



2023-2024 Phase One: ACS Executive Summary for Districts

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Anderson County
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Description of the District

Describe the district'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 district serves?

Anderson County Schools, nestled in the heart of the Bluegrass in Lawrenceburg, Kentucky, serves approximately 3800 students. Lawrenceburg, a quaint historic community, offers the amenities of rural life with the availability of lifestyle offered by the larger metro cities of Louisville and Lexington. A friendly town, Lawrenceburg's population of less than 10,000 residents within the city limits is expected to grow over the next several years. As one of Lawrenceburg's largest employers, our district serves students at the following buildings: Ezra Sparrow Early Childhood Center (PK-K), Robert B. Turner (K-5), Saffell Street Elementary and Emma B Ward Elementary schools (1-5), Anderson County Middle School (6-8), and Anderson County High School (9-12). Our Preschool-12th grade programs service approximately 3800 students, of which 5% Hispanic, 2% African American and 1% Asian. Nearly 50% of our students qualify for free or reduced price meals under the Federal School Lunch program (based on household income). For further information about Anderson County Schools, please visit our website at acschools.net.

District Stakeholders

Identify and describe the district's stakeholder groups. How does the district ensure stakeholder involvement and engagement in the improvement planning process?

Students, teachers, parents, administrators/principals, para educators, and staff/support personnel, community leaders, businesses, etc. comprise our district's stakeholder groups. The district ensures stakeholder involvement and engagement in the improvement planning process through consultation and collaboration with multiple stakeholders using a variety of communication platforms in as timely and meaningful ways as possible. Feedback/input are solicited through such means as CSIP and CDIP Committee meetings, a comprehensive needs assessment, in-person consultation with staff and parents (via various conferences and parent involvement events), administrative/district surveys, SBDM Council discussions, etc. Information/Feedback gleaned from this process is gathered and analyzed to determine how best to provide equitable supports, opportunities, and services to all Anderson County students.

District's Purpose

Provide the district's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs, including the year in which they were last reviewed or revised. Describe how the

district embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students and how stakeholders are involved in its development.

The mission of Anderson County Schools is to serve all students by ensuring they are safe, life ready, and responsible citizens. Anderson County Schools provides a student-centered learning environment striving toward continuous improvement. Our school community embraces rigorous academic standards, continuous improvement and involvement of parents and community members. Our staff provides rigorous and relevant educational opportunities for our 3800 students. Responsive to the needs of students, we provide advanced placement courses, dual-credit courses, gifted and talented programming, technical and vocational educational opportunities, and a complete range of special education services. In collaboration with administrators, our school board makes decisions that are focused on what is best for our students. Each day, we strive to provide a safe, caring, and supportive learning environment that honors the uniqueness of every student.

Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement

Describe the district's notable achievements and areas of improvement in the last three years. Additionally, describe areas for improvement that the district is striving to achieve in the next three years.

While Kentucky continues to solidify the transition to new accountability and assessments systems (status and change, etc.), we take great pride in the many accomplishments and notable achievements of our students, staff, and school community. Our district strives to meet the individual needs of every child through the implementation of strong core academic programs. In Kindergarten through grades 12, we work to strengthen and support our core instruction via our MTSS/Rtl systems of support. Our STLP Teams have remained strong. All three elementary school academic teams successfully compete in Governor's Cup Competitions and traditionally have been very competitive each year, oftentimes winning at the regional level. Anderson County Schools has a strong district-wide Arts and Humanities program, with frequent plays, musicals, and art shows. Our ACHS Marching Band has won multiple state competitions and remains competitive at the national level. Students from ACHS, ACMS and all three elementary schools successfully compete in KMEA All-State Chorus. Anderson County prepares its students for a competitive future. Our goal is to provide students with learning opportunities that equip them with question developing, problem solving, and communication skills that can be applied in a variety of contexts. Our schools continue to purchase technology and to upgrade existing systems and workstations with portable/remote technology. Districtwide Google Apps For Education has been implemented at all levels K - 12. We believe that the quality and character of the physical environment complements the quality and character of the learning experience. Anderson County Schools have worked diligently to create learning environments that promote collaborative learning opportunities in every school. All Anderson County Schools are laser-focused on increasing rigor and relevance. Through a partnership with the International Center for Leadership in Education (ICLE), PK-12 staff have received professional development in rigor, relevance,

relationship and instructional strategies. In order to determine our overall level of progress, principals, instructional coaches, and directors are fine-tuning their skills in using walkthrough instruments to promote active learner engagement, as well as congruent teaching, learning, and assessment structures. Principals and instructional coaches actively coach and support teachers to enhance their professional learning and professional abilities. Collaboratively, principals and teachers develop instructional strategies that will move our students' thinking and learning to higher levels. We've focused district-wide efforts on using cooperative learning structures, high-yield instructional strategies, and rigorous approaches to teaching to immerse students in meaningful and challenging learning experiences. Schools continue their journey implementing high quality, progressive data teams, cultivating collaborative learning environments, and likewise, sharing of best practices. In short, Anderson County Schools actively pursues educational excellence and always puts students first. In the next 3 years, we will expand our capacity to ensure all students reach postsecondary readiness upon graduation. This will entail assurances, at every level, that students are afforded consistent access to high quality learning opportunities which are directly aligned with their personalized academic and/or career interests. Furthermore, we will put forth concerted efforts to increase proficiency attainment in reading and math (in addition to science, social studies, and writing) for all students and thereby narrow/close existing achievement gaps. Moving forward, our focus will be on the following ACS Best Practices: 1) Build positive relationships with ALL students daily. 2) Be present and encourage ALL students to be present, engaged and held accountable for learning every day. 3) Maximize instructional time on task using high yield strategies and cooperative learning structures. 4) Create and monitor lessons that are congruent to academic standards that include high rigor tasks, questioning and assess using formative and summative assessments. 5) Use and act on data to improve student mastery. 6) Implement writing in ALL content areas weekly. 7) Provide timely and effective feedback to students daily. 8) Set high expectations and stay on vision message. 9) Work collaboratively with colleagues within schools and among schools. 10) Use data dashboards to monitor progress within data teams.

Additional Information

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

N/A

Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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