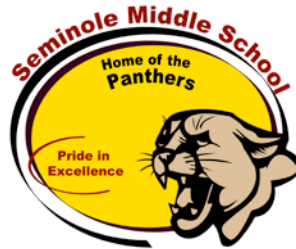


Seminole Middle

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 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?

We utilize a project-based learning approach in core subject areas including Science, Math and Language Arts. This year we expanded this to our core subject areas for Students with Disabilities, namely our DHH cluster (Deaf and Hard of Hearing). Our hope is that collaborative learning will engage all learners, especially our struggling students, to perform at a higher level by exposing them 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?

- Thirteen teachers have attended PBL professional development thus far, with 4 additional in progress
- PLCs focus on best practices and PBL trained teachers share their journey which has encouraged others to get participate in this professional development.
- Teachers are encouraged to engage the students in the PBL process and invite their colleagues along with administrators to observe the process in action.
- Teachers are offered release time to plan with each other.

Re-Imagining Middle Grades, 2019-2020

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

- To address the social and emotional component, we have implemented the National "Start with Hello" initiative school wide.
- We celebrate students "Doing the Right Thing when No One is Looking" every month with a Panther of the Month Celebration attended by parents and sponsored by the PTA.
- Peer counseling is being used to support students who may be recommended for peer support whether academically or behaviorally.
- Created a Parent Navigation Guide to help families help incoming 6th grade students navigate middle school successfully.
- The RtI team meets twice a month. Each administrator attends for their grade level, as they are familiar with their students. We brainstorm as a group to decide on the most appropriate research-based strategies to implement to make sure students work towards their potential.
- This year we added "High Interest" Literature classes. Examples of the classes are: Fairytales, African-American Literature, Sports and Politics, and Film as Literature.
- Seminole Middle is one of the few schools that participate in ALL the sporting events offered by the District.

At Seminole Middle, we take pride in excellence!