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Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools

Woodland Middle School
Jerry Cline
5399 Old Taylor Mill Rd
Taylor Mill, Kentucky, 41015
United States of America

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Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools

Executive Summary for Schools

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?

Woodland Middle School is located in Taylor Mill, KY. Taylor Mill is a suburb of Cincinnati and is surrounded by a supportive community. Taylor Mill is a thriving middle class community. The majority of our families commute to Cincinnati and the surrounding areas for job opportunities due to the close proximity of I-275. Woodland Middle School is the home of the Wildcats. We currently serve 670 students in grades 6-8. 87.9% of our students are Caucasian, 3.1% of our students are Hispanic, 2.9% students are African American, and 1% of our students are Asian. 15% of our students receive special education services and 46% of our students receive free or reduced price lunch. 1.0% of our students are English Language Learners. Woodland Middle has three structured teaching classrooms which serve the needs of students who require the highest level of support. Woodland Middle School has 23 content area teachers. Woodland Middle School has 8 core teachers and 9 special education teachers. We also have two full time guidance counselors, a .5 media specialist, and Family Resource Center. Woodland Middle School is unique in that the middle school shares a campus with Scott High School. This offers additional educational opportunities for both our students and students who attend Scott High School. During the 2017-2018 school year, over 80 Woodland 8th graders had the opportunity to take Geometry and other elective courses at Scott High School. The administration, teachers, and staff are committed to the students of Woodland Middle School. At Woodland we are focused on continuous growth and achievement. We look forward to challenging our students to reach their highest potential.

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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.

At Woodland Middle School we are committed to fostering each student's individual potential and arming each student with the tools to grow and excel. We are committed to challenging students everyday and creating a culture of high expectations. The current mission statement of Woodland Middle School is to focus on the strengths, talents, and abilities of each student, while recognizing our students are in transition from childhood to adolescence. The current mission statement was developed with input from teachers, parents and stakeholders and drives our work by providing focus. Our mission statement is as follows: Woodland is dedicated to a learning environment that fosters academic, emotional, and social growth. We believe: Each student is important. Every student can be a successful learner. Middle school is an important transitional period where students are encouraged to develop a sense of self-esteem and personal dignity. Students have a right to a quality education with rigorous learning opportunities. Students, educators, families, businesses, and the community share in the responsibility for creating an environment in which students can learn and succeed. Understanding and acceptance of cultural, social, physical, and economic differences creates a healthy learning environment. Learning is a lifelong process.

Woodland also provides opportunities for students to explore their role in society, and encourages lifelong participation in their community. The mission statement currently guides our practice and informs our daily work. This is evident through the inclusion of programs to meet the needs of students at all academic levels. We offer Read 180 and System 44 for our students who are struggling readers and Math 180 for those students who need more support in math. We offer the Prep and Prep + programs in both math and reading, which are designed to challenge and enrich our students who are excelling in math and language arts. We implement Springboard, a Pre-AP curriculum, for all of our students in math and language arts. This curriculum supports our culture of high expectations and commitment to rigorous learning experiences for all students. All of our students receive core instruction in math and reading in the regular classrooms, with Tier II interventions being offered as an additional daily full period-length class. Students who do not require interventions receive an additional period each day that focuses on personalized learning at each student's own level in both reading and math. Woodland Middle School is committed to fostering the whole child. We offer a weekly Social Emotional Learning class during which we offer the Anti-Virus Character Education program and the Choose Love program. Our commitment is also seen through our extensive fine arts program offerings and extracurricular opportunities. Woodland Middle School has an award winning choral and band program. We also offer visual art. Our students have the opportunity to audition and participate in a variety of honor choirs and band programs. We have a National Junior Art Society to support our students who excel in visual arts. Our students have the opportunity to become involved in many extracurricular activities including Academic Team, football, volleyball, basketball, track, cheerleading, Real Girls Stand Strong, National Junior Honor Society, Forensics, Yearbook Club, Construction 101, Quick Recall, and Student Council.

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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.

Woodland Middle School is proud of the academic improvement of our students and their accomplishments through our Fine Arts program and clubs. This year, 3 students have been selected to participate in KMEA All-State Chorus performance during the KMEA Conference in Louisville. The past two years, Woodland Mixed and Women's Choruses have received Distinguished ratings at KMEA Large Group Assessment. All WMS vocal students who have performed at Solo and Ensemble have received distinguished or proficient ratings over the past 3 years. Last year, our students collaborated with Scott Eagle Theatre to perform Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach. As a service, we invited Kenton County elementary schools to attend and see the performance as well, at no ticket charge. In November 2017, 24 students participated in the District 6 NKY Jr. High Honor Choir with students from all over northern Kentucky. The Kenton County middle school chorus teachers also provide the opportunity for All-Star Chorus in 2018, where up to 25 boys and 25 girls from each middle school were invited to rehearse with guest conductors and perform exemplary works. Our curricular ensembles perform three concerts each year for the community in addition to performing for in-school events. Our band program is also a significant point of pride for Woodland Middle School. Our band students excel and represent us with distinction at a variety of events. Both our 7th and 8th grade band have received distinguished ratings at the KMEA large group assessments in 2016. All students who participated in the KMEA solo and ensemble festival received a proficient or distinguished rating in 2017 and 2018. In November, 2017 20 of our 7th and 8th grade band members were nominated and participated in Kenton County All-Star Band. In February, 2018 we have 7 band students who

auditioned, were selected for, and participated in the Northern Kentucky Select Band. In the summer of 2017 and 2018, there have been two Woodland MS students who have attended Stephen Foster Music Camp in Richmond, Ky. Along with all of these “extra” accomplishments, our band members are active members of our student body and perform Fall, Winter, and Spring community concerts as well as perform for an occasional sporting event. Woodland students have the opportunity to participate in a percussion ensemble club in the fall and a jazz band in the spring. Woodland is very proud of our award winning Forensics Team. Forensics is a competitive speech and drama team. Students memorize and perform their speeches, poetry, prose, and acting pieces and travel on the weekends to compete at tournaments throughout the state. During the 2017-18 school year our Forensics Team achieved great success. Our students regularly receive awards at Forensics tournaments through KESDA and KHSSL. Our team achieved 3rd place in the NKY Region and came home with the Regional Champion in Poetry. Woodland fields a competitive academic team and quick response team. Over the years, each team has represented the school with distinction as an extracurricular club. This year our 6th grade students were the district runner up at the 6th Grade Showcase for Quick Response. Woodland was also the district runner up at the Governor's Cup in the area of Quick Response. At 6th grade showcase students competed against several schools in their division. Woodland students won 1st place in mathematics, 3rd place in social studies and 5th place in language arts. The Real Girls Stand Strong club has been featured on several local and national media outlets as well as social media for the positive message that they are sending. Our students also represent us well athletically. Many of our student athletes have qualified for state competitions and our teams have won district championships. In 2017, our football team won the league championship. In the 2017-18 school year, our 8th-grade boys basketball team made it to the league championship game. Our cheerleading program finished second in the NKCCA competition. The WMS Archery Team competed at state and the national competition with respectable finishes. Our wrestling team had an outstanding year and had the most wins in Woodland history. The team finished third or better in all but one tournament they competed in, even finishing first in the Kenton County Duals. The team had one regional champion with six wrestlers qualifying for state. The 2017 Cross Country team had an outstanding year as well. The team won the Kenton County Championships. WMS surveyed all students during the 2017-18 school year to find that eighty-one percent of our students were involved in some type of extra-curricular school-sponsored activity. Over the next three years we have identified several areas to target for improvement. These areas include: a continued focus on improving student achievement in reading, math, on-demand writing, and science, and increasing the proficiency of our students with disabilities. We are committed to creating better writers through continued use of our school-wide writing non-negotiables and a continued focus on writing in all content areas.

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Additional Information

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

Woodland Middle School has experienced a high level of transition in both the school leadership and teaching staff over the past decade. With the hiring of a new principal and assistant principal in 2018, and with increased support to teachers who have a deep commitment to improving the culture, climate and academic achievement level of the school, we are confident that our plans and efforts to make Woodland Middle School one of the best middle schools in the state will be realized. Developing and sustaining procedures and policies, investing in teacher development,

and building skills and leadership capacity among all our teachers will pay great dividends as we move forward.

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ATTACHMENT SUMMARY

Attachment Name	Description	Item(s)
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