

Coral Springs Middle

RMG Implementation Model: SEL 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 school’s focus in Re-Imagining Middle Grades is Social Emotional Learning (SEL). We are focusing on addressing the SEL needs of the adults in the building as that will greatly impact the students. Several SEL initiatives are in place for the staff, such as a shout-out wall, a Stallion Spotlight, and a WOW notebook. Students are receiving SEL implementation through electives and through other select classes. Teachers are using breathing techniques, well-wishes, and instruction on the executive stages of brain functioning.

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

- We initially sent a group of our teachers to SEL training over the summer where they learned about Conscious Discipline and Second Step.
- The SEL team/committee meets regularly to ensure faithful adherence to the implementation of the SEL components. The committee then reports out and presents findings and ideas through our Professional Learning Community meetings (PLCs).
- We are implementing SEL techniques through the elective classes. The elective teachers, in addition to any other teacher, have access to any SEL training and receive updates through committee meetings, grade level meetings, and faculty meetings.

Re-Imagining Middle Grades, 2019-2020

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

- We have implemented staff initiatives as described above to ensure teacher buy-in and staff implementation of SEL in their classrooms
- We implemented a SEL chairperson and SEL committee to oversee the initiatives and to collaborate while sharing best practices.
- We have included SEL techniques as an intervention in the Multi-Tiered System of Support and Response to Intervention process for students at risk.
- We have implemented a variety of new clubs and extra-curricular activities to meet all students' needs and interests, such as: poetry, gardening, step, American Sign Language and more.
- Moving forward, we are implementing a school-wide chant and a school-wide video to promote SEL and overall school pride.

At Coral Springs Middle, we are Stallions and we build on a tradition of excellence!