

## 2018-19 Phase Three: Executive Summary for Districts\_11122018\_14:27

### Phase Three: Executive Summary for Districts

**Letcher County**  
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## Phase Three: Executive Summary for Districts

### Executive Summary for Districts

#### Description of the District

Describe the district 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?

The Letcher County Public School System serves 2900 students and consists of nine schools. We operate two schools that are K-8, three K-5, three middle schools (6-), and one high school (9-12). Our students also have the opportunity to attend the Letcher County Area Technology Center, which is attached to the high school. We also have an alternate learning center to help meet other needs. Letcher County is situated on the southeastern border of Kentucky. Our county has 7,000 families with 24,000 people. In our district, 65% of our families qualify for free or reduced lunch. Letcher county is a declining coal community, however the promise of a new federal prison being built and located here brings new hope. With the decline in population, we have also had a decrease in our student population. Geographically we are very rural with many hills and hollows which make it difficult to have school many days in the winter. On average we miss 25-30 days a year.

#### ATTACHMENTS

Please be sure to upload the files in the Attachments section at the end of the diagnostic.

#### District's Purpose

Provide the district's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs.

Describe how the district embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students.

The mission of Letcher County Schools is, in partnership with the family, students, and community, to assist all students in the pursuit of their individual educational goals and enable them to lead a successful life. The District continues to support the efforts of improving student achievement by providing high quality research-based professional growth opportunities for our teachers and giving students course work that will ensure they have the opportunity to graduate college/career ready. All students are screened in order to determine their current achievement levels so that the teachers can provide necessary academic interventions or extensions of learning. The Letcher County Schools also offer vocational educational programs for students in grades 9-12 that are of high interest to promote completion of programs in order to reach career readiness as an educational option. The district's mission is reviewed annually as part of our Code of Conduct by all stakeholders: students, parents, teachers, and staff.

#### ATTACHMENTS

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#### 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.

Over that last three years Letcher County Schools have made significant gains in proficiency, graduation rate, and college/career readiness. With the changes in accountability, it is difficult to compare from 2016/17 to 2017/18, however we are pleased with our progress. Eight of our nine

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schools were listed as "Other" schools. We have a graduation rate of 97.9% and a CCR rate of 77.8%. We are also working to improve the gap between our regular and special education population in reading and math. We have also set a goal to improve attendance to 94.8%.

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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.

Our district participates in the Community Eligibility Program through the federal government, so every student receives free breakfast and lunch. We have also been able to provide the supper program to any student who stays after school and this past summer we were able to offer a feeding program at various sites throughout our county. With the economic hardships in our community, this has proven to be an invaluable service to our families. As well, since September of 2014, we have participate in the Gear Up program. With this grant we were able to hire five academic specialists and two College and Career Guides to serve our middle and high schools. We have also received a grant to work with our homeless population. Through the grant we are able to offer extra tutoring services to this population and have a coordinator to help meet individual family needs. We have also experienced some major changes in personnel. With retirements and turnover we have 17 new teachers in the district and 13 teachers are either emergency or MAT certified. We have four retired teachers working full time in classrooms where we were unable to fill positions.. We also have a new DPP, Director of Federal Programs, and Superintendent. The Superintendent will then fill the vacancy for the Director of Instruction and Curriculum.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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## ATTACHMENT SUMMARY

Attachment Name	Description	Item(s)
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