



Community Report on Florida City Elementary School

A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment

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Florida City Elementary serves students from PreK through fifth grade in Florida City near Homestead. The school enrolls approximately 420 students with an average class size of around sixteen. Academic proficiency stands at approximately 55 percent in math and 50 percent in reading. The school generally earns a B grade for performance and equity.

The school follows district-wide policy requiring staff to respect student-chosen names and pronouns from early grades. Parents are not given an option to opt out. From a traditional or faith-based viewpoint, the school earns a **rating of 3.5 out of 10**. The school offers solid academic programming and community involvement, but district identity protocols and moderate academic performance may be areas of concern.

School Contact Information

School Name

Florida City Elementary School

Address

401 East Palm Drive
Florida City FL 33034

Phone

305 248 3630

Grades

PreK to Five

District

Miami Dade County Public Schools

1. Academic Standing and Programs

The school offers Gifted and Talented programming, STEAM activities, after-school tutoring, and literacy nights. While proficiency levels are moderate, the school provides support through reading labs and enrichment to help students grow. Academic initiatives aim to close gaps, although improvement is gradual.

2. Student Community and Support Services

The student body includes a majority of Hispanic and Black families. Around 60 percent of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. Support services include ESL instruction, special education, academic coaching, counseling, and access to Title I tutoring programs.

3. Facilities and Learning Environment

Facilities include classrooms, a media center, arts and science spaces, and secure outdoor play areas. The school organizes community events such as science fairs and family reading nights. Staff supervise arrival and departure and maintain a caring and structured learning environment.

4. Values and Policy Environment

Miami Dade policy classifies gender identity and sexual orientation as protected. Staff are required to use preferred names and pronouns and participate in inclusive training. No formal curriculum is dedicated to identity topics in early grades, but inclusive language may appear informally in counseling or announcements.

Parents may wish to ask for clarity on how these policies are communicated to children and whether family beliefs are respected during instruction.

5. Recent Incidents or Concerns

No major misconduct or safety incidents have been reported. Some parents note delays in grade reporting or minor behavioral feedback. The school has taken steps to improve communication systems and follow-up on parent concerns more promptly.

6. Parent Engagement and Communication

Families can participate in advisory council meetings, Parent Academy workshops, classroom volunteering, and reading night events. Regular newsletters, school apps, and teacher messages are used to communicate updates. Many parents report appreciation for the open lines of communication.

7. Parent Concerns and Suggested Actions

Traditional or faith-based parents may consider:

- How identity and pronoun policies are introduced and applied in classrooms
- Access to academic support for reading and math proficiency needs
- Parent notification procedures following classroom or safety incidents
- Opportunities to engage in school decisions or advisory boards

Recommended steps for parents

Attend advisory or volunteer events early in the school year

Meet your child's teacher to set communication expectations and values

Observe classroom sessions and enrichment activities firsthand
Review the school handbook and ask how discipline and identity matters are handled

Final Rating: 3.5 out of 10

Policy Environment: 2

District requires identity affirmation from PreK onward with no opt-out

School Practice: 5

The school provides steady academic support while adhering to district rules

Classroom Exposure: 4

Inclusive language may emerge informally, though no formal identity lessons for early grades

Community Culture: 6

Supportive staff and parental involvement; some delays in school-family communication noted

Final Summary for Parents

Florida City Elementary provides consistent academics, student support, and opportunities for family engagement. It adheres to district identity protocols expected in early grades without offering an opt-out. Families may wish to connect with the leadership team, observe school routines, and communicate values preferences clearly to ensure alignment with their expectations.