



Community Report on Brentwood Elementary School

A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment

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Summary and Overall Rating

Brentwood Elementary School is a Title I public school serving PreK through grade 5 in Miami Gardens. It maintains a steady yet below-average academic standing. The school operates under Miami–Dade County Public Schools, which mandates gender identity affirmation and LGBTQ inclusive policies from early grades onward.

From a traditional or faith-based viewpoint, Brentwood Elementary receives a **3.5 out of 10** rating in terms of alignment with conservative educational values. The school culture is calm and stable, yet subject to district-wide identity policies that some families may question.

Notable negative incidents include a serious misconduct case in which a paraprofessional was arrested for inappropriate contact with a student.

School Information

Name

Brentwood Elementary School

Address

3101 NW 191st Street, Miami Gardens, FL 33056

Grades

PreK to 5

District

Miami–Dade County Public Schools

1. General Overview

Brentwood serves about 393 students with approximately 25 full-time teachers, resulting in a student-teacher ratio of around 16 to 1. The campus includes standard classrooms, a library, and after-care programs. The school offers Gifted and Talented services and support for students with disabilities.

2. Academic Standing

The school has a 4 out of 10 overall rating on GreatSchools, indicating below-average academic performance in comparison to similar Florida public schools. Approximately 51 percent of

students are proficient in math and 39 percent in reading—figures that fall below state averages.

3. Student Demographics

The student body is predominantly Black (around 85 percent) and Hispanic (around 12 percent). About 80 percent of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, reflecting a high-need, working-class community.

4. Facilities and Programs

Brentwood features standard facilities and offers programs such as Gifted and Talented education, preschool, special education, after-school activities, arts, and STEM clubs. It also provides Title I support tailored to student needs.

5. Values and Cultural Environment

District Policies on Gender Identity and LGBTQ Inclusion

Miami–Dade County Public Schools includes gender identity and sexual orientation as protected categories under anti-discrimination and anti-bullying policies. Staff are required to respect students' chosen names and pronouns from the earliest grades. The SAFE Network encourages LGBTQ-affirming practices in every school, which may not align with some traditional family values.

School-Level Practice

There are no reports of controversies or activism related specifically to LGBTQ matters at Brentwood. The school adheres to district policies and participates in staff training. Parents interested in how identity affirmation is implemented may wish to discuss this with school leadership.

6. Recent Negative Incidents or Controversies

A serious misconduct incident occurred in 2019 in which a Brentwood paraprofessional was arrested and charged with lewd behavior involving a 4-year-old student in class, including inappropriate touching. The school district promptly removed the employee and initiated termination procedures following the allegations.

This incident stands as a significant concern regarding student safety and staff oversight.

7. School Board and Political Climate

In 2022, the Miami–Dade School Board voted against recognizing LGBTQ History Month in high schools and against including LGBTQ civil rights content in high-grade curricula. Brentwood, as an elementary school, continues to follow district-mandated identity inclusion policies, illustrating the tension between local education practices and broader political debates.

8. Parent Concerns

Families with traditional or faith-based values may express concern about:

- The district's early-age gender identity and LGBTQ policies
- Privacy rules allowing identity preference without explicit parental involvement
- Potential distraction of social-identity topics from core academics
- Staff misconduct and child safety protocols following the 2019 misconduct case

9. Conclusion

Brentwood Elementary delivers essential academic services and specialized programs. The school environment is orderly and supports student progress, though academic performance is below district averages.

Families prioritizing traditional values should be aware of two key factors:

1. The school follows district-wide inclusive policies starting in PreK, which may not align with all beliefs.
2. A serious 2019 misconduct incident reflects areas of concern regarding staff and student safety.

Prospective parents should engage with school leaders to understand policy practices and safety procedures and determine if the school aligns with their values and expectations.

Overall Rating 3.5 out of 10

Rating Breakdown

Policy Environment: 2 out of 10

The district requires progressive gender identity and LGBTQ inclusion measures from early grades.

School-Level Practice: 5 out of 10

No activism is reported; Brentwood aligns fully with district policy frameworks.

Classroom Exposure: 4 out of 10

No formal LGBTQ curriculum is noted in early grades; informal identity-affirming elements may still be present.

Community and Cultural Tone: 6 out of 10

The school serves a diverse, working-class community. The environment is calm, though guided by district values.

Final Summary for Parents

Brentwood Elementary offers a supportive learning environment and basic academic programs but is shaped by district policies promoting early LGBTQ inclusion. The 2019 staff misconduct incident is a serious consideration for student safety. Families with traditional or faith-based values should discuss school policies and safety measures with administrators and assess whether the atmosphere aligns with their expectations.