



**Community Report on Palm Lakes 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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**Palm Lakes Elementary School** serves PreK through Fifth Grade in Hialeah. It enrolls approximately 620 students with a student teacher ratio of about fifteen to one. Academic performance is above average with about 69 percent proficiency in math and 61 percent in reading. Attendance levels are relatively stable. From a traditional or faith based perspective the school receives a rating of 6.5 out of 10, reflecting solid academics and family engagement with limited concerns regarding district identity policies.

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### **School Contact Information**

#### **School Name**

Palm Lakes Elementary School

#### **Address**

7450 West 16th Avenue  
Hialeah FL 33014

#### **Phone**

305 822 0220

#### **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 94 percent Hispanic with small percentages of White and African American students
  - Around 79 percent of students qualify for free or reduced price lunch
- Support services include Title I funded interventions, bilingual support, gifted education, special education, counseling, and tutoring

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

- Math proficiency is around 69 percent and reading proficiency is approximately 61 percent
- The school offers enrichment programs, reading incentives, and STEM based activities
- Differentiated instruction and after school support help students at all performance levels

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

The school provides a clean and organized environment, including updated classrooms, a media

center, and outdoor play areas. Supervision is consistent and safety is emphasized during arrival and dismissal

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

As part of the Miami Dade district, the school adheres to policies that recognize gender identity and sexual orientation as protected categories. Teachers must use student selected names and pronouns starting in PreK. There is no parental opt out. No formal LGBTQ curriculum is present in the early grades, but inclusive terminology may be used in certain activities or guidance sessions

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

Restrooms are assigned by gender with separate facilities for boys and girls. No shared or gender neutral restrooms are in use. Hallways and bathrooms are supervised by staff for safety and privacy

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

There have been no recent publicly reported incidents of safety concerns or major misconduct. Absenteeism is not flagged as a major issue at this time. Overall school operations appear stable and structured

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

There are no documented objections or restrictions related to religious practices. Students are free to pray or engage in personal religious expression during non instructional time. No anti religious activity or bias has been reported

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

Palm Lakes Elementary encourages parent involvement through newsletters, online portals, family nights, and volunteer opportunities. Teachers are generally responsive, and administrative staff maintain open communication with families

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

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

- Whether they are comfortable with district identity policies beginning in PreK
- The level of supervision and communication at the school
- Academic support options for both struggling and advanced students

Recommended next steps for parents:

- Tour the school and speak with administrators early in the school year
- Attend family nights or volunteer to observe the school culture
- Ask for school policy documentation including behavior and attendance expectations
- Maintain regular contact with teachers about academic performance and student wellbeing

**Final Rating: 6.5 out of 10****Policy Environment 4**

District identity policies are in effect from PreK without opt out but no major issues reported

**School Practice 7**

Academic performance is strong and enrichment programs are offered

**Classroom Exposure 6**

Inclusive language may appear informally but structured exposure is minimal in lower grades

**Community Culture 7**

Family engagement is encouraged and communication channels are active

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**Final Summary for Parents**

Palm Lakes Elementary School offers strong academics, bilingual support, and a positive school culture. While district wide identity policies apply, the school environment appears to focus on core academics and family participation. No religious conflicts have been reported. Parents seeking a structured, achievement focused setting may find this school suitable, while those with concerns about policy alignment should inquire during a school visit.