



Kendale Lakes Elementary VPK

-

5th Orientation for Parents

Join a Recognized National, State, and District School of Excellence



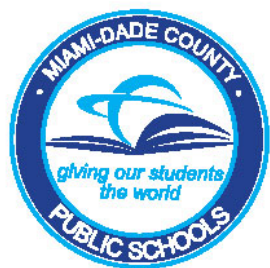
Kendale Lakes Elementary

Miami-Dade County Public Schools





VALUES MATTER MIAMI



Citizenship

Cooperation

Fairness

Honesty

Integrity

Kindness

Pursuit
of Excellence

Respect

Responsibility





VISION STATEMENTS

MDCPS –

Inspired, valued, educated and empowered students thriving in and beyond the classroom.

KLE Family –

To provide organizational strategies that reflect quality leadership, commitment to excellence, and self-actualization for all stakeholders.

MISSION STATEMENTS

MDCPS –

To provide relevant learning experiences that foster life-long curiosity and enable ALL students to achieve their full academic, personal and civic potential.

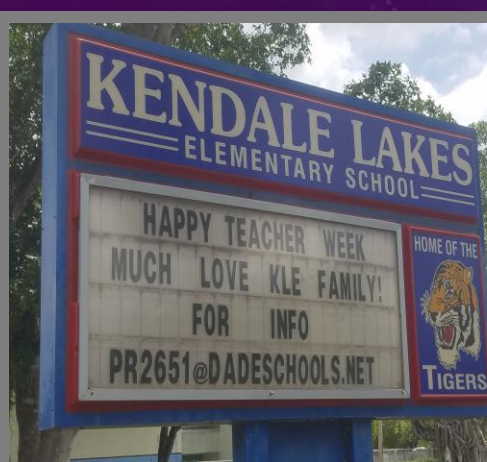
KLE Family -

To provide a productive secure, learning environment whereby students will acquire a sense of accomplishment that encourages constant growth, pride, and the desire to reach full potential.

SCHOOL SAFETY

- M-DCPS is dedicated to the safety of your child.
- Security is required at all schools.
- Number of security personnel depends on enrollment and the size of school.
- All visitors/guests must report to the Main Entry. Provide government issued ID for screening.
- All students have a personal # used with our KLE Driveline App for a safe, controlled dismissal process. Please display this form on the dashboard of your vehicle during pick-up after school gets out.
 - *When there are multiple siblings, we will assign them one pick-up location where the youngest child reports on Wednesdays, when all students get out at the same time; daily as applicable. Each child will still have their own number.



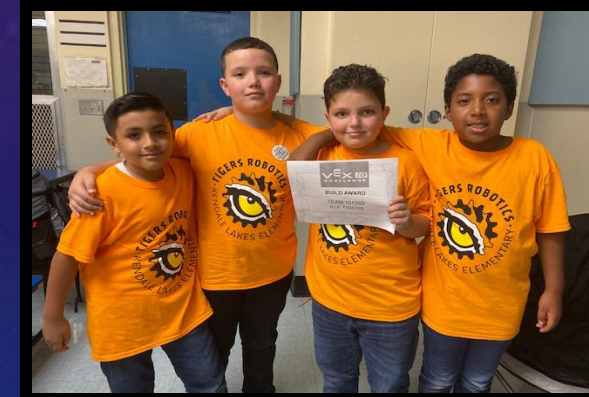


STUDENT SERVICES & VARIOUS WELLNESS INITIATIVES



STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

- A Traditional & Special Education Center School
- Serving @700 students from Pre-K 3 through 5th Grade
- TIGERS Academy & STEAM Initiatives
- 97% Hispanic
- 2% White
- 1% Black, Multi-Racial, Other
- 81% Economically Disadvantaged (Title 1)
- 43% English Language Learners
- 20% Special Education
 - QUEST Self-Contained (EBD, ASD, OHI)
 - 100% Inclusion (excluding SC Program)
- 18% Enrichment (TEAM)
- 13% Gifted





Values Matter School Award Cooperation 2017



Values Matter Secondary Student Award

Pursuit of Excellence 2019



2024 & 2025 U.S. News & World Report
BEST Public Elementary School

1st School Awarded the Values Matter Miami Cup Award



Values Matter School Award Kindness 2020

Values Matter Kindness Student Award 2023

2018-19 & 2019-20 ECTAC Title 1 Exceeding
Expectations Award



ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Child must reside in the school's attendance boundary for initial VPK lottery participation.
- KG-5 participation is through attendance boundary, McKay Scholarship or Approved Transfers: **Controlled Applications due by 2/28**, Parent Choice, Out of Area, etc.
- Parents must provide all required school entry registration documents.
- Parents must complete the following:
 - Online registration for VPK – NEW Process (Must create your Parent Portal)
 - Emergency Student Data Form (FM-2733)
 - Home Language Survey (FM-5196)
 - Family Application for Free and Reduced Price Meals (online)
 - Pre-Kindergarten Screenings Consent (FM-5490)
 - **School appointments for screenings will be scheduled for incoming VPK and KG students**

ALLERGIES

You must inform:

- School Administrator
- Teacher
- Food Service Manager

Your Child will need:

- Diet Prescription for Meals at School
From the child's doctor - FM # 5425

For more information:

call M-DCPS Comprehensive Health Services at (305) 995-4111



WHY IS VPK/KG IMPORTANT FOR YOUR CHILD?

- Did you know that children who participate in high-quality, early learning experiences benefit from improved social skills, higher academic achievement, and enhanced attention spans?
- There is overwhelming evidence that suggests that children who participate in high-quality preschool programs develop stronger math and reading skills and a full range of competencies necessary for school success.



VPK INFORMATION AND CRITERIA

- Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program - VPK is a free, high-quality educational program that prepares 4-year-olds for kindergarten and beyond.
- To be eligible for VPK, children must be four (4) years old on or before September 1st.
- If the child's fourth **birthday falls between February 2nd and September 1st in a calendar year**, parents may postpone enrolling their child in VPK until the following year when the child is 5 years old.
- Parents may obtain their required stated VPK Program Certificate of Eligibility online at the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe website: <http://www.vpkhelp.org>.



WHAT DOES MY CHILD NEED TO KNOW BEFORE HE OR SHE STARTS KINDERGARTEN?

Reading Readiness Skills

- Recognizes most or all the capital and lowercase letters and knows the sounds they make
- Writes his/her name with capital letter at the beginning followed by lower case letters
- Knows the difference between a letter and a word
- Pretends to read books
- Points to each word as they read beginning from front to back, top to bottom, and left to right
- Answers questions about what has been read such as Who? What? When? Where?
- Recognizes rhyming words
- Recognizes beginning sound of words
- Speaks using complete sentences most of the time

Mathematics Readiness Skills

- Uses words and representations to describe mathematical ideas
- Begins to recognize patterns and makes simple generalizations
- Counts with understanding
- Shows beginning understanding of number and quantity
- Orders, compares, and describes objects according to a single attribute
- Participates in measuring activities
- Shows understanding of and uses several positional words
- Begins to recognize and describe the attributes of shapes
- Composes and decomposes shapes

CLASS CAPACITY AND VPK LOTTERY INFORMATION

- The maximum capacity in a VPK class is 20 students
- KG-3 recommended class size is 18. We typically have anywhere from 18-22.
- The KG Enrichment class may have up to 36 students with 2 full-time teachers.
- 4th-5th recommended class size is 22. We typically have 16-26.
- If a school has more eligible applicants than the allotted seats available, a lottery must be conducted for VPK only.
- Only families who have submitted the required documents showing proof of age and address will be considered to participate in the school's VPK lottery selection process.
- Parents of students living outside the school's attendance boundary may also attend KLE if there are spaces available through the transfer/choice processes.
- If there are open VPK seats after placing all in-boundary students, we will review the lottery database with the out-of-boundary student list to fill the remaining VPK seats.



CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT

- VPK Assessments: School & Student
- Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Special Areas
- iReady 3X a Year
- Florida's B.E.S.T. Standards 3X a Year
- Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST)
- Florida School Grades via FLDOE



EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION SERVICES

- Students entering Miami-Dade County Public Schools with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) will receive continued services.
- Upon registration, please present a copy of the IEP or inform the school of any special needs or accommodations needed for your child.



SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS AND LOTTERY INFORMATION

- Schools will need to send the name and ID number of any student with an IEP selected in the VPK Lottery to the ESE Department representative to allow the ESE team to review the student's needs, and to determine if the VPK class is the most appropriate setting for that student.
- The COE is not required to participate in the school's VPK lottery selection process.
- The VPK lottery will take place on March 15th through the online program.
- If the child's name is not selected during the lottery process, a priority list will be generated to fill open seats from those that registered online.
- Parents will be notified of their child's enrollment status from the VPK lottery selection process.
- Documentation must be complete for official registration, including the COE, or we will reach out to those on our priority list in the order that they appear.

INCLUSION & ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

- KLE has an extensive inclusion and enrichment program for students from Pre-K through 5th grade.
- The KLE Inclusion Program was created to provide opportunities for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten – fifth grade children with disabilities to interact with typically developing peers.
- Typically developing children (children without specialized needs) who serve as role models, attend the full-day Pre-Kindergarten Inclusion/Reverse Mainstream class at no cost to the parent.
- They participate in all classroom activities, field trips, and parent education meetings.
- Typically developing children must be 4 years old on or before September 1st of the current school year.
- Unfilled Pre-K Reverse Mainstream seats may be filled with 3-year-old children.
- There are no income or attendance boundary requirements for typically developing children, or those on approved transfers; however, parents must provide transportation.
- Approved transfer students must maintain positive attendance, punctuality, and behavior expectations.
- These programs are located at both Title I and non-Title I schools.

VPK ATTENDANCE

- VPK Attendance Procedures - Student attendance is reported daily utilizing the District's Electronic Gradebook System.
- VPK Programs must follow School Board Policy 5200 – Attendance as with all K-12 students. To comply with the uniform attendance policy for funding the VPK Program (8:20 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.), attendance records must be accurate.
- We will complete a VPK Child Attendance and Parental Choice Certificate (Long Form OEL-VPK 03L, 2/14/2007) for each student – EVERY MONTH.
 - We will attach the monthly electronic attendance record from PF7 in DSIS, and need to secure the parent's or guardian's signature in blue ink, at the end of each month before the 5th of the following month.
 - We must retain the documents on file for five years in the school's office for audit purposes.

ATTENDANCE POLICY PRE-K – 5TH

- Class Attendance
- Tardiness
- Excused/ Unexcused Absences
- Excessive Absences
- Doctor's Notes
- Early Sign-out
- 2651Attendance@dadeschools.net
 - Please place your child's name & ID number in SUBJECT line



UNIFORM POLICY

- We are a mandatory uniform school
 - White or Navy Blue Polo Shirts w/ embroidery or patch
 - Navy Blue or Khaki Shorts, Pants, Skorts
 - Sneakers (Closed Shoes)
 - Approved School Sweatshirts and Jackets with our logo
- We also incorporate special school spirit days:
 - Mondays (Be Kind Shirts)
 - Wednesdays (50th Anniversary Shirts & Run Club Shirts)
 - Fridays (Class or Kendale Lakes T-Shirt & Jeans)
 - Fridays also include Fun Sock Fridays & Club Shirts



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM

- Current Program Fees:
- Before School Care - 7 am start time (\$6 per day)
- After School Care Mini Care Program – after school until second dismissal time (\$6 per day)
- After School Program – after school until 6 pm (\$12 or \$11 per day depending on eligibility for F&R Meal Program)
- You must purchase the required insurance for after school activities – 1 time fee (\$14)
- You must utilize the online monthly payment system through an account you set up via the District's portal
- Please register before school begins if you need your child to begin on the first day of school.

School Hours Schedule for Arrival

- Breakfast Service begins at 7:30 am and students should arrive with sufficient time to report to their pick-up zone or classroom by the start of the school day.
 - Drop-off for breakfast service is along S.W. 142 Avenue - the front driveway of the school.

Pre-K - First Grade

- Students should be dropped off between 8:00-8:10 am along the Kendale Lakes Boulevard Drop-off Zone. Students must be in class by 8:15 am.

Second- Fifth Grade

- Students should be dropped off between 8:00-8:25 am. Students must be in class by 8:35 am.

School Hours Schedule for Dismissal

- There will be a 1:50 pm (Pre-K through 1st Grades) and 3:05 pm (2nd-5th Grades) dismissal Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.
- There is a 1:50 pm dismissal for ALL students on Wednesdays.
- There is no supervision for students after dismissal unless they are enrolled in the After-School Care Program.
- All students will be issued a Driveline App number unique to them. Please display this on your passenger side dashboard for student pick up.
 - This form may also be utilized in the event of an emergency for parent/guardian pick-up as deemed necessary - details will be shared.

Dismissal Locations

- Students in the Main Building and 5th graders from the Annex building will be dismissed to the front of the school.
- MDCPS Yellow Bus students are dismissed to the front of the school.
- Students in the TIGER Building and Pre-K students from the Annex building will be dismissed to the driveway along Kendale Lakes Boulevard.
- Private Bus students are dismissed along the Kendale Lakes Boulevard driveway.

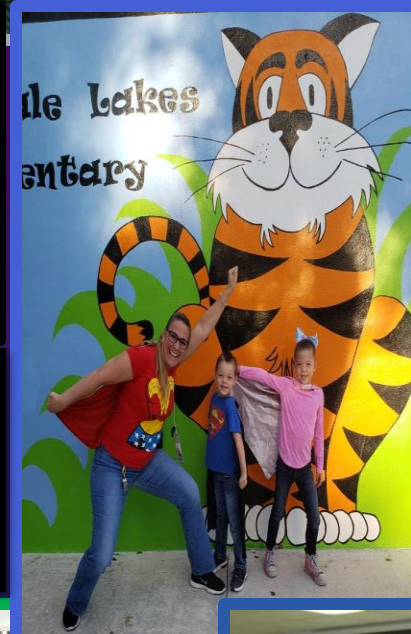
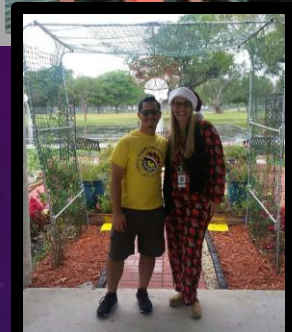



Early Sign Out

- The early release of students causes disruption to the academic performance of all students and may create safety and security concerns.
- No students shall be released within the final thirty (30) minutes of the school day unless authorized by the principal or principal's designee (i.e., emergency, sickness).
- Please plan accordingly with this policy in mind for any appointments you may schedule for your child.

Late Arrival Sign In

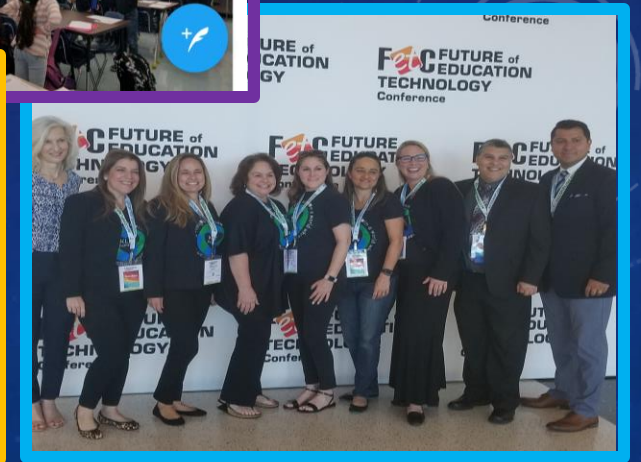
- Students who are tardy to school must be escorted by a parent/guardian to the Main Office to secure an admit from the Attendance Clerk.
- Do not leave your child unsupervised along the drop-off zone for them to report independently to the Main Office.
- Excessive tardiness will result in loss of privileges, detention, parent conference, and/or further disciplinary measures as deemed appropriate.



"Leave your heart  print on those you serve."

- Martha T. Jaureguizar

 **Martha T Jaur...** · 30 Nov
 Day 30 #GratitudeSnaps
 My awesome @KLEfamily students who were power posing along w/ their positive daily affirmations. This generation will be AMAZING visionaries. #growthmindset for their self improvement & confidence! I believe in them/their potential 😊

Kendale Lakes Elementary - KLE Family – A Recognized School of Excellence*



2025 US News & World Report BEST Public Elementary School Rankings

2025 District Winner for the South Region iStation Challenge – Mrs. Diego 3rd Grade Class

2024 MDCPS 1st School Winner Values Matter Miami Cup Award

2024 No Place for Hate School Designation

2024 STEAM Gold Designation Award

2024 US News & World Report BEST Public Elementary School Rankings

2024 FETC Presentation: Cultivating a Leadership Legacy

2023 No Place for Hate School Designation

2023 STEAM Gold Designation Award

2023 MDCPS Elementary Student – Julian A. - Winner for "KINDNESS" Values Matter Miami Program

2022 No Place for Hate School Designation

2022 FETC Presentation: Transforming Culture Through Leadership, SEL Initiatives & Mental Health Partnerships

2022 STEAM Gold Designation Award

2021 No Place for Hate School Designation

2021 South Region Office Presentation: Transforming Culture through Leadership

2020 ECTAC Title 1 Exceeding Standards School of Excellence

2020 No Place for Hate School Designation

2020 Ivett Ceballos - Counselor, Runner Up No Place for Hate Recognition

2020 MDCPS School Winner "KINDNESS" Values Matter Program

2020 MDCPS Synergy District Presenter – Transforming School Culture through Initiatives & Incentives

2020 STEAM Gold Designation Award

2020 Reflex Math Elementary Student Champion, Angelica R.

2020 Reflex Math Teacher Champions – Kristine Alonso & Elizabeth Colmenarez

2019 ECTAC Title 1 Exceeding Standards School of Excellence

2019 ECTAC Team Presentation: Transforming School Culture

2019 STEAM Gold Designation Award (#1 MDCPS Elementary School)

2019 South Region Office Presentation: Key School Culture Initiatives

2019 MDCPS Superintendent's District Advisory Council Inclusion Champion Teacher - Maria Menendez, 5th Grade SPED Teacher

2019 Reflex Math Elementary Student District Champion, Alexa C.

2019 MDCPS Secondary Student – Johan P. - Winner for "PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE" Values Matter Miami Program, and Johan P. was the MDCPS District Student Volunteer of the Year

2019 Foundation for New Education Initiatives Grant – SEL Program Focus

2019 Reflex Math Elementary District Student Champion, Angelica R.

2018 STEAM Silver Designation Award

2018 Fairchild Challenge Garden Grant Winner

2018 South Region School Winner District SAMR Technology Assessment

2017 Synergy Session C School Winner for Best SIP Infographic

2017 MDCPS School Winner "COOPERATION" Values Matter Program

* Florida & MDCPS District School of Excellence Multiple Years

www.kendalelakeselementary.net

KLE Family App

Important Contact Information on file

School Messenger — Texts & emails

Schoology Platform via the MDCPS Portal



QUESTIONS COMMENTS FEEDBACK

@KLEfamily

@MTJaureguizar

#CelebrateKLE