Riverglades Executive Summery

The mission of Riverglades Elementary School is to guarantee that each child becomes a lifelong learner and is challenged and encouraged to realize his/her maximum potential. The school staff and community will work together to assist each child in developing the necessary skills and knowledge to control his/her own destiny and create a better society.

Riverglades Elementary is a true community school in the relatively young and growing suburban city of Parkland, Florida. Riverglades, built in 1993, is the oldest of only 3 elementary schools in the city of Parkland. Riverglades has a student population of 998 students in grades PK-5. The faculty and staff include two administrators, 61 teachers, one literacy coach, one and a half guidance counselors, one ESE specialist, 10 paraprofessionals and 5 office support personnel. Our instructional philosophy is based on Integrated Thematic Instruction (ITI), a researched based approach to framing and combining areas of instruction around real world themes. ITI also involves the use of brain research along with other research based high yield strategies to maximize student performance. An example of ITI at Riverglades would include fashioning a more relaxing educational setting for students by creating homelike environments in our classrooms through the use of shaded lamps, framed pictures of the students and their families, and plants. Another example of the ITI philosophy at Riverglades is the teaching of lifeskills, a set of social goals including: Caring, Integrity, Perseverance, Responsibility, and Patience… all aimed towards the school’s goal of growing responsible citizens.

The city of Parkland is located on the northern boarder of Broward County, Florida. The city is comprised of a mix of gated, single-family home communities, ranch styled homes, with only a few multi-unit structures and covers an area of 12.33 square miles. According to the 2010 US Census, Parkland has an approximate population of 32,202 people of which 66.2% is white, 19.1% is Hispanic, 7.3% is Black, 6.6% Asian. The median value of owner occupied housing in the city of Parkland is $490,100. The median household income in the city is $128,292.

The Riverglades student population is 63.5% White, 16.9% Hispanic, 8.38% Asian, 7.29% Black, and 3.26% Multi-Racial.