

Westpine 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 2019-2020 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 for our students is to be engaged individuals 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?

As a first year SEL school, we will focus on teacher training and collaboration in shifting school culture towards being culturally sensitive and student-centered. Through self-reflective practices and staff development, our staff will become more capable of meeting the academic and behavioral needs of the school community.

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

- An SEL Professional Learning Community has been established to further develop and implement what they learned in summer.
- Teachers who attended the Conscious Discipline Training over the summer will lead PD for our staff on utilizing Brain Smart Starts, Greetings and Jobs, and Safe Spaces.

Re-Imagining Middle Grades, 2019-2020

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

- We are creating a SafePlace for teachers to self-regulate as needed.
- We are including moment of mindfulness into our morning announcements.
- We have added electives to include Leadership and Cadet (JROTC) where SEL and self-regulating strategies are implemented.
- We implement an RtI process at our school that is meant to build every student's opportunity for success.
- We have added clubs and mentoring programs to create a more culturally sensitive and self-confident student body who are able to view the world/school more globally.

At Westpine Middle, we shape the ideal middle school student.