



Executive Summary

Gallatin County High School

Gallatin 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.

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?

Gallatin County High School is a rural school with a population of 452, serving students from grades nine through twelve. Our school population is 93% Caucasian, 2% African American, and 5% Hispanic. We serve 67% of our students a free and reduced lunch. Our students are transient, moving in and out of our district several times throughout their school career. Many of our high school students live with grandparents or other relatives, and some live on their own with various friends. We have incorporated a School Within A School for struggling students and we have 5-6 students enrolled in our Alternative School. We continue to work very hard to ensure that our students graduate college and career ready. We have put into place programs such as e-Prep and KYOTE, and we have also incorporated Rtl into our regular daily schedule. We work very hard to establish the importance of post secondary success. Challenges we face are the lack of resources either financial or non-availability. Most adults commute here to work from neighboring communities. There are only three major employers in the county, one of which is our school system. We have a fairly young staff, and the majority of them live outside the district. Also, our district pay scale is lower than surrounding districts, so we eventually lose many of our good teachers. Another challenge is the ability to contact parents. Phone numbers are changed or disconnected frequently making contact with parents very difficult.

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.

Gallatin County High School's mission is "Maximizing Student Learning and Achievement, All Students College and Career Ready." Our teachers work very hard to help overcome the struggles that the majority of our students face outside of school. We maintain a focus of learning and the importance of post secondary success. Along with a rigorous curriculum and high standards we work hard to build relationships with our students and we realize that the adults at school may be the only positive interaction they have. We follow the Common Core Standards and use the Quality Core Curriculum.

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.

Achievements:

We have increased our CCR rate 21% in 2010 to 44.8% in 2012.

Five consecutive years of growth

Five Governor's Scholars in 2012

Gatton Academy Participant

Three FFA Regional/State Winners

One FFA State Officer

Academic Team Governor Cup Regional Winners

Areas of Improvement:

To exceed goal of 60.5% of students graduating CCR in 2015

To exceed goal of 90% graduation rate

20% points behind state average in combined reading and math

Behind in percentage of Proficient /Distinguished

Additional Information

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

Gallatin County High School is acutely aware of the challenges the majority of our students face. We mirror our community. There is a growing drug and alcohol problem in our county and many of our students are either involved, or their family struggles with this influence. We have a small town atmosphere which can have both advantages as well as disadvantages. Social media avenues such as texting and Facebook continue to be a challenge. We work to build student awareness of learning, becoming a vital member of society, and being a productive citizen and family member.