

Re-Imagining Middle Grades, 2019-2020

Crystal Lake Middle

RMG Implementation Model: CFB School



What exactly does Re-Imagining Middle Grades (RMG) mean?

Broward County Public Schools is committed to changing the middle school experience for its students and implementing incremental steps that will ultimately lead to a systemic change in our District. As a result, we have begun to “re-imagine” our middle schools, beginning in the 2018-2019 school year. We ultimately will strive to include all students in a project-based or problem-based experience via an interdisciplinary approach. Social-emotional learning will support students in a warm environment where their unique educational needs are met. This will lead to enhanced student engagement and motivation and facilitate connections across content domain. The plan also calls for increased electives and extracurricular activities at the middle school level. The ultimate goal is for students to be engaged and to have the social and emotional competencies, problem-solving skills, and academic achievement to help them successfully transition from middle to high school and beyond. We have been fortunate to have partnered with Community Foundation of Broward (CFB). They have generously entered into a three-year grant agreement that will fund three million dollars over three years that includes an equal match on behalf of the District for a total investment of six million dollars. In part, these funds will cover the cost of the professional development for teachers and includes the hiring of a Community Liaison along with funding of personalization periods for select students at the ten designated CFB schools.

What is our school’s focus for Re-Imagining Middle Grades?

Our school’s focus for Re-Imagining Middle Grades is centered around social emotional learning and project-based learning. We have a structured MTSS/RtI process in place, meeting twice a month to monitor students academically and behaviorally. This process is a collaborative effort amongst administration, guidance, the ESE department, social worker, psychologist, and other interested parties. At Crystal Lake Middle School, we are committed to providing students with an optimal learning experience utilizing research-based strategies with fidelity and creating life-long learners.

As we infuse new instructional models in classrooms, how do we support our teacher’s growth through professional learning?

- Selected teachers to attend PBL and SEL summer professional development opportunities.
- School-based professional development facilitated by Literacy and Math Coaches.
- Participation in District-based PD opportunities during the year and further support through PLC’s.
- Partnering with the District SEL Liaison to review the development & implementation of SEL at our school.

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What additional elements have we implemented to support Re-Imagining Middle Grades?

- Incorporating Conscious Discipline & Second Step with both students and staff during Advisory Period.
- Connecting lower achieving students with community resources via Community Liaison.
- Addition of Peer Counseling Program and Coding elective class.
- Implementation of Best Buddies program to provide SVE-ESE population to support their ability to connect.
- Addition of two after school programs to support students not receiving specific electives including Coding and Horses for Hope.

At Crystal Lake Middle, We are SMART, MOTIVATED, and we ALWAYS do our best!! Preparing for College and Careers, we are ready for SUCCESS!!