



# THE MILLER PONY EXPRESS



Amy McQuiston, Principal

September 12, 2011

*Miller Mustangs – Galloping to Success!*

The mission of William D. Miller Elementary School is to ensure that students are learning in an environment that supports positive academic, social, emotional and physical growth of all individuals while challenging them to exceed their own expectations.

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year!

*It has been a fantastic first week at Miller and the staff and students are settling into their daily routines nicely. It was wonderful meeting so many of you at Open House and seeing lots of familiar faces. The students are already hard at working creating skits to enrich our school-wide behavior program and preparing their music for Citizenship Day on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. This Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> is Constitution Day, and every class will be participating in an activity that reflects our pride for our country. Please help up celebrate by wearing red, white and/or blue this Friday!*

*As always, should you have any questions or concerns regarding your child, please don't hesitate to call or make an appointment to talk. I am honored to be working with all the staff and students at Miller and look forward to any amazing year. Amy McQuiston, Principal*

**EMERGENCY INFORMATION** – An emergency form was sent home with your child. Please take time to fill it out and return it to school. This information must be kept current in the event that your child becomes ill and the school should need to contact you. Please notify the school office at 753-4421 if you have any changes throughout the school year. This is both a safety and a security issue.



**BUS NOTES & TRANSPORTATION CHANGES** – Please be sure that you send a note to school when you are planning to pick up your child from school or your child is going on a different bus route. **Unless a student has a note or a parent has called to verify the transportation change, THE STUDENT WILL RIDE THEIR REGULARLY SCHEDULED BUS. HOWEVER, IN AN EMERGENCY, IF YOU NEED TO MAKE A LAST MINUTE TRANSPORTATION CHANGE, IT IS VITAL TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE BEFORE 3:15 P.M.**

**DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP STUDENTS** – Due to the safety and supervision concerns of the students, parents who drive their children to school are asked to drop them off and pick them up at the **front** of the school building. **FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS AND PARENTS**, we are asking that if you drop off or pick up your child from school **please do not park between the "no parking" signs and ONLY park in the handicapped accessible parking spaces if you are handicapped.** Buses will load and unload students at the back of the school. Thank you for your assistance.

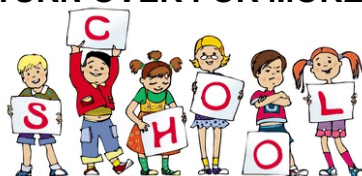
**PARENTS PICKING UP STUDENTS** - For the safety of our students, if you are picking your child up from school at dismissal time (3:40 p.m.) you must either wait by the office or at the door into the upper and lower hallways until the teacher has dismissed the students. Parents of kindergarteners will pick up their child in the school music room.

**LOCKERS** – We would like to keep our lockers in great condition, therefore, **stickers or tape will not be allowed on the lockers.** Nothing should be attached to the lockers unless it is magnetic only. Also perfume or aerosol sprays are not allowed.

**PICTURE DAY** – Annual school pictures will be taken on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Information will be sent home soon.

**CITIZENSHIP DAY** – On Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> our students will be celebrating Citizenship Day. We invite Miller families to join our students at 9:30 a.m. on Friday morning as we celebrate our citizenship in the United States of America. Wear red, white and blue and show your colors!

**PLEASE TURN OVER FOR MORE MILLER NEWS**





**SECURITY SYSTEM** – From the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. the front doors north of the flag pole will be locked. To gain access to the school building, please press the button to the left of the doors. The school office will then buzz you into the building at the far left door. **All visitors are required to report to the school office upon visiting the school.** All visitors will be given a visitor's badge. Thank you for supporting our school.

**ABSENCES** – Parents, please notify the school office **before 9:00 a.m.** at 753-4421 if your child will be absent from school. If an absence has not been reported to the school, the school will call the parent/guardian to verify the child's absence for that day. It is very important that the school is notified if your child has a communicable disease (i.e., lice, pink eye, strep throat, chicken pox, etc.).

**BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PRICING** – Parents, Miller Elementary provides both breakfast and lunch to our students. Please note that the cost of breakfast is \$1.25 and the cost of lunch is **\$2.50**, milk is included in cost. If your child would like to buy milk the cost is .50¢. If you would like to prepay for breakfast or lunch, please contact Debbie in the school office. Also, we do not have a system for keeping track of milk prepayments, please send in milk money on the days your child is planning on buying milk.

**NEW ELECTRONIC LUNCH SYSTEM** – Parents, with the new system we are using, it is very important that you specify if you are paying for more than one student's lunch. Otherwise, the lunch money will only be applied to the student that turns the money into the office. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

**MICROWAVABLE LUNCHES** – Quite a few students bring in microwavable lunches. Most of these meals take anywhere from 2 to 5 minutes to cook. **Please cook these meals prior to bringing them to school so that they only have to be reheated at lunch.** Thank you for your anticipated help in this matter.

**FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH/BREAKFAST FORMS** - Parents, if your child received free or reduced pricing last year and are applying again, please have your forms turned in by September 30<sup>th</sup> for this year. All others please turn in your forms as soon as possible (you may apply anytime throughout the year).

**DISPENSING MEDICINE AT SCHOOL** – To insure the safe dispensation of medication to students, the student's doctor and parent/guardian must give written permission to the school. **PARENTS MUST BRING IN THE MEDICATION TO SCHOOL. STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO TRANSPORT MEDICATION WHILE ON THE SCHOOL BUS.** For more information, please contact Ms. Denise in the school office.

**OPEN HOUSE** – Thank you to all the parents that attended our Open House on Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.

**MESSAGE FROM MRS. CURL (READING RECOVERY)** – Any student who borrowed books from Mrs. Curl over the summer, please return them to school. Thank you.

**NOTE TO PARENTS** – Please put your child's name inside their lunchbox and backpacks, etc. We have a lot of students that have the same items. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

**MEAP TESTING** – Parents, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking the MEAP test from October 12<sup>th</sup> through October 27<sup>th</sup>. Please refrain from making appointments (dental, doctor, etc.) for your child at this time. Thank you for your support in this matter.

**1ST ANNUAL MILLER CRAFT FAIR** – The 1<sup>st</sup> annual Miller Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> (9am to 8pm) and Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> (9am to 6pm). We have approximately space for 40 crafters and are still accepting applications. Free parking. If you are interested in renting a table or for more information, please e-mail, Katy Reitz @ Millercraftfair@gmail.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Sept 14	Fundraiser Kick-off
Sept 20	Picture Day
Sept 23	Citizenship ceremony – 9:30 a.m.
Sept 26	Fundraiser sale ends
Oct 1 & 2	Craft Fair
Oct 12 thru 27	MEAP Testing – 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> grade students

