



2025-2026 Phase One: Executive Summary for Schools South Christian

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South Christian 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?

South Christian Elementary is located in a rural area at the southern end of Christian County in Herndon, Kentucky. Although located in a rural area, our population is diverse and consists of students from four of the six towns that make up Christian County including Hopkinsville, Herndon, Lafayette, and Oak Grove. South Christian has a current enrollment of 600 students including Pre-K through 5th Grade Students in person traditional learning. This is the second year in eight years that South Christian has not been a Pre-K through 6th Grade School. South Christian Elementary is comprised of the following populations: 51% White (Non-Hispanic), 23% African American, 14% Hispanic or Latino, 9% 2 or more races, 3% Asian & American Indian. Twenty-two percent of our student population receive Special Education Services with 10% of the 22% being students that receive Speech Services only. South Christian has 6.8% of English Language Learners.

Approximately 11% of our students are military connected. Nearly half of the military families are transitional families. About 67% of our student population is classified as economically disadvantaged. Our educational program is designed to meet the needs of this our student demographics and background transitional population through our efforts to educate the "whole" child, the use of High Quality Instructional Resources, meaningful learning experiences and with the make up and experience of our staff. 100% of the certified teachers have a bachelor's degree, 41% have at least one master's degree, 2% have a doctorate degree. Four teachers are National Board Certified by the Kentucky Educational Professional Standards Board. The average years of teaching experience for our staff is 12 years and our staff ethnic demographics is very similar to our student demographics.

School Stakeholders

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

South Christian uses a collaborative method to create the school's improvement plan. Administration works along side teachers to create a priority plan. Goals are developed from our work with teachers using academic data and non academic data as the driving force in addition to parent and student input. Then high leverage strategies and structures are used to prevent and close achievement gaps. The strategic plan identifies timelines and all roles and responsibilities of all staff for implementing the plan. Students identified as performing less than proficient or average academically are placed in additional strategic and intensive groups to make progress. Students needing more support are assigned a staff mentor within the building or within the larger school community that can check and connect on a daily basis to ensure students have the relationships and added support needed to

be engaged in school and to learn when here at school. We also invite parents to collaborate on intervention plans designed to assist students needing the extra support. We encourage families to be active participants in their child's education. The school offers multiple parent education events to inform parents about the curriculum and advise them of how they can assist their child with at home learning.

School's Purpose

Provide the school's purpose statement and supplementary 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.

For about ten years now, the school's mission has been to create a safe, simulating environment in which each child is motivated to succeed. South Christian's Statement of Philosophy is as follows: We believe in and value the importance of education and what being educated can do now and in the future for our students. We believe that each child should have the opportunity to develop to the fullest of his or her potential. We believe it is our task, along with parents, to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be a productive member of our community. We believe that it is imperative to partner with the broader community to provide meaningful learning experiences for our students. We believe that an atmosphere that is conducive to the development of creativity and individuality is essential. We believe that maintaining a culture of safety and community and providing meaningful learning experiences is essential to our organization. The school's vision recently changed and is as follows: Inspiring All to Engage & Succeed in Providing the Best Elementary Experience. We want this to be the best place to do school for our staff, students, and families. We want this to be the best elementary experience and option in the area. The school embodies our purpose each day by living our mission, vision, values and beliefs. Our work and conversations each day center around safety, expectations, teaching and learning, meaningful learning, engagement, culture, collaboration, competencies, branding, and continuous improvement. From social emotional learning to core content to extra-curricular, we offer learning experiences that are vibrant, relevant and meaningful.

Notable Achievements

Describe the school's notable achievements in the last three years.

Notable Achievements in the last three years include a High (Green) Performance Rating on the Kentucky Summative Assessment and without federal classifications such as TSI, ATSI or CSI. South Christian also earned a Purple Star Award Designation from the Kentucky Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities. The distinction adds the district to a growing number of schools to receive the award in the Commonwealth. The Purple Star Program is part of the Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual

Disabilities' Strategies to strengthen the resiliency of Kentucky's Military Connected Youth and ensure that their social, emotional, and academic needs are met. Our school also applied for and received state recognition for implementing PBIS with fidelity during the 2023-2024 school year by Dr Robbie Fletcher, Commissioner of Education. In 2024, South Christian was awarded a \$500,000 DoDEA SLAM - Science Literacy Applied with Math - to increase student achievement in Math and Science. In 2025, we were selected as a finalists for the National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program by the Kentucky Department of Education.

Areas of Improvement

Describe areas for improvement that the school is striving to achieve in the next three years.

In the next 3 years, we would like to have 80% or more of our students leaving the primary grades reading on grade level and at 70% of students in Grades 3-5 performing at the proficient level or better in Reading and Mathematics. We are also striving for 80% of our daily lessons to include vibrant learning experiences and profile of a graduate competencies embedded and communicated in the learningeach day. We are also striving to have 100% of teachers in our classrooms with a degree in education with no emergency certifications. Family engagement is another area of improvement for us. We have several after school events that parents participate in, however, the family engagement we would like to see are more parents assisting with study habits and school assignments at home and reiterating the value and importance of education.

Additional Information

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

Attachment Summary

| Attachment Name | Description | Associated Item(s) |
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