



Community Report on Auburndale Elementary School

A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment

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Summary and Overall Rating

Auburndale Elementary School is a Title I public school in Miami serving PreK through fifth grade students. While it delivers a steady academic environment with enrichment programs and strong community focus, it operates under Miami Dade County Public Schools, which enforces gender identity and LGBTQ-inclusive policies from the earliest grades.

From a traditional or faith-based viewpoint, the school receives a **3.5 out of 10** rating for conservatism alignment. The school culture is reserved and calm, yet district policy reflects progressive values that may not align with more conservative expectations.

School Information

Name: Auburndale Elementary School

Address: 3255 SW 6th Street, Miami, FL 33135

Grades: PreK to 5

District: Miami Dade County Public Schools

1. General Overview

The school serves approximately 700–760 students (data varies slightly), supported by around 60–61 teachers, yielding a student-to-teacher ratio between 12.5:1 and 16:1. It offers preschool, Gifted & Talented education, a special education center, before/after care and various extracurricular clubs. The campus includes multiple classrooms, a library and outdoor spaces.

2. Academic Standing

State proficiency rates stand near 52 percent in both math and English language arts. Niche grades the school B overall with similarly positive marks for academics and teachers, though GreatSchools places its performance below average (4/10). The school provides bilingual programming, arts, music, STEM, and differentiated instruction support.

3. Student Demographics

The student population is over 95 percent Hispanic or non-white, with about 60 percent qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch. The school is firmly positioned in a working-class, equity-focused community, aiming to support diverse student needs.

4. Facilities and Programs

The school offers a full range of basic facilities. Programs include Gifted & Talented, VPK preschool, special education, after-school care, arts, music, robotics and STEM clubs. Structured instruction including differentiated learning is regularly monitored and supported through professional development and classroom walkthroughs.

5. Values and Cultural Environment

5.1 District Policies on Gender Identity and LGBTQ Inclusion

Miami Dade County Public Schools maintains anti-discrimination and anti-bullying policies that protect students regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Staff are expected to respect students' chosen pronouns and names, and the district promotes the SAFE Network to foster LGBTQ-affirming spaces in elementary schools. Traditional families may question the appropriateness and transparency of these provisions in a young grade-level setting.

5.2 School-Level Practice

Auburndale has no known public controversies regarding LGBTQ inclusion. It follows district policy, implementing inclusive training and behavior standards. Parents concerned about early exposure should consult school leadership to understand how these policies affect student experience.

6. School Board and Political Climate

In 2022, the Miami Dade School Board voted against acknowledging LGBTQ History Month and incorporating LGBTQ civil rights history in high schools. Elementary schools were exempt, but district-level inclusion policies remain active. This highlights tension between conservative state-level initiatives and progressive district policies. Elementary schools like Auburndale continue to implement inclusive frameworks unless altered by lawmakers or new directives.

7. Parent Concerns

Families with traditional or religious values may be concerned about:

- Introduction of gender identity topics in early grades
- Privacy policies that could bypass parental notification of a child's identity preference
- Focus shifting from core academics to identity-driven policies

Even without overt activism, district-aligned inclusivity efforts shape the school environment.

8. Conclusion

Auburndale Elementary is a stable and academically supportive school with a broad range of programs tailored to a diverse student population. Its environment is calm and focused, and it offers numerous learning opportunities.

Conservative-minded families should note that the school operates under a district agenda promoting early LGBTQ and gender affirmation. While the atmosphere is reserved, the framework reflects progressive values. Parents seeking to ensure alignment with their traditional beliefs may wish to connect with school leaders, review policies, or explore alternative schools.

Conservatism Alignment Rating: 3.5 out of 10

1. Policy Environment: 2 out of 10

District enforces progressive identity policies in all schools.

2. School-Level Practice: 5 out of 10

No controversy arises; however, the school follows the district completely.

3. Classroom Exposure: 4 out of 10

Formal LGBTQ instruction is absent, but identity-inclusive practices may occur informally.

4. Community Tone: 6 out of 10

The school community is modest and respectful, though district influence sets the boundaries.

Final Summary for Parents

Auburndale Elementary offers a stable, supportive environment and academic offerings, but it remains under a district that affirms gender identity policies from PreK onward. Families seeking a more traditional educational approach should stay actively involved, clarify school policy application, and consider other educational options based on their values.