



Executive Summary

Park Vista Community High School

The School District of Palm Beach County

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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.

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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?

Description of the School:

Park Vista Community High School opened in August 2004 to serve the educational needs of the community and its students. Park Vista provides students and staff with a safe, positive learning environment which challenges each student to achieve his or her highest level of educational excellence and to possess the skills required to make a positive impact on society. The current student population is 3054 with 61% White, 12% Black, 20% Hispanic, 4% Asian, 1% American Indian and 3% Multi Ethnic. 36% are eligible for free and reduced lunch, 2% are Limited English Proficiency students, and 10% are Exceptional Education Students.

Park Vista offers five career academies which educate students for futures in Automotive Repair Technology, Collision and Refinishing, Film & TV Production, Information Technology, and Medical Science. Students also have opportunities to take 23 Advanced Placement (AP) classes on campus. Additional AP classes are offered through Florida Virtual School. Dual Enrollment classes are also offered, both on and off campus. In August 2011, Park Vista was designated a Cambridge International Center offering AICE classes. Currently, several AICE classes are offered and students will have the opportunity to earn an AICE diploma by next school year. All Seniors who have not previously taken an accelerated class are enrolled in AICE General Paper.

Academic success is evidenced by the state of Florida's designation as an "A" rated school for the past 7 years. The class of 2012 earned \$4,782,328.00 in scholarship money, with 63% attending 4-year colleges and 30% attending 2-year colleges.

Park Vista embodies shared responsibility with faculty, staff, administration, community and business partnerships, volunteers, parents and the School Advisory Council. Park Vista has been awarded the Golden School Award by Palm Beach County each year since its inception. 686 volunteers in SY 2012 provided 17,967 volunteer hours.

Student leadership is encouraged through Student Government and a variety of Honor Societies and clubs. Park Vista boasts a highly successful athletic program with 44 athletic teams.

In the Spring of 2012, Park Vista added a community school program, offering a variety of adult education classes, as well as credit recovery opportunities for high school students.

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.

Park Vista Community High School is committed to fostering a safe environment which respects diversity while providing an atmosphere of academic excellence, student involvement, and positive opportunities for all.

Vision:

Student learning is the chief priority for the school.

Teachers, administrators, parents, and the community share the responsibility for advancing the school's mission.

A safe, positive, and comfortable environment promotes student learning.

Each student is a valued individual with unique, physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs.

Students are prepared to achieve success in the global community.

Students will foster academic and career achievement as well as lifelong learning.

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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.

Park Vista Community High School is proud of the accomplishments of students and staff members. In 2011 Park Vista rose 200 spots on the Washington Post's High School Challenge List of America's top high school. The Cobra band, chorus, yearbook, athletic teams, academic teams and societies have been awarded numerous accolades at the District and State level. 178 students were recognized with Advanced Placement Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional performance on the college level AP exams.

During SY 2010-11, Park Vista applied to Cambridge University to offer AICE classes. In SY 2012, Cambridge University designated Park Vista as Cambridge International Center. Two AICE courses were offered with over 90% of students enrolled qualifying for AICE credit. In SY 2012-13, 4 AICE courses were added to the curriculum. By next year, students will have an opportunity to qualify for an AICE diploma.

Three college Dual enrollment courses (College Algebra, Medical Terminology, and Health Concepts) and 23 Advanced Placement classes are being offered to students on Park Vista campus this year.

During the 2011-12 school year, Park Vista started live streaming many athletic and parent information events for our school community to gain access using the internet. This has allowed us to reach more families.

Positive Behavior Support is implemented on campus, with expectations for student behavior taught and reinforced. Park Vista also supports an Honor Code.

Academy students in Medical, Information Technology and Auto are offered opportunities to earn industry certification.

Additional Information

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

Park Vista engages all stakeholders in a continuous process of improvement. This collaborative process aligns the functions of the school with student learning expectations. Park Vista also provides professional development to school personnel to implement improvement strategies to achieve improvement goals. In addition, reflection and assessment of results are ongoing.

Effective communication is enhanced through Instructional Leaders meetings, Department meetings, Faculty meetings, Academic Team meetings, PDD / LTM trainings (Best practices and collaboration, implementation, and feedback), Single School Culture, and Positive Behavior Support. The result is a positive learning and working environment.

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