



**Community Report on Gertrude Edelman/Sabal Palm Elementary
School**

A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment

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Gertrude Edelmann / Sabal Palm Elementary serves PreK through fifth grade in Pinecrest and Coral Gables. It enrolls approximately 380 students with an average class size of sixteen. Academic performance is strong, with around seventy-eight percent proficiency in math and seventy-two percent proficiency in reading. From a traditional or faith-based viewpoint the school receives a **rating of 3.5 out of 10**. Families may appreciate the strong academics and positive community culture, while district identity policies remain a potential concern.

School Contact Information

School Name

Gertrude Edelmann / Sabal Palm Elementary School

Address

9301 Byron Avenue
Pinecrest FL 33156

Phone

305 274 3903

Grades

PreK to 5

District

Miami Dade County Public Schools

1. Academic Standing and Programs

The school offers robust academic programs such as Gifted and Talented instruction, STEAM labs, advanced reading workshops, and enrichment clubs in coding, art, and music. Academic proficiency averages near seventy-eight percent in math and seventy-two percent in reading. The school consistently earns A or A minus ratings for performance and equity measures.

2. Student Community and Support Services

Students are drawn from Pinecrest and adjacent areas, with a diverse community composition. Approximately 40 percent qualify for free or reduced lunch. Support services include ESL

instruction, special education, reading labs, guidance counseling, and after-school enrichment opportunities provided in collaboration with parent volunteers.

3. Facilities and Learning Environment

Campus facilities include modern classrooms, an art and technology room, media center, outdoor play garden, and secure entry points. The school hires extra staff to monitor drop-off and pick-up. Family reading nights, math challenges, and science fair events encourage strong parent involvement.

4. Values and Policy Environment

District policy mandates respect for students' chosen names and pronouns beginning in early grades. All staff are required to complete inclusive training. While no formal LGBTQ curriculum is delivered in early grades, inclusive language may emerge in counseling or daily announcements. Parents may wish to request clarification on how identity protocols are practiced in classrooms and how family beliefs are considered.

5. Recent Incidents or Concerns

No serious safety incidents or misconduct have been reported. Parents occasionally mention delays in communication following minor classroom behavior issues. School leadership has worked to improve notification systems and clarify discipline procedures.

6. Parent Engagement and Communication

Family involvement is strong through advisory council and PTA meetings, Parent Academy sessions, volunteer roles, and after-school enrichment events. Communication is maintained via newsletters, teacher apps, and scheduled conferences. Most parents report positive responsiveness and access to staff.

7. Parent Concerns and Recommended Actions

Families who prioritize traditional values may consider:

- How identity and pronoun protocols are introduced in early grades
- Consistency of academic support for students who need extra help
- Communication practices after incidents or classroom concerns
- How opportunities exist for influencing school culture or policies

Recommended steps for parents:

Attend advisory or PTA meetings early in the year

Set up a meeting with your child's teacher to discuss expectations

Volunteer in events to observe classroom dynamics firsthand

Review the parent handbook regarding values, discipline, and pronoun procedures

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

District requires pronoun and identity respect from PreK on without parental opt-out

School Practice 5

High academic quality and consistent programming while following district policy

Classroom Exposure 4

Inclusive language may appear informally; no formal identity lessons in early grades

Community Culture 6

Supportive and engaged community with proactive parent involvement; minor feedback concerns on behavior follow-up

Final Summary for Parents

Gertrude Edelman / Sabal Palm Elementary demonstrates excellent academic outcomes, rich enrichment offerings, and strong community involvement. It operates under district identity protocols that may conflict with some family values. Parents exploring this school are encouraged to visit classrooms, meet with administration, attend events, and discuss how identity-related policies are implemented to determine whether the school environment aligns with their family's values and expectations.