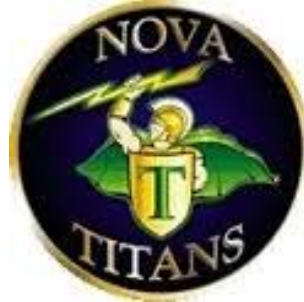


Re-Imagining Middle Grades, 2019-2020

Nova 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?

Nova Middle School is focusing on Project-Based Learning (PBL) and Social-Emotional Learning (SEL). Our focus provides unique experiences to our students through both PBL and SEL instruction. At present, many of our trained teachers are experiencing success with both models in their content-based classrooms. It is through SEL that we will continue to track students who are in RTI and who will benefit from this approach.

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

- Elaborate on summer learning through Professional Learning Communities.
- Encourage collaboration amongst teachers who are learning about new instructional models by going to visit other classrooms where project-based learning is being implemented.
- Feedback and encouragement are provided through informal observations.

Please turn over.

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

- We offer new afterschool clubs, such as: Robotics Club, Chess Club, and Speech and Debate.
- We offer a personalization period that creates a class that intentionally attends to students' academic and social emotional behavioral needs.
- We are offering a variety of new electives such as: Digital Literacy, Brand Smart, Peer Counseling, M/J Speech and Debate, and Global Scholars.

At Nova Middle, we are intelligent, sophisticated, and hold very high expectations of ourselves.