



# **Executive Summary**

**Cleveland High School**

**Blount County Board of Education**

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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?**

Historically our school was established around 1862 in a log cabin. In 1886 a larger school was built to accommodate an expanding community at a new location. In 1905 the school moved to its present location. The community name had changed by this time from Anderton to Cleveland. The school building erected was an impressive two-story structure with a bell tower. Cleveland was one of the four largest schools in the county. In 1925 this school was torn down and a new wooden school and auditorium were built on the site the high school occupies today. In 1939 wings were added to the rear and renovation enabled a lunchroom to be established by 1941. During the 1936-37 school year, Cleveland took steps to become an accredited high school and in May 1937, five students received the first degrees from Cleveland. In 1949, a large brick building was erected for the Agricultural and Home Economics departments. The aging white building that was erected in 1925 was replaced in 1963. The modern brick building that was erected is still occupied today, with gym and classroom additions and lunchroom added in the 1960's. The Cleveland Campus now covers over 17 acres and also includes the Blount County Learning Center and Cleveland Elementary School. Our programs are diverse, intentionally, seeking to meet the needs of a varied student body.

Cleveland High School serves the needs of students living in/around the Cleveland community.

The current population of Cleveland, Alabama is about 1500.

The demographics for the school this school year are:

Male 52%

Female 48%

White 80 %

Black 1%

Other 19%

Faculty/Staff Demographics are:

Male 42%

Female 58%

HQ 100%

Non-HQ 0%

White 100%

Other 0%

## **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.**

District Vision Statement for Technology:

In 1775, Samuel Johnson wrote, "Knowledge is of two kinds: we know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information upon it." The tools for finding and communicating information, however, have changed dramatically. Our schools were once physical places where the teacher dispensed ideas and students then recited back what had been learned. Students and teachers must now adapt to new models for learning if Alabama is to continue to thrive. Our future depends upon how schools educate young people in Alabama, using the learning tools of the 21st century: the tools of technology.

The Mission Statement of Blount County Schools:

Build, Create, Succeed

The Vision Statement of Blount County Schools:

Our vision is to build partnerships, create opportunities, and prepare students to succeed in life.

The Beliefs of Blount Schools:

Education is a partnership among schools, families, and communities.

Our schools should be safe and positive learning environments.

Quality instruction provides students with the opportunity to learn.

Students should be actively engaged in the learning process.

Education should lead students to set goals, develop a vision for their future, and become productive citizens.

We must respond to identified needs for improvement.

Cleveland High School Mission Statement:

Our mission is to provide all Cleveland High School students with an educational experience that will prepare them to meet the challenges of the 21st century by using the combined efforts of the staff, community, families, and students themselves.

## **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.**

Cleveland High Schools notable achievements in the last three years include:

Advances in technology, graduation rate above state goals, and improvements in addressing intervention needs.

Cleveland continues online ACCESS classes offering electives and/or core classes that our small school could not otherwise offer in our schedule. Other technology achievements include the addition of four Chromebook carts as rolling labs for classroom use as well as 5 mini-labs within individual classrooms. All three of our computer labs have computers less than 4 years old with countywide plans in place to replace labs on a rotating basis to maintain this 4 year or less computer set up. We have also upgraded campus wide wifi to better serve the needs of our students and staff.

Cleveland High School has above a 95% graduation rate over the last 3 years. This can be attributed to our advances in meeting the needs of at-risk students. We offer after-school tutoring for at-risk students and credit recovery through our ACCESS and Edmentum programs. We have strengthened our intervention classes.

IN 2018 we opened our STEAM lab for grades 7-8 to be used in conjunction with Cleveland Elementary School.

Areas for improvement are:

Student attendance- 13.4% of our students are considered "chronically absent".

Improved performance in Math portion of the ACT. We are at 14% benchmark.

Improved benchmarks in Scantron testing for 7th and 8th grade students. 29% of 7th graders and 31% of 8th graders are proficient in Math. 51% of 7th graders and 44% of 8th graders are proficient in Reading.

## **Additional Information**

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

Cleveland High School has established a formal teacher-mentoring program coordinated by the Blount County Secondary Curriculum Coordinator and supervised by the school principal. The overarching goal for our program is to improve teaching practice. The program is designed to provide ongoing support for new or struggling teachers. In addition, each newly hired teacher is assigned a mentor teacher who is matched by subject, grade, and/or classroom proximity. The program also includes training for the mentors. This mentoring process and ongoing training continues for the first three years of employment within the Blount County School System, with reduced support provided as the teacher gains more experience within the system.

Cleveland High School has upgraded all campus security equipment with additional cameras in all key areas, remote access to main entrances of the school, monitors to view who is being admitted at the main entrances, video viewing to allow administrators and SRO officers access to all camera footage, and Raptor scanners for scanning drivers licenses and printing visitor badges for all visitors to campus. The Raptor software scans the drivers license through State Law Enforcement databases for any criminal background or charges.

All classrooms are equipped with the necessary technology to provide our student population with a variety of learning tools to accommodate all learning levels.