: Increase the use of technology to deliver personalized learning for all students.

For our students to be successful in the 21st Century and beyond they must be proficient in technology. Technology also provides an opportunity to personalize learning for all students. This year all classrooms (K-5) are implementing the iReady program with fidelity in reading and math. Teachers are creating and utilizing reports to progress monitor student's performance and assign lessons based on reading and/or math deficiencies to close the learning gap. Teachers have completed self-assessments relating to technology proficiency and are completing workshops in areas of growth.

Additional Information

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

RPE Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet School is a diverse school that meets the needs of a diverse group of students. Our ELL students receive additional services throughout the school year to assist with the acquisition of the English language. To help the families of our ELL students, we present activities in parents' native language through our Quarterly Parent Nights.

We have a very supportive PTA that helps support RPE in creating a positive and nurturing environment for our students and families. They work hard to raise money to enhance our school programs. This year they have purchased incentives for our school to reward students who excel academically and behaviorally. They host many events throughout the school year to help foster a warm, family oriented environment for our families.