Executive Summary

Mansfield Elementary School
Newton County School System

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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?

Mansfield Elementary School is an organization of concerned stakeholders who work together to build a community of lifelong learners that become responsible individuals, independent thinkers, and productive citizens.

Mansfield Elementary School is located in the small, rural community of Mansfield, Georgia. The original one room school house opened in 1885 as Center Grove Academy. Currently Mansfield Elementary School houses 463 students in grades Pre K through 5.

The instructional program at Mansfield Elementary School supports grade-level teams of teachers who collaborate to provide research-based learning experiences and activities for all students. Textbooks are state approved and are adopted system-wide. State and locally approved common core standards provide the structure for instruction in math, reading, writing, spelling, science, social studies and health.

Instructional assistance programs, including Special Education, Title I, and EIP help eligible students daily in targeted areas of curriculum study. During the school day, all students in grades K-5 participate in a school-wide intervention program. Students that are exceeding academically are served through Media, PE, Fine Arts, and Science classes. Physical Education, Music and Art Education are offered throughout the week to all students in Kindergarten through Grade five. Students in Grade also participate in the CHAMPS program offered through Newton County Sheriff's Department. After school programs include an Academic Program, 4-H, Reading Bowl, and Chorus.

Mansfield Elementary School experiences a high level of community involvement, including community volunteers, Partners in Education, and PTO. The school's motto, "We Are Family," reflects the close, caring atmosphere of our school community. With it's long history of serving the community, Mansfield Elementary School receives excellent parent and community support. Six businesses, civic and community organizations are currently formal Partners in Education. Numerous volunteers, parents and business partners assist with school programs such as tutoring, gardening, and technology support. Many of Mansfield Elementary School's special activities are designed to encourage community involvement. These include our annual book parade, 1st Responders Breakfast, Veteran's Day and Arbor Day observance programs, curriculum fair, end of the year awards programs, and local field trips.

In the past three years there have been changes in administration and school staff. The principal of 19 years retired, and the assistant principal was named as school principal, creating an opening for a new assistant principal. MES has also added two special education teachers and a Targeted Assisted Title I program.
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.

Purpose: The purpose of Mansfield Elementary School is to build a community of lifelong learners that become responsible individuals, independent thinkers, and productive citizens.

Goals 2014: Mansfield Elementary School student achievement goals were created through analysis of summative student achievement data. All grade level teams participated in the examination of data and the creation of the goals. The faculty, staff, and stakeholders were given a draft copy of the School Improvement Plan to review to insure feedback in creating the goals.

Goal 1-- 96.5% of students in grades 3-5 will meet or exceed the reading portion of the CRCT with a focus on Literacy Comprehension. 2013 Student performance - 3rd-5th grade 95% met or exceeded.

Goal 2-- 94% of students in grades 3-5 will meet or exceed the math portion of the CRCT with a focus on Numbers & Operations. 2013 Student performance - 3rd-5th grade 93.2% met or exceeded.

Goal 3-- 92% of students in grades 3-5 will meet or exceed the science portion of the CRCT with a focus on Earth Science. 2013 Student performance - 3rd-5th grade 89.5% met or exceeded.

Goal 4-- Students in grades K-2 will increase reading fluency, comprehension measured by GKIDS, Informal Phonics Inventory, and STAR. Programs Specific to MES: For the past 2 years MES has implemented a school-wide intervention program. All students in grades K-5 are grouped based on data and classroom performance and assigned to instructional groups as an intervention or enrichment to daily instruction. Students participate in a variety of activities including math, reading, writing, technology, fine arts, PE, research and drama. Based on regular classroom assessments and screenings students are moved to different groups. This year MES implemented a Lunchroom Jeopardy program focusing on Science and Social Studies standards in grades K-5. During lunch, students are given the opportunity to answer questions and earn small prizes. The school's goal is to increase scores in science and social studies using a fun atmosphere for the students.

Response to Intervention: The Response to Intervention process is used to meet the needs of students who are not being successful in the school environment. MES follows the structure set by NCSS which allows us a process to target specific needs, implement interventions and progress monitor. The Response to Intervention teams include the school counselor, grade level teams, administrators, and parents.

Special Education Program: The Special Education Program follows the continuum of service outlined in the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA). Nine percent of our students currently receive special education services. Common Core Curriculum standards are addressed in student goals and objectives in order to facilitate student progress toward grade level standards.

Gifted Program: The Quest program is the designated gifted education program for the Newton County School System. Quest adheres to Department of Education rule 160-402-38. Seven percent of our student population has been identified to be served in our Quest program. The resource room delivery model and the cluster group delivery model are used to provide services. The curriculum is structured around interdisciplinary units which are designed to assist students to reach their potential.

Title I Targeted Assisted Program: Seven percent of our student population is served through our Targeted Assisted Title I program in Math. This program is designed to assist students who are not being academically successful in grades 3-5 in Math. Students were identified through a multiple criteria selection process. A variety of RBIS are used to address the needs of students.

ESOL Program: The ESOL program follows Georgia Department of Education Rule 160-4-5.02 and is offered to all limited English proficient students. Less than two percent of the students at MES are currently served in this program. Services are provided through pull-out and push-in instructional delivery models. Instruction targets development of English grammar, vocabulary, communication skills, and academic language development.

Counseling: The MES counseling program is designed to address students' academic and emotional needs, personal safety, and career
options. The counselor facilitates many programs throughout the school year including our Backpack Buddies, Red Ribbon Week, and Career exploration studies.
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.

2012- Outstanding Achievement- Georgia Forestry
Met Adequately Yearly Progress 11 consecutive years
Consistently performed above the system and state on the CRCT in all areas.

Mansfield Elementary School Areas in Need of Improvement:
Mansfield Elementary School continues to strive to increase the number of students with disabilities that meet or exceed on standardized tests. Increased interventions using ALEKs, small group instruction, and technology in classrooms are strategies we have implemented this year.
The school does not currently provide an official mentoring for students. We are currently working on a plan to implement a staff/student mentoring program.

Mansfield Elementary School Challenges
The challenges that MES faces in the coming years include larger classes and fewer resources. Currently MES is able to maintain manageable class sizes and sufficient support staff to meet the needs of students. As fewer resources are available, we will be faced with more challenges to meet the increasing needs of our students and families.
Additional Information

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

The purpose of Mansfield Elementary School is to build a community of lifelong learners that become responsible individuals, independent thinkers, and productive citizens. Our students and staff are given the opportunity to participate in many activities to ensure our purpose is being achieved. Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl, 4-H, Honor Chorus, Relay for Life, and Jump Rope for Heart are some of the opportunities available.