



Executive Summary

Baker County Adult Education Center

Baker County School District

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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.

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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?

"Preparing individuals to be lifelong learners, self-sufficient, and responsible citizens of good character."

The Baker County Adult Education Center (BCAEC) serves all areas within Baker County, specifically adults residing in the cities of Macclenny, Glen St. Mary, and Sanderson. The school is located in Macclenny, Florida, the county seat, at 523 W. Minnesota Avenue, and is in close proximity to all Baker County schools operating under the Baker County School District.

Baker County is a rural community included in the region designated as one of critical economic concern under the Florida Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI). It is estimated by the 2010 U.S. Census bureau that 40% of the Baker County adult population have less than a high school diploma.

The Baker County Adult Education Center staff consists of:

- 9 Part-time General Education Teachers (6 FL DOE certified, 3 district certified)
- 3 Part-time Vocational Training Teachers (3 district certified)
- 1 Full-time Vocational Training Teacher (FL DOE certified)
- 1 Part-time Vocational Training Classroom Assistant
- 1 Part-time Career Pathways Coordinator (FL DOE certified)
- 1 Full-time Administrator (FL DOE certified)
- 3 Full-time Support personnel

Fifty percent (50%) of general adult education teachers hold a Masters degree. All instructional staff are certified in TABE test administration (Test of Basic Adult Education).

Adult education classes are offered at the Baker County Adult Education site as traditional face-to-face delivery during day and evening hours, and as hybrid distance learning courses (a blended face-to-face and synchronous and asynchronous online learning) during evening schedules established throughout the year. Traditional classes are also offered at the Baker County Detention Center during the day and at the Baker Correctional Institute in the evening. Instructional practices include a myriad of strategies and classroom activities that support individualized student learning including technology integration, direct instruction (whole group and small group), supplemental computer- and web-based curricula and collaborative student learning activities.

Baker County Adult Education Center students range from 16 to 45+ years in age and are those who need to complete a high school education and earn a high school equivalency diploma, a local standard high school diploma, or who are in need of literacy and numeracy skills training to be successful in the workforce or in post-secondary training. BCAEC's student population is widely diversified in educational levels upon entry ranging in Kindergarten through grade 12 in core Reading, Math, and Language Arts subject areas.

In 2012-13, BCAEC served 230 adult students with 80% enrollment in Adult Basic Education (ABE K-8) classes and 20% enrollment in _____

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General Education Development (GED 9-12) classes.

The demographics for Baker County Adult Education Center students are:

0.0% - American Indian or Alaska Native

1% - Asian

47% - Black or African-American

3% - Hispanic/Latino

0.0% - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific

48% - White

1% - Two or More Races

61% male; 39% female

30% Ages 16-18

30% Ages 19-24

33% Ages 25-44

7% Ages 45+

Challenges for the Baker County Adult Education Center over the last three years:

School Challenge - Redesigning the classroom environment from one that is work-book driven to one that is student-centered with interactive instructional practices

School & Community Challenge - Managing recruitment of disadvantaged populations without a public transit system in place to serve them

School & Community Challenge - Declining enrollment as a result of a declining economy--ultimately impacting annual workforce funding streams for 2013-14

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 overarching purpose of the Baker County Adult Education Center (BCAEC) is to provide students with the academic skills improvement needed to be successful in the workforce, in post-secondary training, and/or in military training. Regardless of student age or academic ability, it is the belief of Baker County Adult Education Center staff that all adult education participants can be successful in learning.

The Baker County Adult Education Center adopts the Baker County School District's mission in being committed to meeting the needs of all students in a safe, nurturing, and encouraging environment. BCAEC involves parents (where applicable), students, teachers, and community members in the process of determining goals that meet students' needs.

Our vision is to prepare individuals to become lifelong learners, self-sufficient and responsible citizens of good character. The programs and services offered at the Baker County Adult Education Center clearly support this vision:

- Adult Basic Education classes serving academic levels K - 8 in Reading, Math, and Language/Writing, Social Studies, and Science
- General Education Development classes serving academic levels 9-12 in Reading, Math, Language/Writing, Social Studies, and Science
- Career Pathways Services to assist students who complete the adult education program enter employment, post-secondary training, and/or military training
- Official on-site GED(R) Paper-Based and Computer-Based Testing
- Official on-site TABE assessment for post-secondary entry
- On-site FCAT Computer-based testing
- Student Support Services through Agreements for Services with outside agencies and business partners

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.

The measurable standard for adult education student learning gains is the Learning Completion Point (LCP) as determined by student advancement between educational functioning levels and/or a high school equivalency diploma earned. In 2009-10, the Baker County Adult Education Center began redesigning classrooms to evolve from a work-book driven structure to a student-centered learning environment. Below are some of the notable results:

Federal Adult Education Data (NRS Data Available through 2011-12)

From 2009 to 2012, the BCAEC improved by a phenomenal 83% in the National Reporting System's Educational Gains and Student Attendance by Educational Functioning Level rates (Baker County School District Table 4 NRS Measures & Methods).

State Workforce Education Data (WDIS Data Available through 2011-12)

From 2009 to 2012, the Baker County Adult Education Center improved the number of LCP's earned annually by students from 308 to 531, a 72% increase. Additionally, the average number of LCP's earned per student enrolled improved from 1.12 to 1.43 during the same period.

In 2012-13, BCAEC served 230 adult students with 80% enrollment in Adult Basic Education (ABE K-8) classes and 20% enrollment in General Education Development (GED 9-12) classes. Enrollment for 2012-13 school year is a 39% increase as compared to the 2011-12 school year (193).

School Goals are established annually based on prior year performances. The Baker County Adult Education Center measurable goals for the 2013-14 school year include:

1. Increase enrollment by 30%
2. Increase student attendance by 30%
3. Increase total student educational gains, or LCP's, earned by 20%
4. Increase average LCP's earned per student enrolled by 10%
5. Increase number of high school equivalency diplomas earned by 25%
6. Increase number of adult education completers who enroll in a college course or enter employment by 30%.

The expected academic goals for years 2014-15 and 2015-16, are to increase in the above stated measurable areas by a minimum of 5% improvement each school year commensurate with enrollment, academic levels at entry, and funding.

Further, Baker County Adult Education Center's organizational goals include:

1. Increase course accessibility through the development of blended, or hybrid, distance learning delivery formats and established sub-centers in underserved areas of the county; and
2. Design a teacher evaluation tool appropriate to part-time adult education teachers and aligned with state and federal program performance indicators.

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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.

The Baker County Adult Education Center enhances student services by collaborating with other agencies whose services complement those of BCAEC. These established partnerships provide a comprehensive set of support services that assist in expanding opportunities for student learning and achievement.

Support services provided through these partnerships include enrollment referrals, student tuition fee and test fee scholarships, childcare services to parenting students, financial literacy training, mental health counseling, post-secondary transitioning services, and more.

The Baker County Adult Education Center has established Baker County School Board-approved Agreements of Services with the following agencies and business partners:

Florida Gateway College, Lake City, FL
Florida Region 8 Workforce Board, Jacksonville, FL
Northeast Florida Community Action Agency, Macclenny, FL
River Region Human Services, Jacksonville, FL
Baker County Sheriff's Department, Macclenny, FL
Florida Department of Corrections, Tallahassee, Florida
Baker County Educational Foundation, Macclenny, FL
Carpenter's Kids Daycare, Glen St. Mary, Florida
ABC Childcare, Macclenny, FL

Additionally, representatives from several of these agencies serve in an advisory capacity to the Baker County Adult Education Center.

Baker County Adult Education Center Community Out-Reach

The Baker County Adult Education Center provides support to the Baker community through special projects such as the Adults with Disabilities vocational training classes, the Adults with Disabilities senior citizen acrylic art and computer classes, and the Culture Builds Baker Art Exploration community classes. These offerings are supported by state allocations and grants and are performance-based according to program deliverables rather than academically assessed learning gains.

The AWD programs located on the campus of the Northeast Florida State Hospital provide vocational skills training in Woodworking, Environmental Services, and Landscaping and Nursery Management. Courses are aligned with Florida Department of Education curriculum frameworks and benchmarks and are taught by Florida DOE Certified and District Certified instructors. The focus of the vocational skills training programs is to empower students with a marketable skill that will assist them in becoming self-sufficient upon re-entry into their home community. The vocational training courses and supplies are free to participants.

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The acrylic art and computer courses for AWD Senior Citizens are offered at the Baker County Adult Education Center site in 9-week increments. The art classes align with the National Endowment for the Arts Standards and are taught by a professional artist who is also District Certified. The classes and art supplies are free to participants. The Baker County Adult Education Center provides wireless connectivity and laptops for the senior citizen computer classes. The focus of the course is to assist participants in becoming familiar with basic computer skills, in learning ways to use the internet to increase the quality of their lives, and to assist those who may still be in the workforce build useable computer skills.

We serve approximately 145 adults with disabilities annually among the AWD course offerings.

AWD Program Notable Achievements - The AWD Senior Citizens participate in a Spring Art Exhibit hosted by the Baker County Adult Education Center. Students have the opportunity to display their art work in a professional gallery-like setting. Community officials and the families of senior citizen students are invited to the one-day event that includes a small award ceremony and reception.

During the 2013 legislative session, adult student participants in the vocational woodworking program and the senior citizen art participants collaborated to inform legislators on the AWD programs in Baker County and to request legislative support for continued state funding for the programs. The senior citizen art students created small painted murals of Florida scenery on canvas and the woodworking adult students designed and built wood frames for the artwork. The final product was a traveling art exhibit entitled, "Our Native Florida" that landed on display on the walls of Florida's State Capitol building. Some computer class students and art class students compiled letters to Representative Porter and Senator Dean sharing their classroom experiences and noting how the classes have helped them personally. The program Director and several students received a personal reply from Senator Dean expressing his support and gratitude for what the Baker County Adult Education Center is doing with the AWD state funding. We were also excited to learn that funding for the programs remained at level funding for the 2013-14 school year.

The Baker Builds Culture project is a grant awarded project for implementation in the 2013-14 school year. The project proposes to build cultural capacity in the community through exposure to art techniques such as "The Beauty of Drawing with Charcoal", "Exploring Color with Pastels", and "Painting the World with Acrylics". The art instruction is offered during a 9-week session and is free to adults 18 years with complementary supplies. Funding for the project was secured by a Baker County Adult Education Center teacher through the Florida Cultural Alliance for the Arts agency. We look forward to the cultural-building possibilities in our community as a result of this seed project.