

Glades Middle

RMG Implementation Model: PBL Focus



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 will strive to include all students in project-based experiences 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 of our “reimagining work” is for students to be engaged and to have the social emotional competencies, problem-solving skills, and academic achievement to help them successfully transition from middle school to high school and beyond.

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

The focus at Glades Middle is to continue to expand the role project-based learning (PBL) plays in our day-to-day instruction. Our specific focus is to expose all our students to Gold Standard PBL techniques, regardless of academic achievement.

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

- There was a significant increase in teachers interested in becoming PBL trained last summer and this year. All were accommodated by the district and have been offered the opportunity to attend this professional development. (PD)
- The vast majority of our teachers go on to take a PBL 201 follow-up session to continue their learning from the initial PBL 101 training offered during the summer.
- PBL trained teachers are encouraged to present at PLC’s and PD sessions.

Re-Imagining Middle Grades, 2019-2020

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

- Last year was the first year we had a full-time SEL Coordinator on staff.
- Our Peer Counseling program has grown from two sections to six sections.
- Glades Middle now has multiple tiers of mentoring. Peer-to-Peer mentoring and adult-to-student mentoring are part of the culture. Also, any new students are paired with a current student to help them ease the transition into a new school.
- Our Response to Intervention team (RtI) team meets biweekly. RtI process now includes more emphasis on students who are not behavior problems, as they may be overlooked. Our SEL Coordinator is now part of RtI to be able to provide an additional layer of support for students as part of Tier 1 and Tier 2 interventions, with a focus on mentoring and incentive programs.

At Glades Middle, we believe in Pride, Passion and Purpose!