



Executive Summary

Three Oaks Middle School

Lee County School District

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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?

Three Oaks Middle School is located in the heart of San Carlos Park, Florida. The surrounding diverse community is comprised of primarily family households of which 42.5% have children under the age of 18 living at home. Three Oaks Middle School has a current enrollment of 944 students, up from 847 students in 2012-2013. Representative of the community, Three Oaks Middle has a wide-ranging population including 41.3% minority and 52% economically disadvantaged. Currently, Three Oaks Middle School offers a multitude of programs including full-time gifted, numerous levels of social communication, as well as supportive behavior. In response to the growing needs of our students, the staff at Three Oaks Middle School has increased from the previous year. At present, we employ 56 instructional staff members, as well as 38 support staff employees. The teachers at Three Oaks Middle School are highly qualified and possess a wealth of knowledge in their field of study.

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.

School Mission and Vision

Mission: To provide a quality education in a safe and well-managed environment.

Vision: Three Oaks Middle School is committed to focus on student achievement strategies that enable all students to meet or exceed rigorous district standards.

Three Oaks Middle School opened in August of 1993 and has served students for 20 years. Our school mascot is the Blue Heron and our schools colors are blue and white. We have been an A school for five years from 2007-2012.

Three Oaks Middle School works diligently to make sure all parents, students, and community members, are provided current information that is pertinent to the success of all students. Values and beliefs are documented; but not thoroughly consistent throughout all communication. For example: websites, newsletters, etc. Three Oaks Middle School is effective in challenging students and practicing equity, but needs more documentation. As a school, we need to work more consistently toward connecting curriculum with life skills and experiences.

The level of leadership at Three Oaks Middle School is firmly grounded in policies and practices that ensure and support student achievement. Leadership and staff work collaboratively to foster a culture that is consistent with the school's purpose and vision. Teacher leaders are encouraged to assume leadership roles, throughout the school and community, in order to effectively promote and support the school's direction. The existence of efficient governance and leadership is apparent in many regions of the school's culture. Teachers assume leadership roles in Professional Learning Communities, department level teams, school safety and security, mentoring, SAC, PTO, and professional development training. The role of these teacher leaders is clearly defined, appropriate, and operates responsibly. While feedback from our stakeholders is requested and received, it is extremely limited.

Our staff is continually striving to provide all students with a challenging learning experience that delivers sufficient opportunities for student learning and thinking. Our courses and curriculum are developed with high expectations for all students, so that they are fully prepared for the next level of their educational journey. School personnel regularly monitor and evaluate student data in order to make needed adjustments to curriculum, instruction, and assessments. When curriculum is revised, staff is careful to ensure alignment is still consistent with the school's goal for achievement and instruction.

In order to achieve our school goal, teachers are consistent in their planning and use of research-based instructional strategies. Teacher work collaboratively, in their PLC groups, to plan and develop interventions to barriers that may impede student learning. These PLC groups reach across grade levels and content areas. School leaders formally and informally, monitor instructional practices through evaluation procedures. The procedures go beyond the classroom environment. All students at Three Oaks Middle School are provided consistent and timely feedback on a regular base. Students are aware of the expectations and standards of performance necessary to be successful. Grades are posted consistently across departments and grade levels. Those students failing to meet these standards are assigned mentors to provide support for their learning. In addition to mentors, community members and parents are invited into the school to assist students with learning needs. In order to meet the changing demands of the educational system, staff members participate in programs of professional development that addresses the needs of the school. In addition, staff members believe further data related to unique learning needs would be extremely beneficial. More learning support services are needed to meet the unique needs of the changing educational environment.

At Three Oaks, we are fortunate to have qualified professional and support staff to meet the diverse population that represents our school culture. Three Oaks is privileged to have a low turnover rate for teachers and support staff. Through careful scheduling, instructional time is focused solely on supporting the purpose and direction of the school. The school's instructional time is vigorously protected in policy and

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practice. Materials and fiscal resources are concentrated on supporting the schools mission and vision. Of course, additional materials are always desired for increased student achievement. Three Oaks Middle School has created clear expectations for maintaining safety, cleanliness, and a healthy environment. This summer, 10 additional security cameras were installed in key places throughout the campus in order to provide additional coverage. Our facilities department is constantly evaluating the building, and surrounding campus, for areas in need of attention. Students and staff have access to media information and relevant media resources. Our media specialist is a certified teacher, holding a reading endorsement. With entire programs and assessments online, scheduling sufficient lab time is often difficult. The need for more computers is apparent. However, with the technology in place, Three Oaks Middle works diligently to provide adequate computer time of all teachers. The students at Three Oaks Middle are privileged to have a variety of personnel and community support available to meet their physical, social, and emotional needs. Our guidance department works year round with families and students as needs arise. Three Oaks Middle Schools has a professional community that works collaboratively to determine, assess, and refer students on a regular basis. Students with special requirements are welcomed at Three Oaks and programs are developed to meet their unique needs.

The school implements comprehensive common assessment system that uses data about student learning and school effectiveness. Grade level and subject area PLC's plan additional formative assessments based on the Common Core standards. Results are analyzed during weekly PLC's for growth in student learning as well as differentiated instruction. To ensure success of the bottom 33% performers for Reading and Math TOMS has implemented a mentor program. Parents and students are aware of this plan which includes partnership and communication with all stakeholders. Students meet weekly with their mentors to graph academic progress as well as set weekly progression goals. Beyond the common assessments we use the CCE testing to concentrate on areas of weakness by standards for each subject area. Teachers have been trained to interpret and identify the areas of concern in order to help drive instruction. Three Oaks Middle School would like to see improvements with parent involvement. We have tried holding PTO and SAC at various times to give all parents the opportunity to participate. Moreover, we would to have all staff including paraprofessionals trained in retrieving and interpreting student data to help improve stakeholder learning.

Our school has been recognized by the Florida Department of Education as a Five Star School. This award is designed to recognize schools with exemplary programs which fully integrate school and community involvement to produce higher school achievement. We have also received the Gold and Silver award and the Presidential Academic awards.

We are focused on academic achievement so that all students meet or exceed rigorous district and state standards. In addition to the classroom experience, students are active participants in community projects geared toward increasing their sense of responsibility to the world in which they live & the community they call home. Electives include Spanish, technology, multi-media, orchestra, band, chorus, guitars, art, and business.

As part of our School Improvement Plan, we offer advanced classes in all subjects and grade levels. Great emphasis has been placed in identifying and celebrating student excellence and achievement in all areas, through awards, certificates, publications, and honor assemblies. Our school currently has state of the art multimedia resources such as SMART Interactive Whiteboards, document cameras and student response systems throughout the school. Mobile computer labs are used in all subject areas and students have numerous opportunities to learn through the use of these high-tech resources.

Three Oaks Middle is located in the south zone of the Lee County School District and our 8th graders, through Student Assignment are able to attend Cypress Lake High, Dunbar High, Estero High, Fort Myers High or South Fort Myers High.

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.

Three Oaks Middle School is focused on a high academic achievement curriculum which offers: advanced classes, part-time gifted education, full-time gifted education, Honors Algebra and a school-wide reading program. We offer fee based curriculum programs and free after school programs for tutoring as well as extra-curricular activities. Our school clubs meet within the fee based and after school programs including: Bricks4kidz, National Junior Honor Society, Student Council, College Reach Out Program, drama club, competitive math team, Scholar's Club, yearbook, art club, science club, Spanish club, Builder's Club, Odyssey of the Mind, book battle team, and Three Oaks Cadets. Three Oaks Middle School students participate in many academic fairs including: history, invention, science, and Spanish. Beyond our core subject areas we also offer incredible exploratory opportunities. All Three Oaks Middle School students take one semester of technology each year. The different technology levels include: Business Keyboarding, Computer Applications in Business, TV Production and Three Oaks School News Cast. We also house an award winning music program ranging from band, orchestra, chamber choir, jazz band, to guitar. In addition, we offer full time physical fitness and multiple levels of Spanish. We are very proud of our students for their well-deserved recognitions: Gold and Silver School Awards, Presidential Academic Awards, Presidential Fitness Award, Student of the Month Recognition, Quarterly Honor Roll Celebration, Accelerated Reader Recognition, Grade Level Awards, Rotary Club Academic Awards. Three Oaks Middle School also has a legacy of Lee County champion athletic teams: Volleyball, Cross Country, Soccer, Track, and Basketball.

Additional Information

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

Three Oaks Middle has been recognized by the Florida Department of Education as a Five Star School. This award is designed to recognize schools with exemplary programs which fully integrate school and community involvement to produce higher school achievement.

The "Five Stars" stand for: Business Partnerships, Family Involvement, Volunteers, Student Community Service and School Advisory Council.