

2018-19 HCMS Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools_11192018_14:16

Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools

Harrison County Middle School

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Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools

Executive Summary for Schools

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?

Harrison County Middle School has a student population of approximately 680 students, a teacher population of 37, and an administrative team of 3 (principal, 1 assistant principal, and a counselor). We also have several support staff members (a SRO, 7 aides, cafeteria staff, Youth Service Coordinator, 3 janitorial staff members, an attendance clerk, a bookkeeper, and an office secretary). We also have an Alternative School staffed with a teacher and an aide who is also in charge of our in school suspension program. The school is located in the rural community of Cynthiana, Ky. Harrison County is centrally located between Lexington and Cincinnati. Many people commute up to 45 miles to work every day. We average 57.8% of our student population in the free and reduced lunch category. The lower socioeconomic group has grown by about 12% in the past three years. There is very little growth in Cynthiana, as a matter of fact, the community has had no growth for the last ten+ years. The only number that has increased is our lower socioeconomic group. This increase could be slightly due to the fact that the percentage of students being raised by extended family members have increased in the last few years. There has been very little change in the population of Cynthiana over the past few years. The community struggles with growth in the area of industry. The three largest employers of the community continue to be the school system, the local hospital, and the 3M corporation. Many community members travel to the neighboring county to work at Toyota Manufacturing. Harrison County has a population of 18, 518 and 6500 live in Cynthiana. The lack of change in our community in the past ten+ years, has created additional stress for a school system that is dependent upon the tax base generated from the population. Over the past several years, we have lost on average one teaching position a year, due to this stagnant growth pattern. The loss of a teaching position causes the burden to increase on other teachers because the class size increases. This past year, our board of education changed staffing formula teacher:student ratios and we also had a retirement in the administrative team (which was not allowed to be replaced).

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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.

Mission Statement Our mission is to provide a challenging, nurturing, and safe educational program, while guiding students both academically and socially through the transition from elementary school to high school and into the world of college or career. This mission was developed by our leadership team which includes administration, team leaders, and department chairs. All staff members are asked to review it annually when they read over the revised CSIP and submit any feedback for revising. **Philosophy** The Harrison County Middle School will offer programs preparing students to be responsible citizens and future productive members of the work force. In order to maximize the potential of all students, our approach is to encourage each student access to relevant content curriculum courses and a program based upon the assumption that

every individual can learn. With the appropriate school environment and the support and efforts of teachers, parents, and the student, high achievement, respect for others and a sense of community, responsibility and stewardship will happen. Harrison County Middle School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, or religion. We encourage teachers to be creative, and if they are willing to sponsor any extra curricular activity, we will find a way to fund the activity. Currently we offer a variety of extra-curricular activities. Harrison County Middle is one of only Phase III: Executive Summary for Schools Executive Summary Phase III: Executive Summary for Schools Report - Generated on 12/04/2017 Harrison County Middle School Powered by AdvancED eProve Page 4 of 6 seven districts in the state of Kentucky that offers a FFA program. Students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of extra curricular programs that allow them to be exposed to many different areas of study: Speech, Academic Team, KUNA, STLP, History Club, FFA, Art Club, Anti-bullying Club, Student Leadership Team, FCA, 4-H, Junior Beta Club, Yearbook Club, Cross Country (boys and girls), Basketball (boys and girls), Football, Track (boys and girls), Cheerleading, Archery (boys and girls), Volleyball, Soccer (boys and girls), Softball, Tennis, and Golf Aside from extra curricular activities afforded our students after school, we also try to expose all students to a well rounded education. During the school day, our students are offered the following classes to participate in other than their academic subjects: Music, Band, Career Study/Computer Literacy, Health, Physical Education, Art, FFA-Agricultural Science, Project Lead the Way (an introduction to engineering) Through our program reviews, we have been able to incorporate so much across the curriculum. World language, drama, dance, writing, economics and budgeting have all been embedded into our academic content.

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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.

The 2015-16 school year brought about much success for HCMS. Our school was given the label of School of Distinction. We were also identified as a High Progress School and were categorized as a Distinguished/Progressing school. There is much to be attributed for this success. We definitely had our work cut out for us on sustaining those titles. The 2016-17 year brought about some notable accomplishments, also. The state is currently in transition to a new accountability system, so it will definitely be difficult to make comparisons, but with that said, as recently as 2016-17 the school still achieved some notable accomplishments. 1) First off, the percentage of students scoring Proficient/Distinguished in Social Studies was 85.8% compared to the state average of 60.5%. According to the Lexington Herald Leader, HCMS performed in the top ten in the state of Kentucky in the content area of Social Studies. 2) HCMS reduced its Novice percentages of all students in all areas tested: Reading, Math, Writing, Social Studies, and Language Mechanics. 3) HCMS improved its Next Generation Learner points in two out of three areas: Achievement (70.8 to 73.1) and Growth (60.1 to 60.3) 4) HCMS Attendance Rate of 95.4% is above the state average of 94.4%. Over the past three years, we have been very successful so to several changes made within the past three years: 1) Our school has focused on making sure that we have very strong programs in writing, Arts & Humanities, Practical Living & Career Studies, and World Language. All teachers have focused on incorporating those content area standards into their classrooms and this has always allowed us to obtain the maximum points in the area of Program Reviews. Even though this area is no longer a part of the over accountability scores, our teachers continue implementing lessons that incorporate all areas of the program reviews. 2) Administration conducts weekly walk-throughs with immediate feedback for all teachers. Administrators are specifically looking for class openers and closures. This is an area that is part of

all teachers' professional growth plans. Administrators also meet with teachers individually and immediately to address instructional issues. 3) The administration and teaching staff have developed a reward system for students who move toward proficiency. We use MAP assessment to monitor our student's progress in the areas of reading and math. We wanted the students to "buy-in" to their growth and we developed a reward week for those students who showed growth from MAP #1 to MAP #2 in reading and math. This entailed teaching students the scale scoring and what they needed to do to move toward proficiency. This made them more aware of the testing and how the testing is scored. It has helped in student accountability and "buy-in". 4) One last area of improvement would be classroom discipline. Teachers felt like there was always that one student who infringed on the rights of everyone else in the classroom to learn - the constant classroom disruption. District administration understood our needs and created a budget to support an Alternative School within our school. By pulling students who are constant classroom disruption into a more controlled environment, we were able to help the regular education teacher be more successful with their students. We will continue to focus on novice reduction percentages across the board with all students, but especially with our GAP students. Harrison County Middle School has established itself as a school that encourages the teaming process in school improvement and goal setting. We have several layers of leadership committees established to enhance our learning environment. First, we have a school leadership committee comprised of the department heads and team leaders. This committee of teachers meets when it is necessary to discuss important issues. The administrators will usually obtain feedback from this committee first, because these members work closely with all other staff. Several years ago, school leadership helped develop a Student Leadership Team comprised of students nominated by teachers. This committee meets monthly to help with student motivation and rewards. They work closely with teachers to help develop rewards for behavior and academic achievement. Another important committee is the Sunshine Committee. This committee is comprised of teachers who work together is helping create a welcoming environment in our school, as well as focusing on school climate. This committee meets on a regular basis to help with teacher recognition and motivation. Finally, the committee that helps drive school improvement is our school-based decision making committee comprised of three teachers, two parents, and Mr. McIntire. School-based Council meets on a regular basis once a month. When the school improvement plan is developed, they are the final voice in making sure that HCMS is on the right path for improvement. Even though we do not have a parent organization in our school, we have a committee of parents who help put together the 8th grade dance. Our principal also communicates on a weekly basis with all parents who have submitted an e-mail address with a weekly update on calendar plans. Our school communicates closely with the industry in the area, as well. Cynthiana is home to the 3M Corporation. They have been dedicated to supporting the school with local grant money. Several teachers each year obtain money to get supplies for their classrooms such as iPads, laboratory equipment and calculators.

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Additional Information

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

All aspects have been addressed in prior sections.

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ATTACHMENT SUMMARY

Attachment Name	Description	Item(s)
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