

Community Report on Phyllis Ruth Miller Elementary School

A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment

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Phyllis Ruth Miller Elementary School serves PreK through Fifth Grade in Miami. It enrolls approximately 330 students with a student teacher ratio of about fifteen to one. Academic performance is modest, with approximately 37 percent proficiency in math and 36 percent in reading. From a traditional or faith based perspective, the school receives a rating of 4 out of 10, reflecting moderate academic performance, a supportive campus environment, and district identity policies that may not align with every family's values.

School Contact Information

School Name

Phyllis Ruth Miller Elementary School

Address

840 Northeast 87th Street

Miami FL 33138

Phone

305 756 3800

Grades

PreK to Fifth Grade

District

Miami Dade County Public Schools

1. Student Demographics and Support Services

- The student population is approximately 61 percent Hispanic, 30 percent Black, 7 percent White, and 2 percent multiracial
- Around 82 percent of students qualify for free or reduced price lunch
 Support services include gifted education, reading intervention, speech therapy, counseling, and individualized education plans. Title I funding helps provide academic coaching and instructional resources

2. Academic Standing and Programs

- Math proficiency is around 37 percent and reading proficiency is near 36 percent
- The school offers a STEM focus, enrichment programs, and small group tutoring
- Additional support includes after school programs and literacy initiatives aimed at early grade reading fluency

3. Facilities and Learning Environment

The campus includes updated classrooms, a media center, and supervised play areas. Safety procedures are in place for drop off, pick up, and emergencies. The learning atmosphere is generally positive with staff focused on student growth

4. Values and Policy Environment

District policy recognizes gender identity and sexual orientation as protected categories. Teachers and staff are required to use student selected names and pronouns starting in PreK, with no opt out for families. While no LGBTQ curriculum is included at this level, inclusive language may appear in guidance or student services conversations. Families with traditional beliefs may want to ask about how these policies are handled on campus

5. Bathroom Policy and Privacy

Restrooms are separated by gender with no shared or mixed gender facilities. Staff monitor hallways during transition times. Parents can request a tour to verify supervision and facility setup

6. Recent Issues of Note

There have been no major incidents of violence or misconduct publicly reported. Chronic absenteeism data has not been clearly published. The school maintains consistent communication with families regarding academic progress and behavior

7. Religious Practices

There are no reports of restrictions on religious expression. Students may pray or wear religious attire during non instructional time. No opposition to faith based practices has been reported at this school

8. Parent Engagement and Communication

Parents are encouraged to participate in school events, classroom volunteering, and leadership councils. The school uses bilingual newsletters and digital platforms to communicate. Overall, parents report generally positive interactions with teachers and staff

9. Parent Concerns and Suggested Actions

Families with traditional or religious values may consider:

- Asking how district identity policies are implemented with young students
- Understanding how literacy and math interventions are applied
- Observing the school's tone and classroom culture on campus visits
- Ensuring religious expression is respected and supported

Recommended next steps for parents:

- Schedule a tour and meet the school leadership
- Ask for the latest parent handbook outlining academic and behavior expectations
- Engage in volunteer and school council opportunities
- Track academic progress and follow up with teachers regularly

Final Rating: 4 out of 10

Policy Environment 2

Gender identity policies apply from PreK without parental opt out

School Practice 4

Academic support and enrichment options are available, though performance is moderate

Classroom Exposure 4

Inclusive terms may appear in student services and peer interactions

Community Culture 6

Positive school climate with open parent involvement and responsive communication

Final Summary for Parents

Phyllis Ruth Miller Elementary offers a supportive learning environment, helpful academic interventions, and accessible staff. While test scores are moderate, the school focuses on student growth and inclusion. Identity policies follow district requirements starting in PreK. Religious practices are respected during non instructional time. Parents are encouraged to visit, stay engaged, and ask how classroom practices align with family values.