



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

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## Table of Contents

<u>2020-21 Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools</u>	3
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## 2020-21 Phase Three: Executive Summary for Schools

. 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?

Graves County Middle School is a 7th-8th-grade school consisting of approximately 610 students and 55 certified and classified staff. We are experiencing a declining enrollment in the Graves County School System and at Graves County Middle School. Over the past eight years our enrollment has decreased. The closing of companies, lack of quality job opportunities, and the increased drug and violence activity in our area has caused many working-class families to leave Graves County. There are 7 elementary schools that feed into GCMS and they are all rural communities. Located in western KY, our free/reduced numbers are usually between 60-75%. This is our fifth year to be a CEP school, which means that we are able to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students. Adults in Graves County are primarily employed by a regional hospital, agriculture, or our school district. There was a large (10,000 employees) plant that shut down several years ago and this event has caused economic suffering in the area. This continues to be the norm with more and more companies leaving our area. Recently, the parkway that goes right beside our school has changed to an interstate. The mayor and other leaders expected this to boost our local economy and bring in new businesses and manufacturers, however, if this is happening, it's happening at a very slow pace.

. 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 vision of Graves County Middle School is to ensure that all students (580) obtain the knowledge and skills to be successful in education and in life. The vision for our faculty and staff is "to be intentional about everything that we do." We do what is best for our students. We have a school-wide RTI program that helps us to individualize our instruction in both reading and math to help get a vast majority of our students up to grade level. The district belief statements are: (1) Teachers influence learning more than any other factor, (2) As a team, schools, parents and communities help students reach their highest potential, (3) Everything we do should be student- centered, (4) All students can learn and rise to our expectations, and (5) Students learn more when authentically engaged. We get results by using best practices, working in Professional Learning Communities to analyze student data to inform instruction, and most of all by establishing relationships with

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students, parents and stakeholders. We make learning relevant, real world, and engaging to do what is best for kids. Our GCMS 5 Keys to Success are: 1. Engagement 2. Relationships 3. Teamwork 4. Believe 5. Effort

. 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.

State Contest Results: Over the past few years, both the number of organizational and individual student achievements at GCMS have grown tremendously. GCMS Future City competitors have placed in the top 3 for the past two years. Our archery program has taken off and we have won and attended local, regional, state, and national competitions. Extracurricular Activities: Students participate in Academic Team, Governor's Cup, choir, strings, band, track, cross country, cheerleading, swimming, volleyball, football, basketball, soccer, baseball, softball, golf, tennis, yearbook, Jr Beta, Student Council, Ambassador Club, Eagle Pride Club, 4H Club, Future City, drama club, dance team, pep club, FFA, JROTC, Chess, Robotics, and Archery. Awards & Recognitions: GCMS recognizes students for achievement and character throughout the school year. Awards Days are held to reward and acknowledge student achievement inside and outside of the classroom. We also recognize students through our Student's of the Month wall. Targeted, informed and embedded professional development, with accountability is a constant for GCMS. We deliver rigorous instruction, build positive student-teacher relationships, and make instruction engaging and relevant to real life. We utilize MAP assessment data to help make mid-course corrections for students who do not master core content. Our Professional Learning Communities deliver common assessments and use their data to better inform instruction.

. **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.

At GCMS we strive for academic excellence for ALL students while making no excuses or no exceptions. All students have the opportunity to access the needed resources, services, and facilities which are comparably distributed and equitably available. Graves Middle has expanded opportunities for gifted and talented, at risk, low achieving, and special needs students. We tailor instruction to meet the needs of our kids. By utilizing the Youth Service Center, social workers, counselors, and resource officers, we help ensure no child is without help. Our teachers function as data teams and use standards-based assessments to assure that all students are receiving core content daily. GCMS is a Site-Based Decision-Making school

which uses the committee process. We have SBDM meetings once every month. We routinely bring in business and community leaders, as well as parents to partner, mentor, and interact with our students. We are dedicated to providing equity for all students, parents, and staff. We have now partnered with Mountain View Counseling and we have two full-time counselors to meet and talk with students about their emotional and social needs. We use Project-based learning to give our students hands-on opportunities. Plus, we have had a "digital conversion," so all of our students have Dell Chromebooks that they use and take home on a daily basis. We believe this will not only help kids learn the content, but it will challenge them to think and give them the skills to be more productive in high school, college, and life.

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

GCMS 5 Keys to Success 1. Relationships 2. Engagement 3. Teamwork 4. Believe 5. Effort

# Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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