

# Re-Imagining Middle Grades, 2019-2020

## Plantation 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 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?

For the 2019-2020 school year, our emphasis is on having teachers and students becoming more conscious of who they are and learning about one another. The means for this is by consistently providing Conscious Discipline, Brain States research, breathing exercises, and fun group activities to begin ALL faculty meetings. These resources and activities provide a teacher toolkit of activities and information that can then be translated to our students in the classroom throughout the school year. An essential component of faculty meetings is to learn about each other and our students so that we are more knowledgeable and better conduits of SEL from all vantage points.

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

- Explain to teachers, what is Conscious Discipline at meetings and continually providing examples. These examples are a toolkit of skills to deploy into the class with their students.
- Teachers who went to summer training are modeling in their classrooms different activity for peers to view and attempt.
- Brain state research and UnboundEd curriculum to have courageous conversations have been occurring and continue to occur during faculty meetings as well.

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

- Created the Conscious Discipline structure, Safe Place, for teachers and students.
- Assign the classroom job for student greeters.
- School-wide initiatives, such as, No Place for Hate, Sandy Hook Promise, No Students Eat Alone, See Something – Say Something
- Announcing staff and student birthdays when applicable.
- Welcome students to the school family by having student ambassadors for new students
- Strengthen the network for our students by supporting via mentoring programs: Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders, 5000 Role Models, and Patriot Royals.
- Offering real world application to our extracurricular activities, like Student Government that now has a law component.
- RTI interventions include SEL strategies tailored to the needs of individual students.