



2020-21 Phase Three: Executive Summary for
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Wallins Elementary School

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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?

Wallins Elementary and Junior High School is a rural K-8 school located in southeastern Kentucky with approximately 420 students. We are part of the Harlan County School District. Wallins Elementary and Junior High is located in the city of Wallins. Harlan County borders Bell, Leslie, Letcher, and Perry Counties, as well as the state of Virginia. The original part of the building was constructed in 1942 and is approximately 75 years of age. Some of the unique features and challenges that are associated with a school of this age can be very complicated at times. The school is heated with a coal burning furnace with radiators, which in turn are very hard to regulate temperature inside the classrooms. The school is located in the center of the community and is the focal point for various community functions. Our new building is set to be completed and ready to move in March 2021. This building includes a new office area, nurse station, a copy and files room, offices, resource rooms, and multiple classrooms. This building will attach to part of the old section which will now be the designated primary area. Out of our 420 students, 46.4% are male and 48.3% are female. 93% of the students are white, 0% is African American, and 1% Hispanic. Wallins Elementary School has 26 students in grades 4-8 formally identified as gifted and talented in one of the five categories and 11 students identified in grades K-3 in the Primary Talented Pool. Wallins Elementary School has zero teachers certified in Gifted Education. Wallins Elementary School offers no pull out program for gifted and talented students. Our spending per student is approximately \$7,500 per student as compared to approximately \$10,800 for the District, and \$10,500 for the State. Our student to teacher ratio is 16:1. 100% of our teachers are highly qualified teachers which have an average of 13.8 of years of teaching experience. 26.1% of or teachers have attained a Rank 1 certification, 56.5% have a Master's degree, and 1 National Board Certified. We have 120% male teachers and 79% female teachers. Sadly, a majority of Wallins' students are children of systematic, generational poverty. We are a school-wide Title I school based on 79.1% of our students have a free lunch status. Furthermore, out of our 417 students, 90 are considered homeless. Our students and their families have genuinely compelling academic, financial, and social needs as evidence by the following data. Unfortunately, in the past 4 years, downturns in the economy due to national influences and local reduction of coal production promise even more challenging circumstances in the days to come. This is due to the fact that the unemployment rate is high and the area's largest employment opportunity, coal

mining and mine-related industries, has suffered catastrophic blows. The Harlan Appalachian Regional Hospital Harlan County School System are now the county's largest employers. In addition, the influence of drugs on families and children is as prevalent here, if not more so, as in other community and has become a recognizable factor in the school and learning environment.

. 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.

Wallins Elementary School, along with parents and community, will work as a TEAM to "educate tomorrow's leaders today" in a safe and equitable environment. Beliefs: Our faculty and staff have a family like atmosphere and hold a tradition of dedication and sophistication. WE strive for success both academically and athletically. We feel that learning is a right, and that all students must be willing to work in an optimistic view. Our faculty and staff must be dedicated to helping students in an effective manner. Parents and guardians must be willing to assist our school so that we can thrive for success in a traditional way. At WES, we want our community and surrounding area to be aware of our success and accomplishments. Vision: Supportive administrators, teachers, parents, and community members will help us carry on toward our future as successors. We want to continue to excel so that our world and society will have a positive view on education. We are WES! We live and breathe purple. We will strive to be the best that we can possibly be.

. 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.

Wallins Elementary School offers students the opportunity to excel and compete in many different areas, including sports and academics. Students may participate in the Beta Club, First Priority, Academic Team, Future Problem Solving Team, and Math Counts. They also may play football, basketball, archery, soccer, etc... 2017-2018 Areas Improvement -Areas were identified as a need in math and reading gaps within the test scores. Steps were taken to address the gaps to continue to close the gap. There had been improvement from the year before, but there was still a need evident in the test scores. -Writing was an identified area of need and in response, "Being a Writer" program was implemented into the primary programs to help aid in closing the gap. 2018-2019 Achievements -Implemented Reading Nights for Elementary Students -Started a community involvement event with our Fall Festival. -Placed in diverse sporting events amongst our girls and boys teams. -Academic Teams went on to state and placed in both regional and district

matches. -Improved community involvement in out Veteran's Day and Christmas programs. -Implemented a Kindergarten Kick-Off Program. -Started using new diverse teaching methods through MyON and other technology driven programs. -Implemented the LDC Module on a 25% percentage. -Received "Striving Readers Grant" to aid in literacy development within K-8. 2020-2021 Achievements -Reading Nights for Elementary Students -Placed in diverse sporting events amongst our girls and boys teams. -Academic Teams went on to state and placed in both regional and district matches. -Implemented a Kindergarten Kick-Off Program. -Started using new diverse teaching methods through MyON and other technology driven programs. -Implemented the LDC Module on a 25% percentage. -Received "Striving Readers Grant" to aid in literacy development within K-8. -We will be moving into a brand new school in March of 2021! -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 2020-2021 Areas of Improvement -The gap for reading, math, and writing were evident in the state test scores. The gap has continued to close, but teachers met to realign curriculum to find gaps. -Multiple staff meetings to address issues with virtual instruction (implementation, grades, etc.) -Staff meetings to encourage teamwork and a positive learning environment. -Wallins Elementary School 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.

N/A

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

Wallins Elementary and Junior High provides a safe, equitable, and empathetic environment for all students. Staff members of Wallins Elementary and Junior High take pride in trying to prepare our students for the ever changing world that our

students will face. They try to instill values and a work ethic that all will need in order to prosper in the competitive work-force of today and tomorrow. Although this year has posed many different challenges with our staff, students, and families, we are determined to help our students be successful.

Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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