

# Re-Imagining Middle Grades, 2019-2020

## Pompano Beach 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 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.

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

During the 2019-2020 school year, Pompano Beach Middle School will focus on rebranding our elective classes as “academies” that provide all students with a project-based learning experience in one or more of the following academy pathways: Education, Arts and Humanities, Business, and Robotics and Engineering. Students will be motivated to engage in academy pathways of their choice from an exploratory perspective. The output will be to increase student achievement and increase the number of students who continue their academy pathway through high school.

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

- All teachers will receive training in the Gold Standards of Project-Based Learning that focuses on research based instructional strategies.
- All academy teachers will receive bi-weekly support from district support facilitators in the infusion of project-based learning using the Junior Achievement (JA) Finance blended model curriculum.
- All teachers will engage in weekly professional development to address connections across domains and the alignment with academy pathways.
- All teachers will participate in professional learning communities to receive instructional support and to collaborate on project-based experiences for our students that involve our community-based partnerships.

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

- All teachers will support at least one academy pathway in an effort to support students through our school wide project-based learning experience focused on the impact of small businesses on our community.
- Students will participate in quarterly “in house” field trips to our feeder high school to support the continuation of their involvement in the academy pathway of their choice in high school.
- Pompano Beach Middle School will partner with Ohana Charter School in West Pensacola, Florida in an effort to engage students in learning experiences focused on communication and broadcasting, entrepreneurship and robotics and engineering.
- Teachers meet weekly in their professional level communities (PLC) to discuss standards-based planning and data as a part of the MTSS/RtI process. Teachers collaborate in analyzing data to create instruction that will meet students where they are and motivate and engage them to bring them up to grade level.

At Pompano Beach Middle, we aim high! #knowyourgoals