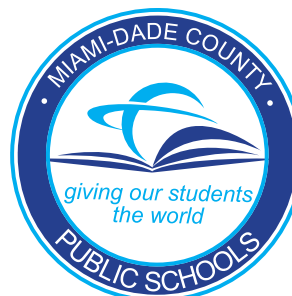




MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN PINECREST

Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12
2017-2018

STAY CLOSE. GO FAR!



WELCOME TO PINECREST'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Pinecrest's strong property values are supported by the excellence of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) located in our Village and are the very foundation of our family-friendly community. I encourage our residents with school-age children to take a close look at our neighborhood public schools as you evaluate your many fine educational options. I did, and I found Pinecrest's public schools were the best choice for my own children's education. They truly offer excellence in our own backyard.

In Pinecrest, our five MDCPS public schools (three elementary schools, a middle and high school) are traditional neighborhood public schools. Children go to school with their friends and neighbors. Close proximity facilitates play-dates, projects and participation in after school clubs and sports that are just a short drive or walk away. While our schools are known for their strong gifted programs and extensive advanced placement courses, there are appropriate academic options of varying rigor, depth and variety at every level, including special needs, so all students can develop to their full potential.

What's more, there is continuity of curriculum from elementary through high school. This is particularly useful in foreign languages and STEM/STEAM, where students can start early in an area of interest and follow it through graduation. At the same time, they are not restricted to the rigid curriculum constraints of magnet schools. Our students are free to explore a myriad of electives including performing and visual arts, music, business/entrepreneurship, computer, environmental and other sciences, new and traditional media and more. A full range of clubs, honor societies and teams complement classroom subjects so children can follow their passions, or find new ones as interests evolve.

Village students regularly compete in – and win – academic, arts and sports competitions locally and nationally starting in the elementary schools. Field trip opportunities abound, including international experiences.

Strong parental involvement enriches our schools with impressive additional resources. The five PTA/PTSA's collectively raise nearly \$1 million annually, and contribute thousands of volunteer hours that add substantial services, staffing and programming. The Village provides additional layers of support via a \$10,000 yearly grant to each school's PTSA, an Educational Advisory Council that meets regularly to bring parents, principals and school district representatives together, and an educational compact with the MDCPS district to facilitate creative approaches to working together.

Stay Close, Go Far is more than a slogan. Palmetto Senior High School's stellar college placements and storied alumni provide proof positive that Pinecrest's public schools are an outstanding choice.

Sincerely,
Joseph M. Corradino
Mayor, Village of Pinecrest

GET TO KNOW US SCHOOL DIRECTORY

PINECREST ELEMENTARY

Principal: Lynn Zaldua
10250 SW 57th Avenue
Pinecrest, FL 33156
305.667.5579
<http://pinecrest.dadeschools.net>
FB: pinecrestelementaryschoolofficial

PTA President: Macarena Jones
macarena.jones@gmail.com
www.pinecrestpta.com
FB: Pinecrest Elementary School PTA

PALMETTO ELEMENTARY

Principal: Eric Torres
12401 SW 74th Avenue
Pinecrest, FL 33156
305.238.4306
<http://palmettoelem.net/>

PTA President: Nancy Levy
lopezlevy@hotmail.com
www.palmettoppta.org
FB: Palmetto Elementary School PTA

HOWARD DRIVE ELEMENTARY

Principal: Deanna Dalby
7750 SW 136th Street
Palmetto Bay, FL 33156
305.235.1412
<http://howarddrive.dadeschools.net>

PTA President: Laura Metka
lauracmetka@hotmail.com
www.howarddrivepta.org
FB: Howard Drive Elementary PTA

PALMETTO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Principal: Jesus Gonzalez
7351 SW 128th Street
Pinecrest, FL 33156
305.238.3911
<http://palmettomiddle.com>

PTSA President: Katie Abbott
katielabbott@comcast.net
FB: Palmetto Middle School PTSA
www.pmspta.org

MIAMI PALMETTO SENIOR HIGH

Principal: Victoria Dobbs
7460 SW 118th Street
Pinecrest, FL 33156
305.235.1360
<http://palmettopanthers.org/>

PTSA President: Linda Dwyer
lindadwyerfl@gmail.com
www.palmettohighpta.org
FB: Miami Palmetto Senior High School PTSA

MIAMI PALMETTO SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

www.palmettohighalumni.org
FB: Miami Palmetto High
School Alumni Association

SCHOOL TOUR DATES* 2017-2018

PINECREST ELEMENTARY 8:45 a.m.

November 28, 2017
January 30, 2018
February 13, 2018
March 6, 2018
May 22, 2018

HOWARD DRIVE 9:00 a.m.

November 3, 2017
January 12, 2018
February 2, 2018
March 2, 2018
April 6, 2018
May 4, 2018

PALMETTO MIDDLE SCHOOL 9:15 a.m.

November 20, 2017
January 22, 2018
February 20, 2018
March 19, 2018
April 16, 2018
May 21, 2018

PALMETTO ELEMENTARY 10:00 a.m.

November 17, 2017
January 26, 2018
February 23, 2018
March 16, 2018
April 27, 2018

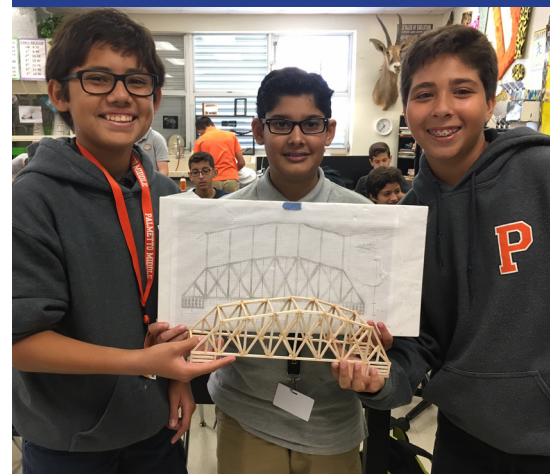
MIAMI PALMETTO SENIOR HIGH 8:00 a.m.

November 14, 2017
November 28, 2017
December 12, 2017

*Dates are subject to change

BEFORE AND AFTER CARE

All three elementary schools offer on-site before school care beginning at 7:00 a.m., and after school care until 6:00 p.m. for Pre-K to 5th grade. After care includes homework assistance, athletics, computer time and, arts & crafts.



FROM YOUR PTA/PTSA PRESIDENTS: STELLAR SCHOOLS TAKE A VILLAGE

A warm welcome from the Village of Pinecrest Public Schools Parent Teacher Association presidents! Each of our five schools has a PTA or PTSA; secondary schools add the letter "S" to represent student participation.

As part of the nation's largest volunteer child advocacy organizations, Pinecrest's exceptional PTAs mobilize parents and community members to add substantial funding, programs and services to our schools. Please join and support your PTA. No matter what time, talent or financial resources you can offer, we have a role for you. As a bonus, PTA fosters connections to your child's school life and provides a network of friendly neighborhood parents.

Fundraising is a major focus (Village PTAs raise over \$1 million annually), but more importantly, we provide thousands of volunteer hours that run carnivals to college fairs to copy machines. Forget stereotypes - all our PTAs are registered 501(3)(c) non-profit organizations run by highly professional boards and volunteers. It is noteworthy that we have numerous local business and alumni sponsors.

Please join us!

Since Miami-Dade is the country's 4th largest school district in the nation, there are tremendous resources and programs available. The array of choices can be confusing, so the following program descriptions will help you understand the educational options your child has in our Village. If you need additional information, please contact your local PTA president or school representative.

See you at a PTA meeting soon.

Macarena Jones
Pinecrest Elementary PTA

Nancy Levy
Palmetto Elementary PTA

Laura Metka
Howard Drive PTA

Katie Abbott
Palmetto Middle School PTSA

Linda Dwyer
Miami Palmetto Senior High PTSA



PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Cambridge Primary Program: Program offers elementary students academic rigor in English, Mathematics and Science and a global focus that promotes cultural sensitivity with a flexible curriculum encouraging critical thinking skills. (Howard Drive Elementary, Palmetto Elementary)

Cambridge Academy: Focusing on mathematics, science and language arts, the Cambridge Secondary 1 curriculum follows a rigorous approach to inquiry-based learning. The strategies, skills and rigor of the Secondary 1 program is fundamental in preparing students for Advanced Placement courses in high school. (Palmetto Middle School)

Challenge (Gifted) Program: Students that meet intellectually gifted criteria are eligible for an academically accelerated language arts, mathematics, science and/or social studies program. (All five schools)

Extended Foreign Language Program (EFL): Program offers dual language (English and Spanish) education. (Howard Drive Elementary, Palmetto Elementary, Pinecrest Elementary)

Forensic Science Academy: Students explore different modalities of forensic investigation through hands-on experiences as they relate to the application of scientific studies and physical evidence. (Palmetto Middle School and Miami Palmetto High School)

Special Education Program (SPED): Both the inclusion model and resource model are offered in Grades K-5. The delivery model is decided based upon the students' needs as determined by their Individualized Education Plan. (All five schools)

- **LEAP Learning Experiences:** Alternative half-day Pre-K program for students with autism. (Palmetto Elementary)
- **Role Model Program:** A full-day Pre-K program for children with varying disabilities. (Palmetto Elementary)

STEAM Designation: Program focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math taught through cooperative, collaborative, creative lessons that promote academic rigor and emphasize critical thinking skills with inquiry-based learning. (Palmetto, Pinecrest Elementary and Palmetto Middle schools)

World Language Program: Students are presented opportunities to listen, speak, read, and write in various languages including Spanish (all schools), French (Miami Palmetto Senior, Palmetto Middle), Mandarin Chinese (Miami Palmetto Senior, Palmetto Middle, Pinecrest Elementary), Italian (Miami Palmetto Senior), Japanese (Miami Palmetto Senior)





PINECREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Pre-K through Grade 5



Academic Programs

In addition to a robust general curriculum, Pinecrest Elementary offers the following signature programs:

- Full Time Challenge (Gifted) *
 - Extended Foreign Language Program (EFL)
 - Special Education (SPED) *
 - Mandarin Chinese Program
- *Requires eligibility



Accolades

- STEAM Designation – County recognition
- Five Star School Award - State recognition for exemplary community involvement
- Golden Apple School Award - National teaching excellence
- Silver Award Fairchild Challenge - Environmental science competition
- Spirit of Service Learning Award - Dream in Green
- 1st Place La Plume Young Writer's Contest
- Bilingual Education and World Languages Contest Winner
- Miami-Dade County Youth Fair Winners: Orchestra, Spanish Poetry Interpretation
- District Winner: Reflex Math Challenge, MyON Reading Challenge, Univision "Un Maestro Especial," 1st Place History Bee



Clubs

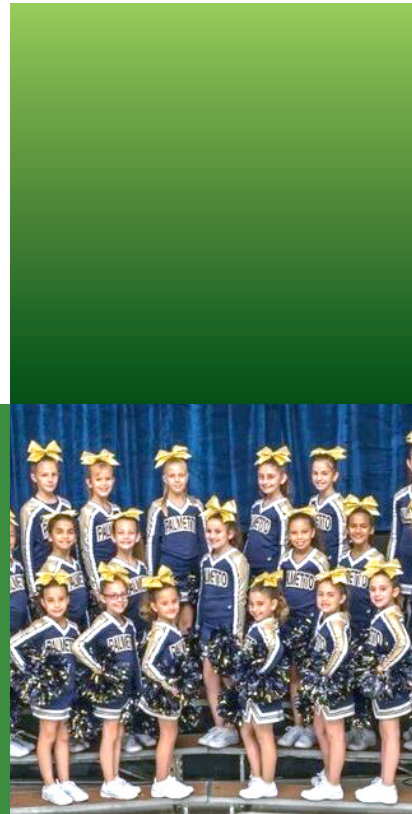
More than 18 clubs, including Music, Drama, Science, Coding, Lego Robotics, Cooking, Art, Baseball Math and Safety Patrol



Extras

- Music and Drama Performances
- STEAM Showcase Night
- Books and Bagels with Dad
- Family FunFest Carnival and Silent Auction
- Italian Night
- Saturday Garden Days
- Seacamp Overnight Field Trip (5th)
- Lunch Bunch (K-2)
- Principal's Honor Roll Breakfasts





PALMETTO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Pre-K through Grade 5



Accolades

- STEAM Designation - County Recognition
- PTA National School of Excellence
- PTA/PTSA Dade County Council Awards - Environmental, Leaders of Tomorrow, Spirit of PTA, and Grandparents
- Golden Shovel Award - Palmetto Earth Program - State Recognition: Selected by Florida Department of Agriculture as the top primary division winner in garden category
- National Cheerleading Championship - National Recognition
- Music Program – Music USA State Festival Jazz Combo Instrumental Grand Champions, Drumline 1st place Superior, Concert Band 1st Place Superior, Chorus 1st Place Excellent rating, and Orchestra 1st Place Excellent rating



Academic Programs

In addition to a robust general curriculum, Palmetto Elementary offers the following signature programs:

- Full Time Gifted*
 - Cambridge Program
 - LEAP (Learning Experiences – An Alternative Program for Preschoolers and Parents) and Role Model*
 - Extended Foreign Language Program (EFL)
- *Requires eligibility



Clubs

Palmetto Elementary offers more than a dozen clubs, including Lego Robotics, Newspaper, Geography, Palmetto Earth Program, Art, Safety Patrol and more.



Extras

Field trips and extras: Key Biscayne Nature Center and Shark Valley, Rock Odyssey, Cooking Academy, Palmetto Pals, Math Night, Character Day, Science Night, Winter Social/Live Auction, Career Day, Musical Concerts, Movie Night, FunFest Carnival, Talent Shows.



HOWARD DRIVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Pre-K through Grade 5



Academic Programs

In addition to a robust general curriculum, Howard Drive Elementary offers the following signature programs:

- Cambridge Primary
 - Full-Time Gifted*
 - Extended Foreign Language (EFL) Program
 - World Language Program
 - Special Education Programs*
- *Requires eligibility



Clubs

More than 15 clubs, including Math Superstars, Broadcasting Production, Art, Dance, Safety Patrol, Recycling Club, Running Club, 5000 Role Models and more.



Extras

Field trips and events: Zoo Miami, Water Ventures Mobile Lab, Biscayne National Park, Port of Miami and Animal Kingdom, Family Fun Fair, Curriculum Showcase Night, Lunch Bunch (Pre-K - 5th), Donuts with Dad, Talent Show.



Accolades

- Five Star School Award - state recognition for exemplary community involvement
- Golden School Award - recognition for outstanding volunteers
- Anti-Defamation League's "No Place for Hate" designation
- Fairchild Challenge (environmental science competition) Showcase
- 1st Place MyON District Reading Challenge
- Category 5 Dance Team - Superior Rating
- 1st Grade Student - Finalist at the local level, 2nd place at the national level for the American Chemical Society Illustrated Poetry Contest
- 5th Grade Math Team - 2nd place in Elementary Competition





PALMETTO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 6 through 8



Academic Programs

In addition to a robust general curriculum, Palmetto Middle School offers the following signature programs:

- Forensic Science Academy: Program articulates seamlessly into the Forensic Investigative Academy (FIA) Program at Miami Palmetto Senior High
 - Cambridge Academy
 - Gifted Program*
 - Special Education Programs*
- *Requires eligibility



World Languages

- Spanish
- French
- Mandarin Chinese



Clubs

Thirteen clubs, including National Junior Honor Society, Science, Spanish, Green Team, and Drama.



Athletics

Fourteen team sports: Track and Field (County Finalists), Cross Country Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Boys' and Girls' Soccer, Golf (County Champions, Youth Fair County Champions), Softball, Tennis (County Champions and Youth Fair Champions), Girls' Flag Football, Bowling, Boys' and Girls' Volleyball, Wrestling (Individual County Finalists)



Field Trips

Multiple school groups offer local and national travel opportunities to learn, compete or perform: Boston/D.C./Philadelphia (National Jr. Honor Society), New York (Drama), Atlanta (Band), Orlando (Dance, Spanish Club) Miami: Fairchild Gardens, Florida Panthers Ever-Fi STEAM field trip, Coastal Clean-Up, Orchid STEM Mobile and Future Educators of America Elementary School Exposure.



Accolades

- \$50,000 private grant to further develop STEAM program equipment and extracurriculars aimed at increasing female participation (summer 2017)
- Bronze STEM School designation 2016
- Fairchild Challenge Silver Award Recognition
- Anti-Defamation League "No Place for Hate" designation
- Rising Star Green School - Silver Recognition
- Drama/Band-Orchestra Superior Rated School
- Reflections Writing Contest: Multiple Finalists
- SECME Science Competitions: Multiple Finalists
- Miami Heat Robotics: Multiple Awards
- Miami-Dade Water Tower: 1st Place
- Model UN Competition -FBLA- 1st Place County Competition
- Drama Thespian State Competition: 9 Superiors, 1 Excellent
- Art Abilities 2017: Multiple Finalists
- Annual Countywide Student Art Show: 5 Finalists
- MDPLS One Miami Art: 1 Winner
- Band County Competition: Superior Rating





MIAMI PALMETTO SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9 through 12



Academic Depth and Breath

- 312 courses, with 71 Honors and 31 Advanced Placement (AP) classes
- 47 performing arts and 41 music classes
- Over 1,000 students take AP classes
- Top 10% 2017 class GPA 4.8+
- Dual enrollment programs with Florida International University and Miami Dade College (off campus)



Academies

(courses open to all)

- Environmental and Science Masters (compatible with AP Capstone)
- Business including entrepreneurship, internships and on-the-job training
- Visual and Performing Arts: Art, Band, Dance, Drama, Orchestra, and Photography
- Vocational: Industry Certification in Early Childhood, Technical Design/AutoCAD and Health Science



Magnet Programs

(by application)

- AP Capstone – This program is a popular alternative to IB that offers advanced academics, independent research and collaborative teamwork. Students can earn a year or more toward college credit.
- Forensic Investigative Academy – Within AP Capstone, this FBI collaboration explores different science and technology-based modalities for criminal and forensic investigation.
- iPrep – This program is a technology-based new approach to 21st century learning.



Athletics

- The most interscholastic sports offered in Miami-Dade County
- Varsity Sports: Football, Baseball, Softball, Volleyball, Swimming, Golf, Bowling, Cross Country, Basketball, Soccer, Wrestling, Badminton, Lacrosse, Water Polo, Tennis, Track & Field
- Miami Herald All Sports Trophy 2017 for Best Overall Athletic Program in Miami-Dade County
- More than half 2016 teams competed beyond District Level 1 (several to State Level 1)
- State Champion Special Olympians
- New Weight Training Facility 2016
- Coaching staff pioneers in concussion-reduction techniques



EXTENSIVE RENOVATION AHEAD

\$43 million in improvements will be completed in 2019,
providing a complete update to the historic,
59-year-old facility.



World Languages

(*Level 1-AP)

- American Sign Language
- French*
- Italian*
- Japanese*
- Spanish*
- Spanish for Speakers*
- Mandarin Chinese (New 2017)



College Placements

- Multiple Ivy League admissions every year
- Class of 2017 admitted to 46 out of the US News and World Report Top 50 Colleges and Universities
- All Florida state schools, including Honors Programs at UF, FSU, UCF, FIU and Miami Dade College
- Over \$27 million in scholarship offers in 2017



Accolades

- \$50,000 private grant to further develop STEAM program equipment and extracurriculars aimed at increasing female participation 2017
- 6 National Merit Finalists 2017
- 12 Hispanic National Merit Finalists 2017
- 3 Silver Knight Honorable Mentions 2017
- High AP exam pass rates that exceed state and national averages
- State level awards in Thespians, Band, Orchestra, Japanese 2017
- National PTA School of Excellence



Extracurricular

- 10 Honor Societies
- 43 interest and service clubs, including nationally-competitive academic teams such as Mu Alpha Theta, Italian Honor Society, Science Competitors, History Bowl, Model UN
- Music and Performing Arts competitive groups

SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI

Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon.com, graduated from Miami Palmetto Senior High in 1982. He is one of many graduates that have gone on to national and international prominence.



Village of Pinecrest

Village Council

Joseph M. Corradino, Mayor

Cheri Ball, Vice Mayor

Anna Hochkammer

Doug Kraft

James E. McDonald

Yocelyn Galiano, ICMA-CM, Village Manager

Guido H. Inguanzo, Jr., CMC, Village Clerk

Mitchell Bierman, Village Attorney

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#Pinecresting

