



FR 2023-2024 Phase One: Executive Summary for Schools

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Freedom Elementary School
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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?

Freedom Elementary School is located in Christian County, Kentucky, situated in Western Kentucky on the Kentucky-Tennessee border. Christian County covers 724 square miles and is one of the largest school districts in the state. Freedom Elementary is one of eight elementary schools in the Christian County Public School District, and is located in the city of Hopkinsville. Freedom serves preschool through sixth grade, and we are a district site for an Emotional Behavior Unit. Additionally, our school has 2 half-day preschools with students attending 4 days a week. Most preschool students served at Freedom live in the school's zoned area. Freedom Elementary's student population is 565 students. FES serves an economically disadvantaged population, with 93% of our students receiving free or reduced lunch. Our demographic breakdown consists of 53% African-American, 29% White (nonHispanic), 11% Two or More Races, and 7% Other. This demographic information is representative of the community that is zoned to Freedom Elementary School but is significantly higher than Hopkinsville or Christian County. We began the 2023-2024 school year with 45% of the staff being new to their current positions. This includes a new administrative team consisting of an experienced Principal and assistant principal and the addition of two new Assistant Principals. Four teachers are seeking alternative certification and ten out of 38 teachers have ten years or more experience.

Freedom added ten ambassador teacher positions for the 23-24 school year to mentor other teachers in the school. Teacher Ambassadors represent a variety of grade levels and areas of content mastery.

School Stakeholders

Identify and describe the school's stakeholder groups. How does the school ensure stakeholder involvement and engagement in the improvement planning process?

Freedom Elementary School has many stakeholders. Key stakeholders include students, teachers, administrative staff and parents. Additionally, local businesses, local government officials, health and social service providers are also partners in education at Freedom Elementary.

School's Purpose

Provide the school's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs, including the year in which they were last reviewed or revised. Describe how the school embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students and how

stakeholders are involved in its development.

Our mission at Freedom Elementary School is :Freedom Elementary School is a safe, culturally diverse environment encouraging all students to achieve their full potential academically and socially, while fostering lifelong learning and leadership in the 21st Century. Our vision at Freedom: Lead, Learn, Soar! Passionate Learners and future leaders.Our teachers strive to reach every student through their own professional development, differentiation, use of technology, community partners, and through the use of multiple strategies and best practices.

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.

Freedom recently benefited from the district purchase of an evidenced based reading curriculum. The district purchased HMH Into Reading in June and will provide ongoing professional development for teachers. Additionally, all teachers are participating in the 3-year KYCL grant. (Kentucky Comprehensive Literacy). The goal of the KyCL grant is to support schools in improving the reading and writing achievement for all learners from birth to grade 12 by supporting: A comprehensive district and school literacy plan ;Teacher Professional Learning focused on reading and writing; Literacy Assessments; Literacy Intervention ;Connections between early childcare providers and schools ;Connections between community partners and schools; Books for children ;Family literacy training . KYCL provides professional learning to build teacher capacity in reading and writing instruction across all levels and contents.

Additional Information

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

Freedom Elementary students face significant challenges. We have a large student population who come from low socio-economic backgrounds. Some of our students face situations at home that may make it difficult to focus on personal achievement while in school. Students battle environmental factors such as not having enough food to eat, a stable place to live, lack of parental support at home and homelessness. The lack of a safe and predictable environment impacts the overall physical and emotional health of some students. These and other outside factors affect academic and cognitive performance in school, as well as emotional engagement and in-school behavior. In an effort to overcome these unique challenges, our school has made an effort to incorporate Trauma-Informed Care

and Social Emotional Learning techniques into our daily practices and our behavior modification.

Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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