

Hillcrest Elementary Accountability Plan 2008-2012

“...maximizing the potential of every child...”

Principal: Damien Moses

Assistant Principal: Debbie Hunt

**Hillcrest Elementary is proud to be part of
The Lake Wales Charter Schools, Inc.**

The mission of The Charter System is:

“To bring the best of public education to our community by providing innovation and choice within a continuous pre-school through postsecondary curriculum so that each child recognizes the benefits of life-long learning, constructive citizenship, and personal happiness.”



Vision/Mission/Belief Statements Hillcrest Demographics

Vision Statement, Lake Wales Charter Schools:

The Lake Wales Charter Schools System, Inc. has as its vision, "To bring the best of public education to our community by providing innovation and choice within a continuous pre-school through postsecondary curriculum so that each child recognizes the benefits of life-long learning, constructive citizenship and personal happiness." As part of The Lake Wales Charter Schools System, Inc., Hillcrest Elementary subscribes to this vision.

Mission Statement, Hillcrest Elementary:

"Hillcrest Hawks will learn, create, perform, communicate, cooperate, explore, and soar to their highest potential in an encouraging, enriching environment. Hawks will leave the nest seeking the adventure of lifelong learning."

Belief Statements:

- "It's all about the children!" – Dr. Clint Wright
- all children can learn.
- administration, faculty, staff, and parents must work together to maximize student potential.
- education must be approached holistically; education must involve the academic, social, and emotional needs of the student.
- a holistic education means the freedom to meet individual needs using effective intervention strategies as designed and implemented by the instructional team.
- a holistic education involves exposure to the visual and performing arts.
- a holistic education involves students taking responsibility for their own growth and behavior.
- a holistic education involves a partnership with the community. "It takes a village to raise a child."
- a holistic education develops an understanding of other cultures and infuses a global perspective in the curriculum.
- a holistic education prepares the child, not only for today, but also for tomorrow, opening doors to opportunities.

Demographics:

Hillcrest Elementary is a public charter school, located in Lake Wales. The school is one of five (six in 2008) charter schools under the umbrella of The Lake Wales Charter Schools System, Inc. The school population currently stands at 609 for the 2007-2008 academic year. Hillcrest is a Title I school with approximately 74% of its students qualifying for free/reduced lunch. Approximately 9% of our student population is identified as LY students. The ESE students comprise 11% of the total student population. Student demographics are as follows: 52.3% White, 24.9% African American, 20.8% Hispanic, and 2% Multiracial.

Source: Genesis, October 24, 2007

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Accountability Plan
2008-2012**

No comparisons are drawn with schools identified by the District as being “comparable” as the conclusions would be distorted due to the number of variables inherent in such an exercise. Our student body is assessed on the yearly growth of each individual student. Data collected is used to refine teaching strategies and priorities.

Hillcrest uses state and federal standardized testing mechanisms; however, the use of Polk County assessments is at the discretion of the Hillcrest and Lake Wales Charter School administrations. If more valid or useful assessment tools are suggested, the Hillcrest administration will employ such tools and notify the District at the time the changes are made. Our goal is to use pertinent data to drive instruction, to use the best possible methods and instruction to ensure that every child reaches his/her potential. Some assessments have demonstrated a poor correlation with FCAT and we are presently refining and instituting new instruments. Data collection and analysis are viewed as tools, not an end....

Hillcrest Elementary FCAT Data 2003-2007

The table below provides the percent of students in the School scoring 3 and above (3.5 and above for Writing+) on the FCAT Reading, Mathematics, Writing+ and Science. Students that score in FCAT Achievement Levels 3, 4, and 5 in Reading or Mathematics are considered on grade level, proficient, or advanced. Students that score 3.5 and above on the FCAT Writing+ essay have scored at or above a minimally acceptable level. The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test® (FCAT) is based on Florida's curriculum frameworks, the Sunshine State Standards.

School Percent Scoring Three and Above																	
Grade Level	Reading					Mathematics					Writing+ Essay (3.5 and above)					Science	
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2006	2007
Polk																	
HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (1361)																	
3	45	54	53	69	70	54	61	57	64	68	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
4	55	65	69	52	58	48	59	63	61	47	67	59	70	67	84	NA	NA
5	39	48	61	56	63	29	37	51	57	54	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	23	33

+ Indicates data is not available at this time.

‡The State did not begin compiling State Percent Scoring 3.5 and Above data until 2002.

The table below provides the School mean Scale Scores in Reading, Mathematics, Writing+ and Science. The Scale Score is a score used to report test results on the entire test. Scale Scores on the FCAT Sunshine State Standards tests range from 100 through 500 for each grade level and content area. A computer program is used to analyze student responses and to compute the Scale Score.

School Mean Scores																	
Grade Level	Reading					Mathematics					Writing+		Science				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2006	2007	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Polk																	
HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ()																	
3	272	290	292	296	304	292	306	306	305	314	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
4	293	301	314	293	297	281	298	312	296	295	270	296	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
5	259	274	294	292	297	289	304	316	319	315	NA	NA	247	263	281	283	297

+ Indicates data is not available at this time.

Source: <http://fcat.fldoe.org/results/default.asp>

**Hillcrest Elementary
FCAT Data
2006-2007**

<i>School Accountability Report</i>														
Click on the column header to re-sort by that column.														
School Number	School	Level	School Year (Click on year to see detailed report)	Grade (Includes Learning Gains) more info	% Meeting High Standards in Reading	% Meeting High Standards in Math	% Meeting High Standards in Writing	% Meeting High Standards in Science	% Making Learning Gains in Reading	% Making Learning Gains in Math	% of Lowest 25% Making Learning Gains in Reading	% of Lowest 25% Making Learning Gains in Math	Bonus points for 11th-12th grade Retakes	Points Earned (Sun Previ 9 Colu more
Polk														
1361	HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Elementary	2006-07	B	71	64	84	41	78	57	72	45	NA	512

Source:
http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/default.asp?action=verifySelectionSchool&report=SG&districts=53&schoolYear=2006-2007&school_grade=&level=School&schoolNumbers=531361

Academic Goals

1. Students at Hillcrest Elementary will demonstrate progress in Reading.
2. Students at Hillcrest Elementary will demonstrate progress in Mathematics.
3. Students at Hillcrest Elementary will become proficient in Writing.
4. Students at Hillcrest Elementary will become proficient in Science.
5. Students at Hillcrest Elementary will be exposed to instruction in The Arts on at least a weekly basis.
6. Students at Hillcrest Elementary will demonstrate progress in Technological Literacy.

**Hillcrest Elementary
Accountability Plan
2008-2012**

Goal 1: Reading

Students at Hillcrest Elementary will demonstrate progress in Reading such that Hillcrest Elementary meets the criteria for AYP in each successive year. To achieve this goal, the following Indicators will be met:

Performance Indicator(s):

- 1) The percentage of students in Grades 3-5 at Hillcrest scoring Level 3 or above as assessed by the Reading FCAT will increase from the 2006-2007 combined baseline of 66% by an annual percentage rate of,
3% points in 2008 or a minimum of 69%;
3% points in 2009 or a minimum of 72%;
3% points in 2010 or a minimum of 75%;
4% points in 2011 or a minimum of 79% of students scoring at Level 3 or above.

That percentage will continue to increase by an annual percentage rate of 7% in 2012 or a minimum of 86%. All regular elementary schools in Florida will have 93% of their students scoring Level 3 or above by 2013. (Data from DOE AYP School Accountability Report, <http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/>)

Baseline 2006-07: 66%

- 2) Annually, Hillcrest students (Grades K-3) will demonstrate required progress on the DIBELS assessment so that both Effectiveness of Core Instruction (ECI) and Effectiveness of Intervention are satisfied as reported by Reading First.

Baseline 2006-07: ECI – K-3 79.3%
 EI – K-3 40.6%

Reading First ECI and EI satisfied. (Albritton, Reading First Coach)

- 3) Annually, eighty-five percent of Kindergarten students will meet grade level expectations according to the DIBELS measures used by Reading First.

Baseline 2006-07: 89% (Albritton, Reading First Coach)

- 4) Annually, students in all subgroups taking the FCAT Reading SSS, will meet AYP criteria, either by meeting the federal benchmark, Safe Harbor, or Growth Model as documented by the DOE AYP School Accountability Report.

Baseline 2006-07: Total White, Black, and Economically Disadvantaged subgroups met federal benchmarks. Hispanic met Safe Harbor.

Goal 2: Mathematics

Students at Hillcrest Elementary will demonstrate progress in Mathematics such that Hillcrest Elementary meets the criteria for AYP in each successive year. To achieve this goal, the following Indicators will be met:

Performance Indicator(s):

- 1) The percentage of students in Grades 3-5 at Hillcrest scoring Level 3 or above as assessed by FCAT Math will increase from the 2006-2007 combined baseline of 59% by an annual percentage rate of
 - 5% points in 2008 or a minimum of 64%;
 - 5% points in 2009 or a minimum of 69%;
 - 5% points in 2010 or a minimum of 74% of students scoring Level 3 or above.
 That percentage will continue to increase by an annual percentage rate of 6% until the year 2012, at which time all regular elementary schools in Florida will have 86% scoring Level 3 or above. (Data from DOE AYP School Accountability Report, <http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/>)
Baseline 2006-07: 59%

- 2) Annually, the percentage of students in Grades 1-5 at Hillcrest achieving proficiency of 75% on the final grading of the formative Quarterly Benchmark Assessments will increase by 3% annually or a total of 15% over the next five years (2008-2012).
Baseline 2006-07: 71.4% (Beasley, Title I Coordinator)

- 3) Annually, students in all subgroups taking the FCAT Math SSS will meet AYP criteria, either by meeting the federal benchmark in Mathematics, Safe Harbor, or Growth Model as documented by the DOE AYP School Accountability Report.
Baseline 2006-07: Total and White subgroups met federal benchmarks. Black, Hispanic, and Economically Disadvantaged subgroups did not meet any of three AYP criteria.

Goal 3: Writing

Students at Hillcrest Elementary will demonstrate progress in Writing such that Hillcrest Elementary meets the criteria for AYP in each successive year. To achieve this goal, the following Indicators will be met:

Performance Indicator(s):

- 1) The percentage of students in Grade 4 at Hillcrest scoring 3.5 or above as assessed by the FCAT Writing Plus Assessment will increase from the 2006-2007 baseline of 84% by an annual percentage rate of 1%. (Data from DOE School Grade Accountability Report, <http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/>)
Baseline 2006-07: 84%

- 2) Annually, students in all subgroups taking the FCAT Writes will meet AYP criteria, either by meeting the federal benchmark in Writing or by increasing the percentage of students scoring 3.0 or above by 1% annually.
Baseline 2006-07: All subgroups (Total, White and Economically Disadvantaged) increased by at least 1%.

Goal 4: Science

Students at Hillcrest Elementary will demonstrate progress in Science such that there is strong growth in the numbers of students on or above Grade level. To achieve this goal, the following Indicators will be met:

Performance Indicator(s):

- 1) The percentage of students in Grades 3-5 at Hillcrest scoring 3.0 or higher level as assessed by the FCAT Science will increase from the 2006-2007 baseline of 41% by 3% annually over the next five years. (Data from DOE School Grade Accountability Report, <http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/>)

Baseline 2006-07: 41%

- 2) Annually, the percentage of students in Grades K-5 at Hillcrest demonstrating grade level proficiency of 75% on the current version of the Science Practice FCAT 3 Test as produced by Harcourt Educational Publishers will increase by 3% annually or maintain at 85%.

Baseline to be established in 2008-09 using the Harcourt Science Practice Test (2007).

Goal 5: The Arts

Students at Hillcrest Elementary will be exposed to instruction in the visual and/or performing arts on at least a weekly basis and these students are expected to demonstrate growth in skills. To achieve this goal, the following Indicators will be met:

Performance Indicator(s):

Annually, 85% of Music and Visual Arts students will demonstrate 80% proficiency on the year-end Polk County Essential Criteria for 5th Grade on an instrument as approved by the LWCS System or Hillcrest administration that is aligned with the Sunshine State Standards.

Baseline 2006-07: Third Grade Music Test – 91% (Montero, Music Specialist)
Music Essential Criteria for 5th Grade – 92% (Montero)
Grade Visual Arts Test – To Be Developed (Christoph, Visual Arts Specialist)
Visual Arts Essential Criteria for 5th Grade – 91% (Christoph)

Goal 6: Technology

Students at Hillcrest Elementary will demonstrate progress in Technological Literacy. To achieve this goal, the following Indicators will be met:

Performance Indicator(s):

Annually, ninety-five percent of students in Grades K-3 will be scheduled for weekly instruction to correctly use hardware and software properly so that they might successfully operate a computer. 85% of these students will achieve 80% proficiency on a teacher-generated or Lake Wales Charter Schools' test of technological proficiency. Current testing is teacher-generated and is based on the SOL (Standards of Learning) Technology Tests from VDOE (The Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Education).

Baseline 2006-07: 100% scheduled with 95% achieving proficiency. (Byrd, Technology Specialist)

Organizational Viability Goals

Parents of Hillcrest Elementary students will approve of their child's educational experience at school.

Hillcrest Elementary School will demonstrate financial viability as part of The Lake Wales Charter Schools System, Inc.

Hillcrest Elementary School will operate with an active and supportive Board of Trustees and School Advisory Committee.

Goal 7: Parental and Faculty Satisfaction

The parents of students at Hillcrest Elementary will approve of their child's educational experience at the school. To achieve this goal, the following Indicators will be met:

Performance Indicator(s):

1) Annually, 90% percent or more of the Hillcrest Elementary parents, returning the Polk County Successful Schools Survey, or other instrument as approved by the LWCS System or Hillcrest administration, will "agree" or "strongly agree" with the educational direction of the school. This instrument will solicit opinions on different areas using a Likhart scale format.

Baseline 2006-07: 96.5% of those returning the PCSSS agreed with the school's educational direction as measured by the Seven Effective School Correlates. (Beasley, Title I Coordinator)

2) Annually, 85% percent or more of the Hillcrest Elementary teachers, returning the Hillcrest Institutional Effectiveness and Planning Survey, will "agree" or "strongly agree" with the educational direction of the school. This instrument will solicit opinions on educational direction, administration support, adequacy of resources/support (both local and district), teacher empowerment, as well as input on projected needs. This survey will employ both Likhart scale format and open-ended responses.

Baseline: to be established in 2008-09 in conjunction with Lake Wales Charter personnel.

Goal 8: Fiscal Viability

The administration at Hillcrest Elementary will use due diligence in budgeting and purchasing needs for the school. To achieve this goal, the following Indicators will be met:

Performance Indicator(s):

Hillcrest Elementary will have an unrestricted/unreserved fund balance of 2.5% or higher of annual unrestricted/unreserved revenue as documented by the annual independent audit.

Baseline 2006-07: 10.87% (includes funding reserves for technological upgrading and Arts replenishment) (McKinney, School Financial Officer)

Goal 9: Governance

Discussions and decision-making of both The Lake Wales Charter Schools, Inc. system and the Hillcrest School Advisory Committee will be conducted with the interests of students as foremost in driving decision-making. Both the Board of Trustees and the SAC will adhere to all state and federal regulations pertaining to educational matters. To achieve this goal, the following Indicators will be met:

Performance Indicator(s):

- 1) The Board of Trustees will hold a minimum of ten meetings per year, with an average attendance of 85% at each meeting to review the viability of the school, including but not limited to,
 - Finances
 - Annual Accountability Report
 - 2008-2013 Accountability Plan Progress
 - FCAT test results and AYP
- 2) The School Advisory Committee (SAC) will hold a minimum of four meeting per year to review school programs and improvement, including, but not limited to:
 - Staffing
 - Programs
 - Finances
 - Data Analysis, including SIP