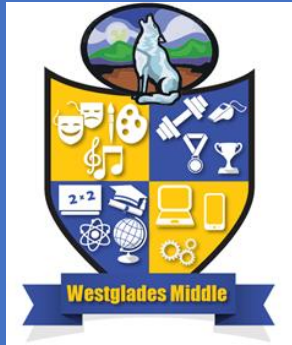


Westglades Middle
School
Welcome Back
Newsletter



Principal's Notes

Dear Westglades Middle Community:

The 2018-2019 school year will be another amazing year here at Westglades Middle School. Westglades continues to be one of the premier middle schools in the state of Florida, and I am very proud of all we have accomplished. We are once again an "A" rated school. Our continued success has a lot to do with its highly qualified staff and the amazing support from the community. Through work with our parents, teachers, and community, we can make a tremendous difference in the lives of our children. Our combined commitment promotes student achievement, fosters positive social skills, and produces constructive behavior. Middle school marks a critical age where children begin to form their social behavior, work ethic, habits, and extend their cognitive abilities which will begin to shape the quality of their lives.



At Westglades Middle School, we aim to challenge students academically, while giving them the opportunity to participate in interest-based electives, clubs, and activities. We believe that these opportunities foster the social, physical, and emotional well-being of all our children. I hope that Westglades Middle School is a place that your child feels connected and can grow academically, as well as socially and emotionally.

We look forward to working with you to make a difference in the lives of our students and [encourage you to be active participants in your child's journey through their middle school](#) years.

Sincerely,
Matthew Bianchi
Principal

Upcoming Dates & Events

6th Grade Open House
Thursday, August 30th @ 7PM

7th and 8th Grade Open House
Thursday, September 6th @ 7PM

No School
Monday, September 3rd

No School
Monday, September 10th

SAC/SAF/PTO Meeting
Friday, September 14th @ 8AM

Interims
Monday, September 17th

No School
Wednesday, September 19th

**Cross country, Soccer, and Golf will hold tryouts during the first 2 weeks of school. Make sure your child listens to the announcements or checks our website for tryout information. Physicals are required before tryouts.*

School Safety Updates

During the 2017-2018 school year, our community faced a tremendous tragedy. Westglades is committed to keeping our students safe and has added many safety enhancements. The safety enhancements that were completed during the 2017-2018 school year include:

- Locking mechanisms added to strategic entrances.
- Mirrored laminate added to strategic windows.
- Security cameras added.
- First aid stop the bleed kits in each classroom and training for faculty and community.
- Enhanced door security.
- ID badges required by students and staff.
- Parking decals for staff.
- Classroom safe zones identified and marked in each classroom.
- New security position added.

Westglades is continuing to enhance security, and during the 2018-2019 school year our school's safety enhancements include:

- Additional security position hired and an additional law enforcement position (Total of 3 security positions and 2 law enforcement officers).
- Procedural change for East side gates.
- Additional first aid/stop the bleed consultation and training for staff and community.
- ID badges will be required to be worn by staff and students. Students will receive their ID badges within the first week of school.
- Hero software to track and reward positive behaviors.
- Adding a full-time family counselor to meet with families as a group or individually to discuss emotional issues and provide treatment as needed.
- Adding a full-time social worker to provide mental health care to help children and families cope with changes in their lives or family concerns.
- Adding a testing coordinator to allow for Guidance Counselors to spend most of their time in direct service and contact with students.
- Updated intercom system and speakers added to the inner and outer hallways.
- Adding three school wide programs aimed at creating a school climate less susceptible to harassment, bullying and violence.

Westglades will continue to improve security measures, evaluate protocols, and train staff and students to keep our students safe.

Stay Connected to the WMS PTO

- Website- westgladespta.com
Facebook- @WestgladesPTA
Twitter- @WestgladesPTA
Instagram- @WestgladesPTA

NEW!

Students **MUST** have proof of passing a physical before taking part in any athletic tryouts.



WMS Administration

6th Grade Administration

Assistant Principal: Shaante Collie
shaante.collie@browardschools.com
Guidance Counselor: Takeacea Mitchell
takeacea.mitchell@browardschools.com

7th Grade Administration

Assistant Principal: Shari Schwartz
shari.schwartz@browardschools.com
Guidance Counselor: Christine Wilson
christine.wilson@browardschools.com

8th Grade Administration

Assistant Principal: Eric O'Neal
eric.oneal@browardschools.com
Guidance Counselor: Suzanne Desrosiers
suzanne.desrosiers@browardschools.com

ESE Specialist: Dione Reed
dione.reed@browardschools.com

Principal: Matthew Bianchi
matthew.bianchi@browardschools.com

Westglades
is an **A+**
school again!!!