

Any Topic (Writer's Choice)

YourFirstName YourLastName

University title

Contextual Statement

Name

Institution

Date

Joseph E. Soehl Middle School is a middle school that is situated in Linden, in New Jersey. Being a middle school, the school admits students from fifth grade to seventh grade. Currently, the school has a population of 696 students in the various grades provided at the school. The student teacher ratio as at now at the school has been estimated at 10:1, while the average population of students in each classroom has been specified as 18. The average income of these parents ranges from \$30,000 to \$49,000 per annum.

The school is considered as part of the community since it has enrolled most of the students from Linden area. These students are of mixed races ranging from white, black, Hispanic, et cetera. However, these three races are the most common, although there are other students from other races, and some who are of mixed races. The school has identified that approximately 5 percent of the student population is not proficient in English. Due to this, the school has introduced a program known as LEADS program. In full it stands for Language, arts and social studies program, which is formulated to assist in the improvement of their students in the mentioned areas, particularly language. Apart from English, the school also provides other programs that are geared towards their improvement in other languages that are widely used around the world such as Italian, Spanish, French, et cetera.

The school administration acknowledges the fact that the students it has enrolled are of different backgrounds and thus they have different cultures, practices, and beliefs. With this in mind, the school has introduced a program known as PBSIS. This in full stands for

Positive Behavior Support in Schools. The program is for developing a culture of understanding and better social behavior among the students. This helps the students to be moral upright and thus avoid the negative repercussions of bad behavior such as punishments. The school has very many different extracurricular activities that not only help the students to be active and alert, but also assists them in developing other talents that may be of benefit to them besides education. Such activities include bands, theater, drama, and a wide range of sports such as basketball, volleyball, et cetera. In the realization of the different backgrounds that the students belong to, the school has very strict policies regarding discrimination of any nature such as race, gender, religion, et cetera. The school also has actively employed counselors whose work is to assist the students in decision making regarding their future and the goals that they would like to achieve. In the same spirit, the school has developed a culture of actively involving the parents of the students in the development of appropriate curricula from which the students may benefit.

Joseph E. Soehl Middle School is public. This means that majority of the students who are admitted at the school come from families with average or less than average incomes, who may not be capable of affording private schools.

The performance of the school is not very recommendable. It is said to be lagging behind compared to those of other similar schools in the region. The college preparedness of the students in the school is also wanting. This college readiness has been estimated at 43 percent. Generally, the school only outperforms about 23 percent of the schools that share similarities with it. The school was ranked position 522 out of the 678 public middle school in New Jersey by schoolDigger.

Works cited

“Joseph E. Soehl Middle School official website”. Retrieved May 12, 2014 from
<http://www.linden.k12.nj.us/sch/soehl/>