



Community Report on Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary School
A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment

Schoolreveal.com

Community Report on Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary School

A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment

Summary and Overall Rating

Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary serves students from PreK through 5th grade in Miami. The school enrolls around 575 students with a student-teacher ratio near 16 to 1. Academic performance is above average, with roughly 74 percent proficiency in math and around 71 percent in reading. The school holds a B+ grade and is recognized for steady improvement.

The school follows district policies that require staff to respect student-preferred names and pronouns without a parental opt-out. From a traditional or faith-based perspective, the school receives a **rating of 3.5 out of 10**. While academic offerings and programs are strong, the district identity protocols and other factors may concern some families.

School Contact Information

School Name

Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary School

Address

4420 SW 62nd Avenue
Miami FL 33155

Phone

(305) 442 8022

Grades

PreK to 5

District

Miami-Dade County Public Schools

1. Academic Standing & Programs

The school maintains solid proficiency rates with:

- Approximately 74 percent of students meeting standards in math
- Around 71 percent reading proficiency

Programs include Gifted and Talented, STEAM enrichment, Spanish dual language, and after-school clubs covering robotics, choir, and arts. The school sponsors events such as science fairs, reading nights, and character education assemblies.

2. Student Community & Support Services

Serving about 575 students, the school's demographic includes approximately 70 percent Hispanic, 22 percent Black, and the remainder White or multiracial. Nearly 60 percent of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. ESL, special education, and reading intervention services are provided, along with counseling and academic coaches.

3. Facilities & Learning Environment

Campus facilities include modern classrooms, a media center, STEAM lab, outdoor learning areas, and secure entry systems. Staff monitors arrival and dismissal. Before- and after-school programs are offered via community partners. The school implements regular emergency drills and climate surveys.

4. Values & Policy Environment

District policies require staff to use student-preferred names and pronouns from early grades, and participate in LGBTQ-inclusive training. Inclusive language may appear in counseling or announcements. Families may wish to inquire about how these protocols are applied and whether personal or religious preferences are acknowledged.

5. Parent Engagement & Communication

Parents can engage through:

- Monthly school advisory council meetings
- Parent Academy workshops on safety, learning strategies, and technology
- Volunteer programs for events and classroom support
- Regular updates via newsletters and web postings

Parents are encouraged to establish early contact with teachers and attend community events.

6. Recent Concerns or Improvements

No major controversies or safety incidents were found. The school continues to refine academic and climate improvement goals through internal plans overseen by leadership teams.

7. Parent Concerns & Suggested Actions

Families with traditional or faith-based values may consider:

- How identity and pronoun policies are explained in early grades

- Academic progress in reading and targeted support for underperforming students
- Communication and response during emergencies or behavioral incidents
- Proactive involvement through advisory council or workshops

Helpful steps include attending council meetings reviewing protocols in the student handbook and volunteering for classroom or school events.

Final Rating: 3.5 out of 10**Policy Environment – 2**

District mandates early identity affirmation and pronoun respect without opt-out

School-Level Practice – 5

Academically strong and community driven while following district rules

Classroom Exposure – 4

Inclusive language may appear occasionally though no formal curriculum addresses LGBTQ issues

Community and Cultural Tone – 6

Supportive learning environment and active parent participation with solid academic results

Final Summary for Parents

Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary offers good academics, comprehensive programming, and a well-managed school experience. District-mandated identity protocols apply to all students and may raise concerns for conservative or faith-based families. Parents can build alignment by visiting the school, participating in parent groups, and talking with administrators about how policies are implemented daily.