

# Re-Imagining Middle Grades, 2019-2020

## Gulfstream Academy of Hallandale

### 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 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 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?

Our focus in the Re-Imagining Middle Grades initiative is Project-Based Learning (PBL). Through PBL students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an authentic, engaging, and complex question, problem, or challenge.

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

- PBL concepts are shared through the Social Studies department meetings and PLCs.
- Teacher leaders have the opportunity to attend District meetings about leading PBL and building a culture of PBL.
- Teachers who took PBL 101 over the summertime have the opportunity to attend the half-day PBL 201 sessions offered in the Fall and Spring.

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

- A new elective has been offered this year called “Comic Books and the Impact on America Culture”.
- Our Latinos in Action mentoring program is offering increased leadership opportunities for our Latino students.
- Our Emergent Leaders elective to develop the leadership skills for our student leaders.
- MTSS/RtI is being implemented through regular CPST meetings. Periodic meetings are held with teachers to monitor that interventions are being done with fidelity.

At Gulfstream Academy of Hallandale, “Can’t Stop, Won’t Stop”