



## **Community Report on Norwood Elementary School**

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

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

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**Norwood Elementary School** serves PreK through Fifth Grade in Miami Gardens. It enrolls approximately 459 students with a student-teacher ratio of about sixteen to one. Academic performance is moderate, with about 62 percent proficiency in math and 57 percent proficiency in reading. Chronic absenteeism is high at approximately 31 percent. From a traditional or faith-based perspective the school receives a **rating of 3.5 out of 10**, reflecting solid academic efforts and resource investment tempered by attendance challenges and district identity policies that may not align with all families.

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### **School Contact Information**

#### **School Name**

Norwood Elementary School

#### **Address**

19810 NW 14th Court

Miami FL 33169

#### **Phone**

District directory

#### **Grades**

PreK to Fifth Grade

#### **District**

Miami Dade County Public Schools

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

- The student body is approximately 85 percent African American and 13 percent Hispanic
- Nearly 69 percent qualify for free or reduced price lunch

Support services include Gifted and Talented programs, dual language instruction, counseling, small group tutoring, and Title I-funded academic assistance

### **2. Academic Standing and Programs**

- Math proficiency averages around 62 percent and reading proficiency at about 57 percent
- The school provides enrichment events, literacy nights, and structured intervention strategies
- Teachers use data-driven instruction and coaching to support learning progress

### **3. Facilities and Learning Environment**

The campus includes modern classrooms, a media center, outdoor learning spaces, and secure

common areas. Arrival and dismissal are supervised. Family engagement events are hosted periodically to support academic culture

#### **4. Values and Policy Environment**

District policy classifies gender identity and sexual orientation as protected categories. Staff are required to respect student-chosen names and pronouns beginning in PreK with no parental opt-out option. Although no LGBTQ curriculum is provided in early grades, inclusive language may appear during counseling or general communication. Parents may wish to clarify how these policies are applied in classroom settings

#### **5. Bathroom Policy and Privacy**

Restrooms are gender separated with distinct facilities for boys and girls. Staff supervise hallways and common areas. No shared or gender-neutral bathrooms are in use. Parents may request a school tour for verification

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

Chronic absenteeism affects approximately 31 percent of students. The school has implemented attendance tracking, family outreach, and incentive programs to address this issue. No safety or disciplinary controversies have been publicly reported

#### **7. Religious Practices**

No evidence suggests the school restricts religious expression. Students may engage in personal religious reflection during non-instructional time. No incident indicating anti-religious ideology has been documented

#### **8. Parent Engagement and Communication**

Parents may attend advisory council meetings, reading nights, academic showcases, and volunteer events. Communication is delivered through multilingual newsletters and direct staff outreach. Families generally describe a caring environment, though some mention intermittent delays in response

#### **9. Parent Concerns and Suggested Actions**

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

- How gender identity and pronoun policies are introduced in early grades
- Support systems available for students below grade level
- Notification procedures for attendance or behavioral issues
- Opportunities to participate in parent advisory boards or volunteer programs

Recommended next steps for parents:

- Visit the school and meet with administrators early in the year
- Attend family engagement or academic events to observe school culture
- Request the parent handbook to review policies on identity, attendance, discipline, and parental rights
- Monitor academic progress and attendance closely and request support if needed

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

District identity policies begin in PreK with no parent opt-out permitted

**School Practice 5**

Strong academic programming and support in place; absenteeism remains a consistent issue

**Classroom Exposure 4**

No structured LGBTQ curriculum in early grades; inclusive language may appear informally

**Community Culture 6**

Engaged staff and families foster a positive climate; consistency in communication and attendance follow-up varies

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**Final Summary for Parents**

Norwood Elementary offers moderate academic outcomes supported by enrichment and dedicated staff. However chronic absenteeism remains a concern and identity policies begin in early grades without opt-out. Restroom facilities are standard, separated by gender. Religious expression is permitted informally. Families seeking academic consistency and traditional values alignment may want to visit the school, clarify policy execution, and maintain active involvement in their child's education.