



Executive Summary

GALLATIN COUNTY LOWER ELEMENTARY

Gallatin County

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1
Description of the School.....	2
School's Purpose.....	3
Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement.....	4
Additional Information	5

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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?

Gallatin County Elementary is a child-centered Primary School serving Preschool through 2nd grade. We enjoy just under 500 students. We have an energetic staff that continually strives to improve student's learning. We maintain a safe environment, challenging curriculum, and opportunities to learn through play. We use the Literacy First reading instruction program to systematically and explicitly teach reading skills. Frequent assessing that drives our planning, outside monitoring, and continuous intervention have raised our reading on grade level percentage. Math instruction uses SNAP assessment to find students ability level in 5 key areas of understanding. Envisions and KCM strategies are part of math instruction. In all areas of instruction we strive to create work habits and an expectation that fosters independent thinking by each student.

Gallatin County Elementary is a rural school with a population of 70% free and reduced lunch. Many of our students are transient, starting the school year in our school, withdrawing to another school and eventually returning to our school. A significant portion of our children are under cared for at home and require the school to be a network connector to help with resources: clothes, mental health referrals, physical health resources, and so on.

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.

Three years ago this school became exclusively Primary when the 3rd grade moved to the Intermediate school. Our focus is on the needs and challenges of beginning the education process for our students in a supportive yet, rigorous manner. To meet this staff has worked on following the strategies described through Thinking Strategies . They have developed cultures in their room that are both welcoming and convey an expectation that students are partners in their learning, not consumers.

Our mission statement is "Maximizing Student Learning and Achievement". We believe that learning is vital to all children's successful future. Our purpose is to make sure every child is learning in order to be college, career and life ready. Our top priority is to provide a safe, student-centered school where our teachers influence our students to reach their highest potential.

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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.

Our school building was renovated 2 years ago and allowed Headstart students infants through toddlers to be under the same roof as Preschool through 2nd graders.

Through connections with Kentucky Center for Mathematics and other innovative groups and programs our math instruction has paralleled our reading instruction. Both have assessment driven planning and instruction, both provide information to the students on skills they mastered and skills they need to improve. The improvement in these content areas is based upon the principle of making the student a partner in their learning.

RTI program is bringing a clear focus to keeping all students at a proficient level and to challenging and extending learning through enrichment classes.

Program Review programs have helped us extend planning of Arts and Humanities, Practical Living, and Writing across the curriculum. Documentation makes us mindful of accountability.

In the next 3 years we intend to continue to grow in the process of creating independent-autonomous learners. We intend to grow the use of computer based programming: both assessment (MAP) and remedial instruction (COMPASS) and challenges (SRC quiz points or Sumdog contests).

Additional Information

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

Our school belongs to each of us and its success is the responsibility of each of us. Teaching students to be responsible, active, learners and contributing members of society is vital not only for the school but also for our community.

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