



**Community Report on John I. Smith K-8 Center**

***A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment***

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**John I. Smith K-8 Center** serves students from PreK through eighth grade in the city of Doral, Florida. The school enrolls over 860 students with a student teacher ratio of approximately sixteen to one. Academic performance is above average, with about 63 percent proficiency in math and 54 percent in reading. The school has earned consistent A ratings from the state. However, chronic absenteeism affects nearly 31 percent of the student population. From a traditional or faith based perspective, the school receives a rating of 3.5 out of 10, due to strong academics balanced against attendance concerns and district identity policies that may not align with all families.

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#### **School Contact Information**

##### **School Name**

John I. Smith K-8 Center

##### **Address**

10415 NW 52nd Street  
Doral FL 33178

##### **Phone**

305 599 1126

##### **Grades**

PreK to Eighth Grade

##### **District**

Miami Dade County Public Schools

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#### **1. Student Demographics & Support Services**

- The student population is approximately 91 percent Hispanic, 4 percent White, 3 percent Asian, and 2 percent African American

- About 29 percent of students qualify for free or reduced price lunch

Support services include English language learner support, gifted education, special education, small group tutoring in reading and math, counseling, and Title I funding to support learning and attendance interventions

#### **2. Academic Standing & Programs**

- Math proficiency is about 63 percent and reading proficiency is around 54 percent

- The school offers Cambridge International programming, STEM enrichment, and academic clubs
- Instructional coaching and data based strategies are used to support student learning, though attendance concerns affect consistent progress

### **3. Facilities & Learning Environment**

The school features modern classrooms, STEM labs, outdoor areas, a media center, and supervised common areas. Morning arrival and afternoon dismissal are well organized. Events such as math nights, academic showcases, and family workshops are held regularly to engage parents in student success

### **4. Values & Policy Environment**

Miami Dade County Public Schools defines gender identity and sexual orientation as protected categories under its anti discrimination policies. Staff are required to use student chosen names and pronouns from PreK forward. Parents cannot opt out of these policies. There is no formal LGBTQ curriculum in elementary grades, but inclusive references may occur during counseling sessions or general school discussions. Families seeking clarity on daily classroom practice should meet with administration

### **5. Bathroom Policy & Privacy**

Restrooms at the school are gender segregated, with designated facilities for boys and girls. There is adult supervision in hallways and common areas. The school does not currently utilize shared or unisex bathrooms. Parents may request a school tour or confirmation of restroom policies if desired

### **6. Recent Issues of Note**

Chronic absenteeism affects about 31 percent of students, defined as missing 10 percent or more of school days. This is being addressed through attendance plans and parent communication. No major safety incidents or public misconduct cases have been reported at the school

### **7. Parent Engagement & Communication**

Parents can engage through reading events, academic workshops, advisory councils, and volunteer opportunities. Communication is provided through weekly updates, phone messaging, and online platforms. Families report generally positive relationships with teachers and staff

### **8. Parent Concerns & Suggested Actions**

Families with traditional or faith based values may wish to consider:

- How pronoun and gender identity policies are introduced at early grade levels
- Academic supports for students with attendance challenges
- Whether inclusive messaging occurs during counseling or group activities
- Opportunities to be actively involved in school culture and policy awareness

Recommended next steps for parents:

- Schedule a visit and speak directly with school leaders
  - Review the student and parent handbook for attendance and identity protocols
  - Join family events and monitor communication channels
  - Request clarification about classroom practices and bathroom supervision
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**Final Rating: 3.5 out of 10**

**Policy Environment 2**

District enforces identity and pronoun policies from PreK onward without opt out

**School Practice 5**

High academic offerings and enrichment programs are present, though attendance is a concern

**Classroom Exposure 4**

Inclusive language may appear in informal settings, no structured identity curriculum for younger grades

**Community Culture 6**

Positive teacher parent relationships and school climate help students thrive; ongoing communication and absenteeism monitoring are needed

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**Final Summary for Parents**

John I. Smith K-8 Center offers a strong academic foundation and diverse enrichment opportunities in a well maintained setting. Chronic absenteeism remains an issue that may affect learning outcomes. Restroom policies remain traditional and gender specific. However, identity based policies required by the district may not align with all families' values. Parents are encouraged to communicate early with school leaders, participate in events, and ensure their child's educational experience supports both academic growth and family expectations.