

## **2019-2020 Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools\_09052019\_10:45**

2019-20 Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools

**Lewis County Middle School**

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## 2019-20 Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools

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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?

Lewis County Middle School serves students in grades six through eight as a part of Lewis County Public Schools. The LCMS community sees our purpose as addressing the emotional, social, physical, and academic needs of adolescents. We believe that all students have the potential to learn in an environment that values the dignity and diversity of all individuals. Our school community includes about 45 staff members with the professional staff being comprised of 25 teachers, 1 librarian, 1 counselor, and 1 and a half administrators. Our school also has active support to help us meet the academic and social needs of our students via our Youth Services Center (YSC) and our School Based Decision Making (SBDM) Council. Lewis County Middle shares a campus with the high school and vocational school and is physically located in Vanceburg, KY with a population in Lewis County of 13,880. Students reside near our school or are from surrounding areas in Tollesboro, Garrison and Laurel. These communities have homes with an average value of about \$59,900 and households with a median income of approximately \$28,388. Lewis County has an unemployment rate which averages above 18%. Our high school graduation rate is 98.1% compared to the state average of 89%. The percentage of residents with Bachelor's Degrees is 10.6%, compared to a state average of 21.5%. Lewis County Middle School has a student population averaging 406 students per year. Student demographics show our population to be approximately 49% Male, 51% Female, 96% White and 1.4% other ethnicity. We are a Title I school with about 71% of our students being eligible for free and/or reduced lunch. At the beginning of the 2011-12 school year, a new principal was hired and is now completing the sixth year in 2016-2017 school year. This was an additional strength as well as a challenge as we learned more about specific roles, talents, and skills and how best to improve school culture and climate and increase student achievement effectively, efficiently, and quickly. Lewis County Middle Schools mission statement is, "To Build a Community of Life Long Learners" embodies our goal of striving to raise the expectations and achievement levels for all students by increasing the rigor of classroom instruction and practices. We continue to monitor student assessment data on a regular basis to update instructional practices as we identify individual and group students' academic needs to be addressed. We are able to achieve student/school success when we work as a team. Our enthusiasm and commitment to educational growth will enable us to promote successful life-long learners.

#### 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.

The Lewis County Middle School community sees our purpose as addressing the emotional, social, physical, and academic needs of adolescents. We believe that all students have the potential to learn in an environment that values the dignity of all individuals. Lewis County Middle School's mission statement is "To build a community of lifelong learners," we take student success seriously. The school is organized into teams to allow teachers to focus on core instruction and to meet the needs of the middle school student. Our vision for this school is to provide the support necessary for our exemplary staff to successfully provide learning opportunities to meet the goal of Lewis County Middle School to the top quarter of middle schools in Kentucky. In order to meet the vision of becoming a top school in Kentucky, all students are expected to gain at least one year's

growth in core subjects, with the school-wide expectation that 80% of students benchmark on all content. The school has implemented many programs that allow teachers to focus on individual student success and the skills needed to be successful at each grade level: \* Core content classes specific to students' needs in language arts, math, science, and social studies for students whether regular comprehensive program, special education, or advance program. Lewis County Middle School has implemented a number of research based instructional programs: History/Geography Alive, Reading Plus, Math Innovations, Flourish, Lexia, and Learning.Com. \* Students are provided opportunities to complete high school courses at the middle school. Eighth grade students based upon standardized assessment data, have the opportunity to take Algebra I and English I classes. Other eighth grades students, based upon the same assessment data, have the opportunity to take an extra math through the Bridges program. \* An intervention class for each student has been scheduled into the master schedule. Students have been placed in math and reading interventions according to standardized assessment data and academic performance. Available interventions include: Reading Intervention classes using the Jamestown Series, Lexia. Math Intervention classes are using Do the Math textbook series. Music courses comprised of three Band classes. The advanced band class travels to the high school and participates in high school band competition. \* Students interested in Arts/Humanities have the opportunity to participate in Drama class and Advanced Art. This class is counted as an enrichment class and lasts one semester. \* Based upon seventh grade standardized assessment data, students have an opportunity to participate in Project Lead the Way and can further this course once they are at the high school level. \* Teachers attend team meetings, at least once weekly, and attend monthly department meetings that focus on teaching and learning strategies for rigorous instruction. \* Sixth, Seventh and Eighth grade teachers have incorporated College and Career strategies within their instruction these are scheduled thorough out the year as evident in the teachers pacing guides. \* Youth Services Center provides access to programs and social services to our students and their families in order to help students improve attendance, decrease behavior and suspension issues, increase academic support, improve physical and mental health, and enhance parent relations through support and assistance. \* Extracurricular offerings include baseball, basketball, cheer leading, clubs, football, band, volleyball, track, drama, academic team, and 4-H.

#### 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.

In recent years, LCMS has been faced with being named a school in need of improvement. According to the latest TELL survey, there was a need for teachers to be held to high professional standards; there was a need for teachers to be involved in professional learning that is differentiated to meet the individual teacher needs. Teachers also felt that professional learning should deepen their content knowledge. These concerns have been noted and addressed; each year a teacher is awarded the Allan Harmon Award. This award is voted upon by administration and the teachers name is placed on a plaque that hangs in the office area. Also, LCMS has aligned math curriculum to support the curriculum, identification of teaching materials (which the school purchased) and instruction. LCMS has also retained the services of Angela Hildebrand to support the English/Language Arts teachers in curriculum and use of new reading materials (which was purchased by the school). The administration has provided ongoing coaching and support to all math and Language Arts teachers for core and intervention instruction. In order to improve instruction, professional learning and support for teachers is now based on I-Ready results, student work and other sources of achievement data. The activation of departments to guide instruction and the ongoing focus and monitoring of instructional implementation is relentless. The school's sense of urgency for students to achieve growth and focus will be reflected in the results of TELL surveys in the future, but more importantly this will be reflected in student work and

achievement. **NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:** \* School safety and student behavior improved during the 2018-2019 school year. Other measures taken to ensure school safety were surveillance cameras being installed at the main entrance of the school with a buzzer system. We also had a Safe Schools Audit during the 2013-2014 school year. LCMS is making the school an even more safe place by correcting the concerns mentioned in the audit. The 2017-2018 staff participated in an active shooter training conducted by the Kentucky State Police May/2018. The 2018-2019 staff followed up with the online active shooter training in August 2019. \* The Peer Mediation Program continues to thrive, and our hope is that it pays off in decreasing the amount of office referrals as well as improve academic achievement. \* The counselor worked on Honor Roll lists each nine weeks an assembly/in school dance was held as well as photographs in the local newspaper and on the school website. The counselor also organizes a testing assembly in which the students performing distinguished and proficient are recognized with a medal as well as a photograph in the local newspaper. This year we have printed posters of all students attaining proficient and distinguished on the KPREP and posting them in the hallways. By recognizing student achievement, school culture improves, and students become motivated to succeed. \* TELL Survey Results for April 2017 (2016-17 school year)

1. Time: According to the TELL Survey, teachers have sufficient time to collaborate with colleagues, allowed time to focus on educating students with minimal interruptions and have sufficient instructional time to meet the needs of all students.
2. Facilities and Resources: According to the TELL Survey teachers feel more positive about the cleanliness of the school, access to instructional technology, professional support, teacher work space, and physical environment; although, the reliability and speed to the internet was reported a common problem. This will show improvement on the next TELL survey through recent installation of new wireless system at the middle school
3. Community Support and Involvement: According to the TELL Survey our school does a good job of encouraging parent/guardian involvement. Also, teachers provide parents/guardians with useful information about student learning.
4. Managing Student Conduct: According to the TELL Survey teachers feel safe and feel that students understand expectations for their conduct.
5. Teacher Leadership: According to the TELL Survey teachers thought the faculty and staff had good communication and they feel they work well together to solve problems. Teachers have the opportunity to lead professional learning activities, faculty meetings, team meetings and ideas that teachers have are considered and sometime used.
6. School Leadership: According to the TELL Survey teachers feel that there is a positive atmosphere at Lewis County Middle School and work hard to help maintain a shared vision.
7. Professional Development: According to the TELL Survey an appropriate amount of time is provided for data driven Professional Learning which is aligned to the School Improvement Plan. Also, our teachers are encouraged to reflect on their own practice. Lastly, teachers feel they need more content specific professional learning offered and opportunities to attend professional development outside the district.
8. Instructional Practice and Support: According the TELL Survey teachers are encouraged to try new things and have input into their lessons as long as the strategies are tied to the instruction and instruction is tied to assessment and the assessment is tied to the standard. \* Lewis County Middle School moved from an overall score of 63.4 in 2015-2016 to a 73.4 in 2016-2017. Under the new testing system our students have grown in reading from a 51.1 to a 54.3 and in math from a 36.1 to a 41.3.

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT** \* Improve by increasing the amount of learning during instructional time by creating lessons that are more rigorous and making all students accountable. \* Improve in TELL Survey results in the following categories: Professional development deepens teacher content knowledge, faculty recognized for accomplishments, and faculty has effective process for making group decisions to solve problems.

#### Additional Information

**CSI/TSI Schools Only:** Describe the procedures used to create the school's improvement plan and briefly state the specific efforts to address the causes of low student performance and resource inequities.

NA

**Additional Information**

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

Nothing at this time

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## Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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