

Milbrook Mustang September, 2009

Milbrook Elementary School
4300 Crest Heights Road
Baltimore, MD 21215
410-887-1225; Fax 410-887-6744
<http://milbrookes.bcps.org>

Christina Byers
Principal
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Maisha Robinson
PTA President
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Assistant Principal
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September Calendar of Events

- Sept. 10 (Th) Volunteer Training
Milbrook Library 6:00 PM
- Sept. 15 (T) PTA Meeting
Milbrook Library @ 6:30 PM
Baltimore City Community College's Refugee
Youth Program 3:30—6:00 P.M
- Sept. 21 (M) School Improvement Team Meeting
Milbrook Library 3:50 – 5:00
- Sept. 22 (Tu) Fundraiser Monday Due
- Sept. 28 (M) Yom Kippur – **School Closed**

October

- Oct. 5 - 9 Interims Go Home
- Oct. 6 (Tu) Picture Day
- Oct. 12 (M) Magnet Information Night
Milbrook Library 6:30 – 7:30 P.M
- Oct. 16 (F) MSTA Convention **Schools closed for students**
- Oct. 19 (M) School Improvement Team Meeting
Milbrook Library 3:50 – 5:00
- Oct. 20 (Tu) Fundraiser Pick-Up
3:00 – 6:00 PM



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Principal's Message

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had an enjoyable summer. Your children have quickly adjusted and settled in to the school routine. I would like to thank all of our Milbrook Families for a great opening to the 2009-2010 school year. Back to School Night was well attended, and from your surveys, I know that many of you found the information valuable.

At Back to School Night, I discussed our participation in Title I and your rights as parents in a Title I School. In addition, Title I provides us with the opportunity to provide resources to our families so that they can partner with us in increasing students' achievement. A copy of our Parent Involvement Plan and our Home School Compact will be forth coming, and I appreciate the feedback we received on Back to School Night concerning better ways to involve our Milbrook Community. If you did not have the opportunity to complete the "Title I Parent Involvement Survey" at Back to School Night, a copy has been included in this letter. Please complete it, and send it in to your child's homeroom teacher.

Throughout this school year, there will be many ways you can become involved at Milbrook! Please check this newsletter monthly for information regarding those opportunities. In addition, Connect Ed messages will be sent to keep you abreast of events at Milbrook. Please consider volunteering this year at Milbrook. There are many ways to volunteer at our school; some of those do not require you to be in the school. In order to volunteer, you must attend one of the volunteer training sessions. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for upcoming training sessions. Once you have been trained, you will receive a list of ways to volunteer, and we welcome your service! Finally, if you haven't already done so, join the PTA. This organization works with Milbrook to support your child's education. A membership form is included in this packet!

As a school, we continue to focus on increasing the achievement of all our students. This year, we will again use flexible groups to provide our students with instructional programs that best meet their needs. As we assess them throughout the year, their program may adjust based on their progress and achievement. Feel free to contact your child's homeroom teacher if you ever have any questions regarding your child's progress. I am looking forward to a great year of working with your students!

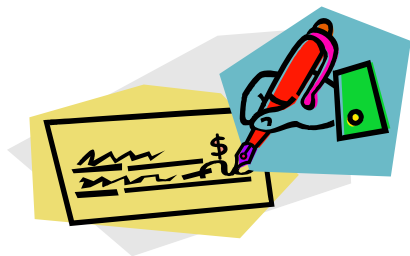
Mrs. Byers



Student Cell Phone Use

Baltimore County School Policy 5550 prohibits the use of cell phones and other electronic communication devices during school hours. Please review this expectation with your child and remind him/her that if a cell phone is brought to school it **MUST** be **TURNED OFF**.

This means that cell phone use is prohibited from the time the student boards the school bus in the morning or is dropped off to school until he/she gets off the bus in the afternoon or is picked up by a parent/guardian. Students who fail to comply with this policy will be required to turn their cell phones in to Mrs. Byers or Mrs. O'Connor, and they will hold them until a parent comes to retrieve them.



Cash Policy

Milbrook Elementary does not accept personal checks.

We will accept **CASH** or money orders only to pay for your child's field trip, lost books, etc.....



Please keep us informed!

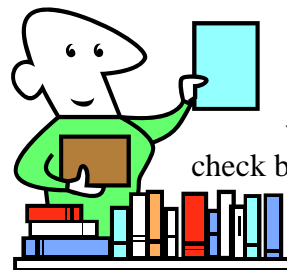
If your child is going home from school in a different manner than usual, please write a note to his/her teacher informing them of this change. If your child is a bus rider and does not have a note, we will put them on the bus as usual. Only people listed on your child's emergency card are able to pick up your child. If there is a change in your address, phone number (s), or emergency contacts, please let us know immediately so we can make this change on the emergency cards.

Regular attendance is important!

Coming to school regularly and on time is an important life skill! Please help your child learn this important skill by modeling this behavior for them on a daily basis. If your child is sick and unable to attend school, it is important to send an absence note upon their return. If your child is absent more than three days, we will call home to see how they are doing.



Library book contract



Please complete the "Library Book Contract." Students will not be allowed to check books out of the library until the completed contract has been returned.

Parking Lot

Thank you to all Milbrook parents who are helping us keep our parking flowing smoothly at drop off and pick up times. Our traffic pattern is designed to keep students as well as parents safe.

Please remember that students should be dropped off and picked up on the curb only. This area is clearly marked **DROP OFF AND PICK UP.** Cars are not allowed to enter the bus loop as our sign indicates. Thanks to Milbrook teachers for keeping things running smoothly! If you have any questions, feel free to speak with Mrs. Byers or a teacher on duty outside.



Student Safety

This is just a reminder that students should not be dropped off earlier than 8:45 am, which is the time Milbrook's doors open for student arrival. For our students' safety, we ask that all visitors to our building sign in the office and obtain a visitor's pass if you wish to go to your child's classroom. However, we ask that parents not try to have a conference with teachers during arrival and dismissal times. Our teachers will be more than happy to schedule a conference to meet with you or talk on the phone. Our teachers will also share their email addresses with you to communicate about your child.

ABC Openings

Milbrook Parents/Caregivers and Children Birth to 4 years- There are still a few openings in our Aliza Brandwine Center (A.B.C.)

parent/caregiver-child classes which meet weekly at the Judy Center classroom at Campfield. This is a Baltimore County School Early Childhood Program with a choice of morning or afternoon classes on Tuesdays or Thursdays or a morning class on Fridays.



Students enjoy learning through play as they sing songs, read stories, experiment with different art projects, and interact with other adults and young children. The first half of each session spent in activities all together; during the second half, the parents/caregivers share in a discussion about child development while their children continue in a variety of play activities. There is no charge for the program, but registration is required. Call Jan Simons today at 410-887-1266 for more information, or to register. "Your future begins with A.B.C."

Monthly Learning Calendar for Families

A calendar designed to support families in promoting learning at home will be available monthly. The September calendar may be accessed from the Parents' page of the BCPS' Web-site by clicking on September Learning Calendar or by clicking on the following link

<https://www.bcps.org/parents/pdf/september-learning-calendar.pdf>

Child Abuse and Neglect

Maryland law requires that every health practitioner, educator, human services worker, or law enforcement officer who has reason to believe that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect shall immediately report to the Department of Social Services who will determine based on the information, whether further investigation is required. The person making the referral does not control the type or degree of follow up after the report is given to the department of Social Services.

Important Notice Information from Our Cafeteria Manager

From the Office of Food and Nutrition

There is a limit (2 meals) to how much credit can be extended to your child. Once this is met, the cafeteria will no longer be able to serve a complete meal if your child does not have money. After your child has been extended the two-meal credit, they will be given cereal and milk to sustain them for the afternoon.

In compliance with Maryland law, our school will designate a peanut and tree-nut free table in the cafeteria for use by students with medically documented allergies. If your child has such an allergy, and you would like to request this accommodation, please notify the school nurse at 410-415-5766.

Cafeteria Food Information

The following menu items are known to contain peanuts and/or peanut oil:

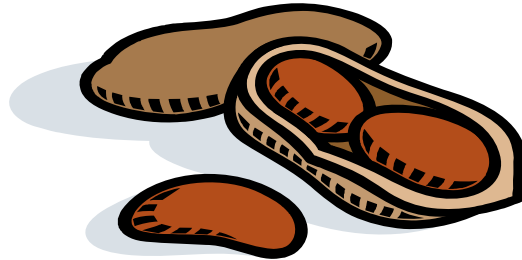
USDA Peanut Butter

The following a la carte items are known to contain peanut and peanut products:

Little Debbie Snack: Manufactured on equipment that processes product containing peanuts or other nuts

Liden Cookies: Manufactured on equipment that processes products containing peanuts or other nuts

Power Snacks: Packed in a facility that processes peanuts and other nuts



Crunch 'n Munch: All products are manufactured on equipment that processes products containing peanuts.

The following MENU items are known to contain peanut and peanut products:

Otis Spunkmeyer: All muffins may contain peanuts or nut traces

Student Behavior

Every student enrolled in a Baltimore County Public School is responsible for appropriate behavior as outlined in the Baltimore County Public School Handbook when involved in (1) school activities on property owned by the Board of Education; (2) travel on school bus; (3) on-site or off-site school sponsored activities; (4) on-site or off-site school related problems which are the results or cause of disruptive behavior on school grounds, or (5) violent acts of behavior which occur off school property that poses a threat to the safety of students and faculty or the disrupt the learning environment. The

Student Behavior Handbook was given to each student and reviewed with each class at the beginning of the school year. You will find in the handbook a Student Handbook Acknowledgment Form. This form must be signed and dated by the student and his/her parent/guardian after reviewing the Handbook. work grade.

Current Emergency Information

Parents are required to provide up-to-date emergency information for each child attending school. The names and current telephone numbers of emergency contacts are needed. When a telephone number, address, or emergency contact person changes, parents should make the new information known to the school office immediately. It is most important that the school always have on hand current emergency information. This is of vital importance when the school needs to contact a parent or designated guardian in an emergency or when a child is sick at school. In addition, the numbers listed on students' cards are put into our Connect Ed System; we use this calling system to keep you informed of school events.



Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

Federal privacy standards have been implemented since April 2003. Many of

you probably have already signed the HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) forms at your physician's office.

In accordance with this new privacy act Baltimore County Public Schools' major goal is to protect individual health and academic information of each student while allowing necessary flow of information.

To achieve that goal we would like to request from each parent that if you need to share or receive information about your child's academic performance, or a health concern, that you address your child's teacher in a discreet manner. We wish to protect the confidentiality of all children attending Milbrook.



If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse, Ms. Rosenthal between 8:30 AM and 3:30 PM each weekday at 410-415-5766.

Vacations

Parents are urged not to take vacations while school is in session during the school year. When students return, they often have difficulty returning to the routines of the school day and keeping up academically with their peers. Even when students make up work missed after they return, it is not the same as when students are in the classroom learning. Teachers will collect missed work in a folder that can be completed upon return.

Attention Parents:

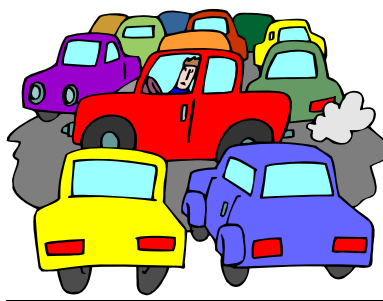
Please help us enforce the following procedure. They are in place to support the safety of our students.

1. Students should not be dropped off earlier than 8:45 AM, which is the time Milbrook's doors open for student arrival.
2. All visitors to our school need to sign in and receive a visitor's pass from the front office.
3. We prefer not to disrupt instruction in the classroom. Please go to the office if you need anything from a teacher or if you need to drop something off for your student.
4. To ensure the safety of your child, please be sure that your child crosses with the crossing guard and not at the flagpole or in front of school buses.
5. Also, note that our handicapped parking places are designated only for vehicles displaying the "handicap" symbol. Please do not park in these designated areas for any reason.
6. Please remember that students should be dropped off and picked up on the curb only. This area is clearly marked **DROP OFF AND PICK UP**. Cars are not allowed to enter the bus loop as our sign indicates. Thanks to Milbrook teachers for keeping things running smoothly!

Picking up students early from school is strongly discouraged unless your child is ill. However, we understand that there may be a time you need to pickup your child early for doctor or dental appointments. If you need to pick up

your child early, please send a note to your child's teacher and be prepared to present a picture ID to the front office staff.

Please be reminded that students are dismissed between 3:25 and 3:40 PM. Please help us keep our front lobby clear by waiting outside of our front door for you child. Thanks.



School Hours

Monday – Friday
8:45 am – 3:25 pm

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Northwest Advisory Council

Below is a list of dates the council will meet. All meetings begin at 7:00 PM at Milford Mill Academy.

- October 14, 2009
- November 11, 2009
- February 10, 2010
- March 10, 2010
- April 14, 2010