



Executive Summary

Southside Elementary School

Nassau County School District

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1
Description of the School.....	2
School's Purpose.....	3
Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement.....	4
Additional Information	5

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?

Southside Elementary is located on the resort Amelia Island located in the City of Fernandina Beach. The school population consists of 546 students, 44 Instructional staff members, and 35 non-instructional staff members. Southside is a Pre-k to 2nd grade primary school that shows diversity in its demographics. The student population is comprised of 53% Male and 47% Female, 63% are White/Non-Hispanic, 15% Black/Non-Hispanic, 1% American Indian, 10% Hispanic, 5% Multi-Racial, 6% Asian/Other. A challenge associated with our school community is that our socio economic data indicates 63% of our students are eligible for free and/or reduced lunch. In addition, 21% of our student population receive Exceptional Student Education services. A unique feature of our school in comparison with other Nassau County Primary Schools is that we contain 77% of all the English Language Learners. For Southside Elementary that is 5% of our student population.

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.

Southside Elementary's purpose statement: Positively empowering each other to make good choices to become life-long learners and responsible, model citizens. We embody the purpose statement by providing an environment where students feel safe, respected and motivated to reach their cognitive and behavioral potential.

The school's staff and leadership team oversees the implementation and monitoring of student learning and achievement through data based decision-making. Areas of weakness and strength are identified and support/resources are provided where needed to address the differentiated needs of all learners.

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.

Our students at Southside consistently score above average on our local Stanford 10 assessment. Reading and Math scores for Stanford 10 have maintained or improved in overall percentile ranking. Our strength at Southside is being able to support every classroom with a para-professional to assist in the implementation of differentiated small group instruction. In addition, after school tutoring is provided to students in our lowest quartile for Reading. Students have made growth from our tutoring program that is indicated through STAR Reading and Lexia.

An area of improvement over the last two years has been the school climate and culture. Southside provides opportunities for encouraging positive working relationships between staff, students, parents and community members. These opportunities focus on meeting the student's academic and social needs.

At Southside we are striving to increase the amount of educator training, support and assistance that is congruent with the rising number of students with social emotional disabilities. School community agencies as well as Nassau County's "System of Care" have been formed to help our school so far. The more established these systems become and the implementation of Tier 2 Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS), the more staff, students, parents and community members will feel satisfied that all student needs are being met.

Additional Information

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

It is significant to note that 37% of our staff members are new to Southside Elementary within the last two years. This percentage includes the school Administration.