



Community Report on Arch Creek Elementary School

A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment

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Summary and Overall Rating

Arch Creek Elementary School is a public Title I school in North Miami serving students from PreK to grade 5. The school maintains a calm and stable environment but follows district policies that strongly promote LGBTQ inclusion and gender identity affirmation starting at the elementary level.

From a traditional or faith-based perspective, the school rates **3.5 out of 10** for alignment with conservative values. While the school itself is moderate, it operates within a district framework that leans heavily progressive.

Read on for a detailed breakdown of the school's profile and the factors behind this rating.

School Information

School Name: Arch Creek Elementary School

Address: 702 NE 137th Street, North Miami, FL 33161

Phone: (305) 892 4000

Grades: PreK to 5

District: Miami Dade County Public Schools

1. General Overview

Arch Creek Elementary is a public elementary school serving approximately 458 students with a full-time teaching staff of about 28. The student-to-teacher ratio is roughly 16 to 1. The school is part of a district known for its strong emphasis on equity, inclusion, and social identity policies across all grade levels.

2. Academic Standing

The school maintains an average to slightly above average academic profile. Education review platforms give it a B rating, with a 7 out of 10 in overall performance. State testing shows approximately 49 percent of students are proficient in math and 37 percent in reading. Arch Creek Elementary offers bilingual education and a Gifted and Talented program. While it performs better than many schools in similar neighborhoods, it is not considered one of the top academic schools in Florida.

3. Student Demographics

Arch Creek Elementary serves a culturally diverse population, primarily composed of Black and Hispanic students. Around 79 percent of students qualify for free or reduced lunch, indicating a high level of economic need. The school plays a key role in providing academic structure and support to a working-class urban community.

4. Facilities

The school includes a main building and additional portable classrooms. It offers standard outdoor play areas and also serves as a designated early childhood education site within the district's programming.

5. Values and Cultural Environment

5.1 District Policies on Gender and Sexual Orientation

Miami Dade County Public Schools has adopted policies that protect and affirm sexual orientation and gender identity for students of all ages. Staff are required to use students' chosen pronouns and names and are not always required to notify parents. The district runs the SAFE Network, which trains staff to create what it calls affirming spaces for LGBTQ students. These policies are active even in elementary schools.

From a traditional family perspective, these policies may raise concerns about age appropriateness and alignment with religious or moral beliefs. Many parents feel these practices introduce complex topics to children before they are developmentally ready and without sufficient parental input.

5.2 School-Level Practice

There are no public controversies or incidents at Arch Creek Elementary regarding these policies. The school does not appear to actively promote LGBTQ issues but follows the mandates of the district. Parents who are concerned about how these matters are handled are encouraged to speak directly with the school's leadership for clarity on classroom practices and policy enforcement.

6. School Board and Political Climate

In 2022, the Miami Dade School Board voted against officially recognizing LGBTQ History Month and against incorporating LGBTQ civil rights cases into high school curriculum. This decision was made in the context of Florida's Parental Rights in Education law. While this vote only applied to high schools, elementary schools like Arch Creek remain under district policies that continue to support gender and identity inclusion from early grades.

This highlights an ongoing divide between state law and local district policy. Families seeking traditional educational values should be aware that while some political resistance exists, the day-to-day policies remain progressive.

7. Parent Concerns

Parents who value traditional family structures and moral teachings may have the following concerns about Arch Creek Elementary:

- Exposure to gender identity and LGBTQ topics at an early age
- Limited parental oversight over identity-related decisions at school
- A shift in focus from academics to social and ideological topics

While the school maintains a stable and orderly culture, its alignment with district-wide inclusivity policies may not reflect the beliefs of all families. This makes it important for parents to remain engaged and informed.

Rating Breakdown

Overall Rating: 3.5 out of 10

This score reflects the combination of district policy, school culture, classroom practice, and community dynamics.

1. Policy Environment: 2 out of 10

District policies are highly progressive and mandate affirmation of gender identity at all levels. Staff are required to follow inclusivity standards even in PreK and kindergarten settings.

2. School-Level Practice: 5 out of 10

The school itself has not been involved in activism or public debate. While it is not aggressively pushing an agenda, it does operate under inclusive policies and expectations set by the district.

3. Classroom Exposure: 4 out of 10

There is no evidence of LGBTQ topics being taught formally in the classroom. However, identity affirmation practices may be present through counseling, hallway signage, or informal staff interactions. Young children may still encounter these ideas in indirect ways.

4. Community and Cultural Tone: 6 out of 10

The local community is working-class and culturally diverse, with many families likely holding traditional social values. The campus environment is calm, and the staff appears respectful. Still, the school's identity is shaped more by district directives than by community culture.

Final Summary for Parents

If you are a parent who prefers a traditional learning environment with minimal exposure to gender identity and social ideology, Arch Creek Elementary may not fully align with your expectations. The school is relatively neutral in tone but is bound to follow progressive district mandates that may conflict with your family's beliefs.

Arch Creek Elementary receives a **3.5 out of 10** on the conservatism scale. It is moderately cautious in practice but firmly part of a district that promotes early identity discussions and inclusive practices. Parents who are concerned about these topics may want to maintain ongoing communication with school leadership or explore alternative schooling options better aligned with their values.