



**Community Report on Blue Lakes Elementary School**

***A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment***

**Schoolreveal.com**

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### Summary and Overall Rating

Blue Lakes Elementary School is a Title I public school in the Olympia Heights area of Miami, serving students from PreK through grade 8, including those on the autism spectrum. The school maintains high academic standards, consistently achieving an A rating, with strong proficiency in reading and math. It offers a nurturing and structured educational environment rooted in rigorous instruction and community engagement. Despite these strengths, Blue Lakes operates under Miami Dade County Public Schools, which enforces gender identity affirmation and LGBTQ inclusive policies beginning in the earliest grades.

From a traditional or faith-based family perspective, the school receives a **3.5 out of 10** rating for alignment with conservative educational values. The school environment is academically strong and structured, yet district-wide policies may not fully reflect traditional family expectations.

Continue reading to review the breakdown of this rating and the school information.

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### School Information

**Name**

Blue Lakes Elementary School

**Address**

9250 SW 52nd Terrace, Miami, FL 33165

**Grades**

PreK to 8

**District**

Miami Dade County Public Schools

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### 1. General Overview

Blue Lakes serves approximately 351 to 380 students and has 35 full-time teachers, resulting in a low student-to-teacher ratio of about 10 to 1. The campus includes standard classrooms, library media resources, and outdoor learning areas. The school specializes in support for students on the autism spectrum alongside general education.

## **2. Academic Standing**

Blue Lakes holds an A rating and receives an 8 out of 10 from education review platforms. Test results show approximately 62 percent proficiency in both reading and math. SchoolDigger ranks it in the top 25 percent of Florida schools. Funding and expenditure per student are well above average for the district, and student performance has shown consistent growth across grade levels.

## **3. Student Demographics**

The student population is primarily Hispanic at more than 93 percent, with small percentages of White, African American, Asian, and multiracial students. Around 43 to 45 percent of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. Approximately 45 percent are English language learners and 38 percent of students receive special education services, including those in autism spectrum units.

## **4. Facilities and Programs**

The school provides dedicated classrooms and support for PreK through grade 8. It includes a library, outdoor play areas, and specialized spaces for autism spectrum support. Programs include Gifted and Talented offerings, academic enrichment, structured data-driven instruction, and periodic parent engagement events.

## **5. Values and Cultural Environment**

### **District Policies on Gender Identity and LGBTQ Inclusion**

Miami Dade County Public Schools includes gender identity and sexual orientation under anti-discrimination and anti-bullying protections. Staff are required to respect students' chosen names and pronouns regardless of age or grade level. The district's SAFE Network promotes affirmation of LGBTQ students in all schools, including elementary and middle grades. From a traditional perspective, these policies may introduce complex topics at an early learning stage and reduce parental oversight.

### **School-Level Practice**

Blue Lakes Elementary does not have any public controversies related to gender identity or LGBTQ topics. The school adheres fully to district policies, offering inclusion training and support. Parents who prefer limited exposure to these topics may wish to speak directly with school leadership for assurance about classroom practices.

## **6. School Board and Political Context**

In 2022, Miami Dade School Board voted against recognizing LGBTQ History Month in upper grade levels and against including LGBTQ civil rights lessons in high school. Elementary and

middle schools like Blue Lakes remain subject to district inclusion policies. This highlights the tension between statewide conservative initiatives and local district mandates.

## **7. Parent Concerns**

Families with conservative or faith-based values may express concern about exposure to gender identity themes in early and middle grades privacy policies allowing identity expression without parental involvement or notification potential focus on social identity over foundational academics.

Although Blue Lakes maintains a strong academic record, district-mandated identity and inclusion efforts may conflict with some families' values.

## **8. Conclusion**

Blue Lakes Elementary provides a high-quality academic program, enriching support services, and a supportive campus culture serving diverse learners. It stands out for strong test scores and comprehensive programming for students with special needs.

However, it operates within a district framework that promotes early LGBTQ inclusion. Families with traditional values should meet with school policymakers to understand how these policies are executed and assess whether they fit with their family principles.

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## **Overall Rating 3.5 out of 10**

### **Rating Breakdown**

Policy Environment 2 out of 10

The district enforces progressive identity and inclusion policies from PreK onward

School-Level Practice 5 out of 10

School shows no activism and fully complies with district policy

Classroom Exposure 4 out of 10

No formal LGBTQ curriculum but identity-affirming elements may appear informally

Community and Cultural Tone 6 out of 10

School serves a supportive and academically focused community with district influence

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## **Final Summary for Parents**

Blue Lakes Elementary delivers strong academic performance, supportive programming, and a small-school feel. It is governed by district policies that affirm early gender identity inclusion.

Traditional families should explore classroom practices with school leadership and decide whether this environment aligns with their values before enrolling.