



# **Executive Summary**

**Middlesboro Elementary School**

**Middlesboro Independent**

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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?**

Middlesboro Elementary School is part of the Middlesboro Independent School District located in Middlesboro, Kentucky. Middlesboro is a small town with a population of less than 10,000 residents nestled in the Appalachian Mountains of Southern Kentucky, near the Cumberland Gap National Park, a well-recognized landmark.

-Middlesboro Elementary School encompasses five grade levels from Kindergarten to 4th grade. This school has a current enrollment of 443 students consisting of 223 males and 220 females, 82.2% white, 6.8% black, 1.8% Hispanic, 0.2% American Indian, 0.2% Asian, and 8.8% two or more races. At this time, Middlesboro Elementary School has 98 students with an active IEP.

-Currently, Middlesboro Elementary School, as well as the entire Middlesboro School District, participates in the "Community Eligibility Options" feeding program. This program provides all students with free breakfast and lunch, without the addition of this program, 77% of our students qualify for free meals, while 2.7% qualify for reduced priced meals.

-The unemployment rate for Middlesboro (12.7%) is higher than the national (8.6%) average. The income per person for Middlesboro residents is \$14,377 while on average the United States is \$28,051. The median household income in Middlesboro is \$22,074 versus the median household income for the nation is \$53,046.

-The town of Middlesboro is currently experiencing several challenges that must be considered when providing services to students and families. The population in Middlesboro has decreased (-2.5%) whereas the national percentage has increased (2.4%). In 2013-2014, Middlesboro Elementary School spent \$10,304 per student, whereas, the state average is \$11,153 per student.

-Middlesboro Elementary School has two computer labs in the library/media center consisting of 54 iMac computers. Each grade level has technology not only with in the classroom, but also mobil carts that they share. Middlesboro Elementary has a total of 132 iMac computers, of which 100% meet state minimum standards. Middlesboro Elementary also has 90 ChromeBooks and 96 iPad Minis. This provides Middlesboro Elementary School with a computer per student ratio of 1.5-1. All classrooms are equipped with SmartBoard technology as well.

-Middlesboro Elementary School currently has an attendance rate of 93.8% which is equivalent to the state average of 94.5%.

-Middlesboro Elementary School has 32 full time equivalent teachers with a school average of 16.2 years of teaching experience. Middlesboro Elementary School has 5 special education teachers in addition to 1 FMD special education teacher, as well as three special area teachers: Art, Physical Education and Music. We currently have one full time librarian/media specialist on staff and one full time guidance counselor. The Middlesboro Elementary School staff is 100% highly qualified and 41.2% of the school teachers have a Master's Degree and 52.9% have a Rank I.

-Middlesboro Elementary School is an accredited school by AdvanceEd (formerly the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools).

## **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.**

The mission of Middlesboro Elementary School is: "Where Leading and Learning Begins"

Vision Statement: "Imagine, Believe, Achieve"

Middlesboro Elementary School is focused on assisting our students to become college and career ready. These skills are acquired through numerous strategies and activities that are embedded in high-quality instruction across the curriculum and documented throughout the CSIP.

## **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.**

Notable Achievements:

Middlesboro Elementary School is currently a school that needs improvement with cleared defined outcomes that must be achieved in order to maintain and/or exceed Kentucky's K-PREP Annual Measurable Objective (AMO).

Middlesboro Elementary, based on 20145 K-PREP assessment data, did not meet the combined proficiency target of 50.7, but scored 41.4.

Middlesboro Elementary School has district approved curriculum maps in mathematics and reading/language arts that are fully aligned to common core standards.

Middlesboro Elementary School has adopted a common core aligned math program to further support instruction that assists in teaching common core standards to mastery.

Middlesboro Elementary School has adopted a common core aligned reading/language arts program to further support instruction that assists in teaching common core standards to mastery.

Areas of Improvement:

Science: Incorporate reading and math standards into science content. Incorporate engineering practices and hands on activities with manipulatives more frequently.

Writing: Integrate with reading and work towards proficiency in constructing short answers and extended response answers. Math: Improve math facts knowledge through automaticity practice and reinforce skills mastery through Accelerated Math and IXL.

Reading: Consistent progress monitoring of reading standards mastery and teaching of reading strategies to mastery in K-2 (STAR Assessment/Benchmarks), STAR/Accelerated Reader in grades 3-4 and standards mastery reinforcement with IXL.

## **Additional Information**

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

Community Outreach:

United Way/Toyota Born Learning provides learning opportunities to families within the community who are not yet enrolled in our school. Our Family Resource Center coordinates this program, which benefits our community and future students.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is also coordinated through the MES FRC for all of Bell County. While this program does not directly cater to our current students it does assist in providing a foundation necessary to future success.

The Children's Reading Foundation is partnering with Middlesboro Elementary School in a series of sessions entitled: "Ready for Kindergarten". These sessions provide manipulatives, books, games, puzzles, and face-to-face parent information sessions where parents are taught how to effectively work with their pre-kindergarten aged child.

Kindergarten:

-Kindergarten is also hosting focused monthly information nights where teachers provide workshop sessions to parents about how to further their child's education outside of a traditional classroom setting.

-Kindergarten teachers have developed their own collaborative website that contains numerous links for home-to-school learning connections in all academic areas, kindergarten newsletters, and photographs of active learning occurring in classrooms.

- All Kindergarten families have been met with face to face to discuss standards mastered and future expectations

First Grade:

-First grade teachers are conducting home visits throughout the year for parents who are unable to come to school or have students that have needs that must be discussed in order to ensure students are working towards mastering their full academic potential.

-First grade is also hosting a series of distance learning activities in the form of common core aligned field trips.

-First grade reading workshop groups have been expanded from the regular five classroom teachers to include 12 staff members that provide leveled reading instruction to small groups of students on a daily basis. Lessons are common core aligned.

Second Grade:

-Second grade reading groups have been established to provide leveled reading instruction to small groups of students on a daily basis. Lessons are common core aligned.

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-Second grade is implementing the construction of interactive projects as culminating events at the end of reading units. (Science/Engineering Practice: Robot Design).

-Second grade is currently departmentalized to provide Reading/Language Arts, Mathematics and Science for all students.

### Third Grade:

-Third grade is implementing common core aligned instruction through departmentalization: Reading/Writing, Supplemental Reading/Language Arts, Mathematics, Supplemental Mathematics, Science.

-Third grade reading is being taught through innovative teaching. Reading skills and strategies are being taught with a grade appropriate text as the primary reference instead of the story being taught while incorporating individual reading skills.

-Third grade is utilizing technology as an innovative assessment tool which assists in preparing students for becoming college and career ready.

-Students receiving special services now have modified travel group schedules which allows them to receive more effective and targeted instruction to help reach goals stated on their IEPs.

### Fourth Grade:

-Fourth grade is implementing targeted and leveled instruction in RTI groups in reading/language arts.

-Fourth grade is implementing targeted and leveled instruction in RTI groups in mathematics.

-Fourth grade is implementing common core aligned instruction through departmentalization: Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science.

### Schoolwide:

-Monthly grade-level newsletters are sent home at the beginning of each month to keep parents informed of what is happening in the classroom and school each month.

-Home to School Connection letters sent home to promote parent involvement and student success at Middlesboro Elementary School.

-Effective learning targets in kid friendly language are posted in classrooms.

-A World Language program is being implemented throughout the building.

-Middlesboro Elementary School has a well organized and active P.T.O. that fundraises throughout the year to purchase needed items for the students and teachers.

-Middlesboro Elementary School has applied for a 21st Century Grant. This grant has the potential to provide various extended school services for the 2015-2016 school year and beyond.

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-Appalachian Renaissance Initiative is a new grant whose goal is to improve student achievement through research-based best practices, technology, and intervention. This year 5 educators each received mini-grants.

-The Leader in Me Grant is a new grant whose goal is to instill lifelong character skills based on Stephen R. Covey's: "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People".