



2020-21 Phase Three: Executive Summary for
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2020-21 Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools

James A. Cawood Elementary
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. 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?

James A. Cawood Elementary School is a rural K-8 school located in southeastern Kentucky with approximately 356 students. We are part of the Harlan County School District. Harlan County borders Bell, Leslie, Letcher, and Perry Counties, as well as the state of Virginia. 88.5% of our students are economically disadvantaged. Out of our 356 students, 54.2% are male and 45.8% are female. 94.7% of the students are White, 1.6% are African American, 3.4% are Hispanic. Our student to teacher ratio is 14:1. Our teachers have an average of 13.6 years of teaching experience. 31.6% of our teachers have attained Rank 1 certification and 36.8% have a Master's degree. The JACES has 24 students in grades 4-8 formally identified as gifted and talented in one of the 5 categories, and 10 students identified in grades K-3 in the Primary Talent Pool. Jaces has zero teachers certified in Gifted Education and offers no pull out program for gifted and talented students.

. 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.

James A. Cawood Elementary School recognizes that each child is an individual; that all children are creative; that all children need to succeed. Therefore, JACES respects the individual needs of children; fosters a caring and creative environment; and emphasizes the social, emotional, physical, intellectual development of each child. Our desire is to educate our children to the best of our ability and help them reach their goals academically and as individuals. We encourage and welcome parent and community involvement and feel that to be successful, we need all stakeholders to play an active role in the education of our students. We are a friendly facility whose mission is to empower all students for their future and choices that lie ahead of them. Our mission as an accomplished and dedicated professional staff is such that: -We will ... PROVIDE a safe and nurturing atmosphere where all students will grow as learners and as leaders. -We will ... IMPLEMENT a challenging curriculum, aligned with state standards and designed to provide opportunities for higher order thinking skills. -We will ... ENABLE all learners to succeed. -We will ... INSPIRE all learners to achieve. -We will ... EXPECT all learners to excel. -We will ... REALIZE this vision through the joint effort of the entire school staff, district staff, parents, and our community. We have made so much progress and look forward to what is to

come! Our Acronym for JACES is: J - Joining as a dedicated professionals to A - Attain a C - Community of parents and E - Educators who inspire and expect all S - Students to achieve their educational goals The VISION of JACES is to empower all students to become self-sufficient in all aspects of knowledge available to learners through the use of literature, technology, research, and curriculum so that each and every learner advances on the cutting edge of all latest innovations available.

. 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.

We are one of the most improved schools in the state over the last 5-6 years. We have worked hard to change the culture and perception of our school and make it an environment for success. Our faculty and staff have worked hard with parents and stakeholders to make positive changes across the entire school. Recent KPREP scores show that our students are performing above both the state and district in many areas. Our Elementary School received a 4-Star rating while our Middle School received a 3-Star rating. Harlan County Schools hires a School Level District Gifted and Talented Liaison at each school to serve as a bridge in communication between the school and district GT Coordinator. The School Level GT Liaison works with regular teachers in the building to help identify, plan the GSSP and monitor the progress of Gifted and Talented students. The School Level GT Liaison regularly attends professional learning related to the needs of gifted and talented students and shares that information with teaching staff. The School Level GT Liaison participates in the district wide Identification and Placement Committee to engage in collegial conversation about gifted education with other GT Liaisons across the district. James A Cawood Elementary will utilize appropriate measures to increase the number of students identified in gifted education. Professional Development for regular education teachers relating to the identification and service of Gifted and Talented students will increase.

. **CSI/TSI Schools (including ATSI) 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.

JACES is one of the few schools in the surrounding area who isn't losing students. Many people are moving out of the area for job opportunities and enrollment is falling. We are one of the only schools actually seeing an increase in enrollment.

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

James A Cawood Elementary was recently recognized by the Prichard Committee as a Bright Spot School for performing better than expected on measures of educational achievement. JACES was one of the 47 schools in the state of Kentucky to receive this honor.

Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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