

Community Report on Hibiscus Elementary School A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment

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Hibiscus Elementary serves PreK through Fifth Grade in Miami. Enrollment is approximately three hundred sixty-nine students with a student-teacher ratio of fifteen to one. Academic proficiency is modest, with math scores around fifty to fifty-four percent and reading proficiency between forty-five and forty-nine percent. Chronic absenteeism is consistently high at twenty-eight to thirty-one percent. From a traditional or faith-based standpoint the school earns a rating of 3.5 out of 10, due to attendance issues and district identity policies that may conflict with family values.

School Contact Information

School Name

Hibiscus Elementary School

Address

18701 NW First Avenue Miami FL 33169

Phone

305 652 3018

Grades

PreK to Fifth Grade

District

Miami Dade County Public Schools

1. Student Demographics & Support Services

- Approximately eighty-four percent African American and thirteen percent Hispanic with small contributions from other demographics
- Around sixty-nine percent of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch
- The school provides ESL instruction, special education, reading intervention, counseling, academic coaching, and Title I school support

2. Academic Standing & Programs

- Math proficiency is typically around fifty-two percent, with reading proficiency near forty-seven percent
- Programs include Gifted and Talented classes, STEM enrichment, summer tutoring, small group lessons, and structured data-driven instruction
- Instructional coaching and literacy nights support academic improvement, though attendance impacts performance

3. Facilities & Learning Environment

The campus includes standard classrooms, technology centers, media facilities, outdoor learning areas, and supervised arrival and dismissal processes. Community events such as science fairs and reading nights support family involvement.

4. Values & Policy Environment

Under district policy gender identity and sexual orientation are protected categories. Staff are required to respect student-chosen names and pronouns beginning in PreK with no opt-out for parents. There is no formal LGBTQ curriculum at early grade levels, but inclusive language may appear in counseling or announcements. Parents may wish to meet with school officials to understand how these policies are enacted and whether values are respected.

5. Bathroom Policy & Privacy

Restrooms are gender-segregated with separate areas for boys and girls. Adult supervision is present in common areas. No shared or co-ed arrangements are in use. Parents concerned about privacy may review configurations during a school visit.

6. Recent Incidents or Concerns

There are no recent serious safety incidents reported. Chronic absenteeism remains a concern. Some parents report inconsistencies in classroom discipline and delayed communication. School leadership has implemented improved attendance measures and stronger follow-up systems.

7. Parent Engagement & Communication

Families may participate in advisory council meetings, Parent Academy workshops, reading nights, and classroom volunteer events. Communication is delivered through newsletters and message platforms. Most parents find staff responsive, though some note delays in follow-up.

8. Parent Concerns & Suggested Actions

Parents aligned with traditional or faith-based values may consider:

- How pronoun and identity practices are introduced in early grades
- Availability and clarity of academic support for struggling students

- Communication procedures following academic or behavior concerns
- Ways to participate in school policy or advisory groups

Suggested parent actions:

- Attend advisory meetings early in the year
- Volunteer in literacy or STEM events to observe school culture
- Request the parent handbook to understand identity, discipline, and attendance policies
- Monitor academic progress and attendance and request support when needed

Final Rating: 3.5 out of 10

Policy Environment 2

District enforces identity protocols from PreK on without an opt-out option

School Practice 4

Learning supports exist, but academic outcomes and attendance affect classroom performance

Classroom Exposure 4

Inclusive language might arise informally; no formal LGBTQ curriculum is provided at early grades

Community Culture 6

Staff and parent engagement are strong; some communication consistency may vary

Final Summary for Parents

Hibiscus Elementary offers foundational academic programming, family involvement events, and dedicated staff in a community-focused environment. However the school faces challenges with academic performance and high absenteeism. District identity protocols begin in early grades and restrooms follow standard gender segregation. Parents seeking traditional values are encouraged to observe school routines, meet leadership, and review policy implementation for alignment with family beliefs and expectations.