

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

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# **Community Report on Palmetto Elementary School**

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

Palmetto Elementary School serves students from PreK through Fifth Grade in Pinecrest. It enrolls approximately 900 students and maintains a student teacher ratio of around seventeen to one. Academic performance is among the highest in the district with approximately 85 percent proficiency in math and 80 percent in reading. From a traditional or faith based perspective the school receives a rating of 8 out of 10, reflecting high academic achievement and stable operations with minimal policy concerns.

#### **School Contact Information**

#### **School Name**

Palmetto Elementary School

#### Address

12401 Southwest 74th Avenue Pinecrest FL 33156

#### Phone

305 238 4306

#### Grades

PreK to Fifth Grade

#### District

Miami Dade County Public Schools

#### 1. Student Demographics and Support Services

- The student population is approximately 54 percent White, 35 percent Hispanic, and 7 percent Asian with smaller percentages of African American and multiracial students
- Around 20 percent of students qualify for free or reduced price lunch
  The school offers a wide range of support services including gifted education, English language
  learner programs, reading and math tutoring, counseling, and speech and language therapy

# 2. Academic Standing and Programs

- Math proficiency is around 85 percent and reading proficiency is approximately 80 percent
- The school provides enrichment through STEM projects, gifted instruction, academic competitions, and arts integration
- Data based instruction and small group interventions support student achievement

#### 3. Facilities and Learning Environment

Palmetto Elementary is situated on a clean and well maintained campus featuring updated

classrooms, a science lab, outdoor learning spaces, and a secure main entry. The school emphasizes organization and safety during arrival and dismissal

#### 4. Values and Policy Environment

District policies include recognition of gender identity and sexual orientation as protected categories. Teachers are expected to honor student selected names and pronouns beginning in PreK. No opt out is offered to parents. While there is no formal LGBTQ curriculum in early grades inclusive language may be used in counseling and classroom discussions when relevant

## 5. Bathroom Policy and Privacy

Restrooms are separated by gender and monitored by staff to ensure safety and privacy. There are no shared or gender neutral student restrooms. The school adheres to standard restroom policies consistent with traditional expectations

#### 6. Recent Issues of Note

There are no recent reports of major safety incidents or chronic absenteeism concerns. The school has maintained strong attendance and consistent academic performance

# 7. Religious Practices

No issues have been reported related to religious expression. Students are permitted to pray or engage in religious reflection during non instructional times. The school does not interfere with individual religious practices when conducted respectfully

## 8. Parent Engagement and Communication

Palmetto Elementary has a highly active parent community. Families participate in PTA activities, classroom volunteering, and academic nights. Communication is regular and includes newsletters, online portals, and teacher updates. Staff are known for being accessible and responsive

#### 9. Parent Concerns and Suggested Actions

Families with traditional or religious values may wish to consider:

- How gender identity policies are implemented in early grades
- The role of inclusive language in guidance or support services
- The level of transparency in school wide communication

#### Recommended next steps for parents:

- Tour the school and speak directly with leadership about classroom expectations
- Attend curriculum nights and parent events to observe school culture
- Review the parent handbook and district policy summaries
- Engage with the PTA to remain informed and involved

Final Rating: 8 out of 10 Policy Environment 6

District mandates regarding identity are in effect but not frequently emphasized in classroom content

#### **School Practice** 9

Strong academic programs and consistent performance define the school culture

# **Classroom Exposure** 6

Support staff may use inclusive language though it is not part of the formal curriculum

# **Community Culture** 9

High parental involvement, clear communication, and a positive learning environment contribute to the school's strong standing

# **Final Summary for Parents**

Palmetto Elementary School offers one of the strongest academic environments in the region. Families benefit from excellent support services, a highly involved parent network, and a safe and organized campus. District identity policies are present but not heavily featured in early instruction. The school respects religious practices and provides a well rounded education with minimal controversy. Parents are encouraged to stay engaged and take part in the school community to ensure their values and expectations are clearly communicated.