



## **Executive Summary**

**Emma Love Hardee Elementary School**

**Nassau 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?**

Emma Love Hardee Elementary is a third, fourth, and fifth grade elementary school located in Fernandina Beach, Florida. Approximately 45% of our students are on free and reduced lunch qualifying us for Title 1 funding. Recently the school has experienced a large influx English Language Learners (ELL) to our population of approximately 580 students. As a result, teachers have been directed to complete ESOL certification to meet the needs of our ELL students. We have approximately 45 teachers with 9 paraprofessional support personnel. There are approximately 10 teachers per grade level. We have been recognized as an A school 12 out of the last 13 years by the Florida Department of Education. We are also part of an A school district. Our community is affluent to some extent but we also have students who's home environment is not supportive of the education process. Title I funding has allowed us to increase parental involvement especially in terms of our ELL and ESE 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.**

Emma Love Hardee Elementary School will provide a safe, challenging and creative learning environment for each and every child. In this learning environment, our students will be given the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills and values to become productive members of our society. Our vision is to create a stimulating environment that will challenge students to achieve all they can and to become lifelong learners.

The school administration vision is to create a collaborative positive work environment for students and staff. In an effort to ensure student success after school tutoring programs staffed by paraprofessionals and teachers is offered each year to all levels of students. Extracurricular activities include band and choir. Supplemental include Bricks4Kids which offers students a chance to work with robotics and STEMS concepts.

## **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.**

Over the last three years the district has initiated a small group instructional model at the elementary level. This at first was challenging for faculty and staff however student achievement has improved to the point where the district elementary schools rank top 5 in the state based on state testing scores. Instructional personnel in particular has embraced the new teacher model. Over the last three years the collaborative planning among teachers has improved. This has positively impacted our instruction and directly effects student achievement. Over the next three years the school and district hope to evolve the small group model to meet the diverse needs of our learners. In addition instructional personnel will continue to improve the weekly collaborative planning model. Staff development and professional development will continue to be provided at the district and school level to instructional personnel including paraprofessionals as part of a continuous improvement model.

## **Additional Information**

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

At Emma Love Hardee we are always looking to improve what we do and be innovative. Most recently we have examined our traditional awards assembly and realized we could improve the presentation by changing the format of the assembly. For example instead of just reading off student names, we want to make it a more student centered presentation. We invite students to come up to the stage and share a few personal reflections on classroom instruction, favorite memories, impacts of teachers, and lessons learned. We anticipate this will make awards assemblies more interesting and informative for parents in the audience. We will also continue to emphasize collaboration among faculty, staff, and students. The expectation is for students and adults to refine their collaborative skills through being more active listens as a way to problem solve and resolve conflict. Sports or athletic activities for both faculty and students will be designed to promote team work among participants. Examples include the introduction of Ultimate Frisbee within the PE curriculum to promote self regulated behavior as well as an annual Volleyball game with our feeder school. All of the above ties into our county initiative of the Positive Behavior Support System (PBS).